CA-IR-165

Ref: HECO T-2, Page 30, Lines 11 to 14.

Please provide copies of any documents received from the military to support the estimates and construction schedules for the military's projected loads in 4Q 2005 [illegible]

HECO Response:

HECO receives information from the military regarding its planned construction activities through discussions and meetings with the military and as part of HECO's Marketing Services Division's contact with major customers. Information received from the military in these discussions contains customer specific confidential information, and is considered privileged and confidential and were provided with the understanding that it would not be provided to other entities. Thus, HECO objects to providing such information, even under protective order. HECO also objects on the grounds that, if HECO is required to produce this type of information

NAVY

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - January 24, 2005
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2005/01/24/story8.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

From the January 21, 2005 print edition

Military contract takes MacNaughton Group in new direction

Nina Wu
Pacific Business News

The MacNaughton Group is making its first foray into military work with its 40-year agreement to lease and redevelop the Moanalua Shopping Center.

Jeff Arce, chief financial officer of The MacNaughton Group, along with partner Eric Tema and CEO Duncan MacNaughton, said the company [illegible]

Military contract takes MacNaughton Group in new direction

Jamba Juice and Starbucks, also a part of The MacNaughton Group's Cafe Hawaii Partners, will likely be part of the new tenant mix.

The MacNaughton Group declined to disclose the costs of the project, though the U.S. Navy estimates its value at more than $17 million. Honolulu-based Design Partners Inc. will design the new buildings.

"The project will provide facilities which are sorely needed by the Navy without the use of congressionally appropriated funds," said U.S. Navy realty officer Joe Calcara, who called the arrangement first of its kind. "This will save millions in capital investment and management costs which would otherwise be required."

Construction is expected to begin in June, with completion by the fall of 2006.

Reach Nina Wu at 955-8038 or nwu@bizjournals.com.

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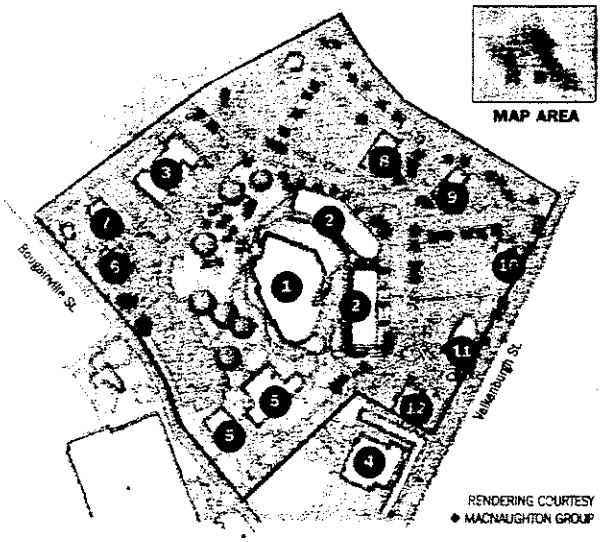
'The project will provide facilities which are sorely needed by the Navy without the use of congressionally appropriated funds.'

Joe Calcara, U.S. Navy realty officer



RENDERING COURTESY ◆ MACNAUGHTON GROUP

Moanalua Shopping Center redevelopment

1. New Navy service center
2. New commercial space
3. Navy aloha center
4. Navy auto body
5. Moanalua Communtiy Church
6. KFC
7. 7 Eleven
8. Pizza Hut
9. Jack in the Box
10. Taco Bell
11. Mcdonald's
12. Chevron

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, January 4, 2005

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Moanalua retail site to be rebuilt

The Navy said yesterday it has signed a long-term lease and development agreement with the MacNaughton Group to redevelop the Moanalua Shopping Center and surrounding area.

Work is expected to begin in June and be completed in the fall of 2006, according to Rear Adm. Michael Vitale, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i. The existing 65,000-square-foot shopping center will be demolished and will be replaced with a 55,000-square-foot Navy community support services center and up to 30,000 square feet of commercial space.

All commercial space will be open to the public.

RCI to build waste project

The City and County of Honolulu has selected RCI Construction Group to build the New Solids Handling Facilities at the Honouliuli Waste Water Treatment Plant on O'ahu.

The $31 million contract will cover the construction of three anaerobic digesters, which use microorganisms to process sewage solids in a non-oxygen environment. The process substantially reduces the amount of potential landfill waste while generating methane gas that can be used for heating or generating electricity, according to RCI. Construction is to begin in March.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, October 14, 2004

Pacific carrier base still on table

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Navy Secretary Gordon England yesterday said there is a "strong desire" to base an aircraft carrier in the Pacific, and Hawai'i and Guam continue to be the only locations looked at, but no decision has been made.

Gordon England

England told reporters following a breakfast with Navy League representatives that if a carrier is based in the Pacific, a decision would have to be made on where to station the carrier and the air wing as well.

The Navy secretary planned to visit Hawai'i Marines before heading to Guam to participate in the commissioning of the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Sequoia.

The Navy is doing a $1.8 million study on the feasibility of basing a carrier in Hawai'i. No such study was done for Guam.

U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye, D-Hawai'i, told The Advertiser in August the Navy was considering distributing a carrier air wing of 70 to 80 aircraft among three military bases on O'ahu and one on Kaua'i.

Infrastructure for the aircraft and jet noise are concerns, and spreading out the aircraft would reduce the impact. The bases include the former Barbers Point, the Marine Corps base at Kane'ohe Bay, Wheeler Army Airfield and Barking Sands.

If the decision is made to base one of the nation's 12 carriers in Hawai'i, it wouldn't arrive for at least five years, Inouye said.

Politicians from Hawai'i and Guam have been actively seeking a carrier.

In San Diego, home port of three carriers, the Regional Chamber of Commerce last year figured each carrier has an annual $270 million economic benefit, including $111 million in payroll spent locally and $40 million in maintenance contracts.

The carrier Kitty Hawk, based out of Yokosuka, Japan, is the only permanently forward-deployed carrier in the Pacific. The growing prominence of the region, and concerns over North Korea and China-Taiwan relations, has military planners seeking a second carrier presence.

Guam is 3,300 miles west of Hawai'i and several days sailing time closer to Asia, but falls short on infrastructure and "quality of life" issues.

Guam's congressional delegate, Madeleine Bordallo, who was traveling back to the territory, yesterday said Guam continues to lobby for a carrier.

"Our location is very important. That's how we feel," she said.

Navy officials said a decision could be announced after May, when the Pentagon is scheduled to proceed with a new round of Base Realignment and Closures and recommend which bases to be shuttered.

England said there is a "stable environment" at Pearl Harbor and he sees no downsizing. The shipyard is the state's biggest industrial employer, with 4,400 workers.

"We have a great workforce who do a lot of maintenance, a lot of our overhaul," England said. "I certainly can't see any dramatic contraction. On the other hand, the Navy's not going to have a larger number of ships in terms of total numbers. Maybe some, but certainly not a dramatic increase."

The Navy is downsizing by 8,000 sailors this fiscal year. Commanders have called for up to 375 ships to meet present needs, while the Navy has 291 warships.

England said he hasn't had any discussion with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld since Air Force Gen. Gregory Martin last week withdrew as the nominee to lead Pacific Command based at Camp Smith.

Inouye previously had said the Pacific Command, led by admirals since 1947, is a "water command" and should continue to be led by an admiral. England said with so many joint service efforts, "a lot of different people could have this command."

"On the other hand, it's been a Navy command for a long time," England said. "We're comfortable."

Adm. Walter Doran, the four-star commander of Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, has been mentioned as a possible candidate. Pacific Fleet yesterday had no comment.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Navy Project Reaches for the Sky

Two cloudscraping VLF (very low frequency) transmitting towers at Lualualei will soon be installed with new lighting systems and elevators, a Navy project being administered by ROICC (Resident Officer in Charge of Construction) Pearl Harbor.

What makes the project more unique and challenging than it sounds are the constraints of the towers, not the least of which is that each stands nearly 1,500 feet high. Other restrictions include environmental conditions, the type of elevator that can be used, and the available window of time when construction can occur.

Currently, it takes about five hours, round

A new elevator being installed in this Lualualei transmitting tower will allow workers to ride 1,500 feet up to the top in about five minutes. It currently takes about $2^1/2$ hours to climb up.

because there are no mechanical means in place. When the gear-driven lifts are installed, it will take about four-and-a-half minutes to reach the top. They are being designed by Swedish-based Alimak and will be installed by Triton Marine. A locking mechanism slows down and stops the elevator if the gears should fail. The lifts will allow access to a top landing platform at 1,478 feet high, with intermediate inspection levels along the way.

The following factors had to be met when finding a personal lift system: no hoist ropes (wire ropes flap in the wind and can be damaged by contact with the tower); no governor ropes; no signal cables; ability to withstand exposure to the elements; minimum maintenance requirements and proven operating reliability.

The elevator cars also must be designed specifically to be able to pass through the existing triangular openings through the towers. Alimak will use its standard rack-and-pinion guide rail sections, and the brackets tying the mast to the structure will be designed to fit the anchor points on the tower. An additional requirement is that the lifts should have internal combustion engines and not be electrically pow-

nicate with submarines around the globe, interference from electric installations and equipment must be kept to a minimum. The elevators will be used several times a day when the towers are not transmitting.

As a safety precaution, two people will be required to ride the towers together. Otherwise, if a maintenance worker gets hurt and the elevator is at the top, then someone will have to physically climb to the top to help that person.

The rack-and-pinion style lift also is used at the Statue of Liberty, Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

Wyland Completes Mural for Navy Mall

2002 Previews

Navy Earmarks $200 Million for Housing, Facilities and Infrastructures

By Rear Admiral Charles R. Kubic, Commander
Pacific Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command

The Pacific Division Naval Facilities Engineering Command (PACNAVFACENGCOM) at Pearl Harbor is one of the design and construction agents for the Department of Defense. Our area of responsibility covers most of the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas, as well as Southeast Asia. Our skilled and experienced professionals provide planning, design and construction of shore support facilities throughout the region.

In addition to our design and construction services, PACNAVFACENGCOM also provides a full complement of environmental services, including environmental compliance and installation remediation and restoration, through use of our Comprehensive Long Term Environmental Action Navy (CLEAN) and Remedial Action Contracts.

A multiple-award contract will be awarded to up to six contractors who will have first right to propose selected construction projects.

During the past year, we executed a remarkable number of construction contracts around the Pacific that

- $36 million for new housings at Marine Corps Base Hawaii and Pearl Harbor Naval Base

Last year we took the initial steps for the further development of Ford Island. We issued a request for proposals for master developers to develop the island. We have selected the top three developers and requested more specific plans. Shortly, we will be reviewing these plans and making a final selection of the developer to implement his proposal.

In support of developing Ford Island, we awarded the construction of a new Navy Lodge and the construction of a new sewer line for Ford Island to the main side of Pearl Harbor. In addition, we will be awarding another sewer line construction project from a pump station in Pearl Harbor to the Fort Kamehameha Wastewater Treatment Plant and a construction contract to provide approximately 130 to 180 housing units on Ford Island.

For this coming year, we have nearly $200 million for the construction or renovations of new BEQs, and housing units, repair and maintenance of facilities, and infrastructure improvements.

To accomplish some of these projects, we are preparing to award a multiple-award contract, which will provide us the flexibility to award some larger and more complex projects will still be offered to all interested parties.

Due to the horrific attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in September and the recent anthrax incidences, our facility design and construction requirements will reflect enhanced anti-terrorism force protection to safeguard our people.

We all need to be flexible as we navigate through these new, changing, and uncharted territories regarding our A-E design and construction contract requirements.

New initiatives - such as public-private ventures, asset management, multiple-award construction contracts, privatization, outsourcing, affiliation with construction associations and A-E societies, and partnerships with design/build contactors - mark the course of change in our business practices.

One thing, however, has not

We have also initiated a Basic Order Agreement for selected projects under $3 million to assist and provide new opportunities for our small local construction contractors.

Department of The Army Corps of Engineers, continued

RPR STRUCTURAL DAMAGES - QTRS #17, FT. SHAFTER	June	Under 500K	6	Probable
RPR PRIMARY DIGESTER & COVER, WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	June	1 - 5M	18	Probable
RENOVATE BLDG 580, SCHOFIELD BKS	June	Under 500K	8	Probable
RPL ONE 2 MILLION GALLON WATER TANK, SCHOFIELD BKS	August	1 - 5M	18	Probable
WHOLE BKS RENEWAL - PH 6A, WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	August	Over 10M	36	Probable
RENOVATE BLDG 128, FT. SHAFTER	September	1 - 5M	18	Probable
RPR ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION - FUNSTON RD, FT. SHAFTER	September	Under 1M	12	Probable
RPL SEWAGE PUMP STATION - BLDG 142, ALIAMANU MR	September	Under 500K	8	Probable
RPR ELECTRIC SERVICE TO BLDG 118, FT. SHAFTER	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
RECONFIGURE INTERSECTION, FT. SHAFTER	September	Under 500K	8	Probable
REPLACE A/C - BLDG 221, FT. SHAFTER				

CONSTRUCT ROUNDABOUT, ALIAMANU MR	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
REPAIR KITCHENS/BATHS/ELEC, HA K-1A, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Over 10M	18	Probable
WIDEN KOLEKOLE AVE, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
RECONFIGURE INTERSECTION, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
TRAFFIC CALMING - CARPENTER ST, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
TRAFFIC CALMING - LEILEHUA AVE, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
REPAIR KITCHENS - HA W14C/D WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	September	1 - 5M	18	Probable
ELECTRIC UPGRADE - BLDG 111, WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
INST U/G PRIMARY ELECTRIC, ALIAMANU MR	September	Over 10M	18	Probable
EXTERIOR REPAIR & PROTECTIVE COATING, VARIOUS LOCS	September	1 - 5M	12	Probable
OVERHAUL FINAL CLARIFIERS, SCHOFIELD BKS	December	1 - 5M	18	Probable
MISC REPAIRS TO RICHARDSON POOL, SCHOFIELD BKS	December	Under 1M	8	Probable
GATE ALIGNMENT, WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	December	1 - 5M	12	Probable
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP PROJECTS:				
AIEA MILITARY RESERVATION (IRA), OAHU	January	Under $500K	12	Probable
CASTNER GARAGE (RA), OAHU	March	Under 500K	12	
LUST REMEDIATION (RA-C), KUNIA	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
OPEN STORAGE AREA (RA-C), SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 500K	6	Probable

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
Pacific Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command (Oahu Projects)
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860-5420

Project	Construction To Start	Contract Amount	Duration (Months)	Probability Factor
MCON:				
P-701 SEWER FORCE MAIN, PEARL HARBOR HI PWC	February	Over 10 M	24	Definite
P-171 SHORE POWER W 4/5, LUALUALEI, NAVAL MAGAZINE	March	5-10M	18	Definite
P-594 BEQ MOD (B1723), PEARL NAVAL STATION	May	Over 10 M	30	Definite
P-299 DRYDOCK 2 WATERFRONT FAC, PEARL SHIPYD	June	5-10M	18	Definite

Navy Anticipates Another Outstanding Construction Year

By Rear Admiral Charles R. Kubic, Commander
Pacific Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command

The Pacific Division (PACDIV), Naval Facilities Engineering Command at Pearl Harbor is designated by the Secretary of Defense as the U.S. design and construction agent in most of the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas, as well as Southeast Asia. Our skilled and experienced professionals provide planning, design and construction of shore support facilities throughout the region.

In addition to our "brick and mortar" construction products, PACDIV also provides a full complement of environmental services, including compliance and restoration, through our Comprehensive Long Term Environmental Action Navy (CLEAN) and Remedial Action Contracts.

During the past year, we executed a remarkable number of construction contracts around the Pacific that included some of the following major projects currently under construction in Hawaii:

- $11.6 million for a new fuel facility at Pearl Harbor;
- nearly $20 million for revitalizing family housing units at Makalapa, Naval Computer and Telecommu-nication Command Area Master Station and Hospital Point at Pearl Harbor;
- Over $27 million for new bachelor quarters at Marine Corps Base Hawaii and Pearl Harbor Naval Base;
- $4.7 million for a new aircraft control tower at Marine Corps Base Hawaii;
- nearly $22 million for berthing wharves at Pearl Harbor;
- and $78 million for a new headquarters building for the U.S. Commander in Chief Pacific.

To accomplish a major portion of all this work last year; we awarded over $265 million in construction contracts in FY 00, $20 million in A-E contracts, and over $50 million in other facilities related support contracts.

We continue to award many design-build contracts (with the new Pacific Command headquarters being the largest). Both the Navy and Hawaii have benefited by our design/build contracting efforts because the competition is very intense. Design-build projects generally allow contractors to provide solutions in their area of expertise to match the government's performance specifications, which can result in lower prices and a greater range of solutions for the government to select from. And it places experts of the A-E and construction communities on the same team, building partners along the way, which can only benefit the Navy and the taxpayers in the long run.

> The cheaper paradigm is being replaced with the best-cost model – the best value for the dollar. This includes many different criteria, from technical proposals and past experience to delivery time and performance.

Turning to contracting and acquisition, I think that we are building upon the "better, faster, cheaper" paradigms of the past. The cheaper paradigm is being replaced with the best-cost model – the best value for the dollar. This includes many different criteria, from technical proposals and past experience to delivery time and performance. We are always looking for contract proposals that shorten the construction process without any degradation of quality.

Correspondingly, we primarily utilize the "Request for Proposal" (RFP) type of contracting method instead of the former "Invitation for Bid" (IFB). Under the RFP method, contractors are selected based on the "best value to the government" and not necessarily based on a low bid. Construction contractors must "promote and sell" their qualifications in addition to bidding on the projects.

So where is PACDIV headed in the future? As many of you have read in the papers recently, we have started the Ford Island development process, and we are projecting millions of dollars of work necessary to construct the facilities and infrastructure that we need on the island. We held a major informational meeting in September for prospective developers, and we are in the process of writing a draft Request for Proposals for future development of the island. In addition, a draft Environmental Impact Statement is due out in spring, which will be followed by a public comment period. We have finally begun the long and arduous process of developing the 450-acre island that will help us relieve congestion on the main side of the Pearl Harbor Naval Complex.

In addition to the development of Ford Island, a major portion of the design and construction work in Hawaii will be to improve the quality of life for our Sailors and their families as they are stationed here at the "Navy's best homeport." Over $134 million has been identified for bachelor quarters and family housing during the next two years.

We look forward to the continued excellence that has been provided to us by Hawaii's A-E firms and construction industry, and anticipate another outstanding year of completing quality designs and constructions on schedule for the Pacific Fleet and our other clients.

Board of Water Supply, continued

Project	Construction To Start	Contract Amount	Duration (Months)	Probability Factor
FARRINGTON HIGHWAY WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS	December	5,475,000	18	Definite
KAHUKU MAUKA MONITOR WELL	December	200,000	6	Probable
HONOLULU DISTRICT 24 & 42 MAINS AND HONOLULU AREA LOW SERVICE LINE BOOSTER - PH. I	December	4,000,000	12	Probable
KAHUKU MAKAI MONITOR WELL	December	200,000	6	Probable
LAIE MAKAI MONITOR WELL	December	150,000	6	Probable
KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY - SUNSET BEACH WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS - PART I & IV	December	2,590,000	16	Probable

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
City and County of Honolulu

711 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Project	Construction To Start	Contract Amount	Duration (Months)	Probability Factor
HONOLULU BICYCLE MASTER PLAN, COLLEGE ACCESS PROJECT NOS. 13, 15-18	March	300,000	6	Probable
HONOLULU BICYCLE MASTER PLAN, BIKE FRIENDLY ROUTES 1-4A	March	275,000	2	Probable
ALA MOANA/KEWALO MULTI-USE PATH EXTENSION	March	35,000	1	Probable
KE ALA PUPUKEA BIKE PATH EXTENSION	March	30,000	1	Probable
MILILANI AREA TRAFFIC CALMING IMPROVEMENTS	March	100,000	1	Probable
BUS STOP SITE IMPROVEMENTS	March	600,000	4	Probable
KEOLU DRIVE TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS	March	100,000	1	Probable
HONOLULU BICYCLE MASTER PLAN, COLLEGE ACCESS PROJECT NO. 28	April	375,000	4	Probable
ASING PARK BIKE PATH	April	210,000	2	Probable
TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS PHASE III	April	880,000	6	Probable
TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER EXPANSION	April	400,000	6	Probable
KAIMUKI TOWN MASTER PLAN IMPROVEMENTS	May	2,300,000	12	Probable

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY CORPS

Project	Construction To Start	Contract Amount	Duration (Months)	Probability Factor
REPAIR SOFTBALL FIELD LIGHTS, WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	March	Under 500K	8	Probable
REPLACE TENNIS COURT LIGHTS, TRIPLER AMC	March	Under 500K	8	Probable
WHOLE BARRACKS RENEWAL – PHASE 2A, SCHOFIELD BKS	April	Over 10M	36	Probable
UPGRADE HANGAR COMPLEX, HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE	May	1-5M	12	Probable
REPAIR CLEARWELL PUMPS, SCHOFIELD BKS	June	Under 500K	6	Probable
REPLACE 5MVA TRANSFORMER, SCHOFIELD BKS	June	1-5M	18	Probable
REPAIR/REROOF VARIOUS HOUSING AREAS, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	1-5M	12	Probable
MCA/BUP RENOVATION – QUAD F, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Over 10M	36	Probable
RENOVATE BLDG 3004, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	5-10M	24	Probable
RENOVATE FIRE STATION, FT. SHAFTER	September	Under 1M	12	Probable
RENOVATE BUCKNER GATE, FT. SHAFTER	September	Under 500K	6	Probable
REPLACE FLEXIBLE DUCTS – QUAD I, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 1M	8	Probable
REPLACE STORMWATER TUNNEL, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 500K	8	Probable
RENOVATE FOOTE GATE, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 500K	8	Probable
REPAIR RICHARDSON POOL, SCHOFIELD BKS	September	Under 500K	8	Probable
REPAIR SEWER LINES, WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	September	Under 500K	8	Probable
REPAIR/RENOVATE BLDG 600, WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	September	Under 500K	8	Probable
INSTALL BACKFLOW PREVENTERS, VARIOUS LOCATIONS	September	Under 1M	12	Probable
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP PROJECTS:				
AIEA MILITARY RESERVATION (IRA), OAHU	January	Under 500K	12	Probable
CASTNER GARAGE (RA), OAHU	March	Under 500K	12	Probable

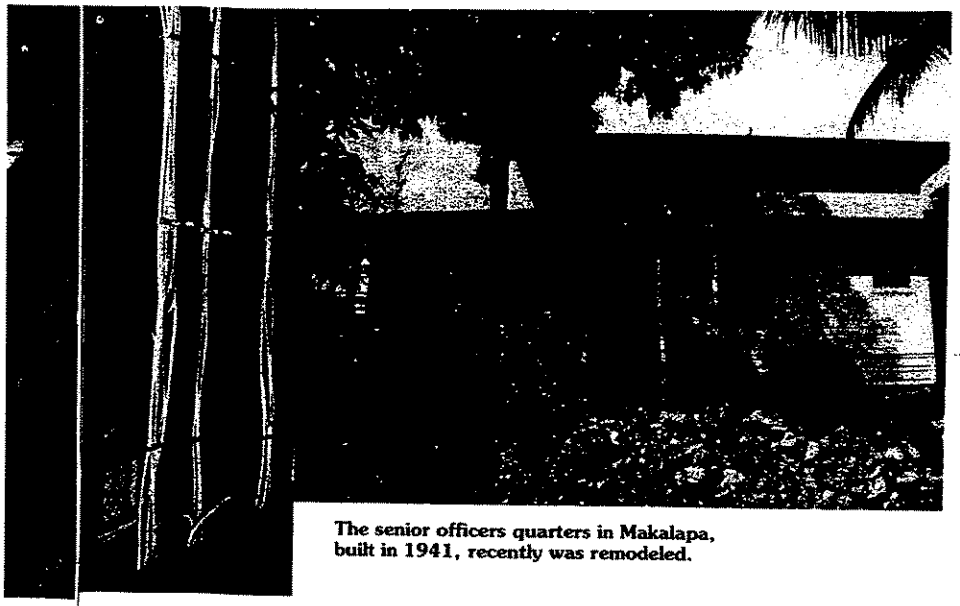
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
Pacific Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command (Oahu Projects)
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860-5420

Project	Construction	Contract	Duration	Probability
P-741 BEQ	January	Over 10M	24	Definite
IMPROVEMENT STORM WATER CONTROLS, MCBH, KANEOHE	January	1-5M	12	Definite
RF REPRS HNGRS 101-105, 375, MCBH, KANEOHE	January	1-5M	18	Definite
P-497 SEWER OUTFALL EXT (FT KAM STP), PEARL HARBOR, HI	February	Over 10M	36	Definite
P-533 SEAL DELIVERY VEH FAC, PEARL HARBOR, HI	February	Over 10M	24	Definite
Q433 SOF SDVT-DDS OPS FAC, PEARL HARBOR, HI	February	5-10M	24	Definite
NAVY LODGE, FORD ISLAND, PEARL HARBOR, HI	March	Over 10M	18	Definite
W/H REVIT HALE ALII (12 UNITS) PEARL HARBOR, HI	April	1-5M	18	Definite
P-593 BEQ, PEARL HARBOR, HI	June	Over 10M	24	Definite
P-491 SEWER UPG FORD ISLAND, PEARL HARBOR, HI	June	5-10M	18	Definite
RADFORD TERRACE (112 UNITS) PEARL HARBOR, HI	June	Over 10M	24	Definite
RPR/UPGRADE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, MCBH, KANEOHE	June	1-5M	18	Probable
REPAIRS TO PLESS HALL, BLDG 212, MCBH, KANEOHE	June	1-5M	12	Probable
STR/MNT/PNT B 3013, 14, 16, 17, MCBH, KANEOHE	June	1-5M	12	Probable
REMOVE ASB CONTAM, BLDG 1089, MCBH, KANEOHE	June	1-5M	12	Probable
REPLACE EFFLUENT PIPELINE TO WWTP MCBH, KANEOHE	[illegible]	1-5M	[illegible]	[illegible]

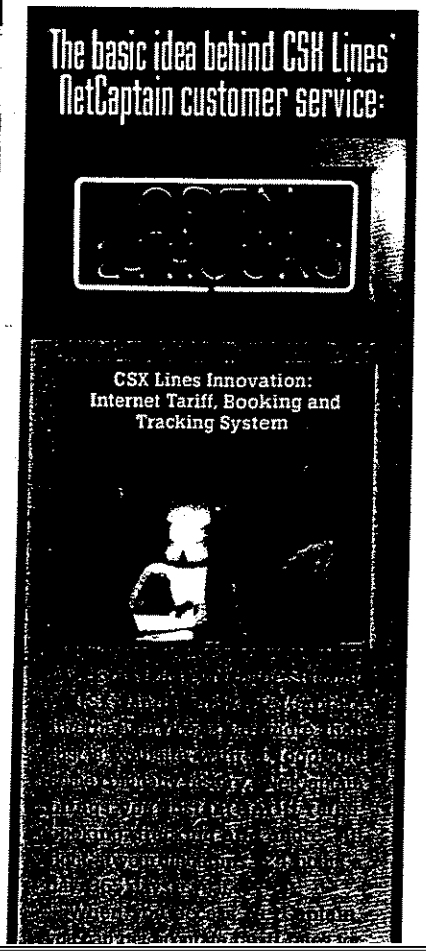
BUILDING INDUSTRY NEWS OF HAWAII

$17.8 Million Navy Contract

Military Construction:
The Game, the Players
and the Rules



The senior officers quarters in Makalapa, built in 1941, recently was remodeled.



to maintain peace and stability throughout the world." The list for the 2001 allocation includes:

- Schofield Barracks $46.4 million
- Wheeler Army Airfield Barracks 43.8 million
- Camp Smith headquarters bldg. Phase II 35.6 million
- Kahoolawe restoration 60 million
- Pearl Harbor Shipyard support 27 million
- Hawaii National Guard helicopters

86 percent of that total; the Palau Compact Road and the Power Plant Roi Namur, Kwajalein. In FY2000, "out-of-state" contractors received $41,685,802 or 51.2 percent. Again, the Corps added an explanation: only $595,369 of this amount was based upon new awards, the remainder being modifications against existing contracts.

And if you think only large, locally based companies are

Joining the Navy

Koga Engineering landfill run-off control project at Kaneohe Marine Base Hawaii with general contractor Alan Shintani Inc.

"Over the past three years, (1998 to 2000) the dollar amount awarded to Hawaii construction firms has increased from $81 million in FY98 to over $113 million in FY00," says PACDIV public affairs officer Don Rochon. This is construction money only and does not include salaries and other purchases. "$282.9 million was the total dollar amount awarded for FY00 construction contracts in Hawaii. $179 million (63 percent of the contracts) was awarded to local firms." He explains that while the **percentage** of contracts awarded to local firms declined in FY00, the **dollar amount** increased from the previous years.

Rear Admiral Charles R. Kubic, Commander Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command says, "We continue to award many design-build contracts." As to the sometimes controversial issue of "best value" bidding, Kubic says, "I think we are building upon the 'better, faster, cheaper' paradigms of the past. The cheaper paradigm is being replaced with the best-cost model; the best value for the dollar. This includes many different criteria, from technical proposals and past experience to delivery time and performance. We are always looking for contract proposals that shorten the construction process without any degradation of quality." Rochon agrees, saying,

"Construction companies must 'promote and sell' their qualifications in addition to bidding on the project."
— Rear Admiral Charles R. Kubic, Commander Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

THE KOGA TEAM
"We Dig Hawaii"

The Industry Responds

"What most contractors and A & E's struggle with is change and for many, their focus and energy is trying to maintain the status quo rather than understanding and embracing it," says Denny Watts, president and CEO of Dick Pacific Construction Co., Ltd. and incoming president of the GCA (General Contractors Association of Hawaii.) "Our industry has not been the leader or the originator of the 'best value' concept; it is our customers and clients. They are demanding change and they recognize that there has to be a better way to do business than the way it has typically been done." Watts says Dick Pacific "supports and believes in the 'best value' process and applauds the military for being forward thinkers and good stewards of the tax payers' dollars."

As for the concerns of some of Hawaii's smaller contractors, Watts says, "I know that certain processes such as design-build are expensive and cost prohibitive for many of the smaller contractors. I am a supporter of the military prequalifying bidders (usually three) and paying a stipend to help defray design cost. I know that every year PACDIV puts on a symposium for contractors and designers to help them understand and compete on 'best value' projects."

Dick Pacific's Current Military Projects include:

- Bachelors Enlisted Quarters P-740, at KMCB ($13.5 million)
- New Pacific Command Headquarters at Camp Smith ($77.6 million)
- Whole Barracks Renewal Phase 1E2, Schofield Barracks ($16.5 million
- Elementary/Middle School, Anderson AFB, Guam ($39 million)
- Army Reserve Center, Barrigada, Guam ($15 million)
- Bachelors Officers Quarters, Nimitz Hill, Guam ($2 million)

A Good Look at Best Value

"If everything is handled in the right way, 'best value' can be a good thing," says Glenn Nohara, president of Koga Engineering & Construction, Inc. "It gives the government the opportunity that private sector owners and developers have; to choose those members of the construction industry who served them well in the past."

Koga's many military projects include work with Dick Pacific, Hawaiian Dredging and Nordic on Schofield's Whole Barracks Renewal. Koga recently completed work with Nordic on the Wheeler hangar apron. Other military projects include renovations on building 250 at Pearl Harbor with Ocean House Builders, the Camp Smith Command Headquarters and Bachelors Enlisted Quarters at KMBC with Dick Pacific. Koga is just

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A current military project of Koga Engineering encompasses renovation of building 250 at Pearl Harbor. General contractor Ocean House Builders attributes 80 to 90 percent of its work to the military.

Work on Schofield Whole Barracks Renewal ID-2, IE-1, and IE-2 Is being performed by general contractors Dick Pacific and Nordic, along with Koga Engineering.

about to begin work with Ocean House on the Regional Training Institute at Bellows, and another upcoming job includes an abrasive blast/paint facility with Bodell Construction Co. Koga also is busy with military work on the neighbor islands, including the PMRF missile magazine on Kauai with Primatech Construction Inc.

Patrick Shin, president of Ocean House Builders minces no words in his agreement with Koga on the positive aspects of the "best value" bidding process. "It's good," he says. "If they don't perform, they don't get the bid. It gets rid of the bad contractors." Shin, whose business still is "80 to 90 percent" military, mentions the Pearl Harbor BEQ, a $15 million project set for completion in 2002; the $14 million in work on Building 250 at Makalapa which will be finished this year; and the $16.5 million National Guard facility at Bellows, currently winding up.

Healy Tibbitts president Rick Heltzel views "best value" as a positive force which "encourages quality work from contractors and helps the entire industry in the long run."

And, Audrey Hidano, immediate past president of BIA-Hawaii (Building Industry Association), says many BIA contractors at a late fall BIA dinner meeting "felt that 'best value contracting' and 'performance based contracting' strengthens contractors who strive to perform at that higher level."

Combatting the Mainland Invasion

"It can be very helpful," says PER Inc.'s Eric Soto, referring to the military's "best value" bidding process. "The military no longer has to stay with the low bidder. They can go with innovation and quality." On the down side, Soto reflects the concerns of many of you when he mentions mainland construction companies that "come in with all this so-called background and expertise, and the local bidder loses the job."

"Best value bidding encourages quality work from contractors and helps the entire industry in the long run." — Rick Heltzel, president, Healy Tibbitts Builders, Inc.

Which brings us to a vital point. When we first did this story on military construction two years ago, Hawaii State Sen. Cal Kawamoto had proposed legislation which would define a "state resident" for the use of federal contracting officers in enforcing employment preferences which are provided in federal law, for local residents. This refers to Law 99-190 section 8078 which mandates that in states "not contiguous with another state," and "having an unemployment rate in excess of the national average rate of unemployment," there would be a provision in Dept. of Defense contracts "requiring the contractor to employ, for the purpose of performing that portion of the contract in such state not contiguous with another state, individuals who are residents of such state..."

Kawamoto's proposal referenced the fact that "the federal law had not been strictly enforced" and "many defense construction and service contracts have been awarded to out-of-state contractors that hire individuals that move to Hawaii just to work on these particular defense contracts. This apparently is within the scope of the law, though clearly not the intent of section 8078."

The bottom line is that even though the military, in its contracting, requires companies to include compliance with Section 8078, one of the loopholes was the fact that there was no definition of "state resident" in section 8078 so that additional proof of state residency could be enforced.

When B.I. reported on this issue last February, the senate had not taken final action, so nothing had changed. Sen. Kawamoto, however, had not given up, and promised to try to get the proposal passed that session.

