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IN RE: STRYKER BRIGADE)
 COMBAT TEAM DRAFT EIS)
 PUBLIC MEETING)
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DRAFT EIS PUBLIC MEETING

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12 Taken on behalf of the 25th Infantry Division and U.S.
 13 Army Hawaii, held at Helemano Plantation, Banquet Room,
 14 64-1510 Kamehameha Highway, Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786,
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1 U.S. ARMY DRAFT EIS PUBLIC MEETING STAFF LIST

2

3 PANEL

4 Colonel David Anderson

5 Ron Borne

6 Mark Katkow

7

8 FACILITATORS

9 ANNELLE AMARAL

10 MIKI LEE

11 KAREN AKA

12

13 HAWAII-ENGLISH TRANSLATOR

14 Noelani Arista

15

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MS. AMARAL: Aloha. My name is Annelle Amaral,
3 and I'm here as one of the facilitators this evening.
4 Also with us, the other two facilitators, are Miki Lee
5 here and Karen Aka. So the three of us will be
6 co-facilitating for the evening.

7 So we'll let everybody gather up and come get
8 seated.

9 Before we begin, we'd like to invite Colonel
10 Anderson, who is the Garrison Brigade Commander, to come
11 on up and to make some opening remarks.

12 Colonel Anderson, are you ready?

13 Sorry, I didn't mean to rush you, Colonel.

14 COLONEL ANDERSON: Aloha, and good evening.

15 As Annelle said, I'm Colonel Dave Anderson, the
16 Garrison Commander here for the U.S. Army in Hawaii.

17 Thank you, Annelle, for introducing and starting
18 this meeting this evening.

19 On behalf of General Olson, the Commanding
20 General of the 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Hawaii,
21 I'd like to welcome you to tonight's community meeting on
22 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the
23 transformation of the 2nd Brigade, the 25th Infantry
24 Division, to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team.

25 Before we begin, I'd like you to -- I'd like to

1 tell you a little bit about myself. I've been here in
2 Hawaii about 16 months as the Garrison Commander. Before
3 that, I spent time in Washington D.C. and in Alaska for
4 many years. I've been in the Army about 24 years. My
5 family is from Utah, and we have a very proud heritage,
6 and we're pioneers that came across the United States and
7 immigrated from Europe.

8 Tonight we are here to listen to your concerns
9 and gather your comments on our Draft Environmental
10 Impact Statement. The facilitators tonight will
11 coordinate tonight's meeting and provide an effective
12 system for gathering that input. But, again, the purpose
13 tonight is to gather your input, because your input is
14 what's important as we refine and develop and complete
15 our Environmental Impact Statement.

16 About a year ago, we started on this with a --
17 we call it a Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact
18 Statement. And based on the scoping meetings and the
19 input from the community, we have made significant
20 changes to what is now our Draft Environmental Impact
21 Statement; and all of that is because of the input and
22 the science and the analysis and the thought that went
23 into accounting and mitigating those concerns and those
24 factors that were in the Preliminary Draft and that were
25 brought forward during our scoping meetings. So input is

1 very important. And it's important to us that we hear
2 that tonight and that everybody has an opportunity to
3 discuss their concerns with the Environmental Impact
4 Statement and with the potential fielding of the Stryker
5 Brigade.

6 This Environmental Impact Statement and this
7 Draft Environmental Impact Statement does not indicate a
8 foregone conclusion about Strykers coming to Hawaii. The
9 Environmental Impact Statement is a decision-making tool
10 that senior leaders within the Army will use to determine
11 whether or not Strykers come to Hawaii. It also does not
12 pre-suppose any decision has been made by the Department
13 of Defense on further Stryker fielding. So I want to
14 make that very clear. Because this is not -- the
15 decisions have not been made. And, in fact, what you say
16 tonight has impact on those decisions that will be made
17 in the future.

18 Your role is, this evening, to provide this
19 additional impact, as I mentioned, on not only
20 environmental, but cultural and any other concerns that
21 you believe should be addressed and analyzed in our Final
22 Environmental Impact Statement. The Environmental Impact
23 Statement is the most comprehensive document that can be
24 prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act.

25 I know that everyone is anxious to get started

1 and to provide that input to us, and we're anxious to
2 hear that input. And, so, without further delay, I'll
3 turn the time back to Annelle.

4 MS. AMARAL: Thank you, Colonel Anderson.

5 Seated at the table with Colonel Anderson are
6 two people that I would like to identify for you.

7 The first, farthest away from me but closest to
8 you, is Mr. Ron Borne. He is the Army Transformation
9 Manager and has been with this project ever since its
10 inception.

11 Also seated at the table is Mr. Mark Katkow.
12 Mr. Katkow is with the Office of the Judge Advocate
13 General and here to assist in providing legal advice to
14 the Colonel.

15 Seated also right here is a group of people who
16 assisted in the preparation of pieces of the Draft
17 Environmental Impact Statement. I hope some of you had
18 an opportunity during the Open House period to ask them
19 any questions that you may have about specific parts of
20 the EIS.

21 So the way that these gatherings have taken
22 place is that we meet from 5:30 to 6:45 to conduct what
23 we call an Open House, a chance for you to meet
24 one-on-one and have a conversation with the people who
25 assisted in drafting pieces of the EIS, ask the specific

1 questions that you need to ask, clarify any
2 misunderstandings you may have to better prepare you for
3 this period now, this public comment period. During this
4 period now, what we will do is, we will receive your
5 thoughts, your comments on parts of the Draft EIS that
6 has already been circulated. This is by no means the end
7 of the comments, just standing here this evening to
8 speak. If you have additional thoughts and additional
9 comments, you can submit it in writing and present it
10 to --

11 Oh, I'm sorry. She wanted to take her
12 microphone away. I'm not going to take that personally,
13 not in any way.

14 So you have until November 19th to submit your
15 comments in writing. If you noticed at the table
16 outside, when you signed in, Cindy Barger has her cards
17 there, and on this card are the addresses, fax numbers,
18 e-mail addresses, that if you have further comments to
19 submit that you can mail, fax, or e-mail those comments
20 to.

21 You also found out at that registration table a
22 comment card, where this evening you can write your
23 comments out and submit it on this, and you can add as
24 many papers as you want to it, and give it to Cindy,
25 because she's just looking forward to all of these

1 comments.

2 But the way this is conducted this evening is
3 that your comments this evening are on the record. We
4 have present a number of court reporters standing by,
5 taking what it is you have to say verbatim, and that will
6 be entered -- the transcript will be entered into the
7 record. For those of you that do not want to speak
8 before this audience, arrangements have been made for
9 another court reporter to meet in a private area, and you
10 can give testimony to her if you don't want to give your
11 testimony here now.

12 Also on hand is a videographer, who is taping
13 the proceedings as they take place here this evening.

14 So there are a number of ways for you to get
15 onto the record.

16 I introduced the facilitators early on. This is
17 a facilitated process. And the purpose of having
18 facilitators is to assist in providing a neutral, safe
19 environment, where everyone can be heard, where everyone
20 is treated with respect. Often what happens when we feel
21 very strongly about issues is that emotions run high, and
22 sometimes people are intimidated to speak if they feel
23 like they're going to be booed down or harassed in any
24 way. The facilitators provide for neutrality of voice.
25 We want to hear all of your comments. We may disagree

1 with what you say, but we never treat one another with
2 disrespect. We are never disagreeable with one another.
3 So we are all fully present to hear everything that you
4 have to say with great courtesy and to hear all opinions.
5 And the purpose of the facilitators is to assure that
6 that neutral environment exists.

7 We also, by the way, will watch for time and
8 assure that none of us get too long-winded and that we
9 can move this process through.

10 As you know, when we are -- maybe you don't
11 know. When we first started the scoping hearings a year
12 ago, we used to meet at public facilities; we met at
13 schools. And, invariably, what happened was, at
14 10:00 o'clock, the janitor started closing the windows
15 and slamming the benches and sweeping, and we had 15
16 people still lined up to speak; but that was the rules.
17 It was a public facility, facility closed at
18 10:00 o'clock; he didn't care how many people were still
19 left to speak.

20 In this part, then, of the public hearing
21 process, the Army, instead, has moved to a private
22 facility, where we can stay as long as we need to stay,
23 until all testimony is heard. We understand that when we
24 move to any facility, whether a public or private
25 facility, we deal with the rules of that facility. And,

1 so, some of the controversy you may hear go to the rules
2 of the facility. We accept the rules in the place that
3 we are in, and we abide by those rules.

4 Okay. I ask you -- what I'm going to tell you
5 we're going to do actually is, we've got cards of people
6 who have signed up to speak. If you are interested in
7 speaking, I would ask you to please step back out in the
8 room, at that registration table, and sign up, and
9 they'll bring the cards up to us. We'll call you up in
10 the order that you signed up. And what we'll probably do
11 is, we'll just call out the first three names so you know
12 that you're about to come up, then you can be ready to
13 speak.

14 Without any further ado, the first three
15 speakers are Evelyn Lane, then followed by
16 Blake McElheny, and Jackie Carlisle.

17 So, Evelyn Lane, aloha.

18 MS. EVELYN LANE: Good evening, everybody. My
19 name's Evelyn Lane, and I live over by Kawaiiloa in
20 Waimea. And I have -- I wasn't actually going to speak
21 this evening, but I did have a couple of things that I
22 really wanted to question, and so I wanted to address
23 them to you all.

24 My first concern is the air traffic that is
25 going over those areas. First of all, since the EIS that

1 was done at the time of the Kahuku Training Area since
2 the condemnation was done back in -- I think '98, when
3 the military took over the actual -- you know what I'm
4 talking about -- there's been a gradual but persistent
5 increase of military air traffic over that area, even
6 more than just when there's major training activities;
7 and I know that for a fact since I've been there for ten
8 years. And I don't understand why there hasn't been any
9 more additional EIS's that have happened since then,
10 because it's really become bothersome. And, so, I'm
11 concerned about significant more air traffic that's going
12 to be going on as a result of this EIS. And I didn't
13 really pick that up in the overall EIS at this time.

14 And I also -- whenever -- there seems to be,
15 also, a lot of blatant disregard for elevation of air
16 traffic. And that corridor, since there's -- the
17 military seems to want to take the air space for
18 exclusive use for the military now, so that -- I
19 believe -- that's what I read in the EIS -- that would be
20 no more private use over that corridor, if I was reading
21 that correctly in the EIS.

22 Could you -- maybe you could answer that
23 question for me. I'm not -- is that part of the EIS?
24 There's a reservation put on the air space there by the
25 military?

1 MR. BORNE: The air space -- because the Stryker
2 Brigade is a part of Transformation, it doesn't have any
3 aircraft as a part of it. I believe we just say that the
4 air space will be used for -- as it is today. And the
5 central part of the Kawaiiloa Training Area is not a part
6 of military-restricted or military-only-use air space. I
7 do not believe that's in the EIS.

8 MS. EVELYN LANE: Okay. But there is something
9 in there that says that the -- that there's a request for
10 a reservation or a hold to be placed on the air space
11 over the training area, someplace in the EIS? Maybe
12 somebody that specialized in that area -- I'll bring it
13 up at the next EIS meeting and I'll try to point it out,
14 because I did read somewhere --

15 MR. BORNE: We'll try to get you a better
16 answer. I do not believe it's in there for the Ko'olaus.
17 We talk about Schofield, but not the Ko'olaus. We'll get
18 you a better answer.

19 MS. EVELYN LANE: Okay. So my next question on
20 that was, procedurally speaking, just regarding this, I
21 was concerned about the locations of where we were having
22 the meetings, that they seem to be a little bit remote,
23 and some of the places are, like, in hotels and that sort
24 of thing; so I didn't think that was a very good idea for
25 having these meetings.

1 And I also think that we should have a longer
2 comment period, because 45 days for -- the EIS is a
3 pretty big document to get through for a lot of people.
4 I think that's a little bit too cumbersome.

5 And I'm concerned about the safety record of the
6 Army, especially after the controlled burn that was out
7 at Makua, the live fire -- the controlled burn that
8 happened recently and that it went out of control. I had
9 just hiked up into the -- I was there for one of the
10 hikes just before Easter, and we were allowed, with an
11 organization that I belong to, to go up and participate
12 in one of the hikes there, and then a few weeks later
13 that whole area was burned. And, so, it was pretty
14 devastating for us, after being allowed to go there and
15 see how beautiful Makua had become, and then to see it,
16 you know, devastated by a controlled burn that had gotten
17 out of control.

18 So, also, after Kahuku, the range had been
19 placed into the hands of the military, when the Black
20 Hawk crashed at Kahuku. There were -- it's very close to
21 a lot of homes of people that I'm very close to. And I
22 am really concerned because the helicopters fly directly
23 over my house, and my neighbors and I have become, you
24 know -- it's really scary, you know, to hear this type of
25 activity, day-in, day-out, and more persistently. And I

1 personally suffer from a stress-related disorder, and I
2 moved back home to Hawaii, where I was born, and I'm
3 grateful. Because I am an Air Force brat, and so I know
4 that, you know, I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the
5 military. But this is a residential area now, and it's
6 not -- you know, it's not a military base any longer.
7 Sorry. But, you know, this is just a little bit too
8 close for people to have live fire training activities
9 and helicopters, you know, flying, zooming over your
10 house.

11 And, also, I think because of the reverberation
12 of all of these trucks and these helicopters and things
13 flying around that it's why Waimea rock slides are
14 happening and why our roads are being closed down.

15 Also, I'm concerned because -- I'd like you
16 to -- I'd really like to have a question answered that --
17 the military, you know, says that they really want to
18 take care of the endangered species here on the island
19 and that they're very good land stewards; but it was just
20 this month that the military or the Pentagon asked
21 Congress for an exemption to the Endangered Species Act.
22 So I would like you to explain to me how it is that I can
23 trust you to prevent wildfires that are supposed to be
24 controlled, make sure that you're not going to have
25 helicopters crash on top of my house, and make sure that

1 next month, if you have what you say you want, a road up
2 across Waimea Valley, that you're not going to destroy
3 endangered species or any other species that are
4 endangered in any other protected areas. Why should I
5 believe the Army, that they would do that, if they're now
6 seeking that they won't come back every single year and
7 ask for an exemption here on the Hawaiian Islands or on
8 Guam or on American Samoa, how can I trust the Army to do
9 that? Let alone, to not -- to take care of my
10 well-being? I know that you're from the Government and
11 that you're here to help, but I'm also a person that
12 you're supposed to be helping, as well as the endangered
13 species on this island and all the other Pacific Islands.
14 So I would like to have an answer as to how it is that
15 you can one day say you're going to take care of
16 endangered species and then the week before have asked
17 for an exemption. That I would like an answer on.

