

The following transcript was prepared by Wil Chee Planning, Inc. for the U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu. Errors identified in this transcript may be reported to Earl Nagasawa by email at Earl.I.Nagasawa@poh01.usace.army.mil or by phone at (808) 438-0772 for correction no later than May 30, 2002.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

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 Kahuku High & Intermediate School Cafeteria, 56-490 Kamehameha Highway, Kahuku, Hawaii, 96731, commencing at 6:20 p.m. on Monday, April 29, 2002.

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

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

ARMY TRANSFORMATION EIS SCOPING MEETING STAFF LIST

PANEL

- Borne, Ron
- Noel, Gina
- Ockerman, Jeanne Esq.
- Redpath, George
- Twomey, COL Andrew

FACILITATORS

- Amaral, Annelle
- Fukunaga, Ken
- Lee, Miki

HAWAIIAN-ENGLISH TRANSLATORS

- Kuwada, Kamaoli
- Nogelmeier, Puakea

I N D E X

1		<u>PAGE</u>
2		
3	OPENING PULE	
4	Mr. Warren Soh	5
5	<u>WELCOMING REMARKS</u>	
6	Ms. Mary Anne Long	6
7	Colonel Andrew Twomey	7
8	<u>DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION</u>	
9	Mr. Ron Borne	11
10	<u>EXPLANATION OF EIS PROCESS</u>	
11	Mr. George Redpath	31
12	<u>PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD</u>	
13	Mr. Ralph Makaiau	49
14	Ms. Gwen Kim	51
15	Ms. Shannon Wood	56
16	Ms. Malia Kaaihue	61
17	Mr. Keoni Bunac	62
18	Mr. Duane DeSoto	65
19	Mr. Ken Newfield	67
20	Mr. Kyle Kajihiro	71
21	Ms. Terri Kekoolani-Raymond	74
22	Mr. Makamae DeSoto	86
23	Mr. Alan Blanchard	87
24	<u>CLOSING REMARKS</u>	
25	Colonel Andrew Twomey	88
	<u>CLOSING PULE</u>	
	Mr. Puakea Nogelmeier	88

1 Monday, April 29, 2002, 6:20 p.m.

2 -o0o-

3 MS. AMARAL: Aloha (greetings). Thank you
4 for joining us this evening. My name is Annelle Amaral
5 and I'll be your facilitator along with Ken Fukunaga
6 who's here -- Ken, wave your hand - and Miki Lee, here.
7 So there are three of us to assist in facilitating this
8 gathering this evening, the transformation meetings of
9 the Army.

10 When you came in, you should have noticed that
11 there was a registration table in the back. We invite
12 you to pick up the handouts that are there. Some of them
13 will cover the two presentations that are being done this
14 evening. And it's easier to follow the presentations if
15 you have the handouts in hand.

16 Also, we would invite you, if you are interested
17 in making comments this evening, to fill out one of these
18 index cards at the registration table. And then we are
19 going to take you in the order that you signed in. So if
20 you think that you are signed up to speak because you
21 signed in on the long sheet, the white sheet, you
22 actually have to sign in on one of these index cards.
23 And then they'll bring it up to us and we'll call you.

24 Let me think. I think for now those are the two
25 things I was supposed to remind you of before we begin.

1 We wanted to open this evening with an opening
2 pule (prayer), and we have met Mr. Warren Soh from the
3 community. And he has kindly consented to come and do
4 the opening pule (prayer).

5 Thank you very much Mr. Soh.

6 MR. SOH: Our kind and gracious Heavenly
7 Father, we at this time as we gather together to discuss
8 the new plans that the Army has for our area, we ask thy
9 blessings upon this gathering. May we share information
10 and have our minds and hears open to all that is being
11 discussed. And may we do so with pure open hearts that
12 we may receive as well as give. Bless us each and
13 everyone of us that we may be able to understand each
14 other, that we may work in cooperation, and that we may
15 be -- that which we discuss may be beneficial to all. We
16 also bless -- we ask thee blessings, to bless the food
17 that has been prepared for us, and those hands that have
18 been used to prepare the food. We also, at this time, at
19 the close of our meeting, we ask that you be with us,
20 that we may return home safely to our various homes.
21 Again Father, we ask for thy blessings upon this
22 gathering and may be one in unity, and open minds and
23 open hearts. In these favors and blessings we ask in the
24 name of thy Son, Jesus Christ.

25 Amen.

1 MS. AMARAL: Thank you Uncle Warren.

2 Before we begin, also, there are a group of
3 people seated here in the front and I wonder if we could
4 ask each of you to introduce yourselves. And we'll start
5 with you Ron.

6 MR. BORNE: My name is Ron Borne and I'm the
7 transformation manager for U.S. Army Hawaii.

8 MS. OCKERMAN: Hi, my name is Jeanne
9 Ockerman and I'm the environmental attorney for the U.S.
10 Army Garrison, Hawaii and 25th Infantry Division (Light).

11 COL TWOMEY: Andrew Twomey. I'm the
12 commander of the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

13 MS. NOEL: Gina Noel, environmental
14 coordinator for transformation in Hawaii.

15 MR. REDPATH: George Redpath, EIS project
16 manager, Tetra Tech, Honolulu.

17 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much.

18 With us this evening, it's an honor to have the
19 chair of the neighborhood board, Mary Anne Long. And I'd
20 like to invite her up to say a few words and do an
21 introduction.

22 MS. LONG: Mahalo (thank you). Good
23 evening. I asked to just say a few words before we start
24 to just welcome and thank the Army for coming into our
25 community to bring this information to us. Colonel

1 Twomey or someone from his staff does attend our
2 neighborhood board meetings on a monthly basis to keep us
3 apprised of their activities and the things that they are
4 doing out here. They have proven to be a good neighbor
5 to us. They provide probably one of the most essential
6 services for us in terms of the MAST helicopter. When we
7 have somebody that has to be moved downtown quickly from
8 Kahuku Hospital, they're the people that do it for us.
9 And that - we are very grateful to that. So I would just
10 like to welcome Colonel Twomey and his people to do the
11 presentation tonight. So Colonel Twomey, thank you for
12 coming.

13 COL TWOMEY: Thank you Mary Anne for that
14 kind introduction. Thank you also to Warren Soh for the
15 pule (prayer) to open it up. And thank you all for
16 coming here tonight.

17 On behalf of Major General Dubik, the commander
18 of the 25th Infantry Division, I'm happy to represent him
19 here tonight to do two things. One, to provide you
20 information on the proposals that are currently under
21 consideration for changes to the facilities the Army uses
22 to change in Hawaii. And information on the process that
23 is going to be used to consider those proposals. And
24 second, to hear from you potential - your thoughts,
25 ideas, and concerns about those potential proposals. So

1 that as we go forward, we can take account of them, study
2 them, and respond to them in a substantive and meaningful
3 way.

4 The folks here at the head table with me are the
5 subject matter experts. Mr. Borne will step up here in a
6 minute and give you a presentation to outline the
7 proposals. And I would point to Mr. Redpath at the other
8 end who is our expert on the Environmental Impact
9 Statement process. And I'll rely on the other folks at
10 the head table and potentially some folks in the audience
11 if we get into some questions. They are the subject
12 matter experts who will work this.

13 I am the 2nd Brigade commander. My brigade, a
14 brigade is about three to four thousand people depending
15 upon how we're organized on any given day. And I am one
16 of the two infantry brigades at Schofield Barracks. My
17 brigade has been designated to undergo an organizational
18 change known as Army transformation that is, in fact, the
19 driving force behind these facilities and infrastructure
20 changes that are being proposed tonight.

21 So I look forward to hearing your comments,
22 questions, concerns. And at this point I'll turn it back
23 over to Annelle and allow her to move the meeting
24 forward.

25 Thanks.

1 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much Colonel.

2 A few more housekeeping issues and then I'm going
3 to turn it over to Miki. The bathrooms are out this back
4 door and to the right. The men's and women's bathrooms
5 are right next to one another. Refreshments as you
6 should already have noticed are at the back of the room.
7 Whenever you're hungry, stand up, grab something, come on
8 back and join us. Also there are some information booths
9 there and personnel to answer any questions about the
10 things that you see displayed there. So take advantage
11 of those.

12 We hope to end the meeting by nine o'clock
13 tonight and so part of the function of the facilitators,
14 aside from moving things through in a kind and gentle
15 way, is also to kindly let you know when we're kind of
16 running out of time. We would ask that you keep your
17 comments as close to five minutes as possible and we'll
18 let you know as you're running out of time.

19 Miki?

20 MS. LEE: As Colonel Twomey mentioned, we
21 are here for two reasons. First to present some
22 information to you. This is a new undertaking. Not a
23 lot is know about it. So Mr. Ron Borne will be sharing
24 with you some information on specific proposals. And
25 then we'd like to turn the meeting over to you to get

1 your comments and input on issues that you think are
2 important for the Army to include in its Environmental
3 Impact Statement.

4 Ron's presentation is going to be a slide show;
5 we'll dim the lights. We have a copy of that in paper if
6 you'd like to follow along with that because it is a lot
7 of information. His presentation takes 30 minutes.

8 Then we have a shorter presentation by George who
9 will explain the process and you might want to listen to
10 that because the process includes different dates and
11 times when other documents will come out. And you'll
12 have another opportunity to give comment and participate.

13 Comments are being taken tonight and they are on
14 the record. We have some court reporters here who are
15 taking a verbatim record of what's being said. And we do
16 that only so that we do a thorough job of making sure
17 we've heard you correctly.

18 You may also give your comments to us in writing.
19 We have a form up front that you can use if you want to.
20 You can also send it on your own letterhead if you are
21 more comfortable with that. And you can also e-mail them
22 or fax them. And we are taking your comments up through
23 the end of the month.

24 The comments that we receive, whether they are
25 written or oral, are given the same amount of

1 consideration. So don't feel that in order to be really
2 heard and considered, you have to come up to the mike.
3 Everything we receive will be looked at with the same set
4 of eyes and ears.

5 So with that, I'd like to bring up Mr. Borne who
6 will give you some information on the proposals.

7 MR. BORNE: Mahalo (thank you) Miki.

8 As I've said before, my name is Ron Borne. I'm
9 the transformation manager for U.S. Army Hawaii. And
10 like Colonel Twomey, I'd like to thank you for taking the
11 time out of your busy schedule to join us here tonight.

12 I will be briefing you on why we are looking at
13 making a change to the Army in Hawaii by transforming the
14 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division and the
15 proposed projects we would like to make that may have an
16 effect on our community.

17 At tonight's meeting, we have added information
18 based on feedback from earlier meetings. We are trying
19 to provide you with the most information that you will
20 need to make -- to provide input to our EIS process. The
21 slides, handouts, and published NOI remain the same.

22 The proposed action is the transformation of the
23 Army's forces in Hawaii described in the Notice of
24 Intent. This involves a conversion of the 2nd Brigade,
25 25th Infantry Division, into an Interim Brigade Combat

1 Team, a more rapidly deployable force. I will describe
2 this in detail in a few more minutes.

3 The proposed action would result in various
4 changes to the military lands in Hawaii. The categories
5 of proposed activities include fielding of new or
6 modified weapon systems, armored vehicles, and equipment;
7 construction activities, including the erecting of
8 buildings and infrastructure; land transactions such as
9 acquisitions of certain lands adjacent to our current
10 training areas; deployment of forces and specific
11 training for deployment; training to achieve and maintain
12 readiness; and other actions necessary to support the net
13 increase of approximately 480 soldiers and 400 vehicles
14 assigned to the 2nd Brigade.

15 The Army recognizes that potential impacts
16 related to these proposals include cultural and
17 historical impacts; impacts to natural resources such as
18 plants and animals; impacts on water, air, noise; and
19 social economic impacts as well as cumulative impacts.
20 We are here today to get your input on what impacts need
21 to be analyzed within our Environmental Impact Statement.

