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IN RE: PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING)
 TO PREPARE AN EIS FOR TRANSFORMATION OF THE)
 2ND BRIGADE, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION (LIGHT))
 TO AN INTERIM BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM)

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Taken on behalf of the 25th Infantry Division and U.S. Army Hawaii. Held at Leilehua High School Cafeteria, 1515 California Avenue, Wahiawa, Hawaii, 96786, commencing at 6:10 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, 2002.

PREPARED BY: U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, HONOLULU

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ARMY TRANSFORMATION EIS SCOPING MEETING STAFF LIST

PANEL

- Borne, Ron
- Noel, Gina
- Prussman, Jeanne Esq.
- Redpath, George
- Waggoner, COL Roy

FACILITATORS

- Aka, Karen
- Amaral, Annelle
- Lee, Miki

HAWAIIAN-ENGLISH TRANSLATORS

- Arista, Noelani
- Nogelmeier, Puakea

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1 Tuesday, April 23, 2002, 6:10 p.m.

2 -o0o-

3 MS. AMARAL: Welcome. Miki Lee and I will
4 be the facilitators this evening. Also with us is a
5 third facilitator. That's Karen Aka standing there
6 waving now at us all. We want to thank you all for
7 joining us.

8 Just a reminder. For those of you who wish to
9 make comments this evening, we invite you to go to the
10 registration desk back there and fill out one of these
11 cards. The cards are in numerical order. We're going to
12 call you in the order in which you signed up. So if you
13 want to speak and you signed up on that long sheet, we're
14 not going to know you want to speak. You got to fill out
15 one of these.

16 There's another way to give testimony this
17 evening, and there's a -- some sheets back there where
18 you can fill out written comments. And you don't have to
19 do that this evening. You can mail it to us or fax it to
20 us. The address is down at the bottom.

21 But the comments that you are making this evening
22 are all on the record, and we have our court
23 stenographers here taking verbatim transcript.

24 Before we begin, we'd like to call upon Puakea
25 Nogelmeier to do the opening pule (prayer) for us.

1 Aloha (greetings) Puakea.

2 MR. NOGELMEIER: Hiki ke ku. Could we stand
3 for the pule (prayer).

4 E ke Akua Mana Loa, kau i ka lani, e huli mai 'oe
5 a nana ia makou, ka po'e i 'akoakoa mai i keia ahiahi, a
6 e kau mai i kou malu me kou lokomaika'i ma luna o makou
7 pakahi. E alaka'i mai i ka hana o keia ahiahi i akaka ai
8 ka 'ike a e alaka'i i na kanaka pakahi i hiki ke
9 ho'omaopopo a ho'ike aku i ka mana'o o loko o ka pu'uwai
10 me ka na'au a e ho'oikaika i na pepeiao e ho'olohe i kela
11 'ano 'ike i lohe pono 'ia ai ka leo. A e alaka'i no ia
12 makou pakahi i ka ho'i 'ana mai i ka palekana o kauhale,
13 'o ia ka makou leo pule. (Almighty God in Heaven, turn
14 to see us, those gathered here this evening, and grant
15 your shelter and grace over each of us. Guide the
16 efforts of this evening, that the information be clear,
17 and guide every person, enabling him or her to clarify
18 and express the thoughts in mind and heart, strengthening
19 too, the ears to heed this kind of knowledge and so that
20 the voices may be heard. And do guide each of us, on our
21 return, to the safety of our homes. That is our prayer.)

22 O Mighty Father, please be with us this evening
23 as processes are carried out and guide our work. Give
24 clarity to information, give the ability of expression to
25 those who can show what is in their hearts and their

1 minds, and give strength to the ears that need to hear
2 the information that is shared. Guide us all safely back
3 to our homes.

4 'Amene (amen).

5 MS. AMARAL: Thank you, Puakea.

6 We'd like to introduce the panel that's seated
7 here at the front table. I wonder if we could start with
8 you, Ron.

9 MR. BORNE: I'm Ron Borne. I'm the
10 transformation manager for the U.S. Army Hawaii.

11 MS. PRUSSMAN: I'm Jeanne Prussman. I'm the
12 environmental attorney for the 25th Infantry Division
13 (Light) and U.S. Army Air Support.

14 COL WAGGONER: I'm Chuck Waggoner, commander
15 of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

16 MS. NOEL: Gina Noel. Environmental
17 coordinator for transformation in Hawaii.

18 MR. REDPATH: George Redpath. Tetra Tech
19 Honolulu. Project manager for the EIS.

20 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much. And it's
21 indeed an honor to have Colonel Waggoner with us this
22 evening, and we'd like to invite him to come and make
23 some introductory and opening remarks. Colonel Waggoner.

24 COL WAGGONER: Aloha (greetings) ladies and
25 gentlemen.

1 THE AUDIENCE: Aloha (greetings).

2 COL WAGGONER: If I haven't met you yet, I'm
3 Chuck Waggoner from the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry
4 Division.

5 First of all, Puakea, thanks for the opening pule
6 (prayer).

7 On behalf of the commander of the 25th Infantry
8 Division (Light), U.S. Army Hawaii, welcome to the first
9 public scoping meeting on Oahu for our Environmental
10 Impact Statement for a transformation in Hawaii.

11 Is anybody from Mililani or Mililani Mauka here
12 tonight? Not one lone voice. Third Brigade, we work in
13 Mililani, Mililani Mauka, so always like to see where my
14 friends are.

15 Just to give you an idea of my experience in
16 Hawaii, it's my second tour, my eighth year here in
17 Hawaii. Served with the 25th Division twice and the U.S.
18 Army Pacific in the Pacific command, U.S. Pacific
19 command, the CINCPAC.

20 Our purpose tonight is to provide you with
21 information on the proposed transformation in Hawaii, but
22 more importantly, to get back from you what you want us
23 to study.

24 The purpose of an environmental impact study is
25 to determine what the potential hazards are

1 environmentally for this transformation we are proposing.