18 (Applause)

19 MS. AMARAL: Thank you.

20 What I want to clarify for people is, that as I
21 had said in my opening remarks, this is a time for us to
22 hear public comment on the Draft EIS; and the recorders
23 are all here to take your comment. We had an opportunity
24 to talk one-on-one to one another. And, so, as much as
25 possible, we'll make note of your comments; we'll put

1 them in our Draft EIS. If there are ways that they can
2 be answered, the next document, the Final Draft EIS, will
3 try to respond to the questions. If it is out of the
4 purview of this EIS, then it will not be responded to.
5 So I think -- we are not, however, going to be able to
6 answer all of your questions this evening, and we're not
7 going to go back and forth trying to. It's taken you a
8 while to come up with questions in your review of the
9 document; I think it will take some of the drafters of
10 this a while to come up with some answers to it.

11 Thank you very much.

12 I did neglect one very important thing; and
13 Noelani was standing at the back of the room, looking at
14 me. Noelani Arista is there, waving at you, in the red
15 shirt. She is a Hawaiian language scholar. She is able
16 this evening to provide translation services to anyone
17 who wishes to give their testimony in Hawaiian. What we
18 would ask you is, if this is your preference, if you
19 could sort of meet with her previously, because she needs
20 to know whether you want simultaneous translation or if
21 you speak first and say everything and then she speaks
22 afterwards; so that sort of has to be coordinated. But
23 Noelani is here to assist you if you want to.
24 Olelomakuahine.

25 Mahalo.

1 Blake McElheny, followed by Jackie Carlisle,
2 followed by Thomas Shirai.

3 MR. BLAKE MC ELHENY: Thank you.

4 Good evening, everybody. My name is
5 Blake McElheny. I'm a resident of Pupukea, out here on
6 the North Shore. Thanks again for the opportunity to
7 provide comments. My comments are specifically going to
8 focus on the effects of the SBCT on the area commonly
9 known as the North Shore.

10 I think at the outset that it's probably
11 important for us to recognize that there's both
12 beneficial and I guess you would say adverse impacts from
13 the preferred alternative. And I think, as a community
14 member, I'm interested in finding out some of the ways to
15 mitigate the adverse impacts while simultaneously
16 allowing the military mission to proceed, with some
17 respect for, I guess, the community and conservation
18 interests along the way.

19 In reading the DEIS, I was really pleased to see
20 what I think is Item Number 35 in Volume I, the Executive
21 Summary. It's a potential mitigation measure called,
22 Investigating a new regulatory authority to work with
23 non-profit organizations to purchase what's called
24 "buffer lands" as potential mitigation purposes. As I
25 understand it, this mitigation, as conceived in the

1 current draft, was meant to talk about how to mitigate
2 effects on natural resources; but I think that there's
3 other mitigation that could be considered under this
4 purview, particularly ones related to dust, air quality,
5 noise, potential fire hazards, as well as runoff and
6 effects on water resources. So I think it's pretty
7 interesting. I was hoping that this process could be
8 utilized to examine the opportunity to see if there's
9 some interest, potentially in exploring acquisition of a
10 parcel that's called the Pupukea Paumalu Homestead. It's
11 adjacent to the existing Pupukea area and touches upon
12 what I believe to be state lands that are leased to the
13 military for the Kahuku Training Area.

14 As I understand it, these types of buffer zones
15 shield military readiness activities and lands from
16 what's called "encroachment" related to incompatible
17 residential developments or other types of incompatible
18 uses; and I think it's called an Army compatible use
19 buffer, or ACUB. So I was thinking that maybe this could
20 be used to protect the training capability and also
21 protect the natural and other resources in the area, if
22 possible.

23 And just for people to know, as my understanding
24 goes, you would use Department of Defense funding or
25 other sources of funding, but that property would

1 actually be held by and managed by a private conservation
2 organization or some other type of arrangement. So it
3 seems like it's fairly interesting.

4 And I think that this particular opportunity
5 meets the criteria for selecting ACUBs, including
6 potential severe encroachment impacts of (inaudible),
7 effects on endangered species, air space, noise, air
8 quality, water resources, and it's possible to reverse
9 this encroachment by taking the step of the ACUB.
10 There's available land; the land is currently for sale.
11 It seems to be a time-sensitive issue. There's a lot of
12 different growth and activities happening out here. And
13 so far there's been a high degree of support, both from
14 the community and other interested local governmental
15 officials that we've talked to about this opportunity.

16 And just -- I guess highlight a little bit more
17 about why it might be a good opportunity. This
18 particular property is the only large continuous parcel
19 adjacent to the KTA that has such a high threat of
20 incompatible and -- incompatible uses or encroachment in
21 the near future. There are several private organizations
22 with conservation objectives that are seeking to preserve
23 some of the habitat and other resources on the property,
24 and it just seems like this might be a good win-win,
25 capturing both the community support, the government

1 that's fine.

2 The next speaker is Jackie Carlisle, followed by
3 Thomas Shirai.

4 Jackie?

5 MS. JACKIE CARLISLE: Hi, aloha. Hi, I'm
6 Jackie Carlisle, and greetings.

7 Thank you for this Draft Environmental Impact
8 Statement and for the opportunity to send in written
9 comments. After considering the 2nd Brigade that was
10 selected to transform to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team in
11 the program and Environmental Impact Statement, there are
12 two items I base my written comments on: First, in
13 Executive -- in ES 3, the Need for the Proposed Action,
14 and second, in 3.2.1, Introduction to Regional
15 Influences.

16 The three factors stated in Executive
17 Statement 3, Need for the Proposed Action, states, one,
18 its location within the Pacific Rim is a critical area of
19 interest for the United States; two, Hawaii provides the
20 terrain and conditions most likely to be encountered in
21 the Pacific Rim; and three, the ease of deploying the
22 Stryker Combat Team because of the proximity, to multiply
23 the air bases are suitable.

24 You know, to me, this is absurd, and I'm pretty
25 sure you can come up with better reasons. With more

1 military expansion in the Hawaiian Islands, the islands
2 will be a perfect target for today's new terrorists that
3 still have not been caught.

4 I'm sure it is an honor to have been selected
5 from a long list of locations to deploy, that are deeply
6 rooted on planet Earth; but how many of the United States
7 of America's U.S. Army acquired another 24,400 acres or
8 hectares to accommodate the Stryker should not be allowed
9 in the Hawaiian Islands (sic).

10 It is essential for North America and her
11 political bodies and societies of men who have united
12 together to combine their forces in order to procure
13 their welfare and their security for its people, as is
14 other foreign nations. But to strike or deploy from the
15 Hawaiian Islands to anywhere in the Pacific Rim within 96
16 hours, to place a division in the Pacific Rim within five
17 days or five divisions in 30 days, without compensation
18 to the Hawaiian people or their Hawaiian government, is
19 unjustifiable. Certain lands in the Hawaiian Islands
20 that the United States uses for certain military actions
21 result in one silver dollar for every 65 years. The 1849
22 treaty, the treaty with -- Friendship Treaty, Commerce
23 and Navigation (sic) between the United States and the
24 Hawaiian Islands is the supreme law of the land. The
25 proposed action for the Stryker Combat Team is contrary

1 to the advancement of the duJour Kingdom of Hawaii. The
2 use of the 24,000 acres of land in the Hawaiian Islands
3 will not help the Army to deploy the strategic maneuvers
4 any faster in 30 years, and I'm pretty sure they're going
5 to upgrade that Stryker. You know, I hope they put wings
6 so they can fly over there. How can the Stryker swim
7 across the ocean? I'm sorry. I feel that when the
8 duJour Kingdom of Hawaii reinstates itself as a free and
9 independent sovereign nation, I feel that the combat --
10 Stryker Combat Team will strike the Hawaiian people in 96
11 seconds.

12 According to Section 3.2.1, Introduction to
13 Regional Influences, the definition of ceded lands, I
14 would have to object to this definition. There is no
15 such thing as ceded lands. I recommend you change the
16 "ceded lands" to "stolen lands". You reveal the Republic
17 of Hawaii was annexed, and, yes, it was. But the title
18 holder for the Hawaiian Islands is the Kingdom of Hawaii.
19 And they were not annexed. The kui petition proves that.
20 Therefore, the ownership endures, that the Hawaiian
21 Islands belong to the Hawaiian people and their Hawaiian
22 government. I recommend the Brigade does not transform
23 in Hawaii and suggest that they transform in Guam or
24 America Samoa or another place in the Pacific Rim. I do
25 agree to the five other locations for the Stryker Combat

1 Team because it will help the United States of America.

2 Thank you for considering my written comments.

3 Mahalo.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. LEE: Thank you, Jackie.

6 Our next few speakers, just so you know who's

7 coming up, is Thomas Shirai, Jake Ng, and then

8 Oliver Lunasco.

9 And just to remind folks who are here to give

10 comment on the Draft EIS: If you have any particular

11 section that stood out for you, we'd love to hear from

12 you.

13 So Thomas Shirai, please.

14 MR. THOMAS SHIRAI: Good evening, everyone. I

15 was caught off guard because I seen the number 14 instead

16 of 4. So I was just trying to meditate and build up my

17 concentration to that point; so I was caught off guard.

18 Aloha. Thank you for coming to Waialua. When I

19 say Waialua, Waialua means kukaniloko, all the way to

20 Kaena Point, and to Waimea, the biggest moku on this

21 island.

22 We in Waialua, my ancestors are from Waialua, so

23 I going talk about Waialua. I don't go to other places

24 to talk about my home and my ancestors.

25 Before I start, I would like to take --

1 sincerely ask for five seconds to fifteen seconds of
2 silence to remember all those kupuna in Waialua. And
3 what I going talk about in what you folks call DMR, I no
4 call that. I call that Kawaihapai. So please bear with
5 me.

6 (Moment of silence.)

7 MR. THOMAS SHIRAI: Okay. Thank you, everybody.

8 Since you have a court reporter, I'm going to
9 read from this paper. I usually don't, but it's record,
10 and we need to be on record. I have extra copy, and I'm
11 going to give it to the lady.

12 Aloha. I'm grateful for the opportunity to
13 provide comments regarding this highly impacting
14 proposal. This has a double-sword effect on me, because
15 I served in the U.S. Coast Guard, and I'm very proud and
16 tuned in to my ancestors, heritage, and culture. I
17 served about ten years active duty in the Coast Guard,
18 and in my tenure I earned the most prestigious medal that
19 you can obtain; it's also the mission statement of this
20 branch of service. And I'm proud to say that I am one of
21 only about one hundred fifty Coast Guardsmen to receive
22 this honor. It is the Coast Guard medal earned for
23 extreme heroism during a search and rescue mission and is
24 in same standings as a Bronze or Silver Star, Navy Cross,
25 Legion of Merit, and many other known decorations. It's

1 right after -- it's Number 11, after the Legion of Merit
2 in standing order. I would say that's quite an
3 accomplishment.

4 I understand readiness and the necessity to
5 train. However, given the proposal to expanding land
6 acquisition leaves me with great reservations to the
7 already enormous land assets that the military has
8 already. Having said this, I now address my heritage
9 side.

10 Despite my feelings of both good and anger, the
11 problem starts within my own ohana. And I can't totally
12 channel it to the military; however, it doesn't mean that
13 I totally forget the military. I am here to provide
14 comments on a special project named DMR, but will always
15 be called by its rightful God-given and family name,
16 called Kawaihapai. This is the beginning of my beloved
17 grandfather's, David Peahi Keao, Jr., family. In 1850,
18 during the time of the mahele, my great, great, great,
19 great grandfather, Isoba Keahilele, formed the hui and
20 bought land from King Kamehameha III and was awarded as
21 an original patent to generation. My ancestors practiced
22 malama aina, and it flourished richly up to the time --
23 during the time and tenure of my great, great
24 grandfather, Kaaemoku Kakulu, who was the last, the last
25 konohiki of Kawaihapai.

1 As previously mentioned, both the kai and the
2 aina produced bountiful food subsistence. My great
3 grandmother, Clara Napuakekau Kakulu, was a very special
4 keiki, of which she was a great beneficiary and owner of
5 several pieces of land within Waialua moku. This is
6 where I talk about the problem is at home, before the
7 Army. Much greed and jealousy evolved within her own
8 ohana, to take away and erase her and her father,
9 Kaaemoku Kakulu. The outcome was both devastating.

10 My great grandmother become an outpatient at
11 Kalihi Hospital, while years later her father, Kaaemoku
12 Kakulu, had the aina he loved greatly taken away from
13 him, which was prior to World War II. He was never
14 allowed to visit his land again. The death certificate
15 says chronic depression. No, no, no, no, no, no. He
16 took his life. You killed him. My grandfather was
17 raised at Kawaihapai and came much from his grandpa, who
18 was Kaaemoku Kakulu. These included fishing and cow
19 cultivation. He was awarded the Silver Lifesaving Medal
20 from the Commanding Officer of Schofield Barracks in 1940
21 for rescuing an infantryman from drowning at Kawaihapai
22 Beach. I have that document.

23 Also, he helped build the airfield and was
24 well-known in the community for his carpentry skills.
25 His living testament is why Kotake Store is still

1 standing today. He built it and was the supervisor. So
2 that should tell you that one Hawaiian is pretty darn
3 smart. And that man, my grandpa, I would say never
4 passed the eighth grade. Everything was self-taught and
5 innovated.

6 Prior to land acquisition of Kawaihapai, the
7 Bishop Museum in 1933, Archaeology of Oahu, McAllister,
8 and in 1940, The Hawaiian Planter, Handy, interviewed my
9 grandfather's father, who is also named David Keao. They
10 misspelled it but -- I tried to get them to correct it,
11 but there is no plans. His grandfather, Kaaemoku Kakulu,
12 and his grandma, Annie Keahipaka, was later consulted by
13 Bishop Museum in the early 1990s for update information
14 about Waialua and Kawaihapai. I'll leave it at that for
15 that section, because he said, "Enough already."