Hawaii Resident Now Defined

Sen. Kawamoto's persistence paid off. HB139 CD1 passed toward the end of the last legislative session. In short, it defines a state

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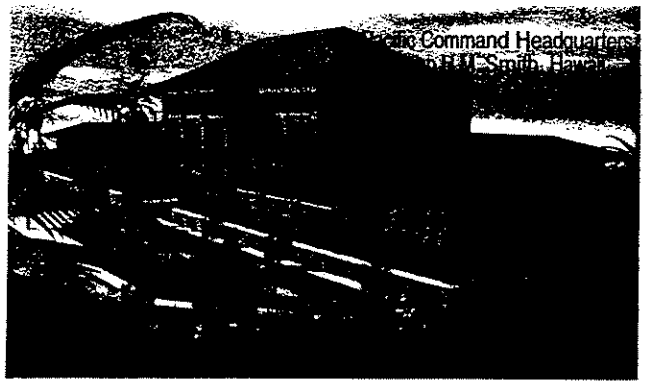

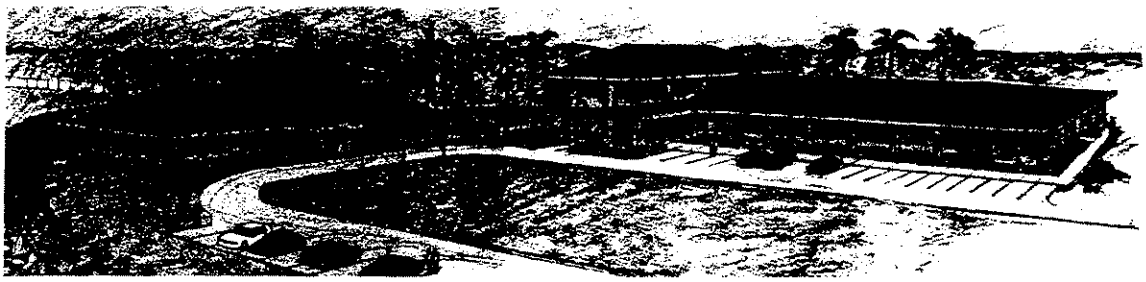

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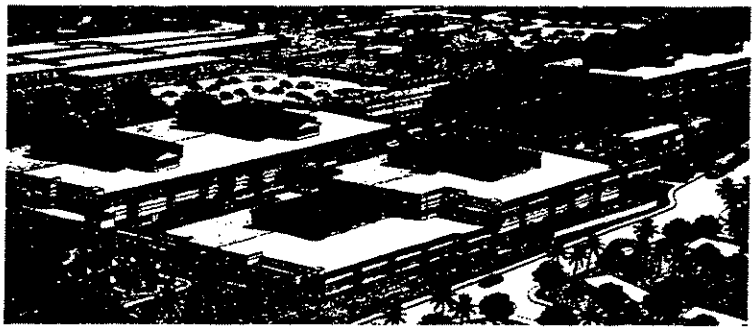
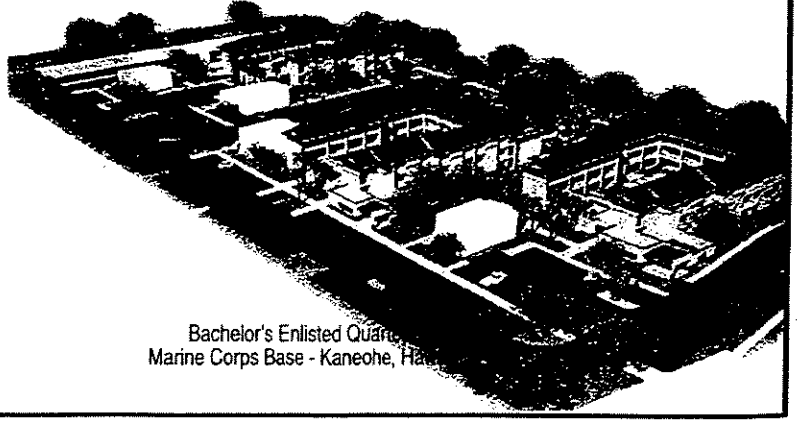


Elementary/Middle School - Anderson AFB, Guam



Bachelor's Enlisted Quart
Marine Corps Base - Kaneohe, Ha

Hawaiian Dredging's Military Projects:

- Fuel Modernization Consolidation of JP-8 Fleet & Industrial Supply Center, Pearl Harbor (completion date 1/2002)
- Hale Moku Navy Family Housing Replacement (6/2001)
- Guam Army National Guard Armory (3/2001)
- Improve 102 MFH Units (PAIP IX) Anderson AFB Guam (1/2001)
- Bilge & Oily Waste (package) Collection & Processing Facility, Phase 1, Pearl Harbor (finished)
- Kaneohe BEQ (finished)

Future Strategy

Almost all of you told us that the

private sector work," says PER's Soto. "Although the military has been more than fair with us, the work is down." PER currently is busy with several subdivisions and private homes in Kailua Kona in addition to its military work.

Healy Tibbitts' Heltzel says, "We specialize in wharves and waterfront projects, and we're identifying less work than we have in the past couple of years."

Dredging's Wilson says, "As work in Hawaii's private sector improves and local government entities begin to spend a little more, military work may not be as big as it is now, but it will continue to be important."

"Last year was an exciting beginning of the millennium for Dick Pacific," says Watts. "We won two design-build projects; the $79 million Pacific Command Headquarters project at Camp Smith and the $15 million Army Reserve Center in Barrigada, Guam, and also continued to work on 10 ongoing projects for the military. I believe there are those contractors who will do military work no matter what state the economy is in and others who would much rather do only private work when it's available. Speaking for Dick Pacific, the

Honor Awards

• *Wilson Okamoto & Associates, Inc.*, **Central Receiving/Container Operations Naval Supply Center—Pearl Harbor**

The site for the new Central Receiving/Container Operations Facility is underlain by weak soils. The new 55,000 square foot building is needed to receive and distribute container cargo for Dept. of Defense activities in Hawaii. Designing the building's foundation to use piles from a previously constructed facility posed a challenge to the design team.

An innovative design with nondestructive pile evaluation using high strain dynamic testing, low strain sonic echo testing, and selective load testing was devised. This program significantly reduced the number of piles that needed to be driven, resulting in savings of approximately $900,000. The project was completed ahead of schedule and within budget.

Wilson Okamoto & Associates, Inc. (WOA) was the structural engineer and provided project management and civil engineering design services to the U.S. Navy, Pacific Division for construction of the Central Receiving/Container Operations Facility at Pearl Harbor.

Central Receiving/Container Operations Naval Supply Center—Pearl Harbor

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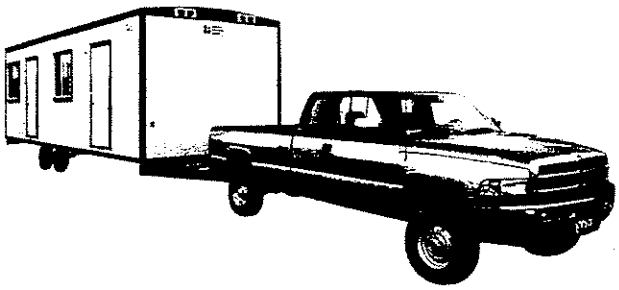

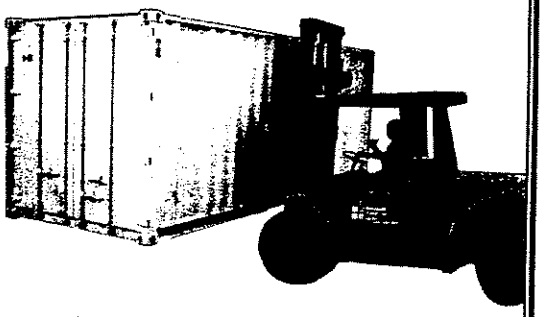

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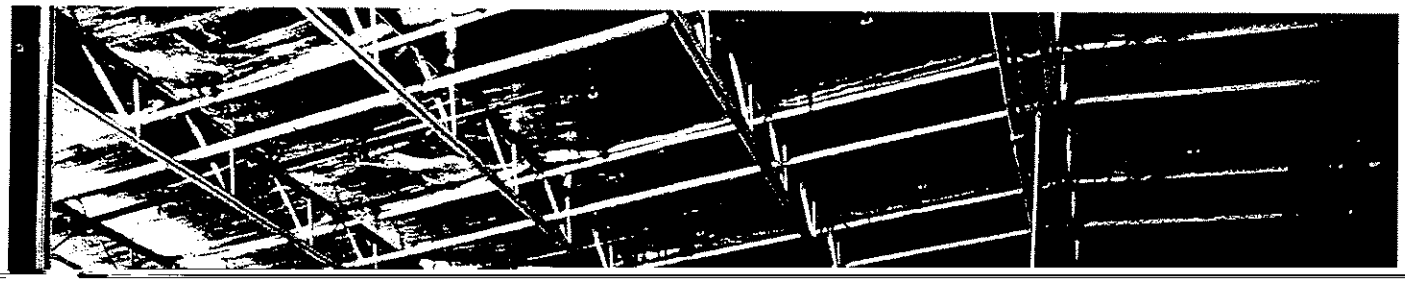

PEARL HARBOR

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, February 21, 2005

Navy's $84M development deal is changing the face of Pearl Harbor

By Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writer

The Navy's unique $84 million development deal is changing the landscape around Pearl Harbor.

Hundreds of renovated homes will soon be ready to rent at Iroquois Point, a "plantation-style" vision has been approved for a new Ford Island community, and a 5,000-square-foot tented visitors center stands near the USS Arizona Memorial, shading tourists and angering World War II veterans.

TOP: Homes on the north side of Iroquois Point, each of which received a $35,000 face-lift, should be ready for use in March. ABOVE: An artist's rendering of a Ford Island community that will have a World War II-era look and feel.

Photo, illustration courtesy of Ford Island Properties

When finished over the next few years, the projects will affect thousands of people, including active-duty military personnel looking for housing, business owners looking for storage and tourists looking for a place to sit while waiting for the next memorial tour.

Work began in the summer of 2003 after the Navy leased or sold five underused properties in exchange for in-kind construction and infrastructure repairs on Ford Island. The deal with Hunt Building Co. and Fluor Federal Services LLC — a joint venture now operating as Ford Island Properties — was unprecedented and made possible through special legislation passed by Congress in 1999.

The Navy gave the developers 65-year leases at Iroquois Point and Pu'uloa, a 34-acre parcel on Ford Island and the 6.6-acre Halawa Landing. The developers also were allowed to purchase 695 acres of housing at Kalaeloa after three years and were given outright ownership of the 515-acre former Waikele Naval Magazine.

So far, the Navy is happy with the pace of work both on and off Ford Island, saying some of it is ahead of schedule. Without a deal like this, the Navy would never have been able to finance the kind of renovations being done, said Joe Calcara, a realty officer with the Naval Facilities Command at Pearl Harbor.

"In some ways, this is saving Ford Island," he said. "It is giving it life. It is giving it what we needed."

Huge face-lift

The biggest transformation so far has been at Iroquois Point, where the developers have had to improve property that the Navy neglected for years, said Steve Colon, senior vice president at Hunt Building Co.

Fewer than half of the 1,463 homes on the point are finished and the work has cost about $20 million, Colon said. The first homes, all on the north side of Iroquois Point, should be ready for use next month. Another $5 million worth of work on the south side and at Pu'uloa is in the early stages because many of the homes are occupied, he said.

Beyond that, several million dollars also will be invested for amenities, such as a community center, but the budgets have not yet been set, Colon said.

Built in the 1960s, the homes on the north side were empty when the renovation began in August 2003, with more than 100 tradesmen working on a daily basis. Workers went block by block.

"Each home got a $35,000 face-lift," Colon said. "It was a huge, huge undertaking."

The tented Pearl Harbor Visitors Center has drawn anger from some officials and veterans, who say

New paint inside and out, trellised entries, renovated kitchens and bathrooms, ceiling fans, storage and fencing were included.

Their best feature follows the time-honored real-estate maxim — location.

Not everything arranged by Ford Island Properties has been greeted with enthusiasm.

At the Halawa Landing — a slab of asphalt and weeds wedged between the manicured grounds of the Arizona Memorial Visitors Center and the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park — the Navy lease allowed the developers to set up a retail operation.

Doug Lentz, superintendent of the USS Arizona Memorial, said he has no opinion on Brent's operation, "good or bad."

"Everybody has different perceptions," Lentz said. "Right now I have an open mind."

U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawai'i, has been trying to get the parties involved to find a way to create a single visitors center.

"The Arizona Memorial Visitors Center is stuck on land that is unsuitable for what it is doing now," he said. "It is sinking. There is no parking. People sit and wait in the sun. I said, 'Why don't you guys come together and put something comprehensive together that will embody the legacy of the Arizona Memorial?' "

Abercrombie said they listened.

"That seemed to make sense to them," he said.

But even if they reject it, change is coming, guaranteed by a 65-year lease.

"For some people, things of this nature are an emotional issue," Calcara said. "From our perspective, the developer is in compliance with the lease."

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Posted on: Friday, January 7, 2005

USS Hawai'i to be based at Pearl after commission

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Pearl Harbor will be home port for the third Virginia-class attack submarine being built for the Navy, a vessel with a sweet name: USS Hawai'i.

Rear Adm. John Donnelly, deputy commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, said the 377-foot nuclear-powered sub, with the capability to operate in shallow waters and drop off Navy SEALs, will be commissioned in 2006.

Meanwhile, as the Navy looks to shift the balance of attack submarines from the Atlantic to the Pacific to meet changing needs, two other subs may be based in Hawai'i, Donnelly said.

Such a shift, not yet finalized, would be part of a reconfiguring of the fleet from 40 percent of attack submarines in the Pacific and 60 percent in the Atlantic, to a 50-50 split now, and 60 percent in the Pacific and 40 percent in the Atlantic in the future.

Six attack submarines would be moved to the Pacific under that scenario, Donnelly said.

The capabilities of the Virginia-class submarines reflect a changing world and new threats of quieter diesel submarines in the Pacific.

The 17 Los Angeles-class attack submarines based out of Pearl Harbor were designed and built for open-water submarine warfare when the former Soviet Union was the main threat, Donnelly said.

"We've adapted those platforms to this new environment that we live in today, but the Virginia-class is the next step in the enhancement," Donnelly said.

A Virginia-class sub "is an extremely quiet platform and carries a lot of new technologies that we've not used before in our submarines that make it a very capable platform for littoral (coastal) warfare," he said.

The Pentagon is looking for ways to trim the defense budget, and future Virginia-class submarines and other Navy systems are coming under more scrutiny. Nevertheless Hawai'i not only stands to gain submarines, but possibly an aircraft carrier strike group as well.

That would pump millions of dollars into Hawai'i's economy.

State Rep. K. Mark Takai, D-34th (Pearl City, Newtown, Royal Summit), said yesterday at the annual Hawai'i Military Partnership Conference, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, that a resolution will be introduced in the next legislative session supporting the return of a portion of the former Barbers Point to the Navy to show support for the carrier basing plan.

Sen. Dan Inouye, D-Hawai'i, has said the Navy was considering his suggestion to disperse a carrier's 70 to 80 aircraft at Barbers Point, the Marine Corps Base at Kane'ohe Bay, Wheeler Army Airfield and Barking Sands on Kaua'i to minimize jet noise.

"We want to support the efforts to bring an aircraft carrier group to Hawai'i," Takai said. "If it means we have to give back (part of the former Barbers Point), we'd like the Navy to consider that because we're willing to work with them."

Gov. Linda Lingle in August took part in a keel-laying ceremony in Rhode Island for USS Hawai'i, the third of the Virginia class. In October, the Navy commissioned the USS Virginia, the lead ship of the new class of submarines, which are configured to dock with the Advanced SEAL Delivery System, a separate sub that rides piggyback.

The USS Hawai'i will have greater stealth, modularity for upgrades, can dive to depths greater than 800 feet, and will have a crew of about 130 like its Los Angeles-class predecessor. Other Virginia-class subs are named Texas, North Carolina and New Mexico.

At the Chamber of Commerce meeting, Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III, commander of U.S. Army Pacific at Fort Shafter, said the Army is transforming at Schofield Barracks to include a Stryker Brigade based around eight-wheeled vehicles, and a reconfigured 3rd Brigade with greater combat capability.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Posted on: Thursday, October 14, 2004

HAWAI'I BRIEFS

Ships due today at Pearl Harbor

Advertiser Staff

Three ships with the San Diego-based USS Belleau Wood Expeditionary Strike Group — minus the 2,200 Marines they left with — are expected back in Hawai'i today for a several-day port call before heading home.

The 820-foot amphibious assault ship Belleau Wood, amphibious ship Denver and dock landing ship Comstock left Hawai'i in June for Iraq.

Marines with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit battled insurgents in Najaf, Iraq, in August.

The Pearl Harbor-based destroyer Hopper and submarine Charlotte deployed as part of the strike group, but left later in June.

USS Chung-Hoon to arrive Friday The Navy's newest Arleigh Burke class guided missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) is scheduled to arrive in Pearl Harbor Sept. 10. The ship left San Diego Aug. 31 bound for Hawai'i. The ship will be commissioned Sept. 18 on Ford Island. Chung-Hoon is named for Hawaii native Rear Adm. Gordon Paie'a Chung-Hoon. He commanded USS Sigsbee during WWII and received a Navy Cross and Silver Star. For more info on USS Chung-Hoon, visit their website at **www.chung-hoon.navy.mil.**

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, June 27, 2004

Naval war games days away

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Navies from 15 nations are converging on Hawai'i for war games that are part of the biggest naval exercise in the Pacific.

More than 40 ships, seven submarines, 100 aircraft and almost 18,000 sailors, airmen, Marines, soldiers and Coast Guard personnel are participating in Rim of the Pacific 2004, which gets under way Tuesday and runs through July 27.

The big exercise, staged every other year, will include the sinking of decommissioned ships, cat-and-mouse games between stealthy diesel submarines and ships and planes that hunt them, aircraft carrier flight operations, Marines storming the beach at Bellows, and the appearance of a more than 300-foot "wave-piercing" leased catamaran that has both the Army and Navy interested.

"RIMPAC will enhance the tactical proficiency of participating units in a wide array of combined operations at sea," U.S. Pacific Fleet said. "By enhancing interoperability, RIMPAC helps promote stability in the Pacific Rim region to the benefit of all participating nations."

Participating merchants on O'ahu also benefit big. The Navy estimates the local economy will get a $25 million boost from visiting sailors expected to shell out $100 a day while on leave.

"Let's look at it this way: You've got about 18,000 people descending on Hawai'i. A lot of them are staying in the hotels, they are going to patronize the local restaurants," said Lt. Erik Reynolds, a 3rd Fleet officer and spokesman for RIMPAC.

Ship arrivals are somewhat staggered, and sailors are expected to have some leave on arrival, and at the conclusion of their involvement in the exercise.

Participating nations include Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Peru, South Korea, Britain and the United States. Observer nations include Ecuador, Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore and Thailand.

RIMPAC has been held periodically since 1971. Two years ago, war needs meant an aircraft carrier wasn't available for the exercise, and with 11,000 personnel involved, there were fewer participants.

Despite ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Stennis and six other U.S. carriers out of a fleet of 12 will be at sea simultaneously this summer as part of an exercise to test the ability of the Navy flattops to be ready to deploy on shorter notice and for varying lengths of time.

Among the ships sure to get attention this year at RIMPAC is the HSV-2 Swift, a leased aluminum-hulled catamaran and successor to the similar HSV-X1 Joint Venture in U.S. Army service.

The giant transports that from the front look as if they are floating above the water rather than on it, draw only about 11 feet of water, making them ideal for getting close to shore, and speed along at more

than 40 knots. The Army's Logistics Support Vessels average about 12 knots.

Testing by the Marines showed that one high-speed vessel could transport almost 1,000 troops and 152 Humvees.

The Army is interested in using a similar ship it calls a Theater Support Vessel, or TSV, to ferry its planned fast-response Stryker Brigade of 291 eight-wheeled armored troop transports.

The leased HSV-X1 Joint Venture is at Pearl Harbor now unrelated to RIMPAC, and will be here through the beginning of August.

Next month it will take part in an exercise with the Indian navy off the Big Island. Although the Joint Venture technically is part of the 545th Transportation Company Detachment based at Ford Island, the transport doesn't spend much time in Hawai'i.

The U.S. Navy has eyed HSVs for transportation and counter-mine operations. Adm. Tom Fargo, commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said in March that he was looking at putting special operations forces and Marines on high-speed vessels to interdict terrorists operating at sea.

Hawai'i Superferry Inc., meanwhile, plans to offer high-speed service between the Hawaiian Islands starting in 2006.

For RIMPAC, the HSV-2 Swift will be used for countermine exercises and in conjunction with trials of an autonomous underwater robot called Seaglider, a 6-foot vehicle with stubby wings that monitors underwater conditions.

"When Marines go onto a beach, that sort of information is very valuable," Reynolds said.

The diesel submarines Rankin from Australia, Simpson from Chile, Narushio from Japan and mine countermeasure ships Defender and Avenger are among the visiting ships already at Pearl Harbor for RIMPAC. The aircraft carrier Stennis arrives Tuesday, and the HSV-2 Swift is expected July 5.

Sporting events including soccer, baseball and surfing competitions are planned among the countries, and a big Fourth of July "block party" with fireworks and an appearance by comedian Jay Mohr is planned at Pearl Harbor.

RIMPAC also has a ripple effect beyond visits to Waikiki Beach. Y. Hata & Co. Ltd. on Sand Island Access Road, which has contracts to supply U.S. Navy ships with all food items except milk and bread, is extra busy with ships such as the Stennis and its 5,000-member crew pulling in.

"We work weeks in advance with lots of overtime for our employees in order to fulfill our obligations," said Laurence Vogel, president and CEO of the food distribution company.

"It's safe to say RIMPAC is one of the largest exercises (in Hawai'i) and has the greatest impact," said Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i President Jim Tollefson. "It does have a major impact for a period of time. We're pleased with it for two reasons. One, it helps support the security and well-being of the United States and fosters cooperation with our allies in the Pacific, and two, there's the economic impact that falls out of that."

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ATGMIDPAC Pearl Harbor Unveils New Anti-Terrorist Training Facility

Story Number: NNS040609-19
6/9/2004

By Journalist 2nd Class Devin Wright, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) -- Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific (ATGMIDPAC) unveiled its new Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) Training Center at a ribbon-cutting ceremony June 7 at Hangar 54 on Ford Island.

The center was established to deliver training required for Navy ships and submarines to become more defensive, and raise awareness throughout the Navy and the Coast Guard.

The AT/FP Training Center offers formal shipboard courses of instruction in small arms marksmanship, armed sentry, shipboard security engagement weapons, visit board search and seizure, force protection fundamentals, non lethal weapons, assessing a swimmer attack and high speed target intercept.

During the opening remarks, Commodore David Armitage, commander, ATGMIDPAC said the center trains shipboard personnel for typical warfare.

"ATGMIDPAC is at the forefront of the effort to fight terrorism," said Armitage. "Six months after 9/11

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, June 2, 2004

O'ahu briefs

Advertiser Staff

CENTRAL

USS Chung-Hoon bound for Pearl

A guided-missile destroyer named for a Honolulu man and World War II hero, The USS Chung-Hoon, will be commissioned Sept. 18 at Pearl Harbor, where it will be home-ported.

Rear Adm. Gordon Paiea Chung-Hoon, who was born in Honolulu in 1910 and died in 1979, received the Navy Cross and Silver Star "for conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism" as commanding officer of the destroyer Sigsbee.

Chung-Hoon, who attended the U.S. Naval Academy and graduated in May 1934, received the awards for his courage and leadership following a kamikaze attack on the Sigsbee in 1945. Chung-Hoon was a commander at the time.

The Chung-Hoon, christened in 2003 in Pascagoula, Miss., is expected to bring 22 officers, 293 enlisted people, and $17 million in salaries to Hawai'i.

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - May 24, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/05/24/focus3.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

IN DEPTH: MILITARY

From the May 21, 2004 print edition

Oahu would welcome carrier crew, families

Clynton Namuo
Pacific Business News

Though many hurdles stand in the way of an aircraft carrier being stationed in Hawaii, community members say they are willing to scale any obstacle to accommodate a possible influx of military personnel and their families.

The state Department of Transportation already has two construction projects set for Oahu's Ewa side, which has seen increased development, to ease mounting traffic congestion, said spokesman Scott Ishikawa. That would help alleviate problems caused by more people moving into the area, he said.

One possible location to house the carrier's air wing is Kalaeloa, formerly Barber's Point Naval Air Station, meaning increased traffic flow to the already burgeoning area.

The first project, scheduled to begin in June, will widen Fort Weaver Road from four to six lanes from Laulaunui Street to Farrington Highway at a cost of $6 million. The second phase, which will proceed to Geiger Road, is expected to begin late next year at an estimated cost of $20 million.

The second project is the planned north-south road, which would provide a second avenue out of Kapolei and link to the H-1 Freeway, Ishikawa said. The project is estimated to cost between $20 million and $30 million.

"If you're going to have an influx of military families into the area, those are the two projects we hope will alleviate traffic," he said. "You're going to have to get out of Kalaeloa one way or another and we're hoping this will help."

In addition to traffic burdens, added military personnel could strain Hawaii's public schools, but officials say the state is ready to step up and provide schooling for any new students, because the benefits of a carrier more than likely would outweigh the costs, according to Department of Education spokesman Greg Knudsen.

"Something of that size would undoubtedly necessitate new classrooms, if not complete schools," he said. "We would need to look at the capacity of the schools and where they stand now."

Knudsen said that to ease overcrowding some state schools have utilized multitracking, which staggers scheduling so that only three-fourths of a school's students are in session at any given time. However, that approach most likely would not work for military students.

Military families tend to be younger with more children going to elementary schools, Knudsen said, making multitrack schools a bad fit. In addition, schools in the Pearl Harbor area are already facing classroom constraints as the U.S. Navy's recent construction of homes on Ford Island has led to an increase in area residents.

"We are probably close to maxing out facility-wise," said Elynne Chung, principal of Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary. "Sometimes a Band-Aid solution is to put portable units or modular units on campuses."

Even with budget and size constraints, school officials have no qualms about accepting more military students.

"We would certainly welcome them if they come," said Pearl Harbor Elementary Principal Ellamarie Savidge.

Although the state will take the lead on schooling military children, the Navy will handle most of the housing issues related to any deployment, said Derick Dahilig, spokesman for the state Department of Human Services, which oversees the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii.

"We're going to see what we can do and what we need to do and what impact it may have on the housing market," he said.

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - May 24, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/05/24/focus5.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

IN DEPTH: MILITARY

From the May 21, 2004 print edition

Military facilities build in anti-terrorism measures

Terrence Sing
Pacific Business News

The design of new American military buildings is evolving to respond to the very real threat of terrorist attacks both on U.S. soil and overseas.

In Hawaii, anti-terrorism features have been integrated into new military housing quarters at Pearl Harbor and at military installations, such as the Pacific Command Headquarters building at Camp H.M. Smith on Oahu.

Honolulu-based Baldridge & Associates Structural Engineering Inc. and Rim Architects worked with contractor Dick Pacific Construction Co. Ltd. on the design of the five-story, 108-unit, 50,000-square-foot bachelor enlisted quarters P-593 at Pearl Harbor. The $14.3 million building can accommodate 208 enlisted personnel.

This building employs what Baldridge & Associates calls an innovative base hanger system, which satisfies U.S. Department of Defense progressive-collapse criteria.

The firm designed a system to support the building's structure if one or more exterior walls are destroyed in a blast.

If parts of the supports at the base of the building are lost, the weight is supported and redistributed to reinforcements from above.

The design is simple, inexpensive and effective, said Baldridge & Associates President Steven Baldridge. The system added about 3 percent to the overall cost, he said.

"Because the base hanger system was extremely efficient, it was easy to implement from a construction and labor standpoint and materials too," he said. "It actually exceeded the military requirements for the project."

The standards for military buildings and facilities are continually improved, added David McVeigh, senior vice president of Rim Architects. The Pearl Harbor bachelor enlisted quarters is among the first military buildings in Hawaii to incorporate new anti-terrorism force-protection features, he said.

Baldridge and Rim also collaborated on the renovation of the 17-story, 156-unit bachelor enlisted quarters P-594 at Pearl Harbor. It also is being renovated to include anti-terrorism force-protection features.

Both firms also worked on the design of the new Pacific Command Center at Camp Smith completed last year.

The six-story, 274,000-square-foot building cost $86 million and incorporates a unique steel frame structure that meets Department of Defense missing-column and blast criteria.

"We researched different structural systems that could basically span twice the distance if a column was lost," Baldridge said. "It could resist substantial abnormal loading and the basic structural frame would still remain standing."

The technology reportedly saved the U.S. Navy more than $2 million over other concrete proposals.

Rim Architects was hired by the U.S. Air Force to review the design of new gate upgrades to entrances at bases in North Carolina, Illinois, Washington and Kansas. It has hired Baldridge & Associates to review the designs for compliance to U.S. Department of Defense standards.

"We are importing business to Hawaii," McVeigh said. "We are able to reach out beyond Hawaii and bring back work to our local staff."

Reach Terrence Sing at 955-8001 or tsing@bizjournals.com.

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Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - May 24, 2004
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PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

From the May 21, 2004 print edition

Carrier for Hawaii -- a big 'what if?'

Harold Nedd
Pacific Business News

Where can a local economy go today for a boost? To the military.

Its officials say that the U.S. Department of Defense in Washington, D.C., gets lobbied almost every day by states from California to Virginia looking for a boon.

In Hawaii, the economy has watched the hard-charging military rival a top-ranked, $10 billion tourism industry in jobs and revenue it generates for the state.

And the state's $4 billion military industry may still not be done.

What if Hawaii gets a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier?

It would bring roughly $333 million in personal income to the state, said Gilbert Yochum, a professor and director of the Economic Forecasting Project at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va., the home port for five Navy carriers.

Yochum also pegs the direct annual spending from a carrier in Hawaii at $150 million -- enough money for the University of Hawaii to build a Stan Sheriff Center on three other islands and still have $24 million left over.

That is not the only big number.

A carrier would drop between 12,000 and 15,000 more sailors and their families on Hawaii's population, which would have to make room in a tight housing market, cope with extra traffic on highways and find empty desks in school classrooms.

It would be almost like plopping a Mililani Mauka, the new subdivision with about 6,000 homes, into Pearl Harbor.

"These are not like floating cities," Yochum said. "They are floating cities."

Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, whose words carry clout at the Department of Defense, said there is "serious" discussion in Washington about basing a carrier in Hawaii.

Speculation is that a decision isn't that far away.

National security efforts to root out terrorism will be the difference maker, said retired Adm. Ronald Zlatoper, a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's Military Affairs Council.

Hawaii puts air power and troops -- including Navy Seals, who specialize in missions such as storming an enemy stronghold -- closer to terror threats in Southeast Asia.

It makes sense to have a carrier and its air wing based in Hawaii, said Inouye, who has been doing his part to pump up high-ranking military officials, including the chief of Naval operations.

A spokesman for Gov. Linda Lingle said she also supports a carrier, but is not throwing herself in front of the effort.

Even the state's top military officials are avoiding publicity on the effort, which they say could trigger panic among other local governments if their leaders believe they might lose a carrier to Hawaii.

But like it not, all the breathless talk in business circles about a carrier has thrust efforts to base one here in the glare of the spotlight.

It's been contemplated for at least a year. Two key issues have been the barrier: where to put the ship, which can be as long as five football fields, and where to put the 60 planes it carries.

Military officials tell PBN that the planes would have to fly off the carrier before it enters port, which would likely be Pearl Harbor if the ship comes to the state.

An airfield in Kalaeloa -- formerly known as Barber's Point -- is said to be the top choice for the planes.

Another concern is housing for the sailors and their families. Military officials say they would have to build additional housing for both single and married sailors, including those with children.

While their multimillion-dollar plans to develop Ford Island eventually would help, military officials admit they are still working on answers to housing and other immediate concerns.

Zlatoper said that once a decision is made in the next several months, there will be ample time to soothe concerns. The process for bringing a carrier to a state takes several years to complete, he said.

That would give commercial and recreational vessels in Hawaii plenty of time to prepare. They are not allowed within 100 yards of a carrier, according to the Coast Guard. They also must operate at minimum speed within 500 yards of a carrier, the Coast Guard said.

The trade-off seems worth it to San Diego, which is getting a new aircraft carrier that indirectly will create 5,360 jobs and pump $270 million into that economy.

It also will trigger $150 million worth of spending directly into the economy, said Ryan T. Singer, research analyst for the Economic Research Bureau of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce.

In addition, the carrier is expected to make an estimated $40 million worth of contracts with the Navy directly available to businesspeople from the San Diego region, Singer said.

On top of all that, for every $1 million increase in military spending, the region will add nearly 14 jobs, Singer said.

The numbers from the Norfolk region of southeastern Virginia -- better known as Hampton Roads -- are even more impressive.

The military is to that region what tourism is to Hawaii. It's a $19 billion to $20 billion engine that drives the region's economy, Yochum said. Five carriers help the military account for a third of the economy, he said.

But despite being an economic powerhouse, there is one caveat with the military. It is not the most reliable economic engine, Yochum said.

It swoops in and out of an economy.

"What the federal government gives, it can also take away," Yochum said. "I wouldn't look at a carrier or the military as some sort of guaranteed income source."

Reach Harold Nedd at 955-8039 or hnedd@bizjournals.com.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, May 4, 2004

Navy destroyer to go out in blaze of RIMPAC glory

By Timothy Hurley
Advertiser Staff Writer

A decommissioned Navy destroyer is being brought back into service for one final voyage — a one-way trip to the bottom of the ocean.

The USS Decatur, decommissioned in 1983 after 27 years of sea duty, will make its final appearance during RIMPAC 2004, the biennial multinational naval exercise north of Kaua'i.

The ship left Port Hueneme, Calif., last week and is being towed to Hawai'i. It is expected to arrive in a couple of weeks and will be moored at Pearl Harbor until July. That's when it has an appointment with a missile or two during an exercise involving military units from the United States and seven other countries.

At least a half-dozen former Navy ships have been blasted from the water in previous RIMPAC exercises.

During its day, the Decatur was a proud warship, serving as a spacecraft recovery ship in 1961, keeping Russian vessels at bay during the 1962 blockade of Cuba and engaging in Vietnam War missions from 1970 to 1973.

Although the Decatur was stricken from the regular Navy in the early '80s, its career was not over. The ex-Decatur, as the Navy now calls it, was part of the Pacific Reserve Fleet until it was converted in 1994 to a "self-defense test ship," conducting trials of systems for countering cruise missiles and other threats until last year.

Guy Herrington of Marydel, Md., a Decatur crewman from 1959 to 1963, said he was sad to learn the fate of his favorite Navy ship, but he was philosophical.

"It's like all of us. We grow old and pass away," he said. "I think it's a good thing for the Decatur. Why not go down with a missile shot?"

Reach Timothy Hurley at thurley@honoluluadvertiser.com or (808) 244-4880.

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NAVY newsstand The Source for Navy News www.news.navy.mil

Pearl Harbor's Oklahoma Hall Wins Award

Story Number: NNS040508-03
5/8/2004

By Journalist 3rd Class Devin Wright, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) -- Oklahoma Hall Bachelor Enlisted Quarters at Pearl Harbor won an Award of Excellence in the Design-Build category from Build Hawaii in April.

Build Hawaii is a commitee made up of various contractors and architects throughout Hawaii who judge the structure and design of buildings built that year.

The construction awards were introduced this year by Build Hawaii to honor "bigger, tougher, and sometimes more elegant" construction projects completed during the past year. Projects were rated on innovation, difficulty, community and environmental sensitivity, as well as safety.

"The main structural challenge was to provide an economical structure that met the anti-terrorism, force protection and progressive collapse criteria, without significantly impacting the architectural and functional requirements of the project," said Maude Omai, marketing manager for Dick Pacific Construction. "The design-build team of Dick Pacific, RIM Architects, and Baldridge & Associates Structural Engineers (BASE) evaluated a number of different structural systems in order to satisfy the Department of Defense progressive collapse. On this project, BASE developed a system of coupled shear walls designed to hang the unsupported portion of the structure if one or more exterior walls are destroyed in a blast," said Omai.

"This innovative design is the first building nationwide to address the DoD progressive collapse requirements," she added.

Some service members say they feel safer in the innovative building.

"Since we are one of the tallest buildings, we're a target," said Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Christopher Couto of Navy Region Security. "It just makes you sleep better knowing the place you're sleeping is built to withstand a terrorist attack."

Along with the safety issue, Couto enjoys the conveniences the hall offers, as well.

"The mailboxes are right downstairs from the rooms, so you don't have to walk all over base to get your mail," said Couto. "They come with a 27-inch television, and they have the rooms set up so that if you want to use the furniture as a divider for more privacy, you can."

Culinary Specialist Seaman Brian Wallace of Naval Station Pearl Harbor said Oklahoma Hall is not what he envisioned a Navy barracks to be.

"This is the first place I've lived as a Sailor," said Wallace. "I didn't expect a barracks to have a water fountain out front, a lounge room with a big screen television and pool table," he said. "This is more like a hotel than a barracks. You could stay here all weekend and not get bored."

The $14.3 million design-build project is a five-story building with 104-units that can accommodate 208 Sailors. Each unit features electronic card entry locksets, central air conditioning and a kitchenette.

Falling within the historic boundaries of Pearl Harbor, it was designed to be compatible with the historic details, building components and shapes of the area.

Dick Pacific Construction is currently building another barracks next to Oklahoma Hall and completing

renovations of Smallwood Hall.

For related news, visit the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnrh.

BID SCHEDULE continued

04/30 4:30 PM **File # 8954**

Add: A RFP due date postponed from 02/20/04; 03/25/04

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - WAIKIKI BEACH SMALL-SCALE SAND PUMPING PROJECT, OAHU -

Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, Kalanimoku Bldg. , Rm. 220, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 - phone 587-0381, fax 587-0283.

The State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Conservation and Coastal lands (OCCL) is soliciting propos-

support the proposed storage facility. A fuel feeder line and 70 me of additional sheet pile bulkhead will be included as additive ite Department of Defense Anti-terrorism/Force Protection Construc Standards are incorporated into this project.

Site construction (site demolition, earthwork for structures and p ments, excavation, backfilling and compacting for utilities, rub marine fenders, marine hardware, reinforced plastic fender work, stressed concrete piles (wharf, fender, relieving platform and waterfr transit shed/warehouse, steel sheet piles, drilled shafts, water distri tion, sanitary sewers, storm drainage, untreated permeable base cou subbase course for flexible paving, graded crushed aggregate b course for flexible pavement, bituminous concrete

above information, as indicated, may delay the processing of your request and is at no fault of the Government. Planholder's list will be available after the solicitation is issued and may obtained at http://www.hawaii.wnbt.daps.mil/PACDIV/pacdiv.htm. Please note that the DAPS planholder's list may not be all inclusive.