2 So we really want you to ask some of the hard
3 questions that you don't know the answer to tonight
4 because it will form the basis of this study we're going
5 to go do. So if you don't know what the impact of dust
6 on this road near my house, or what's the noise going to
7 look like compared to what it is now, or what's this
8 going to do to the water table on Oahu, those are the
9 kinds of questions we want you to ask us.

10 We're not prepared to answer them tonight, but
11 what we're doing is gathering all those questions so that
12 when we build this environmental impact study, we make
13 sure we answer all that. So if you've got a list of
14 questions tonight, please ask them because the real
15 purpose of this is to get your feedback and find out what
16 you want us to study.

17 Our facilitators are going to coordinate
18 tonight's meeting and sort of provide you with an
19 effective system of giving us that input. And they've
20 already described the multiple ways you got to do that.
21 So your role, really, is to provide us that input. What
22 are your concerns with transformation? And we really
23 want to know what all those concerns are because we'll
24 build them back into this whole study, and then when
25 we're done with the study, we will come back publicly and

1 announce, here are the findings to all of your questions.
2 And you'll have another opportunity to comment -- I'm not
3 satisfied with that, or, you didn't answer my question --
4 and then we'll go back and answer those. You're going to
5 get multiple opportunities as we build this to find out
6 what your concerns are with it, and then we'll do our
7 best to answer them.

8 An Environmental Impact Statement is the most
9 comprehensive document that an AGC can prepare under the
10 National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, which you're
11 all quite familiar with. And a little later, George
12 Redpath will explain what NEPA is and the process of the
13 Environmental Impact Statement.

14 Now, when you get ready to ask your questions, I
15 want to remind you that I'm an infantry soldier, so if
16 you ask anything more than about one syllable, I'm going
17 to turn to my panel of experts, who is sitting over here,
18 and ask them to answer the question for you. So please
19 don't ask any hard questions, unless you want to know
20 about an M4 rifle.

21 We've brought all our experts with us, and we've
22 got all the folks here who can help you clarify the
23 question you want to ask and get it the way you want it
24 before we go to study it. So if you have a question,
25 please ask.

1 And so without further ado, I'm going to get out
2 of your way and let Annelle begin the facilitation of
3 this process. But remember, we really are here to get
4 your input, so if you've got a question, don't leave
5 without letting us know what it is in one form or
6 another, and we promise you we'll get it into the
7 environmental impact study.

8 Thank you very much.

9 MS. AMARAL: A few more things, and then I'm
10 going to defer now to Miki. The food is in the back of
11 the room. You noticed it as you came in. I saw you
12 noticing it because I saw you eating back there. Also,
13 the displays are up there, and there are personnel around
14 to help explain what some of those displays are about and
15 what they mean. And so feel free to get up, get some
16 food, take a look at the displays, and avail yourselves
17 of people and their expertise.

18 The bathrooms are just out the stairs down the
19 hall. Women first, men down the hall a little farther,
20 and they're clearly marked.

21 We hope to end the meeting by nine o'clock
22 tonight. Earlier, if can, but at the latest, we need to
23 be out of here by 9:00.

24 And now, Miki.

25 MS. LEE: Thanks. I'm just going to take

1 few minutes to explain the agenda for the evening. Since
2 I'm done with this part, I'm going to turn the podium
3 over to Ron, who is going to explain via a PowerPoint
4 presentation some of the proposals that are part of the
5 transformation. And that presentation is going to take
6 30 minutes. And then we'll turn the podium over to
7 George, who will explain the EIS and the NEPA process,
8 some of the key dates that you might want to keep in
9 mind, and other points along the way where you'll have an
10 opportunity to see the results of tonight's meeting --
11 actually, it's a series of meetings that we're holding
12 this month -- and how you can further participate.

13 We're inviting you to come up here after the
14 presentations and give us your comments, ask your
15 questions. If, for some reason, you are shy and you
16 don't want to speak in front of this group, we have
17 another room, and it's to the left of the registration
18 where we have another court stenographer, and a
19 facilitator will be there to take your comment in a
20 slightly more private setting.

21 All the comment we receive, whether it's oral or
22 written, will be given equal consideration and weight, so
23 you don't feel -- you shouldn't feel that compelled to
24 speak in this room if you don't want to.

25 And one more thing. I don't know if we have

1 anyone here who wishes to give their comment in Hawaiian.
2 If they do, the kind gentleman who gave us our pule
3 (prayer), Puakea, is available to do translation. And if
4 you would like to speak in Hawaiian, we suggest that you
5 touch base with him before you come up here, to let him
6 know how you'd like to do that. Some people are more
7 comfortable doing their own translation. Others would
8 like to hold off on the translation until another time.
9 And we're able to do that as well. We just want to check
10 with you before you come up.

11 So without any further ado, Mr. Ron Borne.

12 MR. BORNE: As I said, I'm Ron Borne, the
13 transformation manager for U.S. Army Hawaii, and like
14 Colonel Waggoner, I'd like to thank you for taking the
15 time to come join us here this evening. I'll be briefing
16 you on why we are looking at making a change to the Army
17 in Hawaii, specifically, the 2nd Brigade of the 25th
18 Infantry Division, and the proposed projects we would
19 like to make that may have an effect on our communities.

20 Why is the Army transforming? Recently, the
21 world is a rapidly changing place, and all the military
22 services are changing to meet new challenges and missions
23 around the globe. The Army as a whole is proposing to
24 make changes that will affect the way it trains, equips,
25 fights, and interacts with civilian populations in

1 deployed areas.

2 The term "transformation" is chosen to describe
3 how the Army will change to meet the new challenges.
4 During our cold war days, we had the luxury of knowing
5 our enemies. They had different uniforms, equipment. We
6 had geographical lines to describe our differences such
7 as the "Iron Curtain" and numerical -- numbered
8 "Parallels" that separated us and our ideologies.

