BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO GOVERNOR



Hawaii Army Nat. Guard' Enhanced Brigate Stationing Plan

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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL 3848 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96818-4495

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November 20, 1997

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Engineering Office

GF3. G. LAND TO AND A D GUALITY CONTROL

Office of Environmental Quality Control 235 South Beretania Street State Office Tower, Suite 702 Honolulu Hawaii 96813

Dear Sir:

Subject: Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of

No Significant Impact for the Hawaii Army National Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan, November 1997

Enclosed is the OEQC Bulletin Publication Form and four copies of the subject plan.

If there are any questions, please have your staff contact Ms. Jane Yamamoto, Environmental Planner, at 733-4214.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant Colonel, Engineer Hawaii Army National Guard Facility Management Officer

Enc.



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FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

for the

HAWAII ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ENHANCED BRIGADE STATIONING PLAN

Prepared for: NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NOVEMBER 1997

Prepared by: KRP Information Services and Earth Tech 700 Bishop Street, Suite 900 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT CONTACT

Project:

Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan

Location:

Hawaii, Kauai, Maui, Molokai, and Oahu

Applicant:

Department of Defense, Hawaii Army National Guard

3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Approving

Department of Defense, Hawaii Army National Guard

Agencies:

3949 Diamond Head Road

Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

National Guard Bureau

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Consultant:

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GLOSSARY

1-299th IN 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry

1-184th IN 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry - Modesto, CA

1-487th FA 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery

2-299th IN 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry

29th SBR 29th Support Battalion

100th-442d IN 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry (U.S. Army Reserves)

227th ENCO 227th Engineer Company

291st HEMCO 291st Maintenance Company

DET/B/1-229th IN Detachment B, 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry

DET/C/2-229th Detachment C, 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry

DLNR Department of Land and Natural Resources

TRP F/82dCAV Troop F, 82nd Cavalry

129th STA DET 129th Signal Detachment Battalion

HHD, 297th S&S 297th Supply and Service Battalion

HIARNG Hawaii Army National Guard

OEQC Office of Environmental Quality Control

TRP E/19th CAV Troop E, 19th Calvary -- Lebanon, OR

SUMMARY

The proposed action is the reorganization of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade, of the Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG) into what is called an "enhanced brigade". The reorganization has been brought about by changes in the force structure of the National Guard at the federal level. The 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) will be one of fifteen elite National Guard "enhanced readiness combat brigades" in the United States. These units will receive state-of-the-art equipment, additional funds, and full-time manning for training, to guarantee that they are able to deploy anywhere in the world within 90 days should they be activated into federal duty. The reorganization consists of the following separate actions:

- Deactivation of the 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry, headquartered on Maui and with units on Kauai, Oahu, and Molokai. Three hundred (300) soldiers are being reassigned. Most are being absorbed into the restructured Hilo-headquartered 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry, or the 227th Engineer Detachment.
- Closure of the Wailuku Armory and consolidation of Maui units at the Kahului Armory.
- Closure of the Kaneohe Armory on Oahu and the Pahala and Kapaau (Kohala) Armories on Hawaii. These properties will be returned to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources.
- Organization of the 229th Military Intelligence (MI) Company into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade. The unit will co-locate with the Brigade on 22nd Avenue in Honolulu.

The reorganization of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into an enhanced brigade and the closure of the four armories will have no adverse impact on the physical environment. If anything, there will be less impact because present human activities will decrease or, in some areas, cease.

The reorganization and closure of the four armories will have some social and economic impacts. There will be a reduction in the number of National Guard personnel. Many have already transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve, taken early retirement or resigned. Some of the remaining personnel will be inconvenienced and incur higher costs by having to drive further distances for training at other facilities.

Because of the designation of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade as an Enhanced Brigade, HIARNG expenditures for equipment are anticipated to be sustained or increased slightly. At the same time, less federal money will be spent on salaries. This will have a small but negative impact on Hawaii's economy because equipment purchases are generally made outside the State and wages are spent within the State.

The potential adverse impacts identified are negligible and short-term in nature. Based on this Finding of No Significant Impact, an environmental impact statement is not required.

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BACKGROUND

LEGAL REFERENCES

This Environmental Assessment has been prepared pursuant to the following laws and regulations:

- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)
- Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations, 40 CFR Part 1500.
- Army Regulations 200-2, Environmental Effects of Army Actions, 23 December 1988
- National Guard Bureau All States Letter, (P93-005), Revised Guidance for Environmental Documentation, 5 February 1993.
- Hawaii Environmental Impact Statement Law, Chapter 343, HRS.

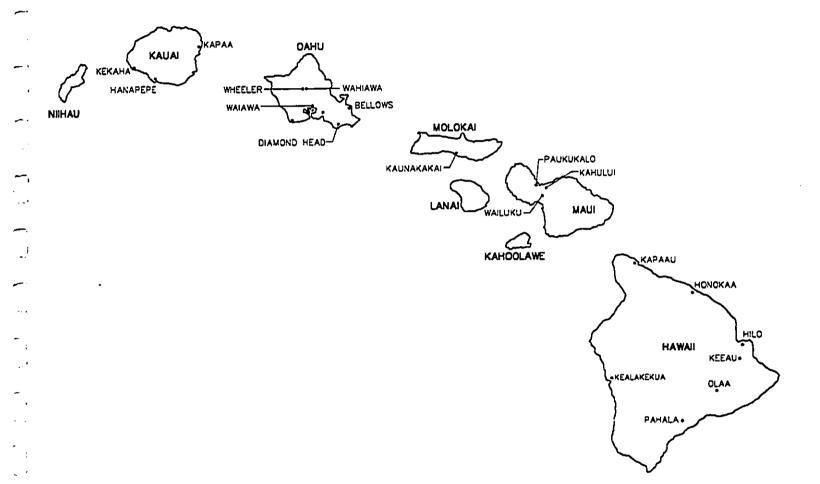
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

LOCATION

The Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG) has its headquarters at 3949 Diamond Head Road in Honolulu, with units on each of the five major islands of Hawaii. A map indicating the location of major HIARNG installations in Hawaii is shown in Figure 1. A list of all facilities as of February 1995 is presented in Table 1.

	HAWAII APMY NATIONAL BELLE 1					
HAWAII ARMY NATIONAL GUARD (HIARNG) FACILITIES Unit						
Diamond Head, Oahu	- Cint	Acreage	Land Ownership			
Trodu, Canu	297th/Maint/Brigade Armories, Comb Spt	336.85	State - set aside by			
Waiawa Gulch, Oahu	1 COIR Maint Shops, Emer On Cor Admin		Executive Order (EO).			
	Mobilization/Train Eq Site, Armory	3	State - set aside by EO.			
Kaneohe, Oahu	Armory	19.22	Army - license.			
Wahiawa, Oahu	Armory	2.78	State - set aside by EO.			
	1444	3.87	State - set aside by EO.			
Wheeler AAF, Oahu	Army Aviation Spt. Fac, Armory	6.47	Army - license.			
łanapepe, Kauai	Armory, Org Maint Shop		Army - pending license			
Kapaa, Kauai	Armory	4.92	State - set aside by EO.			
ekaha, Kauai	Range	3.28	State - set aside by EO			
aunakakai, Molokai	Armory, Org Maint Shop	68.26	State - set aside by EO.			
ahului, Maui	Armory	2.52	State - set aside by EO.			
anaio, Maui	Range	1.68	State - set aside by EO.			
		6800	State -license from			
aukukalo, Maui	Org Maint. Shop		Ulupalakua Ranch			
ailuku, Maui	Armory	1.77	State - set aside by EO.			
kumehame, Maui	Range	<u>2.66</u> [State - set aside by EO			
onokaa, Hawaii	Armory	<u>39.28 3</u>	State - set aside by EO.			
alakekua, Hawaii	Armory	6.46	state - set aside by EO			
aukaha MR, Hawaii	KMR Armory, Ranges	4.25	State - set aside by EO.			
hala, Kapaau, Hawaii	Armory	503.6	State - set aside by EO.			
aa, Keeau, Hawaii	Armory	0.41 5	tate - set aside by EO.			
nala, Hawaii	Armory	3.04 5	tate - set aside by EO.			
: Adapted from Table P.I-B	7 U.S. Pacific Command Hawaii Military Land Use Master	3.85 S	tate - set aside by EO.			

FIGURE 1 HAWAII ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ARMORIES



The Hawaiian Islands



0 12 24 36 48 60 miles 0 12 24 36 48 60 72 84 96 killometer:

HISTORY1

The Hawaii Army National Guard has its roots in the 1st Hawaiian Guard, a volunteer militia of about fifty businessmen and civic leaders that was organized in November, 1852. The 1st Hawaiian Cavalry was organized a few months later.

Over the next forty years, the volunteer militia (sometimes known as the Honolulu Riflemen or "Rifles") and the regular military were alternately reduced, disbanded, reconstituted, expanded, and shrunk, as different monarchs ruled and two revolutions took place, in 1887 and 1889. In 1893 the Guard played a major role in the Revolution that led to the downfall of the Hawaiian Monarchy and the establishment of the Republic of Hawaii.

The present Hawaii National Guard was established by an Act passed by the Executive and Advisory Council of the Provisional Government on January 27, 1893. After withdrawal of the United States Marines, the National Guard was the military force of the government of Hawaii. By the time that the United States annexed Hawaii in 1898, the Guard consisted of a regiment with two battalions with four companies in each battalion.

From annexation in 1898 until the present time, the Hawaii National Guard has provided valuable services during epidemics, natural disasters and other emergencies despite recurring problems caused by a lack of funding, equipment, and support from the Territorial and State Legislatures and only intermittent support from Congress. The guard was expanded during wartime and reduced following the establishment of peace.

When Congress federalized the National Guards of all states and territories in 1916, the Hawaii Guard included four infantry regiments plus various auxiliary troops. In 1917 National Guard troops nationwide were mobilized except in Hawaii because of concerns that the sugar industry

The summary of the early years of HIARNG is excerpted from the History of the Hawaii National Guard from Feudal Times to June 30, 1935 by Charles Lamoreaux Warfield. Information on its more recent history is taken from Hawaii's War Year s 1941-1945 by Gwenfread Allen, and annual reports of the Hawaii State Department of Defense.

would be crippled by the enlistment of so many workers. It was not until June, 1918 that the 1st and 2nd regiments of the Guard were finally mobilized. No troops were sent abroad.

At the onset of World War II, the Guard, comprising the 298th and 299th Infantry Regiments, was mobilized once again. The formation of the group of men of Japanese ancestry which later became the 100th Infantry Battalion so decimated the 299th Infantry that it was deactivated and its remaining members joined the 298th Infantry. This regiment also underwent drastic changes. By 1943, when it was sent to Espiritu Santo and Guadalcanal, the men of the original Hawaii National Guard comprised only 15 percent of its strength.

All battalions but one were inactivated in April, 1945, and their members assigned to other units. In 1948 the Hawaii Air National Guard was formed as a unit of the Hawaii National Guard. In 1957, the Army unit was renamed the Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG).

In the early nineteen eighties HIARNG became involved in the State and Federal programs to eradicate marijuana. HIARNG participated in its first "Green Harvest" operation in 1982, and has continued to provide support for County police officers and State and Federal agents ever since. The Guard now provides helicopter support for each County. It continues to assist civil authorities in times of emergencies and disasters, including fires, floods and hurricanes. Its most notable recent assistance effort was after Hurricane Iniki struck Kauai and Oahu in September, 1992.