16 This tells me that the military was well aware
17 of the Hawaiian historical, cultural, spiritual, and
18 geographical features of Kawaihapai prior to western
19 habitation and military occupation. Furthermore, I
20 believe that the mana'o shared by my kupuna were ignored,
21 which resulted with desecration and included burials of
22 some of my ohana.

23 I'd like to note that the Bishop Museum is
24 supported by the Lowell Dillingham Trust. That was my
25 (hawaiian word), because I'm the proponent of Act 276,

1 renaming the airfield to Kawaihapai. I asked them for a
2 small favor from an old friend and the (hawaiian word)
3 was when my membership expired. This project is funded
4 by the Lowell Dillingham Trust. I know the answer
5 already. I get that paper, and I get one framed up to
6 remind me.

7 This tells me it wasn't enough to acquire and
8 desecrate sacred aina but to replace its geographical
9 identity, similar to the adoptions when Hawaii was a
10 territory. You could create a brand new, unheard of
11 person in the territory in that days. This showed me the
12 political, social, and racial prejudice of an entity that
13 I have served very proudly. I promised my grandfather to
14 make things pono, and that is why I initiated it. And it
15 is now law, as previously mentioned.

16 Now the law is to airport's rightful and
17 God-given name, Kawaihapai Airfield, in honor of not only
18 my kupuna, but all the people that live at Kawaihapai.
19 It will be very selfish of me to say I want name this
20 airfield Kaemoku Airfield. That's arrogance to my own
21 heritage. We are not taught to be better than God.

22 This is an excellent opportunity for the Army to
23 make things pono. I continue to strive to make things
24 pono with the Army and to hold it accountable for their
25 actions.

1 There is also psychological impacts regarding
2 past actions and methods executed for land acquisition.
3 The Kawaihapai Military Reservation, that was the
4 original name, was done in a similar fashion through
5 easements, which transpired to a considerable amount of
6 land. As stated, training is essential and understand
7 what readiness implies. However, if this trail must be
8 done, then my comments are simple. And it goes like
9 this: Stay on the road or no road at all. Least wanted
10 scenario. The existing cane haul roads were originally
11 designed to accommodate the unique cane haulers'
12 Turn-A-Tows, which are similar to large earth movers used
13 in mining and is much larger and heavier, approximately a
14 hundred tons fully loaded and thirty to forty tons empty.

15 The love for my grandfather and his ancestors,
16 I've received much signs. We call that (Hawaiian word).
17 Every time I look the clock, I see the grant number.
18 Every time I look the clock, I see one type airplane.
19 Yeah? All those kind of things. I know what -- I know
20 what they talking about. It gives me hope. It's a
21 spiritual connection. They trying to say something.
22 That tells me that pono is only near and now. To make
23 things right, put the name back. I not gonna tell you
24 again: Put the name back. Much accidents and incidents
25 have been encumbered for approximately 65 years, which

1 I was reminded to make a few announcements. For
2 those people that might have come in in the last few
3 minutes, if you wish to give testimony and you'd like to
4 do it up here, there's a little sign-up sheet out in the
5 front. If you haven't done it, go ahead and do that, and
6 we'll add you to our roster. If you wish to give comment
7 or testimony and you don't want to stand up front, there
8 is a court reporter, like the one here, outside, who's
9 just waiting to sit with people and hear what you have to
10 say. And, of course, you can put it in writing for us if
11 something strikes you after the meeting. We welcome that
12 up through November 19th.

13 And I was also asked to tell you about how many
14 speakers we have left; and it's growing. I'd say about
15 ten at this point.

16 And one more reminder: If you have a cell phone
17 on, could you please turn it on "silent" for us. Our
18 recorders pick it up; our cameras pick it up. So,
19 please, we'd appreciate that.

20 Next we have Jake Ng, followed by Oliver.

21 Is Jake here?

22 MR. JAKE NG: Thank you very much.

23 Aloha, Colonel.

24 COLONEL ANDERSON: Aloha.

25 MR. JAKE NG: Thanks for the opportunity to

1 provide my comments.

2 This evening what I'd like to do is to comment
3 on two subjects. The first one will be on the Wildfire
4 Management Program. Second subject being the Helemano
5 Trail.

6 As we all know, wildfire has been on our radar
7 screen for quite a bit, for the last few days, because of
8 the California wildfire. But here on the North Shore, it
9 was on our radar screen a month ago. One thousand acres
10 of land on the North Shore was ravaged by wildfire.
11 That's why we, the residents of North Shore, are
12 sincerely concerned about the Wildfire Management Plan or
13 lack thereof. What I'm saying, Colonel, is that we need
14 to be more specific as to the kinds of fire protection
15 that your people will be doing for the North Shore.
16 There are 12,000 acres of vacant land on the North Shore,
17 and you will be traversing on land that -- you know, a
18 field that's readily combustible, as evidenced by the
19 fire last month. The fire went through three of the
20 gulches, and they dropped from one gulch to the other
21 gulch, and they all converge in one little place they
22 call Hukilau Loop, about 60 houses. That's where the
23 fire came to. Colonel, it was real scary, let me tell
24 you.

25 The fire department did a tremendous job in

1 attempting to control the fire, but it was beyond their
2 control. So what did they do? They let it burn. They
3 let it burn, somewhat of a controlled burn. So that's
4 what I'm afraid of. If you have a plan to procure, for
5 example, a water pumper, a sophisticated water pumper
6 that can hold like 100,000 gallons or 50,000 gallons of
7 water -- Colonel, out in the wild you don't have fire
8 hydrants; so if a fire were to occur, where's the water
9 going to come from? Is it going to say that they're
10 not -- let the fire go -- get down to Hukilau Loop to
11 Haleiwa and Waialua? That's what we're afraid of. So we
12 need to look at the kinds of equipment you have and what
13 did you propose to do to contain and control the fire,
14 specific programs. And I don't see that in the -- in
15 your draft statement. Perhaps it's coming later. But be
16 that as it may, that's a major concern of the North Shore
17 residents.

18 Okay. The second subject concerns the Helemano
19 Trail. This is a trail where perhaps a hundred of your
20 vehicles will be traveling from Schofield, down Helemano
21 Trail, to Dillingham Air Force Base, Kawaihapai Air Force
22 Base. The area that your equipment will be traveling
23 will be when you cross Kaukonahua Road, right below
24 Hukilau Loop, the major highway that goes to Haleiwa.
25 Can you imagine 100 vehicles crossing this highway? I

1 believe you have discussed this with the Dole Plantation
2 folks, and they have made recommendations to you. So my
3 suggestion is to heed their suggestion and to alter that
4 portion of the Helemano Trail that bisects Kaukonahua
5 Road and deals an outlet site, because the residents of
6 Hukilau Loop, for the last, maybe, 25 years, have
7 experienced either rumbling, the noise, the dust from the
8 cane haul road for a long, long time. So when the
9 plantation ceased to operate, everybody yelled, Hurray!
10 No more cane haul road! But now, Colonel, we have the
11 Strykers coming into us. So if you could take that into
12 consideration, we would appreciate it very much.

13 Aloha to you.

14 (Applause)

15 MS. LEE: Oliver?

16 MR. OLIVER LUNASCO: Good evening.

17 First of all, I want to thank you, Colonel, for
18 giving us the opportunity, you and your team, to comment
19 on some of the problems we're faced with.

20 I'm Ollie Lunasco, better known in the district
21 as Ollie Lunasco. I utilize the area very frequent.

22 And just to expand what Jacob Ng has mentioned
23 about wildfires: Are there any of you familiar with the
24 area? If you've traveled the areas that you're talking
25 about, it's all overgrown by guinea grass. At one time I

1 was employed by Waialua Sugar, and the Army inadvertently
2 caused a wildfire in the Kawaiiloa Training Area. It took
3 us over a week to put it out. It covered more acres than
4 Jacob mentioned, this recent one.

5 As he also mentioned, there's no fire hydrants.
6 You cannot just plug in and get water up there. So it's
7 very critical that you have a fire prevention system up
8 there. The landowners are not maintaining the land, so
9 it's all overgrown. The Bishop Estate has cut fire
10 breaks; but if you already know how fire travels during a
11 windy day, it will travel through that fire breaks.

12 Also, my biggest concern, while the Army always
13 want to be partners, once they implement a project and
14 it's completed, unfortunately the general public gets
15 shut off. As an avid outdoor person, I utilize the Drum
16 Road, which cuts from Helemano Military Reservation all
17 the way to the Kahuku Training Area. In that area we
18 have two public recreational areas. Presently, one is
19 closed by Dole; we have no access. We trying to get
20 access through the military reservation, to use Mumuhua
21 Trail. The second one is at Pupukea. It's a public
22 recreational area.

23 Why I say once the project is completed, we've
24 had cases -- or we had a case where a friend of mine who
25 was hunting in the area happened to be on the road; he

1 was walking his dogs down into the ravine when an MP
2 came. Now, after talking to some of your people, they
3 said maybe the MP had an attitude problem. But that
4 didn't prevent him hauling that individual, with his
5 dogs, over to Schofield Barracks to be booked. The only
6 thing that got him off the hook, when he was apprehended,
7 he mentioned to the MP, "What about that other guy who's
8 riding the motor bikes?"

9 The MP told him, "We're not here to arrest him.
10 We're here to arrest you." After he explained to the
11 commanding officer what happened, they released him.

12 Now, your range control has been really good.
13 They've told us to keep off the road. If we're going to
14 be in the area, park well off the road. Most people are
15 pretty reasonable. If they ask us to leave, I mean, we
16 won't fight; we just leave. So I want you or any ASA in
17 the Environmental Impact Statement to include when the
18 road is not in use that public can use it. And, you
19 know, I've used that road for over 50 years, with my
20 father, and now with my son. And inadvertently, as I
21 said, we've gotten kind of leery about traversing that
22 road because of the problems that have -- you know, a
23 person had faced with your military.

24 Now, ever since 9/11, you know, I understand
25 some of the problems you're faced with. But you gotta

1 understand, that we as a general public -- and, you know,
2 everybody will agree with you that North Shore is one of
3 the last remaining recreational areas, open space, and
4 the only reason it was open is because of the farming
5 that has been continued. Unfortunately, with the demise
6 of Waialua Sugar, all these lands are open. And, so, I
7 would hope you would take a look at that and assure that
8 people, you know, will have the use of the mountain
9 areas. I know right now we're fighting with various
10 powers to get recreational areas at the ocean. And I
11 hope with this Stryker Division -- because you're going
12 to cut a road from Schofield all the way to Dillingham
13 and improve the road from -- from Helemano radio station
14 all the way to Kahuku. So you -- you know, you talking a
15 sizeable area that you're going to have control over. If
16 you deny access, you know, a lot of us won't be able to
17 enjoy the outdoors.

18 (Applause)

19 (More proceedings were had on the following page.)

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1

2 MS. LEE: Before our next speakers come
3 up, just a reminder that we're keeping our comments to
4 about five minutes, if possible. If you are submitting
5 written comments you don't need to read them verbatim
6 because they'll already go into the record verbatim.
7 You might want to pull out the highlights you think you
8 really want to be heard.

9

The next three folks coming up are
10 Keli'iwai, Bud and Ohana. Is Keli'iwai here?

11

MR. KELI'IWAI CAMARILLO: Aloha,
12 everyone. I'm Keli'iwai Camarillo. First off, I grew
13 up here. Stone's throw away from Bellows and a stone's
14 throw away from Mokapu. Or as we like to call it
15 Mo'okapu.

16

I also come from a family of engineers
17 so I can understand and review that. I've seen a lot
18 of these reports before. I can pick up and disagree
19 with or argue with any of these.

20

A couple of the big ones, though, is
21 cultural. You guys are talking about culture and you
22 guys have plans that say that you guys have analyzed it
23 or sensitive to it.

24

But right now you guys have this
25 commercial on where the Army -- that's talking about

1 "Pahakuloa", talking about them blowing up 25,000-tons
2 of dirt over there. Actually it's Pohakuloa. And if
3 you guys had spent a little bit more money on a
4 cultural expert instead of on your advertisement you
5 guys might have learned that.

6 Now, these places that you guys are
7 acknowledging as culturally important, the mitigation
8 for it is that if it's in the way of what you guys want
9 to do you will document it and then continue doing what
10 you guys are doing.

11 Now, we're here talking about the EIS.
12 In order to talk about it we have to talk about
13 precedence you have set already in your actions here
14 and your precedence have shown that you don't deserve
15 to be here.

16 You're not wanted. You don't deserve to
17 be here. You do not respect the land. You do not
18 respect the wishes of the people.

19 A key point Mo'okapu. You dug up 3,000
20 bones from that place. Ah, it must be a graveyard.
21 Instead of giving the bones back you guys held onto it,
22 entrusted it to Bishop Museum. That battle is still
23 going on.

24 The artifacts that were discovered with
25 the bones are in the office of the cultural expert on

1 her wall to be displayed as trophies of her conquest.

2 You play golf on our graves. Should we
3 play golf at Arlington or Punchbowl? So to say that
4 it's not that important 'cause that's what your graph
5 was saying -- nothing here says that, you know -- the
6 worst reading, you know, on a scale of 1 to 10 where 10
7 might be bad, 10 over here is like, oh, not that bad.
8 Everything here like practical and mitigable.

9 It was a long time ago that the U.S.
10 Government decided that Makua and Kaho'olawe were not
11 practical to clean up. You guys are giving up
12 Kaho'olawe on November 12. You guys are effectively
13 not doing much other than saying: We are now removed
14 from the process and responsibility of cleaning it up.

15 You plan on expanding into these new
16 areas. There's areas in San Diego, Texas and across
17 the U.S. that have not been cleaned up. And I don't
18 see -- see, what I keep on seeing is practical,
19 practical. The people that you decide -- who decide
20 what this practical is where are they from? They're
21 not from here.

22 The other thing, looking at your
23 controls, a simple thing you guys are talking about
24 increasing the vehicle from 27 to 400. You guys
25 talking about washing the vehicles. You're saying that

1 impact on the use of water is going to be negligible,
2 you know, hardly noticed.