Any request for solicitation received with 10 working days prior to the closing date will be processed in accordance with the above procedures. However, there is no guarantee that the recipient will receive the solicitation prior to the closing date. Amendments will be posted on the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil for downloading. This will normally be the only method of distributing amendments. Thereofre, it is the offeror's responsibility to check the website periodically for any amendments to this solicitation. It is highly recommended that all interested offerors create an account at the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil.

A copy of the CD-ROM may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $25,000,000 and $100,000,000

PLANHOLDERS:

Abhe & Svoboda Inc. 808-682-4833
. . . . . Fax: 808-682-0780
Alex Construction, Inc. 808-537-5766
. . . . . Fax: 808-537-3387
American Construction Co. (Mainland) 425-259-0118
. . . . . Fax: 425-339-4155
Bivens Electric 808-455-5222
. . . . . Fax: 808-455-5223
Bodell Construction Co. (Mainland). 801-261-4343
. . . . . Fax: 801-261-1020
General Construction Company (Mainland) 360-779-3200
. . . . . Fax: 360-394-1444
Healy Tibbitts Builders, Inc. 808-487-3664
. . . . . Fax: 808-487-3660
Maryl Pacific Construction, Inc. 808-545-2920
. . . . . Fax: 808-545-3584
Miller Thompson Constructors, Inc. (Mainland) 510-215-5200
. . . . . Fax: 510-215-0515
Nova Group, Inc. (Mainland). 707-257-3200
. . . . . Fax: 707-257-2774
Robison Construction, Inc. 808-838-1360
. . . . . Fax: 808-838-7639
Swinerton Pacific 808-521-8408
. . . . . Fax: 808-521-8438
Taylor Pacific (Mainland) 949-475-0444
. . . . . Fax: 949-475-0440
U.S. Pacific Construction, Inc. 808-540-0777
. . . . . Fax: 808-524-6803
Unlimited Construction Services, Inc. 808-245-7843
. . . . . Fax: 808-245-9622

05/06 2:00 PM **File # 9206**

• KALIHI VALLEY HOMES SITE AND DWELLING IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 3A, OAHU - JOB NO. 02-031-105-F Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH), Suite 300, 677 Queen Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 — phone 587-0530/587-0535.

Work includes site work (site demolition and removal, removal and patching work, earthwork, site preparation, earthwork for utilities, soil treatment for termite/vegetation control, mesh treatment for termite control, drainage system, underground sprinkler system, chain link fences and gates, landscaping, concrete walkways, curbs and gutters, asphaltic concrete paving, water system, sewer system, vinyl fence, lawns and grass), concrete (cast in place concrete, concrete repair), masonry (unit masonry assemblies), metals (structural steel, cold formed metal framing, metal fabrications), wood and plastics (carpentry, preservative treated lumber, solid surface surrounds and shower pans), thermal and moisture protection (membrane waterproofing, firestopping, preformed metal roofing, flashing and sheet metal, sealants), doors and windows (wood doors, access doors, aluminum screen door, PVC windows and sliding glass door, finish hardware), finishes (metal support system, gypsum wallboard, ceramic tile, resilient tile flooring, exterior finish system, interior and exterior painting), specialties (miscellaneous specialties), equipment (residential appliances), furnishings (manufactured cabinets, drapery track), mechanical (plumbing), electrical (underground electrical work, interior wiring systems, interior and exterior lighting), and other incidental related work.

The pre-bid site inspection meeting is scheduled at 9:00 a.m. on April 2, 2004 at the Kalihi Valley Homes Administration Building, 2250 Kalena Drive. All interested contractors, subcontractors and suppliers shall confirm their visit with Gail Lee, Public Housing Supervisor at (808) 832-3336. Bidders will not be allowed on the site at any other time.

Note: Due to the nature of the work contemplated, bidders must possess a valid State of Hawaii Contractor's license classification B.

Written notice of intention to bid must be filed with the above agency no later than 10 calendar days prior to the bid opening date.

Bid Guaranty: 5% of the amount of bid

Performance Bond: 100%

All work to be completed within 365 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

Liquidated Damages: $177.00 per building per day

Documents in CD format may be obtained at the Development Branch of the above agency for a non-refundable fee of $10.00 in cash or cashier's check made payable to HCDCH.

A copy of the CD may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

PLANHOLDERS:

BCP Construction of Hawaii, Inc. 808-841-4574
. . . . . Fax: 808-841-1645
Unlimited Construction Services, Inc. 808-245-7843
. . . . . Fax: 808-245-9622

Notes:

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Lodge opens on Ford Island

By Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writer

Military personnel, active duty and retired, will have a new option when staying at government-run hotels when the $22 million Navy Lodge opens today on historic Ford Island.

The lodge was created in Building 78, which, despite its generic-sounding name, is a Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark.

The Navy Lodge on Ford Island was created in Building 78, a Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark.

Eugene Tanner • The Honolulu Advertiser

The building was built in 1941 and was used as an emergency medical facility after the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor. It also housed single officers until 1984. The building was featured in the film "Tora! Tora! Tora!"

A grand-opening ceremony and Hawaiian blessing will be held at the lodge today. Guests have been staying in its suites and rooms, however, since it had a "soft opening" Jan. 12.

The old building was gutted to make way for what the Navy compares to a modern, mid-sized hotel with air-conditioned suites and rooms.

Amenities include a swimming pool, large meeting room and gift shop, but what sets it apart are the features in each

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - January 27, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/01/26/daily33.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

LATEST NEWS

10:49 AM HST Tuesday

Navy to open historic lodge

The U.S. Navy is opening the doors of the $22 million reconstructed Navy Lodge in ceremony at Ford Island Wednesday, Jan. 28, 11 a.m.

Remarks from Rear Adm. Barry McCullough, commander for the Navy in Hawaii, a Hawaiian blessing and a ribbon-cutting ceremony are to reopen the national historical landmark.

The Navy Lodge, formerly called Building 78, was designed by architect C.W. Dickey and constructed in 1941. It was the residence of bachelor officers until 1984. The Navy stopped using the building when better facilities to accommodate officers became available.

The Navy returned its attention to the derelict building after the completion of the draw bridge to Ford Island.

Comparable to a modern, midsized hotel, the $22 million Navy Lodge at Ford Island offers 150 affordable suites and rooms. Amenities at the lodge include a swimming pool, a large meeting room, a gift shop and a landscaped courtyard. Each room features satellite television, a DVD player, direct-dial telephone service and a kitchenette complete with microwave and utensils.

Patronage to the Navy Lodge is limited to active duty Navy personnel, retirees, reservists and their families.

On Dec. 7, 1941, it served as an emergency medical treatment center following the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was also featured in the 1970 film "Tora! Tora! Tora!"

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PRE-SOLICITATION NOTICES

A pre-solicitation is an advanced notice of an upcoming project due to open on or about the date listed as the "estimated bid opening." Plans and specs for these jobs will not be issued until the appropriate date following the * at the end of the job description. Sometimes, plans and specs are not issued for weeks or even months after the intended availability date. These notices become "pending" with an unknown bid opening date. Please keep in mind that these are only approximate dates. As soon as plans and specs become available the project is transferred into Bid Schedule.

Estimated Bid Opening: 03/01 2:00 PM File # 8965

*** P-193, WATERFRONT IMPROVEMENTS FOR K10-K11 - FLEET INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CENTER, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU - RFP NO. N62742-02-R-1402 ROICC, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Field Construction Contracts Branch (R110), Bldg. 62, 4262 Radford Dr., Honolulu, HI 96818 — contact: Evette Fonoimoana, phone 474-6729.**

This procurement is Unrestricted. NAICS Code 237990

This project will demolish 73m (240 feet) of the existing portion of Supply Wharf K11 and construct a new concrete wharf on concrete piles with the capacity to support supply loading and unloading operations. To create space for the upgraded wharf, the project will demolish existing waterfront transit storage/staging facility, Building 478, and construct a new 4,505 sm (48,486 sf) Waterfront Transit shed of a single story steel frame building with metal roof deck, asphalt concrete pavement, concrete and pile foundations, supports for utility service, fire protection, cargo container loading docks, and security cage. A two story CMU structure will be constructed on the northern end of the new Waterfront Transit shed to house wharf operation offices, rest rooms, break rooms, conference/training room, elevator, mechanical and electrical rooms, fire pump room and a hazardous material storage area.

Utility work will include relocation of water, drain and fuel lines, addition of two fuel risers at the West end of K-11, relocation of light poles, and the addition of operational area lighting. Electrical service from Building 479, Station K4, will be terminated for Building 478. The existing Station K4 along with the breaker and underground feeder will support the proposed storage facility. A fuel feeder line and 70 meters of additional sheet pile bulkhead will be included as additive items. Department of Defense Anti-terrorism/Force Protection Construction Standards are incorporated into this project.

The contract performance period is 640 calendar days.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) via CD-ROM only will be available on or about January 31, 2004 for a non-refundable charge of $67.92.

Your request for purchase of the CD-ROM, if mailed, should be sent to: Document Automation and Production Service, 1025 Quincy Avenue, Suite 200, Pearl Harbor Naval Base Building 550, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860 Checks shall be made payable to "Superintendent of Documents". If using a company VISA, Mastercard, or Discover card you may fax your request to (808) 473-2604. Be sure to include the cardholder's name, account number, and expiration date in your request along with your company name, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, RFP No., and project title, and whether the solicitation will be picked up at the Contracting Office. Also indicate if you are prime, subcontractor, or supplier. Mark the front of the envelope with the RFP No. [illegible]

Any request for solicitation received with 10 working days prior to the closing date will be processed in accordance with the above procedures. However, there is no guarantee that the recipient will receive the solicitation prior to the closing date. Amendments will be posted on the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil for downloading. This will normally be the only method of distributing amendments. Thereofre, it is the offeror's responsibility to check the website periodically for any amendments to this solicitation. It is highly recommended that all interested offerors create an account at the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $25,000,000 and $100,000,000

Estimated Bid Opening: 03/18 2:00 PM File # 7787

GROUNDS AND TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR CENTRAL/WEST OAHU - RFP NO. N62742-02-R-2212 ROICC, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Field Construction Contracts Branch (R110), Bldg. 62, 4262 Radford Dr., Honolulu, HI 96818 — contact: Julie Shimoda, phone 471-1563.

The contract is a combination firm fixed-price/indefinite quantity contract. Parts of the contract requirements will be full performance-based service contracting, where the Contractor shall have full responsibility to perform the services using their own and industry best practices and processes to ensure that specified outcomes are achieved. The contract term will be a base period of one year plus four option years. The total term of the contract, including all options, will not exceed 60 months. If the Government does not award a follow-on contract in time, the Government may require the Contractor to continue performance for an additional period up to six months under the Option to Extend Services clause. In either case, the Government will not synopsize the options when exercised. This contract will replace a contract for similar services awarded in 2000 for $1,056,000.00 (firm fixed-price) and $143,105.00 (indefinite quantity) per year. We will include information about the current contract and the incumbent contractor (e.g., value of last option exercised, firm name, address, etc.) with the solicitation package. We do not require requests under the Freedom of Information Act for this information. Offerors can view and/or download the solicitation at http://esol.navfac.navy.mil when it becomes available.

The proposed contract listed here is 100 percent Small Business Set-Aside. NAICS Code 56173. The Government will only accept offers from small business concerns. The solicitation utilizes source selection procedures, which require offerors to submit a Technical and Price proposal for evaluation by the Government. Proposal receipt date is approximate.

Solicitation to be issued on/or about February 12, 2004.

Estimated Bid Opening: 06/22 2:00 PM File # 8318

BASE OPERATION SUPPORT (BOS) SERVICES, VARIOUS NAVAL INSTALLATIONS, TERRITORY OF GUAM - RFP NO. N62742-03-R-3501 Contracts Department, OICC, NFEC Contracts Marianas, PSC 455, Box 175, FPO AP 96540-2200 — contact: Laurie Castro, phone (671) 471-2481.

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific Division, plans to solicit Base Operations Support (BOS) Services in the Territory of

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Posted on: Wednesday, January 14, 2004

Inouye pursues goal of basing carrier here

• **Guam seen as platform for U.S. air power**

By Frank Oliveri
Advertiser Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Sen. Dan Inouye estimated that bringing an aircraft carrier to Hawai'i probably would cost at least $1

McDonald's, you are employed. But can you tell me from your heart of hearts that you are employed?"

Inouye, third in seniority in the Senate, has served in Congress for 45 years — he was elected to the House in 1959 and began his Senate career in 1962. A World War II hero and Medal of Honor winner, Inouye will turn 80 in September but said he plans to seek re-election to an eighth term in November.

Inouye then rattled off his vital signs: Blood pressure 130 over 70, cholesterol 166, and a heart rate under 130 beats per minute on a treadmill.

"For me to say I'm retiring to go into another career, it's rather absurd," Inouye said. "If I'm physically fit, I should present myself as a candidate and put it up to the people."

• • •

Guam seen as platform for U.S. air power

WASHINGTON — The Air Force wants to return to the Cold War-era practice of basing fighter jets and other strike and support planes on Guam, which is in quick striking distance of the Korean Peninsula, the Air Force's top officer in the region said yesterday.

"It's an active proposal," said Gen. William J. Begert, commander of U.S. Pacific Air Forces.

While no final decisions have been made to add air power in the Pacific, the Air Force has made the case for basing a variety of aircraft on Guam, a U.S. territory that generally welcomes an expanded military presence, he said.

"The ability to project force from Guam is very valuable to us," Begert said.

Aircraft and other U.S. offensive forces that had been based on Guam during the Cold War were withdrawn as part of the 1990s defense budget cuts and drawdown of U.S. military capabilities worldwide.

A few years ago the Air Force began building up the infrastructure on Andersen Air Force Base, the main air base on Guam, including stockpiling large amounts of munitions.

In 2002, the Navy based two attack submarines at Guam — the USS San Francisco and the USS City of Corpus Christi — and it plans to add a third this year. The Navy also is considering basing an aircraft carrier there.

Begert mentioned basing a fighter wing on Guam as well as air refueling aircraft, the new unmanned Global Hawk spy plane, and long-range bombers such as the B-2, for which special air-conditioned hangars were positioned there last year before the start of the Iraq war.

These are "very attractive kinds of options that in today's world, with the importance of Asia in this century, all make good sense," he said. Begert noted that last spring the Air Force temporarily deployed B-1 and B-52 long-range bombers to Guam.

Begert also noted that Guam is about 1,500 miles from the Korean Peninsula and a similar distance from the Taiwan Strait, which is a potential flashpoint for conflict with communist China.

"As I travel around Asia it's clear to me that the countries in Asia like our presence in Asia," he said. "They don't see us as threatening; quite the opposite, they see us as stabilizing. So I don't see (that) if we make decisions to put forces at Guam that anybody's going to be threatened by that at all."

Guam was ceded to the United States by Spain in 1898. It was surrendered to the Japanese on Dec. 10, 1941, and it remained under Japanese occupation until July 1944, when U.S. forces led by the 3rd Marine Division liberated the island.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld visited Guam in November to get a firsthand look at U.S. military facilities there, including Andersen Air Force Base and Navy installations.

— Robert Burns, Associated Press

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, December 8, 2003

New high-tech destroyer en route to Pearl Harbor

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The Navy's 40th and newest Arleigh Burke-class destroyer is expected to arrive Dec. 19 at Pearl Harbor, bringing added firepower, 385 crew members and more than $15 million in salaries to Hawai'i.

The $1 billion USS Chafee, capable of firing Tomahawk cruise missiles, is in San Diego after sailing from Norfolk, Va., where it got a last-minute propeller-system fix.

Commissioned on Oct. 18 in Rhode Island, the Chafee is one of the Navy's most advanced and powerful ships, fast on the water and able to fight air, surface and subsurface battles simultaneously.

The 511-foot destroyer will join four others at Pearl Harbor: the Hopper, O'Kane, Paul Hamilton and Russell.

A sixth Arleigh Burke destroyer to be homeported at Pearl Harbor, the Chung-Hoon, is expected to be commissioned in Hawai'i next September.

Jim Tollefson, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, said the basing reinforces the Navy's role here. The Navy also is looking at moving an aircraft carrier strike group to Hawai'i.

"We're very important as a forward base of operations in the Pacific," Tollefson said. "And even more importantly, (the destroyer basing) is a way of maintaining peace and stability in the region by being a deterrent against aggression."

The ship was named after the late John Chafee of Rhode Island, who was a U.S. senator, Navy secretary, Rhode Island governor and Marine.

Gunners Mate 1st Class Scott Minary, 31, a Chafee crew member, has been in Hawai'i since September helping ship families as they arrive and taking care of other logistics.

Minary said the Chafee is the second destroyer he has served on at commissioning. The first was the USS Laboon.

"In the seven years since I did that, the technology has advanced in leaps and bounds," Minary said. "It's almost a completely different ship from then to now."

Among the changes: the addition of a hangar large enough to accommodate two helicopters. The first 28 Arleigh Burke destroyers had a helicopter deck but no embarked helicopters, the Navy said.

The Honolulu Council of the Navy League is organizing a reception Dec. 19 that will include canoes, a conch blower and hula dancers on the pier.

The O'Kane, commissioned in 1999, was the newest of approximately 12 surface ships based at Pearl Harbor, a number down from 21 ships in 1988, but representative of the overall reduction from President Reagan's "600-ship Navy" to about half that number in the fleet today.

The second new destroyer, the Chung-Hoon, is named after Rear Adm. Gordon Paiea Chung-Hoon, who was born in Honolulu in 1910 and died in 1979.

Chung-Hoon received the Navy Cross and Silver Star for his leadership and courage following a kamikaze attack on his ship, the USS Sigsbee, in 1945. Twenty-three crew members died in the World War II attack.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, October 27, 2003

Briefs

Advertiser Staff

ARMY

'Wolfhounds' back in Japan

More than 500 soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment at Schofield Barracks deployed last week for exercise Orient Shield in Japan, where they'll train with the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force.

But before the exercise began, a group of the "Wolfhounds" continued a tradition by visiting the children of Holy Family Home Orphanage.

The relationship began on Christmas Day 1949 when conditions at the orphanage tore at the heartstrings of visiting 27th Infantry soldiers, who began contributing portions of their pay to help the children.

NAVY

Sub commanders get Bronze Stars

Four commanders of attack submarines based at Pearl Harbor received Bronze Stars for their leadership during Operation Iraqi Freedom. They are:

Cmdr. Michael Jabaley, USS Louisville; Cmdr. Charles Merkel, formerly of the USS Key West; Cmdr. Duane Ashton, USS Columbia; and Cmdr. Charles Doty, USS Cheyenne.

All four submarines fired Tomahawk cruise missiles early in the war. The Cheyenne was the first U.S. warship to launch Tomahawks in the war's initial strike March 19.

USS Chafee commissioned

The Navy commissioned its newest destroyer on Oct. 18, a $1 billion warship expected to arrive at Pearl Harbor later this year.

The guided missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90), was "brought to life" at Naval Station Newport in Rhode Island, in honor of that state's late U.S. senator John H. Chafee

Chafee was a decorated Marine veteran of World War II and Korea, and served as secretary of the Navy before being elected a U.S. senator.

More than 6,000 people witnessed the commissioning in Rhode Island.

Another new destroyer, the Chung-Hoon, is expected at Pearl Harbor next year.

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Posted on: Monday, October 27, 2003

Carrier to stop today at Pearl on way home

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The last aircraft carrier to take part in the combat phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom is stopping in Hawai'i today en route to its home port of San Diego.

The USS Nimitz carrier strike group, which includes the Pearl Harbor-based guided missile cruiser Chosin, was deployed for eight months.

That means more than 6,500 sailors and air wing members from the Nimitz, the cruiser Princeton and combat support ship USS Bridge will be descending on Waikiki for some rest and relaxation on their first stop back in the states.

The 567-foot Chosin, with more than 350 crew members, arrives Sunday in Pearl Harbor.

The Nimitz is the latest in a succession of carriers that have stopped in Hawai'i either heading to or back from the Persian Gulf region during operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Chris Colgate, senior general manager of Duke's Canoe Club Waikiki, said the returning sailors are welcome aboard.

"Oh, absolutely," Colgate said. "(There's a high) caliber of individual in the armed services, and they are very professional, well-disciplined. From a business standpoint, we more than welcome them."

Colgate said he'll see a 10 percent to 15 percent increase in business when a carrier is in port, and the Nimitz's arrival for a five-day stay comes at a traditional down time for tourism.

After such a long deployment, family members will fly out from the Mainland to be with crew members. About 1,300 individuals are taking a "Tiger cruise" allowing them to sail back on the carrier to San Diego.

"It's great having 6,000 guys show up, because that kicks up occupancy," Colgate said. "It's a big plus anytime there's a military ship (visiting) Pearl Harbor, and if they do have liberty, we're going to see some percentage of individuals at restaurants."

The 95,000-ton Nimitz, with about 70 combat aircraft aboard, stopped at Pearl Harbor in March before heading to the Gulf. The carrier flew more than 6,500 missions in support of Iraqi Freedom.

One hundred new fathers were on board as of Oct. 13, and the carrier sent and received more than 10 million e-mails during the deployment.

On its way back to Washington State, the USS Abraham Lincoln battle group arrived in Hawai'i in April from the Gulf after spending nearly nine months on deployment — the longest for a carrier since the Vietnam War. President Bush flew to the carrier while it was off the coast of California to declare the end of major combat in Iraq.

The USS Carl Vinson, meanwhile, pulled into Pearl Harbor in late January en route to duty in the Western Pacific.

The Lincoln was in Hawai'i on its way west in August of 2002, and the USS John C. Stennis spent several days here in May of 2002 after launching 287 aircraft sorties into Afghanistan as part of Operation Anaconda.

The carrier USS Enterprise crossed Egypt's Suez Canal Oct. 13 from the Mediterranean Sea on its way to replace the Nimitz.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, October 13, 2003

Briefs

Advertiser Staff

NAVY

Admiral backs carrier in Hawai'i

Adm. Thomas Fargo, head of U.S. forces in the Pacific, says he supports the permanent basing of an aircraft carrier at Pearl Harbor. Speaking at the 31st annual Japan-Hawaii Economic Council meeting at Kawaihae on the Big Island Saturday, Fargo said moving a carrier from the Mainland to Hawai'i would support the war on terrorism and the stabilization of the Pacific-Indian Ocean region.

Pacific Fleet commander Adm. Walter F. Doran has said a carrier may be moved to Hawai'i or Guam so the Navy could respond more quickly to crises in North Korea and elsewhere in the Asia-Pacific region.

A carrier and its accompanying air wing typically have 5,500 crew members. They would also bring thousands of family members and support personnel with them.

Pearl crews train off coast of India

Two Pearl Harbor-based Navy vessels last week took part in the largest naval exercises between the United States and India since joint military training resumed last year. The guided missile cruiser Chosin and attack submarine Pasadena, both based at Pearl Harbor, along with the destroyer Fitzgerald, auxiliary ship Chesapeake, and a P-3C patrol and reconnaissance aircraft participated in Exercise Malabar off the southwest coast of India.

The two navies worked on helicopter cross-decking, formation steaming, coordinated gun shooting, and anti-submarine warfare training. Indian ships included INS Brahmaputra, the destroyer Ganga and a Shankul-class submarine.

Similar exercises were conducted in 1992, 1995 and 1996, but military cooperation was suspended after India tested nuclear weapons in 1998. Washington lifted sanctions and renewed military-to-military contact with India following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The two countries last held a joint naval exercise in September 2002.

Exercise involves U.S., France ships

The Pearl Harbor-based frigate USS Reuben James recently conducted an exercise with the French frigate FS Prarial off the coast of O'ahu. Prarial arrived in Honolulu Sept. 26 from her home port of Tahiti. For Reuben James, it was the first multinational exercise since working with the Pakistani, Qatari and British navies in September 2002.

ARMY

Test will add combat brigades

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Pete Schoomaker says he plans to test a reorganization plan on the 3rd Infantry and the 101st Airborne divisions. Each of the divisions have three combat brigades; under the test, each division will be reorganized with five brigades. A brigade typically has 3,000 to 5,000 troops.

"We can get more power out of smaller organizations," Schoomaker said, adding that advances in technology create greater efficiency. The arrangement will be tested for up to a year.

seattletimes.com
The Seattle Times

Thursday, October 02, 2003, 12:00 A.M. Pacific

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Navy is considering aircraft-carrier move

By Rachel Tuinstra
Seattle Times staff reporter

The Navy's plans to possibly move a U.S.-based aircraft carrier to Hawaii or Guam likely won't affect Puget Sound-area naval bases, congressional representatives said yesterday.

Adm. Walter Doran, commander of the Navy's Pacific Fleet, told a group of reporters in Washington, D.C., yesterday that the Navy is considering relocating an aircraft carrier to respond more quickly to a crisis in North Korea or elsewhere in the Asia-Pacific region.

Doran said it is unclear whether the carrier would move from a West Coast or East Coast base. The Navy has five carriers based on the West Coast, including two in Puget Sound, and six on the East Coast.

U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen, D-Lake Stevens, said he is committed to keeping the USS Abraham Lincoln at Naval Station Everett and the USS [illegible]

"I'm continuing to push the Puget Sound as a vital Navy asset that the Navy should continue to enhance," Larsen said. "The Puget Sound is well situated geographically. It's an essential asset."

Larsen, who sits on the House Armed Services Committee, has already been lobbying for Everett and Bremerton naval stations as the Base Realignment and Closure process gears up for another round of base closures.

"As it becomes clear the Western Pacific is an area of special attention, I would [illegible]

Newport News, Va., which could take two years.

The Navy is discussing delaying the Vinson's refueling, Buclatin said.

"That's the question of the day, whether the Vinson will go on another deployment before it goes in for refueling," Buclatin said. "But whichever way it goes, the Stennis will still go up to Bremerton."

Rachel Tuinstra: 206 464-2580 or rtuinstra@seattletimes.com.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, October 2, 2003

Commander debating aircraft carrier locations

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet said he's weighing whether to base an aircraft carrier in Hawai'i or Guam.

If Adm. Walter F. Doran does pick either location — and the betting is on Hawai'i — San Diego is where it may come from.

"I'm looking at where (one carrier) could better or best be positioned," Adm. Walter F. Doran said.

Advertiser library photo

Michael Pavkovic, director of the diplomacy and military studies program at Hawai'i Pacific University, said politically and practically, San Diego is a logical choice.

Three Pacific Fleet carriers are based in San Diego, two are in Washington state, and one is based in Japan.

Pulling one of the Atlantic Fleet's six carriers would be seen as removing a significant chunk of East Coast firepower, Pavkovic said.

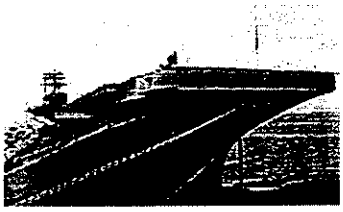
"I imagine there's a certain amount of command cohesion that's at work," Pavkovic said. "The other thing is these carriers train together and if they are going to have to operate together, that (taking a carrier from San Diego) makes a lot of sense as well."

The business community in San Diego is aware it could see one of its carriers go, and has almost resigned itself to the possibility of such a loss.

"The attitude that I sense is just the resolve that that (relocating aircraft carriers) is the way the Navy operates," said Kelly Cunningham, research director for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. "I guess maybe we're just happy that the two (carriers) are here. If they took away two and left us one that would seem to be more of an impact."

Doran, responsible for all the Navy ships in the Pacific, said in Washington yesterday that it is unclear whether, or if, a carrier would move from the East Coast or the West Coast.

"I'm looking at where (one) could better or best be positioned," Doran said. "Would it be better to move a carrier to Hawai'i? Would it be better to move a carrier to Guam? These are major muscle movements. This is not being done on the back of an envelope."



The USS Ronald Reagan is expected to be based in San Diego when it makes its first deployment in 2005. If the Navy moves a carrier to Hawai'i, one of San Diego's other two carriers may get the call.

Advertiser library photo

Hawai'i's location in the middle of the Pacific — and five days faster steaming time to potential trouble spots like the Korean Peninsula — has made it an attractive forward base for a heightened U.S. military emphasis on Asia and the Pacific.

The state is working with the Navy to use the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station as the base for an air wing of 70 to 80 aircraft, but the Navy cautioned yesterday that no carrier re-location decisions have been made.

Pacific Fleet has embarked on a $1.8 million study looking at basing a carrier and air wing in Hawai'i that should be done within a year.

Officials said no such study is under way for Guam.

"The current study is looking only at Hawai'i," said Pacific Fleet spokesman Lt. j.g. Mike Morley. "In the future, studies of other locations may occur. But for now, the focus is on Hawai'i."

Pavkovic said the air wing probably would conduct some of its training in California, "and if there's a question between us and Guam, clearly, if they do have to send stuff back to California for training, it's a lot easier to do it from here than it is from Guam."

San Diego is home to two Nimitz-class nuclear aircraft carriers, the Nimitz and the John C. Stennis. The first deployment of San Diego's newest carrier, the Ronald Reagan, is scheduled for 2005.

The chamber of commerce's Cunningham said each 3,200-crew member carrier in San Diego has an annual $270 million economic impact, with $110.6 million in payroll spent locally each year, and $40 million in Navy maintenance contracts.

Cunningham said the loss of a carrier would be softened by increases in military spending including a 12 percent rise in payrolls, and $1 billion in additional ship repair contracts.

"The impact here (of a carrier) could be just amazing," Pavkovic said. As carrier battle groups of more than a half dozen ships pull back into port, "the amount of money that's going to be spent after a six-month or more deployment is going to be incredible.

"Plus, just the amount of work that's going to go to the shipyard to support (those ships). I can see some pretty big money being hurled our way."

The Associated Press contributed to this report. Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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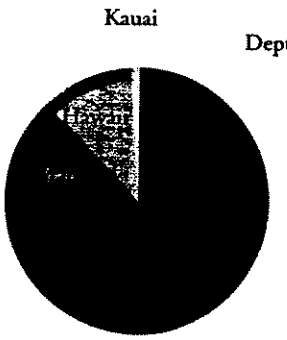
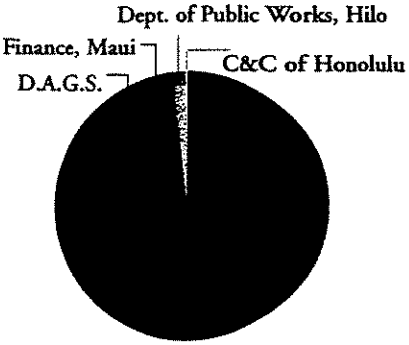
Life in the construction lane may be creeping back to normal if August contracts are any indication. While YTD totals still fall well short of 2000 ($347,041,478 to $477,045,850), August awards grew $1.14 million. Combined with July's jump of $1.4 million, it represents two months of consecutive growth, a trend in the right direction.

DOT proved the most generous with $27 million compared to $6.5 million last year. Navy shrank from $29.6 million to a nevertheless respectable $16.3 million. But C&C Honolulu virtually dropped off the radar with just $136.5 thousand in awards, hardly enough to even run the busses for a day.





Awards By Area

Oahu	35,650,860
Maui	6,521,420
Hawaii	5,353,075
Kauai	521,923
TOTAL	48,047,278

Awards By Agency

D.O.T.	27,087,125
Navy	16,302,125
D.A.G.S.	1,950,964
Dept. of Finance, Maui	1,687,220
Dept. of Public Works, Hilo	883,392
C & C of Honolulu	136,452
TOTAL	48,047,278

Contracts Awarded in August 2003

(Awards are rounded up to the nearest dollar.)

Oahu

Kiewit Pacific 11,027,560
Likelike Hwy, Wilson Tunnel Imp. - Leak and Crack Remediation

Healy Tibbitts 9,765,825
Recapitalization of Bravo Wharf At Naval Station, Pearl Harbor

Healy Tibbitts 5,873,300
Repair Bulkhead K12, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC), Pearl Harbor

Ralph S. Inouye Co. . .2,866,000
Electrical System Upgrade For TSA At Honolulu Int'l Airport

Hawaiian Dredging . . .2,390,000
Interstate Route H-1 Rehabilitation - Vicinity of Makakilo Interchange

Electricians Hawaii dba Tek Pacific 663,000
Repairs To Puuloa Rifle Range, KMCBH

Fire & Environmental Emergency Response Consultants . .380,882
Incident Command Response Training At Various Airports

BCP Construction 303,800
Aina Haina, Ali'iolani and Hahaione Elementary Schools - Playground Accessibility Improvements

Paul's Electrical Service . . .259,970
Ala Wai Elementary and Central Middle Schools - Telecommunication and Electrical System Improvements

Inter-Island Construction 240,594
Methane Mitigation, Pier 38, Lease Parcel 2 - Honolulu Harbor

Apply-A-Line 197,350
Airfield Restriping At Honolulu Int'l Airport

Wasa Electrical Services .183,822
Jarett Middle School - Upgrade Fire Alarm System

L.N. Curtis & Sons 181,018
Furnish and Deliver Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Proximity Suits At Various State Airports

Quality Sheetmetal 157,101
Moanalua H.S., Bldg "F" - Replace A/C AHU

International Roofing . . .149,998
Palolo Elem. Sch. - ADA Accessibility Improvements

Preferred Constructors . .136,452
Ewa Mahiko District Park - New Walkways, Landscaping and Other Site Improvements

Doonwood Engineering . .131,460
Maintenance of Potable Water System for Loading Bridges At The Honolulu Int'l Airport

Ted's Wiring 126,262
Jarrett Middle School - Electrical Upgrade

Xcel Sheetmetal 99,500
Kailua Inter. Sch., Bldg "G" - Replace A/C System

StarCom Builders 96,546
Leilehua H.S. - Renovate Rooms 26 & 27 For Special Education

Henry's Equipment 94,500
Lincoln Elem. Sch. - Repave/Repaint Parking Lot

Love's Landscaping Co. . .80,000
Cleanup Injection Wells At Kalaeloa Airport

Colin & Dillon Construction79,000
Jefferson Elem. Sch., Bldg "C" - Renovate Restrooms

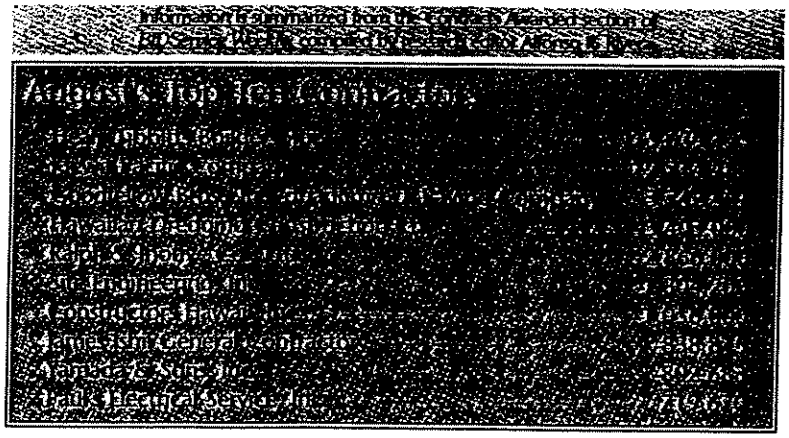
Marisco Ltd. 47,471
Provide Maintenance Services For The Sea Ark Rescue Boat At Honolulu Int'l Airport

Rons Construction 44,144
Exploratory Work On Taxiway At Honolulu Int'l Airport

Verizon Hawaii 27,591
Materials Testing Laboratory - Replacement of Telephone System Network

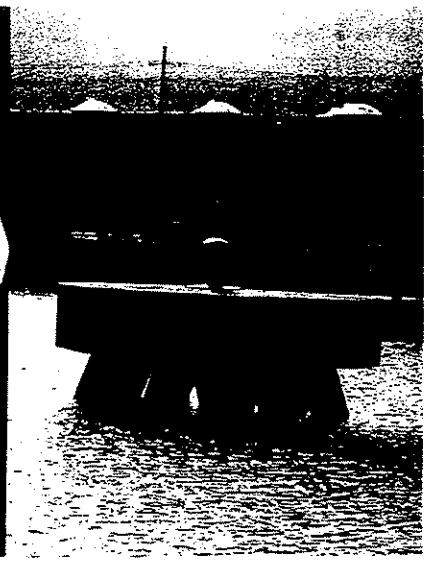
Certified Construction 27,494
Reroof Hollow Tile Building On Ualena Street - Honolulu Int'l Airport

Doonwood Engineering . . .20,220
Maintenance of Backflow Prevention Equipment - Honolulu Int'l Airport



Navy Dedicates Pearl Harbor Piers

Participating in the dedication ceremony for the Pearl Harbor wharves were: (from left) Rick Heltzel, Healy Tibbitts president; Capt. Ron Cox, commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor; Capt. Steve Olson, commanding officer, FISC Pearl Harbor; and Kahu Sherman Thompson.



The piers' new concrete mooring island can accommodate larger ships.

Newly renovated piers K-10 and K-11, which receive Military Sea Command ships that load up food, rations and other materials, were dedicated by Navy Region Hawaii on July 24.