22 Our EIS will look at alternatives to the proposed
23 action. In our Notice of Intent, we listed some of our
24 proposed alternatives: a no-action alternative in which
25 the Army will not transform in Hawaii; an alternative to

1 transform using the existing infrastructures and
2 facilities as currently configured. We will welcome your
3 input to all alternatives for consideration.

4 We also want to let you know that the Army is
5 currently preparing an EIS for returned training at Makua
6 Military Reservation. Many of you may have attended the
7 scoping meetings a couple of weeks back. That EIS is
8 being prepared in accordance to a settlement agreement
9 entered in court. There is also a Makua Supplemental
10 Environmental Assessment.

11 All transformation projects will be analyzed in
12 this EIS. The Army may prepare some separate National
13 Environmental Policy Act documents such as an
14 environmental assessment for Drum Road and possible South
15 Range acquisitions we will speak of in a few minutes.
16 However, all transformation projects will be addressed in
17 this EIS.

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

1 requirements.

2 During our Cold War days, we had the luxury of
3 knowing our enemies. They had different uniforms and
4 equipment. We had geographical lines to describe our
5 differences such as the "Iron Curtain" and numerically
6 numbered "Parallels" that separated us and our
7 ideologies. Our combat vehicles were designed to be
8 heavy and powerful in order to meet an opposing army
9 similar to ourselves and much like we had experienced
10 during the Second World War. Thus, we were always
11 thinking European as the next battle front and planned
12 accordingly. As an Army, we would move against an
13 opposition in mutually protected formations to find the
14 enemy, figure out the strengths and locations of the
15 opposition by firing weapons, then moving against them to
16 overcome this opposition with force.

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

25 Information or intelligence has always been an

1 important part of military operations, but the speed and
2 accuracy has been increased multi-fold by the modern
3 information age and the use of the Internet. Now we can
4 rely on remote sensors, high technology, and a wealth of
5 intelligence to see a foe before he sees us and to use
6 our speed and maneuver to take advantage of his
7 weaknesses and our strengths at the time and place of our
8 choosing. Also, not all military operations are declared
9 wars or even open-fighting conflicts, as peacekeeping
10 operations become more a norm than an exception.

11 We are not the only unit in the Army to begin
12 transformation. There will be two brigades at Fort
13 Lewis, Washington; one at Fort Wainwright, Alaska; one at
14 Fort Polk, Louisiana; and one with the Pennsylvania Army
15 National Guard.

16 As I've mentioned, in the past traditionally, we
17 have been able to predict potential areas of conflict and
18 plan and prepare for such, and that is no longer the
19 case. While we can still see areas of risk for
20 conventional battles which have existed for years, we can
21 no longer be able to predict where the next military
22 necessity will be or to what level that military response
23 will be required. Just as the named areas shown are
24 places we are at now or have been to recently, who may
25 predict of the other areas of concern which is the next

1 hot spot? And, of course, terrorism now adds a whole new
2 dimension, as many times it knows no boundaries. Also,
3 as our military downsizes, the number and frequency of
4 deployments strains the current Army force.

5 Unfortunately, the possibilities for conflict
6 remain real, and the Army must remain ready. You can see
7 how Hawaii is a very important location to many of these
8 areas as we are centrally located for strategic
9 deployments.

10 There are many operational functions which define
11 the task as well, but variety, speed, precision, and
12 force are the most dynamic which face us today and best
13 describe the operational requirements to this new
14 organization.

15 Variety. We do not know where the next response
16 will be, to what level that participation is required,
17 and our speed and ability to get there quickly must be
18 flexible and coordinated. We no longer can depend on
19 built-up infrastructure in an area we're deployed to for
20 deployment operations.

21 Speed. Fortunately, we are members of a country
22 who take a long time to determine if it wants to go to
23 war or participate in peacekeeping operations. However,
24 we are also in a military in a society that once that
25 determination is made, the people expect a quick and

1 accurate response.

2 In the past, our heavy forces that have been
3 deployed to world hot spots took a long time to get there
4 due to our weight and logistical requirements, such as
5 during the Desert Storm deployments. The M1 Abrams tank,
6 one of the best in the world, weighs 70 tons. The number
7 of Class 70 or 70-ton bridges is limited throughout the
8 world and many times nonexistent in Third World
9 countries.

10 Many times, though, just our speed and timing can
11 defuse a situation and deprive the opposition of the time
12 to organize. One of these new units must be able to
13 deploy within 96 hours and sustain itself for an
14 indefinite period of time.

15 Precision. Accuracy in timing, movement, and
16 execution is a key part in convincing opposition you mean
17 business. Along with public tolerance of aggressive
18 actions under certain situations, the public is
19 intolerant of innocent casualties or collateral damage.
20 Once forces are necessary, each of these soldiers will be
21 equipped with such things as laser designators, night
22 vision devices, a mass information and intelligence
23 network, and each with radio communications to
24 communicate with superiors and a command structure.

25 Force. Force of arms and the ability to do so is

1 still a necessity of an army, and precise force must be
2 used or be threatened to be used in order to get our
3 point across. We no longer are alone in our missions and
4 our actions. As I've spoke of coalitions earlier, we
5 need to be able to operate in conjunction with other
6 services and other nations in our operations.

7 Our future force that we're looking for is the
8 Objective Force, but to begin procuring and fielding the
9 first Objective Force, it will take nearly 8 to 10 years.

10 Even as we invest in this future Objective Force,
11 we must maintain our current Legacy Forces which we have,
12 which are unmatched heavy forces such as Abrams and
13 Bradley armored vehicles, responsive Light Forces such as
14 our Airborne Forces, and our agile Special Operations
15 Forces.

16 We will need to recapitalize on selected Legacy
17 Forces of our Bradleys and Abrams and our Apache weapons
18 systems for the future. But to do so, to get to that
19 point, we will need to invest in an interim capacity to
20 do the things we cannot do today. That interim capacity
21 is a select number of brigades in the Army employing
22 current available off-the-shelf technology and equipment.
23 Our interim force will allow us to train soldiers and
24 grow leaders in the doctrine and organization of these
25 new formations.

1 For the future, every dollar we put into science
2 and technology enhances the quality of the future
3 Objective Force. Today, science and technology remains a
4 priority of the Army. We are challenging industry to
5 assist us in designing this future Objective Force. We
6 are asking industry to get out of gunpowder technology
7 and into electromagnetic or electrochemical. We are
8 asking to get -- we're asking about hybrid fuel engines
9 to get our vehicles away from fossil fuels. We are also
10 asking to see if we can use ceramics or alloys for
11 ballistic protection to lighten the vehicles all to save
12 weight, costs, fuels, logistics, and lives.

13 In the future, the entire Army will transform.
14 The question is if the 25th Infantry Division transforms
15 in Hawaii now as part of the interim change or later with
16 the remainder of the Army.

17 To show you an example, on the left-hand side
18 shows some characteristics of a current light infantry
19 brigade such as Colonel Twomey's 2nd Brigade is now. On
20 the right, it shows you the proposed traits of an Interim
21 Brigade Combat Team. Overall, it would be an increase in
22 the number of soldiers we'd be able to assign to
23 Schofield Barracks and that would use the training areas
24 in Hawaii.

25 The new brigade will look somewhat similar to the

1 Army's current structure and some -- and use some of the
2 traditional names. There will be three infantry
3 battalions, each of about 665 soldiers that will be made
4 up of three basic infantry companies of about 171
5 soldiers and the command structure over the top of that.
6 They will use mortars, the standard infantry weapons,
7 sniper and anti-tank missiles as we have at Schofield
8 today, and a new mobile gun system.

9 They will also have a new reconnaissance,
10 surveillance, and target acquisition squadron that will
11 be made up of reconnaissance troops that will use mounted
12 sensors, embedded human intelligence capacities, multi-
13 use sensors, electronic warfare, ground radar, and an
14 unmanned aerial vehicle to gather information and program
15 targets for the rest of the brigade.

16 An anti-armor company will be added that will
17 serve for mounted and dismounted anti-tank missiles.

18 An artillery battalion of towed artillery
19 howitzers is in this unit much as we have the towed
20 artillery at Schofield today.

21 A support battalion will be added to provide
22 supplies and logistical support to this Interim Brigade
23 Combat Team, and a combat service support company will be
24 available for administrative support.

25 It will also have a military intelligence company

1 to augment the reconnaissance squadron and to sort
2 through the huge amount of intelligence data from other
3 sources.

4 It will have an engineer company equipped as the
5 engineers are at Schofield today to provide field support
6 for engineer-type work in the field.

7 It will also have a signal company to provide the
8 communications need to keep the digital information
9 flowing between the units, the individuals, and the
10 command structure.

11 We can see that there's a unique Hawaii --
12 environment in Hawaii, and this also provides for
13 decentralized operations like we would find in today's
14 military operations. It also provides us a wide variety
15 of terrain such as open, tropical, urban, and desert.

16 While the transformation of the Army in Hawaii is
17 a statewide issue, we will address this island by island
18 in the areas that the Army is presently with -- and for
19 its proposed actions. We will start with the island of
20 Oahu.

21 As I have said before, the Army recognizes that
22 there are many potential impacts. One of the concerns
23 will be the interest in the community as the increased --
24 of an increased number of military vehicles and the
25 traffic on public roads. Since we, too, are aware that

1 the amount, type, and timing of traffic on an island
2 which depends on the coastal road network is a concern of
3 everyone, we are proposing to expand and improve the
4 ability of the Army to access the current training areas
5 while staying off public roads.

6 We propose to establish a new vehicle trail from
7 Schofield to Dillingham and one from Schofield to
8 Helemano, separating military vehicles destined to use
9 these areas with civil traffic. While these trails may
10 still need to cross public roads, they can do so at safe
11 controlled locations, coordinated with the county and
12 state.

13 We are also proposing to improve the current
14 military Drum Road to make it an all-weather, two-lane
15 road giving us year-round access to the Kahuku Training
16 Area. This coupled with the timing of military movements
17 will reduce potential traffic conflicts. This, too, is
18 also a real world training scenario for soldiers since
19 traffic on restricted roads -- roadways, is many times a
20 local concern.

21 We have looked to minimize additional land
22 requirements. However, due to a shortage of training
23 acres and the limited available space on Schofield
24 proper, we are proposing to purchase land south of
25 Schofield to build a motor pool for the new brigade to

1 park its vehicles and to develop a displaced rifle and
2 pistol range from Schofield Barracks. While an exact
3 acreage and location has not been defined, we are
4 considering 1,500 to 2,100 acres, and coordination with
5 neighbor land users has being made now.

6 The motor park will be built with the features to
7 protect the environment, and the proposed range complex
8 would use only standard ball ammunitions like the types
9 that hunters use, and will not use tracers to reduce
10 wildfire possibilities, nor would any explosives be used
11 in this area.

12 Based on the concerns we have heard, we have gone
13 out with engineers to design ranges, and we are proposing
14 to design of a range to remove the impacts from the
15 Honouliuli Preserve by re-orienting the direction of the
16 proposed range. We have proposed areas, but they have no
17 specific boundaries because we are still negotiating with
18 the landowners. We are also analyzing other
19 alternatives.

20 While not all training can be conducted by
21 simulations, some tasks can be taught in a virtual
22 setting where the precise task, under controlled
23 conditions, can be monitored and controlled. We propose
24 to build three buildings on Schofield Barracks at already
25 developed sites near the existing infrastructure.

1 One will be a building containing an individuals
2 through small unit virtual trainer not unlike what many
3 police forces that -- have today, that use computers to
4 grade marksmanship and small team tasks. The system will
5 use a computer and eye-safe laser technology much like
6 you see for sale at many computer game stores, albeit a
7 little more complicated.

8 Another building will house a centralized
9 facility for the control, safety, schedule, maintenance
10 of all the training facilities on Oahu for the Schofield
11 Barracks range control.

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

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

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

3 As many of the weapons qualification requirements
4 as possible, when included in fixed firing points and
5 fixed targets, will be moved to a single range complex on
6 the current McCarthy Flats area of Schofield. Old ranges
7 will be replaced with a multi-use range using the same
8 target area.