ORGANIZATION

The Hawaii Army National Guard is one of four major divisions of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense (DOD), the other three being the Hawaii Air National Guard, the Office of Veterans' Services and State Civil Defense.

The HIARNG consists of the Headquarters, State Area Command; 29th Separate Infantry Brigade; 103rd Troop Command; 111th Army Band; 117th Public Affairs Team; the Selective

Service Section; and the 298th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, formerly the Hawaii Military Academy.

The 29th Separate Infantry Brigade is the largest unit in the Hawaii Army National Guard. The brigade has units located on the islands of Oahu, Molokai, Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii. As of September 29, 1995, a total of 2,381 soldiers were assigned. This included 239 officers, 20 warrant officers, and 2,181 enlisted members.

The brigade consists of a headquarters and headquarters company, two infantry battalions, a field artillery battalion and a support battalion. In addition, separate units have included a ground cavalry troop, a combat engineer company, and a signal detachment. Upon federal mobilization, the brigade would receive its third round-out infantry battalion, the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry, assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve.

CHAPTER II

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The purpose of the proposed reorganization of the Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG) 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) is to accommodate the changes in the Force Structure of the National Guard at the federal level. The reorganization is the result of an initiative by the National Guard Bureau in Washington, D.C. The Department of Defense's October 1993 report on the Bottom-Up Review called for the identification, training, and provision of resources for 15 ARNG "Enhanced Brigades" to maintain the ability to fight and win two simultaneous major regional conflicts. The 1993 report and the strategy of forming enhanced brigades provided the direction for shifting America's focus away from the national defense strategy designed to meet a global Soviet threat to one oriented toward the new dangers of a post-Cold War era.

ARNG Enhanced Brigades are the principal Reserve Component ground combat maneuver forces of the U.S. Army. They are trained to be ready to begin deployment at the highest state of readiness prescribed by the U.S. Army.

The Vice Chief of Staff of the Army approved the Enhanced Brigade design on November 3, 1994, as part of the Force Design Update process. The reorganization of fifteen Army National Guard units into enhanced brigades is part of a nationwide restructuring of the armed forces which includes numerous base closures and reductions in force. The fifteen ARNG Enhanced Brigades are:

27th Infantry Brigade (NY/CT)
29th Separate Infantry Brigade(HI/CA/OR)
30th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) (NC)
39th Infantry Brigade (AR)

41st Infantry Brigade (OR)
45th Infantry Brigade (OK)
48th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) (GA)
53rd Infantry Brigade (FL)
76th Infantry Brigade (IN)
81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) (WA)
116th Calvary Brigade (ID/OR/MT/WY)
155th Armor Brigade (MS)
218th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) (SC)
256th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) (LA)
278th Armor Cavalry Brigade (TN)

MISSION

As noted earlier, the Hawaii Army National Guard is one of four major divisions of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense (DOD), the other three being the Hawaii Air National Guard, the Office of Veterans' Services and State Civil Defense. DOD has a federal and a state mission. DOD assists authorities with the safety, welfare and defense of the people of Hawaii. The department continually strives to maintain its readiness to respond to the needs of people in the event of war or disasters, whether natural- or human-caused. Upon activation by the Governor of Hawaii, the department is prepared to provide professional personnel, quality services and well-maintained equipment to assist during emergencies.

The Hawaii Army National Guard continually trains to maintain a high state of readiness for state or federal active duty. It is prepared for local or global assignments, should the governor or president order it to active duty. Designation of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade as an enhanced brigade will provide additional support to HIARNG to achieve its mission.

CHAPTER III DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action organizes the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade, which now has all of its units in Hawaii, into what is called an enhanced brigade. The new enhanced brigade has units in Hawaii, California and Oregon. HIARNG has been selected to become one of the fifteen elite National Guard "enhanced readiness combat brigades" in the United States. These units will receive state-of-the-art equipment, additional funds, and full-time manning for training, to guarantee that they are able to deploy anywhere in the world within 90 days should they be activated into federal duty. The 29th Separate Infantry Brigade was officially selected as an enhanced brigade on August 30, 1994. The reorganization implements this decision and will enable HIARNG to achieve its mission in the most cost-effective manner. These changes are summarized in Table 2.

The reorganization consists of the following separate actions:

Deactivation of the 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry, headquartered on Maui and with units on Kauai, Oahu, and Molokai. Three hundred (300) soldiers are being reassigned. Many are being absorbed into the 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry or the 227th Engineer Company, headquartered on Oahu with a detachment in Keaau, Hawaii.

Organization of the 229th Military Intelligence Company into the 29th. The unit is co-locating with the Brigade on 22nd Avenue in Honolulu, Oahu, occupying a space recently vacated by the 29th Support Battalion.

HIARN	TABLE 2 HIARNG REORGANIZATION					
BEFORE	GREURGANIZATION					
29th Brigade	AFTER					
First Battalion, 299th Infantry	29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced)					
	Second Battalion, 29th Infantry					
Company A (-) Hanapepe, Kauai	Company					
Rifle Platoon Detachment, Wahiawa, Oahu	Company A (-), Kapaa, Kauai					
Company B. Kapaa, Kauai	Rifle Platoon Detachment, Hanapepe, Kauai					
HHC (-) Company, Wailuku, Maui						
	Company C. Kahului, Maui					
Scout Platoon Detachment, Kaunakakai, Molokai						
	Redesignated Detachment 1, HHC Company.					
Company D. Wahiawa. Oahu	OMS #4 deactivated					
	Company D, Wahiawa, Oahu					
ersonnel slots & equipment						
	1-184th Infantry, Modesto, California					
lots and equipment for E Troop, 19th Cavalry						
	F Troop, 82nd Calvary, Lebanon, Oregon					
cond Battalion, 299th Infantry						
ompany A in Keaau, Hawaii, with a detachment						
Fanaia, Hawaii.	Company B (-), Hilo, Honokaa, Kealakekua, and					
mpany B in Kealakekua, Hawaii	Keaau					
mpany C (-) in Honokaa Hawaii						
de Platoon Detachments in Kapaau, Hawaii						
d Fort Ruger, Oahu						
mpany D, Hilo, Hawaii						
	Deactivated.					
th Engineer Company, Waiawa Gulch						
	Redesignated 227th Engineer Company (-), with a					
	Detachment Engineer Platoon in Keaau, Hawaii					

Closure of the Wailuku Armory and consolidation of Maui units at the Kahului Armory. Closure of the Kaneohe Armory on Oahu and the Pahala and Kapaau (Kohala) Armories on Hawaii. These properties have been returned to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources.

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Units Affected

1-299th Infantry

- (1) Company A (-) is based in Hanapepe, Kauai with a Rifle Platoon Detachment located at Wahiawa Armory on Oahu, and Company B is based in Kapaa on Kauai. These two units will be consolidated and redesignated A (-), 2-299th Infantry. The new unit will be based on Kauai with a Rifle Platoon Detachment located in Hanapepe. OMS #5 will remain operational.
- (2) HHC (-) Company, located in Wailuku, Maui with a Scout Platoon Detachment in Kaunakakai, Molokai will be disbanded and personnel will be reassigned to Company C in Kahului, Maui. C Company, 1-299th Infantry, will be redesignated C Company, 2-299th Infantry, and will remain at Kahului Armory.
- (3) OMS #3, located at Paukukalo, Maui remains operational.
- (4) Detachment 1, Scout Platoon of HHC Company, will remain in Kaunakakai but will be redesignated Detachment 1, HHC Company, 2-299th Infantry. OMS #4 has been deactivated.
- (5) Company D will remain in Wahiawa but will be redesignated Company D, 2-299th Infantry.
- (6) Personnel slots and equipment for 1-299th Infantry have been transferred to Modesto, California, to become 1-184th Infantry.
- (7) Slots and equipment for E Troop, 19th Cavalry, have been transferred to Lebanon, Oregon, to become F Troop, 82nd Cavalry.

2-299th Infantry

- (1) The following Companies and their detachments will be consolidated and redesignated Company B (-), 2-299th Infantry: Company A in Keaau, Hawaii with a detachment in Pahala, Hawaii Company B in Kealakekua, Hawaii and Company C (-) in Honokaa, Hawaii with Rifle Platoon Detachments in Kapaau, Hawaii and Fort Ruger, Honolulu.
- (2) D Company, located in Hilo, Hawaii will be deactivated.
- (3) The 227th Engineer Company, located in Waiawa Gulch, Oahu will be redesignated 227th Engineer Company (-) with a Detachment Engineer Platoon located in Keaau, Hawaii

Facilities Closure Plan

The facilities closure plan has five phases of operation, as follows:

- Notification, requirements and reports.
 The first phase consisted of notifying the State of HIARNG's intention to close the Pahala, Kohala, Wailuku, and Kaneohe armories.
- Facilities Assessment
 During the second phase, the 298th facilities assessment team conducted an assessment of each facility. The report is being used to develop a maintenance and repair plan.
- Moving and bulk cleanup
 In the third phase, units moved with essential resources, and were responsible for general housekeeping and bulk cleanup.

- 4. Minor maintenance and repairs construction.
 - During the fourth phase, units conducted minor maintenance and repair activities, as appropriate.
- 5. Transfer ownership.

The final phase consisted of notifying State authorities and turning over the keys to the appropriate officials.

Organization and Stationing Plan Summary

The 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) will have the following structure upon completion of the reorganization (see Figure 2):

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 29SIB

2nd Battalion 299th Infantry (AAS configured) with units on Hawaii, Maui, Molokai,

Oahu, and Kauai

1st BN 487th FA (-)

29th Support Battalion (-)

227th Engineer Company (-)

229th Military Intelligence Company

California Army National Guard provides:

1st BN 184th Infantry (AAS configured)

BN FSE/Company FIST/COLT/CAV FIST (1-487th FA (-)

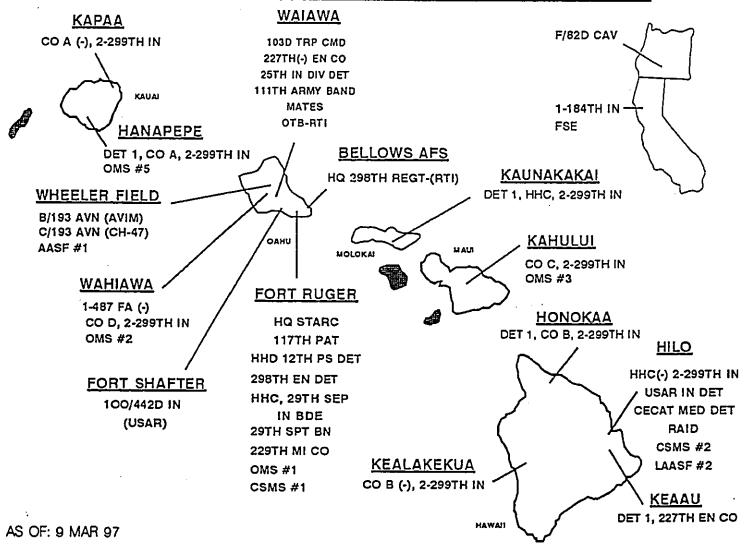
Palletized Loading System Section (29 SPT BN (-))

Oregon Army National Guard provides:

F-82nd CAV (Ground Cavalry Troop)

FIGURE 2
29th SEPARATE INFANTRY BRIGADE (ENHANCED) STATIONING PLAN

HAWAII ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNITS



United States Army Reserve (USAR) provides in time of national emergency:

100th Battalion/442nd Infantry (AAS configured)

As of September, 1997, the reorganized 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) had a total of 2,334 personnel in Hawaii and authorized positions of 734 in California and 103 in Oregon.