9 Our combat vehicles were designed to be heavy and
10 powerful in order to meet an opposing army similar to
11 ourselves and one like we had experienced during World
12 War II. Thus, we were always thinking European in our
13 planning and design. Thus, we are -- accordingly, as the
14 Army moved into -- moved against an opposition, it moved
15 in mutually supporting formations to find the enemy,
16 figure out the strengths and locations of the oppositions
17 by firing weapons, and then move against them to overcome
18 the opposition with force.

19 Today the tactics and our missions have changed.
20 We may not be able to identify our enemies as easily as
21 before, and foes may change several times during a single
22 operation. Our allies are now made up of coalitions with
23 some alliances forming right before or even during a
24 military operation. And some of our allies might share
25 some of the same traits as our opposition.

1 Information or intelligence has always been an
2 important part of military operations, but the recent
3 increase in the speed and accuracy is - multi-folds
4 increase in speed and accuracy and our modern information
5 range -- information age, and the Internet have made that
6 even more important. Now we can rely on remote sensors,
7 high technology, and a wealth of intelligence to see
8 whether -- our foes, where he's at, what his strengths
9 are, and use our speed, maneuverability to take advantage
10 of his weakness and our strengths at the time and place
11 of our choosing. Also, not all military operations are
12 declared war or even open fighting conflicts, as
13 peacekeeping operations have become more a norm than an
14 exception.

15 We not only -- we are not -- we are not the only
16 unit in the Army to transform. There will be two
17 brigades at Fort Lewis, Washington; one at Fort
18 Wainwright, Alaska; one at Fort Polk, Louisiana; and one
19 in the Pennsylvania National Guard.

20 As I mentioned, in the past, traditionally, we
21 have been able to predict our potential areas of conflict
22 and plan and prepare for such, and that is no longer the
23 case. While we can still see areas of risk for
24 conventional battles which have existed for years, we no
25 longer are able to predict where the next military

1 necessity may be and what level of military response may
2 be required.

3 I mean, if you would have told me as a young Army
4 officer in the early 1970s that I would be marching with
5 Polish, Hungarian, and Romanian soldiers in a parade in a
6 unified Germany before I retired, or if anyone had tried
7 to predict a U.S. Army general would be commanding a
8 multi-national force in a -- in the former -- or in a
9 former East Bloc country which would include a U.S. -- or
10 include a Russian army brigade by the end of the century,
11 we would have all thought them insane.

12 Accordingly, too, in August of 2001, if someone
13 would have told anyone that we would be fighting today in
14 Afghanistan with the help of a former Soviet state, who
15 would have thought? Just as the named areas shown are
16 places we are at now or have been to recently, who may
17 predict which of the other areas of concern is a flash
18 point. And of course terrorism adds a whole new
19 dimension as many times it knows no boundaries.

20 Also, as our military downsizes, the number and
21 frequency of deployments strains the current Army force.
22 Unfortunately, as long as some of the darker side of
23 human traits such as greed, racism, hate, and violence
24 exist, the possibilities for conflict remain real and the
25 Army must remain ready. You can see how Hawaii is an

1 important location for many of these areas, and we are
2 centrally located for strategic deployment.

3 There are many operational factors which define
4 our task as well, but variety, speed, precision, and
5 force are the more dynamic which face us today and
6 describe the operational requirements for this new
7 organization.

8 Variety. We do not know where the next response
9 will be or to what level our participation is required.
10 Our ability to respond must be flexible and coordinated.
11 We no longer can depend on built-up infrastructures in
12 areas we're moving into to support our deployment and
13 operations.

14 Speed. Fortunately, we are members of a country
15 who take a long time to determine if we want to go to war
16 or participate in a peacekeeping operation. However, we
17 are also a military and a society that once that
18 determination has been made, the people expect a quick
19 and accurate response.

20 In the past, our heavy forces that have deployed
21 to world hot spots took a long time to get there due to
22 weight and logistics requirements, such as during Desert
23 Storm deployments. The M1 Abrams tank, one of the best
24 in the world, weighs 70 tons. However, the number of
25 Class 70 or 70-ton bridges is limited throughout the

1 world and many times nonexistent in Third World
2 countries.

3 Many times, speed and timing can defuse a
4 situation that deprives the opposition of the time to
5 organize. One of the new units must be able to deploy
6 within 96 hours, sustain itself for an indefinite period
7 of time, and thus, be (inaudible) with the transformation
8 units.

9 Precision. Accuracy and timing, movement and
10 execution is a key part of convincing an opposition you
11 really mean business. Along with public tolerance of
12 aggressive action under certain situations, the public is
13 also intolerant of innocent casualties, collateral
14 damage. Once force is necessary, a unit like this --
15 every soldier would have a laser, designator, a night
16 vision device armed with current intelligence and
17 information, and have communications to their leadership
18 groups and to gain access to information.

19 Force. Force of arms or the ability to do so is
20 still a necessary trade of an Army. And therefore,
21 precision and use of force or threat to use so must
22 always be available for us to get our point across.

23 We are no longer alone in our missions and
24 actions. As I spoke of coalitions earlier, we need to be
25 able to operate in conjunction with other services and

1 other nations within the areas of our operations.

2 Our focus is on the Objective Force, but to begin
3 procuring and fielding the first of the long-term
4 Objective Forces, it will take about 8 to 10 years. Even
5 as we invest in the Objective Force for the future, we
6 must maintain our current Legacy Forces, which is our
7 unmatched heavy forces of Abrams tanks and Bradley
8 vehicles, our responsive light forces, such as airborne
9 infantry, and our agile special operation forces. We
10 will re-capitalize selected Legacy formations of our
11 Abrams, Bradley, and Apache helicopter systems.

12 To do -- and during the same time (inaudible), we
13 will be doing so to invest in an interim capacity to do
14 the things we cannot do today.

15 The interim capacity will be made up of a select
16 number of brigades employing current off-the-shelf
17 technology capabilities. The interim force will also
18 allow us to train soldiers, grow leaders in the doctrine
19 and organization of these new formations while waiting
20 the Objective Force.