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

15 As more of the world's populated areas become
16 built up, an urban fighting facility would be needed to
17 train soldiers with weapons and live ammunition in
18 controlled settings with the difficult task of fighting
19 within urban areas. These facilities would replicate a
20 few simple buildings much like police training ranges or
21 what we would call "Dodge City" scenarios.

22 In conjunction with the urban live-fire training
23 area at Schofield, there are many other urban fighting
24 tactics and peacekeeping tasks that can be trained
25 without live ammunition. We would propose to build a

1 mock city at old disturbed sites in the Kahuku Training
2 Area. This would be a non-live-fire urban training
3 facility that would replicate multiple situations across
4 a wide area simultaneously. Many law enforcement
5 agencies have these type of complex computerized
6 facilities that can simulate anything from a simple law
7 enforcement task to conventional military operations.

8 There will be no live firing of weapons in this
9 proposal, only blanks.

10 This facility would renovate current unused
11 buildings at all three locations and construct several
12 more at two of the three sites.

13 Now we'll move to the Big Island proposals. Like
14 on Oahu, one of the concerns will be is the introduction
15 of an increased number of military vehicles and the
16 interest in traffic on public roads. And again we are
17 proposing to expand and improve the ability of the Army
18 to access its current training area at Pohakuloa by
19 staying off the public roadways.

20 We are proposing to renovate the vehicle trail
21 from Kawaihae docks, which will remain our primary port
22 of entry to the Big Island, to the training area. This
23 will maintain separation of military traffic destined for
24 Pohakuloa and civil traffic. The exact route of the
25 trail may not follow the current route as we will look to

1 many different options to decide where the trail will be
2 placed.

3 Two new range complexes will need to be built at
4 Pohakuloa. These also will be multi-use ranges to reduce
5 cost, maintenance, and impacts to the environment while
6 promoting facilities that do multiple tasks over a much
7 smaller area.

8 Another larger battle area complex would be built
9 to allow the soldiers to train as a part of a larger unit
10 -- battalion size or larger -- allowing them to choose
11 targets and firing points as they would do in combat
12 situations. It would also allow the soldier to train
13 with the new vehicles in a live-fire training tasks and
14 with other weapons systems and units. This range will
15 also allow for the use of all weapons systems that would
16 be available to a commander of an Interim Brigade Combat
17 Team such as artillery, attack helicopters and fixed-
18 wing, close-air-support aircraft.

19 An anti-armor range would be needed to train the
20 new anti-armor company on mounted and dismounted anti-
21 gunnery -- anti-tank gunnery tasks. For these, the old
22 ranges would be replaced with new multi-purpose ranges
23 using the same target area and impact area and would not
24 create a new one.

25 Again, we have looked to minimize additional land

1 requirements. However, we are also proposing to purchase
2 lands west of Pohakuloa for maneuver training where
3 soldiers can operate these new vehicles in training with
4 unit organizations and formations using the tactics of
5 mutually supporting each other in non-live-fire maneuvers
6 and non-live-fire training. Vehicles will operate in an
7 organized controlled operation.

8 Again, while an exact acreage and location has
9 not been defined, we are considering 15,000 to 23,000
10 acres. Coordination with neighbor land users is already
11 being made. We have proposed areas, but again, no
12 specific boundaries because we are still negotiating with
13 the landowners. We are also analyzing other
14 alternatives.

15 There will be no ranges built in these areas.
16 This area is -- offers open and rolling terrain, and
17 provides a variety of physical conditions that we would
18 need to increase soldier, unit, and leader experience
19 levels.

20 Now we will talk about other changes that we will
21 need to make in the base infrastructure to support this
22 transformation change.

23 We will need to improve Wheeler Army Airfield to
24 allow for the use of C-130 turboprop aircraft for
25 training deployments of the Interim Brigade Combat Team.

1 This will require strengthening of the current runway and
2 strengthening of the current parking areas.

3 Bradshaw Army Airfield at Pohakuloa will also
4 need strengthening of the existing runway and
5 improvements for -- parking improvements for cargo
6 aircraft such as the C-17 so that options exist to deploy
7 to Pohakuloa for realistic training from Oahu.

8 In order to meet the requirements of deployment
9 for real world missions and training, we will need to
10 build a deployment facility of a couple of buildings at
11 Wheeler to prepare a unit for loading on ships or on
12 aircraft.

13 To best prepare cargo for air loading or
14 parachute rigging, our rigger section will need to be
15 added to the Joint Mobility Center at the Air Force's
16 Hickam Air Force Base.

17 Also, to clean vehicles, prepare equipment for
18 deployments, prevent the spread of weeds, three vehicle
19 wash racks will be required: one at Schofield by the
20 motor park, one in the Kahukus, and one on the Big Island
21 in support of Pohakuloa.

22 Three new ammunition storage facilities will be
23 need -- will need to be added to the existing storage
24 area at Pohakuloa.

25 The current fuel storage and distribution

1 facility at Schofield will be improved to handle the
2 increased number of vehicles.

3 Barracks and family housing will be improved to
4 meet the increased number of soldiers and families
5 assigned to the brigade.

6 The local area network for computer data
7 connections will need to be improved on Schofield and to
8 Pohakuloa to handle the increased data load transmission.
9 Fiber optic lines will be replaced or augmented in
10 existing areas and the new facilities.

11 We will propose to install communications towers
12 on Army lands to provide the necessary data link between
13 the vehicles, the Internet, and the command structure.
14 These towers will resemble small cellular phone towers.

15 In all, the proposed -- the proposal will
16 increase the size of the Army in Hawaii and require 32
17 projects to support the interim transformation of the 2nd
18 Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division.

19 As a point of clarification, a department in the
20 Army revised its NEPA Army regulation on March 2002 --
21 March 29th, 2002. The Army scoping process will comply
22 with this revised regulation.

23 And that concludes my briefing.

24 Mahalo (thank you) for your time.

25 MS. LEE: Thank you.

1 As George makes his way to the podium, I'd like
2 to correct something that I said a little bit earlier. I
3 said the deadline to turn in comment would be the end of
4 the month, and it's really May 30th. But George will go
5 into a lot more detail about that, so my apologies for
6 that.

7 MR. REDPATH: Aloha (greetings). I'd like
8 to thank you this evening for taking time out to come out
9 in this wet weather to attend this public scoping meeting
10 to assist us in the preparation of the Environmental
11 Impact Statement, or EIS, for the Army transformation
12 project.

13 This EIS is a public document whose purpose is to
14 provide decision makers, in this case the Army, the
15 information they require to make a fully informed
16 decision as spelled out under the National Environmental
17 Policy Act or NEPA.

18 NEPA directs all federal agencies to examine the
19 environmental consequences of any major federal action
20 that significantly affects the quality of the human
21 environment and provides an interdisciplinary framework
22 to evaluate the impacts of federal action. Furthermore,
23 NEPA opens the federal decision-making process to public
24 involvement and scrutiny. This scoping meeting and the
25 EIS we will be preparing are a part of that process.

1 The EIS will evaluate impacts on Army
2 installations, training ranges, and surrounding lands and
3 communities in Hawaii focusing on the islands of Oahu and
4 Hawaii. The EIS will be a comprehensive, full-disclosure
5 document that assesses the cultural, social, economic,
6 and environmental effects, both positive and negative, of
7 a proposed project and all the alternatives under
8 consideration.

9 The EIS process includes the draft EIS, which is
10 released to the public for comment, and the final EIS,
11 which will address the public comments and selects a
12 preferred alternative.

13 The EIS will provide a full and fair discussion
14 of significant environmental impacts associated with the
15 proposed action -- in this case the Army transformation
16 of the 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division (Light)
17 to an Interim Brigade Combat Team -- and will inform the
18 decision makers and the public of reasonable alternatives
19 that would avoid or minimize any adverse impacts caused
20 by the project.

21 A Notice of Intent was published in the U.S.
22 Government's Federal Register last month on March 4th
23 stating that the Army intends to prepare an Environmental
24 Impact Statement to address the Army transformation in
25 Hawaii. Publication of that notice initiated the NEPA

1 requirements for public involvement referred to as the
2 scoping process. The Notice of Intent also described two
3 alternatives for this project.

4 Your attendance here this evening is an integral
5 part of that process. The purpose is to receive input
6 from you on the issues you would like to see addressed in
7 the EIS as they relate to the Army transformation. Your
8 oral and written comments will be considered in the
9 preparation of the written -- of the draft EIS, and the
10 deadline for submission of written comments is May 30th.

11 In addition to this public forum, you may also
12 provide written comments on the forms available here
13 tonight or on our web site, and the address is on one of
14 the handouts in the back. The web site also provides
15 additional information on the project and alternatives on
16 the transformation project.

17 The draft EIS is anticipated to be completed and
18 released for public comment in February 2003. Once the
19 draft EIS is published, there will be a 45-day review
20 period during which you can provide written comments on
21 the draft EIS. The schedule is available on the handout
22 in the back. It gives all of these dates that I'm
23 referring to.

24 Additionally, the Army currently plans to hold
25 public hearings during the review period to receive your

1 input on the draft EIS. The comments received at that
2 stage will be addressed in the final EIS that is
3 scheduled for completion in August 2003.

4 Following a 30-day public review period, it is
5 anticipated that a Record of Decision, or ROD, would be
6 issued in October 2003.

7 Again, I want to thank you for coming out this
8 evening, and we look forward to accepting your comments
9 in this important process.

10 MS. AMARAL: Thank you George. Yes,
11 Colonel.

12 COL TWOMEY: Hello. Ah, there we go.

13 Before we move on, I just want to thank Ron and
14 George, and just add one more comment. Ron's been doing
15 this so much that he just doesn't have much enthusiasm
16 for this anymore. But I would just tell you that
17 personally this is a very big deal. It's a big deal for
18 you, it's a big deal for the Army, and it's a big deal
19 for the nation. And it's big in a couple ways.

20 There was a lot of -- there's a lot of stuff on
21 those slides. But what that boils down to is a big
22 increase in the capability of an infantry brigade for not
23 much increase in terms of numbers of people. This is a
24 project that -- an organizational change that truly
25 attempts to harness computers, communications, and

1 digital information to dramatically expand the size,
2 scope and area that an Army unit can operate in. It
3 increases the mobility, it increase information, it
4 increases deployability.

5 It's big in a second way. It's big dollars.
6 We're talking about the grocery bill for some of the
7 things that Ron listed up there goes somewhere north of
8 \$600 million I think.

9 So this is a big set of projects for coming -
10 that we should all think about very closely, and has lots
11 and lots of opportunities.

12 And that's sort of the final point here to lead
13 us into the questioning session. And that is, this is a
14 big opportunity for the community very early on in this
15 project to provide input and shape the direction that
16 these proposals will go forward. There's great
17 opportunity here for your Army. It's important for our
18 nation. And it's important for your community that we
19 bring all those things into alignment.

20 So with that, thanks Annelle.

21 MS. AMARAL: Thank you. Thank you Colonel.

22 Now, you've just received a great deal of
23 information. And before you come up and begin to give
24 comment, what we'd like to do is to give you an
25 opportunity to ask technical questions or clarifying

1 questions for the substantive material that's been
2 presented. This is a different -- this question-and-
3 answer period is related to the information you've been
4 given and clarifying some of that 'cause we know it's
5 kind of weighty and there's a lot of new information
6 there. As soon as this is done, of course, then we will
7 begin to take your public comment.

8 So we've got Ken with a microphone as well as
9 Miki. Do you have any questions of the material that has
10 been presented? Three hands have just gone up. And
11 could you identify yourself, please.

12 MR. NEWFIELD: Thank you. Ken Newfield. I
13 live in Pupukea. I've been on the North Shore
14 Neighborhood Board for over 10 years.

15 My question for Mr. Borne. You briefly mentioned
16 changes to NEPA that you were going to be complying with.
17 Could you tell us what those changes are?