CHAPTER IV

ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

The reorganization of the Hawaii Army National Guard 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) is the result of an initiative by the National Guard Bureau in Washington, D.C. The Vice Chief of Staff of the Army approved the Enhanced Brigade design on November 3, 1994, as part of the Force Design Update process (see Appendix A). The reorganization of fifteen Army National Guard units into enhanced brigades is part of a nationwide restructuring of the armed forces which includes numerous base closures and reductions in force.

Screening criteria were developed and applied to each of the alternatives considered. The successful alternatives must:

Achieve and maintain the level of readiness in the 29th Brigade necessary to provide a strategic hedge to the United States in a scenario where two nearly simultaneous major regional conflicts occur

Ensure the 29th Brigade is ready to deploy at a prescribed readiness by 90 days after callup.

Ensure the 29th Brigade is fully prepared to support any Corps or Division of the U.S. Army, particularly the 25th Infantry Division, (Light) U.S. Army.

Fully comply with all environmental regulations.

The following alternatives were considered:

- No Action
- Transfer of Hawaii Army National Guard units and equipment to National Guard operations in other states.
- Consolidation and reorganization of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade(enhanced)

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The no action alternative action would retain the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade as it is now constituted with all of its units remaining in Hawaii. The reorganization of units proposed for Hawaii is part of a larger nationwide restructuring and downsizing of military operations. Federal funds are no longer available to maintain the units at their previous strengths. State funds are also restricted, and maintaining a higher level of National Guard operations is not a priority item in the State's budgeting process. A no-action alternative would not result in the 29th Brigade achieving and maintaining the level of readiness necessary to provide a strategic hedge to the United States in a scenario where two nearly simultaneous major regional conflicts occur.

TRANSFER ALTERNATIVE

Locating the units of HIARNG to another state or territory is another alternative. Hawaii's unique strategic position in the Pacific weighs heavily in favor of retaining an Army National Guard in this state. Location of all units to another state or territory would have no impact upon the "natural" environment of Hawaii, but the social and economic impact upon HIARNG personnel and the affected communities could be significant. Further, there would be no Army National Guard units available in Hawaii to support the State in such civilian peacetime missions as fire fighting, disaster relief, marijuana eradication, emergency evacuation and other situations affecting the safety and welfare of the residents of Hawaii. There would be no locally-based unit

to support the 25th Infantry Division (Light), U.S. Army in a wartime situation. This alternative does not support the mission of the 29th Brigade and is not considered further in this EA.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Implementing the directive of the Secretary of the Army is to proceed with the reorganization of the Hawaii Army National Guard 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) is the proposal considered in this document. Aspects of this proposal that require evaluation and consideration are discussed below. The environmental impacts of training at these areas are discussed further in Chapter V.

Training Activities

There will be little effect on training activities because of the proposed changes. Units will continue to use the Pohakuloa Training Area on the Island of Hawaii and other areas as they have in the past. The assignments of units at Lebanon, Oregon and Modesto, California are mostly administrative. 1-184th Infantry and F Troop will come to Hawaii for Command Post Exercises, leader training and workshops throughout the year. This is only for selected individuals and leaders. Records of Environmental Consideration documenting their categorical exclusion from further environmental analysis are prepared by the Oregon and California National Guards. There will be movement of troops from these locations to Hawaii only for two weeks of annual training. The Brigade will also continue to train outside Hawaii, as appropriate.

The environmental impacts of training activities are addressed in separate environmental documents that are prepared for each training area in Hawaii as the need arises. The change in status of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade will not affect any of these areas because the extent of training activities will not increase. There will be fewer people training more often and intensely. The 29th will continue to be a Light Infantry Brigade and will not use tanks or heavy armored vehicles during training exercises.

Equipment Modernization

There will be no major increases in equipment because of the enhanced status of the Brigade. Unlike many of the other enhanced brigades, Hawaii is already well-equipped. During Fiscal Year 1995, HIARNG received new equipment that included M16A2 rifles and eighteen M119A1 howitzers which replaced their M102 howitzers.

Hazardous Materials

Preliminary Assessments-Site Investigations (PA-SI) have been conducted for all affected sites and remedial actions taken as appropriate.

CHAPTER V

DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

AFFECTED AREAS

Location

The Hawaii Army National Guard has its headquarters at 3949 Diamond Head Road in Honolulu, with units on each of the five major islands of Hawaii. The five armories affected by the reorganization in the immediate future are in Wailuku on Maui; Kaneohe and Diamond Head on Oahu, and Pahala and Kohala on Hawaii. Units in Kauai and Molokai are being redesignated but no armories are being closed at this time. The locations of the affected facilities are shown in Figure 1.

Physical Attributes

Diamond Head

The Diamond Head site is located on the side of Diamond Head in Honolulu on 22nd Avenue, one (1) block east of Diamond Head Road (TMK: 3-1-42:35). The MI Company will co-locate with the 29th SIB in a 32,896 square foot armory. The site is approximately five acres in size with related maintenance, storage and administration operations.

The Diamond Head site located on lands designated as Urban by the State Land Use Commission and as R-10 Residential by the City and County of Honolulu. It is also within the Diamond Head Special District.

Wailuku Armory

The Wailuku Armory is located at 260 South Market Street in the town of Wailuku in the central plain of the island of Maui (TMK 3-4-09:04). The parcel is 2.66 acres in size. The armory was built in 1937 and has an area of 35,253 square feet. There are no other buildings

on the property. The armory has been used by the adjacent Iao Intermediate School for temporary classrooms and by the Juvenile Division of the Maui Police Department while the new police station was being completed. It is not presently being used for any community purpose at this time. It is expected that the building will ultimately be transferred to the Department of Education for a school-related use.

The Wailuku Armory is located on lands designated as Urban by the State Land Use Commission and as R-2 Residential by the County of Maui.

Kaneohe Armory

The Kaneohe Armory is located at 46-155 Kamehameha Highway on the Windward side of Oahu, on 2.78 acres of State-owned land (TMK 4-1-04:03). The armory was built in 1970 and is 25,400 square feet in size. There is also a 500 square foot fuel storage building on the property, The facility, which is adjacent to King Intermediate School, is also used as a gymnasium by students attending the school. It is expected that the building will ultimately be transferred to the Department of Education for a school-related use.

The Kaneohe Armory is located on lands designated as Urban by the State Land Use Commission and as R-5 Residential by the City and County of Honolulu.

Pahala Armory

The Pahala Armory is located on the southeastern coast of the island of Hawaii, in the town of Pahala in the District of Ka'u (TMK 9-6-05:08). The armory, built in 1948, is a 5,120 square foot building, occupying only a small part of the 3.86 acre site. An 1,800 square foot motor vehicle storage building, also built in 1948, is the only other building on the property. The armory, a quonset hut, is not used by the community for other purposes.

The Pahala Armory is located on lands designated as Urban by the State Land Use Commission and RS-7.5 Residential by the County of Hawaii.

Kohala (Kapaau) Armory

The Kohala or Kapaau Armory is located in the most northern part of the island of Hawaii, in the town of Hawi (TMK 5-4-05:51). The site is 0.41 acre in size. There are four buildings on the site, all constructed in 1948. There are two armories. Armory #1 has 4,000 square feet of space and Armory #2 has 1,120. Building #3 is a motor vehicle storage building with 1,800 square feet of space. Building #4 is a 144 square foot field maintenance shed. Because the armory buildings are in poor condition, they are not used by the community for other purposes.

The Kohala (Kapaau) Armory land parcel is designated as Agricultural by the State Land Use Commission and Agricultural-20 acres (A-20a) by the County of Hawaii.

Flood Hazard

None of the properties are located in flood hazard areas as determined by the Federal Insurance Administration. Because of the nature of the properties and drainage improvements, flooding has not been a problem historically.

Water Quality

There are no bodies of water in the vicinity of any of the five sites.

Wetlands

There are no wetlands in the vicinity of any of the five sites. All of the properties are on fully developed lands, complete with drainage improvements.

Flora and Fauna

Vegetation

All of the sites have been in use for years. There is very little of botanical interest or concern on the properties. The proposed action is not expected to have a significant negative impact on

the botanical resources as almost all the vegetation consists of landscape material or weedy species associated with disturbed areas. Surveys of the properties completed recently by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service support this conclusion. There are no botanical reasons to impose any restrictions, impediments, or conditions to the proposed action.

Fauna

Hawaii's only land-based endangered mammal is the hoary bat. No sightings of endangered species on or near the properties have been reported to the Hawaiian Heritage Foundation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or the State Department of Land and Natural Resources.

There is very little biological interest or concern on the properties. There are no biological reasons to impose any restrictions, impediments, or conditions to the proposed action.

Air Quality

Air quality throughout the Hawaiian Islands is generally excellent due to the lack of significant sources or air pollution and the presence of tradewinds that blow any pollutants out to sea. During periods when tradewinds diminish there may be some reduction in visibility but air quality standards are rarely violated because of human activities. There are no non-attainment areas in Hawaii.

Noise

Ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the armories are consistent with the levels found in urbanized areas.

Scenic and Visual Resources

There are no outstanding scenic and visual resources associated with any of the sites proposed for closure. The Diamond Head facility is located on the slopes of Diamond Head, an extinct volcano that is a nationally famous Hawaiian landmark.

Hazardous Materials

Preliminary Assessments-Site Investigations (PA-SI) have been conducted for all affected sites and remedial actions taken as appropriate.

Population

Of the four areas affected by armory closures, Kaneohe on Oahu is the largest community, with a population of 35,448 in 1990. The population of the other communities where armories will be closed, in order of size, are: Wailuku, 10,688; Pahala, 1,520; and Kapaau, 1,083.

Land Ownership and Use

As noted earlier, all of the facilities are located on State land. The armories that will be closed will be transferred from the State Department of Defense to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. Detailed plans for their future use have yet not been developed. At least two — Wailuku and Kaneohe — are expected to be used by the Department of Education.

Employment

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The Hawaii National Guard had an authorized strength of 4,082 and an actual strength of 3,245 as of September 30, 1995. The 29th Separate Infantry Brigade had 2,381 soldiers assigned. This number included 239 commissioned officers, 20 warrant officers, and 2,181 enlisted personnel. The total federal support for the Army National Guard was \$49.5 million. State expenditures for HIARNG were \$1.5 million.

The reduction in force will affect approximately 300 soldiers. Most of them have already resigned, transferred to the Army Reserve or taken early retirement. The facilities affected are as follows:

Wailuku Armory

The number of personnel training at the Wailuku Armory has dropped from 250 to 174. Twenty-four HIARNG members have transferred to the Army Reserves and a number have retired.

Kaneohe Armory

The Kaneohe Armory has had as many as 65 personnel training at the facility in the last few years. This had been reduced to approximately 40 by September, 1995. Most of the personnel are now training at Diamond Head.