The former World War II-era docks next to the Fleet Industrial Supply Center (FISC) at Pearl Harbor were replaced with 450-foot-long wharves.

Healy Tibbitts Builders, Inc. won the $13 million contract from PACDIV. The work included marine concrete, precast pre-stressed concrete and piles, fiberglass plastic fenders and a cylindrical fender system, marine hardware, plumbing, electrical and pier telephone systems, and a mooring island with catwalk.

"It was pretty impressive and a great learning experience. Getting the contractor, the design, the consultants all working together and keeping everybody moving forward was a challenge. I learned a lot," says Lt. j.g. Bryan Cody of Resident Officer in Charge of Construction Pearl Harbor.

Construction on the piers was the first of a two-part military construction project, according to Lt. j.g. Michael Yee, FISC staff civil engineer. The second phase includes strengthening the pier toward the main road to better handle the larger cranes that are required to unload ships.

Pearl Harbor is an active container port and serves as an alternate for the State of Hawaii.

A&B to Acquire Shinwa Hawaii Assets

South Maui Development LLC, a wholly-owned affiliate of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc., has entered into a contract for the acquisition of the Hawaii real estate assets of certain subsidiaries of the Shinwa Golf Group at a purchase price of approximately $135 million.

The assets include three golf courses and 270 acres of fully zoned undeveloped land at the renowned Wailea Resort on Maui, and two golf courses and an undeveloped hotel site at the Kauai Lagoons Resort.

"These are exceptional properties, which present excellent near- and long-term opportunities," says Allen Doane, A&B president and CEO. "A&B already has a strong presence on Maui and possesses the local development expertise and on-island resources that make this acquisition a particularly good strategic fit. It is an obvious reflection of our continuing strong belief in Hawaii's future and real estate values."

The transaction is scheduled to close in early October.

A&B has invested almost $300 million for 16 acquisitions of Hawaii real estate during the past four years.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, September 30, 2003

$1.8 million study set on aircraft carrier for Islands

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The U.S. Pacific Fleet is spending $1.8 million over the next year to look at basing an aircraft carrier and air wing in Hawai'i in yet another sign that the Navy could move one of the battle groups here.

The money recently was set aside from the Pearl Harbor-based command's current fiscal 2003 budget to evaluate issues like the condition of piers and facilities and what utility upgrades would be needed.

The Navy cautioned, however, that it is always re-examining where its forces are distributed, and it said that no decision has been ı place a carrier strike group in Hawai'i.

Officials said the study, conducted by in-house Navy engineering experts and contractors, is a data-gathering, "informational" look carrier at Pearl Harbor, and is not a formal environmental impact statement study.

Having a carrier and its half-dozen escort ships in Hawai'i would reorient some of the U.S. military's greatest firepower to the midd Pacific and mean jobs and millions in military spending for the state.

Guam is positioned as possible competition for a carrier, but the Pacific Fleet study is examining Hawai'i only, officials said.

U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye, D-Hawai'i, in August said any announcement of an aircraft carrier for Hawai'i likely would not be made until 2004 at the earliest, as the Navy worked out the logistics of basing an air wing here. The Navy study should be completed within a year.

A key issue is where to base an air wing of 70 to 80 aircraft.

Inouye said he would like to see the aircraft stationed at Kalaeloa, which was closed as a naval air station in 1999.

A lack of facilities and training area for an air wing were key factors in the Navy deciding against Hawai'i as a possible base for a Nimitz-class nuclear-powered carrier in a 1999 study.

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Hawaii Navy News
Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

"Having the lodge in Pearl Harbor is a great benefit to Sailors and their families," she said. "I'm anxious to show it off."

The Navy Lodge is open to active duty military, retired military members, reservists and family of the service members. International military members, Department of Defense, public health and Red Cross personnel are also welcome to use the Navy Lodge as well as Coast Guard members on orders.

The grand opening scheduled for January 2004. Valandingham said anyone interested in staying there should check the Website **www.navy-lodge.com** and go to reservation information to find out about the availability and rates of rooms at the new lodge.

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Last updated: 09/26/03

INTENSIVE CARE FOR YOUR NURSING CAREER

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, September 22, 2003

Advertiser Staff and News Services

Sub arrives for reactor refueling

The attack submarine USS Bremerton arrived at her new home port of Pearl Harbor last week for reactor refueling and modernization, a process expected to take two years.

Previously based at Submarine Base, Point Loma in San Diego, the Bremerton is the second attack submarine to enter the Pearl Harbor shipyard for refueling — work that hadn't been done in Hawai'i in a quarter century.

The first such undertaking was in June 2002 when work began on the Pearl Harbor-based USS Buffalo.

MIA search units to merge Oct. 1

As part of the merger of the two Hawai'i-based military units that investigate, recover and identify the nation's missing war dead, Joint Task Force-Full Accounting will be deactivated during a Sept. 30 ceremony at Camp Smith; the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory, Hawai'i, will stage a similar ceremony at Hickam Air Force Base.

The merged effort, Joint POW/MIA Accounting, will be activated Oct. 1 in front of the new Pacific Command headquarters at Camp Smith.

Army Brig. Gen. W. Montague "Que" Winfield, the former 25th Infantry Division (Light) assistant division commander for support, will be the new unit's first commander.

Officials said the merger, initiated by Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, is intended to create efficiencies under one commander.

Navy secretary censures general

Retired Lt. Gen. Earl B. Hailston, the former commander of Marine Forces Pacific at Camp Smith, was censured by the acting secretary of the Navy, Hansford T. Johnson, for "frocking" a Marine colonel to the rank of brigadier general before the officer's promotion was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as required, Marine Corps headquarters said.

Hailston retired in late July.

Col. Craig T. Boddington, a reservist out of Camp Pendleton, Calif., who was activated on March 28, was nominated for promotion to brigadier general and ordered to Camp Doha, Kuwait.

Based on Hailston's assessment that the job to which Boddington had been assigned required a general officer, Hailston "frocked" Boddington to the rank of brigadier general, officials said.

At the time, Hailston and Boddington expected that Senate confirmation was imminent, but it ended up being delayed, the Marine Corps said.

A Defense Department Inspector General's investigation was conducted, and Hailston accepted full responsibility for the actions, officials said. Boddington was counseled.

Back

Army's Pearl Harbor Jobsite Blessed

A blessing ceremony was held recently before the start of construction of the Army's new Ship Operations Facility in Pearl Harbor. Kahu William Kaina offered a traditional Hawaiian blessing at the project jobsite.

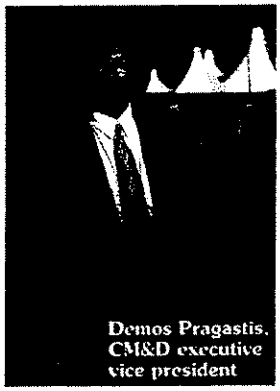
The $9.8 million contract was awarded to Bodell Construction Company and includes construction of a single-story Ship Operations Facility that will provide administrative and berthing facilities for the Army's Logistic Support Vessels. Leslie Zimmerman, a project engineer for Bodell, says the project is another example of "ROICC Pearl Harbor joining forces with the Army to create a support facility for the Army's salvage operations at Bishop Point. The project also includes repairs to piers and various waterfront improvements for the ships that perform these salvage operations."

Logistic Support Vehicles are an important part of the Army's watercraft and waterborne operations, playing an integral role in its range of military operations.

Kahu William Kaina offers a traditional Hawaiian blessing before construction begins on a new Army Ship Operations Facility at Pearl Harbor.

@ a Glance

CM&D Executive Appointed



Demos Pragastis, CM&D executive vice president

Demos Pragastis was promoted to executive vice president of CM&D, Inc., a Honolulu-headquartered construction management firm.

He was also made a shareholder and member of the board of directors. Pragastis will be based at the CM&D office in Chicago, and will oversee all construction management work for the eastern United States.

Past CM&D Hawaii projects include the Grand Wailea Resort & Spa, the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel, Kamalani and Royal Kunia residential subdivisions, Ward Entertainment Center, for its use of Geographic Information System (GIS) technology, a computer-driven mapping technology with broad applications in such diverse areas as land use management, environmental protection and emergency planning.

Honolulu first received an award in 1998 for the enterprise-wide use of GIS by all city agencies. This year's award specifically recognizes the Board of Water Supply's integration of GIS with its customer database, construction drawings, and water service records.

Military Bid Awarded

Healy Tibbitts Builders will be awarded more than $15.6 million for demolition, construction, and repair work for two projects at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, according to Sen. Daniel Inouye.

The contracts were procured competitively, with proposals solicited and bids received.

Healy Tibbitts Builders will receive $9,765,825 to upgrade Bravo Wharf, Inouye said. The wharf will be partially demol-

Transit Center Opens

The new Kapolei Transit Center began operations July 8.

The center, located at 900 Kamokila Blvd., has nine bus bays, covered waiting areas, restroom facilities, pay telephones, drinking fountains and clear directional graphics indicating bus locations by route.

The center, part of the ongoing hub-and-spoke conversion, will be serviced by CountryExpress! Route C (Honolulu, Kapolei, Makaha); Routes 40/40A (Honolulu-Makaha); Route 41 (Kapolei-Ewa Beach); and Shuttle Routes 411, 412, 413, and 414 (Makakilo Heights, Panana Street, Campbell Industrial Park, Makakilo/Palahia/Kapolei).

Mold Network

The USDA Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory and APA ñ The Engineered Wood Association have formed the Residential Moisture Management Network (RMMN), an alliance of industries and related help solve the growing problems associated with moisture in residential construction.

Parade of Homes

The 2003 BIA Parade of Homes is set for Oct. 4, 5, 11 and 12 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year's entries include homes constructed by Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Ke Noho Kai Development, LLC, and Schuler Homes, a D.R. Horton Company. The showcase will feature the top nine new model single- and multi-family homes. The free event is themed "Surprises Through Every Door."

SIPA Recruiting Members

The Structural Insulated Panel Association is offering new members a free builder tool kit, comprised of 25 Commonly Asked Questions Regarding SIPs, consumer brochures, Whole-Wall R-Value Study by Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the SIPA logo and ad slick for local advertising. Member bene-

Navy Gives Bachelors New Quarters

The Navy's New Bachelor

er'tiser

EDITION

O'ahu / 50¢

Neighbor Islands / 75¢

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long way off

114 individuals from the Pearl l Shipyard and e Maintenance enticeship pro-

nticeship pro- cked a military he Islands that wing the end of but is back on with nuclear fueling and ad- as an aircraft considered.

e 25,000 ship- during World 39, the number enance person- 7,906. But by 1999, the total of sailors and civilians in the work force had dropped to a low of about 3,900.

Because there were not enough jobs to support the apprenticeship program, it was canceled between 1994 and 1999.

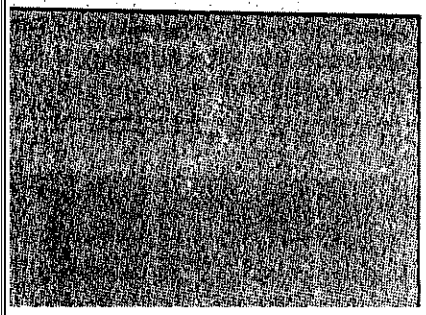
Inouye told the crowd of new journeymen and their families yesterday at the Pearl Harbor ceremony that some called for the shipyard to be closed.

But a change in world events has resulted in U.S. leaders reviewing force structures worldwide.

See INOUYE, A5

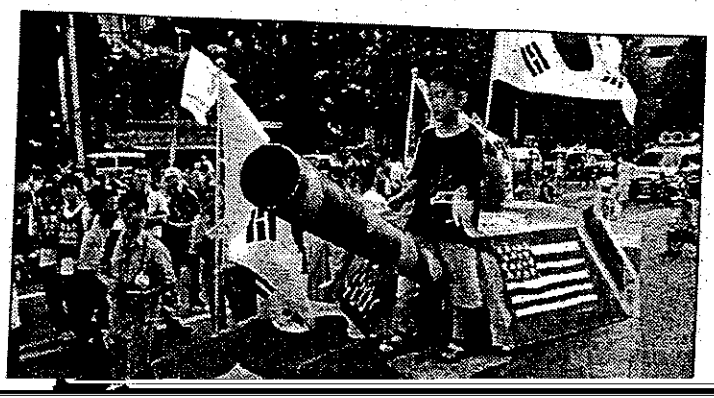
RICHARD AMBO • The Adver

"There's a reluctance the part of Washingtor reopen closed base Sen. Dan Inouye said.



Mars outshine all but

S. Korea promises aid if North



By Jae-Suk Yoo
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea's president promised economic help for North Korea if it stops nuclear development, and thousands of activists — some opposing U.S. policy, others critical of Pyongyang — marched yesterday demanding an end to the nuclear standoff.

Roh Moo-hyun's offer on the 58th anniversary of the Korean

to take the lead in he
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Since the mid-199
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related illnesses.

Roh's offer came a
retary of State Colin
Washington and its all
no economic proposal

BID SCHEDULE continued

PLANHOLDERS:
BME & Sons, Inc. (Guam) 671-632-3338
. . . . . Fax: 671-632-3334
Core Tech International (Guam) 671-632-9110
. . . . . Fax: 671-632-9333
Fargo Pacific, Inc. (Guam) 671-646-1771
. . . . . Fax: 671-649-2691
Guam Yoshin Corp. (Guam) 671-477-3109
. . . . . Fax: 671-477-4724
Index Builders, Inc. 808-689-7168
. . . . . Fax: 808-689-0654
JRN Air Conditioning & Refrigeration 671-649-8120
. . . . . Fax: 671-671-5737
Modern International, Inc. (Guam) 671-734-2828
. . . . . Fax: 671-734-2819
Reliable Builders, Inc. (Guam) 671-646-1516
. . . . . Fax: 671-649-6060
Rhino Builders, Inc. (Guam) 671-632-7653
. . . . . Fax: 671-637-9618
Tumon Corp. (Guam) 671-649-8510
. . . . . Fax: 671-649-8524

STATE OF HAWAII

08/11 2:00 PM **File # 8289**

Amd: 1-4

FY03 P-309, BRAVO 2, PIER WATERFRONT FACILITY AND MECHANICAL SHOP CONSOLIDATION - PEARL HARBOR NAVAL SHPYARD & IMF, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU - RFP NO. N62742-03-R-1301, Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Engineering Field Division, Pacific, Acquisition Department, Code ACQ0262, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Pearl Harbor, HI, 96860-3134 — contact: Dean Burnett, Contract Specialist, Phone (808) 474-6314, Fax (808) 474-7316, Email burnetted@efdpac.navfac.navy.mil; Stan Louis, Supervisory Contract Specialist, Phone (808) 474-6731, Fax (808) 474-7316, Email louissj@efdpac.navfac.navy.mil.

This procurement is Unrestricted. NAICS Code 236210

This project will be procured as a modified design-build best value Request for Proposal (RFP) and will design and renovate existing waterfront machine shop facility in historic buildings 67/67A/67B/67C for ship maintenance work at Bravo 2 Pier. Total existing floor area is 40,466 square meters. Work also includes demolition of Building 1470. General components of the renovation work include the following: Build new/renovate existing office spaces, storage areas, training rooms, and work areas within the buildings. Provide fire protection systems, repair/replace windows, flooring, lighting, power, air conditioning, and plumbing. Remove falling lead paint and remediate contaminated areas. Paint interior of building. Provide utilities for relocated equipment resulting from shop consolidation. Provide elevators. Project is located within the Controlled Industrial Area (CIA) on Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Hawaii.

Site work (excavation, backfilling and compacting for utilities, soil treatment for subterranean termite control, water distribution, storm drainage, graded crushed aggregate base course for flexible pavement, hot mix bituminous pavement, bituminous prime/tack coat, pavement markings, chain link fences and gates), concrete (cast in place concrete), masonry (masonry), metals (structural steel, steel decks, cold-formed metal framing, metal fabrications), woods and plastics (rough carpentry, solid polymer fabrications), thermal and moisture protection (metal wall panels, firestopping, joint sealants), doors and windows (steel doors/frames, sliding doors, rolling service doors, steel windows, aluminum windows, door hardware, glazing), finishes (metal support assemblies, gypsum board, ceramic tile, acoustical ceilings, resilient flooring, carpet tile, paints and coatings), specialties (whiteboards and tackboards, toilet partitions, metal wall louvers, identification devices, plastic clothing lockers, wire mesh partitions, toilet accessories, miscellaneous specialties), equipment (electric kitchen equipment), furnishings (venetian blinds, window shades), special construction (engineering control of asbestos containing materials, removal/control/disposal of paint with lead, removal/disposal of PCB contaminated soils, handling of lighting ballasts and lamps containing PCBs and mercury, fire pumps, wet pipe fire suppression sprinklers), conveying systems (electric traction elevators, hydraulic elevator), mechanical (mechanical sound/vibration/seismic control, mechanical insulation, direct digital control systems, HVAC testing/adjusting/balancing), electrical (apparatus inspection and methods, diesel engine-generator sets, prime and standby-10 to 500 kw; three-phase pad mounted transformers, underground transmission and distribution, primary switchgear, automatic distribution system, automatic transfer switches, switchboards, interior/exterior lighting, structured telecommunications cabling and pathway system, intercommunication system).

Bid Guaranty: 20%

Payment Bond: 100%

Performance Bond: 100%

Work to be completed within 930 calendar days after Notice to Proceed.

Liquidated Damages: $7,700.00 for each calendar day of delay (for the whole project). Other phases, lsted below, until the work is completed: (1) Cranes Bay 1 (July 31, 2005) - $110.00 for each calendar day fo delay, (2) Cranes Bay 2 & 3 (November 30, 2004) - $80.00 for each calendar day of delay, (3) Cranes Bay 4 & 5 (July 31, 2004) - $80.00 for each calenadr day of delay, and (4) Cranes Bay 6 (June 30, 2004) - $450.00 for each calendar day of delay

RFP documents in CD-ROM format are available for a non-refundable fee of $67.92. Your request for purchase of the CD-ROM, if mailed, should be sent to: Document Automation and Production Service, 1025 Quincy Avenue, Suite 200, Pearl Harbor Naval Base Building 550, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860. Checks shall be made payable to Superintendent of Documents. If using a company VISA, Mastercard, or Discover card you may fax your request to (808) 473-2604. Be sure to include the cardholder's name, account number, and expiration date in your request along with your company name, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, RFP No., and project title, and whether the solicitation will be picked up at the Contracting Office. Also indicate if you are prime, subcontractor, or supplier. Mark the front of the envelope with the RFP No. Allow at least ten days for mailing from the date your request is received. Companies wanting the RFP to be sent via air express service must furnish their completed express service airbill label with the recipient's name, telephone no., company name, address, company's account no., and type of delivery filled in. If you are outside the 50 states, you are required to also submit a commercial invoice. Failure to provide any of the above information, as indicated, may delay the processing of your request and is at no fault of the Government. Further, DAPS will mail, via US Post Office, any requests for express mail that is provided incorrectly. A planholder's list will be available after the solicitation is issued and may obtained at http://www.hawaii.wnbt.daps.mil/PACDIV/pacdiv.htm. Please note that the website may be down. Email the contract specialist mailto:burnetted@efdpac.navfac.navy.mil to request a copy of the DAPS planholders list. Please note that the DAPS planholder?s list may not be all inclusive.

Any request for solicitation received within 10 working days prior to the closing date will be processed in accordance with the above procedure. However, there is no guarantee that the recipient will receive the solicitation prior to the closing date. Amendments will be posted on the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil to the maximum extent possible for downloading. This will normally be the only method of distributing amendments. Therefore, it is the offeror's responsibility to check the website periodically for any amendments to this solicitation. It is highly recommended that all interested offerors create an account at the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil.

A copy of the CD-ROM is available in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $10,000,000 and $25,000,000

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, July 28, 2003

State may experience buildup of military forces

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

A reorganization of U.S. forces worldwide could bring a degree of military buildup to Hawai'i not seen since the Vietnam War, subsequently undoing much of the downsizing that followed the end of the Cold War.

Ambitious plans for a $1.5 billion Stryker brigade, eight C-17 cargo planes, and the possibility of an aircraft carrier strike group would re-orient some of the United States' most advanced firepower to the middle of the Pacific.

All of the additions could bring approximately 17,000 military members to O'ahu, counting their families — even more if carrier escort ships are added to Pearl Harbor.

"It's kind of interesting to look at the evolving military strategy here in Hawai'i because that mission has changed dramatically in the past 10 years," said Daniel Martinez, historian for the USS Arizona Memorial.

From a peak of 134,000 in 1988, the number of military and family members in Hawai'i in 2002 stood at 81,610, according to the Hawai'i Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

There were 21 surface ships based at Pearl Harbor in 1988, compared with 11 today.

These days, it's all about speed — getting to the battle faster — and departing from Hawai'i cuts a week's sailing time to Asia for an aircraft carrier. The Army's goal is to be able to deliver a Stryker brigade of eight-wheeled vehicles anywhere in the world in 96 hours.

"We're talking about a much stronger mobile force that doesn't take days or weeks to get to an area of contention, it can literally take hours," Martinez said.

Not since World War II has a carrier been based here. The Navy also is looking at basing a carrier air wing of 70 to 80 aircraft on O'ahu and adding escort ships to Pearl Harbor.

"That (a carrier for Hawai'i) would be just a hugely dramatic shift," said Patrick Garrett, a military analyst for GlobalSecurity.org, a Virginia-based think tank.

It would be a huge shift economically, as well.

Military spends big

Jim Tollefson, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, said the changes would add significantly to the federal and defense spending that is second only to tourism dollars, Hawai'i's biggest source of income.

Federal spending totals about $9 billion in Hawai'i, compared to $11.7 billion for tourism, according to DBEDT. State economists say a better apples-to-apples comparison is made by subtracting taxes and pensions and using $5.4 billion for final federal and defense purchases.

"It's hard to really quantify the impact (of the military additions)," Tollefson said. "(But) I think it's going to be big dollars."

No comprehensive analysis has been done, and the military so far has released little information on the economic or environmental impacts of its plans.

The chamber estimates that for every $1 billion in military expenditures in Hawai'i, a multiplier effect results in $1.8 billion in revenues to Hawai'i businesses, and the creation of 24,650 jobs — mostly in military and civilian defense, but also in business and professional services, retail, construction and health services.

Civilian employment in the military in Hawai'i fluctuated between 19,350 people in 1990 and 16,508 people in 2002.

The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce calculated that each aircraft carrier based there has an annual economic impact of $270 million.

Of $126 million in annual payroll for a carrier crew of 3,200 — excluding an air wing — 87.8 percent, or $110 million, is spent in San Diego, said Kelly Cunningham, research director for the chamber.

Another $40 million is spent each year on Navy contracts for carrier maintenance.

An aircraft carrier and air wing of 5,500 would mean approximately 13,750 more people, including families, using a DBEDT formula of 1.5 family members for each Navy crew member.

The Army's Stryker brigade of 300 eight-wheeled vehicles is expected to mean $693 million in construction projects on O'ahu and the Big Island. The 2nd Brigade combat team of 3,500 soldiers is estimated to grow by 500 to 800 soldiers, and with families, the additional forces will represent 2,263 more people, the Army said.

The Air Force's basing plan for eight C-17 cargo carriers at Hickam and identical basing at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska was projected to cost $425 million, and result in 500 additional personnel at Hickam.

C-17s and Strykers could arrive in 2005 and 2006. Other possible military plans include basing F/A-22 Raptors, the Air Force's stealth attack jet, in Hawai'i.

Opponents to further militarization of Hawai'i are raising alarm over the plans, saying they would cost Hawai'i in more lost and polluted land, and benefit Mainland firms that would get big construction jobs.

"We're very concerned about this buildup," said Kyle Kajihiro, program director for the American Friends Service Committee, a peace and justice organization founded by the Quakers. "Already the military controls so much land here — we were looking forward to some of those lands being cleaned up and returned after the end of the Cold War. But now it looks like they're even going to take back some of those lands."

The former Barbers Point Naval Air Station — now called Kalaeloa — is being eyed as a base for a carrier air wing. The Army, meanwhile, is seeking 1,500 to 2,100 acres adjacent to Schofield Barracks, 71 acres in Kahuku, and 23,000 additional acres on the Big Island for training with Stryker vehicles.

Kajihiro reiterated the oft-stated complaint that the military needs to clean up the land it has polluted before it uses even more.

"The military here is the largest polluter," Kajihiro said. "We've identified over a thousand contaminated sites, and they've failed to clean up the ones they have attempted to remediate — such as Kaho'olawe."

Cumulative effect noted

According to a 1995 summary of land holdings, the military controlled 90,817 acres on O'ahu, 108,902 acres on the Big Island, 4,498 acres on Kaua'i, 6,693 acres on Moloka'i, and 15 acres on Maui.

Kathy Ferguson, a political science professor and director of the women's studies program at the University of Hawai'i, said the cumulative effect of the proposed military additions have to be looked at.

"When you look at a piece at a time, you think, 'Oh, good, why not?' " she said. "And then you look at the whole picture and you think, 'That's an awful lot of people, that's an awful lot of land.' "

Ferguson, the co-author of "Oh, Say, Can You See? The Semiotics of the Military in Hawai'i," said the business community talks about how much military spending goes into the local economy, but "they don't look at things like, how much of that is spent in the (post exchange). That's not the local economy."

"What about the schools?" Ferguson added. "The impact aid, a few years ago when we did our research, it was 11 percent of the cost."

The federal government pays $1,400 in impact aid per pupil for the 30,000 military or "federally connected" students in the state school system for an education that costs the state $6,775 on average.

"So there are lots of hidden costs," Ferguson said.

A 1999 Navy study found that basing a carrier at Pearl Harbor without an air wing was anticipated to bring 3,217 crew members, add 1,018 family members to the civilian labor force and 606 children to O'ahu schools, with a net impact of $32.3 million in revenues over costs for the city and state.

Bill Paty, a World War II veteran, former Waialua Sugar Co. manager, and a civilian aide to the secretary of the Army, also pointed to efforts to privatize the construction and operation of military housing, which may contribute $2.2 billion to the economy over the next 10 years.

"We are going to be looking at, I think, a major infrastructure undertaking such as we haven't seen since World War II, if all of it comes together," he said.

Paty said the Navy alternatively is looking at basing an amphibious assault ship, a vessel used to transport Marines and launch Harrier jets and helicopters, at Pearl, but "that's not as up on the screen as the carrier."

He recalled that Hawai'i was a "pass-through" and rest and relaxation spot for the many ships and troops that came from somewhere else during the Vietnam War buildup.

"This (the proposed additions) is moving the forward presence of the United States 2,000 miles to the west," he said.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Posted on: Monday, July 21, 2003

Navy gets first of six minisubs based out of Pearl

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The Navy has taken delivery of a long-awaited new minisubmarine capable of transporting SEAL commandos closer to shore and allowing them to be more prepared for what lies ahead.

The 65-foot Advanced SEAL Delivery System (ASDS), which represents one of U.S. Special Operations

But the GAO has reported that the program cost could rise to more than $2 billion.

Battery problems and excessive noise have dogged the program, but Northrop Grumman in May said new lithium ion battery technology was making progress under several suppliers, and the Navy has completed and installed a new propeller system that addresses many of the noise concerns.

Four Trident ballistic missile submarines being converted to guided-missile subs will be capable of carrying the ASDS, as will Virginia-class attack submarines and the last of the Seawolf class, the USS Jimmy Carter.

In 2001, a contract for up to $25.2 million was announced for construction of an ASDS and dry-deck operations facility at Pearl City Peninsula.

SEAL activities by nature are not highly publicized, but an environmental assessment for the project said SEAL delivery vehicle operations would be similar to those off Ford Island, where the vehicles operated in the harbor once every one to two weeks.

Seal Delivery Vehicle Team One has about 30 officers and 200 enlisted personnel.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Posted on: Friday, June 27, 2003

Too early to decide on carrier transfer

By Derrick DePledge
Advertiser Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific told congressional lawmakers yesterday that the military wants to increase its response capabilities to deter emerging threats in Asia, but he said it is too soon to determine whether any new forces will be assigned to the region.

Asked by Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo whether the U.S. territory would be suitable as a home port for an aircraft carrier, Adm. Thomas Fargo said the military is still evaluating its forces worldwide.

"It's way premature right now to make any commitments," Fargo said during a hearing before a House subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Hawai'i officials said last week that they have had talks with the Navy about bringing an aircraft carrier and strike group to Pearl Harbor, an initiative that Sen. Dan Inouye, D-Hawai'i, has long advocated. Inouye, who met with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Tuesday, has said the military would likely increase its presence in Hawai'i.

Bordallo has also said Guam is interested in a carrier group, arguing that the island is closer to Asia than Hawai'i. "I'm glad we're still in the picture," the Guam Democrat told the admiral.

Bordallo said later that she asked Fargo about the carrier because she wanted to call attention to Guam's stake in federal money for infrastructure improvements. She noted that the carrier USS Carl Vinson docked at Kilo Wharf in Guam in April before taking part in regional training exercises.

The military's 12 aircraft carrier groups are divided between the Atlantic and the Pacific, but the Navy has suggested that some forces may be moved during restructuring to respond to threats in Asia, particularly North Korea's nuclear ambitions and Philippine and Indonesian terrorism-linked insurgents.

Five Atlantic carrier groups are based in Norfolk, Va., and one in Florida. Three Pacific carrier groups are based in San Diego, two are in Washington state and one is in Japan.

Shifting a carrier group from the Atlantic to the Pacific, or transferring a carrier group within the Pacific fleet, would likely touch off political battles because of the economic benefit. A 1998 study by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i estimated that home-porting a carrier at Pearl Harbor could infuse $375 million annually into the economy and create 4,200 jobs.

"Moving a carrier group from the Atlantic to the Pacific fleet is not the answer to meet concerns from growing foreign powers, and if this is more than talk, I along with other members of the Virginia delegation will work to ensure that this does not occur," said Rep. Jo Ann Davis, R-Va., who serves on the House Armed Services Committee.

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, was quoted in the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot this week as saying Norfolk "should feel quite secure with regard to its naval components."

Patrick Garrett, a defense analyst with Global Security.org, a think tank in Alexandria, Va., said it would be "bad

politics" to pull a carrier out of Norfolk. It takes 18 to 21 days for a carrier from Norfolk to get to the Persia Gulf vs. about 30 days from San Diego, he said.

"What's the harm of pulling one out of San Diego?" Garrett said. "The reason you need one in Hawai'i is because there's a big, bad wolf on the Korean peninsula."

According to Garrett, having a carrier in Hawai'i would cut off about a week's sailing time to Asia.

Peter Rodman, assistant defense secretary for international security affairs, told the subcommittee yesterday that the Defense Department wants to tailor its military power to regional challenges and increase the ability to respond quickly to unexpected or unconventional threats. Rodman testified that regional defense posture should be based on global considerations.

Staff writer William Cole contributed to this report.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, June 25, 2003

Guam, Hawai'i are rivals for Navy aircraft carrier

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Guam is prepared to challenge Hawai'i as a homeport for any U.S. Navy aircraft carrier redeployed closer to Asian trouble spots.

Joaquin Perez, district director for Guam's delegate to Congress, Madeleine Bordallo, said the island wants the carrier — and the thousands of jobs and millions in military money it brings.

And he said Guam has strategic advantages over Pearl Harbor.

"As far as access to areas right now that that you would consider to be trouble areas, we're a lot closer than Hawai'i," Perez said yesterday.

Guam is 3,800 miles west of Hawai'i, about four to five days closer to trouble spots such as the Philippines and Indonesia. The Navy's Nimitz-class aircraft carriers have a top speed of about 35 mph.

During a 1998 study of aircraft carrier basing, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i estimated that a carrier would have a $375 million annual economic impact and create 4,200 jobs, although officials say that figure is low.

A carrier and its air wing typically have 5,500 crew members. Families and support personnel would add thousands more individuals.

A recent report in the Newport News (Va.) Daily Press indicated that a recommended shift in Navy forces from the Atlantic to the Pacific could mean the transfer of an entire carrier strike group, including about 8,000 sailors and a dozen ships.

An aircraft carrier has not been based in Hawai'i since World War II. Attempts since then to bring a carrier here have failed.

But a worldwide reorganization of U.S. forces, and a new focus on the Pacific, may make basing a carrier in Hawai'i or Guam more likely.

Maj. Gen. Bob Lee, head of the state's National Guard and Gov. Linda Lingle's adviser on military affairs, has said the Navy approached Lingle about two to three months ago about the plan.

Lee said the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station — now called Kalaeloa — could be used for a carrier's 75 planes and helicopters when it is in port.

The nation's 12 carriers are evenly distributed between the Atlantic and Pacific fleets, but the Navy Times said that Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark asked Atlantic Fleet commander Adm. Robert Natter — who also is the head of Fleet Forces Command — for recommendations on what forces could be sent to the Pacific.

Increased threats in Asia "demand a shift in resources to the Pacific from the Atlantic," Natter said at a May 16 Defense Forum Foundation meeting.

"I think (basing a carrier at Pearl Harbor) makes a lot of sense," said Michael Pavkovic, director of the diplomacy and military studies program at Hawai'i Pacific University. "Given the way we're thinking of realigning and centralizing a lot of our assets ... it makes a lot of sense to have something here rather than, let's say, San Diego."

Three Pacific Fleet carriers are based in San Diego and two in Washington state, putting all five about 2,600 miles from Hawai'i. One of the Pacific carriers is based in Japan.

Guam, home to 100 B-52 bombers during the Vietnam War, has been gaining in U.S. military importance with Andersen Air Force Base used for bombers sent over Iraq, and with the basing of three Los Angeles-class attack submarines there.

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Posted on: Friday, June 20, 2003

Navy considering Hawai'i for carrier strike force

By Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writer

The Navy and the Lingle administration are discussing the idea of moving an aircraft carrier to Pearl Harbor, a decision that could boost U.S. defense in the central Pacific and create more military and civilian jobs in the Islands.

U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye, D-Hawai'i, said yesterday he expects a decision to be made before September. Inouye, who supports the idea, called discussions between state officials and the Pentagon "very serious."

"I think the government of the United States is coming to the realization that many of the problems of this world are now located in the Pacific area," Inouye said, mentioning the Koreas, the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia. "And if that is the case, some of our muscle should be put in this area."

Navy officials at the U.S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor would not discuss the talks.

"At this point it would be premature to discuss any plans that might pertain to the transfer of forces in the Pacific," said Jon Yoshishige, a fleet spokesman.

But Maj. Gen. Bob Lee, the state's adjutant general — head of the state's National Guard — said the Navy approached Gov. Linda Lingle's administration about two months to three months ago.

"The Navy said we are contemplating a carrier strike force in the state of Hawai'i and how can we make it happen," Lee said. "If that is the objective of the military, we are in full support."

Lee stressed that any decision would be based on defense strategies. Talks so far have included ways that the state can help the Navy with such a move, he said.

"We'll continue to work in a cooperative way," Lingle said yesterday. "It's not only important for our nation's security, it's important for Hawai'i's security as well. Any source of assets like that help us to maintain strong homeland security."

Although the Navy has submarines and surface ships at Pearl Harbor, the nearest aircraft carriers are on the West Coast. Given the number of trouble spots around the Pacific, it makes sense to access them quickly, Lee said. Putting a carrier in Hawai'i could eliminate five to seven days worth of travel time.

In addition to having adequate berthing space, a Hawai'i-based carrier would have easy access to one of the few dry docks big enough to hold it at the adjacent Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, he said.

A carrier also would need a base to store and maintain about 75 planes and helicopters when it is in port. Lee said the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station — now called Kalaeloa — is a good solution.

Although used by a mix of state and federal agencies, including the Hawai'i National Guard, there is plenty of unused hangar space, Lee said. Also, his guard jet aircraft mechanics and air traffic controllers are in place to work with the Navy, he said.

"I am the big tenant there," Lee said. "I have had my staff look at it to see if we can work together, and my preliminary studies show we can all co-exist and make it a joint effort."

The Navy last considered Pearl Harbor as a possible home port for an aircraft carrier in 1998, when it was looking for a base for two new Nimitz-class carriers and considering moving a third. But in a draft environmental impact statement concluded that Pearl Harbor lacked adequate maintenance and support facilities. The study also determined that there were no airfields here to accommodate the 70 to 80 carrier aircraft.

Lee is not sure how long it will take for a final decision in this latest effort. He said the state and Navy still have much to discuss.

And there are other cities that want a carrier.

"I think we are in a good position," Lee said. "Our competitors have their hackles up. I think this will be driven by what makes sense for the defense of our nation. Being able to get somewhere quick and defuse a situation is worth quite a bit."

All told, a carrier strike force can have anywhere from 5,000 to 15,000 people. But not all the support ships, submarines and planes are assigned to the same location.

For example, the carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, is homeported in the Seattle area but its aircraft come from Virginia, Central California, San Diego and Seattle. And ships at Pearl Harbor are assigned to carriers out of San Diego.