18 MR. BORNE: Sorry about that. Technical
19 difficulties.

20 The changes are not to NEPA itself. The changes
21 are to an Army regulation that directs the Army only on
22 how to proceed on doing the NEPA documentation. And
23 that's what we were clarifying is that there was a recent
24 change that was published after we issued the Notice of
25 Intent for this NEPA or EIS document that we're still

1 complying with during the operation of it.

2 MS. OCKERMAN: I don't know if you've got a
3 complete answer. Some of the things that it required was
4 some information it specified over the previous
5 regulations which required us to talk about some of the
6 potential effects and to bring up the alternatives from
7 the NOI. So it just spelled out a little bit more detail
8 what goes on in a scoping process. And that's the main
9 change that we were looking into for this evening.

10 MR. RAMIREZ: My name is Tino Ramirez. I
11 live in Waialua. And my question is what guidelines will
12 be used to construct the roads and their infrastructure?
13 I'm just wondering if, because this is an Army project,
14 you'll be able to go in and, you know, not provide
15 adequate drainage, et cetera.

16 MR. BORNE: While none of these roads or
17 vehicle trails have been designed yet, and that's some of
18 the things we are looking for, and they're not federal
19 highways, they're still military roads, they still have
20 to have the infrastructure. And we still have to abide
21 by the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act during the
22 construction and during the operations of these roads.
23 So, you know, there is no specific design yet that we can
24 quote, you know, make comments of the areas of your
25 concern. And we'll make sure they're designed in the

1 process of the trails themselves and the locations too.

2 MS. AMARAL: Oh, back there. Sorry Shannon.

3 MS. KAAIHUE: My name is Malia Kaaihue. I
4 was wondering who was going to be doing the cultural
5 assessment for the EIS.

6 MR. BORNE: We're going to have to refer to
7 our table of experts over here. Kanalei?

8 MR. SHUN: My name is Kanalei Shun. I work
9 for the Corps of Engineers. And the principal mission
10 office has tasked us to do the cultural resources
11 management, look at the cultural resources in the various
12 areas that will be potentially impacted by the
13 transformation.

14 MS. KAAIHUE: I'm sorry. What is your name?

15 MR. SHUN: Kanalei. Kanalei Shun.

16 MS. WOOD: My name is Shannon Wood. I'm
17 with the "Koolau News," but I'm also extremely active in
18 a lot of recreational activities. What I'd like to know,
19 has the money for this transformation already been
20 allocated by the United States Congress?

21 Secondly, what is the length of time after the
22 EIS that you would anticipate if the projects will start?
23 How long will they take to complete?

24 And third, will there be any way of encouraging
25 local businesses and construction companies to be able to

1 bid on these jobs? Or will they be done by one company
2 or two companies that are being brought in from outside
3 the State of Hawaii?

4 MR. BORNE: There's a line of 'em there and
5 I'll start. There's one of them I will have to have
6 George comment on. I'll kind of start backwards. You
7 might have to help me.

8 The contracts for the local -- these projects
9 that are there, will not be done with military
10 construction assets such as combat engineers. It will be
11 out for bid. They will go through the U.S. Army Corps of
12 Engineers for, you know, open contract bid. And we would
13 hope that local companies get a lot of this work.

14 On the issue -- and you may have to help me with
15 this -- the issue on the money, has any money been
16 allocated? Of course the Congress has not allocated any
17 money for the funds for construction until we get down
18 with the EIS process. There has been the money from the
19 Army dedicated to do - to start this NEPA process and
20 start some preliminary planning process. But not even
21 the design money is appropriated by Congress for some of
22 these projects and won't be done until a NEPA has been
23 completed.

24 Oh, yeah. I'm sorry. The last one is how long.
25 Of course this NEPA process will drive some of that. The

1 tentative date that we must be mission ready with this
2 unit would not be till 2007. We would hope to, though,
3 start some of the acquisition and construction after the
4 process in the year 2004. So between 2004 to 2007.

5 There was one more there that you had related to
6 the NEPA I think?

7 MS. AMARAL: No, those were the three.
8 There's a question in the back of the room.

9 MR. RAMIREZ: Is the decision to limit live
10 fire at the South Range at Schofield Barracks to small
11 arms, is that permanent? And if the Army would wish to
12 start using explosives, et cetera, what is the process
13 the Army would have to go through to do that?

14 MR. BORNE: In order to use explosives in
15 that area it would require Department of the Army waiver
16 to the creating of a new area that would be duded with
17 explosive ammunition. That's why this proposal only
18 involves the use of small arms such as pistols and
19 rifles.

20 MS. OCKERMAN: I just want to add something
21 that there'd also be environmental laws we'd have to
22 comply with. So Endangered Species Act and, of course,
23 NEPA; we'd have to re-analyze the impacts of what that
24 would have on the environment versus no live fire.

25 MR. RAMIREZ: And public input?

1 MS. OCKERMAN: Yeah, there would be, we
2 would -- as part of NEPA we would have public input. So
3 we'd probably have you guys back here and we'd tell you
4 about what we were going to propose. But right now the
5 current plan is to only do the non-live fire and the
6 pistol training, not explosives.

7 MR. KAJIHIRO: Hi. I'm Kyle Kajihiro. I
8 have three questions. One is related to the change in
9 the unified command structure. I'm wondering what
10 changes affect the U.S. Army in the Pacific and does this
11 have any bearing on, you know, how the transformation
12 will take place or that, which, where the command for the
13 Army in the Pacific will occur? That's the first
14 question.

15 COL TWOMEY: That's, I'm not sure I'm
16 completely qualified to answer the question. But I'll
17 give it my best shot. I have not seen -- all I have seen
18 at this point are the same press reports that you have
19 seen about the unified command plan as it's still in the
20 approval process in Washington.

21 But I will infer from the same press reports that
22 you're reading, as far as the 25th Division goes, the
23 commitment of the Army to transform an organization here
24 in the 25th Division, that plan is being done with the
25 idea that the 25th Division remains under Pacific Command

1 and remains located here in Hawaii. That's why we're
2 going through the EIS process for the facilities here.
3 None of the proposed changes that I've read about in any
4 of the public announcements have changed the relationship
5 of the 25th Division in Pacific Command at Camp Smith.

6 MR. KAJIHIRO: So the West Coast Army
7 facilities still report to Honolulu?

8 COL TWOMEY: The West Coast --

9 MR. KAJIHIRO: Like Fort Lewis and all these
10 other Army installations.

11 COL TWOMEY: Those, I would have to - I
12 would not want to answer that question without looking at
13 the official document about the facilities at, like Fort
14 Lewis near Seattle. I'm not sure what the relationship
15 with that is, nor am I positive as to what the final
16 disposition of -- was of forces in Alaska.

17 Forces here in Hawaii, though, I know of no
18 proposed change to the current status.

19 MR. KAJIHIRO: Okay. Thanks. That's my
20 first question. The second one, someone mentioned the
21 Endangered Species Act. And there's a bill in Congress
22 right now that proposes to exempt the military from the
23 Endangered Species Act, the Marine Mammals Act, Clean
24 Water, Clean Air, a number of other laws. And I'm
25 wondering how this is going to impact this transformation

1 and any changes as was mentioned.

2 MS. OCKERMAN: Yeah, I know there is a
3 proposal that DOD put together. They put together a
4 package. I'm not sure if it's going to come up in the
5 House or the Senate bill. Right now it's very
6 speculative. Our project's proceeding now like that
7 won't happen. At the time that it does -- there's no
8 exemption from NEPA being talked about under that. I
9 know that there's some other exemptions but it really is
10 too speculative to say what exactly would be the effect
11 because we don't know if it will ever be enacted or what
12 part would be enacted.

13 MR. KAJIHIRO: Thank you. And the third
14 question. In Alaska there's a -- the Army is asking the
15 State of Alaska legislature to pass an amendment which
16 would exempt range -- active live-fire activities on
17 ranges from the permitting requirements for, I guess it's
18 the Clean Water Act. And I'm wondering if there are any
19 similar attempts in Hawaii to amend state laws to exempt
20 training.

21 MS. OCKERMAN: I'm not aware of any. I
22 can't speak for all of DOD here. But I'm not aware of
23 any.

24 MR. KAJIHIRO: Okay. Thank you.

25 MS. AMARAL: Thank you. There's a question

1 back here and then there's a question in the front, Ken.

2 MR. NEWFIELD: Thank you. Over the past 15
3 years, the number of exercises the military has been
4 doing up in the Kahuku range has reduced. I think they
5 do an average of about three major training exercises per
6 year now. The noise abatement program that they've
7 instituted over the past decade, I think, has been fairly
8 effective in how they bring in their aircraft through the
9 ranges. My question is what will this have on the impact
10 on the number of training exercises you do have in the
11 Kahuku range?

12 MR. BORNE: Because there -- this is a
13 change to one brigade which works on a cycle for
14 repetition in training, that probably the frequency would
15 not change in the Kahukus. It would be used for the same
16 type of operations, albeit they would bring the vehicles
17 up Drum Road to get there. So we would have to -- and,
18 of course noise is one of things we would need to study
19 and be curious to see what the comments that you may
20 provide us so that we can look at the different areas and
21 what the concerns may be. And one of the things we will
22 address in the EIS is noise that could be caused by an
23 increase in the change of vehicles rather than the
24 frequency. Now, during the process, we find out we have
25 to compensate for maybe size by frequency increase, we

1 would discuss that during the process.

2 MS. PRIMACIO: Okay, my question is also
3 again --

4 MS. AMARAL: Could you identify yourself.

5 MS. PRIMACIO: Margaret Primacio, resident
6 of Kahuku.

7 My question is about noise pollution in the
8 Kahuku area and the Pupukea and Sunset areas. Would
9 there be helicopters at all or more helicopters used for
10 maneuvers?

11 MR. BORNE: The Interim Brigade Combat Team,
12 you'll notice the structure didn't have an aviation asset
13 specifically assigned to it. So, no, there would be no
14 change to the number of helicopters or probably the
15 flying hours that they would be required to fly to train
16 would change in Hawaii.

17 You can speculate, though, that maybe because
18 they now have the vehicle which isn't as easily moved by
19 a helicopter, that maybe that helicopter flights into the
20 Kahukus may be less. But that would just be in the
21 tentative look at it right now. It would still involve
22 some helicopter movement though.

23 MS. PRIMACIO: Okay, my next question is, is
24 there any visibility -- more visibility from the road
25 side of other structures going up, any of your range

1 facilities?

2 MR. BORNE: From the Kahuku side?

3 MS. PRIMACIO: Well, I mean from Kamehameha
4 Highway. Would it be impacted by any visible buildings?

5 MR. BORNE: The Drum Road, you know, is
6 interior, and so that would not be a physical change. So
7 sticking with that question for the Kahukus, the building
8 proposals, there would be three building sites that are
9 already currently located or would be proposed to be
10 located at already current sites for the old Nike-
11 Hercules system that was up in Kahuku, of which the only
12 thing that's apparent from the road is the antennas that
13 are up by the windmill sites, the two red and white
14 antennas. So that's approximately the location.

15 The others are back in the interior of the
16 Kahuku. The other one would be the addition. We would
17 probably put up one of these communications towers to
18 talk to the vehicles like a cellular phone. And that
19 would go in the same location because you figure that the
20 cellular phone towers there now, that the coverage would
21 be similar to the same.

22 So, to answer your question, I do not believe
23 that there would be any physical or aesthetic changes to
24 any part of the Kahuku for any of these projects visible
25 from the road.

1 MR. RAMIREZ: Is it possible that the
2 findings of the EIS would stop this project?

3 MS. OCKERMAN: It is possible that the Army
4 may decide not to transform to the Interim Brigade here
5 in Hawaii. I mean it's eventual the transformation will
6 encompass all of Army forces. It's possible based on
7 information in the EIS.

8 And one of the alternatives we are looking at is
9 the no-action, no transformation in Hawaii. The other
10 one is no transformation to the Interim Brigade. I mean
11 transformation without changing existing infrastructure.
12 So that's another alternative we're looking at.