3 I was part of a mobile tactical unit
4 here for communications. And I know the amount of
5 water it takes to wash one vehicle. I know the amount
6 of water it takes to wash 27 vehicles. I know the
7 amount of water it takes to wash 200 vehicles. There
8 is a big difference. There's a huge difference.

9 Not to mention you guys are going to
10 bring soldiers here to man those vehicles. They're
11 going to live in communities that you guys are going to
12 build for them. You say you guys are going to bring
13 money to the state.

14 Well, you don't pay taxes when you guys
15 buy gas on base. You don't pay taxes when you guys buy
16 cigarettes, alcohol, food on base. So how's that money
17 going to get back into our community?

18 You use our roads. You guys might have
19 paid for the federal ones. What about the county ones?
20 What about the increased traffic from the members of
21 your brigade? They're coming here.

22 I know what you guys are doing. I can't
23 disagree with this. It's like every year we play
24 Makahiki games for about four months out of the year.
25 We like to go camping. We enjoy being out in the

1 outdoors. We like to challenge each other in games of
2 strategy. Some of them are war games. We don't have
3 to hide behind weapons of mass destruction. To do that
4 we use our hands, use our strength and our minds. And
5 we enjoy doing that.

6 We invite you to come play our Makahiki
7 games. Because our Makahiki games fit in well with
8 what this community, what this place is. So I can
9 disagree with anything that's in here. I talked to
10 some of your people that have prepared this statement.

11 But you guys don't belong here. You
12 haven't earned that right. Your precedence has shown
13 you're not responsible for what you say you're going to
14 do. And that your views of what are negligible and
15 practical are not in line with ours. Thank you.

16 (Applause).

17 MS. LEE: Mr. Ebel.

18 MR. BUD EBEL: Thanks for the
19 opportunity to speak. I'm going to keep it brief. I
20 got a couple general things and a couple of specific
21 things.

22 Specific. This last year there were 599
23 fires on O'ahu. So far this year there's 898. Fire is
24 an issue. I can't stress that too much. You've heard
25 a lot of people say that. Just this record, we have

1 the dryness. But I also want to touch on another thing
2 right now and is it hasn't come forward yet but it will
3 in the very near future.

4 California is having a heck of a time.
5 They're talking about a couple of wackos that were
6 setting fires. This could very well be part of the
7 terrorism. Extra effort must be placed on fire
8 prevention and fire suppression and the word I'm trying
9 to find is putting out the fires.

10 Try prevent them. Be prepared if
11 something goes wrong, does happen. Have very adequate
12 facilities, please. That's terribly important to me
13 and I think everybody.

14 As far as whether you should have your
15 training, that's the most important thing in the world
16 as far as whether this weapon system is necessary.
17 It's necessary because it said so. It's protecting our
18 soldiers and it's making our soldiers better and that
19 must go through.

20 I really haven't got a lot else. But I
21 do want to thank you for your efforts. I've always
22 found the Army to be an excellent steward and I've had
23 experience in more than 12 states. I have no quarrel
24 with anything from New York to California. In Hawai'i
25 I think you've been excellent stewards also. I

1 appreciate your efforts. Thank you. (Applause).

2 MS. LEE: When we started our public
3 comment meeting we asked for everyone to respect all
4 the speakers that come up. We're going to hear a lot
5 of views tonight that we may not agree with. We ask
6 that you allow each speaker to say what he or she has
7 to say without any interruptions. So please join us in
8 that courtesy. Ohana.

9 MS. OHANA FOLEY: Aloha mai kakou.

10 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

11 MS. OHANA FOLEY: Yeah. My name's
12 Ohana Foley. I'm born and raised on the island of
13 Maui. Where do I start? Tell you a little bit about
14 myself. Not native Hawaiian, but I was born and raised
15 here. My boyfriend is in the Army. And although I
16 don't like his job and who his employer is really and
17 the stuff that happens as a result of the military
18 presence in Hawai'i, I do like him as a person.

19 My father fought in a war not unsimilar
20 to the war that is now going in Iraq: Vietnam. He
21 does have PTSD from that. My grandfather flew for the
22 Air Force in World War II. And on the other side my
23 grandparents died in the Holocaust.

24 So I have some experience personally
25 with my family and stuff with the military and with the

1 nature of war and violence and that sort of thing.

2 I'm absolutely against this Stryker
3 program. I guess my first question -- trying not to
4 read verbatim. My first question is do you ever talk
5 to your soldiers and ask them stuff?

6 Because I have, like, a lot of friends
7 that actually live on the base and are in the military.
8 It sounds to me even yourself in the press news media
9 you say you're, you know, you have so much to train for
10 and you need more land.

11 And you have so much already. And you
12 can't already do that job so now you're asking us for
13 another project and more land. It sounds to me like
14 all this is about it's not that it's a good idea. It's
15 like you want more land. You just want to play your
16 war games more and more.

17 It doesn't make sense to me because you
18 said you need Makua. You need to bomb, desecrate a
19 beautiful valley where children play, where people
20 spend their pastimes. It's a beautiful place if you
21 ever stopped to look at it.

22 And you say you need that for training
23 here. You need another project. You're asking us for
24 more land. It just doesn't make logical sense.

25 Someone was saying about stewardship.

1 The military presence here -- I mean, okay. Also I'm a
2 citizen of Wahiawa. You know, every day I deal going
3 in and out with the traffic there.

4 Now, I'm from Maui where we have a lot
5 of outrageous development plans and processes going on.
6 They were required to do traffic impact. That's not in
7 there, you know.

8 And I live in Wahiawa. It's already,
9 like, you have to wait forever to get into the city
10 area around 4:30, 5. You want more cars, more
11 families, more people in this area.

12 And we have -- I met this person -- man,
13 I forget his name now -- who was employed by you,
14 supposed to be the environmentalist. You guys don't
15 seem to really get like we're the extinction capital of
16 the world. We have lost, like, 70 percent of our
17 native birds. We have plants found nowhere else on
18 this planet.

19 And you're saying: "It's okay. This
20 critical habitat. We need to sacrifice it for national
21 security." You know, when is enough enough?

22 On that point, you know, it was one of
23 your Republican presidents who said that, "In the
24 process of self-defense mind you don't forget or lose
25 what's worth defending in the first place." That was

1 Eisenhower.

2 You're asking us to sacrifice our
3 environment, the health of our children, security.
4 This is going to make us more unsafe, more of a target
5 and not to mention this whole process. The people out
6 there. Are you afraid of signs? You're afraid of
7 signs. You call yourself Americans?

8 Let me remind you you swore an oath to
9 protect the constitution. You swore an oath to protect
10 the principles of democracy. These are not the
11 principles of democracy. You want an oligarchy? What
12 are you so afraid of? Freedom of speech? You work for
13 us. Or if I'm American, supposed to.

14 But oh, so you're afraid of signs. Your
15 signs are here. I don't know. Are you so afraid of
16 truth? Are you so afraid of descent?

17 What is the point of going across the
18 world, across the ocean to fight wars if you're afraid
19 of descent, if you're afraid of freedom of speech?
20 What's the point? Go fight for someone else if
21 that's -- you know, you're losing your whole moral
22 space in this whole process here.

23 You're only making matters worse for our
24 community and for your soldiers who have to interact
25 with us all the time. It's more of a resentment, you

1 know. On the base they can go and live and not
2 necessarily interact, or like someone said, shop in our
3 stores with us because you have stores there.

4 But when they come into our community
5 it's more and more they're not wanted. This whole -- I
6 don't even know why I'm testifying. I don't believe in
7 this process. It's so frustrating to see people who
8 are soldiers, BDUs and their outfits and stuff, so
9 afraid of signs, so afraid of free speech.

10 Final comment. I'd just like to say
11 ku'e na ka noho hewa o Hawai'i nei. I'm sorry for the
12 people who got arrested tonight. Those are our kupuna.
13 They're sacred to us. It's a shame. It's a shame that
14 you let this happen this way. (Applause)

15 MS. LEE: The next speakers coming up I
16 have Travis, Julia Estrella, and Oliver. Oliver, are
17 you coming up again?

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How about Keli'i,
19 number 24?

20 MS. LEE: I'm not there yet. On 16.
21 Okay. Let's start with Travis and then Julia.

22 TRAVIS: (Making rap sounds on
23 microphone.) Nah, nah. Just trying to wake you fuckers
24 up, right? Working on a poem. Didn't have enough time
25 to finish it. But my friend here, she's going to help

1 me finish it. Jamie.

2 Anyway, I'll just tell you what I got
3 and I'll freestyle the rest. Culture and the arts.
4 Almost seven months since the invasion, Iraqi
5 resistance has not subsided. The occupation isn't
6 going so well. 225 years since discovery, 110 years
7 since the occupation began.

8 Now we sell our culture to old haole
9 retirees from Alabama who wear cheap polyester Hawaiian
10 print aloha shirts depicting beautiful tropical sunsets
11 in hues of yellow, orange and red.

12 The shirt was purchased in the
13 International Marketplace with the yellow, orange and
14 red shorts to match. You know the ones. The ones that
15 barely fit.

16 Right next to the shirt shop is the Maui
17 Divers pearl stand, a place where for a nominal fee you
18 can crack open an oyster and pluck its pearl for a
19 possible earring. If you can only rip open enough
20 oysters to find a perfect pearl to match.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I do not agree
22 with your --

23 TRAVIS: You don't have to. That's
24 okay.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You should not be

1 testifying. You should not be testifying. You're not
2 doing any justice.

3 MS. AMARAL: Kupuna, sit down, please
4 for a moment. Thank you. We appreciate your comments.
5 Please, everyone will be given some time to stand here
6 and to speak. What we ask you for is your patience,
7 your respect whether we agree or disagree with what is
8 being said.

9 Everyone has five minutes to speak and
10 to be heard and to be on the record. We ask you to
11 please try and maintain some self-control. The
12 registration is still open if you would like to sign up
13 to speak. Kala mai. Thank you, Kupuna. Please.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Continue, Travis.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hana hou.

16 TRAVIS: Now I got to start all over
17 from the beginning, my flow. My five minutes starts
18 again. Here it goes, right?

19 MS. AMARAL: No, Travis. Your five
20 minutes does not start.

21 TRAVIS: All right, all right.
22 Anyway -- oyster, pluck its precious pearls for a
23 possible earring. If they can only rip open enough
24 oysters to find a perfect pearl to match.

25 Across the street you can get free

1 brochures that market an authentic Hawaiian style luau
2 out at the North Shore at the Polynesian Cultural
3 Center where real Polynesians, most likely of Mormon
4 faith, will entertain with song and dance consisting of
5 ancient hula and old religious chants concerning the
6 righteousness of the beauty of the land and its people.
7 The...land...and...its...people.

8 That's why we're here today. Because
9 you guys are making it hard for our brothers and
10 sisters to sing and dance concerning the beauty of the
11 land and its people.

12 You're ripping up the land. You're
13 messing with the people. Why? People were arrested
14 earlier this evening for trying to come in here with a
15 sign. We didn't try to bring up a tank. We didn't try
16 bring in no platoon. We're not trying to have live
17 fire practice.

18 We're just trying to hold signs to
19 testify. We're just trying to speak truth for one
20 second of one minute of one hour of one day. You know
21 what? It might not make a difference. Because who
22 knows? You might just build, I don't know, a big old
23 target on my house and use that as practice one day.
24 Lord knows I haven't been able to stop you from taking
25 Makua.

1 I haven't been able to stop you guys
2 from doing anything you want to do around here, have I?
3 Have any of us been able to? All we do is die. That's
4 all we do. That's all you do is kill us, other people,
5 mainly brown people, some of them might be Asian. It
6 just keeps going on and on. It's such a farce. It's
7 such a farce.

8 You talk about freedom. You talk about
9 liberation. Well, if occupation equals liberation, tell
10 me how the Hawaiians are living up to here? All right?
11 Dying on waiting lists waiting to get on lands that are
12 so impoverished because you guys sucked up all of the
13 resources to feed industry.

14 Which industry am I'm talking about?
15 I'm talking about pineapples, talking about sugarcane,
16 things we didn't grow before you guys came along.

17 Makaha is beautiful, was a hell of a lot
18 more beautiful before you guys showed up. Now, I hear
19 people talking about if you're going to return the
20 land, if you're going to return Kaho'olawe, if you're
21 going to do all those things, clean it up.

22 Well, you know what? I didn't want
23 that. Just leave. And we'll clean it up. Because if
24 we leave it up to you guys, you never going to do it
25 because you never have, never have. Clean up Diamond

1 Head, you know? The tourists, it's all, it's like
2 dirty, it's dusty. I live on the slopes of Diamond
3 Head. I see the forts you guys built up because you
4 were afraid the Japanese were going to come and, you
5 know, do a number. Speaking -- whatever. You know
6 what I mean?

7 All I'm saying we got the sign on.
8 We're got it in. You're so afraid of this. You're so
9 afraid of what we have to say with this piece of paper.
10 With a little bit of ink and a little bit of creativity
11 we could have, like, drawn stuff on it. Lord knows.

12 But we figured words mean something.
13 That's why I'm in front of this mic. That's why people
14 are outside just to get this moment to say something to
15 you, screaming in their deaf ears because you don't see
16 the desperation in our tears. You don't see. You
17 never have. You probably never will. If you do, I'll
18 take it all back. You know what I mean? But I don't
19 think I'm going to have to. (Applause).

20 MS. AMARAL: Thank you. Our next
21 speaker is Julia Estrella followed by Kealii followed
22 by Dr. Marion Kelly.

23 MS. JULIA ESTRELLA: Good evening. Can
24 you hear me?

25 MS. AMARAL: Yes.

1 MS. JULIA ESTRELLA: My name is Julia
2 Matsui Estrella. I speak as a representative of the
3 Pacific Island and Asian-American Ministries. And also
4 The Center for Theology Strategies, better known as
5 PACTS. We are an interfaith and ecumenical group
6 formerly based in the Bay Area but presently based in
7 Hawai'i.

8 I was born until 1940 in a very
9 militarized town, better known as Wahiawa. And the
10 soldiers from Schofield Barracks used to practice
11 marching up and down Kuaiwi Street, my street. I was
12 born and raised at 175 Kuaiwi Street in Wahiawa.