Still, an aircraft carrier has a huge impact on a community.

"Anytime you bring in thousands of people into the state, and their salaries, and their spending in the state, it does have a big impact," Lingle said.

U.S. Rep. Ed Case, a supporter of the move because "it is the right thing for our country to do," said the Hawai'i economy will see benefits.

Shipyard workers, businesses around Pearl Harbor and technology firms that work on military contracts all would benefit.

"There is nothing like an aircraft carrier strike force to round out a defense presence in a community," he said. "It brings more military jobs, and it creates more jobs in the community that serves it."

Even though the Navy ultimately makes the final decision, Case said the state's optimism about the project and Inouye's prediction of a swift decision are "well grounded."

"I believe we have everything they need in Hawai'i or can, with some joint effort, have everything they need to put a carrier into Pearl," he said. "And we want it."

Staff writer Gordon Pang contributed to this report. Reach Mike Gordon at 525-8012 or mgordon@honoluluadvertiser.com.

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Hawai'i Navy News
Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"
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Volume 28 Issue 25 June 20, 2003

New BEQ opens doors to Sailors

TMSA Audrey Evins stands in her new barracks room at Oklahoma Hall. Two hundred and eight Sailors will call the more than $13 million barracks home.
Click here for high-res.

P-593

JO2 Tim Walsh
Staff Writer

Two hundred and eight Sailors have a new place to live Tuesday with the opening of Oklahoma Hall, Pearl Harbor's newest bachelor enlisted quarters (BEQ).

Torpedoman's Mate Seaman Apprentice Audrey Evins, the BEQ's first resident, helped untie the maile lei during the dedication ceremony.

After taking a tour of the building, Evins gave her new digs a thumbs up. She is moving into Oklahoma Hall from an older BEQ and noted the conveniences. "I like where it is at. You're near everything," she explained. The BEQ is off North Road, next to the Diosdado Rome Galley, where Evins sometimes eats.

Convenience isn't the only thing Oklahoma Hall offers. Each room at the BEQ, built at a cost of more than $13 million, includes a bathroom, a kitchenette, air conditioning, solid-oak furniture, carpeting, two telephone jacks, two TV armoires with televisions included and personal mailboxes with daily delivery. Each floor has its own lanai and laundry. The first floor houses a recreation area with a large screen-high definition TV, pool table and full kitchen.

Capt. Ronald Cox, commanding officer of Naval Station Pearl Harbor and chief of staff for Navy Region Hawai'i, stressed the history of the Oklahoma and the importance of its heritage.

"More than 400 officers and Sailors were listed as killed or missing aboard Oklahoma after the Japanese surprise attack Dec. 7, 1941," explained Cox. He went on to say the men of the Oklahoma did not give up and 32 Sailors were rescued as salvage and rescue workers cut into the hull of the capsized ship.

Senior Chief Ship's Cook (ret.) George Brown, a Pearl Harbor survivor who served aboard USS Oklahoma (BB 37) during the attack, attended the grand opening and dedication of the BEQ. Following the ceremony, Brown toured the facility named after his former ship. "I am very pleased with the barracks. I don't think they could

have built a more beautiful building," said Brown of the facility. "It is a great honor to name this barracks after the Oklahoma. I am honored."

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Posted on: Friday, June 6, 2003

Navy to speed up rotation of duty

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a shift that will affect the lifestyles of thousands of sailors, the Navy is throwing overboard a decades-old approach to rotating its ships and crews on sea duty.

Instead of sticking to a schedule that sends ships to sea for six months — rarely for even one day longer — followed by 18 months at home preparing for the next deployment, the Navy will speed up parts of the preparation cycle so more ships are available for duty.

It is abandoning predictability in favor of flexibility that Adm. Vern Clark, the chief of naval operations, said yesterday will give the president more options in a national crisis.

For example, instead of having just a few aircraft carriers available at any given time for sea duty, as has been the case for decades, as many as eight carriers will be available, other Navy officials said.

"(Just) like that, we're going to be able to deploy five or six anytime" the president wants to," Clark said. As many as two others would be available on short notice at a lower level of combat readiness.

The Navy will begin implementing this new approach July 1 and expects to have it fully in place by Dec. 1. One of the keys to making it work will be extending the interval between ship maintenance periods.

The Navy has 12 carriers, but at any given time one or two are in long-term overhaul and not available to deploy. Clark gave no indication he saw a need to increase the number of carriers.

In a breakfast interview with reporters, Clark said he believes sailors are ready for this change, although he acknowledged that they may find it difficult in some respects.

"We don't promise them an easy time," Clark said. "There are going to be some hard times."

Clark said the Navy is breaking its own records for recruiting and re-signing sailors, and he's convinced that they are ready to do what is necessary to help the U.S. military win a global war on terrorism, even if it

Persian Gulf, one in the western Pacific and one was sent from San Diego to replace the USS Abraham Lincoln in the Gulf. The Lincoln, based at Everett, Wash., spent nearly 10 months at sea — one of the longest carrier deployments since the Vietnam War.

Normally the Navy would have one carrier in the western Pacific at all times and one in either the Gulf or the Mediterranean. Today it has one in the Gulf and one in the western Pacific; those that fought the Iraq war have returned to their home ports.

In the future, deployment schedules and patterns will be less predictable. Gone will be the longstanding practice of putting a carrier into six months of maintenance after it returns from an overseas deployment, followed by 12 months of progressively more demanding training of sailors. The new approach will tailor the length of the maintenance period to a ship's particular needs and missions, rather than keeping it rigidly at six months, officials said. And instead of then training for 12 months before being certified as ready for deployment, the carrier crews will undergo three months of basic training before being classified as ready for deployment in an emergency.

Clark said sailors should know that just because their ships will be available for longer or more frequent deployments in times of crisis, that does not mean they will do so as a matter of routine.

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Posted on: Friday, June 6, 2003

Flexibility called key to new readiness plan

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The Navy's new readiness plan doesn't necessarily mean sailors will stay at sea longer than the usual six months, although in some cases that might be required, a Pacific Fleet spokesman at Pearl Harbor said.

"Flexibility is the key," Lt. j.g Mike Morley said. "It means changes in our manning, maintenance and training are going to be tailored to meet emergency surge requirements much faster. Basically, we're having (more ships) ready on deck if needed."

The "Fleet Response Plan" would affect most of Pearl Harbor's 12 surface ships and 18 attack submarines, which regularly escort aircraft carriers on deployment.

"It is significant," Morley said, "and again, it's going to be about changing the orientation of the fleet away from that 'gearing up for the next deployment' to one of 'how soon can we become part of the emergency surge force?' "

Morley said the plan is so new it hasn't yet been communicated to sailors, who will get the details through their chain of command.

The war in Iraq showed longer duty at sea sometimes is needed. The Pearl Harbor destroyer Paul Hamilton, frigate Reuben James and submarine Cheyenne recently returned from nine months on deployment.

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ping center. There is a significant amount of new home development in the area and the new owners as well as real estate gurus observing the area are certain the increased home development means an

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Posted on: Monday, February 17, 2003

Briefs

Advertiser Staff and News Services

MARINES

Security tightens at Kane'ohe base

With the possibility of war with Iraq growing larger, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i has tightened security and recently drilled for a terrorist attack.

The Kane'ohe base supplemented its security force with 65 Marines from various units. The Marines received training on deadly force, weapons handling, escorts, interior guard, police ethics, introduction to terrorism and handling suspicious packages.

Military bases on O'ahu are at force protection level "bravo," meaning an increased and more predictable threat of terrorist activity exists. The level was increased from "alpha," one step above "normal."

Steps required during "bravo" include examining all incoming mail for bombs and random checks of visitors' hand-carried items.

NAVY

Sailors to get new housing

A $17.4 million bachelor enlisted housing project under way on the Makalapa Gate side of Pearl Harbor will provide new living quarters for 208 shore-based sailors. The housing is expected to be available beginning June 1.

Two sailors will share a room, kitchenette with a full-size refrigerator, microwave and bathroom.

Other amenities include a TV, iron and ironing board — items sailors would otherwise purchase, but have a hard time finding space for when they return to ship duty.

'Skinny Dragons' back at Kane'ohe

More than 30 "Skinny Dragons" from the Navy's Patrol Squadron 4 recently returned to Marine Corps Base Hawai'i at Kane'ohe Bay after a deployment to California.

VP-4 deployed Jan. 9 to Naval Air Station North Island with other patrol squadron elements, and for more than three weeks, flew P-3C Orion reconnaissance aircraft in support of the USS Nimitz battle group off San Diego for two exercises.

Composite Training Unit Exercise 3-02 and a Joint Task Force Exercise are normally held a month apart, but events required they be back to back.

The primary mission of the P-3s was anti-submarine warfare, but they also conducted anti-surface warfare and maritime interdiction.

During a maritime interdiction exercise, an improved version of the P-3 broke new ground by transmitting digital images directly to the battle group — doing away with the need for satellites or a ground station transfer of images.

Hawai'i Navy News
www.hnn.navy.mil
Volume 28 Issue 7 Feb. 14, 2003

New BEH will be 'home sweet home' for Pearl Harbor Sailors

P-467

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

As completion nears for one project, ground is broken on another.

Construction began in early February on a new bachelor enlisted quarters (BEH) for Pearl Harbor-based Sailors. The target completion for the $14 million military construction (MILCON) project, located just inside the Hale Moku neighborhood on the west side of Center Drive, is April 2004.

Unaccompanied Sailors at Pearl Harbor can experience a five-star standard of living. According to Mike Matthews, bachelor housing director for Navy Region Hawaii, that's all possible due to the five-star housing and five-star galleys within Navy Region Hawaii. "It gives them a great place to live," said Matthews and explained that all future changes will also be made at the five-star level of quality.

The contract for the project was awarded to Dick Pacific Construction Company, which also built the new Bldg. 900 BEH, Gabrunas Hall and all of the new BEHs at Marine Corps Base Hawaii - Kaneohe. The firm is also renovating Smallwood Hall. Under the same project, Smedley Hall will undergo demolition.

Configured in 56 one-plus-one enhanced modules, the new facility will be "home sweet home" for 112 Sailors. Matthews said that the new barracks will satisfy the top three Ohana survey requests for bachelor housing.

"The top three Ohana survey requests were: (1) larger rooms, (2) air conditioning and (3) cooking facilities," he explained. "We have incorporated all of those things into the new facility."

"We were heavily involved in the design of the room layout and brought the concerns from the Ohana survey," he said. "The Sailors said they were tired of microwave food and want to cook," Matthews said as he mentioned the two-burner stovetops which will be contained in each mini kitchen.

Under the one-plus-one arrangement, a module will be shared by two Sailors, each with his/her own private bedroom adjoining the module.

Cooking facilities, including a two-burner stovetop, full-size refrigerator, a microwave, garbage disposal and cupboard space will be contained in each module. There will also be a two-person dining table with chairs.

Additionally, each module will provide a private bathroom with a sink/vanity area located outside the bathtub/restroom area. Other features in each module will be a stackable washer and dryer and extra storage space. This is the first time that barracks floor plans have included the laundry area. "It has never happened before," said Matthews.

According to Matthews, many common areas in the barracks have been eliminated, thus allowing the extra space to be used for larger bedrooms and the addition of walk-in closets and other enhancements such as the laundry facilities.

Describing the amenities of the new bachelor enlisted quarters as a "whole room concept," he related that the painting, furniture and carpeting are all included in the one-stop shopping. "The Navy has been pushing for the 'whole room concept' for years. It means that we replace everything in the room at one time," he explained.

Each of the 112 sleeping rooms will be wired for cable television and telephone and will feature carpeted floors. Tile will be used in the common spaces. Central air conditioning will keep the building cool as tropical temperatures climb. Each sleeping room will have an individual temperature control.

A common lounge area will be located on the first floor of the building. There will also be an outdoor lanai area with a barbeque grill and outdoor dining tables and chairs. U.S. mail delivery boxes will be provided in the main lobby.

Anti-terrorism/force protection (AT/FP) requirements will also be integrated into the new facility.

"The big emphasis is on quality of life for our Sailors because it impacts retention," said Matthews.

"Our Sailors know that they will be taken care of and want to stay in the Navy."

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Last updated: 02/13/03

Pearl Harbor Blesses Naval Shipyard Facility

A Hawaiian blessing and traditional untying of the maile lei was held recently for a new $10 million abrasive blast and paint facility at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility.

Bodell Construction was the general contractor hired by the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and the Intermediate Maintenance Facility in August 2000. Bodell demolished the previous structure as well as built the new facility.

The new site will allow for the preparation of ship contents and other materials needed for painting or powder coating to be conducted under one facility, making Navy operations more efficient. Previously, abrasive blast and painting operations were scattered throughout different locations at the naval station.

Capt. John A. Edwards said use of the new facility will reduce transit time and make needed materials more readily accessible. Sailors will have less ship maintenance work due to the high-solid painting and powder coat finishing of ship hardware, which will extend the product life of ship parts. The added convenience is projected to save the Navy $6.2 million a year.

The facility also features state-of-the-art technology for filtrations, particle collection, waste stream management, grit cleanup and disposal, which creates safer procedures and a cleaner working environment.

Photo by: Lynette Christensen

Gerald Smith, Bodell Construction; Capt. John Edwards; Cmdr. Stephen Bell, ROICC Pearl Harbor; and Cmdr. Paul Fuligni, PACDIV Assistant Commander for Operations, participate in cutting the maile lei at the dedication of a new Pearl Harbor facility.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, January 6, 2003

Briefs

Advertiser Staff and News Services

NAVY

USS Lincoln will remain deployed

The USS Abraham Lincoln battle group — which includes three Pearl Harbor-based ships — will not return to home port this month as previously scheduled.

The deployment extension has fueled speculation the Everett, Wash.-based carrier and its escorts could be used in a war with Iraq.

"Due to heightened concerns in the Pacific and the Arabian Gulf, the Lincoln battle group, which is at a high state of readiness, will remain deployed and will be available as required to meet national security requirements," the Navy said.

Pearl-based destroyers Fletcher and Paul Hamilton and the frigate Reuben James are part of the battle group. The Lincoln left home port in July

PHOTO COURTESY: SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL

Uncle Sam Wants You, Hawaii

LOCAL COMPANIES OFFER THEIR TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES TO THE U.S. MILITARY – IN EXCHANGE FOR FEDERAL FUNDS **BY CATHY S. CRUZ**

Roughly $683 million in U.S. Department of Defense funds has been set aside for Hawaii this year, thanks to an appropriations bill passed by the U.S. Senate and House last October by a 93-to-[illegible] vote. The distribution of those dollars will go toward various projects: medical research;

FORD ISLAND

Fluor Hawaii Kicks Off Ford Island Construction In 2004

By Steve Colón, Senior Vice President, Hunt Building Company
And Charles B. Read, Executive Project Director, Fluor Federal Services

On July 3, 2003, the Department of the Navy awarded the Ford Island Master Development Agreement to Hunt Building Company and Fluor Federal Services, LLC, doing business as Fluor Hawaii, LLC.

These improvements will be the first step towards the Navy's plans for "medium density private development" on Ford Island.

Following a year of engineering, construction on Ford Island is expected to begin in 2004. Fluor Hawaii will work with the Navy to revitalize Ford Island by providing approximately $85 million in design-build projects for needed improvements to the existing infrastructure and the adaptive reuse of the existing historic theater into a high-tech conference center.

These improvements will be the first step towards the Navy's plans for "medium density private development" on Ford Island. In the end, the construction on Ford Island will provide the foundation for centralized Navy operations within Pearl Harbor, while preserving Ford Island as a part of the Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark.

Sewer, electrical and communication infrastructure improvements are expected to commence in the early summer of 2004.

In exchange for these in-kind improvements the Navy has sold or leased the following Navy properties on Oahu for private redevelopment:

- Iroquois Point/Puuloa – 400 acres on a 65-year lease
- Barbers Point – 130 acres on an initial lease followed by conversion to fee ownership
- Waikele Naval Magazine – 515 acres on an initial lease followed by conversions to fee ownership
- Halawa Landing – 6.6 acres on a 65-year lease

While no major construction on these properties is planned at this time, there will be clean-up and maintenance activities on the housing units at Barbers Point and Iroquois Point as they are prepared for release into the housing rental market throughout 2004.

Fluor Hawaii will implement a phased housing revitalization program that will make modest improvements to the exteriors and interiors of most of the homes. Key features will be updated kitchens and bathrooms, as well as fresh painting, landscaping, and other improvements.

We are looking forward to 2004 as a time of revitalization for Ford Island, our properties at Iroquois Point and Barber Point, and the state of Hawaii.

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - June 18, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/06/14/daily67.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

LATEST NEWS

12:32 PM HST Friday

Ford Island contractors announce name change

The contractors leading efforts to develop Ford Island for the U.S. Navy have a new name: Ford Island Properties LLC.

It replaces Fluor Hawaii LLC, the name that El Paso, Texas-based Hunt Building Co. Ltd. and Aliso Viejo, Calif.-based Flour Federal Services, LLC., went by when they were jointly awarded the Navy's Ford Island Master Development project in July 2003.

"The new name emphasizes the centerpiece of the project and sets the stage for the start of construction on Ford Island," said Steve Colon, senior vice president with Hunt Building.

Plans include developing and renovating Iroquois Point and Kalaeloa, where affordable rental housing units for the military and civilian personnel will be built, Colon said.

Fluor Federal Services has been focused on improving the infrastructure on Ford Island, said Chuck Read, project director. Construction will begin later this summer on utilities and the sewage system, Read said.

The improvement will allow the Navy to centralize its operations within Pearl Harbor.

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http://www.bizjournals.com/industries/energy/electric_utilities/2004/05/24/pacific_focus7.html
ENERGY:
ELECTRIC UTILITIES

From the May 21, 2004 print edition of the Pacific Business News (Honolulu)
From the print edition

development, said Don Rochon, a Navy engineer.

The Navy's vision, he said, is to use the island to help concentrate its operation in the Pearl Harbor area, which the military is looking to revive for the more than 15,000 sailors, who are part of an estimated $1.2 billion payroll in Hawaii.

Reach Harold Nedd at 955-8039 or hnedd@bizjournals.com.

NAVY newsstand The Source for Navy News www.news.navy.mil

Navy Dedicates New Homes on Ford Island

Story Number: NNS040329-02
3/29/2004

By Karen Spangler, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) -- The Navy displayed the newest homes in its housing inventory in Hawaii, when 140 homes were dedicated at ceremonies held March 25 on historic Ford Island.

Constructed by Lend Lease Actus, LLC under a military construction (MILCON) project at a cost of $35 million, the homes on Ford Island and an additional 30 homes on Radford Terrace represent what Navy officials say is their commitment to improve the quality of life for Sailors and their families.

"With each new military construction project that the Navy in Hawaii has undertaken, we have been able to increase our inventory of replacement and revitalized homes for our Navy families, making it possible for them to live the American dream," said Capt. Norman Ho, assistant chief of staff for housing for Navy Region Hawaii. "In coming years, as the Navy in Hawaii embarks on public-private venture, we will be able to provide even more quality housing for our Navy families. We are committed to the importance of quality of life and taking care of our people," added Ho.

Featuring such enhancements as metal framing, central air conditioning, garages, full-size washers and dryers, and modern kitchens, the modern Ford Island homes are three and four-bedroom units built in duplex and four-plex arrangements.

Navy families in the homes also will have the benefit of additional amenities in the community, including landscaping, new roads and underground utilities. They can relax and enjoy their leisure time in a neighborhood that offers a recreation area with a pavilion, basketball court, picnic area with gazebo, barbeque area and super tot lot.

040324-N-3228G-001 Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (Mar. 24, 2004) - Navy family members relax on their front lawn while movers deliver household goods to their new home on Ford Island. The new housing development is part of a $35 million project to design and construct 140 homes on Ford Island and 30 homes at Radford Terrace. The homes are three and four-bedroom units arranged as duplex and quad-buildings. They feature such amenities as metal framing, garages, central air conditioning, solar hot water systems, modern kitchens with energy-saving appliances, and full-size washers and dryers. The new community includes a host of improvements such as: underground utilities, recreational areas and new roads. More than 2,300 Navy family homes have been replaced or renovated on Oahu since 1996, at a cost of $426 million. U. S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 1st Class William R Goodwin. (RELEASED)

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Rear Adm. Barry J. McCullough, commander, Navy Region Hawaii, explained that Hawaii is now one of the most popular duty stations for Navy people. The capability to house 100 percent of single Sailors in barracks housing, the opening of the largest Navy Exchange in the world and the first Navy Lodge in Hawaii, and the easement of pet quarantine requirements have helped to make Pearl Harbor a more attractive duty station, according to the admiral.

"Perhaps the most dramatic change in Hawaii has been in the area of family housing. We have spent nearly a half a billion dollars since 1996, revitalizing and replacing 2,300 Navy family homes and will continue to do so under public-private venture," he said.

But even as progress and change have come to Ford Island, every effort has been made to ensure that the housing project has been built to respect the historic character of the island.

"The neighborhood has been built in such a way that preserves the unique history of Ford Island. Indeed, we are mindful of the sacrifices that many of our shipmates made here on Dec. 7, 1941," remarked McCullough. "In this historic place, we are working to preserve reminders of the important role that Ford Island has played in the history of our Navy and our nation," he added.

The Ford Island MILCON project is the last of Hawaii's Navy family housing developments to be funded through Congressionally-appropriated military construction funds. Future Navy housing on Oahu will be built under public-private venture, a partnership in which developers fund construction costs, and then lease the homes back to Navy families for an amount equivalent to their housing allowances for a private rental.

"Just as our men and women in uniform fulfill their commitment to make personal sacrifices in order to help preserve our nation's security, we fulfill our commitment to them by giving them the quality of service that they have earned," said McCullough. "That includes providing modern, quality homes for our Sailors and their families. That is the least we can for them for the sacrifices they make for our nation," he concluded.

For related news, visit the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnrh.

BI News

A New Beginning for Ford Isle

(From left): Rear Adm. Barry McCullough, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, signs the Ford Island Master Development Agreement while Adm. Walter Doran, U.S. Pacific Fleet Commander; Sen. Daniel Inouye; and Congressman Neil Abercrombie look on.

The Navy achieved a milestone in July with the signing of the Ford Island Master Development Agreement with Fluor Hawaii, LLC, a joint venture between Fluor Federal Services, LLC and Hunt Building Corp.

"This contract marks a new beginning for Ford Island," says Rear Adm. Barry McCullough, commander, Navy Region Hawaii. "For the Navy, it is the start of a new way of doing business that will greatly benefit the local economy while providing Navy families with the quality of life they deserve."

The $180 million investment is made possible through special federal legislation adopted by Congress in 1999 that allows the Navy to sell or lease properties in Hawaii and use the proceeds to develop Ford Island. Besides the Navy development, Fluor Hawaii also will be doing its own commercial developments on land leased to the company on Ford Island.

Properties that will be leased on Oahu include: 34 acres on Ford Island, 400 acres at Iroquois Point/Puuloa, 130 acres at Barbers Point, 515 acres on the Waikele Naval Magazine, and 6.6 acres at Halawa Landing.

In return Fluor Hawaii will provide in-kind construction primarily focused on infrastructure improvements that will reshape the island into a development of "medium intensity," as identified in the Ford Island Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, as well as a conference center. Plans also call for a waterfront promenade commercial center; a 16-acre, three-story apartment community; and a private residential community of 130 townhomes. Construction is expected to begin in 2004.

In addition, Pearl Harbor will centralize its operations to improve overall efficiency, modernize its facilities and reduce maintenance costs and congestion on base, while preserving Ford Island's contribution to the historic character of the area.

One of the phases of the plan already has begun. Fluor Hawaii, with partner Chaney Brooks & Co., is implementing its property management plan for Iroquois and Barbers Point. Currently, all residents are military personnel and their families, but the areas will open up to the general public after unit renovations are complete.

Sen. Daniel Inouye and U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie also added their signatures to the agreement.

"The project will not only improve the quality of life for our sailors and their families, it also will add jobs and a shot in the arm for our local economy," says Inouye.

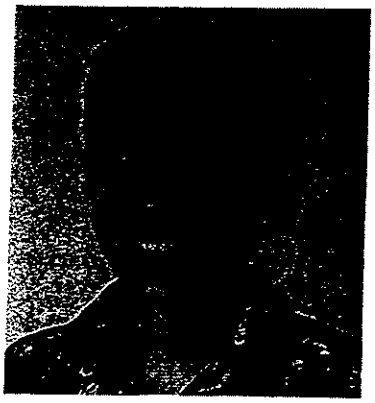
"Ford Island will be the crown jewel of Pearl Harbor," adds Abercrombie.

New Officers for ASHRAE

The Hawaii chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) recently elected its new board of officers. A special banquet was held in July at 3660 on the Rise to install the new board.

The officers for the 2003-2004 term are:

- President: *Michael Chong, P.E.* ; The AES Design Group
- President-elect: *Victor Russell*; DSA Engineering
- Vice President: *Ross Tanaka*; Mechanical Enterprises
- Secretary: *Marites Shoji*; Norman Wright Mechanical Equipment
- Treasurer: *Sam Gillie*; Hawaiian Electric Company.



Michael Chong

ficials face m choices

Contract issues

Some of the key issues in contract talks between O'ahu Transit Services and Hawai'i Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996:

SERVICE HOURS: A cut of 100,000 bus service hours per year could mean layoffs for 40 drivers. OTS said it would not lay off anyone "in the near future" in hope that the budget picture will improve. The union wants service hours to be restored.

PAY: OTS wants a three-year wage freeze. A union spokesman said it has lowered its initial demand for 10 percent annual raises and is now seeking a "small wage increase" but would not specify how much. A typical driver with five years' tenure earns about $44,000, the company said.

HOURS: OTS wants flexibility to put some drivers on four-day work weeks or 7½-hour shifts (instead of current 8 hours) to cut costs. Latest union position unknown.

MEDICAL INSURANCE: OTS wants to cap its share of co-payments to existing levels, plus 10 percent annual increases.

Housing: Some worried about 'mix'

FROM PAGE ONE

Fluor is essentially flooding the market, and will have to be very competitive to achieve high occupancy, the offering will be welcomed by renters facing fewer and fewer choices as homeowners sell off houses instead of renting them out.

"They are coming into a market that's tightened significantly over the last year and then some, so they will satisfy demand that's been building for reasonably-priced housing," Cassiday said.

Don't call just yet, though.

Work crews are painting, cleaning, repairing and landscaping, and by October, Fluor's goal is to have 10 homes ready to rent each week. Officials say the best time to start inquiring is after Oct. 1, although the rental agent, Chaney Brooks, already has a trailer open at Iroquois Point to process military renters converted over to new leases.

In the meantime, Fluor is looking to add to its military tenants, who will be able to sign a civilian lease or a "military friendly" lease with clauses that allow them to leave if they get transferred.

Yee said some Army personnel transferring to Hawai'i from the Mainland had no options within the Army inventory of housing,

JEFF WIDENER • The Honolulu Advertiser

The decision to offer some of its under-used properties as rental units to military personnel as well as civilians — and at highly competitive rates — is expected to help satisfy a growing demand in Hawai'i.

or retired military, but Yee said discussions are ongoing with the state to revive ferry service to Aloha Tower Marketplace with the hope of offering it for the greater community's use.

Leanne Howe, who has lived at

average three-bedroom home on O'ahu rents for about $1,700. Average 'Ewa Plain area rent is about $1,400, and $1,600 for a 3-bedroom Kapolei home.

At a minimum, Cassiday believes

Hawai'i Navy News
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Volume 28 Issue 28 July 11, 2003

Island revitalized:

Ford Island development

Fluor Federal Services and the Hunt Building Company partnered up to form Fluor Hawai'i LLC. In the agreement, Hunt is responsible for building and maintaining the housing assets.

After some of the new infrastructure is in place, Hunt plans to construct additional housing on their leased parcel on Ford Island. The Navy opted for a "medium-intensity" development plan on the island which limited construction to no more than 430 homes. The new housing will be separated into two communities each on a 16-acre plot. One set will include 300 two-bedroom apartments while the other will consist of 130 two-story townhouses with two- or three-bedroom units. Although not an immediate project, Wright expects housing construction to start in a few years.

Currently, Hunt is more concerned with the needs of service members and their families in existing housing now operated by Fluor Hawai'i. "Our top priority is to take care of the people in there now," said Wright of the families still in Iroquois Point and Barbers Point housing.

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Posted on: Friday, July 4, 2003

Navy renovation plans model for cooperative projects

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

A prototype partnership between the Navy and a private developer will mean the construction of new family homes, shops and restaurants on historic Ford Island, and the availability of 2,000 new rental units open to civilians at Kalaeloa and Iroquois Point.

Hawai'i legislators, Navy officials and representatives of Fluor Hawai'i LLC took part in the ceremonial contract signing of a master planning and development agreement yesterday on the fantail of the battleship Missouri.

"I think we'll be the model for projects to come all across the nation," U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawai'i, said.

The Navy, which wants to centralize operations and increase efficiency by consolidating services in the Pearl Harbor area, last year picked a "medium intensity" development plan for Ford Island that calls for a maximum of 420 family housing units, bachelor-enlisted quarters for up to 1,000 personnel and 190,000 square feet of office space.

Under special legislation passed by Congress in 1999, Fluor is getting a 65-year lease on 34 acres of Ford Island land, and the lease and eventual title to some outlying Navy parcels in exchange for making infrastructure improvements and taking on the planning process at Ford Island.

Fluor's plans for the 34 acres include a 50,000-square foot waterfront promenade with shops and restaurants, a 16-acre, three-story community of 300 two-bedroom apartments, and a 16-acre development with 130 two-story townhomes with two- and three-bedroom units. The housing is expected to be built in four to seven years.

The Ford Island development will be open to Defense Department personnel, but the units at Kalaeloa — the old Barbers Point Naval Air Station — and Iroquois Point, will be opening to the civilian market, officials said.

Navy families occupy about 630 units out of 2,000 that are expected to be available.

The single family, duplex and apartment buildings were built between the 1950s and 1990s, and are in varying states of repair, said Chris Hunt, executive vice president of Hunt Building Co. Ltd.

Hunt said increasing the numbers of occupants at Kalaeloa will be a step toward the redevelopment of the former Navy base. The Navy retained 1,052 acres when the base was closed in 1999.

The Navy is selling or leasing the 34 acres on Ford Island, 400 acres at Iroquois Point/Pu'uloa, 130 acres at Kalaeloa, 515 acres at Waikele Naval Magazine, and 6.6 acres at Halawa Landing.

A 22.7-acre Military Aviation Museum of the Pacific is also planned, along with the renovation of the old theater to a conference center. The Navy, meanwhile, is building a $18.9 million "Navy Lodge," and 140 housing units.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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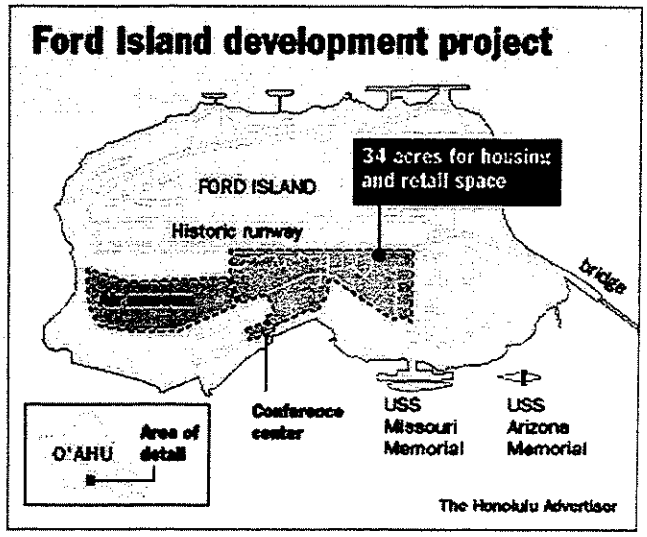
Ford Island development project
34 acres for housing and retail space
FORD ISLAND
Historic runway
bridge
Conference center
USS Missouri Memorial
USS Arizona Memorial
O'AHU
Area of detail
The Honolulu Advertiser

Starbulletin.com

Friday, July 4, 2003

DENNIS ODA / DODA@STARBULLETIN.COM

A signing ceremony was held yesterday aboard the USS Missouri for a Ford Island construction contract. Attending were Adm. Walter Doran, left, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet; Roy Yee, representing Fluor Hawaii; U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye; U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie; and Lt. Cmdr. Charlene Mowery.

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Plans set for Ford Island development

Officials say the deal will bring the isles at least $180 million

By Gregg K. Kakesako
gkakesako@starbulletin.com

The Navy has completed the final arrangements on a multimillion-

dollar Ford Island redevelopment project.

The contract between the Navy, Fluor Hawaii and Hunt Building Co. was signed yesterday on the battleship USS Missouri, moored at Ford Island as a floating museum. The developers estimated that initially the deal means more than $180 million will be spent in the islands.

It will be funded by a combination of conventional military construction appropriations from Congress, and sale or lease of four Navy properties at Barbers Point, Iroquois Point, Waikele Naval Magazine and Halawa Landing.

U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, chief architect of this public/private-sector partnership, said he expects construction of new Navy housing, office space, restaurants, a museum, commercial developments and training facilities will begin next year.

Inouye said the method of financing had to be altered because financially there was no other way to do the project.

"But it was something that had to be done because public taxpayers' moneys were not available," he said.

Navy planners have said that it would have taken 30 years to complete the massive construction using traditional planning and funding sources.

The Navy received legal authority to begin this type of financing and development in 1999 under legislation that Inouye authored, the senator said.

The Navy envisions a development with a maximum of 420 family housing units, bachelor-enlisted quarters for 1,000 personnel, 190,000 square feet of office space for 1,500 additional employees and a training complex.

Under the 1999 congressional legislation, Hunt and Fluor have the authority to:

>> Develop and operate commercial ventures on 34 acres on the south side of Ford Island. These projects could be a Navy air museum or visitor center, an information technological-communications center or an oceanographic/biomedical research complex.

>> Lease 6.6 acres at Halawa Landing, between the USS Bowfin Museum and the USS Arizona Memorial, to support visitor operations and shuttle bus and boat services.

>> Lease 322 acres where 1,469 single-family and duplex housing units now used by Navy personnel are located, at Iroquois Point and

Puuloa near the entrance to Pearl Harbor.

>> Sell 515 acres at the Waikele Naval Magazine, which was formerly used to store ammunition, but only 52 acres of which are considered developable.

>> Sell 675 acres at the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station, which includes 548 housing units and commercial, industrial and recreational facilities but does not include the popular golf course.

U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie said other mainland bases looking to build or renovate Navy housing will use Ford Island as a model.

"We are providing the innovation here in Hawaii," he said.

The agreement also means that 2,000 homes will be added to Oahu's rental housing market, said James Hunt, executive vice president for Hunt Building Co., referring to the naval housing units at Iroquois Point and Barbers Point that will be open to the public.

The Navy already has begun construction of a Navy lodge -- a hotel for military personnel -- on Ford Island under a separate $19.6 million contract. That job is 70 percent completed and will open in October. Under another housing appropriation, $36.7 million has been spent to renovate 140 housing units on Ford Island. Completion date is May 2004.

Ford Island is named after Dr. Seth Porter Ford, a physician who owned the island in the mid-1800s.

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Posted on: Thursday, July 3, 2003

Navy's Ford Island plans get broad approval

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Two years ago, the National Trust for Historic Preservation was so concerned about redevelopment plans for Ford Island that it placed the landmark on its "11 Most Endangered Places" list.

Today, a master planning and development agreement with Fluor Hawai'i LLC will be signed that preservationists and the local business community feel good about.

Not only is the 34-acre development plan expected to pump $180 million into the local economy, but preservationists are satisfied that historic elements will be kept in place, officials said. Those include Luke Field and seaplane ramps still pocked by Dec. 7, 1941, strafing runs.

Separately, the Navy is pursuing projects such as the construction of a $18.9 million Navy lodge and 180 housing units.

"The development on Ford Island — from what had been proposed to what is happening now — is a great improvement," said David Scott, executive director of the Historic Hawai'i Foundation. "If there was going to be development on Ford Island, we wanted it to be limited and sensitive to historic resources, and the Fluor proposal seems to address many of our concerns."

The Navy last year picked a "medium intensity" development plan for Ford Island calling for up to 420 family housing units, bachelor-enlisted quarters for 1,000 personnel, 190,000 square feet of office space for 1,500 additional employees and a new training complex.

The multimillion-dollar project is part of a Navy effort to consolidate operations in the Pearl Harbor area under special legislation passed by Congress in 1999. It allows it to sell or lease outlying properties to develop parts of 450-acre Ford Island.

Fluor Hawai'i LLC, a joint venture of Hunt Building Co. and Fluor Federal Services LLC, was selected by the Navy last year to enter into exclusive negotiations for the public-private project.