13 So I guess the answer is it's a possibility.

14 MS. AMARAL: There's a question here in the
15 front of the room. Hold your hand up again, please.
16 Thank you. If you could identify yourself.

17 MS. MARTINEZ: Yes. Hi. My name is Sherry
18 Martinez. I'm also a Kahuku resident.

19 I have a question on floods. I know for Kahuku
20 area, flooding is a major issue. And if you folks are
21 going to be doing infrastructure, different things, how
22 will that impact our flood areas or will it impact our
23 flood areas?

24 COL TWOMEY: I think that's exactly the kind
25 of concern that we're looking to capture here tonight to

1 make sure we put it into the engineering studies. So
2 I'll leave it to the facilitator to come back and make
3 sure we -- I think there's a couple people here
4 interested in flood and runoff issues.

5 MS. AMARAL: So that perhaps the answer to
6 that is we don't have an answer, but we should put it on
7 the record that this is something that should be taken
8 into consideration when they're developing the
9 Environmental Impact Statement.

10 If there are no further questions, what I'd like
11 to do is to move into now the public comment period. I
12 have three people signed up thus far to speak, three,
13 four, five. Maybe a little more than three. Okay. I've
14 got six people signed up, seven. So let's start.

15 We start with Ralph Makiau -- Makaiiau, followed
16 by Nat Pak. Ralph. Oh, aloha (greetings). Ralph, could
17 you come up here and join us, please.

18 MR. MAKIAIU: Oh, my.

19 MS. AMARAL: I know it's intimidating. But
20 the difficulty is that we need to have you on the record.
21 The stenographer needs to be able to hear you.

22 As Ralph is making his way up, by the way, I'll
23 remind you there is a second stenographer behind all
24 those tables there who is able to take your comment and
25 put you on the record for those of you who cannot wait.

1 You can also go and meet with the stenographer privately.

2 Sorry.

3 MR. MAKAI AU: Excuse my cold but I'm Ralph
4 Makai au from the community of Kahuku.

5 The hat I would like to share tonight is the
6 formal project called the Kahuku Village Association
7 Flood Mitigation Project. And just to give you some
8 history. This area was inundated by a major flood.
9 There's no formal measure of that flooding regarding the
10 25, 50 or hundred years. But what it did to the
11 community was a tremendous wake-up call.

12 And in the research of that flood, land use was a
13 big issue on that flood. I was not fortunate enough to
14 make comment to the purchase or the sale of Campbell
15 Estate's land to the tune of 9,000 acres in the upper
16 Kahuku Mountains. But I now call you the landowner with
17 a view.

18 But, unfortunately, drainage is a problem. And
19 seven of our streams that passes through the Koolauloa
20 region starting from Laie to Kawela do, in fact,
21 originate on that 9,000 acres. And I would presume any
22 issue of land use for that acreage will impact the
23 village of Kahuku.

24 The current status of its impact at this point is
25 very broad. But as a few examples of what our current

1 drainage problem denies us is our ability to have more
2 affordable housing in this area.

3 It also limits our ability for the State
4 Department of Education to want to put in money to our
5 school. For little, small reason that the, although we
6 have a winning football team, the football field is the
7 lowest elevation in this area. So everything that comes
8 down from mauka (inland) does end up in our football
9 field. So I don't know whether or not I should correct
10 that as long as they maintain their championship status.

11 Nevertheless, it also impacts our farming
12 industry and our aquaculture industry where the shrimps,
13 we have over 108, 110 one-acre ponds in this area,
14 probably the largest aquaculture endeavor for the state.
15 But just to visualize that that acreage was underwater
16 when we ended up trying to protect ourselves from this
17 flooding.

18 And we also have a resort industry that cannot
19 dream because of our -- and we're considering this area,
20 or the Koolauloa moku (district) as well as the North
21 Shore moku (district) is considering that, that is the
22 only economic engine we have for this region. Other than
23 that, we have to use your Drum Road to go to work in
24 Honolulu, hopefully. So there is a tremendous amount of
25 impact.

1 As I stated earlier, we were not able to get
2 involved with the initial land purchase above Kahuku.
3 And we would like you, as good neighbors, to sincerely
4 help us with our problem. One of the big problems with
5 us is that it takes big money. And we need that big
6 money leverage. We have put in a very small effort and
7 have at least addressed the problem by getting the water
8 past Kam Highway. And that took about roughly \$15
9 million. So we have done something for ourselves. We're
10 not just sitting here and taking and taking. Now we need
11 to get the water from Kam Highway to the ocean.

12 And we need your help. The Corps is involved
13 with us. Some private services are involved with us.
14 And also the office of the Senator, Dan Inouye. So we
15 would like to formally request that in your EIS you
16 consider us and consider partnering with us in order to
17 complete our task. And again keep in mind that the
18 region goes from -- basically we cannot put in any
19 infrastructure without correcting this problem from Laie
20 to Kawela.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause)

23 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much. Nat Pak
24 followed by Gwen Kim.

25 MR. PAK: My name is Nat Pak. I'm the

1 volunteer coordinator of The Nature Conservancy which is
2 a private non-profit organization. The good folks from
3 the Army have already heard our concerns and apparently
4 have already acted on some of them. So I will present
5 this testimony from The Nature Conservancy for the
6 benefit of the members of public attending this meeting
7 who may not be familiar with The Nature Conservancy,
8 Honouliuli Preserve and the ways that the Army's plans
9 may affect the native plants, animals and natural
10 communities of the preserve.

11 The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii has serious
12 concerns regarding the Army's proposed acquisition of the
13 northern portion of our Honouliuli Preserve for use as a
14 small arms qualification range.

15 Honouliuli Preserve extends for about 3,700 acres
16 along the southern Waianae Mountains and down the east
17 slope above Makakilo and Kunia. At its northern end it
18 is adjacent to Schofield Barracks.

19 Because Honouliuli contains more than 70 rare and
20 endangered species and some of Oahu's last remnants of
21 diverse native ecosystems, the Estate of James Campbell
22 granted the Conservancy a long-term conservation lease of
23 the preserve.

24 Protection of rare species and the native forest
25 which they live is our number one concern. In 2001

1 Honouliuli Preserve in its entirety was designated as
2 critical habitat for the Oahu 'elepaio, a native
3 endangered forest bird.

4 Soon the preserve will be proposed for critical
5 habitat for endangered plants. In addition, the area of
6 the preserve identified for acquisition overlaps with
7 areas in the Makua implementation plan. There are also
8 significant Hawaiian cultural sites in the preserve.

9 Since 1990, the conservancy has expended about
10 \$2.5 million to conduct resource management and community
11 outreach activities at Honouliuli. For the past three
12 years this work has been concentrated in the northern
13 part of the preserve due to the higher chance of species
14 survival and the ease of access.

15 This is the same part of the preserve now
16 proposed for acquisition. Earlier this year we completed
17 a 110-acre fence in this area of the preserve to exclude
18 pigs funded by a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
19 Service. Maintenance follow-up management is required by
20 the grant agreement for at least 10 years. In the near
21 future we hope to fence an area near Pu'u Hapapa to
22 protect one of the most robust populations of endangered
23 tree snails remaining on the island.

24 Threats to Honouliuli Preserve include wild fire,
25 animals such as feral pigs, invasive weeds and human

1 disturbance. Consistent and intensive management in the
2 form of fencing, weed control, effective predator
3 control, planting native trees and seed collection is
4 required to protect the area's many rare and endangered
5 plants and animals and to restore native Hawaiian forest.

6 For these reasons the conservancy has specific
7 concerns about the size of the acquisition, the types of
8 training that may occur and the resulting impact on
9 access, erosion and wild fires. We also have concerns
10 about the spread of weeds and damage to restoration
11 sites.

12 The Nature Conservancy recognizes the U.S. Army
13 as an important and valued conservation partner in
14 Hawaii. We are working together to find a way to
15 accommodate the Army's training needs without damaging
16 the important and natural cultural resources in
17 Honouliuli.

18 For those interested in learning more about
19 Honouliuli Preserve, please see me for a recently
20 produced booklet that describes its natural and cultural
21 history.

22 I'm now going to add my personal concerns which,
23 for the record, are mine alone and not those of The
24 Nature Conservancy. I'm not here to question the Army's
25 need to transform itself or our country's need for a

1 transformed Army. Nor am I here necessarily to question
2 whether those needs must be met by acquiring more land.
3 I am concerned, however, that the needs of our country
4 and the Army are very much the product of specific times
5 and circumstances and can be expected to change with
6 events, leadership and public opinion.

7 We've heard from Mr. Borne that who may predict
8 what the needs of this country and its Army will be in
9 the future. We've heard from Ms. Ockerman that it's --
10 we can only speculate on whether the Army will be subject
11 to environmental laws in the future.

12 The needs of the native plants and animals of
13 Honouliuli Preserve and elsewhere, however, are timeless
14 and unchanging. They will always need that particular
15 piece of land and the care of those entrusted with its
16 management to survive.

17 Despite the fact that the Army currently does an
18 excellent job of managing the natural resources on its
19 lands in Hawaii, it has not always been the case. Nor
20 may it always be the case. It is not the Army's mission
21 to protect these native plants and animals, nor should it
22 be. But neither should it be entrusted with their
23 protection in perpetuity.

24 I do not believe that the Army is capable, nor
25 would it wish to take on this responsibility forever.

1 The decade or so since the end of the Cold War or the
2 half century or whatever that the Cold War lasted, that's
3 a mere heart beat in the life of the land. It's better
4 to let the organizations and individuals committed to
5 protecting our natural heritage for generations and
6 generations to come, to continue their work in the only
7 places left where they can make a difference.

8 As for specific concerns I'd like to see
9 addressed in the EIS, I was not aware that this meeting
10 was that forum, but I will submit them in writing.

11 Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

12 (Applause)

13 MS. AMARAL: Thank you very much. Gwen Kim,
14 followed by Shannon Wood.

15 I'm intending to call for a break about eight
16 o'clock because some of us have been seated for a while.
17 So probably when these two speakers are done.

18 Gwen, aloha (greetings).

19 MS. KIM: Good evening. My name is Gwen
20 Kim. I'm testifying on behalf of Ohana Koa Nuclear Free
21 and Independent Pacific and as a 27-year resident of Moku
22 o Koolauloa.

23 As a child of the '60s and '70s, I was shocked to
24 learn of the concentration of land in the hands of so few
25 with the state being one of the largest landowners,

1 closely followed by the military. Almost one-fourth of
2 Oahu is currently controlled by the military. Huge
3 swaths of land taken and held both legally and illegally
4 for global hegemony and warfare. Huge swaths of land.
5 DeRussy, Bellows, Schofield, the Marine Corps Air Station
6 kept for military recreation.

7 People here are born and die and never see these
8 places. Now you come to us with modern words of
9 transformation as you propose to add at least another
10 23,000-plus acres to your current stockpile here in ka
11 pae 'aina (the archipelago [Hawaiian Islands]).

12 In 1998, with familiar stealth, I heard of your
13 acquisition and fee of almost 9,000 acres previously
14 leased from Campbell Estate here up in our area. In
15 talking with others, many expressed your plans are
16 already in place as you go through the motions with your
17 hired facilitators. This is a grossly opportunistic use
18 of the September 11th tragedy to further military control
19 of Hawaii. This is no transformation, rather, business
20 as usual. As you scope us out to assess your freedom to
21 move, let it be known that we are adamantly opposed to
22 your plans and continued presence here.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. AMARAL: Mahalo (thank you). Shannon
25 Wood followed by Malia Kaaihue.

1 MS. WOOD: My name is Shannon Wood. I'm the
2 editor and co-publisher of the "Koolau News" and long-
3 time political and environmental activist ranging all the
4 way back to, as I realized a few weeks back, to 1970 when
5 I first lobbied for a bottle bill at the State
6 Legislature. It's now about poised to be passed 32 years
7 later.