21 Every dollar that we put into science and
22 technology enhances that Objective Force of the future,
23 and today's size and technology requirements of the Army
24 remain a priority. We're challenging the industry to
25 assist us in designing the Objective Force, and we're

1 asking to get out of such technology as gunpowder and
2 maybe into electromagnetic or electrochemical; we're
3 asking to get into hybrid engines to get our vehicles
4 away from fossil fuel requirements; and we're also asking
5 to see if we can get into ceramics or alloys for
6 ballistic protection to lighten our vehicles. All this
7 to save weight, cost, fuel, logistics, and lives.

8 In the future, the entire Army will transform to
9 the objective force. The question is if the 25th
10 Infantry Division transforms in Hawaii now as part of the
11 interim change or later with the remainder of the Army.

12 This is just an overview, and the left shows some
13 characteristics of our current light infantry brigade
14 such as the 2nd Brigade as it is now, and the right shows
15 some of the proposed traits of an Interim Brigade Combat
16 Team. Overall, it would be an increase in the number of
17 soldiers and vehicles assigned to Schofield Barracks, and
18 that would be using our training areas in Hawaii.

19 This new brigade will look somewhat similar to an
20 Army current structure and use some of the same
21 traditional names as we do today. There will be three
22 new infantry battalions which will have three new
23 infantry companies which will use the mortars, infantry -
24 current infantry weapons, snipers, anti-tank missiles,
25 and a new mobile gun system.

1 A new addition will be a reconnaissance,
2 surveillance, and target acquisition squadron that will
3 use reconnaissance troops, mounted sensors, embedded
4 human intelligence capacities with multi-sensors units,
5 electronic warfare, ground radar, and an unmanned aerial
6 vehicle. An anti-armor company is also included to
7 provide mounted and dismounted anti-tank missile
8 capabilities. And an artillery battalion of towed
9 artillery similar to what we have at Schofield today will
10 make -- will be making -- will make up an artillery
11 battalion in the unit.

12 A support battalion to provide logistical support
13 as the unit deploys. A combat service company to provide
14 the support, administrative support, that's required for
15 the unit. A military intelligence company to augment the
16 reconnaissance squadron to sort through intelligence
17 information from other sources. There will be an
18 engineer company equipped as the engineers are today at
19 Schofield Barracks. And a signal company to provide the
20 increased communication needed to keep the digital
21 information flowing between the units, the vehicles, and
22 the command structure.

23 We have a unique environment here in Hawaii.
24 It provides for the decentralized operations that we may
25 find in many military -- modern military operations. It

1 also has a wide variety of terrain, including open,
2 tropical, urban, and desert.

3 While the transformation of the Army in Hawaii is
4 a statewide issue, we will address this island by island,
5 starting with the island of Oahu.

6 One of the concerns that interest the community
7 is the increased number of military vehicles and traffic
8 on public roads. Since we, too, are aware that the
9 amount, type, and timing of traffic on an island, which
10 depends on a coastal road network, is a concern of
11 everyone, we are proposing to expand and improve the
12 ability of the Army to access its current training area
13 infrastructure while staying off the public highways.

14 We propose to establish a new vehicle trail from
15 Schofield Barracks to Dillingham and one from Schofield
16 Barracks to Helemano, separating military vehicles
17 destined to these areas with civil traffic. While these
18 trails may still need to cross public roads, they can do
19 it at safe, controlled locations coordinated with the
20 county and state.

21 We also propose to improve the current military
22 Drum Road to make it an all lane - all-weather, two-lane
23 road giving us year-round access to the Kahuku Training
24 Area. This, coupled with the timing of military
25 movement, will reduce potential military traffic -- civil

1 traffic conflicts. These are also real time -- real
2 world training scenarios for soldiers to learn, since
3 traffic on restricted roadways may very well be a local
4 concern.

5 Due to a shortage of training areas and acres on
6 Schofield and a limited number of training facilities, we
7 are proposing to purchase lands south of Schofield to
8 build a motor pool for the new brigade to park the
9 vehicles and to develop a place for a displaced rifle and
10 pistol range from Schofield Barracks. While an exact
11 acreage and location has not been defined, coordination
12 with neighbor land users will be made.

13 The motor park will be built with features to
14 protect the environment, and the proposed range complex
15 would use only standard ball ammunitions, like the types
16 that hunters use today, and will not include the use of
17 tracers, to reduce the fire probabilities, nor would any
18 explosives be used in this area.

19 While not all training can be done and/or
20 conducted by simulation, some tasks can be taught in a
21 virtual setting where precise tasks under controlled
22 conditions can be monitored in controlled training. We
23 propose to build three new buildings on Schofield at
24 already developed locations or near existing
25 infrastructures.

1 One will be a building containing an individual
2 through small unit virtual trainer not unlike what many
3 police forces have used today, using computers to grade
4 marksmanship and small team tasks. It will use a system
5 of laser technology and a high safe laser technology,
6 much like you see for sale at many computer game stores
7 today, abide a little more difficult.

8 Another building will house a centralized
9 facility for the control, safety, scheduling, and
10 maintenance of all the training facilities on Oahu from
11 one building for the Schofield Barracks Range Control.

12 The last is a building that will house a digital
13 university to train soldiers on the equipment, task, and
14 tactics of the new unit. It will be used as a simulation
15 center for staff training and battle staff tactics, and
16 also allow for the linking of soldiers and leaders in
17 Hawaii with other training facilities, data bases, and
18 like units around the world.

19 A new -- three new range complexes will need to
20 be built on Schofield. Gone are the days of single-use
21 ranges where a soldier would have to accomplish one task
22 like sight, or zero in a rifle on one range and then move
23 to another range to practice or to score his or her
24 marksmanship abilities. The Army is building multi-use
25 ranges to reduce costs, maintenance, and impacts to the

1 environment and promoting facilities that do multiple
2 tasks over a much smaller area.

3 As many of the weapons qualifications
4 requirements of fixed firing points and fixed targets
5 would all be moved to the current flats -- current
6 McCarthy Flats area of Schofield, old ranges will be
7 replaced with a new multi-use range using the same target
8 areas.