Fluor will get 65-year lease rights on 34 acres at Ford Island for a conference center, waterfront promenade commercial center and some military housing in exchange for in-kind construction and infrastructure repairs.

Fluor plans to install nearly seven miles of new or improved roads, four miles of new pipe and put in 10 miles of new cable.

The Navy identified 702 acres at the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station and 515 acres at the former naval magazine in Waikele for sale, and 1,460 acres at Iroquois Point, 390 acres at Pu'uloa and 6.6 acres at Halawa Landing for lease.

Steps are being taken to renovate housing at Iroquois Point and Barbers Point. As of today, Iroquois Point no longer will be military only, officials said.

Navy-retained lands at Barbers Point — now called Kalaeloa — amount to 1,052 acres, which include 548 housing units. About 190 are occupied.

Jim Tollefson, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, said the Ford Island development plan "is great news."

"It will be a real shot in the arm for local business — both large, medium and small," Tollefson said. "One-hundred eighty million dollars ... will provide some real opportunities for local companies."

In May, Fluor Federal Services met with about 300 potential subcontractors to discuss the project.

Historic Hawai'i's Scott, meanwhile, said historic seaplane ramps and roads, and most of Luke Field are being preserved.

"In 1997, the whole north side was going to be housing, and the whole south side was going to be a festival market," Scott said. "(The latest design represents) huge changes from the '97 plan."

The airfield at Ford Island, which is often referred to as the Gettysburg of the Pacific for its central role in the Japanese attack, had been slated to be replaced by a park with contrasting grass to represent runway numbers and palm trees delineating its length.

Bachelor-enlisted quarters were earmarked for the old seaplane ramps, Scott said.

Scott said it is critical that the Military Aviation Museum of the Pacific be allowed to move into three hangars on 22.7 acres of land.

"That will really preserve a segment of the historic site," he said.

B. Allan Palmer, hired to run the proposed aviation museum, in May said the group had reached agreement in principle with the Navy for a lease for the $53 million project.

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http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2003/01/13/daily17.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

09:55 EST Tuesday

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Marines lose bid to host global nerve center

The final configuration of the Navy-Marine Corps intranet appears to have gelled with a decision to keep the global nerve center in southern Virginia, while the new network operations center at Pearl Harbor will be one of three others.

There are now network operations centers at Ford Island here, at North Island of the Coronado naval station in San Diego, and at Norfolk, Va., the world's largest naval base. The Pentagon has approved establishing an "interim" fourth center at Quantico, Va., home base of the Marines.

The Marine Corps had pushed for Quantico, which unlike Norfolk is within reasonable driving distance of Washington, D.C., to be the site of the largest and most important of four network operations centers.

The decision to put what's called an interim center there appears to be both a turndown on that request and a hint that the Marines might nonetheless wind up with some permanent information technologies nerve center under their own control. Quantico was ruled out for lack of space for a larger operation, but does have a server farm big enough to handle the Marine Corps backbone network.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, December 2, 2002

Site to recreate Dec. 7, 1941

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Imagine watching a documentary about the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Ford Island, stepping out of the theater, and seeing where it happened — right down to the famous control tower, the crater made by the first bomb dropped on the island, bullet strafing pockmarks, and burned-out PBY seaplanes.

Backers of the Military Aviation Museum of the Pacific envision doing just that, blending the real (hangars, control tower and bullet and bomb marks) with the re-created (battle-damaged airplanes) to return visitors to the time and place that propelled the United States into World War II.

B. Allan Palmer, hired about a year ago to run the planned museum, said the approach represents something of a change as the nonprofit organization seeks to finalize a 65-year-lease for 22.7 acres of Ford Island land.

Officials hope to open the more than $55 million museum on Dec. 7, 2005. A second-annual benefit dinner to help raise $200,000 to complete design work will be held Friday — the day before the 61st anniversary of the attack — in one of the historic hangars.

"The site has gone from just an aviation museum with planes to more of a true historic site and museum," said Palmer, who likens Ford Island to Gettysburg or the Alamo.

"It's not just the hangars, it's the ground and (seaplane) ramp area — that's all part of it," Palmer said. "It's a historic area and we want to keep it that way, including the site of where the first bomb was dropped in the attack on Pearl Harbor and the bullet holes, which are really the scars of the battle."

Museum planners want to ferry visitors around in trams that would pass by historic aircraft and stop at two big hangars, 54 and 79, with exhibits, dioramas and aviation memorabilia from the Pacific theater of World War II, the Korean war, Cold War and Vietnam war.

Hangar 54 would have portions of a World War II aircraft carrier flight deck and hangar deck. Multiple levels would allow floor-to-ceiling aircraft and displays to be viewed from different vantages. The museum tour also would include a trip to the top of the 1930s control tower, and access to the "Memorial Garden" dedicated to aircraft and units that fought in the Pacific.

Another hangar, 37, would be used for aircraft restoration, archives, an education center and possibly a restaurant.

Lease talks continue with Ford Island master planner and developer Fluor Hawai'i LLC, but Palmer said the museum is "practically there" in terms of reaching an agreement.

"We're in the final stages of it, we think," Palmer said.

In June, the Navy picked Fluor, a joint venture between Hawai'i Renaissance Builders LLC (a subsidiary of Hunt Building Corp.) and Fluor Federal Services, for the planning and development of a $100 million to $300 million project to centralize Navy operations on 425-acre Ford Island with new housing, training and office space.

The development plan picked by the Navy calls for up to 420 family housing units, bachelor-enlisted quarters for as many as 1,000 personnel, 190,000-square-feet of office space for 1,500 additional employees, and a "historic visitor attraction" like the museum as part of the private development.

The ambitious development last year drew fire from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which worried about maintaining Ford Island's character, and put it on its annual list of endangered historic places. Ford Island is part of a National Historic Landmark District.

The Navy last week said negotiations with Fluor are expected to be completed this spring. Congress also must approve the plan.

Palmer said both Adm. Thomas Fargo, head of Pacific Command, and Pacific Fleet commander Adm. Walter Doran "have been very supportive and encouraging." Two former Pacific commanders and a former Pacific Fleet commander are on the museum's board, while U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye, D-Hawai'i is on its advisory board.

The museum, which is accepting cash contributions and artifacts, has a handful of aircraft so far, including a B-25 Mitchell bomber and AT-6 Texan trainer from World War II, a Korean War-era MiG 15, two Vietnam-era UH-1H Huey helicopters and an AH-1 Cobra attack helicopter.

"My biggest worry is not obtaining aircraft," said Palmer, the former executive director of the San Diego Aerospace Museum.

Historic aircraft often were loaned to the 100-plane San Diego museum, Palmer said. The museum eventually had to turn some warbird owners away. He envisions the Ford Island museum having between 65 and 100 aircraft.

What the museum has to do pretty quickly, Palmer said, is raise money for building and repairs. The 100- to 200-seat "Clouds Over Paradise" theater — where the tour would start — would be built to look like a hangar, he said. The Navy and preservationists have to review the plan.

Priority projects such as re-roofing hangars 54 and 79, making electrical improvements to the cavernous spaces, and adding plumbing and sprinkler systems are expensive.

"We've got to spend $46 million just on buildings, and probably $10 million to $12 million inside the buildings, and that doesn't count airplanes," Palmer said.

The control tower, built in the 1930s as a submarine escape training tower (the "cab" on top was added after the Dec. 7, 1941 attack), would be repainted its original barber pole orange and white, but needs extensive lead paint stripping and corrosion repair, Palmer said.

The museum's capital campaign will begin in earnest early next year, he said.

"We know we have to raise the $46 million probably within 18 months to two years to stay on schedule to open the museum in December of 2005," Palmer said. "So we'll be busy little bees raising that."

Friday's $200-a-plate fund-raiser features astronaut Walter Schirra, comedian Bill Dana, and Lt. John Finn, who received a Medal of Honor for Dec. 7, 1941, heroism.

Palmer said Ford Island's seaplanes were attacked first, and evidence of the first bomb dropped can still be seen off the corner of hangar 54 — an area not part of the 22.7-acre footprint, but one he's hopeful the Navy will allow access to as one of many battle "scars" still carried by the island.

"We think the site is so sacred and so important to American history," Palmer said. "We want people to be able to step back in time and see it the way it was during the attack."

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or at 525-5459.

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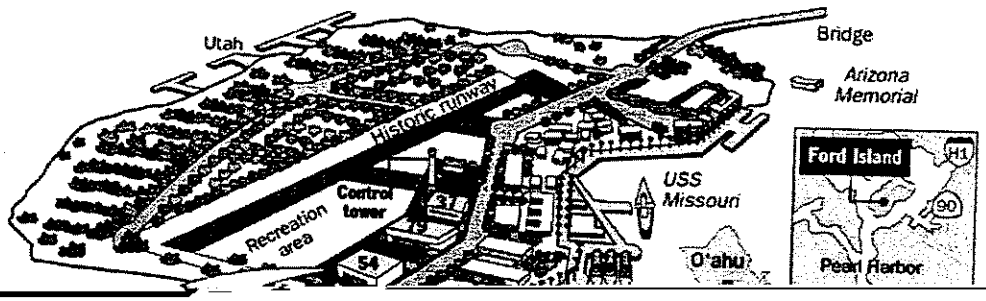
Proposed air museum at Ford Island

Planners say the museum will be more than just airplanes and engines. Backers hope to open on Dec.7, 2005.



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Posted on: Monday, October 7, 2002

Military Briefs

NAVY

Housing project breaks ground

The Navy broke ground last week on a 140-unit housing project on Ford Island for junior enlisted people. The project is expected to be completed in 2004.

The $35 million contract was awarded to Actus-Lend Lease LLC and includes the construction of 30 housing units at Radford Terrace, and the demolition of 110 units at Radford Terrace and 74 units at Hale Moku.

The new Ford Island homes will be three- and four-bedroom duplexes and quads.

The homes will include central air-conditioning, garages, and full-size washers and dryers.

"The new housing units have been designed to be distinct from, but compatible with, the craftsman style of the existing Luke Field housing," said Jay Yanz, historical architect for Navy Region Hawai'i. The housing project, he said, is designed "to respect the historic character of the island."

Since 1996, the Navy said it has replaced or renovated more than 2,300 housing units in Hawai'i at a cost of about $426 million.

The replacement program on O'ahu in recent years has added 752 homes in Moanalua Terrace, 318 units in Hale Moku, 214 homes in two phases of Doris Miller Park and 356 homes in Pearl City, the Navy said.

The Mall opens later this month

The Mall at Pearl Harbor, a new Navy exchange and commissary complex, will open Oct. 25.

The 340,000-square-foot mall will have the largest Navy retail store in the world and the largest military supermarket in Hawai'i.

"The Mall at Pearl Harbor is going to change the way people think of the Navy Exchange," said District Manager/General Manager Mike Cottrell. "It's more than just a big store; it's a better shopping environment for the military community with a focus on value, quality and service with aloha."

The Mall has a two-story atrium topped by artist Wyland's 89th "whaling wall," a depiction of whales and other undersea life.

Name brands such as Tommy Bahama, Ralph Lauren, Roxy, Quicksilver and Levi's will have more of a presence at the mall, officials said.

The existing Navy Exchange will continue operating until Oct. 25.

AIR GUARD

Pilots back from Norway

More than 180 Hawai'i Air National Guard people from the 154th Wing took part in NATO Air Meet 2002, Aug. 31 to Sept. 13 in Norway.

The exercise gave the Air Guard's 199th Fighter Squadron's F-15 Eagle pilots a chance to practice aerial combat with a variety of fighter aircraft from NATO countries.

All three types of Hawai'i Air Guard aircraft — F-15s, C-130 Hercules transports and KC-135 tankers — participated in the exercise.

MARINES

Mess halls privatized

The Marine Corps signed an $881 million contract with Sodexho Inc. for food needs in all of the 55 garrison mess halls in the United States, Stars and Stripes reported.

Sodexho, based in Gaithersburg, Md., will run garrison mess halls in 55 locations for the next eight years. The mess halls are in Arizona, California, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

The Marine Corps said there are no plans to privatize overseas mess-hall duties.

"The great successes of the future are not so much doing what you do best ... but identifying what you're not particularly good at and finding someone to partner with," said Lt. Gen. Richard Kelly, deputy commandant for Marine Corps Installations and Logistics.

According to the Stars and Stripes report, 594 Marines assigned to food-service specialist billets will be moved out of those jobs and placed elsewhere in war-fighting positions — which is what the Corps is particularly good at, Kelly said.

The Corps anticipates a $20 million annual savings by moving food services to the private sector.

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HAWAII NAVY NEWS Online

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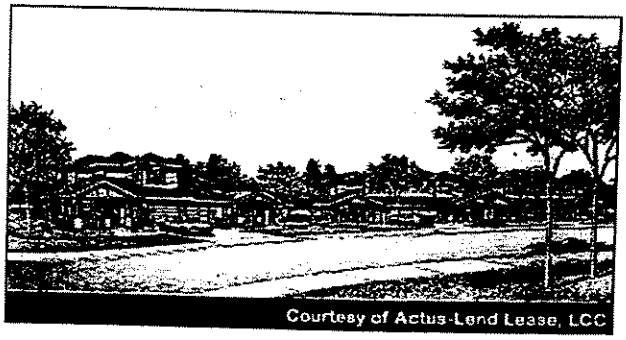
Volume 27 Issue 39 Oct. 4, 2002

Ground broken on Ford Island housing



A graphic rendering of the housing expected to be available June 2004 on Ford Island.
Click here for HiRes.

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

The Navy launched its newest family housing project with a groundbreaking ceremony last Tuesday morning on historic Ford Island. With the completion of the Ford Island military construction project i June 2004, 140 housing units will be available on the island for junior enlisted personnel.

The $35 million contract was awarded to Actus-Lend Lease, LLC and also includes the construction 30 housing units at Radford Terrace and the demolition of 110 housing units at Radford Terrace anc units at Hale Moku. Lend Lease Actus has previously worked with Navy housing on projects at Pear City and Camp Stover.

The construction project will mean more work for Hawaii's construction workers and will pump mone into the state economy.

"Our military forces today are serving around the world - fighting to protect the American dream with professionalism, dedication, vigilance and commitment," said Capt. Norman Ho, Assistant Chief of S for Housing for Navy Region Hawaii.

"It's our commitment to our Sailors to build homes that will allow our military families to live the American dream, here at Pearl Harbor - the best homeport in the Navy."

The new Ford Island homes will be three and four-bedroom units built in duplex and four-plex arrangements. They will feature such enhancements as metal framing, central air conditioning, garages, full-size washers and dryers and modern kitchens. The Navy's commitment to energy conservation will ensure that the homes include energy-saving appliances and features, such as sol hot water systems.
Navy families will notice additional amenities in the new community, including landscaping, new roa and underground utilities. It will be a place where families can relax and enjoy their leisure time - in a neighborhood that will offer a recreation area with a pavilion, basketball court and super tot lot.

Today's Ford Island still contains many reminders of the significant role that the island has played in history of the Navy and the country. "The new housing units have been designed to be distinct from, but compatible with, the craftsman style of the existing Luke Field housing," explained Jay Yanz, historical architect for Navy Region Hawaii. "The housing project has been sited to respect the histo character of the island. The neighborhood setting of the development respects the Ford Island environment and the building design captures the island architectural elements," he added. Accordi to Yanz, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii consulted with national and local organizations, includin the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Historic Hawaii Foundation, National Park Service, Offic Hawaiian Affairs, The Outdoor Circle, Oahu Council of the Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, throughout the design process to ensure this.

Since 1996, the Navy in Hawaii has replaced and/or renovated more than 2,300 housing units at a c totaling approximately $426 million. The replacement of homes in Navy communities on Oahu in rec years has added 752 homes in Moanalua Terrace, 318 units in Hale Moku, 214 homes in two phase of Doris Miller Park and 356 new homes in Pearl City.

"This project that we begin today is just a part of a much larger effort - that will continue into the futu as we strive to provide more quality housing for our Sailors," remarked Ho.

"Quality of life for Navy families is one of the most important missions that we have," emphasized Michael Hubbard, founder and board member, Actus-Lend Lease. "I believe in this; it's a passion," h said.

Jean Clarey, widow of Adm. Bernard "Chick" Clarey in whose memory the Adm. Clarey Bridge was dedicated in April 1998, also attended the ceremony. "I am really excited to be here. My husband ju would never believe this," she said. Admiral Clarey served a 39-year naval career which included fiv tours of duty in Hawaii and retired in 1973 as Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

It was a time for reflecting upon her memories of the tiny island. "In 1966, my husband

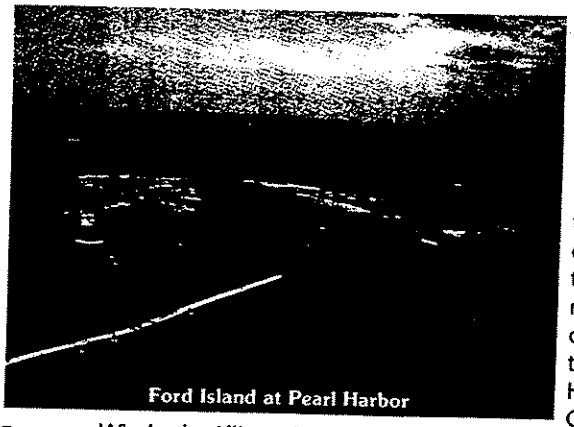
Navy Awards Ford Island Contract

The Navy has selected Fluor Hawaii, LLC to enter into exclusive negotiations for the master planning and development of Ford Island, which will include major infrastructure improvements, new Navy facilities and private-sector commercial activities.

Fluor Hawaii, LLC is a Hawaii-based joint venture between Hawaii Renaissance Builders, LLC (a subsidiary of Hunt Building Corporation) and Fluor Federal Services, LLC.

The negotiations eventually will lead to a final Navy Master Plan and Master Development Agreement. Construction is expected to begin as early as 2003, following congressional review.

Hawaii-based firms included in the Fluor Hawaii team include: Wimberly, Allison, Tong & Goo, Inc. (architects); Hawaii Pacific Engineers, Inc. (civil); Moss Engineering, Inc. (electrical); Kenneth Thome & Associates (mechanical); Allison Ide Structural Engineers (structural); Mason Architects (historic); and Walters Kimura Motoda, Inc. (landscape).

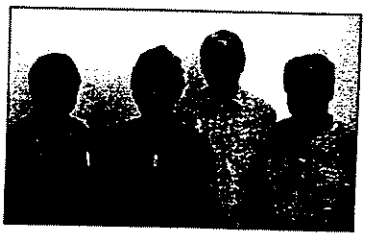

Ford Island at Pearl Harbor

The development of Ford Island, along with other previously approved projects, supports the Navy's long-range objectives to centralize operations in the Pearl Harbor area. These objectives are meant to target overall efficiency, modernization of facilities, and the need to reduce maintenance costs and congestion throughout the entire Pearl Harbor Naval complex. Goals include improving operational and administrative facilities as well as providing high-quality family housing and community support services. Planned initiatives will reduce commuting distances, improve working conditions, and improve the quality of sailors' lives in general.

"The People are Very Helpful!"

Meet Mike Haisen, Facilities Director for Chaminade University!

Mike and his crew (Luka, Greg and Pete) perform maintenance and repairs on all the Chaminade buildings, including the dorms, grounds, janitorial, administration, offices, renovations, the Brother's residence, and even new construction. Mike likes the proximity of the City Mill Kaimuki store, which is right next door to Chaminade. Mike, Luka, Greg and Pete go to City Mill about four times a day. "The prices are reasonable and we can get what we need the vast majority of the time. The people are very helpful," he says.


Chaminade University
(L-R) : Greg, Luka, Mike and Pete

"The sales associates in the paint department are also very helpful, they mix up to 5 gallons of paint for us. City Mill is our inventory [of supplies]." adds Mike.

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BARBERS' POINT

State could give Kalaeloa back to Navy

By Harold Hedd
Pacific Business News

In a potentially significant step, state lawmakers are signaling that they are ready to do their part to bring a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier to Hawaii.

State Sen. Norman Sakamoto, D-Waimalu-Salt Lake, said that the major economic initiative could mean pushing the state this year to give back an airfield in Kalaeloa — formerly known as Barber's Point — to the Navy.

The 2,550-acre site is not only needed to accommodate about 60 jets that must fly off the carrier before it enters port, but remains a key barrier to Hawaii getting a carrier.

"If the decision is going to be based on where they're going to put the

Please see KALAELOA, Page 3

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Posted on: Friday, April 16, 2004

FAA against Kalaeloa as C-17 landing site

By Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writer

The Federal Aviation Administration has told officials at Hickam Air Force Base that Kalaeloa is not a good site to build a special training runway for C-17 transport planes, the base commander said yesterday.

Kalaeloa is one of four locations being considered by the Air Force, which is waiting for the results of an environmental assessment before making its selection. The other sites are Kona International Airport on the Big Island, Barking Sands on Kaua'i and Marine Corps Base Hawai'i in Kane'ohe.

Although he did not say exactly what the FAA objected to, Col. Ray Torres, commander of the 15th Airlift Wing at Hickam, said the agency's comments are just as serious as community concerns.

"I won't say it has more weight, but clearly if a federal agency comes back to us and says this isn't a good idea and why, it's a concern to us," Torres said.

Eight C-17s are scheduled to arrive in Hawai'i in February 2006.

Pilots of the four-engine jets, which can carry 102 paratroopers or 85 tons of cargo, would require training on a reinforced concrete runway 3,500 to 5,000 feet long and 90 to 100 feet wide.

The runway needs to be able to take a hard-impact landing, and the Air Force has estimated there would be 60 landings and takeoffs a month. Training would be at night and during the day and average four hours a day.

The C-17s are much louder when they land than commercial jets because of how hard they hit their brakes. But the public will not notice an increase in noise because each of the possible sites is well away from communities, Torres said.

Commanders hope to give the public a chance this summer to review a draft environmental assessment of the four potential sites. The assessment is about a year behind schedule, Torres said.

Reach Mike Gordon at mgordon@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8012.

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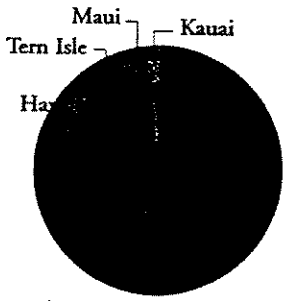
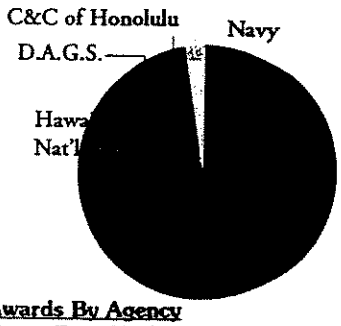
Awards Pace Picks Up

September again proved to be generous as agencies let 54 contracts worth $135,493,691. Nan Inc. easily won top honors with $55 million in Schofield Barracks work. While short of last year's September total of $167,099,943, the month's awards brought this year's total to date to a respectable $582,535,169. And even if some might think shore protection work is for the birds, Healy Tibbitts discovered that a good Tern can be worth $7 million in the hand.





Awards By Area

Oahu	109,657,247
Hawaii	12,213,046
Tern Isle	7,144,656
Maui	4,265,077
Kauai	2,213,665
TOTAL	135,493,691

Awards By Agency

Corps-Fort Shafter	69,065,783
D.O.T.	29,639,971
Hawaii Army Nat'l Guard, DoD	22,274,700
D.A.G.S.	7,392,210
C & C of Honolulu	3,707,679
Navy	3,413,348
TOTAL	135,493,691

Contracts Awarded in September 2003

(Awards are rounded up to the nearest dollar.)

Oahu

Nan, Inc. 54,950,000
Whole Barracks Renewal Brigade Complex Ph. 3A, Quad C - Schofield

JHL Construction /Nan, Inc. JV 22,274,700
Additions and Alterations To Building 117 - Phase I, Kalaeloa

KD Construction 11,336,673
Overseas Terminal Improvements, Phase II - Honolulu International Airport

Stronghold Engineering 6,971,127
FY03 FHMA Pkg H-65, Install Secondary Electrical Secondary System, Aliamanu Military Reservation

Allied Construction . . .2,899,997
August Ahrens Elem. - Eight Classroom Bldg.

Safety Systems Hawaii .2,384,850

M. Shiroma Painting Co.1,341,930
A/C and Ventilation System, Bldg. 9 At Naval Security Group Activity,Schofield

D & C Construction 832,904
N. King St. Water System Imp., Kalihi

Water Resources 387,802
Waihee Line Booster Renovation

Oceanic Companies 364,222
Liliha Public Library - Repair Roof & Ceiling

StarCom Builders 338,889
Central Oahu District - Temporary Facilities

Inter-Island Construction .336,440
Punaluu Wells II Renovation

Tory's Roofing 238,800
Hawaii-Kai Public Library Reroof

Commercial Sheetmetal Co.233,912
Replace Rooftop A/C Units At Pier 11 - Honolulu Harbor

Tory's Roofing 225,000

Electricians Hawaii/ Tek Pacific 199,000
Repair Building 666, U.S. Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor

M.H. Electric Co. 178,473
Aiea Elem. Sch. - Replace Program Bell System and PA System Conduits

GE Industrial Systems . . .159,500
Maintenance of Electrical Equipment At Interstate Route H-3 Freeway - Harano Tunnel

Certified Construction . . .155,000
Waialae Elem. Sch. - Reroof Building "C"

Hi-Tec Roofing 151,760
HSPLS Logistics Support Building Reroof

StarCom Builders 146,999
Waipahu Intermediate School, Building "M" Refurbish Restrooms

Tory's Roofing 144,500

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, June 16, 2003

Kalaeloa still waiting for redevelopment

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

KALAELOA — Six years ago, Linda Painter's Subway sandwich shop at Barbers Point Naval Air Station was one of the top-selling stores in the state.

These days, it's weeds that seem to be flourishing the most since the Navy shut down its air operations in 1999, and whole sections of the 3,700-acre base on the 'Ewa plain turned into a militaristic ghost town.

Attached to the Subway, a McDonald's restaurant with leaves scattered across the floor sits empty, as do the adjacent Navy Exchange and Furniture World — once bustling centers now overrun by bougainvillea and trees whose growth has gone unchecked.

A USA Today newspaper box stands in the covered causeway, long since emptied of the day's news, and vandals have smashed in the front plate glass door of Furniture World.

Painter said she's surviving on pockets of habitation — Hawai'i Army National Guard and Coast Guard elements mostly. But after several years of planning for the base closure, followed by little activity over the last few years, she is not happy with the new Kalaeloa.

"June of 1999 it closed, and look at the place," she said. "They (state and city government) had six years to budget for this area."

With Kapolei homes reaching to Roosevelt Road, Ko Olina moving ahead to the west, and 'Ewa Beach growing to the east, Kalaeloa — "the long point" — remains a diamond whose rough edges are not so easily smoothed.

A 168-acre shoreline park, sports center, new raceway park, and significant light industry and commercial development have failed to materialize at the former base that has as much white-sand beach as Waikiki.

Some blame the lack of redevelopment on the need for expensive infrastructure repairs, array of federal, state and city landowners each pursuing separate plans, and a shortage of money to accomplish those goals.

"Not that everything was going to hit all at once, but, hopefully, some of these (groups) would get in there and make some improvements and spur others to keep it going," said Mike Golojuch, a Makakilo, Kapolei, Honokai Hale neighborhood board member.

"That hasn't really happened, even with the (National) Guard doing their thing and a few others," Golujuch said. "It's just slowed down to a crawl and that's unfortunate. I think most people, whether they say it or not, have sort of given up hope."

Oversight for redevelopment is now with the Hawai'i Community Development Authority, which took over last July for the dissolved Barbers Point Naval Air Station Commission. Although the Legislature passed along the responsibility to HCDA, it did not provide any money for planning.

HCDA Executive Director Jan Yokota said what may be needed now is for the various property owners to re-think how the land has been divvied up.

"The thought is the land-use plan that is in place right now may not be the best land-use plan to promote economic development, or to promote some sort of job base," Yokota said.

Reapportioning the land under a revised comprehensive plan may make more sense, she said.

"For example, the parks land — maybe there's a better use for (some of) that that would help develop jobs," Yokota said.

The biggest land owners include the National Guard, with 145 acres; Department of Hawaiian Homelands, with 555 acres; Department of Transportation, with three runways and 805 acres; and Department of Parks and Recreation, with 485 acres.

About half of the Hawaiian Homelands land, some of the DOT land, and all of the Parks and Recreation parcels remain to be conveyed. The Navy is working on the final deeds for some city parcels.

Navy-retained lands amount to 1,052 acres, which include 548 housing units. About 190 are occupied.

As part of a plan to finance the re-development of Ford Island, the Navy plans to sell some outlying properties, including 725 acres at Kalaeloa, but it will retain Barbers Point Golf Course, commissary facilities, and White Plains and Nimitz beach properties.

Under a 1993 round of military base closures, the Navy in 1999 moved 32 P-3C Orion aircraft, 10 SH-60 helicopters and most of the jobs held by 2,200 sailors and civilians to the Marine base at Kane'ohe.

The Coast Guard has 44 acres and C-130 and HH-65 Dolphin helicopters at Kalaeloa, there is a homeless facility, a flight school, and Barbers Point Elementary School, but barriers remain to large-scale redevelopment.

The Navy has spent about $63 million so far for environmental remediation at Kalaeloa. A consultant estimated that upgrading facilities to city standards would cost $26.3 million for roads, $27.5 million for the sewer system, and $34.6 million for the water system.

"You don't see too much private sector in here," said Kali Watson, chairman of Quality Homes of the Pacific, a company in Kalaeloa that makes affordable homes with Native Hawaiians as a target market.

A more than 80,000-square-foot hangar, vacant for two years before Watson rented it in February, is used to manufacture the steel-frame homes.

Passing cars are few and far between. A series of boarded-up military buildings across the street sit in a sea of waist-high weeds. The location, perfect for Watson, is not so for many others.

"Part of (the problem) is transition, the transfer of lands. There are environmental issues. Part of it is infrastructure, and part of it is the facilities aren't great for the private sector," Watson said. "I mean, you've got dormitories. What are you going to do with dormitories?"

There are also warehouses, but "the termites are holding hands, and that's all that's keeping them up," Watson said.

"They've got to make it attractive," he said. "That's why you've got Ko Olina taking off — they gave them a $75 million tax credit. I think that's what you need over here."

State officials expect the approval of the tax credit for the construction of an aquarium at the resort community to serve as a catalyst for growth and jobs.

Yokota said base closure redevelopment money that would have been available after the base closed no longer can be obtained. But other federal sources of money will be sought.

"Right now, with the absence of a strong economic plan, it's really hard to ask anyone for funding," Yokota said. "But I think you have to try. You have to pull that (economic plan) together first and see whether you can get federal funding or any other source to do it."

Some informal meetings on redevelopment have been held between land owners and the city, but not much more.

There are positive signs at Kalaeloa. The National Guard has spent about $20 million there, and is projected to spend $100 million over 10 years for relocation efforts.

In its first year, the general aviation Kalaeloa Airport had about 150,000 airport operations — takeoffs, landings, fly-bys and touch-and-gos. That number has increased by about 10,000 a year, and for 2002 stood at 188,831 operations, said Department of Transportation spokesman Scott Ishikawa.

This summer, one of the runways will be repaved, and taxiway lights will be replaced.

White Plains Beach, meanwhile, has long breaks that make it good for novice surfers.

"On weekends, this place is packed," said Janelle Holtz, 34, after staking out a spot on a recent afternoon. "It's a good place to come with the family."

Although others have complained about litter, the Salt Lake resident said, "I've never seen it trashy, even the bathroom."

Holtz says isn't sure she'd welcome the changes that redevelopment would bring. She'd like White Plains Beach to remain like it is — off the beaten path.

"If you notice, a lot of locals come out here," she said. "Can you kinda see, they make this into a big park, there's big opportunities for a snack bar other than this one, people are just going to come flood in here."

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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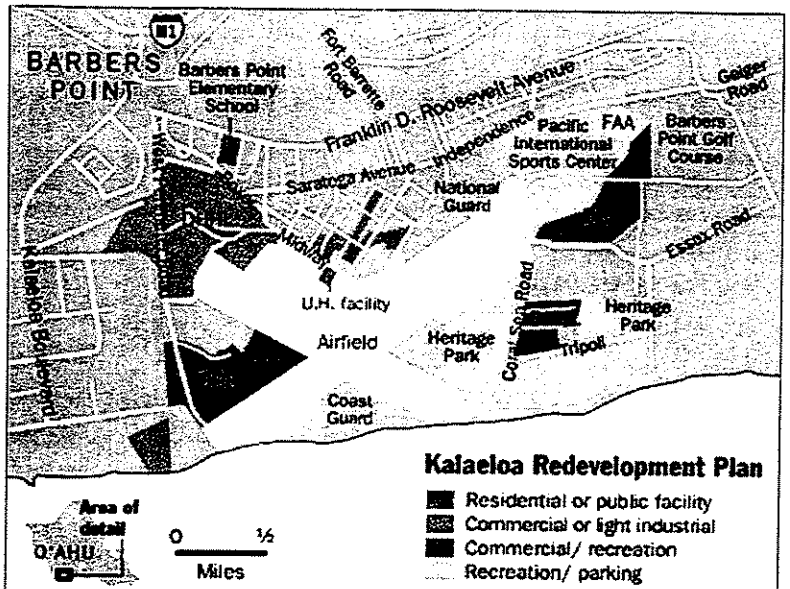


Hawai'i Community Redevelopment Authority

LANDOWNER	TOTAL ACRES	TRANSFERRED ACRES	PENDING
Federal			
Coast Guard	43.7	43.7	0.0
FAA	18.0	18.0	0.0
National Guard	144.8	144.8	0.0
US Fish and Wildlife Service	37.4	37.4	0.0
Veterans Affairs	6.8	6.8	0.0
State			
Department of Education	14.5	14.5	0.0
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands	555.3	277.8	277.5
Department of Transportation	805.2	752.2	52.9
Housing and Comunity Development Corporation of Hawaii	12.3	12.3	0.0
University of Hawaii	9.3	0 .0	9.3
University of Hawaii Community Colleges	6.0	6.0	0.0
City Board of Water Supply	30.6	20.0	10.6
Department of Parks and Recreation	484.7	0.0	484.7
Department of Environmental Services	3.7	0.0	3.7
Unallocated	280.6	0.0	280.6
Sub-total	2,452.8	1,333.7	1,119.2
Navy-retained lands	1,051.7	NA	NA
Total including easements	**3,997.7**		

Source: Hawai'i Community Redevelopment Authority

The Honolulu Advertiser

Estimated Bid Opening: 03/30 2:00 PM File # 7384

GROUNDS AND TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII - RFP NO. N62742-02-R-2211 ROICC, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Field Construction Contracts Branch (R110), Bldg. 62, 4262 Radford Dr., Honolulu, HI 96818 — contact: Julie Shimoda, phone 471-1563..

The contract is a combination firm fixed-price/indefinite quantity contract. Parts of the contract requirements will be full performance-based service contracting, where the Contractor shall have full responsibility to perform the services using their own and industry best practices and processes to ensure that specified outcomes are achieved. The contract term will be a base period of one year plus four option years. The total term of the contract, including all options, will not exceed 60 months. If the Government does not award a follow-on contract in time, the Government may require the Contractor to continue performance for an additional period up to six months under the Option to Extend Services clause. In either case, the Government will not synopsize the options when exercised.

This contract will replace a contract for similar services awarded in 2000 for $2,609,711.00 (firm fixed-price) and $42,126.00 (indefinite quantity) per year. We will include information about the current contract and the incumbent contractor (e.g., value of last option exercised, firm name, address, etc.) with the solicitation package. We do not require requests under the Freedom of Information Act for this information. Offerors can view and/or download the solicitation at http://www.efdpac.navfac.navy.mil/ebsroot/pacindex.htm when it becomes available.

The proposed contract is limited to qualifying 8(a) firms in the Honolulu District Office of the Small Business Administration. The Government will not consider offers from 8(a) firms outside of the Honolulu District. Firms shall submit with their proposal a letter from their SBA district office with a statement that the firm is in full compliance with the requirements of the 8(a) program. The solicitation utilizes source selection procedures, which require offerors to submit a Technical and Price proposal for evaluation by the Government. Proposal receipt date is approximate.

Estimated Bid Opening: 04/01 2:00 PM File # 7787

GROUNDS AND TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR CENTRAL/WEST OAHU - N62742-02-R-2212 ROICC, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Field Construction Contracts Branch (R110), Bldg. 62, 4262 Radford Dr., Honolulu, HI 96818 — contact: Julie Shimoda, phone 471-1563.