Pahala Armory

Nineteen personnel have been training at the Pahala Armory. With the reorganization, seven persons are transferring to the Army Reserves, two have chosen not to reenlist and two are in the process of being separated from the unit. Of the remaining eight persons, six will continue their training at Kealakekua and two at the Hilo Armory.

Kohala (Kapaau) Armory

Nineteen personnel have been training at the Kohala (Kapaau) Armory. With the reorganization, seven have taken early retirement. Six of the remaining eight will continue their training at Kealakekua and two will go to Honokaa.

Hanapepe

The reorganization has had little effect on personnel training on Kauai to date. Only seven of the original 162 persons training on Kauai have taken early retirement and left (transferring to the Army Reserve is not an option on Kauai because there is no unit on the island).

Diamond Head

The 229th MI Company unit to be organized at Diamond Head has a strength of 38 required and 42 authorized.

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Historic/Cultural Resources

Wailuku Armory is the only permanent facility old enough to be considered historic. It is a fine old building, with interesting decorations, and is eligible for both the State and National Historic Registers. (See letter from the Hawaii State Deputy Historic Preservation Officer at the end of this document.)

There are no archaeological resources at any of the sites. The armories are located either in urban areas or on formerly cultivated agricultural lands.

TRAINING AREAS

Location

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The principal training areas for HIARNG are the US Army's Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) on the island of Hawaii and the five training areas on Oahu: Makua Military Reservation (MMR), Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR), Kawailoa Training Area (KLOA), Kahuku Training Area (KTA), and Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR). Personnel in units on other islands train at various non-military locations as the need arises. Pohakuloa is the largest training area, and is the location for the annual two-weeks of training for all units of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade, including those in Oregon and California.

Ecosystem Management Plans (EMP) have been prepared for the U.S. Army for both Pohakuloa and the five Oahu training areas by R.M. Towill Corporation. The EMPs summarize the scope, goals and actions of the five resource management programs which together form the Ecosystem Management Programs. Formal plans have been developed for endangered species management, cultural resources management, outdoor recreation management, and fire management. In addition, unpublished but official plans for local implementation of the Army's Integrated Training Area Management ITAM) Program are included within the EMP.

Draft Environmental Assessments for the plans have been prepared for the U.S. Army by R.M. Towill Corporation. The following material is taken from these February 1997 documents.

Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA)

PTA is the Army's largest and most important training area in the Pacific Rim. PTA is located on the Island of Hawaii along Highway 200, known as the Saddle Road, in the plateau formed between Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa volcanoes (Figure 3). The training area encompasses approximately 108,792 acres of land. PTA extends 15 miles from north to south and 17 miles from east to west.

PTA is the largest contiguous training area in Hawaii and is classified by the Army as a major training area or MTA. The impact area supports all weapons assigned to U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC). MTAs provide the capability to train active Army and reserve units for large-scale, collective unit training using live-fire or multiple integrated laser engagement system (MILES). The range also offers firing of support weapons, as well as integration of combat support and service supports functions in a battlefield environment. PTA can accommodate training of brigade sized units of up to 5,000 troops. There are billets for up to 1,500 troops in the base camp area.

Makua Military Reservation (MMR)

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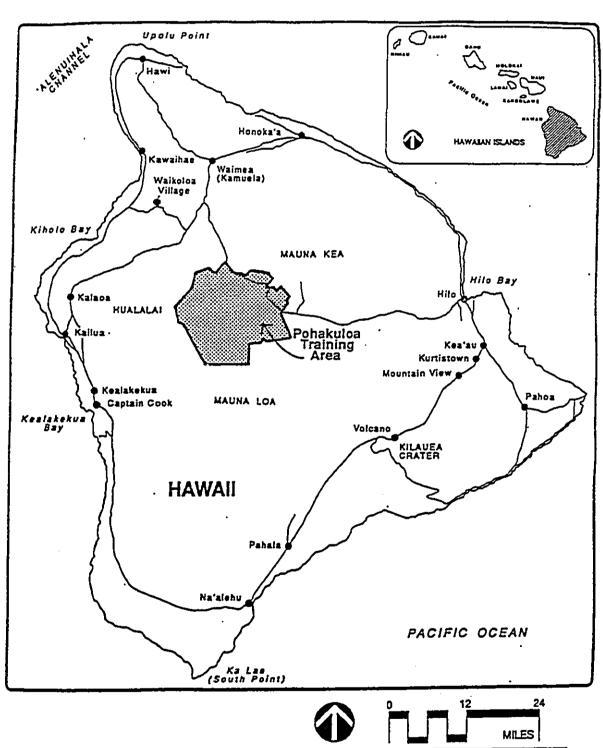
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MMR occupies 4,189 acres in an isolated area on the northwestern shore of the Island of Oahu (Figure 4). The reservation consists of both Makua and Kahanahaiki Valleys, which are adjacent amphitheater-shaped valleys. The two valleys are surrounded on the north, east, and south by the slopes of the Waianae Mountain Range. MMR is bordered by the Pacific Ocean on the west.

MMR is a live-fire range designed as Company Combined Arms Assault Course (CCAAC). The CCAAC supports all direct and indirect fire weapons organic to a rifle company. It can accommodate up to battalion live-fire activities as well as most infantry battalion weapon

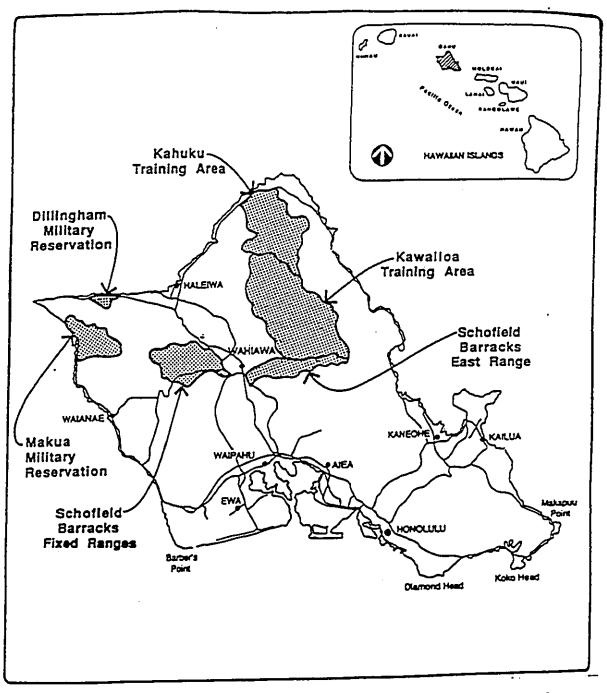
FIGURE 3 POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA



TOWILL CORPORATION

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FIGURE 4
OAHU TRAINING AREAS





systems. MMR is the only training area on Oahu that will support limited attack helicopter live-fire training.

Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR)

SBMR is located on the north central portion of the Island of Oahu (Figure 4). The training area is situated on the Leilehua Plateau, between the Waianae Mountain Range to the west and the Koolau Mountain Range to the East. A major highway divides the post into two main tracts of land.

The SBMR fixed range area, which extends into the Waianae Mountains, includes 4,522 acres of training lands plus a cantonment area. Training facilities include year-round live-fire mortar and artillery ranges. The Army also uses several of the fixed ranges for maneuver training.

The western half of SBMR's East Range area (2,223 acres) is suitable for training on selected infantry platoon and constrained company and battalion missions. The eastern half of East Range is extremely rugged, undeveloped (i.e., no roads), densely forested, and is unsuitable for all but the smallest unit (squad or platoon) training.

Kawailoa Training Area (KLOA)

KLOA is located on the western slope of the Koolau Mountain Range in the northern part of the Island of Oahu (Figure 4). It encompasses 23,350 acres of forest reserve land from the Koolau crest on the east to the Pupukea-Paalaa-Uka Road on the west, and from the Pupukea-Paumalu Forest Reserve on the north to the Ewa Forest Reserve on the south. KLOA is between Kahuku Training Area (KTA) to the northeast and the East Range of SBMR to the south.

KLOA is used by the Army for long range patrol training, helicopter training, fixed-wing aircraft operations, unit tactical training, command post displacement, and jungle warfare training. Due to its deep gulches, high cliffs, and precipices, only about 15 percent of the training area is usable for maneuver by units larger than a patrol of six to 15 men.

Kahuku Training Area (KTA)

KTA occupies 9,398 acres on the northeastern flank of the Koolau mountains on the island of Oahu (Figure 4). KTA is the largest contiguous training area on Oahu. Although it provides adequate area for company- and smaller-sized units, the training area is marginal for battalion-sized operations. KTA provides excellent conditions for mountain and jungle warfare training The northern portion of KTA is the most suitable for maneuvers because of its variability between rolling grassy terrain, dense brush and scattered trees.

Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR)

DMR encompasses 664 acres on the island of Oahu (Figure 4). It is bounded on the north by the Pacific Ocean and on the south by the northeastern face of the Waianae Mountains. DMR has an active joint use military/civil airfield. DMR is 34 miles northwest from the city of Honolulu, and approximately 5 miles west of the towns of Waialua and Haleiwa.

DMR is used for small unit maneuvers of platoon and squad size elements and combat support operations, along with airmobile exercises and paradrop operations. Helicopter night vision goggle training is also conducted This type of training requires absence of bright man made sources of light pollution.

Physical Attributes

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Pohakuloa Training Area

The terrain of PTA slopes from an elevation of 6,600 feet above sea level to 5,100 feet at its western edge. The northern boundary is at the base of Mauna Kea and reaches an elevation of 7,000 feet. The highest elevation on the training area is in the south, reaching 9,000 feet on the slope of Mauna Loa. The topography of PTA has been described as austere, consisting of an expanse of flat, relatively barren lava- and ash-covered lands accented with numerous cinder cones.

Makua Military Reservation (MMR)

MMR consists of both Makua and Kahanahaiki Valleys, which are adjacent amphitheater shaped valleys with steep walls an a broad valley floors. The topography ranges from sea level at the coast to approximately 3,000 feet at the valley walls to the east. The valley walls on the north, east and south are very steep and generally rocky,

MMR is underlain by a thick sequence of basalt, with some ash and other volcanic rocks common to the island. Near surface material is composed of rocks of the Waianae volcanic series and by alluvial sediments and marine sands. The flanks of the valleys are dominated by volcanic rocks. The central parts of the valleys are generally filled with a thick sequence of alluvium.

Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR)

SBMR is situated on the Leilehua Plateau. Elevations on the post range from less than 660 feet in the Main Post to greater than 3.000 feet in the Waianae Range. The Fixed Ranges are marked by high, nearly vertical cliffs and amphitheater-headed valleys. Some of the valley floors are gently sloping, but, generally, this division shows little evidence of the former volcanic slope.

The East Range is located on the leeward slopes of the Koolau Range. The slopes of the Koolau Volcanic Range, which reach an elevation of approximately 2,400 feet, are incised by a deep valley, while some of the ridge crests may reflect the former volcanic slope.

Kawailoa Training Area (KLOA)

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KLOA is located in the western slope of the Koolau Mountain Range. The training area varies in elevation from 1,000 feet at the lower western uplands up to about 2,600 feet at the crest of the Koolau Mountain Range. The Koolau Range forms the eastern portion of the island, and is an eroded Pleistocene shield volcano. The terrain is dissected by many steep walled, meandering gulches which contain perennial or intermittent streams.