9 A battle area complex would be built to allow the
10 soldiers to train as groups and chose -- and choose
11 targets and firing points as they would during combat
12 situations. It would also allow the soldiers to train
13 using the new vehicles in live-fire training tasks and
14 with other weapons and units.

15 As more populated areas of the world become built
16 up, urban fighting would be needed -- and urban training
17 would be needed for the soldiers with weapons and live
18 ammunitions under controlled setting with the difficult
19 tasks of training in a built-up urban setting. These
20 facilities would be replicate -- would be built to
21 replicate a few simple structures like a police training
22 range or -- similar to those Dodge City facilities, as
23 you see the police are on -- in the movies.

24 In conjunction with the urban live training area
25 at Schofield, there are many other urban fighting tactics

1 and peacekeeping tasks that can be trained without live
2 ammunition. We will propose to build a mock city at old
3 disturbed sites in the Kahuku Training Area. This would
4 be a non-live-fire urban training facility that would
5 replicate multiple situations or tasks across a wide area
6 simultaneously. Like several law enforcement agencies,
7 these types of complex computerized facilities will
8 simulate anything from simple law enforcement actions to
9 conventional military operations. There will be no live
10 firing of weapons in this proposal. Only blanks.

11 The facilities would renovate the current unused
12 buildings at all three locations and construct several
13 more buildings at the two of the three sites.

14 Now we will address the issues of the Big Island
15 proposals. Like Oahu, one of the concerns will be the
16 introduction of increased number of military vehicles and
17 interest in traffic on public roads. Again, we are
18 proposing to expand and improve the ability of the Army
19 to access its current training infrastructure at
20 Pohakuloa while staying off the public highways.

21 We propose to renovate the vehicle trail that
22 runs from Kawaihae Harbor, which remains our primary port
23 of entry for the Big Island to the training area. This
24 will maintain separation of military traffic destined to
25 Pohakuloa and civil traffic. The exact route of the road

1 may not follow the current route as we look for many
2 options to decide where the trail will be placed.

3 Another larger battle area complex would be built
4 to allow the soldiers to train as part of a larger unit,
5 battalion size or larger, allowing them to choose target
6 areas and firing points as they would in combat
7 situations. This would also allow the soldiers to train
8 with the new vehicles in live-fire tasks and with other
9 weapons and units. This range would also allow for the
10 use of all weapons systems available to an Interim
11 Brigade Combat Team commander, such as artillery attack
12 helicopters. Fixed-wing, close-air-support aircraft,
13 also. The anti-armor range will need to be built to
14 train the new anti-armor company on both mounted and
15 dismounted anti-tank missile engagements.

16 Old ranges will be replaced with multi-use
17 ranges, using the same target areas and impact areas and
18 not -- and will not create a new impact.

19 We are also proposing to purchase land west of
20 Pohakuloa for maneuver training where soldiers can
21 operate the vehicles in training and in unit
22 organizations, using tactics of mutual supporting
23 maneuver, each -- maneuvering with each other under non-
24 live-fire training maneuver scenarios. Vehicles will
25 operate as organized units.

1 There will be no ranges built in these areas.
2 And this area is chosen because it has open rolling
3 terrain and provides a variety of physical conditions to
4 increase -- to increase soldier unit and leader
5 experiences and their driving abilities.

6 Now we will talk about other changes needed in
7 the base infrastructure. We will need to improve Wheeler
8 Army Airfield to allow for the use of C-130 turboprop
9 aircraft for training deployments of the Interim Brigade
10 Combat Team by strengthening the runway and the parking
11 areas.

12 Bradshaw Army Airfield will need to be
13 strengthened and -- will need strengthening of the
14 existing runway and improved parking areas to support
15 such aircraft as the new C-17 so the options will exist
16 to deploy from/to Pohakuloa for realistic training.

17
18 In order to meet the requirements of deployment
19 for real world missions and training, we will also need
20 to build a deployment facility at Wheeler Army Airfield
21 to prepare a unit for loading onto ships or onto
22 aircraft.

23 To be able to prepare cargo for air loading or
24 for parachute rigging, we will need to add a section to
25 the current Air Force Joint Mobility Center at Hickam Air

1 Force Base.

2 To clean vehicles, prepare equipment for
3 deployment, to prevent the spread of seeds -- of seeds
4 for weeds, three vehicle wash racks are required, one at
5 Schofield Barracks by the motor park, one in the Kahukus,
6 and one on the Big Island to support Pohakuloa.

7 Also, we will need to be three -- build three new
8 ammunition storage facilities at the current storage --
9 ammunition storage area at Pohakuloa.

10 The current fuel storage area at Schofield
11 Barracks will need to be improved to enhance -- handle
12 the increased number of vehicles.

13 The barracks and family housing will need to be
14 improved to meet the increased number of soldiers and
15 families assigned to the brigade.

16 The local area network for computer data
17 conductivity will need to be improved at Schofield and
18 Pohakuloa to handle the increased number -- or increased
19 data transmission load. Fiber optics will be replaced or
20 augmented in existing areas to these new facilities.

21 We will need to propose to install communications
22 towers on Army land to provide the necessary data link
23 between the vehicles, the Internet, and the command
24 structures. These towers will resemble small cellular
25 phone towers.

1 In all, the proposal will increase the size of
2 the Army in Hawaii and require 32 projects to support the
3 Interim Brigade Combat Team transformation of the 2nd
4 Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

5 And that concludes my briefing.

6 Mahalo.

7 MS. LEE: Thank you, Ron. I know that that
8 was a lot of information, and if you didn't already pick
9 it up, we have a copy of the presentation available at
10 the front as a handout, so I invite you to do that.

11 Next, I'd like to invite George up to
12 explain the EIS process to us.

13 MR. REDPATH: Aloha (greetings).

14 THE AUDIENCE: Aloha (greetings).

15 MR. REDPATH: I'd like to thank you all for
16 coming here tonight, taking the time to attend this
17 public meeting to assist us in the preparation of the
18 Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS, on Army
19 transformation.