13 Military families used to rent houses
14 all around our little home and on Kuaiwi Street. As a
15 child I used to wonder why the military fathers and
16 parents had a tendency to treat their children -- to
17 beat their children with hoses until they came
18 screaming to our home for protection. And this was not
19 just one family. It was families all around us.

20 As children we couldn't understand that
21 because my parents would never touch us, would not
22 spank us. In fact we would lie on the bed and say,
23 "Please spank us because we don't know what it feels
24 like to spanked."

25 Everybody else in the neighborhood

1 because it was heavily -- the houses were rented to the
2 military families. So as a child I began to wonder why
3 so much violence within the families that surrounded
4 our home.

5 There was always plenty of dust with the
6 troops deployed in our neighborhood. And a lot of
7 waiting because of the convoys of military trucks going
8 up and down Kamehameha and California Streets.

9 I breathed and tasted the military all
10 around me as I grew up. Do you wonder why I feel very
11 claustrophobic? I feel very claustrophobic. Because
12 somehow growing up in Wahiawa in this highly
13 militarized area feeling surrounded by soldiers, by
14 military tanks, convoys, domestic violence, I grew up
15 with this sense of claustrophobia that I still carry
16 around with me.

17 Having experienced the U.S. military
18 directly in my everyday life for the first 21 years of
19 my life, I can tell you that the noise, the dust, the
20 domestic violence, the way women were treated, the
21 drunken brawls at the Top Hat that accompanied the
22 military presence, it was all a very negative impact
23 not only on the endangered plants and species of
24 Wahiawa but on the psyches of the children, including
25 myself.

1 And especially the children. And I
2 include the military children as well as the civilian
3 children. The military impact was an extremely
4 difficult one on all of us.

5 Somehow it seems the military training
6 and military values poison every aspect of our
7 environment, and not just the physical environment but
8 especially the spiritual one.

9 After escaping from Wahiawa and the
10 military for a while, I went to the continent for 30
11 years to further my education and to work.

12 I served as the director of this
13 organization for many, many years, the Pacific Islands
14 and Asian-American Center for Theology and Strategies
15 in the Bay Area for 30 years. I lived in the Bay Area
16 for 30 years.

17 I decided to come back to Hawai'i
18 because I missed the beauty of the land and of the
19 people, especially amazingly, the tradewinds which we
20 have been missing for the last couple of days. I
21 really miss the tradewinds.

22 Now I am very angry that there are plans
23 to bring thee Stryker Brigade to my hometown. And I
24 know they're going to Kahuku, the Big Island and all
25 over. I'm concentrating on Wahiawa, Schofield

1 Barracks, because I went to school with a lot of
2 military children. And I feel like the military has
3 been a part of my life in Wahiawa.

4 All I can say is there are already
5 3,000, according to your study -- that already 3,438
6 soldiers stationed at Schofield Barracks and another
7 810 new soldiers and their families will be coming to
8 Schofield Barracks under the Stryker plan.

9 More street violence, more domestic
10 violence, more dust, more armored vehicles, more
11 accidents. And, unfortunately, I would -- because of
12 all of this I want to say we need to stop. We need to
13 stop this madness, stop this worship of war machines.
14 Stop the violence that will come with more soldiers in
15 our communities. This land of ours is very sacred.

16 We don't want heavy armored vehicles to
17 come and trample all over us and all over our sacred
18 land. I feel that for the first 21 years of my life I
19 was trampled on growing up in Wahiawa.

20 I have a vision for peace in our land,
21 in our 'aina and I will not let go of this vision. The
22 voices are growing stronger and will continue to grow
23 stronger in opposition to the Stryker plan, to the
24 discretion of our 'aina, to the military presence in
25 Hawai'i.

1 I will never forgot my 11th grade
2 teacher, Mrs. Hoshibata. Some of you may have had her
3 as a teacher as well at Leilehua High School, who
4 introduced to our class the story of the "Devil and
5 Daniel Webster." The moral of the story was do not
6 compromise with evil.

7 As residents of Hawai'i we cannot
8 compromise with evil, with the killing mentality and
9 the killing machines. Let us all join our hands
10 together to stop the Stryker Brigade from ever landing
11 on our shores. Thank you. (Applause)

12 MS. AMARAL: The next speaker is Keli'i
13 followed by Dr. Marion Kelly followed by Hanaloa.

14 KELI'I: I'm speaking to you tonight as
15 a kanaka ma'oli perspective. One of the first things I
16 want to do, I want to show you what war actually looks
17 like. (Showing photo) This is what war looks like.
18 Probably innocent guy trying to fire.

19 In 1893 Hawai'i was stolen by the sugar
20 oligarchy with the help of America's military. At a
21 time more so than the profits of the sugar industry
22 America's insatiable thirst and hunger for strategic
23 military domination of the world resounded loudly.

24 110 years later that sound still
25 reverberates throughout Hawai'i while its indigenous

1 population and fellow citizens still remain captive by
2 America's imperial forces.

3 After last night's and tonight's arrest
4 of Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell, Terry Keko'olani Raymond and
5 Pete Doktor, it is a complete blatant suppression of
6 our voices. An unbalanced approach to the process of
7 dialogue, severe violations of civil indigenous rights
8 and all reinforced with multiple stages of police
9 dominance revealed to me how bias corrupt, insidious
10 the Army is.

11 Your chattering and shivering in this
12 tropical heat, you construct inherent conflict to the
13 issue of public participation by holding a public
14 meeting at a privately owned establishment while hiding
15 behind your paid-in-full cronies.

16 And from viewing the list of future
17 meetings with the public you're continuing on the
18 premise of not allowing all perspectives to be shared
19 on this important issue that not only concerns the
20 present but more so how it is going to affect future
21 generations.

22 Quoting the draft declaration of the
23 rights of indigenous peoples, "Indigenous individuals
24 and peoples are free and equal to all individuals and
25 peoples in dignity and in rights and have the right to

1 be free from any kind of adverse discrimination,"
2 including signs, "in particular that based on their
3 indigenous origin or identity. Article 2.

4 Furthermore, to quote, "Indigenous
5 people shall not be forcibly removed from their lands
6 or their territories, Article 9." This is my land.
7 This is our land. You are the trespassers and you
8 should be arrested and taken to the Kalihi police
9 station and made to post bail.

10 Moreover, being that you, America and
11 your military are repeat offenders, I deny your
12 opportunity to post bail. Instead, you are now hereby
13 deported.

14 I spent my life sandwiched between Pearl
15 Harbor and Camp Smith. For 33 years I have never seen
16 the peak of Halawa Heights. For 33 years I've never
17 swam in the bay at Pu'u'loa. Stuck in the middle of a
18 polarized military environment I try to raise my
19 daughter. She too may never experience her ahupua`a in
20 its true identity.

21 Yet, you, the Army's branch of America's
22 imperial forces, continue to want more land for
23 training. In general you call it the Army
24 Transformation. In particular with reference to O'ahu
25 you call it the South Range Acquisition Area. SRAA,

1 which I stand in opposition to in becoming another part
2 of the Schofield Barracks Military Reservation, SBMR.

3 Quoting the Army's Environmental Impact
4 Statement, "Under the proposed action that acquisition
5 area would consist of approximately 1400 acres. The
6 SRAA is currently used for pineapple agriculture."

7 But more vital to this land theft is the
8 reality that quote "the proposed action configuration
9 also encompasses forest land, part of the Honouliuli
10 Preserve."

11 Would it be okay with the American
12 populace, for example, if the Army in the name of
13 fighting terror, proposed taking an estimated 100 acres
14 of the John Muir Redwood Forest? Or perhaps setting
15 aside an approximate 40 hectares of Yellowstone
16 National Park for live fire exercises that will operate
17 for, quote, "an estimated 180 to 242 days per year at 8
18 to 12 hours per day, functioning as a company which
19 consists of 10 trucks and 23 Strykers while
20 simultaneously running convoys of 24 vehicles to
21 transport troops to the aforementioned forest reserve
22 area every 15 to 30 minutes, which equals out to 96
23 vehicles per hour"?

24 I highly doubt the United States
25 civilian community would support such a land grab of

1 their national preservation jewels.

2 Honouliuli is our jewel. The entire
3 archipelago is our jewel. Yet on Oahu every training
4 day at SBMR, according to the operation hours provided
5 by the EIS, anywhere from 768 to 1,152 Army vehicles
6 which include 20-ton Strykers outfitted with 180 mm
7 cannons will traverse preservation areas, increase live
8 fire ammunitions by 25 percent, dismantle sensitive
9 ecosystems that provide homes to native and endemic
10 plants and animals, destroy for generations land and
11 fresh drinking water in an area that is designated by
12 the state of Hawai'i as a Conservation District
13 Resource Subzone.

14 As stated in the Army's EIS, the
15 proposed configuration includes land within the
16 Conservation District Resource Subzone. According to
17 your table 5-5 entitled, "Conservation District
18 Resource Subzone that may pose," you state the subzone
19 objectives are, quote, "To protect valuable resources
20 in designated areas such as restrictive watersheds,
21 marine plant and wildlife sanctuaries, significant
22 historic archaeological, geological, vulcanological
23 features and sites and other designated unique areas."

24 It continues on to say "limit uses where
25 natural conditions suggest constraints on human

1 activities." Finally, "Develop with proper management
2 areas to ensure sustained use of the area's natural
3 resources."

4 Now, how does live fire training in
5 conjunction with an estimated 138,240 to 278,784 heavy
6 polluting vehicles per training year, Strykers, uphold
7 the previously stated objectives that pertain to the
8 Conservation District Resource Subzones?

9 Let me answer that question for you.
10 They do not uphold. "Training and operation of the
11 proposed QTR2 Multi-purpose Qualifying Training Range
12 on SRA could affect land use with a portion of the
13 Honouliuli Preserve. "

14 I would suggest change the word "could"
15 to "will".

16 "Furthermore," quote, "during training
17 and operation of QTR2 natural resources management and
18 recreational activities would be restricted within
19 certain portions of the SRAA. This would result in a
20 significant impact on natural resources management and
21 recreation within SRAA," end quote.

22 Again, change "would" to "will".

23 What is inferred in this section of the
24 EIS is the compound destruction of the few places left
25 on Oahu that is vacant from adverse human interaction.

1 Due to your proposed training schedule,
2 massive moving steel and bombs compiled with less
3 environmental restoration and preservation work, leads
4 to the creation of a quote, unquote "biological
5 ghetto."

6 Let me remind you of a specific
7 conservation subzone objective. "To limit uses where
8 natural conditions suggest constraints on human
9 activities."

10 In conclusion, who or what are you
11 really protecting? Your foreign assets? Your
12 international market? Your indigenous labor force?
13 Since the inception of your nation constructed on the
14 blood and soil of indigenous peoples, the slave
15 industry of importing Africans, and the deceitful
16 brokering of Asian labor in order to build your
17 railroad system, the United States of America has done
18 nothing but expand the base of its illegal occupying
19 regime to serve the purpose of exploiting other
20 indigenous people's natural resources and labor.

21 You do it here. Waikane Valley
22 condemned. Makua torched. Pearl Harbor and Lualualei
23 polluted for generations. Low federal wages and toxic
24 conditions. Contracting big money projects to your
25 friends on the continent like Napa, California-based

1 active lend lease, so on.

2 It is we the people of Hawai'i that have
3 suffered the most. It is we who are the first target
4 for preemptive strikes from nation states and not the
5 continent.

6 How do you justify the environmental and
7 cultural destruction of one place and its indigenous
8 population and fellow citizens in order to do the same
9 to another?

10 When America's imperial forces have no
11 further need for live fire training in our region, what
12 will become of our land? Our ocean. Our water? Our
13 air? Will it join the list of most devastated place in
14 the world with Iraq, Afghanistan, Rombula in the
15 Philippines? Will America tell us that it is too
16 expensive to clean up, therefore we have to condemn it?

17 I want answers that address the future
18 so that I can tell my children, grandchildren and great
19 grandchildren that their cancer and asthma was not
20 caused by the actions and ignorant behavior of
21 America's imperial forces.

22 But, regrettably, I don't think that
23 will be the situation. Instead, we as a family may be
24 in court arguing our case against you in between
25 chemotherapy, their frequent visits to the

1 pediatrician.

2 I'd like to close with Frantz Fanon, an
3 Algerian nationalist and prophet on the discourse of
4 decolonization. "When the native is tortured, when his
5 wife is killed or raped, he complains to no one. The
6 oppressive government can set up commissions of inquiry
7 and of information daily if it wants to. In the eyes
8 of the native these commissions do not exist. The fact
9 is that soon we shall have had seven years of crimes in
10 Algeria and there has not been a single Frenchman
11 indicted before a French court of justice for the
12 murder of an Algerian.

13 "Indochina, Madagascar, in Hawai'i or in
14 the colonies, the native has always known that he need
15 not expect nothing from the other side. The settlers'
16 work is to make even our dreams of liberty impossible.
17 However the native's work is to imagine all possible
18 methods for destroying the settler. For the native
19 life can only spring up again on the rotting corpse of
20 the settler." (Applause)

21 MS. AMARAL: What would be helpful for
22 those of you that have prepared written statements, if
23 you could provide us with a copy of it and then we
24 could give it to the transcriber. If you're reading it
25 very hurriedly it's very difficult to write it. So it

1 would be of help. Thank you.

2 The next speaker is Dr. Marion Kelly
3 followed by Hanaloa followed by William Aila. We ask
4 for your indulgence. What you may find happening here
5 is at nine o'clock the tape is going to stop. I may
6 have to stop you mid-testimony, Dr. Kelly, just so that
7 we can change the tape. That's all we're doing. I'll
8 keep on eye on the time. Thank you.

9 DR. MARION KELLY: Aloha.

10 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

11 DR. MARION KELLY: Three of our Hawaiian
12 people were arrested tonight. We were told it was
13 because they each had their message written out on a
14 piece of cardboard.

15 This is strictly not a public meeting if
16 that is the case. This is one of the required meetings
17 to allow the military to tell what their plans are so
18 they can go forward. And this is cut off by the people
19 who want to give you their message. I'd like to know
20 who in Washington, DC told you to do this. Was it the
21 vice president? Or the president?

22 The military has selected private
23 institutions, privately owned buildings so they can
24 hire a company to keep people out who have a piece of
25 cardboard with a few words written on it such as?