The contract is a combination firm fixed-price/indefinite quantity contract. Parts of the contract requirements will be full performance-based service contracting, where the Contractor shall have full responsibility to perform the services using their own and industry best practices and processes to ensure that specified outcomes are achieved. The contract term will be a base period of one year plus four option years. The total term of the contract, including all options, will not exceed 60 months. If the Government does not award a follow-on contract in time, the Government may require the Contractor to continue performance for an additional period up to six months under the Option to Extend Services clause. In either case, the Government will

Estimated Bid Opening: 04/15 File # 7807

ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO BUILDING 117 - PHASE I, KALAELOA, HAWAII - RFP NO. DAHA50-03-R-0001 U.S. Property & Fiscal Officer for Hawaii (USPFO-HI), Hawaii Army National Guard, Purchasing & Contracting Division, Bldg. 303, 4208 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816 — contact: Tom Madeira, phone 733-4315; e-mail: tom.madeira@hi.ngb.army.mil.

The Hawaii National Guard is soliciting competitive proposals from 8 (a) contractors registered in the Honolulu District of the Small Business Administration. The Government will not consider offers from 8 (a) firms outside of the Honolulu District. NAICS Code is 233320

The work includes military training complex additions and alterations to Building 117, Phase I, including selective demolition to an existing historic structure with removal of asbestos-containing materials, lead-containing paint, pcb-containing light ballasts and mercury-containing lamps; concrete work, masonry, steel work, metal fabrications, carpentry, waterproofing, roofing, metal wall and roof panels, steel doors and frames, aluminum doors and frames, wood doors, rolling service doors and counter doors, steel windows and repair of existing steel windows, finish hardware, glazing, stucco, gypsum wallboard, acoustical ceiling, resilient flooring, carpet, paint, visual communication devices, toilet partitions and accessories, wall louvers, access flooring, signage, wire mesh partitions, operable pane partitions, security vault doors, casework, blinds, intrusion detection system, fire alarm system, sprinkler and Halon fire extinguishing systems, mechanical systems, plumbing systems, electrical work, civil work, landscaping, and incidental related work. Option items include Renovation of Building 666, Hangar Door Refurbishment, Landscaping, Emergency Power for USPFO, High Bay Interior, OMS Lube System, Demand Lighting, and CSSAMO Mezzanine Space.

Each offeror's proposal will be thoroughly evaluated and award will be made to offeror whose proposal is determined to be most advantageous to the Government based upon the evaluation criteria set forth in the solicitation. Proposals will be evaluated on the following factors Past Performance, Technical and Price. Alternate Technical solutions will be authorized however, Pricing of the project in accordance with the plans and specifications is required.

The construction performance period is approximately 720 days.

Anticipated closing dates are 15 April 2003 for Past Performance proposals and 30 April 2003 for technical and price proposals.

All questions are to be submitted in writing to Tom Madeira at e-mail: tom.madeira@hi.ngb.army.mil. (please clearly indicate your company name, paragraph number of the specification and the drawing number, as applicable.)

Questions submitted less than 10 days prior to the closing date may not be addressed before solicitation closing date, therefore, offerors are advised to submit questions as soon as possible. Reponses to questions will be issued via the web site in a document titled " Questions and Answers". Answers to questions are not considered changes to the RFP as the only way the RFP can be modified is through an amendment that will be issued if applicable

A site visit and pre-proposal conference is tentatively scheduled 26 March 2003 at 0900 hours. Interested contractors

Starbulletin.com

Tuesday, September 24, 2002

Hot, dusty Kalaeloa awaits its rebirth

Rezoning requests may breathe new life into a Navy ghost town

Kalaeloa plan

By Gordon Y.K. Pang
gpang@starbulletin.com

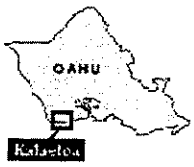
It includes acres of park land and the potential for sports complexes.

It likely will hold a general-aviation airport.

It could very well become home to a large industrial center.

Kalaeloa holds all those possibilities in a joint state-city plan for the 2,235 acres that used to be Barbers Point Naval Air Station. The Kalaeloa Redevelopment Plan took a step forward with a zone change application submitted recently to the city Planning & Permitting Department.

It has been three years since the Navy closed the air station, and progress on redevelopment has been slow going.



State and city agencies are taking over sections of the property but often without concrete plans, leaving much of it sitting idle.

A once-teeming military housing community is now a ghost town.

"The dream of the community has turned into a nightmare," said Maeda Timson, a member of the Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board who has been involved with the redevelopment.

"It's looking ghettolike because the redevelopment is so far down the road. And so what has happened is, what was a pretty green area has been put on somebody's back burner and it's very dry and very

The Hawaii Community Development Authority, which has been overseeing Kakaako redevelopment, recently took over management of Kalaeloa from the Barbers Point Naval Air Station Redevelopment Commission.

Jan Yokota, HCDA executive director, said what Kalaeloa needs is a development anchor that would at once be an economic engine for the area and be compatible with neighboring Kapolei and Ewa. So far, Yokota said, "No major ideas have emerged."

City officials are hoping to spark the redevelopment by securing zoning approvals for the area. The city is accepting public comment on the project through Oct. 15. From there the Harris administration will submit its recommendation to the City Council, the final arbiter on the rezoning application.

Randall Fujiki, city director of planning and permitting, said locating funding sources for upgrading improvements such as roads and sewers are a key to the redevelopment.

The Kalaeloa commission estimated infrastructure costs for the site at $118 million.

Fujiki said developers will be asked to provide their fair share, but the city is looking at ways to develop a different set of standards for the area that could make improvements more feasible.

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Kalaeloa plan

>> A 129-acre parcel on the northwest section of the property has been considered for light industrial and commercial use. Additionally, five other parcels totaling 111 acres are also being designed for light industrial and commercial. All the parcels are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

State of Hawaii
City & County of Honolulu

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Castle & Cooke Builds a 'Heritage'

Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii recently released its new Mililani Mauka housing complex, Heritage at Lehiwa Ridge, with a culturally celebrated grand opening.

"Heritage at Lehiwa Ridge is an exciting neighborhood for both our company and homebuyers," said Bruce Barrett, Castle & Cooke's principal broker and vice president of sales and marketing. "Lehiwa Ridge is nestled between a natural ravine and scenic Kipapa Gulch, so we can offer many perimeter lots as well as privacy, solitude and spectacular views previously unavailable in Mililani Mauka."

The sliding windows of Castle & Cooke's Heritage homes let in washes of natural light that illuminate the room and its hard wood floors.

Majority of the complex has already been sold; as of the grand opening, 75 of 91 released homes were already contracted or reserved.

The Heritage at Lehiwa Ridge offers six different floor plans (but only one is single story) with three to five bedrooms and two to three bathrooms. Living space ranges from 1,281 to 2,191 square feet and prices begin at $302,000 fee simple.

All homes include large, private yards, covered lanais, high-ceiling living rooms, enclosed direct-access garages, walk-in closets, master bathroom double lavatories, and eat-in peninsulas or islands in kitchens. Optional extras include additional bedrooms, expanded family rooms, extended lanais, security alarm packages, and a variety of upgrades.

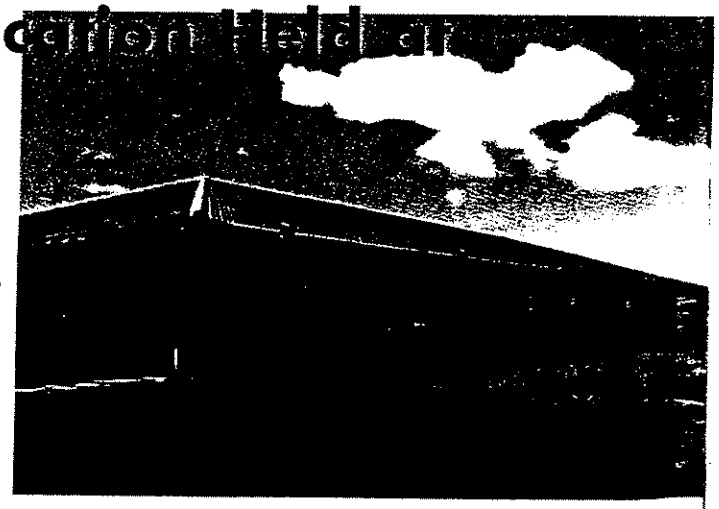
Free cultural entertainment was the highlight of the grand opening, as many dance and entertainment groups took to a stage adjacent to the six model homes. The entertainment lineup represented Hawaii's diversity.

In the next two years, Castle & Cooke will add two more neighborhoods to the Lehiwa Ridge community: "Legacy at Lehiwa Ridge" and another neighborhood yet to be named.

Coast Guard Dedication Held at Barbers Point

A new Coast Guard crew quarter at the Air Station at Barbers Point was recently dedicated in remembrance of Petty Officer 2nd Class David L. Thompson. Thompson's widow, Kim Olsen, unveiled a memorial plaque and a portrait of the late officer hung inside the new facilities.

Thompson, a 23-year-old Coast Guard flight mechanic, was killed along with two pilots in a helicopter crash during an ocean rescue mission on Jan. 7, 1982. The Coast Guard crew was responding to a distress call from the 74-foot Pan Am fishing vessel, which was in danger of sinking off the island of Maui. Heavy wind and rain caused the HH-52A Sea Guardian Helicopter to crash on a steep ridge in Molokai's Wailau Valley. Thompson, originally from Sequim, Wash., had been married only five months.



Thompson Hall is the new crew quarter building recently dedicated to Petty Officer 2nd Class David L. Thompson. The facility will be used as housing for a team of flight crewmembers ready to respond 24 hours a day to any distress calls or rescue missions.

Construction for the 7,000 square-foot Thompson Hall started in Sept. 2001 and was completed in June 2002 by general contractor Alex Construction, Inc. The facility will house the 24-hour watch "ready aircrew," a team of flight crewmembers who will be ready for rescue missions from Barbers Point. The facility accommodates up to 20 people, with 10 hotel-like bedrooms, meeting rooms, storage areas, high-vaulted ceilings, and a large kitchen and communal area. The aircrews will rotate and each crew will spend about six nights at Thompson Hall per month.

easily in tight areas and can be towed on a trailer behind a pickup truck. The 3,115-pound TLB-220 features a 2,875-pound digging force as well as an eight-foot, four-

Powered Venting Fan is designed to ventilate heat from within an interior space, thus significantly reducing heat gain. It can be installed to vent heat from an attic space, or

• The Honolulu Advertiser Friday, March 24, 2000 •

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have its headquarters at Kalaeloa.

"Their moving in could create a little economic boom," Timson said. "The Navy sailors used to shop on base, but most of those stores are gone and guard members will shop in our shopping centers."

Kalaeloa, translated as the long point, has 3,700 acres that has been divided among several groups including the state Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Plans include a regional park and a general-aviation airport.

The Navy has kept 1,113 acres for its 950-unit housing complex, commissary, post exchange medical center and golf course, but most of the military jobs held by 2,200 sailors and civilians moved to Marine Corps Base Hawaii at Kaneohe Bay last year.

Hawaii National Guard spokesman Capt. Charles Anthony said the move will be completed in phases. Phase I will cost $16 million and includes administration office renovations already under way and design work for further renovations.

Anthony said. "In 1993, when BPNAS announced it was closing, we saw it was an opportunity for us. They were vacating and we need a place."

The Guard's headquarters has been at Diamond Head since the 1950s and its units spread out at several military bases, Anthony said. In 1979 the Diamond Head State Monument plan gave the group 50 years to be out of the crater, but Anthony said they now expect be out in three to four years.

By May, much of the administration and some brigade units will be based in Kalaeloa.

Anthony said of the 2,100 Guard solders on Oahu, 80 percent live on the Leeward side, so the move will keep them closer to home rather than driving to other locations for their monthly training.

The Guard also plans to use an existing hangar and some runways for their helicopter operations.

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ARMY

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, February 17, 2005

New Schofield mall coming

By Catherine E. Toth
Advertiser Staff Writer

The exchange at Schofield Barracks is scheduled to be replaced next year with a new complex of shops and services, providing new opportunities to local small businesses.

The Army Air Force Exchange Service said the new exchange will be similar to the Navy Exchange at Pearl Harbor. It is scheduled to open in 2006.

The exchange, which hasn't had much interest from local small businesses in the past, wants to fill the retail space with shops in a number of industries ranging from custom framing to computer repair.

"This is a good opportunity for small businesses that want to work with the federal government," said Mary Spencer, the Procurement Center representative at the Hawai'i district office of the Small Business Administration. "We're trying to get local businesses to come out and at least apply."

For the new mall at Schofield, AAFES is looking for a variety of tenants including a beauty salon, optical, alteration and cell phone accessory shops, laundry and dry-cleaning services, one-hour photo service, pet supply store, Hawaiian and Oriental gift shops, and embroidery services.

The exchange service also wants a major retail shipping store such as UPS, FedEx or Kinko's.

Exchange info

Workshop on government contracting opportunities

Feb. 25, 8 to 11 a.m.

Small Business Resource Center, 1041 Nu'uanu Ave. Suite A

Cost: $10, includes materials and refreshments

Advanced registration required

Information: 522-8136

Web: www.hwbc.org or www.sba.gov

The Hawai'i Women's Business Center, which is partially funded by an SBA grant, is hosting a workshop Feb. 25 to help small-business owners understand how to apply for these government contracts.

Many local businesses don't apply for contracts because they don't know the opportunities are there, Spencer said.

"There are opportunities," she said. "Some of them are small, but why not try for them?"

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted at 12:03 p.m., Wednesday, February 16, 2005

BUSINESS BRIEFS

New mall slated for Schofield Barracks

Advertiser Staff

A new mall slated to open next year at Schofield Barracks is looking for small businesses to fill retail space.

The Army Air Force Exchange Service is planning to build an exchange at the base similar to the Navy Exchange at Pearl Harbor. It is scheduled to open in 2006.

AAFES is looking for local for a variety of businesses, including a beauty salon, optical shop, alteration, custom framing, computer repair, cell phone accessories, laundry and dry cleaning services, one-hour photo, pet accessories, Hawaiian and Oriental gifts and embroidery service. It also wants a major retail shipping store such as UPS, FedEx or Kinko's.

Those interested can attend a workshop about how to apply for these contracting opportunities at 8 a.m. Friday, Feb. 25 at the Small Business Resource Center 1041 Nu'uanu Ave. Suite A. Cost is $10, and advanced registration required.

The workshop is sponsored by the Hawai'i Women's Business Center. For more information, call 522-8136.

Click for larger image
Photo(s) by Courtesy photo
A CH-47 Chinook helicopter delivers supplies to Soldiers during training. The DoD's only clear water rinse facility will be able to rinse sand, salt and other corrosives from the helicopter's body and rotors. When the facility is completed in January 2005, it will become DoD's first with these capabilities.

Related stories:

None

Close Window

Wheeler to get DoD's only helicopter wash

By Sharee Moore, Assistant Editor

The Department of Defense broke ground for its first joint service helicopter clear water rinse facility on Wheeler Army Air Field Sept. 21. It is the only system designed specifically for DoD helicopters.

Col. Howard Killian, commander of U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii said at the ceremony, "It is important to have this facility to ensure the safety of our helicopter crews by eliminating the corrosion that causes many flight safety problems.

"The clear water rinse feature will also save money on helicopter maintenance and increase readiness," he added.

For example, aviation crews operating in Southwest Asia work in environments with talcum-like sand that carries salt and other contaminants. The cool night air condenses the moisture inside the aircrafts, accelerating corrosion.

The new clear water rinse facility will help stop the corrosion until crews are able to return to their normal maintenance routines. The facility will help slow corrosion on Wheeler, too.

An Aviation and Missile Command Helicopter report states that aviation corrosion costs at Wheeler are approximately $18 million each year with a growth rate of 10 percent per year. The clear water rinse facility will go far to reduce the impacts on the environment.

There are several environmentally friendly technologies incorporated into the new system not readily seen by the naked eye.

Steve Carr, the AMCOM corrosion program manager out of Redstone Arsenal, Al., said, "This system filters and recycles water unlike the other filtration system on Wheeler."

A major feature of the wash is a unique filtration system that removes oil, hydraulic fluid, fuel, heavy metals and salt from the rinse water. Once this happens, the water is filtered back into Environmental Protection Agency potable quality after each rinse.

The facility can rinse 20 helicopters per hour, 24 hours a day for a year. It can also electronically recognize each type of helicopter and activate the appropriate hose in response. It can even spray over the rotors on CH-47 Chinooks. It is the first system with this particular capability.

Col. Floyd Quintana, director of Department of Public Works said, "One of our goals here isn't just to provide Soldier's with the means to enhance their equipment, but to be good neighbors in the community and preserve natural resources."

Carr said the facility should be completed in January 2005.

Vendors
Federal Business Opportunities

C--Architect Engineer Services for FY07 MCA Command and Control Center, Fort Shafter, Oahu, Hawaii

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General Information

Document Type:	Presolicitation Notice
Solicitation Number:	W9128A-04-R-0024
Posted Date:	Oct 04, 2004
Original Response Date:	Nov 04, 2004
Current Response Date:	Nov 04, 2004
Original Archive Date:	Jan 03, 2005
Current Archive Date:	Jan 03, 2005
Classification Code:	C -- Architect and engineering services
Set Aside:	N/A
Naics Code:	541330 -- Engineering Services

Contracting Office Address

US Army Corps Of Engineers, Honolulu, Building 230, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440

Description

C--Architect-Engineer Services. FY07 MCA Command and Control Center, Fort Shafter, Oahu, Hawaii. 1. CONTRACT INFORMATION: Architect-Engineer services, procured in accordance with PL 92-582 (Brooks A-E Act) and FAR Part 36, are required for the design of FY07 MCA Command and Control Center, Fort Shafter, Hawaii. This announcement is open to all busi nesses regardless of size. A firm, fixed-price contract will be negotiated. Award of the contract is

anticipated to be in March 2005. The selected firm, if large business, must comply with FAR 52.219-9 regarding the requirement for a subcontracting plan on that part of the work it intends to subcontract. The subcontracting goals for this contract are that a minimum of 58% of the contractor□s intended subcontract amount be placed with small business (SB), which includes small disadvantaged businesses (SD B), WOSB, HUBZone SB, Veteran-Owned SB, and Service Disabled Veteran Owned SB. The subcontracting plan is not required with this submittal, but the successful large business firm must submit an acceptable plan before any award can be made. 2. PROJECT INFORMATION: The project is to design a command and control facility for the U.S. Army Pacific. The facility will include office spaces, conference rooms, VTC room, collaboration room, communication center, utility rooms, lobby, and restrooms . Salient features include anti-terrorism/force protection measures; sensitive compartmented information facility (SCIF); security system; intrusion detection system; and mass notification system. Site improvements include water, sanitary sewer, storm dr ainage, curbs and gutters, walkways, road improvements, electric service, information system, parking, and exterior lighting. The estimated construction cost is between $25,000,000 and $100,000,000. 3. SELECTION CRITERIA: See Note 24 for general selection process. The selection criteria are listed below in descending order of importance (first by major criterion and then by each sub-criterion). Primary Criteria are listed under a through e. Crite ria f through h is secondary and will only be used as □tie-breakers□ among technically equal

evaluation will consider the physical location of the firm and their team in relation to Oahu. The Offeror must provide adequate qualification documentation to illustrate the extent of participation of the above-mentioned groups. Prior to award, the selected firm must provide targets, as expressed as dollars and percentages of total contract value, in each of the authorized SIC Major Groups and total target for SDB participation by the contractor, including joint venture partners, and team members, and total target for SDB participation by subcontractors. The targets will be incorporated into, and become part of, the resulting contract. Contractors with SDB participation targets shall be required to report SDB participation. Refer to FAR Subpart 19.12 for additional information.
The selected firm, if large business, must comply with FAR 52.219-9 regarding the requirement for submitting and negotiating a subcontracting plan. The subcontracting goals for this District are: (1) at least 58% of the subcontracted amount be placed with small businesses (SB), which includes SDBs, women-owned small busi nesses (WOSB), HUBZone small businesses, Veteran-Owned small businesses, and Service Disabled Veteran Owned small businesses; (2) at least 10% of the subcontracted amount be placed with SDBs; (3) at least 10% of the subcontracted amount be placed with WOSB s; (4) at least 3% of the subcontracted amount be placed with HUBZone SBs; (5) at least 3% of the subcontracted amount be placed with Veteran Owned SB; and (6) at least 3% of the subcontracted amount be placed with Service Disabled Veteran Owned SB. The s ubcontracting plan is not required with this submittal, but the successful large business firm must submit an

C--Architect Engineer Services for FY07 MCA C

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, September 23, 2004

Army wants 1,400 acres

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The U.S. government wants to obtain 1,400 acres adjacent to Schofield Barracks for the Army's Stryker brigade through condemnation proceedings, an initial step toward bringing a new face for the service to Hawai'i and one that may be challenged by a group of Native Hawaiians.

The filing yesterday seeks to use eminent domain authority to obtain the Campbell Estate land south of Schofield Barracks. The land would be used as firing ranges and for training by the 20-ton Stryker armored vehicles.

Court papers state that the Campbell Estate has agreed to accept as "just compensation" $15.9 million for the land, part of which is used by Del Monte for agriculture.

Three Native Hawaiian organizations last month challenged the $1.5 billion Stryker brigade plan in federal court, saying the Army failed to consider locations other than Hawai'i for the fast-strike unit, which would include 291 Stryker vehicles.

A 3,000-page environmental impact study looked into the options of going ahead with the plan, a reduced land acquisition or scrapping the project, but the Hawaiian groups want the Army to delay the "transformation" project until the service expands its environmental impact statement to consider a range of locations outside the state.

Earthjustice attorney David Henkin, who is representing three Hawaiian groups in the lawsuit, said yesterday that he still has to examine the condemnation filing, which was expected.

David Henkin

"But my first reaction is it is inappropriate for them to be moving forward on transformation-related activities and, in particular, expending tens of millions of taxpayer dollars on a course of action they have not analyzed in a legally adequate manner," Henkin said.

Henkin noted, however, that the condemnation will be set for hearings where his clients will be able to present their views.

The Army declined comment yesterday, citing the pending petition in federal court.

Part of the land being sought is used by Del Monte for agriculture; a large portion is gulch that is leased but not used by Del Monte; and a portion is part of the Honouliuli Preserve and maintained by The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i, according to the Campbell Estate. About 80 acres of the preserve encompass an area not actively managed by The Nature Conservancy.

"The estate supports the U.S. Army's Schofield expansion," said David Rae, Campbell Estate's vice president for public affairs. "We believe the Stryker brigade is necessary and will give Hawai'i's economy a much-needed boost."

In one of the biggest Army projects since World War II, the military wants to start this fall on 28 projects on O'ahu and the Big Island to remake the 2nd Brigade into the new unit built around the Strykers.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Tripler hazard lab falls through

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Tripler Army Medical Center will not build a $41 million biomedical research center that would have allowed scientists to handle infectious agents like tuberculosis and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS.

The "biosafety level 3" center, a 59,000-square-foot facility, was to update existing labs, attract research grants, and provide the state with a greater ability to test for and safely contain biohazards, including anthrax.

Instead, Tripler is planning to build a 36,000-square-foot, $29 million facility in 2009 for its department of clinical investigations and animal care facility.

The anthrax scare following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, overwhelmed lab capabilities in Hawai'i. More than 400 packages and letters were tested by the state Department of Health lab in Pearl City. A Navy lab at Pearl Harbor also provided analysis.

Dr. Chiyome Fukino, director of the state Health Department, said "it is unfortunate that Tripler will not be able to add the research capacity."

An environmental assessment for the now rejected "biosafety level 3," or BSL-3, facility states that it "would function as a bioterrorism response component of the national homeland defense infrastructure and increase the readiness posture of (Tripler) in support of the armed forces stationed or deployed in the Pacific region."

Tripler will maintain a BSL-2 rating, but it's not conducting any research at that level. Lab activities involving infectious microorganisms are rated by biosafety level, on a scale from 1 to 4.

The Tripler department of clinical investigations doesn't have sufficient staff, operating funds and facilities to support a BSL-3 research mission, said Virginia Stephanakis, a spokeswoman for the Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Army Medical Command, in an e-mail.

However, the proposed $29 million facility will be designed to allow for modification or expansion to accommodate such a mission change in the future, she said. About 30 people will be moved to the new facility.

A separate $1.7 million BSL-3 modular lab, expected to be used for patient care, still is being built, although a contract dispute has pushed construction into next year.

This is the second time Tripler's plans for biomedical research have been scaled back. A 231,000-square-foot, $150 million biomedical research and technology center was envisioned several years ago in

partnership with the University of Hawai'i and Department of Veterans Affairs. However, UH and the VA failed to obtain federal financing, and Tripler decided to go it alone with the 59,000-square-foot facility.

The state Health Department two years ago said it was planning a $1.5 million expansion of its lab to enhance its BSL-3 capabilities. Officials said construction should start within a year.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Y--FY04 MCA PN52268, Whole Barracks Renewal, Phase 4B, Quad E, Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Hawaii

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General Information

Document Type:	Award Notice
Solicitation Number:	W9128A-04-R-0012
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Original Archive Date:	Oct 02, 2004
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Contracting Office Address

US Army Corps Of Engineers, Honolulu, Building 230, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440

Description

Contract Award Date:	Sep 17, 2004
Contract Award Number:	W9128A-04-C-0011
Contract Award Amount:	$31064000
Contract Line Item Number:	0001 to 0004
Contractor:	Nan, Inc. dba Ocean House Builders, 636 Laumaka Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Point of Contact

Jennifer Ko, 808-438-8584

Email your questions to US Army Corps Of Engineers, Honolulu at jennifer.ko@usace.army.mil

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Starbulletin.com

Thursday, September 16, 2004

Schools face strain with Stryker's arrival

Limited funding and space constraints concern educators

By Susan Essoyan
sessoyan@starbulletin.com

With the creation of a Stryker Brigade at Schofield Barracks in 2006, at least 760 more students will pour into a handful of public schools in Central Oahu, including Leilehua High, already Hawaii's most-crowded school.

"We're scrambling to be able to deal with this," Assistant Superintendent Rae Loui told a Board of Education meeting yesterday. "We don't even meet the classroom shortage for our current schools, let alone meet an increase like this."

In a report to a Board of Education committee yesterday, she estimated the influx of students would cost the state $16.4 million in startup costs, including 40 portable classrooms, and another $3.5 million in recurring annual costs.

"It's not just facilities, it's teachers and all the operating costs," Loui said.

Educators are concerned because the federal and state budgets are already set for this fiscal year and next.

In its environmental impact statement on the Stryker Brigade, the

military declined to provide help beyond the regular impact aid that typically covers 20 percent of the cost of educating federal dependents.

"To have the additional portable classrooms available for the start of the 2006-2007 school year, we need commitment of the funds by January," Loui said. "So we're already behind the curve. We're frantically trying to figure out how we're going to handle it."

Heidi Meeker, a planner at the Department of Education, warned that the projected increase in enrollment could double or triple.

She said she had been informed by the military yesterday that the number of new troops would jump from 810 to 2,200 because of the arrival of an aviation group. But that information could not be confirmed with military officials last night.

Along with Leilehua High, schools that would be affected by the Stryker Brigade are Hale Kula Elementary, Solomon Elementary, Wheeler Elementary and Wheeler Intermediate, none of which has any empty classroom space. With 1,760 students, Leilehua already had 450 more students than its capacity in the last school year.

Board member Garrett Toguchi said that military students may have to be bused to other schools, such as Waialua High and Intermediate School.

The Army has acknowledged that Solomon and Hale Kula will be exposed to noise from ordnance, and advises that new or renovated buildings be air-conditioned, but has said it is not responsible for that cost because it is not directly attributable to the Stryker Brigade.

"The DOE feels that Solomon and Hale Kula need to be air-conditioned and mitigated for sound and dust related to construction, vehicle maneuvers and exploding ordnance," Loui's report said. It would cost $7 million to air-condition both schools, which is included in the department's projected $16.4 million start-up cost.

Allen Awaya, education liaison with the U.S. Pacific Command, attended yesterday's meeting, but said he could not comment on the report. A spokeswoman at Schofield Barracks also had no immediate comment.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, August 25, 2004

Dick Pacific to build Schofield facilities

Advertiser Staff

An Army contract for construction at Schofield Barracks has been awarded to Dick Pacific Construction Co., U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie announced yesterday.

The company will build a barracks, a soldier community building and four company operations facilities.

The contract is worth $64.6 million. Estimated completion date is May 6, 2007.

Dick Pacific, a Hawai'i-based firm and subsidiary of Pennsylvania-based construction giant Dick Corp., specializes in construction in government and private sector hospitality, retail, healthcare, heavy power and industrial sectors.

Dick Pacific is the general contractor on the new Wal-mart project, and also built The Ho-nolulu Advertiser's new printing press facility in Kapolei.

"This project is a significant upgrade for the quality of life for soldiers at Schofield, and it will modernize facilities built more than 80 years ago," Abercrombie said in a news release yesterday. "I'm especially pleased that a Hawai'i company won this award."

Abercrombie, D-Hawai'i, is a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee, which authorizes military construction projects.

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JULY 9, 2004 PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

Army Stryker Brigade will trigger more construction

As expected, the U.S. Army officially announced Wednesday it will assign a Stryker Brigade Combat Team to Hawaii.

The move is expected to trigger an estimated $693 million worth of construction on ranges, roads and training facilities for the troops on Oahu and the neighbor islands.

Hawaii also would be home to about 810 more soldiers assigned to the 25th Infantry Division (light) at Schofield Barracks.

Army records indicate that these soldiers would bring with them 502 spouses and 951 children, adding 2,263 people to the state's military population.

In announcing the decision, Lt. General James Campbell said the Army spent more than $10 million developing an environmental impact study. He also said that the Army expects to spend $40 million more over the next five years on efforts to ease the impact on the environment and the community.

The first of the 607 vehicles used by the troops will arrive on Oahu in 2006.

The Stryker Brigade is part of the ongoing military buildup in Hawaii, which helps put air power and troops closer to terror threats in Southeast Asia.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, July 8, 2004

Stryker approval means 28 projects for Hawai'i

- Strykers coming to Hawai'i

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The Army will start this fall with the first of 28 projects on O'ahu and the Big Island to remake the 2nd Brigade at Schofield Barracks into a fast-attack unit built around the new Stryker vehicles.

The projects will cost $693 million and the transformation will bring 291 eight-wheeled Stryker armored vehicles to O'ahu starting in 2006. The revamped 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) should be operational by 2007.

The formal approval of the Stryker plan was announced by the Army yesterday after completion of an environmental review.

The Stryker plan has been called the biggest Army project in Hawai'i since World War II, but it was surpassed monetarily by a $5.1 billion Army housing contract signed last month.

The Army will be seeking competitive bids for the Stryker projects at a time when labor will be in high demand, not only for Army housing privatization, but also for similar efforts by the Navy, Marines and Air Force.

Two of the projects expected this fall — work on a new qualification range at Schofield and negotiations for the acquisition of 1,400 acres south of the base — won't create a lot of jobs. Three separate firing ranges will be consolidated into one range.

But the 2005 fiscal year beginning in October will see plenty of activity. Among the additions:

- Another firing range, battle-area complex and motor-pool maintenance and vehicle wash facilities at Schofield;
- A "combined arms" training facility in Kahuku;
- Construction of a trail for Stryker vehicles from Schofield to Helemano;
- Acquisition of 23,000 acres on the Big Island for a training area.

Ron Borne, the Army's Stryker transformation manager, said the project will require plenty of labor from residents.

"Our fears are, we'll be competing with everybody else and ourselves" for labor, he said.

In particular, the state is suffering from a shortage of heavy-equipment operators, he said.

"So the unions are desperately trying to catch up with training operators on certain pieces of equipment," Borne said.

The project includes 49 miles of private trails on O'ahu and the Big Island for Stryker use, six new firing ranges, two airfield upgrades and support facilities including a virtual war-fighting trainer.

Some projects, such as the construction of a trail from Kawaihae to Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island, and a trail from Schofield to Dillingham Airfield, won't start until 2009 or later, meaning the Stryker vehicles will have to share public roads before then.

Lt. Gen. James L. Campbell, commander of the U.S. Army Pacific, agreed to the "preferred alternative" for the Stryker brigade

over two other options: acquiring only 100 acres next to Schofield, or scrapping the project.

Campbell said the Army has spent more than $50 million in the past five years in Hawai'i on environmental and cultural preservation. He said the Army is prepared to spend up to $40 million during the next five years to mitigate environmental effects of the Stryker brigade's presence in the Islands.

U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka said he was pleased to learn of the Stryker decision. "I firmly believe that a balance can be obtained between preserving Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources and meeting our military's training needs."

The Defense Department in December agreed to the Stryker brigade for Hawai'i, the fifth of seven planned nationwide.

The 3,000-page environmental review, which includes 2,000 community comments, states that 1,736 tons of dust would be generated from increased vehicle use, an increase of 81 percent.

The Army said there would be significant effects on cultural and biological resources, but that mitigation efforts could reduce them.

About 810 soldiers would be added to create the 3,500-member Stryker brigade.

About a half-dozen opponents of the Stryker brigade coming to Hawai'i tried to get into yesterday's press conference at Fort Shafter, but said they were prevented from attending.

"I think that's pretty consistent with the Army's practice in the past in trying to keep out voices of dissent and opposition to the program," said Kyle Kajihiro, program director of the American Friends Service Committee.

Two soldiers out of Fort Lewis, Wash., who recently served with the Stryker brigade in Mosul, Iraq, said at the Fort Shafter meeting they like the 20-ton vehicles, which can hit speeds of 70 mph on the highway.

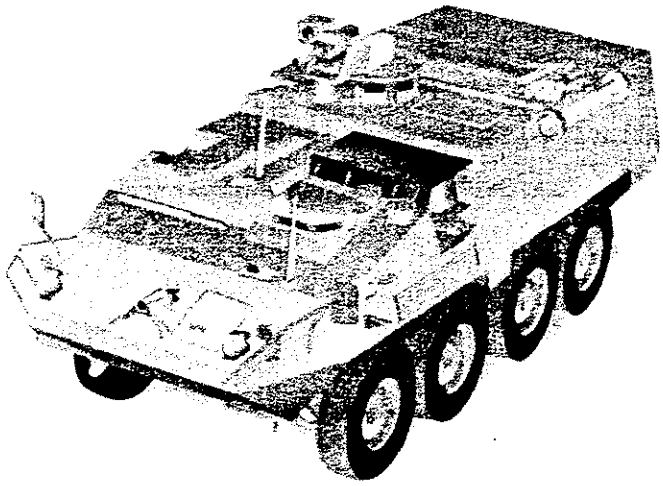
With the addition of slat armor that looks like a catcher's mask around the exterior of the Strykers, the vehicles have taken at least five hits from rocket-propelled grenades without fatalities.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

• • •

STRYKERS COMING TO HAWAI'I

The Army will bring 291 of its fast-attack armored vehicles to O'ahu and the Big island. The vehicles fill a middle ground between heavily armored but slow tanks and the Humvees and trucks used by light infantry.



Crew: Two
Squad: Nine
Weight: 20 tons
Length: 23.5 feet
Height: 8.5 feet

Width: 8.8 feet
Engine: 350-hp Caterpillar diesel
Road speed: 70 mph
Range: 330 miles

Armament: MK-19 40 mm or .50-caliber machine gun
Locomotion: Eight-wheel drive, four-wheel steering

Configurations for Stryker vehicles

Infantry Carrier
Transports assault squad, provides support fire

Anti-tank Guided Missile
Destroys armored threats while beyond range of counterfire

Mobile Gun System
Provides rapid-fire support to infantry assaults

Mortar Carrier
Accurate 120 mm mortar fire up to close ranges

Reconnaissance
Collects intelligence for planning key operations

NBC Reconnaissance
Nuclear-, biological-, chemical-exposed battlefield conditions

Command
Coordinates attacks with information from aircraft, land forces

Medical Evacuation
Transports four patients in litters or six ambulatory

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted at 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 7, 2004

Hawai'i's Stryker brigade approved

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

A three-star general at Fort Shafter today approved a $1.5 billion brigade of 291 eight-wheeled armored Stryker vehicles for Hawai'i while acknowledging the environmental and cultural concerns of those who have opposed it.

The options — based on an environmental review — were to go ahead with the project as planned; buy less land for the operation; or scrap the project.

The plan selected will bring 291 eight-wheeled armored vehicles to the state as part of a new fast-strike concept that would mean $693 million in construction projects, the acquisition of 1,400 acres on O'ahu and 23,000 acres on the Big Island, networks of private trails for the 20-ton Strykers, and significant effects on the environment and biological and cultural resources.

Lt. Gen. James L. Campbell, the commander of U.S. Army Pacific, announced the decision at Fort Shafter this morning.

Campbell said he was speaking to three different groups of citizens, those who appreciate the need for a Stryker brigade on O'ahu but have "genuine and very deep concerns about the impact on the environment," those who supported the brigade outright and those who oppose the concept based on a larger opposition to any Army or military presence in the Islands.

"And I sincerely respect your right to voice opposition to the Stryker brigade. I realize there is nothing I am going to say this morning that is going to change your mind," Campbell said.