20 The EIS is a public document whose purpose is to
21 provide decision makers -- in this case, the Army -- the
22 information they require to make a fully informed
23 decision as spelled out under the National Environmental
24 Policy Act, or NEPA.

25 NEPA directs all federal agencies to examine the

1 environmental consequences of any major federal action
2 that significantly affects the quality of the human
3 environment and provides an inter-disciplinary framework
4 to evaluate the impact of federal actions. Furthermore,
5 NEPA opens the federal decision-making process to public
6 involvement and scrutiny. This scoping meeting and the
7 EIS will be preparing a part of that process.

8 The EIS will evaluate impacts on Army
9 installations, training ranges, and surrounding lands and
10 communities in Hawaii, focusing on the islands of Oahu
11 and Hawaii. The EIS is a comprehensive full-disclosure
12 document that assesses the cultural, economic, and
13 environmental effects, both positive and negative, and
14 evaluates of the proposed action all alternatives under
15 consideration.

16 The EIS process includes a draft EIS, which will
17 be released to the public for comment, and a final EIS,
18 which will address public comments and selects a
19 preferred alternative. The EIS will provide a full and
20 fair discussion of significant environmental impacts
21 associated with a proposed action, in this case the
22 Army's transformation of the 2nd Brigade of the 25th
23 Infantry Division (Light) to an Interim Brigade Combat
24 Team, and will inform the decision makers and the public
25 of reasonable alternatives that would avoid or minimize

1 any adverse impacts caused by the action.

2 A Notice of Intent was published in the U.S.
3 Government's Federal Register last month, on March 4th,
4 stating that the Army intends to prepare an Environmental
5 Impact Statement to address the Army transformation in
6 Hawaii. Publication of that notice initiated the NEPA
7 requirement for public involvement referred to as the
8 scoping process.

9 Your attendance here this evening is an integral
10 part of that process. As you can see by the "You are
11 Here" arrow, it's your first chance to comment on the
12 proposed project and give us your concerns you would like
13 to see included in the EIS. Your oral and written
14 comments will be considered in the preparation of the
15 draft EIS, and the deadline for submission of written
16 comments is May 30th. In addition to this public forum,
17 you may also provide written comments on forms available
18 here tonight or on our website, and the address is on one
19 of the handouts in the back.

20 Here's a schedule for the NEPA process. It has
21 some important dates on when the reports will be released
22 and also opportunities for further comments.

23 Now, the draft EIS is anticipated to be completed
24 and released for public comment in February 2003. Once
25 the draft EIS is published, there will be a 45-day review

1 period during which you can provide written comments on
2 the draft EIS. And additionally, the Army currently
3 plans to hold public hearings during the review period to
4 receive your oral or additional written input on the
5 draft EIS. The comments received at that stage will be
6 addressed in the final EIS, which is scheduled for
7 completion in August 2003. Following a 30-day review
8 period -- public review period, it is anticipated that
9 the Record of Decision will arrive. It will be issued in
10 October 2003. This schedule is a handout at the back
11 that you may take.

12 We thank you all for attending tonight, and we
13 look forward to your participation in this early stage of
14 the scoping process.

15 Thanks.

16 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much, George.

17 What we'd like to do at this point is to allow
18 you to ask any questions for clarification purposes of
19 the two presenters or -- the information they gave you is
20 a little complex, and sometimes people have difficulty
21 making comment because they didn't understand all of the
22 material that was given in the presentation. So we have
23 two people on either side of the room with microphones,
24 if you have a question.

25 Seeing none -- no -- there is a question. Yes.

1 I'm sorry. Could you raise your hand so they see -- oh.

2 MR. KAJIHIRO: Hi. My name is Kyle
3 Kajihiro. Aloha (greetings).

4 MS. AMARAL: Aloha (greetings) Kyle.

5 MR. KAJIHIRO: In Hilo, I asked for a map of
6 the proposed land acquisitions because I find it's hard
7 to comment without all the information. Is that
8 available, please?

9 MS. AMARAL: Colonel, the question is
10 whether or not the land has been identified yet that is
11 up for acquisition.

12 MR. BORNE: Yes. The proposed areas that
13 we're working on now have not been defined enough to put
14 on a map. We do have the request, and we will provide
15 that to you. It's just not available tonight.

16 MS. AMARAL: Okay.

17 MS. KEALA: My name is Jalna Keala. I have
18 a question. Mr. Borne, are the comments that you made,
19 the text of the comments you made, going to be available
20 to us? There's a lot of information in there that is not
21 in any of these documents.

22 MR. BORNE: Are you talking in my spoken
23 text?

24 MS. KEALA: Yes.

25 MR. BORNE: Are you asking for the

1 transcript, then --

2 MS. KEALA: That's right.

3 MR. BORNE: -- I guess is the right
4 question? We can provide copies of the transcripts at
5 the time that we have them available, and I guess that's
6 the question that you'd like to answer. Yes, we can.

7 MS. AMARAL: I guess the question was, Ron,
8 whether or not a copy of your comments could be made
9 available. Is that what you were asking?

10 MS. KEALA: That's correct.

11 MS. AMARAL: Okay. And the answer is yes,
12 they can be made available.

13 Any other questions? Yes, sir. Miki,
14 there's a question here. Could you identify yourself,
15 please.

16 MR. ORTOGERO: Hi. I'm Marty Ortogero from
17 Mililani. I had a question on the improvements of
18 runways at Pohakuloa - or at Wheeler. And you mentioned
19 parking or -- could you comment on -- is there going to
20 be any aircraft that's going to be permanently stationed
21 up there?