1 (Indicating). "Strykers not wanted in Hawai'i". You
2 ever heard that? It is intimidation. Is Bill Paty
3 still here watching the people being kept out -- hi
4 there, Bill -- because they had signs? Were you
5 counting us?

6 Independent Hawai'i has been occupied by
7 the American military for over a hundred years. If I
8 may I would like to speak briefly on a small portion of
9 Hawai'i's history to present my position that the
10 United States military must not send their Strykers to
11 Hawai'i.

12 I'm going to take you back -- maybe you
13 don't know this. Maybe you've just come here recently
14 in the last 5 years or so or 6 years or 7 years and you
15 really don't understand what this history really was.

16 Okay. Let's go back a little more than
17 that a hundred years 1893. 1893 American troops landed
18 in the islands to support the greedy American sugar
19 plantation owners. You know that, Bill? Sugar
20 plantation owners who already had privatized the land
21 and had taken over much of it for a few cents an acre,
22 they were well on their way to becoming wealthy and
23 taking over political control of the islands and of the
24 Hawaiians. They already had them in control.

25 They were anxious to get more money for

1 their sugar that they sold to the United States. So in
2 order to get that money for their sugar they took over
3 the peaceful nation of Hawai'i and put the queen, the
4 Hawaiian queen in jail. That's the truth. I'm not
5 telling you lies. I'm telling you the truth. I know
6 this history. I taught this history at the University
7 of Hawai'i for many years. It's the real history.

8 In response, the women of the
9 independent nation of Hawai'i gathered their people
10 together on each of the islands and they held meetings.
11 The Hawaiian women went from island to island. They
12 organized what has become known as the monster
13 petition. Did you ever hear of that, the monster
14 petition?

15 They organized that and it was against
16 the American takeover. They gathered some 38,000
17 signatures and presented the petitions to the United
18 States Senate in 1897. The Senate could not act. The
19 Senate was stalled. They could not get enough votes to
20 get the control of Hawai'i. That's the truth.

21 So what happened? In 1898 as Spain gave
22 independence to its colonies: The Philippines, Puerto
23 Rico, Cuba, the United States moved in and took over
24 the former Spanish colonies. In order to take the
25 Philippines, they needed Hawai'i and Samoa for

1 refuelling stopovers. You know, the boats were not
2 that fancy in those days. They needed to refuel. This
3 is the true history.

4 The United States struck a deal with
5 Sanford B. Dole. Ever heard of Sanford B. Dole? He
6 was the head of the Americans who took over the
7 Hawaiian Islands illegally. He was also in with the
8 American sugar plantation owners who controlled
9 Hawai'i's economy.

10 The United States took over all the
11 Hawaiian Islands. The people were not consulted. They
12 had no say in the matter. The 38,000 Hawaiian
13 signatures on the petitions were completely ignored.
14 The American military moved in to secure their
15 controlling position and they have been here ever
16 since, over 100 years.

17 Now, with the threat of the United
18 States importing their Strykers Brigade of 300, about
19 300? 400? Closer to 500 -- vehicles into our Hawaiian
20 Islands, many of us feel that the United States is
21 using this means to intimidate, to continue to
22 intimidate the Hawaiian people. These are small
23 islands. These are small islands. And they're going
24 to bring these monster things here? Outrageous?

25 They have more land up there. Why don't

1 they run them back and forth up there? Why bring them
2 down here to these little islands?

3 Our islands are small. We only have
4 6,424 square miles and a very natural resources. The
5 continental United States has more than
6 3,600,000 square miles within its borders and all the
7 natural resources that it has.

8 Why do they bring them here?
9 Intimidation. Intimidation. How can you ever think of
10 bringing those monsters here? We do not want, nor do
11 we need any more of U.S. military flexing their muscles
12 in our peaceful land, our sacred land.

13 Only three states are smaller than
14 Hawai'i. Rhode Island, Delaware and Connecticut. And
15 these states were among the first 13 states to
16 challenge Great Britain.

17 Hawai'i was an independent nation. We
18 shall be independent again. The American military can
19 leave any time and don't bring your Strykers here. We
20 don't need them. We don't want them. Take them
21 someplace else. (Applause).

22 MS. AMARAL: Mahalo, Dr. Kelly. What
23 we'd like to do now is take a break for approximately
24 10 minutes. That gives us a chance to change the tape
25 and allow people to use the facilities which are right

1 outside. Let's take a break. (8:50 p.m.)

2 (Transcript continues on next page.)

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1 MS. AMARAL: Just a little bit of a reminder for
2 some of you who came in a little late. The ground rules
3 are that we ask each speaker to please limit themselves
4 to five minutes. Part of what we do as facilitators is
5 remind you when you've got one minute left. We try to be
6 courteous about it, that when we give you the one-minute
7 sign, that usually means can you kind of wind it up and
8 summarize it.

9 Another thing: We didn't bring it up earlier,
10 and that's probably my fault, but I didn't think that I
11 had to talk about it. When you speak this evening, would
12 you please not swear. People in the room find it
13 offensive. It's not necessary. Pick another word. But
14 it's not necessary to be vulgar and to swear. So we ask
15 for your self-control there.

16 And, finally, you know, as we're talking here in
17 the front of the room and some people are at least seated
18 here, trying to listen, the court reporter is trying to
19 make notes and take down everything you're saying, the
20 conversations in the back of the room tend to make it
21 difficult to hear in the front of the room. So what we
22 ask those of you that are having conversations in the
23 back of the room to do is just take it outside. Take it
24 outside, then you can go on and on, talking, and it won't
25 bother us here in the middle of the room when we're

1 trying to hear what people have to say.

2 Finally, please, those of you with cell phones,
3 please turn it off or put it on "vibrate" or silence it
4 because it's difficult for the court reporter, who keeps
5 getting interrupted, and it is heard, then, over all of
6 the tapes.

7 Okay. The last three speakers. The first is
8 Hanaloha; the second is William Aila; and third is
9 Suzanne Marinelli.

10 Hanaloha?

11 HANALOA: Aloha ka ko. So many feelings go
12 through me. I wasn't planning on coming out here today.
13 I just happened to be calling a friend for a totally
14 unrelated reason, and he let me know that there's a
15 possibility that a kupuna, a very precious kupuna of
16 ours, was going to be arrested, shackled, and accosted
17 and taken away in the back of a police car like a common
18 criminal; and I just was, "What?" I said, "Why?" I
19 heard about the hearings going on. I said, "It's public
20 hearings, yeah?" Public hearings.

21 And he told me, "No. I'm not sure what's going
22 to go on. But if you can come up, come up."

23 I just came from town. I work on the Windward
24 side. I mean, I've been all over the place today. All I
25 wanted to do was go home and eat, just get something to

1 drink, take a bath, and go to sleep. But something about
2 us kanaka maoli, you know, it's about family, ohana. And
3 I couldn't believe. A kupuna; an old man. I don't know
4 if you guys realize what we're talking about. I don't
5 know if you guys witnessed that.

6 You know, and I gotta say before I say anything
7 else, I gotta say thank you to those of you who spoke
8 before me that I heard. I'm so glad, because you helped
9 calm me down. I was so angry. Because right when I got
10 here -- I'm so glad I didn't get stopped for speeding. I
11 don't usually speed, but I just felt this urgency. And
12 right when I pulled into the parking lot, I see this line
13 of police cars heading out. And the first, I looked
14 inside, and there's kupuna, this old man, an old Hawaiian
15 man in the back of a police car. I know this man. He's
16 a very gentle man. He's very -- he would never hurt a
17 flea. He's the most law abiding, upstanding kupuna that
18 I've had the honor to know. He's just a very special
19 person. And I saw him being hauled off like a criminal.

20 So my first question is: Who's in charge here?
21 Is it you, Colonel?

22 COLONEL ANDERSON: Yes.

23 HANALOA: You're in charge?

24 COLONEL ANDERSON: Yes.

25 HANALOA: Okay. Did you order the arrest of

1 that individual, Kekuni Blaisdell?

2 COLONEL ANDERSON: No.

3 HANALOA: But I thought you were in charge.

4 Did you realize he was being arrested when he
5 was being arrested?

6 COLONEL ANDERSON: No.

7 HANALOA: Okay. Then I call upon you, as being
8 the Commander in charge, to intervene. And I think you
9 need to make a phone call. I don't know what police
10 station he went to. You need to intervene. My dad was
11 an O6 in the Army. He was with the Inspector General,
12 one of his last tours. He came over; he was a USACH
13 Commander.

14 I was in the Air Force. Very patriotic citizen
15 all my life. I'm still a patriot. But I've been
16 stripped bare of the fiction of America; and I tell you,
17 it hasn't come easy. It's been a very painful process.
18 I loved my country because it was all I knew. I was
19 proud to be Hawaiian, but Hawaiian was always part of
20 being American. I didn't know there was a difference. I
21 didn't know that the big, bad boogie man on this planet
22 was America. And I'm ashamed to say that I was part of
23 that war machine. It was a small part, but it was
24 enough. And it took the first Gulf War from Bush Sr. to
25 help wake me up. Totally changed my life. That's why I

1 stand before you now. Not because I'm some radical
2 protester, although I've done some radical protesting,
3 you know; not because I'm just some angry, you know,
4 young man who just wants to complain about something. I
5 don't want to be here right now. But my aina hanau
6 brought me here.

7 And I want to know, if you guys stand for
8 freedom, how can you allow something like this to happen?
9 Here's upstanding, credible citizens of the Hawaiian
10 community, the community you're supposed to persuade that
11 you're acting in the interest of humanity -- right? I
12 mean, American interests don't supersede those of
13 humanity, do they? Could I get a response on that? Do
14 they? Do they? Do national interests of America
15 supersede those of humanity in general? Are they above
16 and beyond international law?

17 I need to know that from you, the Commanding
18 Officer, the person in charge in this place. We need to
19 know that.

20 MS. AMARAL: Let me clarify something, Hanaloa.
21 The purpose of this is to take public comment, not to
22 engage in conversation. So your comments are going on
23 the record.

24 HANALOA: E pii ana o luna, E iho ana o lalo, E
25 hui ana hamoku, E ku ana ka paia; E pii ana o luna, E iho

1 ana o lalo, E hui ana hamoku, E ku ana ka paia; E pii ana
2 o luna, E iho ana o lalo, E hui ana hamoku, E ku ana ka
3 paia.

4 We're not dead yet.

5 (Applause)

6 MS. AMARAL: Our next speaker is William Aila,
7 followed by Suzanne Marinelli.

8 MR. WILLIAM AILA: Aloha ka ko. I come from the
9 other side of the mountain there, a district called
10 Waianae Ahupua'a of Lualualei. I come with me and I
11 bring with me my kupuna, who you can't see behind me but
12 are still there. I also bring with me the generations
13 that have yet to be born and my responsibility to leave
14 them a better place. Therefore, I have to come and say
15 that I oppose the Stryker Brigade proposal coming to
16 Hawaii.

17 I would also say that 45 days is too short a
18 time to read all those f'ing documents. I didn't swear.

19 MS. AMARAL: Thank you.

20 MR. WILLIAM AILA: But you got the meaning. 45
21 days is too short to read all those documents. So I
22 would recommend that the Army extend that to 90 days so
23 that we can have some real understanding of all the
24 tables and all the things that you folks on this side
25 from Tetra Tech put together, because sometimes -- when I

1 grew up, I was told that if you can't dazzle them with
2 your brilliance, you have to baffle them with your -- and
3 you fill in the rest.

4 This Draft EIS is too long, and it's too
5 complicated, and it's too spread out all over the place.
6 I tried to do it. You gotta read this page and then you
7 gotta get this acronym and then you gotta go back to this
8 page and then that volume. It's insane. I mean, there
9 must be an easier way to put this information in it, in a
10 form that we can understand. Because you're expecting us
11 to testify on something, first it has to be in a form
12 that we can understand. It was almost foreign to me.

13 The Draft EIS does not represent my testimony at
14 the various scoping sessions that were held a year and a
15 half, almost two years ago. It didn't include the very
16 first thing I asked -- and Ralna said this over and over
17 and over again -- what about taking the 2nd Brigade and
18 moving them to Fort Lewis. And I'm not talking about
19 taking them part-time to train them over there and then
20 bring them back. What about just taking them the hell
21 over there with the 1st Brigade, because it's a lot
22 cheaper, and we can spend all that money building ranges
23 over there to accompany everybody, and that would be in
24 the interest of efficiency and cost, much more efficient
25 for the other brigades that want to come up.

1 Is that too common sense? Is that too easy to
2 understand?

3 The reason I know -- I know the reason. The
4 reason is two words: Dan Inouye. Stryker Brigade in
5 Hawaii. You guys all can sit there and look at me, but
6 you all know it in your gut: The reason that you guys
7 are here, the reason that we're talking about this, is
8 because Dan Inouye, Senator Dan Inouye. It's an
9 opportunity to continue this military trough of money
10 that comes through Hawaii. Because I know, and I read it
11 in here, that the Air Force can't move all of your guys,
12 Strykers, proposed Strykers, in 96 hours; it just can't
13 be done. You said it in there. So if you can't move one
14 Stryker Brigade, what makes them think that they can move
15 six in 96 hours? So it's an unrealistic plan. Even just
16 if you look at the Hawaii component. It's unrealistic.
17 Not to mention that the RPG is probably going to take out
18 the Stryker, anyway. I mean, you military guys must
19 surely know that. An RPG is taking out tanks in Iraq
20 right now. Land mines are taking out tanks. You're
21 putting your people in a death trap. You bear the
22 responsibility for their children that are not going to
23 be born. So you take that home with you and you twist
24 that in your na'au tonight, because you're following
25 orders and you're knowingly sending off American men,

1 some of them Hawaiians, to die, because this was not a
2 well thought-out idea and because General Motors needed
3 to make a bunch of money.

4 The EIS does not -- did not include an
5 investigation of -- and I asked this many times --
6 constructing a CCAAC range within one of the multipurpose
7 use ranges for the replacement of Makua. I asked this.
8 I also asked this purposely several times to make sure
9 that the two EIS's cross-matched, that one said if we
10 move to a multi-use range at Schofield, maybe we can get
11 rid of Makua, and vice versa when we deal with the Makua
12 EIS. Not that I want more people in Schofield to die
13 because of the additional napalm that's going to be put
14 in the ground and in the dirt.