8 My issues that I wish to just raise and ask for
9 your consideration, and serious consideration, fall into
10 four different categories.

11 First of all, I want to make sure that those of
12 us who have a great desire to enjoy and to use in
13 appropriate manner our recreational activities in the
14 rural and country areas of Oahu, that we maintain our
15 access as hikers, campers and even hunters. The Koolaus
16 are very, very important for recreational and re-
17 creational, that is gaining our souls back.

18 I ask also that you take into consideration the
19 cultural resources and make sure no gathering rights are
20 infringed upon.

21 Water resources are incredibly important. I
22 couldn't have said it better than Ralph did. You have no
23 idea how important water is to our livelihood. Without
24 water none of us would be here.

25 And the Koolau -- depending upon whether or not

1 it's the southern part or the northern part -- access to
2 that water in appropriate ways is extremely important for
3 our lives to continue on here.

4 This second area, again, Ralph addressed it. But
5 I want to make sure that you understand that it is
6 important, that we need to be able to sustain appropriate
7 kinds of economic development in the rural areas
8 primarily because we want to, we need to get away from
9 dependence upon fossil fuels. And that means that we
10 need to have appropriate kinds of economic activities.
11 And, quite frankly, here -- what we have here is our
12 recreational and cultural resources.

13 So sustainable visitor industry activities are
14 extremely important, but not if there are things going on
15 around. I'm afraid people may not feel comfortable about
16 coming here, but I do want you to understand that the
17 visitor industry to the North Shore and to Koolauloa is
18 extremely important, and that every decision that's made
19 -- we all have to work on this together.

20 The third area is -- issue I should say, quite
21 honestly my understanding of the Pentagon is that the
22 decision makers are old men who really don't have much
23 knowledge about what it's like to be back -- they've
24 forgotten what it's like the past 30, over 30 years ago
25 when they were in the field. I do hope that there will

1 be, that younger career officers and enlisted personnel
2 will be listened to so that the ones who understand who
3 are still raising children, who understand the technology
4 will be involved in this. Because if all the decisions
5 are made back in that building on the Potomac, those of
6 us in Hawaii are going to be suffering.

7 The last area of my concern that -- issues I'd
8 like to address is that, have you been in conversations
9 and discussions with the Marine Corps concerning their
10 plans for also going through a similar transformation 25
11 miles down the road? Because if you don't talk to each
12 other, what's going to happen, those of us in Windward
13 Oahu, are going to be squeezed between the two major
14 military forces. So I urge -- since I've heard a number
15 of presentations by the Marines and the Navy about what
16 they are planning to do down south, I really would like
17 to make sure you all are talking to each other so that
18 you don't have your goals conflicting with each other.

19 So those are the four areas: Economic
20 development, recreational uses, the fact that I would
21 like to have decision makers who are making the decisions
22 be in contact with the real world and those of us who are
23 out here, and to coordinate your activities with other
24 branches of the military on Oahu.

25 Thank you.

1 (Applause)

2 MS. AMARAL: Thank you. Malia Kaaihue.

3 MS. KAAIHUE: Aloha mai kakou (greetings
4 all). 'O au 'o Malia Kamaoopunawahineopani
5 la Kaaihue(I am Malia Kamaoopunawahineopani
6 la Kaiihue).

6 For the record my name is Malia Kaaihue.

7 So let's take into consideration your all-
8 American sport of baseball with the three strike rule
9 being the number one rule. I'll give you your three
10 strikes.

11 Strike one. Illegal annexation of Hawaii.

12 Strike two. The rape of Kahoolawe.

13 Strike three. The continued desecration of
14 Makua.

15 As far as I'm concerned you struck out. So
16 gather up all your equipment, all your soldiers, and all
17 your rubbish and get out.

18 And as for you, Colonel, as far as your big
19 plans, you know what is big? The continental U.S. is
20 big. Hawaii is small. So take your big plans and take
21 them back to your home on the big continent, continental
22 USA and make your big money there.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause)

25 MS. LEE: Keoni Bunac? Keoni, who will be

1 followed by Dwayne DeSoto. I think after Dwayne we will
2 take a short break.

3 MR. BUNAC: Aloha mai (greetings).

4 THE AUDIENCE: Aloha (greetings).

5 MR. BUNAC: My name is Brandon Keoni Bunac.
6 And I'm standing before you on behalf of myself and on
7 behalf of my kupuna (elders) who stand behind of me each
8 day of my life. More specifically for my ancestors who
9 once lived in this area of Kahuku.

10 Before I continue with my mana'o (thoughts), you
11 must clearly understand one thing. And that one thing is
12 I am a native Hawaiian. And you must understand this
13 because of the perspective that I bring forth regarding
14 this issue.

15 I strongly believe that the goal of the United
16 States government in the years that they have illegally
17 occupied our 'aina (land) was a complete genocide of the
18 Hawaiian people. How were they to accomplish this? To
19 colonize the kanaka maoli (indigenous people) to a point
20 where they no longer think, act and live the way that
21 their kupuna (elders) did.

22 The process of decolonization kanaka maoli
23 (indigenous people) like myself, do just the opposite and
24 we learn how our kupuna (elders) thought, how they acted
25 and how they lived.

1 Also through decolonization, kanaka maoli
2 (indigenous people) began to find the many wrong doings
3 that you, the colonizer, have done and continue to do.
4 And this directly relates to the United States military's
5 unwanted presence in the islands.

6 We the Hawaiian people are like no other. We're
7 connected through our genealogies to the 'aina (land)
8 that we walk upon day to day. Prior to the arrival of
9 the colonizer, Hawaiians lived and survived off the land.
10 It was clearly understood that if the Hawaiian people
11 were to take care of the 'aina (land), the 'aina (land)
12 in turn would take care of them by providing food,
13 clothing and housing.

14 'Aina (land) is just not the dirt and grass and
15 tree that you see around you. 'Aina (land) is the older
16 sibling for us. And it is the kuleana (responsibility)
17 of the older sibling to care for the young ones, and for
18 the young ones to care for the older. As the younger
19 sibling, it is my duty to care, protect and defend my
20 older sibling.

21 You with your plans to build roads and use my
22 older sibling for your military practice is like me going
23 to your siblings, shooting them, bombing them, and
24 killing them. Your plans are a complete desecration of
25 all lands. Just as our siblings are sacred to us, so is

1 the 'aina (land).

2 People, and I mean you the U.S. military and the
3 government, get all riled up when a bunch of teenagers
4 decide to desecrate a few walls and headstones at
5 Punchbowl Cemetery. But no one seems to care about a few
6 hundred bombs being dropped on an island or in a valley.
7 No one seems to care that live-fire practices destroy
8 sacred sites. No one, and I again mean you, seems to
9 care.

10 You may think that I'm crazy for making such
11 comparison, but I'm not crazy. You are just ignorant.
12 You're probably not Hawaiian and, therefore, you never
13 think the way that I do no matter what you say.

14 Ever since the devastating events of 9/11 people
15 around the United States have seemed to rally behind one
16 symbol, the flag of the United States of America. These
17 people have failed to realize what the true meaning of
18 this flag is. It was the killing of many young men and
19 women in war, the killing of native American Indians so
20 their land could be obtained, and the threat of war and
21 complete genocide in the Hawaiian Islands that Americans
22 can say that they have freedom. In my eyes the American
23 flag is a symbol of a country that has no remorse for
24 anything, not the native people nor the land that they
25 lived on for thousands of years.

1 The conquering of the North American continent
2 and the Hawaiian Islands through these heinous acts of
3 war does not seem to be enough that you, the United
4 States, must continue on in your quest to expand and
5 overpower other independent nations by fighting wars in
6 the Middle East. Do not use my home for training for
7 such a thing.

8 So you may ask what is my proposal for an
9 alternative plan? It's actually quite simple. Pack your
10 bags, take your weapons, your artillery, your soldiers
11 and your American flag and leave. The United States
12 military and the imperialistic powers that control it are
13 not wanted and were never wanted here in my home. Take
14 your billions of dollars that you would use to buy land
15 and take it somewhere else. The 'aina (land), my older
16 sister, my older brother, is not for sale. We Hawaiians
17 are fed up with your illegal occupation, continued
18 ignorance and continued desecration of our lands. Pack
19 up and leave.

20 (Applause)

21 MS. LEE: Mr. Duane DeSoto. Duane.

22 I'd like to mention, if you brought a written
23 transcript of your comments, we would appreciate if you
24 would leave it with us as well. That will help our
25 transcriptionists.

1 MR. DESOTO: Hello everybody. My name is
2 Duane DeSoto. I live in Hauula. I'm from the west side
3 -- Makaha, actually -- and I come here tonight to
4 represent Oahu, to represent its people. And I'm here to
5 represent the ocean, also, which is going to be affected
6 by your training.

7 And it's -- and it's unnecessary for you guys to
8 build new roads. You guys can use our roads that we have
9 already. We have -- you know, I'm sure the community can
10 come together on this and handle the extra traffic that
11 you guys are saying will come.

12 Expansion is ridiculous. You guys should not do
13 any more expansion. You guys have enough land as it is,
14 and you guys have enough training facilities. Figure out
15 a way to use what you have, and make the place more
16 efficient on the space that you do have. Become more
17 efficient on that.

18 And keep your gunpowder and your bullets out of
19 my ocean. You guys are going to get all those things
20 flowing down the valley straight into the water when it
21 rains every winter, and it's uncalled for. And you guys
22 are not going to do nothing to clean it up.

23 And you're definitely not going to be around long
24 enough to feel the effects when the children of the
25 North Shore are being somehow affected within their

1 bodies by the chemicals that you bring into the mountains
2 and the gunpowder and the other stuff. Who knows, you
3 know. You guys haven't been clear a lot of times on what
4 you're taking in there. It's possible that you won't be
5 clear again.

6 Just keep what you got already, you know. Stop
7 growing. Keep your -- keep your systems and try and be
8 more efficient from within.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. LEE: So let's take a five-minute break.
11 Go ahead and stretch, grab something to eat or drink, and
12 we'll reconvene in five.

13 (Recess)

14 MS. LEE: Okay. Mr. Ken Newfield. Ken will
15 be followed by Kyle Kajihiro.

16 MR. NEWFIELD: Aloha (greetings).

17 THE AUDIENCE: Aloha (greetings).

18 MR. NEWFIELD: Good evening again.

19 I'm quite humbled by the eloquence of several of
20 the people who spoke before me. Since I can't match
21 that, I'd just like to say I'm thankful, that I feel very
22 fortunate to have been a guest living here on Oahu for
23 the past 15 years. Someday, when I leave, I hope I will
24 be a good camper and leave no trace.

25 Couple concerns that I have having observed the

1 usage of the Koolaus by the military over the past
2 decade. I've witnessed the roads that they have there,
3 Drum Road in particular. About a decade ago, they did a
4 major re-grading of a portion of the road. At the fork
5 of the road, about two miles past the Pupukea access,
6 past the Boy Scout camp. As you make a left up to a
7 plateau, that portion of the road goes to the Kahuku
8 motocross park. They re-graded that road. Prior to the
9 re-grading, it had the double ruts from roadway that some
10 places were literally six-foot chasms. Obviously, it had
11 been impassable for many, many years. After they re-
12 graded the road and they used it for a few years, but
13 once again, now, it is impassable. I think one of your
14 photos in the handout back there shows a portion, if not
15 of that portion, of the road.

16 But my concern is that the military has gone in
17 and they've done roadwork there, but then they don't
18 maintain them. They allow them to have a great deal of
19 erosion and, ultimately, not even the military can use
20 them. I'm very concerned about the proposal to put more
21 roads through the Koolaus more mauka (inland) of existing
22 roads, as you say, two-lane roads for these large
23 military vehicles. Paved roads. And the long-term
24 environmental impacts of the creation of those roads I
25 think is incalculable, immeasurable regardless of the

1 document you may prepare.