22 COL WAGGONER: Marty, the improvements at
23 Wheeler is what, I think, is what you specifically asked,
24 sir? The only thing we're going to do at Wheeler is that
25 -- the runway is not going to be enlarged. All we're

1 going to do is parking. Right now, we can land a C-130
2 at Wheeler and go over to where the parking area is. The
3 parking area is so old that the C-130 sinks through the
4 asphalt, and so all that will happen is the current
5 Wheeler Army Airfield runway and parking area will be
6 reinforced. There's no plan to base C-130s out at
7 Wheeler. It will be essentially the same thing you see
8 now, only we'll be able to land them and park them at
9 Wheeler to load things up.

10 MS. AMARAL: If there are no further
11 questions, then we'd like to move into the comment
12 period, then. I would remind you once more, if you want
13 to make comment this evening, you will need to fill out a
14 card at the registration table at the back of the room,
15 and we will take you in the order that we receive them.

16 We ask that as you make your comment this
17 evening, to remember that part of the comment period is
18 to provide public input for the purpose of the Army
19 creating the Environmental Impact Statement. So the Army
20 is interested in knowing what natural and cultural
21 resource concerns you may have and that are important for
22 them to address.

23 What we will do up here as facilitators is kind
24 of keep track of time. Having so few presenters, I don't
25 know that that will be such a big deal. We also will try

1 to make sure that everybody respects the -- one another.

2 Please don't interrupt the speakers. Let them
3 complete what they are saying. We all have very strong
4 feelings about things, but we want to treat one another
5 with respect and hear their comments fully.

6 The first speaker tonight is Pauline Sato,
7 followed by Marty Ortogero. Pauline.

8 We would ask that you would use the microphone
9 because the court stenographers are taking verbal text.

10 MS. SATO: Aloha (greetings). My name is
11 Pauline Sato, and I'm the Oahu program director of The
12 Nature Conservancy, which is a private nonprofit
13 organization focused on conservation.

14 I'd like to speak on behalf of the Nature
15 Conservancy, which has some serious concerns regarding
16 the Army's proposed acquisition of the northern portion
17 of our Honouliuli Preserve for use as a small-arms
18 qualification range. Honouliuli extends for about 3,700
19 acres along the southern Waianae mountains and down the
20 east slope above Makakilo and Kunia. At its northern
21 end, it is adjacent to Schofield Barracks.

22 Because Honouliuli contains more than 70 rare and
23 endangered species and some of Oahu's last remaining --
24 last remnants of diverse native ecosystems, the Estate of
25 James Campbell granted the conservancy a long-term

1 conservation lease of the preserve. Protection of rare
2 species and the native forest in which they live is our
3 number one concern.

4 In 2001, Honouliuli Preserve in its entirety was
5 designated as critical habitat for the Oahu 'elepaio,
6 which is an endangered native forest bird, and soon the
7 preserve will be proposed for critical habitat for
8 endangered plants. In addition, the area of the preserve
9 identified for acquisition overlaps with areas in the
10 Makua implementation plan. There are also Hawaiian
11 cultural sites in the preserve.

12 Since 1990, the conservancy has expended about
13 \$2.5 million to conduct resource, management, and
14 community outreach activities at Honouliuli. For the
15 past three years, this work has been concentrated in the
16 northern part of the preserve due to the higher chance of
17 species survival and ease of access. This is the same
18 part of the preserve now proposed for acquisition.

19 Earlier this year, we completed a 110-acre fence
20 in this area of the preserve to exclude pigs, funded by a
21 grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
22 Maintenance and follow-up management is required by grant
23 agreement for at least ten years.

24 In the near future, we hope to plant an area near
25 Pu'u Hapapa to protect one of the most robust populations

1 of endangered tree snails remaining on this island.

2 Threats to Honouliuli Preserve include wildfire,
3 animals such as feral pigs, invasive weeds, and human
4 disturbance. Consistent and intensive management in the
5 form of fencing, weed control, planting native trees, and
6 seed collection is required to protect the area's many
7 rare and endangered plants and animals, and to restore
8 native Hawaiian forests.

9 For these reasons, the conservancy has specific
10 concerns about the size of the acquisition, the types of
11 training that might occur, and the resulting impacts on
12 access, erosion, and wildfires. We also have concerns
13 about the spread of weeds and damage to restoration
14 sites.

15 The Nature Conservancy recognizes the U.S. Army
16 as an important and valued conservation partner in
17 Hawaii, and we want to work together to find a way to
18 accommodate the Army's training needs without damaging
19 the important natural and cultural resources at
20 Honouliuli.

21 And finally, for those interested in learning
22 more about Honouliuli Preserve, please see me for a
23 recently produced booklet that describes some of its
24 natural and cultural history, and I brought a few copies
25 with me.

1 And thank you for the opportunity to comment.

2 (Applause)

3 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much. Marty
4 Ortogerero. Sorry, Marty.

5 MR. ORTOGERO: Good evening. My name is
6 Marty Ortogerero.

7 I just have a short comment. What I'd like your
8 study to address concerns flight safety and noise. With
9 the increase of aircraft, particularly 130s and C-117s, I
10 would like you to address with particular emphasis on
11 flight patterns, arrivals and departures, the increase of
12 overflights, in-flight emergencies and the impact of
13 commercial overflights here in Oahu.

14 Thank you.

15 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much. Tom
16 Lenchanko. Tom.

17 MR. LENCHANKO: Good evening. My name is
18 Tom Lenchanko. I'm with the Hawaiian Citizens Club in
19 Wahiawa, and I have about 10 items.

20 The first one I would like to address is
21 environmental justice.

22 Second, any existing programs that clean impact
23 live-fire training areas.

24 The third, heavy metal levels of contamination
25 outside as well as within training areas and its effect

1 on the community and natural areas and natural resources.

2 The fourth one, impacts to natural and cultural
3 resources.

4 Number five. Traditional practice and access
5 availability.

6 Six. Preservation, protection and restoration of
7 existing damaged and destroyed complexes, Hawaiian in
8 origin.

9 Number seven. Details or drawings of the
10 properties subject to Army transformation.

11 Number eight. Documentation of archaeological
12 sites within and around the project areas.

13 Number nine. Total existing acreage, and
14 additional acreage to be added by the Army
15 transformation.

16 And number ten -- to restate Mr. Ortogero -- the
17 air safety program.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much, Tom. Kyle
21 Kajihiro.