Kahuku Training Area (KTA)

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KTA lies on the northeastern flank of the Koolau Mountain Range. KTA overlies basaltic lava of the Koolau Volcanic Series resulting from eruptions along the northwest-tending rift zone of the Koolau Volcano. Elevations on KTA range from near sea level along the inland portion of the coastal plain to 1,860 feet in the uplands along the crest of the Koolau Mountains. Typographically, the training area consists of a series of ridges and gulches that form the northern end of the Koolau Range, fanning out onto broad coastal flats.

Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR)

DMR is situated on the Waialua Plain, bounded on the north by the Pacific Ocean and on the south by the northeastern face of the Waianae Range, where an 800 to 1000-foot cliff rises to a deeply dissected upland area. Beyond, the slopes climb to elevations over 2000 feet at the ridge line. The rugged terrain and steep cliff face are the products of stream and marine erosion of the Waianae Volcanic Surface.

The Waiatua Plain, extending from Kaena Point to the Waimea River, varies in width, becoming narrower just west of the DMR. The plain consists of alluvium and marine sediments of sand and coral, deposited when the sea stood higher in mid-Pleistocene time. These materials, from 200 to 500 feet thick, overlie the Waianae lava flows and partly confine artisan water in lower, permeable reservoir rock. Ground water discharges directly into the ocean through this marine sediments material or from the deeper lava along the Makuleia-Kaena Point shoreline.

Summary

The U.S. Army's Draft Environmental Assessments of the six training areas used by the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade conclude that the topography and geology of the project areas will not be adversely impacted by the proposed actions of the EMPs and that no mitigation measures are needed. The conversion of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) will create no additional activities that would require new mitigation measures

Hydrology/Water Quality

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Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA)

No surface streams, lakes or other bodies of water occur within PTA due to the low rainfall and generally porous soils and lava substrata. The nearest known lake is Lake Waiau near the summit of Mauna Kea. Water to service the training areas is commercially hauled from Waimea and the Kaumana area of Hilo daily during training deployments to maintain acceptable water reserves.

No groundwater has been found in the a vicinity of PTA. A test well near PTA base camp found no water within 1,000 feet of the surface. Other investigations concluded that water-bearing basaltic formations might be found between 1,600 and 2,400 feet below the surface. No test drillings have been performed to confirm this prediction.

Makua Military Reservation (MMR)

Stream flow is intermittent in MMR. The streams contain water approximately 5 percent of the year and rarely flow for two consecutive days. This is consistent with the arid climate in this area. Runoff from MMR drains into the Punapohaku, Makua, and Kaiahi Streams.

Ground water is present at higher elevations. Some freshwater occurs at lower elevations in sedimentary materials such as the calcareous sands (consisting of coral rubble and beach sand) and younger alluvial deposits near the coast, and in the upper portions of the valley in the bottoms of incised stream channels. Development of the freshwater supply in the saturated sediments near the coast is generally limited by the low permeability of the alluvium and its limited recharge capacity, the restricted storage capacity available in the highly transmissive talus that occurs at the foot of steep rocky slopes, and the potential for saltwater intrusion.

Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR)

Surface water at SBMR includes intermittent streams, perennial streams, man-made tunnels, and reservoirs. The East Range is drained by the South Fork of Kaukonahua Stream and its

tributaries, which flow west through the area and empty into the Wahiawa Reservoir. The Wahiawa Reservoir is between and to the north of the East Range and the Fixed Ranges of SBMR. Downstream from the reservoir, Kaukonahua Stream flows northwest to Kaiaka Bay. Three gulches (Haleanau, Mohiakea and Waikoloa) empty downstream from the Wahiawa Reservoir into the Kaukonahua Stream, and provide drainage for much of SBMR's Fixed Ranges. There are three surface water reservoirs in the East Range section of SBMR. However, none of the reservoirs are used for drinking water.

The major source of water for SBMR is the Schofield High Level Water Body (SHLWB). The SHLWB is bounded by the Waianae Mountain Range to the west, the Koolau Mountain Range to the east, and northern and southern ground water dikes. Perched at an elevation of 290 feet within the SHLWB is the Central Aquifer System.

Kawailoa Training Area (KLOA)

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The only perennial stream which crosses the training area is the Kawainui stream. The training area is also dissected by a series of intermittent streams which include the Kawaiiki, Kamananui, Kaukonahua, Helemano, Poamoho and Kaiwikoele.

There are three types of groundwater present in the KLOA, including SHLWB, Kawailoa Basal Water, and the Koolau-Dike impounded Water. Water impounded behind impermeable dikes in the mountains is called dike water, or high-level water. Water impounded in permeable lavas occurring between the dikes is of excellent quality and is not subject to saline contamination because it is sealed off from the sea.

Kahuku Training Area (KTA)

KTA is deeply dissected by a series of intermittent streams and gulches which transport surface runoff from the high elevations of the training area to the Pacific Ocean. Radial drainage patterns have developed with stream flow to the northeast, north, and northwest. Two types of groundwater are present at KTA, including the Fresh Basal Ground Water and the Koolau Dike-Confined Groundwater. KTA's water supply well taps the fresh basal groundwater aquifer.

Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR)

There are no perennial surface waters in the immediate vicinity of the DMR, but Makalena Stream over a mile to the west flows fairly steadily during wet seasons. Four non-perennial streams discharge through the area. During rainy periods there is considerable short-term flow from these streams, which drain about 2,790 acres to the south of the military reservation. These intermittent waters are channeled through the airfield area in a series of ditches that empty into the ocean across the highway to the north.

Ground water for DMR is supplied by the Mokuleia Basal Water Body. Ground water is generally good in the area, with very little seawater encroachment.

Summary

The U.S. Army's Draft Environmental Assessments of the six training areas used by the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade conclude that no significant adverse impacts are anticipated on surface water or groundwater, since the proposed actions of the EMPs will not alter existing drainage patterns or water quality. Application of herbicides will be performed by certified individuals and coordination will be conducted with applicable agencies prior to any application. The conversion of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) will create no additional activities that would require new mitigation measures.

Flora and Fauna

Biologically Significant Areas (BSA) have been identified for the six training areas. The BSA are areas which are important for the management of native Hawaiian natural communities, plants and animals and are determined based on: 1) presence and abundance of rare and endangered taxa; and 2) uniqueness of natural community types. For management purposes, the

BSAs are incorporated with Archaeological Management Areas (described later) to form Sensitive Ecological Areas (SEAs). SEAs combine protection of both natural and cultural resources.

Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA)

Ten native natural communities have been identified on PTA. A natural community is an assemblage of plants and animals that occurs within certain elevation, moisture, and habitat. These include montane and sub-alpine dry forests, shrub lands, and grasslands. Five, or half of these communities are considered rare. PTA's ten native natural communities are discussed in detail as an appendix to the ESMP for PTA (R.M. Towill Corporation, 1997, Appendix A)

Rare and Endangered Plants. Twenty-three individual rare plant taxa have been seen in PTA, twelve of which are federally protected as endangered, and one as a threatened species. Eight of the plants are listed as species of concern by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Two others currently have no federal status but are considered rare by the Hawaii Natural Heritage Program (HNHP).

Rare and Endangered Animals. A total of eight rare animals have been recorded at PTA, seven of which have been detected since 1982. Seven of PTA's rare animal species are listed endangered. These include six native birds and the Hawaiian hoary bat. Additionally, PTA is home to the rare Amastrid land snail, a federal species of concern. Species accounts and photos of the eight rare and endangered animals at PTA are presented in the ESMP for PTA (R.M. Towill Corporation, 1997).

Biologically Significant Areas. Relative to many other areas in the State, PTA contains an abundance of biological resources. The majority of the training area is vegetated with native Hawaiian plants and rare terrestrial and subterranean community types that are becoming better known. Endangered birds and bats have also been reported recently at PTA. BSA designations for PTA assist in determining resource management priorities. The significance is based

primarily on maps of rare plant and rare natural community. Specific criteria for BSAs were developed by HTNHP with input from Army resource management staff. Training limitations are imposed in BSAs and areas with the highest native natural resource values.

Makua Military Reservation (MMR)

MMR contains significant populations of endangered tree snails and thirty of the seventy-one types of listed endangered plants found on Oahu Army training areas. The Oahu 'Elepaio which is a federally listed candidate taxa has also been reported on the training area. Most of MMR's rare and endangered biological resources are located in the upper elevations of the valley.

Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR)

SBMR contains natural resources of "extraordinary biological significance." This training area contains nearly 40 percent of the rare and endangered taxa found in the five training areas on Oahu. SBMR is home to seventy-one rare plant taxa, including forty-five that are listed as endangered.

Vegetation within and near SBMR provides habitat for a variety of animals. Twenty-eight rare animal taxa, including nine with federal endangered status and one with candidate status have been reported on the installation. The endangered animal list includes seven native tree snails of the genus *Achatinella*, one bird (the 'Alauahio or Oahu Creeper), and the Hawaiian Hoary Bat. One other bird previously reported from within or near the survey area, the Oahu 'Elepaio, is federally listed as a candidate for endangered or threatened status.

Kawailoa Training Area (KLOA)

KLOA is home to forty-six rare plant taxa, twenty-eight of which are federally listed as endangered (Appendix C, Table 1-5). In 1993, The Nature Conservancy's Hawaii Natural Heritage Program (TNCH-HINHP) conducted a survey and three rare plant taxa (Phyllostegia parviflora var. parviflorae, Pteris lidgatei, and Thelyipteris boydiae) were documented for the

first time as occurring within KLOA. Also, two rare plant taxa seen during the survey had not been reported from the training area for more than 30 years.

KLOA contains the largest variety of endangered tree snail species of all of the five Oahu training areas. Twenty-one rare animal taxa have been recorded from within or near KLOA, fourteen of which are federally listed as endangered, and one which has candidate status.

Kahuku Training Area (KTA)

KTA provides habitat for many rare plant taxa. Eighteen rare plant taxa have been recorded on KTA, ten of which are federally listed as endangered. The majority of KTA's biological resources occur on cliffs and in the upland areas of the training area.

The vegetation within and near KTA provides habitat for a variety of animals. Eight rare animal taxa have been identified: six are tree snails of the genus *Achatinella*, four of which are listed endangered (*Achatinella curta*, *A.dirmorpha*, *A. sowerbyana*, and *A. valida*); and two are rare birds, including the federally listed candidate Oahu 'Elepaio.

Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR)

DMR has the least significant biological inventory of the five training areas. However, two endangered plants (Schiedea kealiae and Lipochaeta remyl) recorded here are found no where else on earth. Both of these plants are restricted to the cliff area extending from DMR to Kaena Point. The major native biological resources associated with DMR are stands of native forest and shrub land vegetation on the cliffs and talus slopes in the southwestern portion of the training area.

DMR contains seasonal wetland areas in which endangered wetland birds have been observed in recent years. When wetland sites are flooded, surveys for rare fauna will be conducted to determine the need management attention. If water birds or other rare vertebrates or invertebrates are found, management plans will be developed.

While rare animal species have been observed in and near DMR, they are not considered to be residents of DMR and are not included in the natural resource inventory. If future surveys confirm the presence of rare animals in significant numbers or distributions, they will be considered for management attention.