2 I'm a great reader. I've read "The History of
3 Jean-Paul Van in America and China" and, of course,
4 "Vinegar Joe Stillwell." I'm sorry. I was speaking of
5 Joe Stillwell and the Lido Road. Jean-Paul Van was a
6 different book.

7 Joe Stillwell built the Lido Road going, you
8 know, basically over some pretty treacherous mountain
9 ranges, not something like we have here. Again, it
10 doesn't exist anymore. But just the idea of the roads
11 that need to be built and road building. If you're
12 dealing in forestry areas for harvesting of timber, it's
13 one of the great environmental causes of destruction in
14 all of the land on the continental U.S. and has been
15 here, also.

16 I'm very, very concerned about that, and my
17 suggestion would be -- is to look at an alternative, or
18 if you are upgrading, would be to keep the vehicles that
19 you need in the Kahuku range. You're already proposing
20 to do washing facilities there.

21 And I've seen the military use the existing roads
22 and, yes, once in a while you get stuck behind a convoy.
23 But I don't think an additional 400 soldiers, you know,
24 would really make us impacted that much for people who
25 live here and the tourist industry here. I think that

1 you really need to look at some way of not having to
2 build a two-lane paved road to get to your Kahuku range.
3 And again, that would go a long way of trying to be good
4 neighbors, better stewards of the land, and trying to
5 leave a lighter footprint. I'll end here.

6 Having said that, I would like to also make a few
7 comments regarding our situation now post 9-1-1. It has
8 created a new political and military opportunism.
9 Everybody can recognize that. A lot of people feel that
10 it wasn't a military failure, what happened there, but it
11 was more of a failure of intelligence. And for all the
12 billions of dollars that are looking into being increased
13 for military hardware, et cetera, few people at all are
14 talking about the money that needs to go for intelligence
15 nowadays to combat this new -- as they call it, a war on
16 terrorism, when we've had, you know, a war on terrorism
17 for a long time.

18 And, you know, I'm just very concerned that the
19 amount of physical hardware that they're talking about
20 through this administration of which I think this is a
21 result -- this meeting tonight is a direct result of that
22 opportunism -- that it needs to be reassessed. I mean,
23 there were some really brave people in Vietnam in the
24 military that knew that war was a lie. They knew it was
25 going to be a failure, and they spoke up. And I wonder

1 if any of you at this table could be that brave.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. LEE: We have three more speakers signed
4 up this evening: Kyle Kajihiro, followed by Terri
5 Kekoolani-Raymond, and then Makamae DeSoto.

6 MR. KAJIHIRO: Aloha again. Hi, how you
7 guys doing. My name is Kyle Kajihiro. I'm the program
8 director with the American Friends Service Committee in
9 Hawaii. We are a Quaker organization that works for
10 peace with justice here in Hawaii and in many other parts
11 of the world. Thank you for this opportunity to comment
12 on the proposed Army transformation in Hawaii.

13 As an organization -- first of all, for the
14 record, as an organization that holds fast the principles
15 of nonviolence, the AFSC opposes any further
16 militarization in Hawaii.

17 One of the first points I'd like to make is that
18 the U.S. jurisdiction in Hawaii is disputed. You've
19 heard others refer to that. In 1893, after reviewing the
20 report, the so-called Blount Report, the investigation of
21 the Hawaii incident, President Cleveland said in his
22 address to Congress, I quote, "United States, in aiming
23 to maintain itself as one of the most enlightened of
24 nations, would do its citizens gross injustice if it
25 applied to its international relations any other than a

1 high standard of honor and morality. On that ground, it
2 cannot allow itself to refuse to redress an injury
3 inflicted through the abuse of power by officers clothed
4 with its authority and wearing its uniform. And on the
5 same ground, if a feeble but friendly state is in danger
6 of being robbed of its independence and its sovereignty
7 by a misuse of the name and power of the United States,
8 the United States cannot fail to vindicate its honor and
9 its sense of justice by an earnest effort to make all
10 possible reparation.

11 "Should not the great wrong done to a feeble but
12 independent state by an abuse of the authority of the
13 United States be undone by restoring the legitimate
14 government? Anything short of that will not, I
15 respectfully submit, satisfy the demands of justice."
16 End quotes.

17 U.S. Public Law 103-150 was an admission that the
18 United States-backed overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii
19 was both illegal and illegitimate. It also affirmed that
20 Hawaiian sovereignty was never relinquished. There's
21 never been a treaty of annexation or any other legal
22 instrument to transfer sovereignty from the Kingdom of
23 Hawaii to the United States. And I've looked, and I
24 haven't been able to find any documents, so I think this
25 is an issue for the EIS to address.

1 Due to the resistance of the overwhelming
2 majority of Hawaiian citizens to annexation, the proposed
3 Treaty of Annexation was defeated in the Senate in 1897.
4 The 1898 joint resolution that claimed to annex Hawaii
5 was merely an internal law of the United States and could
6 not legally change the sovereignty of another independent
7 state.

8 Today, approximately 54 percent of the military's
9 land holdings consist of crown and government lands of
10 the Hawaiian Kingdom, the so-called ceded lands. Thus,
11 the presence of the U.S. Military in Hawaii may be in
12 violation of international laws and U.S. treaties. Any
13 expansion of the military presence will only compound
14 these violations. The EIS must address the fact that
15 United States disputed jurisdiction over Hawaiian
16 territories.

17 The scoping process. The scoping process itself
18 is flawed because the public has not been given adequate
19 information about the proposed actions. We've been told
20 that there may be acquisitions of land involved with this
21 transformation. However, no maps or descriptions of the
22 sites being considered have been provided. And this is
23 after I've asked -- this is the third time I'm asking for
24 this information.

25 The alternatives that are proposed in the -- the

1 government documents that are put out fail to consider
2 other alternative sites besides Hawaii. The EIS should
3 do a full environmental impact study of alternative
4 sites, including a comparison of costs, benefits, and
5 impacts to those alternative sites and a disclosure of
6 what criteria are being used to evaluate those
7 alternatives.

8 Environmental justice. The Army is required by
9 law to do an analysis of the environmental justice
10 aspects of its environmental impacts, and I would say
11 that the military occupation of Hawaiian lands has a
12 disproportionate negative impact on kanaka maoli, the
13 indigenous people of Hawaii. One aspect is the
14 population transfer that the military has facilitated
15 over the years. The alteration of the environment;
16 disruption of traditional communities, social relations,
17 livelihoods, and cultural practices; the destruction of
18 natural and cultural resources; and the environmental
19 contamination. This has all contributed to the demise of
20 kanaka maoli (indigenous people) as a distinct people.

21 The EIS must take into account the cumulative
22 impacts of the military's presence on kanaka maoli
23 (indigenous people) and consider how the proposed
24 expansion will impact the cultural survival of kanaka
25 maoli (indigenous people) as a people.

1 On the issue of cumulative impacts, this is
2 important for establishing an environmental baseline for
3 each of the affected areas. And this means that it also
4 has to take into account prior conditions of the
5 environmental resource and the cumulative impacts on
6 those resources as a result of the military's activities.

7 I just want to touch on a few points that are
8 listed in the Council on Environmental Quality's guidance
9 for cumulative impact analysis. Cumulative effects are
10 caused by the aggregate of past, present, and reasonably
11 foreseeable future actions. Cumulative effects are the
12 total effect, including both direct and indirect effects
13 on a given resource, ecosystem, and human community of
14 all actions taken no matter who, whether federal or non-
15 federal or private, has taken the actions.

16 Cumulative effects may result in the accumulation
17 of similar effects or the synergistic interaction of
18 different effects. Cumulative effects may last for many
19 years beyond the life of the action that caused the
20 effects. Each affected resource, ecosystem, and human
21 community must be analyzed in terms of its capacity to
22 accommodate additional effects based on its own time and
23 space parameters.

24 So I think in talking about the cultural impacts
25 on native Hawaiians, this is a key, a point to keep in

1 mind.

2 Socioeconomic impacts. War is not an economic
3 development strategy, so economic gain must never be used
4 as a rationale for militarization. In Hawaii, the
5 politicians, the Chamber of Commerce, and the military
6 typically exaggerate economic benefits of the military as
7 a justification for the enormous military presence, but
8 there's never been a thorough accounting of the costs
9 associated with the military in Hawaii. An EIS must
10 include an account of the costs and inefficiencies,
11 associated with the military economy.

12 For example, what are the environmental costs?
13 On Kahoolawe, \$400 million was appropriated to do a
14 cleanup, but only one-tenth of the island will be safe.
15 What is the cost of military environmental damage to all
16 the lands in Hawaii?

17 What is the economic linkage of military
18 expenditures in Hawaii? How much federal defense
19 expenditures are awarded to contractors outside of
20 Hawaii? How much of the total military payroll goes back
21 into the military system through purchases at
22 commissaries, the PX, Navy Exchange, et cetera?

23 What are the impacts on -- what are the impacts
24 on jobs? What percentage of dependents takes jobs in the
25 community, what kind of jobs do they tend to take, and

1 how does this affect the overall quality of jobs in the
2 community? How will the increase in troops affect the
3 housing market?

4 How will the increase in military dependence
5 affect the schools? It costs approximately \$6,000 per
6 year to educate a pupil in the public schools, but
7 military personnel do not pay income taxes that fund the
8 schools. Federal impact aid is only about a tenth of the
9 actual cost of educating a pupil. So please calculate
10 that impact into your analysis.

11 What are the opportunity costs of military-
12 controlled lands in Hawaii? In other words, what other
13 beneficial activities are precluded by the military's use
14 of the land? And also, in the realm of opportunity
15 costs, what are the opportunity costs for the funds that
16 are used for military activities that could be used for
17 other productive uses in the community?

18 I just have a few more things. One of the issues
19 that -- in Wahiawa, the neighbors have complained about
20 prostitution. Honolulu police have estimated that a high
21 percentage of the Johns arrested in Wahiawa are connected
22 to the military base. How will the increase in troops
23 affect the prostitution problem?

24 On the cultural impacts, I won't go through all
25 the points, but I want to emphasize that the

1 interpretation of site significance should be done by
2 knowledgeable cultural practitioners.

3 On the contamination, I urge that the EIS use the
4 precautionary principle as opposed to risk assessment.
5 Risk assessment is essentially a probability game that
6 gambles with human health and the environment. The
7 precautionary principle goes with the safest option
8 available. I think that -- I think that any community
9 deserves at least that.

10 Finally, on ecosystems, the EIS should address
11 what the overall health of the native ecosystem is in the
12 affected areas. What are the cumulative effects of
13 military activities on the native ecosystem and the
14 prospect for ecosystem recovery under the different
15 alternatives. What is the relationship and interaction
16 between different ecosystems, and how does the health of
17 one ecosystem affect the health of another one?

18 Finally, in closing, I would just like to say
19 that Hawaii -- as others have already said, Hawaii should
20 not be used to wage war on other peoples.

21 Thank you for your comments and your time this
22 evening.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. KEKOOLANI-RAYMOND: Aloha kakou
25 (greetings all).

1 THE AUDIENCE: Aloha (greetings).

2 MS. KEKOOLANI-RAYMOND: Aloha to the ohanas
3 (families) of this area. My name is Terri Inapua
4 Kekoolani-Raymond. He keiki 'oiwi o ka pae 'aina o
5 Hawaii nei(a native daughter of the Hawaiian Islands).

6 Regarding the Army transformation of its Interim
7 Brigade Combat Team, the IBCT, and public input in
8 preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, I want
9 to say from the start that as a kanaka maoli (indigenous
10 person), I feel violated once again by the United States
11 Government. This feels like a reinvasion of our
12 traditional lands.