15 And, Auntie, your grandchildren going be
16 breathing it, drinking it, smelling it. Puho, puho.

17 It also didn't include to quantify the economic
18 loss. Because I hear Senator Inouye talking about
19 economic loss. I hear -- or economic gain. And I
20 hear -- and surely there's somebody in this crowd tonight
21 from the Chamber of Commerce, okay. What a wonderful
22 economic benefit this is going to bring. But what
23 happens when these guys get deployed? And certainly they
24 will be, because they're the front-running battalions of
25 this new world order of how we fight wars -- how you

1 fight wars. I have to be careful. They're going to be
2 gone. They're going to be gone a long time. So what
3 happens to all of you merchants in Wahiawa? In Mililani?
4 So they give you a bunch of money up front, but you may
5 lose your businesses in the long run. Think about it.
6 That's not the best way to design your life, around a
7 military plan.

8 The Draft EIS does not do a good job of
9 discussing pollution and social justice issues. I live
10 right across Kokole Pass, downwind. Every time you
11 train, I see the smoke. I breathe the smoke; my
12 grandkids breathe the smoke. Every time Dole and Del
13 Monte burns their fields, we breathe the smoke. The past
14 week, we had five days of southwest winds. Everybody in
15 Waianae breathed the smoke of the Kahe Powerplant. The
16 Campbell Industrial Park, industrial giants that are
17 there, the two refineries, the coal fire. I don't see
18 anything in this plan that talks about cumulative
19 impacts, including those things in a cumulative fashion,
20 on what it's causing my grandkids. I don't see it. I
21 don't see anything. I see these guys saying, Oh, this is
22 our part. You know what? But when you talk about
23 cumulative impacts, when we talk about cumulative
24 impacts, the community is talking about everything:
25 Campbell Industrial park, Kahe Park, what you put into

1 the air at Schofield, what Del Monte and Dole puts into
2 the air. You know why? Because we breathe it every day.
3 I have to watch my grandkids breathe it every day. And
4 you know what, you guys in uniform? You don't have to do
5 that. You guys that are visiting from Tetra Tech, you
6 guys don't have to do that. You guys can go home. You
7 guys move out in two years. But us guys on that side of
8 the mountain, we breathe it every day. Is it any wonder
9 that we have the highest asthma rates?

10 I don't see this EIS talking about cumulative
11 impacts. I see you talking about, Well, if we had these
12 Strykers over here, we would have 25 percent more
13 unexploded ordnance used on the range, which translates
14 into X amount of cubic feet of stuff in the air. Explain
15 that to my grandkid when he has a hard time breathing at
16 night. Explain that to him when -- because these guys
17 gotta be ready, they gotta choke, and we gotta give them
18 antihistamines. If that's the cost of freedom, no thank
19 you. Absolutely, no thank you. I do a much better job
20 defending my grandkids than that.

21 Cultural impacts, the Draft EIS fails to
22 understand and recognize that it's not just a pile of
23 rocks. And I look to Laurie over there because she knows
24 it's not just a pile of rocks. But in your analysis --
25 and I'll read it to you, first sentence -- Some impacts

1 on cultural resources, significant but mitigable.
2 Mitigable according whose standards? Your standards or
3 my standards? Because my standards are going to be much
4 higher, because I have a kuleana. The folks that came
5 before me had a kuleana. The folks that will follow me
6 have a kuleana to make sure that those sites are
7 protected. And it's not just a pile of rocks. There are
8 districts in Hawaii, there are plots of land, pieces of
9 ahupua'a, that are sacred. Springs are sacred. There's
10 no pile of rocks on a spring; but it's sacred. I don't
11 see anything in the EIS talking about the cultural
12 significance of springs or how to mitigate the damage to
13 those springs. The cultural impact portion of this EIS
14 fails to address those things.

15 It also fails to address how we fix things when
16 you burn them, as you certainly will. Because I have to
17 tell you, I quite frankly don't believe you when you say
18 you're going to have a controlled burn.

19 And I know Auntie's getting antsy over here.
20 But you know what? I'll be happy to stop, and I'll stand
21 in line again, because you said you'd be here to whatever
22 time it takes.

23 MS. AMARAL: You finish, Bill.

24 MR. WILLIAM AILA: She said I could; she said I
25 could.

1 MS. AMARAL: It's not my intention to
2 intimidate, Dr. Kelly.

3 DR. MARION KELLY: Go sit down.

4 MS. AMARAL: I am the facilitator. I will stay
5 here. Mahalo.

6 MR. WILLIAM AILA: Mahalo, Auntie. But she
7 doesn't intimidate. She doesn't threaten me. Those guys
8 don't frighten me, either, as they shouldn't.

9 So you failed. You failed to address those
10 things. You failed to address the things in my scoping
11 questions. And poor Ron over there is looking at me, I
12 know, because he can't address it because his bosses told
13 him he only can address this. But if this is an open
14 process, if the Army genuinely wants to hear from us what
15 we think -- and the EIS process, along with scoping, says
16 we have to address every comment that comes in -- you
17 either failed to do that or you're lying to me. Those
18 are the only two options. So stop failing, and stop
19 lying. Because I'm going to ask you this question again
20 tomorrow and you're going to have the same answer for me.
21 Because what people have to understand is, he who
22 controls the question controls the answer. So how you
23 ask the question in a very limited scale, what is the
24 impacts of Stryker Brigade coming to Hawaii -- you notice
25 they only said they coming to Hawaii, yeah? They never

1 said anything about is it cheaper in the long run to move
2 them to Fort Lewis, Washington, like the 1st Brigade is
3 already there? Of course it's cheaper, of course it
4 would make sense, except for politics from Senator
5 Dan Inouye.

6 Almost pau, Auntie.

7 MS. AMARAL: Mahalo.

8 MR. WILLIAM AILA: Mitigating effects on those
9 sites that are important, but the EIS doesn't describe
10 how to restore. How do you restore mana after you burn
11 it? How do you restore the sanctity of a site after you
12 inadvertently or intentionally run it over and destroy
13 it? Or, as I just learned this past Sunday at Makua, in
14 a well that was very, very important to my family and all
15 of the people in Makua, how do you restore the mana of
16 that well when it's filled up with about two feet of
17 asphalt? How do you do that? How do I mitigate that?
18 That's a very sacred site, because it started as a
19 spring, which was turned into a well, which when we went
20 in to clean it out and restore the mana found that it was
21 capped with asphalt. We dug two and a half feet through
22 the asphalt now. You know what? There's still more
23 asphalt there. I hope we don't have to go fifteen feet
24 of asphalt to get to that spring. So how do you explain
25 to these guys how to mitigate those kinds of things and

1 the loss of mana when you do those kinds of things to
2 sacred sites? It's not just a pile of rocks, and you've
3 heard me say it over and over and over again.

4 And just when we get somebody like you, Colonel
5 Anderson, understanding, you know what they do to us?
6 They ship you off and they bring somebody else in, and we
7 gotta start all over and explain all over again. Because
8 we're stuck with the kuleana to restore the mana; and in
9 some cases we're honored to be the ones to be able to
10 restore that mana.

11 Please do not include the Programmatic Agreement
12 as part of the EIS. It has no place in this EIS. It
13 satisfies another law. So please remove -- and for the
14 Makua EIS -- where's Peter? -- please do not include the
15 Programmatic Agreement in the Makua EIS. I'm telling you
16 right now, it has no place in there. That is a different
17 law than NEPA.

18 And, finally, the biggest failure of all of this
19 Draft EIS: It not only fails to consider, but it fails
20 to address a clean-up plan. What are we going to do with
21 these areas when they're pau? What are we going to do
22 with Schofield and the impact areas when Senator
23 Dan Inouye is no longer there with the political clout --
24 you guys don't want to hear this, but I'll say it,
25 because you know it in your na'au, you guys that have

1 been in the Pentagon know it -- when he is no longer
2 there with the clout to keep the 25th here, because it's
3 much cheaper? I can tell you right now, if Rumsfeld had
4 his way, I think the 25th would be someplace else. It
5 might not be back in the United States. It might be
6 sitting in Korea or it might be sitting in someplace what
7 we call "forward deployed".

8 These guys know what I'm talking about. They
9 can't say it, yeah. But they know what I'm talking
10 about.

11 That's where the Stryker Brigades are going to
12 go. They're going to be forward deployed because the
13 airplanes can't take it in 96 hours to someplace. So I
14 speak the truth; it's tough. They know it; they can't
15 respond to it. But it's going to play out. Some of you
16 may see it in your lifetimes. I will see it in my
17 lifetime. They're not going to be here a couple years
18 after Inouye is gone. You know why? Because whoever's
19 junior in that committee, that sat at Appropriations
20 Committee, you guys don't vote for him or her, and that's
21 where it's going to go.

22 And then all you guys that have shops in Wahiawa
23 and on Mililani and on North Shore, then you're going to
24 truly learn about what is called an "artificial economy".
25 And it's tough. Your family members and my family

1 When I came here tonight to attend this meeting,
2 my timing was curious, I suppose, because I got here just
3 as somebody was being arrested and hauled away, which is
4 identical to what happened last night, and it troubled
5 me. And, so, I need to say that I'm not here tonight to
6 address the documents that we're here to consider. I
7 still haven't had time to read them since yesterday, when
8 I hadn't had time to read them. But I'm here to address
9 a process concern that has troubled me deeply for the
10 last 24 hours. And in order to do this, I gotta take you
11 all the way back to when I was 18 years old. So here we
12 go.

13 I left a coal mining community in Virginia when
14 I was 18 to go off to college, and I was privileged to be
15 invited to attend the College of William & Mary, which is
16 a very prestigious institution, and it was a great honor
17 to be asked to go there. So I left after a semester and
18 got married and had kids and had a divorce. And I've
19 lived 18 years in Williamsburg, Virginia. And if you've
20 never been there, you can't know what that means. Five
21 thousand miles away from here is a completely restored
22 Colonial town. The restored area is one mile long and
23 three blocks wide, and it is the Colonial town of
24 Williamsburg, Virginia, where the American Revolution
25 essentially began, when the gunpowder was stolen from the

1 powder magazine there. And the people that populated my
2 community were not only the people of the 20th Century
3 world that I lived in but also the people of the 18th
4 Century world, when my country was being formed. Thomas
5 Jefferson populated my town; Samuel Adams did; Patrick
6 Henry did; Abigail Adams did. These people were part of
7 my everyday life. And through living in that Colonial
8 town for 18 years, which at that point was half of my
9 life, I absorbed the foundations of my country
10 completely. Its origins are part of my bones because of
11 that incredible experience.

12 Two miles away from me was Jamestown, Virginia,
13 where one of the first colonies of the western intruders
14 started, nine miles the other direction, Yorktown,
15 Virginia, where the Revolution ended. So I had lived in
16 areas where the defining conflicts of my country were
17 part of my everyday life. And, so, my patriotism is
18 founded in the beginnings, the origins of what this
19 country came to be. So it's a long way of saying I'm a
20 Jeffersonian. Mr. Jefferson is a very important part of
21 my awareness.

22 The Bill of Rights is, too. It's a very
23 precious document to all of us. And I'm told that we are
24 fighting a war on the other side of the world to protect
25 freedoms and liberties, and I'm concerned about some

1 parts of that. I'm also concerned at what I perceive to
2 be a violation of the Bill of Rights, happening both last
3 night and tonight.

4 Mr. Jefferson and I are in complete agreement,
5 that informed dissent is vital for the continued health
6 of the country that we love. Without it, acting as the
7 wind, the sails of democracy will not billow. They will
8 not move the ship of state through these uncertain seas
9 in our cultural and sociological and environmental,
10 turbulent world that we are living in, without informed
11 dissent. Without the ability to dissent and disagree,
12 our country will die. And I don't want to see my country
13 die because I love it.

14 When I went off to college at William & Mary, I
15 went to a school that was born in 1693, so it's been
16 around 310 years. It was actually chartered before
17 Harvard, although they started classes first. William &
18 Mary was the first school to admit women. They had a
19 school for Indians. They were called then
20 Native-Americans. So they were very progressive. They
21 were creating this amazing thing that has endured
22 beautifully to this day. But things get stale. And I
23 wish to share that after the Civil Rights Act passed,
24 poor William & Mary had to go and start admitting Black
25 people to the college, and it was a very great task for

1 the people of Virginia for these things to happen. Well,
2 William & Mary had to admit three young Black women one
3 year. And there were 5,000 people in the campus. And by
4 some absolute miracle of planning, those three women
5 wound up in the same basement dormitory room together.
6 And I'm going to suggest to you, and I don't mean to be
7 unkind, but I'd like you to take the analogy to heart,
8 that when the people who are engaging in informed dissent
9 are not being allowed to be present here, then we are
10 putting those people in the college basement, hoping they
11 will go away, but they will never go away. This concerns
12 me.

13 I know that this is private property. I heard
14 this last night; I heard it again tonight. I know that
15 all of your meetings have been set on private property.
16 And I cannot in all consciousness accept that you are the
17 victims of the laws of private property. I cannot
18 believe that this is anything but by design that these
19 people can't come in here; and that grieves me. So I'm
20 not coming here to yell at you, but I'm coming here to
21 share my concerns. And I want to know if you will defend
22 the Bill of Rights with me or if it's something that you
23 fear.

24 This is a hearing, and I know that -- I teach
25 process, and so I know that a hearing is not just for you

1 to hear me, but for all of us to hear one another; and,
2 so, what I have heard, it's not democracy, and I'm very
3 concerned that the Bill of Rights is being devastated
4 here tonight.

5 I ask you to extend the hearing period for 90
6 days -- or the comment period for 90 days, and I ask that
7 you listen to the dissenters amongst you, that you allow
8 signs in your presence, that you do not fear the Bill of
9 Rights. It will not harm you.

10 (Applause)

11 MS. AMARAL: We have come to the end of our
12 registered speakers and are about to close the meeting
13 now. I would like to see if the Colonel wants to make
14 some concluding remarks.

15 So I'll call upon Colonel David Anderson to make
16 some final remarks.

17 Thank you.

18 COLONEL ANDERSON: First off, let me express my
19 appreciation to everybody that participated tonight. I
20 want to personally thank every one of you that came here
21 tonight, and particularly those that offered their
22 comments to us. All of your comments, written and oral,
23 will be taken into consideration as we go forward with
24 the preparation of the Final Environmental Impact
25 Statement.