Summary

The Ecosystem Management Plans adopt an ecosystem management approach to protecting native natural resources. This approach gives priority to management activities that can restore, sustain, and improve the composition, structure and function of natural communities that comprise living ecosystems. The ESMP is designed to protect and manage native ecosystems and to minimize future conflicts between human activities and endangered species in the training areas Proposed actions include public recreational usage, fencing projects, ungulate control, control of introduced plants, and fire control.

Cultural Resources

Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA)

Archaeologists who have performed surveys of PTA estimate that approximately 15 percent of the training area has been subjected to systematic archaeological study. 150 archaeological sites have been identified Of these, 70 percent are subterranean lava tube sites. The Bobcat Trail Habitation Cave on PTA is the single site listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), based on its research value and information about historic use patterns. Other types of archaeological features at PTA include ahus (prehistoric markers), lithic quarries and workshops, trails, surface platforms and shrines, surface rock walls, one prehistoric open air shelter, and one petroglyph.

Makua Military Reservation (MMR)

MMR has been the subject of a considerable number of investigations in which numerous significant archaeological sites have been identified. A 1977 archaeological study of MMR,

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covering 26.7 percent of the reservation, inventoried nineteen archaeological sites: several previously-recorded sites, including Ukanipo Helau, were re-identified; ten new sites were recorded, including occupation complexes, stone walls and enclosures, and dry land agricultural terraces. Following a 1980 study, one archaeologist recommended that Ukanipo Heiau be included in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). More recent surveys in 1986 and 1992 have identified additional sites, including a complex of partially destroyed stone walls and an agricultural complex.

Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR)

Several archaeological investigations have focused on the training areas at SBMR, where a number of significant archaeological sites have been recorded. The most recent survey in 1996 identified a total of 75 sites Tentative interpretations have been assigned to the Hawaiian (non-military) sites, which includes 30 non-irrigated or semi-irrigated agricultural sites, (with associated auwai), and five habitation sites.

Kawailoa Training Area (KLOA)

To date, two archaeological investigations have been conducted within KLOA. In 1977, a survey covering only 2.2 percent of the training area was conducted, in which five archaeological sites were identified including two platforms, a complex of agricultural sites, a habitation complex and an enclosure. A survey of Anahulu Valley (Kawailoa Uka) in 1992, revealed the presence of rock shelters used in pre-Contact times dating to A.D.1280; burial caves; pond field irrigation sites, habitation terraces dating from the 1600s; walls and enclosures; and minor agricultural features such as stone mounds and alignments and simple terraces.

Kahuku Training Area (KTA)

Four archaeological investigations have been conducted within KTA, from 1930 to 1995. Early surveys identified the Waikane Stone, the Puuala Heiau, and other archaeological features including a ditch, a terrace, a platform, and a complex of agricultural terraces. Later surveys

identified further sites, including two pre-Contact habitation sites, a religious site and fourteen agricultural sites.

Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR)

DMR covers four different ahupua'a (traditional Hawaiian land divisions). Very little archaeological work has been conducted within the DMR boundaries. To date, two archaeological investigations have been conducted. A 1977 survey covered 9.8 percent of the reservation and recorded an extensive complex of agricultural and occupation features in the rocky sloping area between the airfield and the cliffs. A second archaeological investigation of DMR was conducted in 1991 and yielded both pre-Contact and post-Contact cultural features including platforms, boulder alignments, stone piles, walls, a ditch, and concrete foundations.

Summary

The sites identified at the six training areas would be considered significant under Criterion D of the NRHP Act, which identifies resources that 'have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history." In addition to their significance under Criterion D, some of the sites with religious components would also be considered significant due to their religious and cultural importance to Native Hawaiians.

Overall implementation of the EMP will promote the protection of cultural resources on Army training lands. The goal of the Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP) is to protect through preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation all sites, structures, and objects of cultural significance located on lands under Federal jurisdiction. The CRMP provides guidelines necessary to preserve, maintain, and protect archaeologically and historically significant resources. Objectives in attaining this goal are to identify, report, and take those actions necessary to protect and preserve cultural resources on Army lands.

As noted in the discussion on Flora and Fauna, Archaeological Management Areas have been created and are incorporated with the BSAs to form Sensitive Ecological Areas (SEAs). SEAs combine protection of both natural and cultural resources.

Air Quality

Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA)

The present air quality in the region of PTA is good most of the time since the area is not urbanized. Dust and various emissions from transportation and explosive sources become a major problem during dismounted troop movement, vehicular movement, use of helicopters, and use of ordnance simulators, pyrotechnics, and blank and live ammunition. Generation of dust by traffic on unimproved roads is exacerbated by the fine nature of the arid, volcanic soil. Such air quality problems are usually local and short lived because the pollutants are quickly dispersed.

Makua Military Reservation (MMR)

Northeasterly trade winds prevail in MMR particularly after mid morning, resulting in generally good ambient air quality. Winds are moderate from the northeast 85 percent of the time. Military helicopters and vehicles exhausts during training exercises are the only significant sources of man-made pollution. Vehicles additionally create dust in MMR along the dirt roads. The impacts of the emissions are minor due to the intermittent use.

Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR)

Air quality on SBMR is affected by vehicle traffic and various stationary sources of emissions such as the vehicle and equipment maintenance areas. Given the volume of traffic on the Main Post of SBMR and on the nearby streets off Post, the relative scale of maintenance operations, and the normal trade wind conditions, pollutant emissions from these sources are rapidly dispersed without adverse affects on the local environment.

Kawailoa Training Area (KLOA)

General air quality at KLOA is good due to the lack of development in the area and almost continual presence of trade winds. There is no industrial activity in the vicinity of the training area and adjacent land is primarily used for large scale pineapple and sugar cane farming. The only significant sources of man-made pollution are pollutants from military vehicles and helicopter exhausts during training exercises. The impacts of the emissions are minor due to the intermittent usage of KLOA.

Kahuku Training Area (KTA)

General air quality at KTA is similar to that of KLOA, due to the lack of development in the area and almost continual presence of trade winds. Adjacent land is primarily used for farming. The only significant sources of man-made pollution are pollutants in vehicle exhausts produced along Kamehameha Highway and helicopter exhausts during training exercises.

Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR)

There are no air monitoring stations on or in the immediate vicinity of DMR. It is believed that all federal and state standards are being met, due to its rural location, proximity to the shoreline which faces into the prevailing trade winds, abundance of open space, and low density of development. Aircraft and vehicular traffic at DMR are both light and therefore do not generate significant volumes of air pollutants. There are no other significant sources of air pollution at DMR.

Summary

The U.S. Army's Draft Environmental Assessments of the six training areas used by the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade conclude that the air quality of the project areas will not be adversely impacted by the proposed actions of the EMPs and that no mitigation measures are needed. The conversion of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) will create no additional activities that would require new mitigation measures.

V - 25

Noise Quality

Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA)

The major sources of noise at PTA include small arms, demolition, mortars, artillery and aircraft activities. Noise measurements show that these sounds are not usually audible in the population centers of Hilo, Kailua, and Kamuela, all more than 17 miles from PTA. Unacceptable noise levels extend beyond the training area from 1;640 to 13,123 feet to the north and northwest. These areas are mostly undeveloped, but include Mauna Kea State Park and the Kilohana Girl Scout Camp.

Studies show that development within 10 miles of PTA may be subject to noise levels that may generate public complaint. Flight rules for military aircraft to avoid new developments have been implemented.

Makua Military Reservation (MMR)

The U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency conducted a study at MMR in 1988-1989 to determine noise levels generated by the demolition of ammunition and helicopter flight operations. Results of the study indicated that noise levels at the boundaries of MMR exceeded allowable levels as defined in the Oahu Community Noise Control Ordinance, but for less than 10 percent any 20-minute period. The Oahu Community Noise Control Ordinance specifies the allowable noise level cannot be exceeded for more than 10 percent of the time within any 20-minute period.

Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR)

Noise sources on SBMR are primarily associated with artillery from the firing ranges and with aircraft from Wheeler Army Airfield. The U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency conducted a noise study for SBMR in 1988 to determine the noise impact associated with the firing ranges. It was determined that the noise levels at SBMR training ranges exceeded allowable levels as defined in the Oahu Community Noise Control Ordinance, but for less than 10 percent of any 20-

minute period. The Oahu Community Noise Control Ordinance specifies the allowable noise level cannot be exceeded for more than 10 percent of the time within any 20 minute period.

Kawailoa Training Area (KLOA)

Due to the rural character of the region and the relative absence of urban uses and highway traffic, noise levels throughout much of the project area are quite low. Prevalent noise is from distant traffic, wind, birds, insects, and military activities. The Army's 25th Infantry Division Community Relations Office regularly receives noise complaints during major training exercises. During the exercises, helicopter and artillery activities conducted in the evening and early morning hours are the main cause of complaints. No noise studies have been conducted for this area.

Kahuku Training Area (KTA)

Ambient noise conditions at the training area are generally quiet due to its rural setting. However, the Army's 25th Infantry Division Community Relations Office regularly receives noise complaints during major military training exercises. During the exercises, helicopter and artillery activities conducted in the evening and early morning hours are the main cause of complaints. No noise studies have been conducted for this area.

Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR)

Except for a few ranch houses, noise sensitive areas adjacent to DMR are located between the shore and Farrington Highway. Measurements of existing noise-exposure levels in the area were made continuously over a two month period, utilizing a sensor located at Camp Mokuleia and connected to the automated noise-monitoring system at Honolulu International Airport in 1978. Noise levels were sampled every one-half second, then processed to provide total noise-exposure levels as well as contributions from aircraft and motor vehicles.

The noise contours for military aircraft (primarily helicopters) indicate that there are areas in which the frequency and intensity of exposure are almost certain to produce difficulties in

relation to other land uses, particularly residential. During noise measurements in the area, residents commented on annoyance from low-flying helicopters, especially in the evening. A continuing program to minimize these disturbances, which appear to result from departures from the approved pattern, is in effect.

Summary

The hours and numbers of Army unit training are variable. The variability of these training operations makes it is difficult to assess their impact quantitatively. Training operations occur during the entire day, but the majority occur from sunrise to midnight and limited activity from midnight to sunrise. The conversion of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (enhanced) will create no additional activities that would require new mitigation measures.

CHAPTER VI

PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE ALTERNATIVES

PROBABLE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Physical Environment

The reorganization of personnel and the closure of the four armories will have no adverse impact on the physical environment. If anything, there will be less impact because present human activities will cease. Similarly, the reorganization of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade into an enhanced brigade will have no adverse environmental impacts because it is an administrative action with few physical manifestations. Training and training areas will not be affected. The 29th Separate Infantry Brigade is a fully equipped light brigade and will actually downscale as a result of this action. There will be fewer people training more often and intensely. The environmental impacts from the construction of the proposed new armory on Maui will be addressed in a separate document specific to that project.

As noted earlier, Preliminary Assessments-Site Investigations (PA-SI) will be conducted for all affected sites. If significant materials are found at any of the armories, remedial actions will be taken before the sites are officially transferred to DLNR.

Social Environment

The reorganization of personnel and closure of the four armories will have a slight impact on the social environment. The major effect will be on individual soldiers who are transferred to other units. They will have to train in a different place and may find travel to a different location on their island to be more inconvenient or difficult.

Use of the armories by the surrounding communities will not be adversely affected. Two of the armories—Wailuku and Kaneohe—have been used by the Department of Education. The uses

will probably continue after the transfers are complete. The other two armories—Kapaau and Pahala—are not now being used by the residents of their communities and are in such poor condition that they will probably not be put to a new use.