13 "Honolulu Advertiser," April 22nd, 2002. William
14 Cole, military advisor, writes: "Army to transform on
15 Oahu." It reads: "3,580 soldiers on Oahu will be
16 equipped with 380 nineteen-ton, eight-wheeled armored
17 vehicles. Miles of private trails will be built on Oahu
18 for troops to get to Dillingham Airfield and Kahuku
19 Training Area. Schofield Barracks firing ranges will be
20 expanded with the purchase of 1,500 acres of agricultural
21 land. As a part of \$693 million plan, more trails will
22 be built on the Big Island, and as many as 20,000 acres
23 may be purchased at Pohakuloa for large scale exercises.
24 But before construction is undertaken, the Army must
25 conduct an EIS analysis starting with scoping meetings

1 because the EIS will be extensive."

2 This sounds like a done deal, the way it's been
3 presented to our people.

4 I've come today to point out a few things that I
5 would like you to address in your Environmental Impact
6 Statement. First, I would like you to explain how you
7 acquired possession of 200,000 acres on Oahu and the Big
8 Island. I would like you to state by what authority you
9 have to hold possession of these lands. I would like a
10 detailed account of all lands currently used for live
11 fire; lands contaminated by toxic waste or hazardous
12 waste. Contaminants like mercury, plutonium, lead,
13 cadium (sic), arsenic, depleted uranium.

14 I want you to explain how you think 380 light-
15 wheeled, 19-ton armed vehicles will impact an area like
16 Honouliuli which protects 75 rare and endangered species.

17 I would like you to explain how the construction
18 of 26 buildings in Kahuku, including a mock embassy, will
19 impact lands in a flood -- flood prone area. Exactly
20 where will you construct these buildings? And tell me if
21 you have, in fact, the endorsement of a community who
22 will be potentially impacted by this construction.

23 These are few of my concerns, but my first and
24 foremost question deals with your authority to possess
25 the lands that you presently have.

1 I will be submitting a list of government
2 documents and books that I believe clearly address our
3 status in relation -- our status as kanaka maoli
4 (indigenous people) in relationship to you in the year
5 2002. I would like your experts to read everything very
6 carefully. For example, Public Law 103-150 signed by
7 President Cleveland in 1993 (sic).

8 I want to read a few passages to you. "Whereas,
9 in a message to Congress on 18 -- December 18, 1893,
10 President Cleveland reported fully and accurately on the
11 illegal acts of the conspirators, described as acts of
12 war committed with participation of a diplomatic
13 representative of the United States and without authority
14 of Congress, and acknowledged that such acts, the
15 government of a peaceful and friendly nation was
16 overthrown.

17 "Whereas, President Cleveland further concluded
18 that, quote, 'a substantial wrong has been done, and the
19 rights of the injured people requires that we should
20 endeavor to repair' and therefore, Cleveland called upon
21 for the restoration of the Hawaiian monarchy.

22 "Whereas, the indigenous Hawaiian people never
23 directly relinquished their claim to their inherent
24 sovereignty as a people or over their national lands to
25 the United States, either through their monarch or

1 through a plebiscite or through a referendum."

2 Sorry. Got a little twisted there, but.

3 Okay. Now, second document to address would be
4 the petition against annexation of 1897, "Palapala
5 Ho'opi'i Ku'e Ho'ohui 'Aina." I brought it with me.
6 It's here. There are over 2,000 signatures that petition
7 President William McKinley to, quote, "protest against
8 annexation of the Hawaiian islands to the United States
9 of America in any form or shape" unquote.

10 Their voices are still alive in every aloha 'aina
11 (patriot) present in this room today. I use myself as an
12 example. My great, great grandfather, Solomon Lehuanui
13 Peleioholani, signed this petition on September 11th,
14 1897 in Honolulu. You can find his signature on page 466
15 in this document.

16 The introduction of this document written by
17 Professor Noenoe Silva reveals a decade of kanaka maoli
18 (indigenous people) resistance and protest to the United
19 States attempt to annex our country and describes for us
20 how, between 1893 to 1898, despite the illegal U.S. armed
21 assistance to an arms civilian regime called a
22 provisional government, which transformed itself to the
23 Republic of Hawaii, despite the banning of our language,
24 'olelo 'oiwi (native language), despite the arrest and
25 imprisonment of 200 of our people, including mo'i (queen)

1 Queen Liliuokalani, our people persevered to defeat two
2 major attempts by the illegal Republic of Hawaii to get a
3 Treaty of Annexation passed in Congress. It's all
4 documented in here.

5 Now, I want to share words of Hui Aloha 'Aina (a
6 Hawaiian patriotic association, lit. organization of
7 lovers of the land) president Mrs. Nawahi, explaining in
8 an old-fashioned town hall meeting in Hilo in 1897 -- I
9 want to share some words that she said to our people as
10 she was gathering these petitions.

11 She said in 1897, "The United States of America
12 is an independent land, and the people there are friends.
13 They are friends, indeed, of weak nations. We will show
14 them. We will make them understand that just as they
15 love their land and would endure suffering before giving
16 it up, so do we love our land. And we pray that they do
17 not take it from us.

18 "Here is our hope. Stand shoulder to shoulder,
19 heart to heart. The voice of the people is the voice of
20 God. Surely the country on that side of the ocean hears
21 our call for help. By joining our voices to cry for
22 help, they will hear.

23 "Upon this petition of ours that we have
24 submitted for signatures today, you, the women of Hawaii,
25 have a chance to express your thoughts. These are not

1 underhanded actions, nor is our course of action
2 deceitful. This is our only way to fight.

3 "Everyone may see and know of our petition. This
4 land is ours, our Hawaii. Shall we be deprived of our
5 nationality?"

6 The response from the audience: "No. Never."

7 And from these democratic held meetings, over
8 38,000 signatures were gathered, evidencing the true
9 political wishes of our people. These are the voices
10 that defeated the Treaty of Annexation.

11 But what did the U.S. do in response to this?
12 Doctrines of expansion and imperialism became a rationale
13 for the seizure, invasion, and military occupation of our
14 country. Two premier military strategists testified
15 before the Committee of Foreign Affairs on May 10th,
16 1898. Too long to tell you all. I'm going to quote from
17 only one. His name was General Schofield. If I can find
18 his quote. Schofield. Sorry. Let me just find this.

19 Schofield says, "We got a preemption title to
20 those islands through the voluntary action of our
21 American missionaries who went there and civilized and
22 Christianized those people, and established the
23 government that has no parallel in the history of the
24 world considering its age. And we made a preemption
25 nobody in the world thinks of disputing -- provided we

1 continue." That's Schofield talking.

2 Okay. So sorry. Now, in August 1898, the
3 illegal political regime of the Republic of Hawaii
4 ceremoniously ceded 1,800,000 acres of crown government
5 lands to Minister -- U.S. Minister Sewell. U.S. Minister
6 Sewell accepted the transfer of these lands from a body
7 that did not represent the Hawaiian people or their
8 government.

9 An act of betrayal took place on the part of the
10 United States Government so that despite all the years of
11 civilized protest, despite our people's earnest, sincere
12 belief that the U.S. Government would give a weak nation
13 justice, the United States of America burnt down the
14 bridge of hope between two of our countries and in its
15 place consciously and knowingly built a new bridge, a new
16 road called American imperialism to our shores, a road
17 trimmed with barb wire, "No Trespassing" signs, forced
18 evictions, land grabbing, live fire without an
19 Environmental Impact Statements, toxic waste disposal,
20 burning valleys, classified secrets, and perpetual
21 warfare.

22 And since 1898, our lands, our country, have been
23 entangled in many wars beginning with the Spanish-
24 American War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War,
25 the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, and now Afghanistan.

1 You are even training highly questionable armies
2 like the Indonesian Army on our lands.

3 Please, reconsider your plans to expand. Do the
4 right thing. Clean up and restore the lands under your
5 possession to the original condition that it was in when
6 you first seized it. Consider investing in diplomacy and
7 peace in the future.

8 Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 MS. LEE: We have two more speakers signed
11 up. Makamai DeSoto followed by Alan Blanchard.

12 MR. DESOTO: Hi. My name is Makamai DeSoto.
13 I'm a student here at Kahuku High School.

14 I understand that the Army has five days a week
15 up at the mountains and we have only two days there to
16 ride motocross.

17 Me, myself, and my friends and everyone that
18 camps up there, we found a lot of rubbish up there and
19 shrapnel from the bullets, blank bullets. Not every now
20 and then but every time we go we see a lot of rubbish.
21 And we find MREs everywhere. People just stuff 'em back
22 in the boxes and leave 'em there. Razor wires have
23 cuttin' our dirt bikes up. And we have had bullets in
24 our little camp fires blow up and hit our friends.

25 It just comes to my mind that there's a lot of

1 rubbish up there. There's - and like there's razor wires
2 on the side of the cliffs. Like, my friends have fallen
3 off and then gotten cuttin' up by them. It hurts them.

4 That's all I have to say.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause)

7 MS. LEE: Alan Blanchard.

8 MR. BLANCHARD: Hello. My name's Alan. I'm
9 a resident of Pupukea.

10 And I have some sons that go to Kahuku High
11 School. And we go riding up to the motocross a lot. And
12 there's not very much room as there is. I'd like to see
13 more room for recreational activities and less military
14 action. And the hills are littered with barbed wire,
15 razor wire, shells, MRE messes all over.

16 There isn't enough area as it is for our kids and
17 families to go. And the military only destroys the
18 plants, the water, and the lands it uses. And I'd like
19 to see their -- them limited to their land areas. And
20 the public should be allowed to have more access to the
21 lands.

22 And there are already too many roads up there as
23 there is. And there's no other roads needed. And if
24 there is any other action from the military in Kahuku, it
25 should be for them to clean up their mess and get out and

1 make more room for motocross area bigger so that we have
2 more riding and hiking room.

3 And I oppose the military expansion in Kahuku
4 area. And the military should use useless desert lands
5 on the mainland for their activities and not lush
6 rainforest where there's thousands of people that need to
7 use it. And that's all.

8 (Applause)

9 MS. LEE: So that concludes the public
10 comment portion of the evening. Colonel, do you have any
11 closing remarks you'd like to make?

12 COLONEL TWOMEY: Okay. I'd just like to
13 thank you all for coming tonight, and acknowledge all of
14 your comments. Know that they will all be taken
15 seriously and recorded.

16 And thank you very much for your attention.

17 MS. LEE: Before we leave I'd like to ask
18 Mr. Puakea Nogelmeier to come up and send us off in a
19 good way.

20 MR. NOGELMEIER: Hiki ke ku I ka pule (can
21 we stand for the prayer).

22 E ke Akua mana loa kau I ka lani e he mahalo wale
23 no ko makou i ka hana o keia ahiahi, me kou ho'oulu 'ana
24 mai i ka mana'o o loko, me ke alaka'i 'ana i ka ho'ike
25 aku me ke akaka, me ka le'a, me ka mikololohua; a me ka

1 mana'olana, ua lohe pono 'ia na mea ma na pepeiao i pono
2 ai, a ho'oholo mua 'ia na hana ma ke ala e pono ai. Noi
3 makou ia 'oe e alaka'i ia makou i ke ala ho'i aku i ka
4 palekana o kauhale a 'o ia no ko makou leo pule. Amene.
5 (Almighty God in Heaven, we offer only thanks for our
6 endeavors this evening, for your inspiration of the
7 thoughts within, and for the guidance to present
8 information clearly, with cheer and eloquence; with the
9 hope that these things have been properly heard by the
10 ears for which they were intended, and that these
11 activities first be set into motion upon the appropriate
12 path. We ask that you guide us on our path, returning us
13 to the safety of our homes. This is our voiced prayer.
14 Amen.)

15 We offer only thanks for the inspiration, for the
16 guidance to present information clearly and to expresses
17 thoughts and concerns with the hope that those things are
18 heard, understood and that there's guidance above us in
19 proper motion that needs to be done. Ask for guidance on
20 the pathway home that we return to the safety of our
21 homes.

22 'Amene (amen).

23 MS. LEE: Thank you again for your time.
24 Just a reminder, there is another meeting tomorrow
25 tonight and it's the last of seven meetings. It'll be at

1 Nanakuli High School. Please drive safely. It's wet out
2 there.

3 Good night.

4 (The public scoping meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.)

5 ---00---

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25