22 MR. KAJIHIRO: Aloha (greetings). I'm Kyle
23 Kajihiro with the American Friends Service Committee.

24 One of our concerns -- well, I would like to
25 state for the record that, as a matter of process, not

1 having the maps is really a problem in terms of being
2 able to comment adequately on the scoping process. So
3 I'm hoping that we could get copies of maps that
4 designate even where acquisitions are being considered so
5 that we can know what types of impacts we would like to
6 address on those areas before the end of the scoping
7 period, if those can be made available to those who's
8 interested.

9 As far as I know, the Schofield training areas
10 have not been given a complete Environmental Impact
11 Statement in the past. So we really don't have an
12 environment baseline, similar to the situation in Makua
13 and Pohakuloa. So I would request that this EIS include
14 a thorough accumulative impact analysis for training in
15 the Schofield ranges to include the concerns that were
16 mentioned by Mr. Lenchanko, but also the accumulative
17 impacts on echo systems, health as a whole, and to look
18 in particular at the soil, surface and ground water
19 contamination, air, and any bioaccumulation in plant and
20 animal tissue.

21 Also, I'd like you to address the question of the
22 alternatives. Why Hawaii? And I notice that the
23 alternatives listed in the state environmental report did
24 not list an alternative as any comparable sites on the
25 continental U.S. or elsewhere. So in your analysis,

1 please include a comparison of other comparable sites on
2 the continental U.S. for this type of training. Because
3 I think the alternatives listed were transformation, the
4 proposed action, transformation without any action, and
5 then no action. So if you could include an analysis that
6 compares sites on the U.S. that would be good.

7 This is a -- not a very palatable issue but I
8 think that one of the concerns here in the communities of
9 Wahiawa was prostitution. And in speaking with a
10 detective in the Honolulu Police Department, they noted
11 that the percentage of johns apprehended in the Wahiawa
12 area approached 80 to 90 percent military personnel. So
13 if you could look at the socioeconomic impacts, how this
14 increase in troop number might impact the prostitution
15 number in this area. That's all I have for this.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much. We are
18 actually at the end of the people who have signed up to
19 speak. So if you are interested in speaking, if you
20 could just raise your hand then we could accommodate you.
21 The other thing we would note, however, is that the
22 comment period has not ended. You can pick up the forms
23 in the back of the room. If you want to mail or fax your
24 comments in, you have up until the end of May, until May
25 30th to do that. And your comment, whether given orally

1 this evening or at one of our other scoping meetings or
2 faxed or mailed in all carry the same weight. Yes,
3 please.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just a quick
5 question. Do written comments have to be on the form or
6 can they be on regular letterhead as long as they're
7 addressed appropriately?

8 MS. AMARAL: The question is do the comments
9 have to be on the form or can they just be on regular
10 letterhead paper as long as they're faxed to the correct
11 address or mailed to the correct address. It doesn't
12 matter what form it's placed on. So you can certainly
13 use your own paper or your own letterhead to send it in.
14 We'd suggest that you take the form just so that you have
15 the correct address to mail or fax it to.

16 Any other questions, comments? If not, we
17 certainly will invite you to remain and talk to some of
18 the Army personnel, look at some of the displays here,
19 and take advantage of the refreshments in the back of the
20 room.

21 I believe that Colonel Waggoner has some closing
22 comments. Colonel.

23 COL WAGGONER: I want to thank everybody for
24 coming tonight. You brought some great issues up and all
25 your comments, written or oral, in whatever form you turn

1 them into us, will be taken into consideration when we
2 prepare the Environmental Impact Statement. And
3 remember, as Annelle said, this is just the beginning of
4 the EIS process. Once the draft EIS is prepared, it will
5 made available to you for public comment on the proposed
6 actions. So this is not the last time you get to see
7 this.

8 We'll take all of these comments, we'll form the
9 Environmental Impact Statement, and then put it out to
10 you again for 45 days for additional public comments. So
11 there's a lot of opportunities to interact in this
12 process.

13 For those of you that wanted to but did not give
14 any sort of oral testimony or things you want us to look
15 at, we'll have additional scoping meetings on Oahu, on
16 the 24th, 25th, 29th, and 30th of April. And at the
17 back, and at the end of the evening, you can find out
18 exactly where each of those are.

19 In addition, we will take any of your comments
20 that you want to provide us up until the 30th of May.
21 Just give them to Ron Borne, and whatever written
22 comments you provide us will be taken into consideration
23 when we do the EIS.

24 So again thank you for attending and mahalo
25 (thank you).

1 MS. AMARAL: Thank you, Colonel. We'd like
2 to call upon Puakea to do the closing pule (prayer) and
3 then we can all go finish eating. So if you would stand
4 please for the closing pule (prayer).

5 MR. NOGELMEIER: E ho'omalu kakou (let us be
6 still).

7 E ke Akua Mana Loa, he mahalo wale no ko makou i
8 kou ho'omalu 'ana me kou ho'oulu 'ana mai i ka ikaika o
9 ka leo i ka ha'i aku me ka ikaika o ka pepeiao i ka
10 ho'olohe. E alaka'i no ia makou me ka palekana i ka ho'i
11 'ana aku i kauhale, a e malama ia makou ma ia hana. 'O
12 ia no, ma ka inoa o kau keiki, ka 'Amene. (Almighty God,
13 we offer only thanks for your shelter and your
14 inspiration for the strength of voice in expression and
15 the powers of the ear in hearing and heeding. Do guide
16 us in safety on our return to our homes, and watch over
17 us in that time. That, in the name of your son, is the
18 closure.)

19 Please do look down upon us. We thank you again
20 for offering strong voices and strong ears in the process
21 that we go through. Please guide us as we go home.

22 'Amene (amen).

23 MS. AMARAL: Thank you for joining us.
24 Please stay and talk to people.

25 A hui hou (till we meet again).

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(The public scoping meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.)

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