There will be no significant changes in training or equipment purchase and use over that which now exists.

Environmental Justice

The proposed action complies with the Executive Order entitled Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. There will be no actions that will adversely affect minorities and/or low-income populations.

Economic Environment

The reorganization of personnel and closure of the four armories will result in a reduction in the number of National Guard personnel. Many have already transferred to the U.S. Army Reserves, taken early retirement or resigned. Some of the remaining personnel will be inconvenienced and incur higher costs by having to drive further distances for training at other facilities.

Because of the designation of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade as an enhanced Brigade, expenditures for equipment are anticipated to be sustained or increased slightly. At the same time, less federal money will be spent on salaries. This will have a small but negative impact on Hawaii's economy because equipment purchases are generally made outside the State and wages are spent within the State.

CHAPTER VII

FINDINGS

Chapter 200 (Environmental Impact Statement Rules) of Title 11 Administrative Rules of the State Department of Health specifies criteria for determining if an action may have a significant effect on the environment. The relationship of the proposed project to these criteria is discussed below.

- (1) Involves an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource;
 - In past years, the project sites have been modified extensively and have no natural resources. The only cultural resources in the area are the historic buildings which will not be affected.
- (2) Curtails the range of beneficial uses of the environment;
 - There will be no increase and some reduction of current uses.
- (3) Conflicts with the states long-term environmental policies or goals and guidelines as expressed in Chapter 344, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and any revisions thereof and amendments thereto, court decisions or executive orders;
 - The project does not conflict with long-term state environmental policies or goals.
- (4) Substantially affects the economic or social welfare of the community or state;

- The proposed action will not substantially affect economic and social benefits of the community or state.
- (5) Substantially affects public health;
 - There will be no threat to public health by the reorganization of forces and closure of facilities.
- (6) Involves substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities;
 - The project does not involve substantial secondary impacts such as population changes or effects on public facilities.
- (7) Involves a substantial degradation of environmental quality;
 - There will be minimal environmental impacts. Environmental quality will not be significantly degraded.
- (8) Is individually limited but cumulatively has considerable effect upon the environment or involves a commitment for larger actions;
 - The proposed action does not involve a commitment for a larger action nor does it result in significant adverse effects upon the environment.
- (9) Substantially affects a rare, threatened or endangered species, or its habitat;
 - There are no rare, threatened, or endangered species (plant or animal) on the armory sites. The U. S. Army's Ecosystem Management Plans prepared for the

training areas are designed to protect and manage native ecosystems and to minimize future conflicts between human activities and endangered species in the training areas. Proposed actions include public recreational usage, fencing projects, ungulate control, control of introduced plants, and fire control.

- (10) Detrimentally affects air or water quality or ambient noise levels;
 - There will be no impact on air or water quality. Noise associated with training operations will be less than in the past because of the reduction in force and closure of facilities.
- (11) Affects an environmentally sensitive area such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters.
 - The proposed action does not affect any environmentally sensitive area.

The potential adverse impacts identified are negligible and short-term in nature. Based on this Finding of No Significant Impact, an environmental impact statement is not required.

CHAPTER VIII

AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS CONSULTED AND CONTRACTORS

CONSULTED PARTIES

The following agencies and individuals were sent copies of a preliminary draft of this assessment for review. The agencies that responded are marked with an *. Copies of their letters and the responses by HIARNG, as appropriate, are appended to this document.

Federal

- U.S. Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service*
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

State

- Department of Land and Natural Resources
 - Historic Preservation Division*
 - Division of Land Management
 - Division of Forestry and Wildlife
- Land Use Commission*
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs*
- Office of State Planning (telephone call)*
- Environmental Center, University of Hawaii

County

- Planning Department, County of Hawaii*
- Department of Research and Development, County of Hawaii*
- Planning Department, County of Maui*
- Planning Department, City and County of Honolulu*

VIII - 1

30234912/ENHBRIG.RPT/958

Mayor, County of Maui

DEA DISTRIBUTION LIST

Responses were received from four agencies, The three county planning agencies acknowledged receipt and had no comment. The comment letter from and response to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is included in Appendix B.

Federal

National Guard Bureau

State

- Senator Malama Solomon (Kapaau)
- Senator Andrew Levin (Kau, Pahala)
- Representative Robert Herkes (Pahala)
- Representative Bob Nakasone (Wailuku)
- Representative Cynthia Thielen (Kaneohe)
- Hawaii State Library
- Kaneohe Public Library
- Hilo Public Library
- Pahala Public/School Library
- Bond Memorial Library (Kohala)
- Wailuku Public Library
- Department of Land and Natural Resources
 - Historic Preservation Division
 - Division of Land Management
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Environmental Center, University of Hawaii

County

- Planning Department, County of Hawaii
- Planning Department, County of Maui
- Planning Department, City and County of Honolulu

CONTRACTORS

The following firms and individuals have been involved in the preparation of this environmental assessment:

Earth Tech: Richard Manz, RG

KRP Information Services: Jacqueline A. Parnell, AICP, Environmental Planner.

REFERENCES

- 1. Allen, Gwenfread. *Hawaii's War Years 1941-1945*. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, Hawaii. 1950.
- Environmental Assessment for the Training of the 53rd Enhanced Brigade. Prepared for the Florida Army National Guard. CH2MHill, St. Augustine, Florida. December 1996.
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- 6. Territory of Hawaii, Department of Defense. Annual Reports of the Adjutant General, 1936-1942; 1947-1961.
- 7. United States Pacific Command. Hawaii Military Land Use Master Plan. July 1995.
- 8. University of Hawaii. Atlas of Hawaii, Second Edition. 1995.
- 9. U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. *Draft Environmental Assessment-Ecosystem Management Plan: Oahu Training Areas, Island of Oahu.* R. M. Towill Corporation, Honolulu, Hawaii. February, 1997.
- 10. U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Draft Environmental Assessment-Ecosystem Management Plan: Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA), Island of Hawaii. R. M. Towill Corporation, Honolulu, Hawaii. February, 1997.

11. Warfield, Charles Lamoreaux. History of the Hawaii National Guard from Feudal Times to June 30, 1935. Master's Degree Thesis, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii. 1935.

APPENDIX A DESIGNATION LETTER BY SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TOGO D. WEST

SECRETARY OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON NIG 423 TM

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EXECUTIVE SUBMARY/COMER SHEET

SHOBARAUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

¹:RSOOGH:

. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF GESEASE

PROM:

Togo D. West, Jr.

Prepared by: COU Vaughan, NOB-ARF,

607-7501

SUBJECT:

Army Approval of the ARMG Enhanced Brigades

and Armored Cavalry Regiment Designation

PURFOSE:

INFORMATION -- To inform the Secretary of Defense on mathodology and selection of

the 15 Enhanced Brigades

<u> Discossion:</u>

TRECOMMENDATION

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On March 25, 1994, the Army designated the units that will constitute the 15 Enhanced Brigades in the Army Matienal Guard. The Chief of Staff, Army, was responsible for methodology and selection of the units, which are identified, along with each brigade's approved active duty affiliated partner, at TAB A.

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That the Secretary of Defense note.

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APPENDIX B COMMENT LETTERS AND RESPONSES



STATE OF HAWAI'I OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS 711 KAPI'OLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813

June 23, 1997

Jaqueline Parnell Earth Tech 700 Bishop Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Draft Environmental Assessment of The Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan.

Dear Ms. Parnell:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to review the above-referenced Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA). The Hawaii Army National Guard is proposing the reorganization of the 29th Infantry Brigade. This reorganization includes the deactivation of the 1st Battalion, 229th Infantry and the closure of four armories on Maui, Oahu, and Hawaii.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) has no objections to the DEA at this time. The proposed action apparently bears no significant long-term adverse impacts on the physical environment, and OHA agrees that the action would in fact reduce impacts because present human activities will decrease or, in some areas, cease.

We note that, the Wailuku Armory which is scheduled for closure and return to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources is located on ceded land. The DEA refers to this parcel of land as being "State-owned" (pg. V-1), and that the Wailuku Armory is expected to "ultimately be transferred to the Department of Education for a school-related use" (pg. V-2).

OHA does not object to the use of ceded lands for such a purpose. However, we urge the preparers of the DEA to clearly state in the document that (i)the Wailuku Armory is located on ceded land which is not "owned" by, but rather, "held in trust" by the State of Hawaii, and (ii) that future plans for the use of this parcel of land should be made with careful consideration of the State's responsibility to the ceded lands trust.

Letter to Jaqueline Parnell Page two

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Lynn Lee, Acting Land and Natural Resources Division Officer or Richard Stook, EIS Planner at (594-1888).

Sincerely yours,

Levita Mayono Sesnita Moepono Acting Administrator

cc: Trustee Clayton Hee, Board Chair

Trustee Rowena Akana, Land & Sovereignty Chair

Trustee Abraham Aiona, Board Vice-Chair Trustee Haunani Apoliona

Trustee Billie Beamer

Trustee Frenchy DeSoto

Trustee Moses Keale

Trustee Collette Machado

Trustee Hannah Springer

Lynn Lee, LNR, Acting Officer

Administration

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONDLULU, HAWAH 96816-4495

September 15, 1997

MAJOR GENERAL ADJUTANT GENER MICHAEL E. RAWI

EDWARD V. RICHAF

MICHAEL E. RAWI COLONEL CEPUTY ADJUTANT GE

Engineering Office

Mr. Randall Ogata Administrator Office of Hawaiian Affairs 711 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 500 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Ogata:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment of the

Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade

Stationing Plan, May 1997

Thank you for your letter of June 23, 1997. The description of the land under the Wailuku Armory as State-owned has been deleted in the Final Environmental Assessment.

If there are any questions, please have your staff contact Ms. Jane Yamamoto, Environmental Planner, at 733-4214.

Sincerely,

Dieutenant Colonel, Engineer Hawaii Army National Guard Facility Management Officer

NATIONAL GUARD

Americans At Their Best.

LINDA CROCKETT LINGLE Mayor



DAVID W. BLANE Director

GWEN OHASHI HIRAGA Deputy Director

COUNTY OF MAUI PLANNING DEPARTMENT

250 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

June 24, 1997

Captain Charles J. Anthony Earth Tech 700 Bishop Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Captain Anthony:

RE: <u>Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Hawaii National</u>
<u>Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan</u>

Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft EA. We have no comments on the document, but we are concerned with the final disposition of the Wailuku Armory building. As noted, it is eligible for listing on the State and National Historic Registers and we would like to be kept informed of the use or availability of the building.

If you have any questions, please contact William Spence, Staff Planner, at 243-7735.

Very truly yours,

Lisa M. Nuyen

DAVID W. BLANE
Director of Planning

DWB:wrs

cc: Clayton Yoshida, AICP, Planning Program Administrator

Elizabeth Anderson, Staff Planner

General File

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 8TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3017 PHONE: (808) 523-4711 • FAX: (808) 523-4950

JEREMY HARRIS



PATRICK T. ONISHI CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER

DONA L. HANAIKE DEPUTY CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER

MH 6/97-1270

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July 18, 1997

Captain Charles J. Anthony Department of Defense, Hawaii Army National Guard 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Dear Captain Anthony:

Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan

In response to the subject Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) received on June 16, 1997, we have reviewed the DEA and have no objections. Should you have any questions, please contact Matthew Higashida of our staff at 527-6056.