1 For those of you who were not able to give oral
2 testimony this evening, we will continue to accept
3 written comments throughout the public comment period.

4 For those that commented tonight, again I want
5 to thank you personally for taking the time and the
6 energy and the great amount of thought and preparation
7 that went into your comments that you made tonight.
8 Those are important. That's why we do this public
9 process, so that we have the opportunity to hear from the
10 people who will be impacted by this proposed action. As
11 I mentioned when we started, this is a proposed action,
12 and your comments will be incorporated, and the Final
13 Environmental Impact Statement will be used as a
14 decision-making tool to determine -- to decide whether or
15 not the Stryker Brigade actually comes to Hawaii.

16 Again, I appreciate everybody's participation,
17 and we look forward to doing this again tomorrow evening
18 at Makaha.

19 Thank you very much.

20 (Proceedings concluded at 9:46 P.M.)

21

22

23

24

25

1 Wednesday October 29, 2003 7:30 p.m.

2 --o00o--

3 MR. MARTIN ORTOGERO, JR.: Comments on the
4 Draft Transformation 29 October, 2003. Thank you for the
5 opportunity to make comments tonight on your Draft
6 Transformation document. I'll only make a few comments
7 about the Draft EIS, but I will be submitting written
8 comments that are more detailed in nature to you no later
9 than 19 November 2003.

10 I just need to confirm the mailing address,
11 which I did, and I would like to know how you will respond
12 and/or address my concern in the Final EIS. Will there be
13 another public forum? Or what is your plan? Because I
14 made comments at the scoping meeting and my comments were
15 not in this final draft. I made verbal and written
16 comments.

17 Before I begin I'd like to say that I'm
18 making these oral comments to express my concerns about
19 the Draft Transformation EIS and in written form as a
20 private citizen and resident of the Mililani Mauka
21 community.

22 The Draft EIS is a very detailed document.
23 It appears to be complete. But for the unfamiliar with
24 the EIS it's a very intimidating and challenging document
25 to read. I mean over 1500 pages and figures, a lot of

1 technical data. Anyway, to me it looks like the Army has
2 done its homework. I'm sure it has done to others.

3 They identify problem areas. They have
4 plans to fix problem areas 'cause for the most part
5 there's a road map to fix the bigger problems.

6 It's my hope that the state, county
7 governments not only use their technical EIS people in
8 evaluating and analyzing this EIS but also bring in all
9 facets of community planning to reach the bottomline
10 recommendation.

11 Bottomline to me, we the community
12 residents of Launani Valley, Mililani Mauka, Wahiawa,
13 Mililani Town, Wheeler Air Force Base and Schofield will
14 have to live with what comes out of this project.
15 Hopefully, there will be more good pieces than bad ones.

16 I'm almost finished reading the document,
17 but I do have some comments focusing on three areas at
18 this time: Air space management, noise and state/county
19 infrastructure.

20 But first a general comment. In April 2003
21 I was one of four persons that made verbal comments to the
22 first public scoping meeting at Leilehua High School. So
23 when I reviewed the Draft EIS my input was not documented.

24 I voiced concern focused on aircraft flight
25 safety -- and by the way I will include a copy of that

1 statement in my written report.

2 Additionally, I faxed written concerns
3 about the increased training noise from East Range which
4 will impact upon the Launani Valley and Mililani Mauka
5 residential area. That fax was not documented in the
6 Draft EIS.

7 Now at the April 2003 meeting Colonel
8 Waggner, the facilitator, assured us that our voiced and
9 written concerns would be documented and answered in the
10 draft/final EIS. And it wasn't.

11 The Final EIS needs to include my voiced
12 concerns and faxed concerns in the appropriate section of
13 the final document.

14 Air space management. Reference Page 4-16,
15 Paragraph 4.4 Airspace. This section lacks a discussion
16 on physical hazards. Specifically there should be
17 detailed discussions on aircraft operations, a brief
18 description on the existing conditions. Operative word
19 "existing conditions".

20 At a minimum a map should be provided that
21 clearly shows the aircraft flight tracks for local
22 helicopter departures, IFR 06 departures and standard VFR
23 departures, all of which overfly the Launani Valley and
24 Mililani Mauka residential areas.

25 2. Probable impact. A brief description

1 of the Wheeler Army Airfield Accident Potential Zone.

2 Operative word "Accident Potential Zone". There should be
3 some discussion on event of aircraft accident mishap and
4 dump fuel and munitions from helicopters, C-130, C-17,
5 UAVs, etc.

6 Mitigating measures. A description of how
7 U.S. Army and other services can work closely with state,
8 county officials to ensure there is safe and compatible
9 air operations.

10 Recommend Final EIS have discussion on
11 physical hazards associated with possible aircraft mishap
12 such as crashes into residential areas of Launani Valley,
13 Mililani Mauka or Wahiawa.

14 It is remotely possible that an emergency
15 situation would result in a release of ordnance or fuel
16 into the residential community area during a training
17 fly-by.

18 Assumption must also be made that a C-130
19 or C-17 could be fully loaded, quotes, "fully loaded" with
20 equipment and personnel to include munitions during a
21 biannual full training deployment or actual deployment
22 when an aircraft mishap occurs.

23 What is the impact? And would state,
24 county, police, fire department and medical personnel
25 respond adequately, operative word "adequately" to such an

1 aircraft mishap?

2 Would state, county and Wheeler Army
3 Airfield resources be sufficient to respond and take
4 necessary actions to save life and property in the event
5 of a major aircraft accident in the Launani Valley,
6 Mililani Mauka or Wahiawa areas? The Final EIS must
7 discuss this probability and any plans to adequately
8 address the resolution.

9 Reference Page 4-16 Paragraph 4.4 Air
10 Space. The EIS demonstrates that fixed-wing aircraft,
11 increased number of helicopters and overflight UAV flight
12 activity will not increase at Wheeler Army Airfield and
13 Schofield Barracks Military Ranges.

14 However, it's obvious this new activity,
15 transformation, will increase aircraft activity threefold.
16 If transformation will increase training, then
17 correspondingly aircraft activity will increase.

18 So without a doubt aircraft noise, movement
19 and flying will impact the adjacent residential areas to
20 Wheeler Army Airfield, Schofield Barracks East Ranges and
21 all other Hawai'i training areas touched by
22 transformation.

23 Recommend that the Final EIS for
24 transformation be coordinated, operative word
25 "coordinated" with the FAA, not just to provide them a

1 copy of the EIS.

2 Formal coordination on the Final EIS report
3 is essential to flight safety in the Central O'ahu
4 Airspace Region. The new introduction of large fixed-wing
5 aircraft, i.e. C-130, and C-17 plus the UAVs flying above
6 and increased number of helicopters in the Central O'ahu
7 airspace demands major safety concerns for airspace
8 management and control.

9 It would be prudent to have the FAA review
10 its existing regulations and directives governing air
11 space management and control of the Central O'ahu region
12 to ensure accuracy, currency, and applicability so flight
13 of safety is maintained. Outdated airspace management
14 regulations, procedures can then be changed accordingly or
15 new processes regulated.

16 With an increase of military helicopters
17 flying training missions over all Mililani, Wahiawa
18 residential areas, you know, helicopters have no flight
19 restrictions except to stay a minimum of 100 feet away
20 from any ground object.

21 New UAVs flying training patterns high
22 above these helicopters; and now large fixed-winged C-130
23 and C-17s aircraft flying training patterns in and around
24 Wheeler Army Airfield, coupled with civilian helicopters,
25 small aircraft, state/military aircraft and large civilian

1 airliners, obviously the Central O'ahu airspace has
2 changed and will fill up quickly and dramatically.

3 A relook, operative word, "relook" of FAA's
4 governing directives, regulations of airspace environment
5 in the Central O'ahu region and the proposed action of
6 transformation would ensure the safety and quality of life
7 of all Hawai'i citizens living in the Mililani Town,
8 Wahiawa Town, Launani Valley and Mililani Mauka areas.

9 Another concern about airspace I had is the
10 concept of use of these aircraft, which the Draft EIS has
11 still left unclear.

12 The Final EIS needs to clear this up. Will
13 these fixed-wing aircraft be permanently based at Wheeler
14 Army Airfield? If not, what's the plan in their use?

15 Will they be flown in to pick up troops and
16 equipment for biannual, monthly, quarterly deployments?
17 Will they be parked on alert? How long? Will both C-130
18 and C-17s be flying out of Wheeler Army Airfield? How
19 many? Will only equipment be flown out?

20 The Final EIS needs to address all these
21 concepts to get a better understanding of flying
22 activities transformation brings to Wheeler Army Airfield
23 and surrounding residential areas.

24 Second concern: Noise. This item covers my
25 concern in the written comments I faxed to you at the

1 scoping meeting. One obvious shortcoming in the Draft EIS
2 was how poorly it addresses the interests of the Launani
3 Valley and Mililani Mauka communities. And this is done
4 in a very subtle way.

5 Certainly, one would have to have lived on
6 island and specifically in Central O'ahu to know that
7 these communities are the fastest growing on-island
8 communities in Central O'ahu. And they border Wheeler
9 Army Airfield and Schofield Barracks East Range.

10 In the Draft EIS when any residential
11 communities around Schofield Barracks are mentioned only
12 Mililani Town and Wahiawa are mentioned. There is very
13 little recognition of the Launani Valley and Mililani
14 Mauka communities when discussing the impact or potential
15 impact of transformation from Wheeler Army Airfield and
16 East Range.

17 So by omission, it has overlooked a
18 significant sector of people that are right in the middle
19 of the transformation project.

20 Examples: Figures 2-3 which describes the
21 geographical lay of the East Range is outdated. By that I
22 mean, the Launani Valley and Mililani Mauka residential
23 areas are represented in its very early stages of
24 development and not in its present day size or footprint.

25 Both communities have grown in footprint

1 size and population and they now border past the main
2 training areas in East Range.

3 Also there are three new public schools in
4 the Mililani Mauka areas not represented on the map. By
5 having these communities truly represented on your map,
6 the appropriate approval authorities of the Final EIS can
7 readily see how noise and aircraft overflights does impact
8 on these communities and schools.

9 Another reference. All references in the
10 Draft EIS to noise from Wheeler Army Airfield and East
11 Range as a result of transformation always describes its
12 impact to Mililani Town, which is way south of the East
13 Range and across H2 Highway. No mention is made of noise
14 impact to Launani Valley or Mililani Mauka.

15 The Final EIS needs to address the noise
16 impacts on Launani Valley and Mililani Mauka areas.

17 So I agree with the Draft EIS wherever it
18 states, "the training noises from the East Range have
19 negligible impact on Mililani Town."

20 Another subtle example of how Launani
21 Valley and Mililani areas are left out of the report is
22 there is no noise abatement program mentioned in the
23 report for these communities.

24 However, apparently there is one mentioned
25 for the Wahiawa community. In Chapter 4, Page 4-34,

1 paragraph 1, line 10-11, the EIS makes reference to
2 establishment of a 1,000 foot, 305 meter, noise buffer
3 along those portions of East Range that border residential
4 areas of Wahiawa.

5 However, no such noise abatement program is
6 mentioned for the Launani Valley or Mililani Mauka
7 communities. The Final EIS needs to address this
8 shortfall. Because of the growth and now close proximity
9 of Launani Valley and Mililani Mauka, why isn't there a
10 noise abatement program for these communities?

11 Lastly, the Draft EIS does not addresses
12 whether a noise measurement study was done in the Mililani
13 Mauka and Launani Valley communities to determine what
14 real impact transformation will have, especially since
15 there will be an increase in training.

16 To my knowledge no measurement was ever
17 done of the training noise that comes from East Range.
18 This requirement needs to be addressed in the Final EIS so
19 that a federal, state noise baseline can be established
20 for these residential areas.

21 This noise baseline can be used to compare
22 noise infractions from the East Range to these residential
23 communities.

24 The last item, state, county
25 infrastructure. Transformation will bring an increase in

1 student population to our schools. However, the Draft EIS
2 doesn't address how the U.S. Army will plan to help
3 state/county with resources in this area. Our schools are
4 crowded and we need help with resources to accommodate an
5 increase in student population. Not only in buildings and
6 space but in teachers and support staff, and resources to
7 operate a quality school system.

8 The Final EIS needs to address what the
9 U.S. Army intends to bring, operative word "bring" in this
10 area before and when transformation is implemented.

11 Secondly, the Draft EIS states that there
12 will be an increase in vehicles using our highways.
13 However, the Draft EIS does not address how the U.S. Army
14 plans to help maintain our highways or widen them to
15 accommodate their vehicles.

16 Our highways and country roads are
17 inadequate for future population growth. Scarce resources
18 make it difficult to maintain. The Final EIS in
19 transformation needs to address what the Army intends to
20 bring to resolve in this area or help in this area.

21 Conclusion. That's all I have now. Again,
22 I have more in my written comments. I want to again thank
23 you for the opportunity to address this forum on the Draft
24 EIS for transformation.

25 As a private citizen I agree with the

1 concept of transformation. I believe it's needed for the
2 defense of our country and it's a good concept. But I
3 believe transformation will be implemented. It needs to
4 address all environmental issues and ensure they're
5 adequately resolved.

6 (END OF BREAKOUT SESSION 7:40 P.M.)

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2 WE, LESLIE LEINANI TAKEDA, RPR, CSR, and
3 HOLLY HACKETT, RPR, CSR, in and for the State of Hawaii,
4 do hereby certify:

5 That we were acting as shorthand reporters in
6 the foregoing matter on the 29th day of October, 2003;

7 That the proceedings were taken down in machine
8 shorthand by us and were thereafter reduced to
9 typewriting under our supervision; that the foregoing
10 represents, to the best of our ability, a correct
11 transcript of the proceedings had in the foregoing
12 matter;

13 We further certify that we are not counsel for
14 any of the parties hereto, nor in any way interested in
15 the outcome of the cause named in the caption.

16 DATED: November 1st, 2003.

17

18

19

LESLIE LEINANI TAKEDA, RPR, CSR #423
Certified Shorthand Reporter

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HOLLY HACKETT, RPR, CSR #130
Certified Shorthand Reporter

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