Yours very truly,

PATRICK T. ONISHI Chief Planning Officer

PTO:js

c:
 √ Jacqueline Parnell, Earth Tech
 Gary Gill, Office of Environmental Quality Control

Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Virginia Goldstein
Director
Russell Kokubun
Deputy Director

County of Hawaii PLANNING DEPARTMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-1252 (808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-9615

July 1, 1997

Captain Charles J. Anthony Hawaii Army National Guard Department of Defense 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, HI 96816

Dear Captain Anthony:

Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan for Hawaii, Kauai, Maui, Molokai and Oahu, State of Hawaii TMK: 5-4-05: 51 (Kohala Armory) and 9-6-05: 8 (Pahala Armory). Island of Hawaii

We are in receipt of the above-described draft environmental assessment for the reorganization of the 29th Infantry Brigade of the Hawaii Army National Guard into an enhanced brigade.

We have no comments or objections to the proposed reorganization, the draft environmental assessment or its preliminary findings of no significant impact beyond our original comments dated February 6, 1996.

Thank you for allowing our office the opportunity to comment. Please contact Daryn Arai of this office should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN

Planning Director

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xc: Ms. Jacqueline Parnell - Earth Tech



STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION 33 SOUTH KING STREET, 6TH FLOOR HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 31,1996

Richard Young, Lieutenant Colonel, Engineer Hawaii Army National Guard Facility Management Officer State of Hawaii Department of Defense Office of the Adjutant General 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

Dear Lt. Col. Young:

SUBJECT: Wailuku Armory

TMK 3-4-09:04, Wailuku, Maui

Thank you for the letter dated January 17, 1996, regarding the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan. Under the Historic/Cultural Resources section we concur that Kaneohe, Pahala and Kohala (Kapaau) armories are not 50 years or older at this time. We concur with the determination that the Wailuku Armory is eligible for both the Hawaii and National Register of Historic Places. We believe that the proposed action should have 'no effect' on any known historic resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, should you have any questions please have your staff contact Carol Ogata at 587-0004.

Aloha,

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DON HIBBARD, Administrator and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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MICHAEL D. WILSON, CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

> DEPUTY GILBERT COLOMA-AGARAN

AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

AQUATIC RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND

ENVAONMENTAL AFFAIRS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT

CONVEYANCES
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ONVISION
LAND MANAGEMENT

STATE PARKS WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

LOG NO.16384

DOC NO: 9601CO12

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STATE OF HAWAII **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL 3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

June 13, 1996

Engineering Office

Mr. Don Hibbard Administrator and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer State Historic Preservation Division Department of Land and Natural Resources 33 South King Street, 6th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Hibbard:

Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the

Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade

Stationing Plan, January, 1996

Thank you for your letter of January 31, 1996 confirming that the Wailuku Armory is eligible for both the Hawaii and National Register of Historic Places and that the Kaneohe, Pahala, and Kohala (Kapaau) armories do not qualify.

Sincerely,

Leutenant Colonel, Engineer Wawaii Army National Guard

Facility Management Officer

NATIONAL GUARD

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EDWARD V. RICHARDSON MAJOR GENERAL ADJUTANT GENERAL

MICHAEL E. RAWLINS COLONEL DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

ESTHER UEDA EXECUTIVE OFFICER

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

LAND USE COMMISSION

Room 104, Old Federal Building 335 Merchant Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Telephone: 587-3822

January 29, 1996

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Young Facility Management Officer Hawaii Army National Guard Office of the Adjutant General Department of Defense 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

Dear Mr. Young:

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Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the Subject:

Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade

Stationing Plan, January 1996

We have reviewed the subject preliminary draft environmental assessment transmitted by your letter dated January 17, 1996, and find that without Tax Map Keys (TMKs) identifying the affected facilities, we are unable to discern the State Land Use District designations of the sites.

We suggest that the final environmental assessment include the TMKs identifying the subject properties and a map showing the sites in relation to the State Land Use Districts.

We have no further comments to offer at this time. appreciate the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me or Bert Saruwatari of our office at 587-3822.

Sincerely,

ESTHER UEDA

Executive Officer

EU:th

cc: DBEDT (#96-211-S)

رين اعتدام J. CAYETANO GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL 3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96618-4495

June 13, 1996

Engineering Office

Ms. Esther Ueda
Executive Officer
State of Hawaii
Land Use Commission
Room 104, Old Federal Building
335 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Ueda:

Subject: Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of

the Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade

Stationing Plan, January, 1996

Thank you for your letter of January 29, 1996. Tax map keys for each parcel will be provided in the Draft Environmental Assessment, along with the correct Land Use Designation.

Sincerely,

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Richard Young

Lieutenant Colonel, Engineer Hawaii Army National Guard

Facility Management Officer

NATIONAL GUARD

Americans At Their Best.

EDWARD V. RICHARDSON MAJOR GENERAL ADJUTANT GENERAL

MICHAEL E RAWLINS COLONEL DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL Stephen K. Yamashiro Mayor

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Virginia Goldstein Director

Norman Olesen
Deputy Director

County of Malvaii

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252 (808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-9615

February 9, 1996

Mr. Richard Young Lieutenant Colonel, Engineer Hawaii Army National Guard 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, HI 96816-4495

Dear Lieutenant Colonel Young:

Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan, January 1996
Kohala (Kapaau) Armory and Pahala Armory sites
Tax Map Key: 5-4-05:51 and 9-6-18:9

Thank you for your letter dated January 17, 1996, transmitting a copy of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan for our review and comment. We have the following comments to offer:

- 1. As it affects our County, the draft environmental assessment (DEA) pertains mainly to the closing of the Kohala and Pahala Armorys through the downsizing and reorganization of the Hawaii Army National Guard and the reassignment of displaced soldiers to other existing armorys on the island. Since the proposed reorganization would only result in the abandonment of the Kohala and Pahala Armorys and the return of its lands to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, we have no objections to the proposal from a land use perspective.
- 2. The DEA should initially identify the various armory sites by tax map key to ease identification and location of these sites.
- 3. We did note a discrepancy regarding the land area encumbered by the Pahala Armory site. Our records indicate that the Pahala site, identified as Parcel 9, consists of .738 acre, not the 3.85 acres cited within the DEA.

Mr. Richard Young Page 2 February 9, 1996

4. The Kohala Armory site is located on lands designated as Agricultural by the State Land Use Commission and Agricultural-20 acres (A-20a) by the County. The Pahala Armory site is located on lands designated as Urban by the State Land Use Commission and Single Family Residential-7,500 square feet (RS-7.5) by the County. It should be noted that any future use to be established on the two former armory sites must conform with the requirements of the State Land Use Law and County Zoning Code.

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Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide our comments. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Daryn Arai of this office at 961-8288.

Sincerely

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VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN Planning Birector

DSA:mjs LArmyNO1.dsa

xc w/ltr: West Hawaii Office

EATUMIN J. CAYETANO



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL 3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

June 13, 1996

Engineering Office

Ms. Virginia Goldstein Director County of Hawaii Planning Department 25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Ms. Goldstein:

Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the Subject: Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan, January, 1996

Thank you for your letter of February 9, 1996. Tax map keys for each parcel will be provided in the Draft Environmental Assessment, along with the correct Land Use Designation and County zoning designation. Please note that the tax map key number and parcel size that we have for the Pahala armory differs from your records. We may not be discussing the same parcel of land.

Sincerely,

Leutenant Colonell Engineer Hawaii Army National Guard

Facility Management Officer

Americans At Their Best.

EDWARD V. RICHARDSON ADJUTANT GENERAL

MICHAEL E. RAWLINS DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL



Natural Resources Conservation Service

P. O. Box 50004 Honolulu, HI 96850-0001

February 28, 1996

Major Ronald Swafford Environmental Protection Specialist Department of Defense Hawaii Army National Guard Office of the Adjutant General 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

Dear Major Swafford:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment - Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG) Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan, State of Hawaii

We have received the above-mentioned document and find that there are no natural resource concerns at this time.

We apologize for submitting our comments to you after the deadline. We thank you for the opportunity in allowing us to review this document.

Sincerely,

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KENNETH M. KANESHIRO

State Conservationist

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STATE OF HAWAI'I OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS 711 KAPI'OLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813

February 12, 1996

Richard Young
Lieutenant Colonel, Engineer
Hawaii Army National Guard
State of Hawaii
Department of Defense
3949 Diamond Head Road,
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96818-4495

Re: Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hawai'i Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan

Dear Lt. Colonel Young:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hawai'i Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan. At this time, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has no comments on this project.

If you have any question or need any additional information, please contact Linda Delaney, Land and Natural Resources Officer or Lynn Lee, EIS Planner at 594-1888.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Colburn Administrator

cc: Clayton H.W. Hee, Chairperson Board of Trustees LINDA CROCKETT LINGLE Mayor



DAVID W. BLANE Director

GWEN OHASHI HIRAGA Deputy Director

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COUNTY OF MAUI PLANNING DEPARTMENT 250 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

February 2, 1996

Major Ronald Swafford Environmental Protection Specialist HIENG Department of Defense 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

Dear Major Swafford:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hawaii Army National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan.

The proposed action is downsizing and reorganization of the Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG) brought about by changes in the Force Structure of the National Guard at the Federal level. actions impacting Maui County are:

- Deactivation of the 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry, head quartered on Maui, most of the 300 soldiers are being absorbed into the restructured Hiloheadquartered 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry, of the 227th Engineer Company.
- 2. Closure of the Wailuku Armory and consolidation of the Maui units at the Kahului Armory until a new armory at Puunene is completed. The Wailuku Armory will be turned over to the DLNR. It will probably be used by the Department of Education.

The review of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment for the subject plan has not identified any significantly adverse impacts based on the significance criteria listed in §11-200-12 of the Environmental Impact Statement Rules. Therefore, the Planning Department has no further comments on this project.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96613

JEREMY HARRIS



CHERYL D. SOON CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER

CAROLL TAKAHASHI DEPUTY CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER

: TH 1/96-0195

February 8, 1996

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Young, Engineer Hawaii Army National Guard, HIENG Department of Defense State of Hawaii 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

Dear Colonel Young:

Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment (EA)
of the Hawaii Army National Guard
Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan

In response to the State of Hawaii Department of Defense letter of January 17, 1996, we have reviewed the subject draft EA and have no comments at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact Tim Hata of our staff at 527-6070.

Sincerely,

CHERYL D. SOON Chief Planning Officer

CDS:ft



Diane S. Quitiquit Director

County of Nawaii

DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 219 · Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252 · (808) 961-8366 · Fax (808) 935-1205 KONA: (808) 329-5226 - Fax (808) 326-5663

January 24, 1996

HIENG Department of Defense 3949 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

Dear Sirs:

Re: Hawaii National Guard Enhanced Brigade Stationing Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to review the January 1996 environmental assessment of the referenced plan. We have no comments to offer at this time.

Sincerely,

Raymond Carr

Economic Development Specialist

xc: Diane Quitiquit, Director

DEPT. OF DEFENSE

FEB Z 12 40 PH "96 **BECEINED**

Major Ronald Swafford Page 2 February 2, 1996

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please call Don Schneider of this office at 243-7735.

Very truly yours,

Jun Ohne: Hiray

DWB:ds cc:Colleen Suyama Don Schneider Project File