"I would though ask you to reflect for just a moment on the thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guard based here in Hawai'i who are putting their lives and their futures on the line around the globe this moment to protect your freedom and

In addition to the "preferred alternative" described above, the Army also examined creating a Stryker brigade with a reduced, 100-acre land acquisition adjacent to Schofield Barracks, and a "no action" alternative.

About 100 people opposed to the Stryker brigade, including the group DMZ Hawai'i Aloha Aina, yesterday delivered a 40-page-plus "Community Impact Statement" to congressional offices here, criticizing the Army plan and environmental impact statement

The National Environmental Policy Act requires federal agencies to examine environmental consequences of federal actions such as the Stryker plan.

The approximately 3,000-page environmental review states that 1,736 tons of dust would be generated from increased vehicle traffic, an increase of 81 percent over the "no action" alternative.

The plan calls for approximately 480 more soldiers to be added to the 2nd Brigade at Schofield Barracks and 400 additional vehicles, 291 of them Strykers.

Dust can be "reduced substantially" on military vehicle trails, the Army said, through a combination of mitigation measures, including the use of washed gravel for surfacing, road paving or the periodic application of chemical dust suppressants.

The Army also concluded there would be significant effects on cultural and biological resources, but mitigation efforts could reduce them.

Seven Stryker brigades are planned around the country as a middle ground between heavily armored, but slow to deploy, tank units and traditional light infantry with Humvees and trucks.

The Army said the Pacific Rim is an area "of critical interest" for the United States, and having a Stryker brigade in Hawai'i

"allows the president to rapidly respond to events in an area of increasing importance to national security."

Critics have charged that Congress authorized millions of dollars for a Hawai'i Stryker brigade before the environmental review was concluded.

But Mary Markovinovic, a spokeswoman for U.S. Army Pacific, said initial funding for the Stryker brigade had proceeded because federal budget cycles require several years of lead time.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Posted on: Wednesday, July 7, 2004

Army to reveal Stryker plan today

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

A three-star general at Fort Shafter will announce today the Army's decision on a $1.5 billion Stryker brigade for Hawai'i.

The options — based on an environmental review — are to go ahead with the project as planned; buy less land for the operation; or scrap the project.

The plan to bring 291 eight-wheeled armored vehicles to the state as part of a new fast-strike concept would mean $693 million in construction projects, the acquisition of 1,400 acres on O'ahu and 23,000 acres on the Big Island, networks of private trails for the 20-ton Strykers, and significant effects on the environment and biological and cultural resources.

Lt. Gen. James L. Campbell, the commander of U.S. Army Pacific, will announce the decision at Fort Shafter this morning.

A second press conference is being held at 2:45 p.m. on the Big Island.

In addition to the "preferred alternative" described above, the Army also examined creating a Stryker brigade with a reduced, 100-acre land acquisition adjacent to Schofield Barracks, and a "no action" alternative.

About 100 people opposed to the Stryker brigade, including the group DMZ Hawai'i Aloha Aina, yesterday delivered a 40-page-plus "Community Impact Statement" to congressional offices here, criticizing the Army plan and environmental impact statement.

"After reviewing the information contained in the Army's Stryker EIS and listening to the concerns of our community, we conclude that the Stryker brigade would be a disaster for the people and the environment of Hawai'i," the group's preamble states.

According to the group, the military controls 34 percent of the land in Hawai'i; its activities have resulted in significant pollution over the years, and a Stryker brigade would add to that.

If the Stryker brigade goes forward, said Ikaika Hussey, a DMZ Hawai'i spokesman, the group will continue to oppose it. "We're going to fight this thing," he said.

The National Environmental Policy Act requires federal agencies to examine environmental consequences of federal actions such as the Stryker plan.

The approximately 3,000-page environmental review states that 1,736 tons of dust would be generated from increased vehicle traffic, an increase of 81 percent over the "no action" alternative.

The plan calls for approximately 480 more soldiers to be added to the 2nd Brigade at Schofield Barracks and 400 additional vehicles, 291 of them Strykers.

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The Army also concluded there would be significant effects on cultural and biological resources, but mitigation efforts could reduce them.

Seven Stryker brigades are planned around the country as a middle ground between heavily armored, but slow to deploy, tank units and traditional light infantry with Humvees and trucks.

Soldiers with the first Stryker brigade out of Fort Lewis, Wash., deployed to Mosul, Iraq, said the air-conditioned vehicles, which hold two crew members and nine passengers, could reach 70 mph on the highway and afforded extra protection from small-arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades.

The Army said the Pacific Rim is an area "of critical interest" for the United States, and having a Stryker brigade in Hawai'i "allows the president to rapidly respond to events in an area of increasing importance to national security."

The vehicles would be transported by C-17 cargo carriers, eight of which are planned for Hickam Air Force Base, and perhaps by high-speed vessel. Initial operating capability is expected by 2007.

Critics have charged that Congress authorized millions of dollars for a Hawai'i Stryker brigade before the environmental review was concluded. A 30-day waiting period following the release of the final EIS just ended. About 2,000 comments were received on the draft plan.

But Mary Markovinovic, a spokeswoman for U.S. Army Pacific, said initial funding for the Stryker brigade had proceeded because federal budget cycles require several years of lead time.

"Just because we get the money doesn't necessarily mean it's a done deal," she said.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Record of Decision

Transformation of the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Light) to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team in Hawai'i

Prepared for
Department of the Army
Office of the Secretary of the Army
Washington, DC

and

US Army Corps of Engineers
Honolulu Engineer District
Fort Shafter, Hawai'i

Prepared by
Tetra Tech, Inc.
Honolulu, Hawai'i

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RECORD OF DECISION

Final Environmental Impact Statement for Transformation of the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Light) to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team in Hawai'i

1.0 Decision

We have reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) for the Transformation of the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Light) [25th ID(L)] to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team. On behalf of the Army, we have decided to proceed with all facets of the Proposed Action, as summarized in Section 5.1 of this Record of Decision (ROD) and more fully described in Chapter 2 of the Final EIS. The Final EIS assessed potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the Proposed Action on the biological, physical, and cultural environment.

Under the Proposed Action, the 2nd Brigade will be converted to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) under the Army's efforts to incorporate future force capabilities into the Army's current force. Implementing the Proposed Action will require undertaking several distinct but coordinated actions and activities directly associated with transforming the 2nd Brigade. These various actions that make up the Proposed Action will include stationing personnel, fielding Stryker systems and other SBCT-specific materiel, building new facilities, acquiring new land and additional easements, and conducting SBCT-specific training.

2.0 Rationale for the Decision

Our decision to implement the Proposed Action is based on consideration of the analyses contained in the Final EIS, comments provided during formal public comment and review periods, and matters pertaining to Army-wide transformation, national security, and mission requirements. We have determined that the Proposed Action best satisfies the purpose and need for the Army's action and that it reflects a proper balance among competing factors, most notably statutory mission imperatives, environmental impacts, technical considerations, and all practicable means that will avoid or minimize environmental harm.

The Army recognizes that preferences among alternatives may be based on relevant factors, such as environmental, economic, and technical considerations, as well as the agency's mission; therefore, the agency's preferred alternative will not necessarily be the environmentally preferred alternative.[1] The Final EIS provides detailed evaluation of the Proposed Action and the Reduced Land Acquisition (RLA) and No Action Alternatives. Selection of any of these alternatives as being environmentally preferable takes into account numerous considerations; that is, the Proposed Action is inherently complex and multi-faceted, extending to unit transformation, training activities, multiple construction projects across a variety of sites, and environmental mitigation measures.

[1] 40 CFR 1505.2(b) and 32 CFR 651.45(j)(1).

After taking all of these facets into consideration, the No Action Alternative is the environmentally preferred alternative. Under the No Action Alternative, the Army would not undertake the proposed conversion of the 2nd Brigade to an SBCT in Hawai'i. The 2nd Brigade would retain its current force structure and equipment while continuing to train and operate as a conventional light infantry force. Three environmentally significant impacts, primarily due to Army training activities, would remain: noise at Schofield Barracks Military Reservation (SBMR); the threat of wildland fires to biological resources at SBMR and Pōhakuloa Training Area (PTA); and cumulative impacts from the threat of wildland fires to biological resources on the islands of O'ahu and Hawai'i. However, the No Action Alternative does not satisfy any aspects of the stated purpose and need, which are in furtherance of the Army's national defense mission.

We prefer the Proposed Action to the RLA Alternative for several reasons. While the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and the RLA Alternative are virtually identical, the Proposed Action is superior to the RLA because constructing the multipurpose Qualification Training Range (QTR2) in the South Range Acquisition Area near the concentration of Soldiers at SBMR facilitates individual weapons qualification at the home station, which is consistent with Army training guidance. Because most Soldiers are stationed on O'ahu, it is more efficient to conduct individual weapons qualification training close to home station at SBMR. Individual qualification is conducted semi-annually and is required for all Soldiers, even those that are not assigned to units that routinely deploy to PTA. The Proposed Action assures adequate throughput capacity for conducting individual qualification on O'ahu. On the other hand, conducting individual weapons qualification training at a QTR2 at PTA results in greater logistical and safety issues from scheduling training and arranging transport of Soldiers and weapons to the Island of Hawai'i. The additional travel requirements would result in greater training costs and require Soldiers to spend even more time away from home station. If units are able to take advantage of scheduled deployments to PTA to accomplish individual weapons qualification, this may not increase training costs, but could result in even more time away from home station. Constructing QTR2 at PTA would pose conflicts with the use of Range 8 and the potential development of an SBCT-specific anti-armor and live-fire tracking range. Acquiring the full acreage in the South Range Acquisition Area (SRAA) partially cures the shortage of Army training lands in Hawai'i, provides a buffer to incompatible development along the southern border of SBMR, and provides some additional safety zones for Wheeler Army Airfield's (WAAF) runway. Additionally, based on The Nature Conservancy's comments, changes to the orientation of QTR2 have minimized the impact on access to the Honouliuli Preserve.

Therefore, we select the Proposed Action for implementation. We have fully considered the environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Action. Notwithstanding these impacts, we have decided to implement all facets of the Proposed Action because it best meets the purpose and need for this action and it is critical to achieving current and future national security objectives in U.S. Pacific Command's Area of Responsibility (AOR). This AOR is vital to the security of the United States and key allies. The AOR covers more than 50 percent of the earth's surface and traverses 16 time zones. It includes nearly 60 percent of the world's population living in 43 countries. The world's six largest armed forces operate within this AOR: Peoples Republic of China, United States, Russia, India, North Korea, and South

Korea. Nations within this AOR are parties to five of the seven worldwide U.S. mutual defense treaties. Additionally, approximately 35 percent of U.S. international trade is transacted within this AOR.

Consideration of essential national policy, specifically national security objectives in this AOR, was balanced along with other relevant factors. To successfully execute the Global War on Terrorism and ensure our nation's security, the Army must provide the Joint Force with relevant and ready capabilities and forces to support the National Security and Defense Strategies — a campaign-quality Army with joint and expeditionary mindset. The SBCT is one component of the Army's on-going effort to enhance capabilities in our current force to meet evolving requirements. Although SBCTs are highly deployable and subject to worldwide assignment, these enhanced units are strategically stationed within or near AORs deemed important to national security. Army transformation occurs within the larger context of continuous change brought about through the interaction of constantly evolving capabilities between current and future forces. Transforming the 2nd Brigade of the 25th ID(L) to an SBCT by implementing all facets of the Proposed Action will substantially enhance the 25th ID(L)'s ability to accomplish its mission in support of U.S. Pacific Command's theater strategy. This strategy is designed to accomplish three major objectives: In peacetime, to make conflicts and crises less likely; in times of crisis, to resolve specific situations on terms that advance U.S. interests; and in war, to win quickly and decisively, with a minimum loss of life and resources.

3.0 Background

In October 1999, the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army articulated a vision for the Army to meet the challenges of the 21st century. The Army must become more strategically responsive and dominant at every point on the spectrum of military operations, ranging from intensive combat to peacekeeping duties and humanitarian missions.

The ROD for the Programmatic EIS documented the Army's decision to transform the 2nd Brigade, 25th ID(L) at Schofield Barracks, Hawai'i to an SBCT, subject to a site-specific analysis of the environmental impacts of implementing SBCT in Hawai'i. The Commanding General of the 25th ID(L) was charged with deciding how best to achieve that directive and provide for military training, readiness, and facility requirements to meet SBCT transformation needs, while enabling the current forces to continue carrying out their missions and giving due consideration to environmental factors. This decision is based on the results of the Final EIS and on consideration of all relevant factors, including mission, cost, technical factors, and environmental considerations. The Final EIS considered a reasonable range of alternatives, including several alternatives that involved transforming and/or training on the U.S. mainland. As discussed in Section 2.6 of the Final EIS, the mainland alternatives were not analyzed in detail because they did not meet the purpose and need of the Proposed Action. (Complete details on the Proposed Action are presented in Chapter 2 and Appendix D of the Final EIS.)

4.0 Purpose and Need

4.1 Purpose of the Proposed Action

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to assist the Army's transformation efforts by bringing the SBCT to operational capability and to provide realistic training in Hawai'i. Twenty-eight projects are proposed for the U.S. Army, Hawai'i (USARHAW) that will improve on the existing support structure and facilities to provide the necessary field training required for an SBCT. Reconfiguring maneuver areas, establishing combat training facilities more appropriate to the types of threats the Army expects to encounter, and strengthening infrastructure would ensure that SBCT's leaders and Soldiers would be prepared for the full spectrum of military operations.

4.2 Need for the Proposed Action

The need for transformation of the 2nd Brigade is to provide the nation with capabilities that meet current and evolving national defense requirements. As Army doctrine evolves, training and facilities must also change. The SBCT goal is to be able to deploy anywhere in the world and be prepared to carry out the Army's military mission within 96 hours of deployment from Hawai'i. While SBCT units will retain the mobility and flexibility of traditional Army light forces, they will incorporate the lethality and survivability of traditional Army heavy forces. They will be equipped with new vehicles, equipment, and communications technology to achieve their missions. Training must include a greater emphasis on Military Operations in Urban Terrain to prepare Soldiers for a variety of situations, such as resolving general urban unrest, infiltrating and clearing buildings, and fighting at close range. Training for these kinds of activities requires constructing new ranges and support facilities on O'ahu and the island of Hawai'i.

The 2nd Brigade in Hawai'i was selected to transform to an SBCT in the Programmatic EIS ROD based on several factors, which include the following:

- *Location of the 2nd Brigade within the Pacific Rim, a critical area of interest for the United States.* Stationing an SBCT in Hawai'i allows the U.S. military to rapidly respond to events in an area of increasing importance to national security. The goal of the Hawai'i SBCT would be to deploy a brigade anywhere within the Pacific Rim within 96 hours or to combine with other SBCT brigades or future forces to place a division anywhere in the Pacific Rim within five days, or five divisions within thirty days. There are two other SBCTs on the Pacific coast (in Washington State) and one proposed SBCT in Alaska to support deployment to the critically important Pacific Rim, while others will be in the eastern United States to support deployment to other geographic regions.
- *Composition and mission of the 2nd Brigade and the benefits of transforming to an SBCT.* The 2nd Brigade is already a light infantry unit, which executes full spectrum military missions in complex terrain. Hawai'i provides the terrain and conditions most likely to be encountered in the Pacific Rim. The enhancement of this unit to an SBCT

would allow this already light unit to be more mobile, lethal, and survivable under a greater variety of conditions.

- *Ease of deployment.* The SBCT would be in proximity to multiple airbases and seaports of suitable size.

5.0 Proposed Action and Alternatives

5.1 Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, the 2nd Brigade would be converted to an SBCT. Implementing the Proposed Action would require undertaking several distinct and coordinated actions and activities directly associated with transforming the 2nd Brigade. This would include fielding Stryker systems and SBCT-specific weapons, building new facilities, acquiring land and additional easements, and conducting SBCT-specific training. Table 1 lists the proposed projects for each alternative. Major elements of the SBCT include the following:

- Three Motorized Infantry Battalions, each composed of three Combined Arms Rifle Companies and a Headquarters Company;
- Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition Squadron;
- Antitank Company;
- Field Artillery Battalion;
- Engineer Company;
- Brigade Support Battalion;
- Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company;
- Signal Company; and
- Military Intelligence Company.

Each major element of the SBCT is composed of a number of smaller units. Individual training activities often consist of section-, team-, squad-, and platoon-sized units operating in a dispersed but coordinated manner. Despite some changes in equipment, capability, and training doctrine, training activities are anticipated to be very similar to those currently conducted by light infantry brigades stationed on and training on O'ahu and the island of Hawai'i. However, the number of Soldiers is expected to increase by 810 and the total number of rounds to be fired by all Soldiers trained at USARHAW will increase by 25 percent. This would increase overall training throughput requirements, which would necessitate the construction and update of ranges and facilities to meet the SBCT training requirements. The addition of the Stryker and the need for increased mounted maneuver training require the acquisition of additional lands.

Table 1
SBCT Projects Overview

1391 Project #	SBCT Project Title	Location	Construction Commences (Fiscal Year[1])	Category
58143	Urban Assault Course and Training Facilities	Schofield	2006	Construction
57404	Virtual Fighting Training Facility	Schofield	2009+	Construction
56923	Range Control Facility	Schofield	2009+	Construction
58144	Battle Area Complex	Schofield	2005+	Construction
57421/ 58925	Motor Pool Maintenance Shops	Schofield	2005	Construction
57416	Tactical Vehicle Wash Facility	East Range	2005	Construction
N/A	Fixed Tactical Internet	Schofield	2005	Construction
55270	South Range Land Acquisition	Schofield	2004	Additional Land
57461	Qualification Training Range, QTR1	Schofield (M. Flats)	2004+	Construction
57462	Qualification Training Range, QTR2	Schofield (S. Range)	2005	Construction
57422	Multiple Deployment Facility	Schofield (Wheeler)	2005	Construction, Renovation
57405	Upgrade Airfield for C-130 Aircraft	Schofield (Wheeler)	2009+	Upgrade
58161	Land Easement/Construct Road, SB/Dillingham Military Reservation (DMR)	Dillingham	2009+	Construction
57415	Tactical Vehicle Wash Facility	Kahuku	2007	Construction
57305	Combined Arms Collective Training Facility	Kahuku	2005	Construction, Renovation
57406	Road Construction, Schofield to Helemanō	Helemanō	2005	Construction
57802	Land Easement, Schofield to Helemanō	Helemanō	2004	Additional Land
57197	Battle Area Complex	Pōhakuloa	2007	Construction
57183	Anti-armor Live-fire and Tracking Range	Pōhakuloa	2009+	Construction
58273	Construct Military Vehicle Trail, PTA-Kawaihae	Pōhakuloa	2009+	Construction
58273	Land Easement for Military Vehicle Trail, PTA-Kawaihae	Pōhakuloa	2009+	Additional Land
57417	Ammunition Storage	Pōhakuloa	2009+	Construction
57414	Tactical Vehicle Wash Facility	Pōhakuloa	2006	Construction
57411	West PTA Maneuver Training Area Land Acquisition	Pōhakuloa	2005	Additional Land
56994	Range Maintenance Facility	Pōhakuloa	2009+	Construction
57408	Runway Upgrade/Extension, Bradshaw AAF	Pōhakuloa	2009+	Renovation
N/A	Fixed Tactical Internet	Pōhakuloa	2005	Construction
N/A	Installation Information Infrastructure Architecture	Pōhakuloa	2005	Construction

Source: U.S. Army 2002a
[1]Fiscal year is based on current program guidance, subject to change as a result of future funding availability.

After the publication of the Draft EIS, the Army announced plans for an enhancement package for SBCTs. The announced enhancements included an aviation task force, an increase from twelve to eighteen 155mm howitzers in the direct support artillery battalion, and improvements to command, control, communications, computer, and intelligence (C4I) assets. The announcements indicated that the aviation task force would include Comanche helicopters when the aircraft were ready for fielding. In February 2004, the Army determined that no further testing or fielding of Comanches would occur and canceled the Comanche program. The SBCT will train with aviation assets that currently exist in the 25th ID(L) aviation brigade and SBCT training will result in minor changes to training, primarily some increased aviation training over the West PTA Acquisition Area (WPAA) in support of units training in that area. The Final EIS analyzed the impacts of the increased aviation training over WPAA and those impacts were determined to be minimal. The Draft EIS analyzed the impacts of twelve 155mm howitzers, a change from the eighteen 105mm howitzers currently in the direct support artillery battalion for 2nd Brigade. The addition of another six 155mm howitzers was analyzed in the Final EIS and resulted in minimal changes to noise impacts and no change in the overall determination of effect. The C4I improvements are not expected to have any impacts to the environment.

Overall, the Army determined that the enhancements are within the original scope of the Proposed Action, as described in the Draft EIS, and that they are minor and did not require a supplemental Draft EIS.

An evaluation of training facilities shows that they are not fully adequate for training an SBCT (Nakata Planning Group 2002a). Under the Proposed Action, training capabilities will be enhanced as part of transforming the 2nd Brigade to an SBCT. The Army's proposed changes to training will rectify training resource shortfalls for SBCT units and will reorient resources to meet evolving mission-related requirements. In order to meet present and future missions, USARHAW units must have enlarged maneuver areas, modernized training facilities, and other support facilities, such as infrastructure and telecommunications.

In selecting specific construction projects to meet the training shortfall for SBCT and to minimize costs and impacts to the environment and communities, planners attempted to first use existing USARHAW lands and ranges, where possible, to upgrade existing ranges and facilities, to build new ranges on existing training areas, and, if necessary, to acquire new training lands. Once project alternatives were developed, they were further evaluated and selected based on the following factors: the extent to which they provided mission support; the extent to which they minimized environmental impacts and contributed to environmental stewardship; their economic feasibility; and the extent to which they increased training productivity. Each final site location was further adjusted as necessary to avoid or minimize impacts to natural and cultural resources.

5.2 Alternatives

5.2.1 Reduced Land Acquisition Alternative

This alternative is identical to the Proposed Action, except that QTR2 would be moved to PTA and land acquisition at the SRAA would be reduced (Figure ES-5). This alternative would involve downsizing the proposed SRAA by approximately 93 percent, from 1,402 acres (5,666 hectares) to 100 acres (40.5 hectares). The 100 acres would be necessary within the SRAA for constructing the proposed SBCT Motor Pool because the motor pool must be located close to SBMR where the Soldiers are based, and there is no space available for building this facility at SBMR or WAAF. This would require that an expanded version of QTR2 be constructed at PTA rather than at the home station, SBMR. This is contrary to current training of the 25th Infantry Division, which is based on troops completing qualification training at SBMR before deploying to PTA. The larger exercises conducted at PTA are more effective if each Soldier is fully qualified at SBMR before deploying to PTA. However, the length of deployment at PTA could be extended to allow training at QTR2 before other training is conducted at PTA. Soldiers not able to qualify during deployment would potentially have to return to PTA to complete a substantial portion of their small arms qualifications. The best available site for the proposed QTR2 at PTA is on the site of the current Range 8. This location falls within the overall boundaries of the anti-armor and live-fire tracking range (AALFTR), also proposed for this site, meaning that both ranges could not be used for live-fire at the same time. An expanded version of QTR2, to include sniper and machine gun training, as well as pistol and M16, would be constructed at PTA, overlying the proposed AALFTR, so no new area would need to be used or ordnance impact area created. Although the purpose and need for USARHAW transformation would still be fulfilled, it would not be as efficient, and in some circumstances not every Soldier would become qualified on individual weapons before arriving at PTA. This would detract from the effectiveness of the large-unit training conducted there and would require additional training.

5.2.2 No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the Army would not undertake the proposed conversion of the 2nd Brigade to an SBCT in Hawai'i and therefore would not meet the purpose and need for transforming the USARHAW 2nd Brigade, 25th ID(L). The 2nd Brigade would continue to train and operate as a conventional light infantry force.

5.2.3 Alternatives Considered But Eliminated from Detailed Analysis

Several factors shape alternatives available to USARHAW. First, any viable alternative must meet the purpose of and need for the action by helping to bring the Army's current force to operational capability and by providing realistic field training in Hawai'i while providing the nation with capabilities that meet current and evolving national defense requirements. Alternatives must be practical and feasible; that is, they must be capable of being implemented by the Army or another agency, must be technically feasible, and must not require commitment of resources that cannot practically be obtained. In addition, in framing alternatives, USARHAW took into consideration information and suggestions submitted by

individuals, organizations, and public agencies. Finally, each alternative, with the exception of the No Action Alternative, must meet the training needs required for an SBCT.

The following alternatives were considered but eliminated from detailed analysis because they did not meet one or more of the requirements outlined above. A detailed explanation of why these alternatives were eliminated from detailed analysis is contained in Section 2.6, pages 2-46 through 2-54, of the Final EIS.

- Transform a different brigade at another location;
- Transform with existing facilities (no new construction or land acquisition);
- Transform with maneuver training on a continental U.S. installation (includes maneuver live-fire training);
- Transform using other existing military facilities in Hawai'i (e.g., Marine or Navy bases);
- Transform by moving all training to PTA;
- Purchase maneuver lands at Pu'u Pā on the island of Hawai'i; and
- Purchase maneuver lands at Lualualei on the island of O'ahu.

6.0 Public Involvement

By providing a means for open communication between the Army and the public, NEPA promotes better decision-making. Those having a potential interest in the Proposed Action, including minority, low-income, or disadvantaged individuals, Native Hawaiians, and other individuals, organizations, and agencies, were notified and invited to participate in the scoping and environmental impact analysis process.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, Army Regulations, and 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 651, guide public participation opportunities. These requirements include issuing in the *Federal Register* a notice of intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS[2], initiating a public scoping process and a minimum 45-day public review and comment period for the Draft EIS, and publishing the Final EIS, accompanied by a 30-day waiting period before a final decision is made and a ROD is issued.

Following publication of the NOI, public notices were published in the major newspapers on the island of Hawai'i and on O'ahu announcing the time and location of seven public scoping meetings to solicit input and to obtain comments on the range of the EIS. In addition, the scoping meetings were announced in the April 8, 2002, issue of *The Environmental Notice,* published by the State of Hawai'i, Department of Health, Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC). The public scoping period began on April 8, 2002. Based on public comment, the scoping period was extended by 30 days and ended on

[2]The notice of intent for this EIS was published in the *Federal Register*, March 4, 2002 (76 FR 9717).

June 15, 2002. Scoping meetings were held between April 16 and 30, 2002, at two locations on the island of Hawai'i and at five locations on O'ahu. A total of 283 people attended the seven meetings. In addition to oral comments received at the public scoping meetings, the

Army also received written comments in the form of e-mails, faxes, letters, and form letters, comments via telephone, and comments at separate information meetings requested by groups and organizations.

The Commanding General, 25th ID(L) and USARHAW approved the Draft EIS for public review and it was distributed to elected officials, regulatory agencies, and members of the public on October 3, 2003. The availability of this document was announced in the *Federal Register*[3], and a 45-day public comment period followed to provide the public with the opportunity to comment on the findings of the EIS.

The publication of the Draft EIS and the opening of the public comment period was announced with both legal and display advertisements in the *Hawai'i Tribune-Herald, West Hawai'i Today, The Honolulu Advertiser, Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Midweek,* and OEQC's *The Environmental Notice.* Six public meetings to receive comments on the Draft EIS were held in Honolulu, Wahiawā, Wai'anae, Kahuku, Waikoloa, and Hilo. On October 31, 2003, the Army made a decision to extend the public comment period on the Draft EIS until January 3, 2004.

Comments received during the public comment period included those from federal, state, and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and individuals. Over 600 unique commenters participated in the public review of the Draft EIS, and their comments and the Army's responses are provided in Appendix P of the Final EIS.

The Army published the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the *Federal Register* on May 24, 2004, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published the NOA on June 4, 2004. Agencies and members of the public that submitted oral or written comments on the Draft EIS were informed of how the Army responded to their comments. During the Final EIS 30-day waiting period, additional comments were submitted by agencies and members of the public. However, the comments did not provide any new or additional information requiring modification to the Final EIS, which would have altered this decision making process. The comments and any Army responses have been added to the administrative record.

7.0 Environmental and Socioeconomic Consequences

environmental conditions for each of the project areas and the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action, RLA Alternative, and No Action Alternative are identified. Mitigation measures are identified for any impacts determined to be significant.

Beneficial impacts are identified where applicable. Beneficial impacts include, but are not limited to, a boost to the economy associated with construction and mitigation activities and improved public services and utilities. There may also be both adverse and beneficial impacts within a single resource category; for instance, a project could interfere with a preexisting land use such as agriculture (an adverse impact), while expanding public access to recreational resources (a beneficial impact).

Table 2
Summary of Impact Levels from the Proposed Action, Reduced Land Acquisition, and No Action

Impact Issue	SBMR			DMR			KTA/KLOA			PTA			Project-Wide Impacts		
	PA	RLA	NA	PA	RLA	NA	PA	RLA	NA	PA	RLA	NA	PA	RLA	NA
Land use/recreation	⊘	⊙	○	⊙	⊙	○	⊗/○	⊗/○	○/○	⊙+	⊙+	○	⊗+	⊗+	○
Visual resources	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊙/○	⊙/○	⊙/○	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊘	⊘	⊙
Air space	○	○	○	○	○	○	○/○	○/○	○/○	⊙	⊙	○	⊙	⊙	○
Air quality	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊘/○	⊘/○	⊙/○	⊗	⊗	⊙	⊗	⊗	⊙
Noise	⊗*	⊗*	⊗	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙/○	⊙/○	⊙/○	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊗	⊗	⊗
Traffic	⊙	⊙	○	⊙	⊙	○	⊙/⊙	⊙/⊙	○/○	⊙+	⊙+	○	⊙+	⊙+	⊙
Water resources	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊘/⊙	⊘/⊙	⊘/○	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊘	⊘	⊘
Geology and soils	⊗	⊘	⊘	⊗	⊗	⊘	⊗/⊘	⊗/⊘	⊘/⊙	⊗	⊗	⊘	⊗	⊗	⊘
Biological resources	⊗	⊗	⊗	⊘	⊘	⊘	⊗/⊘	⊗/⊘	⊗/⊘	⊗	⊗	⊗	⊗	⊗	⊗
Cultural resources	⊗	⊗	⊙	⊗	⊗	⊙	⊗/⊙	⊗/⊙	⊙/⊙	⊗	⊗	○	⊗	⊗	⊙
Human health and safety hazards	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊘/⊘	⊘/⊘	⊙/⊙	⊘	⊘	⊙	⊘	⊘	⊙
Socioeconomics	⊘+	⊘+	○	⊙+	⊙+	○	⊙+/○	⊙+/○	○/○	⊘+	⊘+	○	⊘+	⊘+	○
Utilities	⊙	⊙	○	⊙+	⊙+	○	⊙+/○	⊙+/○	○/○	⊙+	⊙+	○	⊙+	⊙+	○

This table summarizes project-wide impacts. For installation-specific impacts see Chapters 5 through 8 in the Final EIS.
In cases when there would be both beneficial and adverse impacts, both are shown on this table. Mitigation measures would only apply to adverse impacts.
*The PA and RLA for SBMR would have a minor increase in noise impacts over the NA. The determination of significance is based on existing NA levels.

LEGEND:

PA	=	Proposed Action	⊘	=	Significant but mitigable to less than significant impact			
RLA	=	Reduced Land Acquisition	⊙	=	Less than significant			
NA	=	No Action	○	=	No impact			
⊗	=	Significant impact	+	=	Beneficial impact	N/A	=	Not applicable

Tables ES-6 and ES-7 from the Final EIS, which provide more detailed summaries of project-specific impacts under the Proposed Action and Reduced Land Acquisition Alternative, respectively, are hereby incorporated by reference into this ROD.

8.0 Cumulative Impacts

CEQ regulations implementing NEPA require that the cumulative impacts of a proposed action be assessed. Army Regulations also require that cumulative actions, when viewed with other proposed actions that have cumulatively significant impacts, be discussed in the same impact statement. As discussed in Chapter 9 of the Final EIS, direct and cumulative impacts should be viewed together to determine the full impacts from each alternative identified in Chapter 2 of the Final EIS. There are different analytical methods for determining significance and the region of influence (ROI) is often larger for cumulative impacts than that of direct and indirect impacts.[4] Also, the Final EIS identifies significant direct impacts for certain resources while finding that there are no significant cumulative impacts for the same resource. This difference is normally because of the different geographical and/or temporal contexts involved with measuring direct and cumulative impacts. This Final EIS used a variety of methods, depending on the resource area, to determine cumulative socioeconomic and environmental effects. Table 3 provides a summary of cumulative environmental impacts identified for this project.

Table 3
Summary of Potential Cumulative Impacts

Resource Area	Proposed Action	Reduced Land Acquisition	No Action
Land use/recreation	⊗	⊗	○
Visual resources	⊙	⊙	○
Airspace	⊙	⊙	○
Air quality	⊙	⊙	○
Noise	⊙	⊙	○
Traffic	⊙	⊙	○
Water resources	⊘	⊘	○
Geologic, soils, and seismicity	⊙	⊙	○
Biological resources	⊗	⊗	⊗
Cultural resources	⊗	⊗	⊙
Human health and safety hazards	⊗	⊗	⊘
Socioeconomic and environmental justice	⊘	⊘	○
Public service and utilities	⊙	⊙	○

In cases when there would be both beneficial and adverse impacts, both are shown on this table. Mitigation measures would only apply to adverse impacts.

LEGEND:

⊗ = Significant
⊘ = Significant but mitigable to less than significant
⊙ = Less than significant
○ = No impact
+ = Beneficial impact
N/A = Not applicable

Methods for gathering and assessing data regarding cumulative impacts include interviews, use of checklists, trends analysis, and forecasting. In general, past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects are assessed by resource area. These projects, which are listed in Chapter 9, Tables 9-1 and 9-2, in the Final EIS are sponsored by the U.S. Army, other

[4] Council on Environmental Quality 1997, Considering Cumulative Effects Under the National Environmental Policy Act, January 1997.

federal and state agencies, or private entities, and include 32 projects on O'ahu, 12 projects on Hawai'i, and five projects that include both islands.

9.0 Final EIS Errata

Below is a list of corrections to the SBCT Final EIS dated May 2004.

- Throughout the SBCT Final EIS there is reference to the SBCT as part of the "interim force". Since the Draft EIS was published, the Army has changed the terminology for Army transformation and removed the "interim force" phase. The phases are "current force" and "future force" with SBCT as part of the transition between phases.

- Executive Summary, Page ES-51: The 2nd paragraph should read: "Cumulative impacts from the Proposed Action and the Reduced Land Acquisition Alternative (RLA) would occur in all resource areas. Significant cumulative impacts from the Proposed Action and the RLA would occur in the following resource areas: Land use, biological resources, cultural resources, water quality, human health and safety hazards, and socioeconomics."

- Hilo Public Meeting Transcript, Page 118, Line 25 and Testimony of Dr. David Heaukulani M5-1, Line 7: The transcript reads: "The culture experts on the environmental staff of U.S. Army, Hawai'i recovered several iwi, ancient Hawaiian warrior spears ..." The correct [illegible]

- Unauthorized recreational access at KTA will be adversely affected by additional fencing and signs restricting access, which is necessary due to the proposed short-range training ammunition (SRTA) live-fire use of the area;
- Air quality impacts from wind erosion of areas previously disturbed by off-road vehicle maneuver activity (where vegetation has been decreased, resulting in increased wind erosion) at PTA;
- Noise impacts from ordnance use at SBMR;
- Soil loss from training activities at SBMR, DMR, KTA, and PTA;
- Biological impacts from fire on sensitive species and habitat at SBMR, KTA and PTA;
- Biological impacts from off-road training activities on sensitive species and habitat at PTA;
- Cultural resource impacts to historic buildings at KTA (the Nike Missile Site) and PTA (Quonset huts at PTA Base Camp);
- Cultural resource impacts to archaeological resources from range and facility construction at PTA;
- Cultural resource impacts to archaeological resources from training activities at DMR and PTA;
- Cultural resource impacts to Areas of Traditional Importance at SBMR, DMR, and PTA;
- Cumulative impacts to land use;
- Cumulative impacts to biological resources;
- Cumulative impacts to cultural resources;
- Cumulative impacts to human health and safety hazards; and,
- Environmental justice impacts to Areas of Traditional Importance at SBMR, DMR, and PTA.

10.2 Relationship Between Local Short-Term Uses of the Environment and Long-Term Productivity

NEPA requires that an EIS include a consideration of the relationship between local short-term uses of the environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity.

Construction activities associated with the proposed projects are short-term and temporary. All significant construction impacts will be mitigated where practicable under the constraints of public safety and the military mission. Short-term damage to the environment relating to construction includes direct and indirect loss of habitat and damage to sensitive species, loss of nonrenewable cultural resources, emissions impacts to air quality, and surface water quality impacts. Long-term environmental damage includes loss of farmland regulated under

the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), impacts to soil and water quality, impacts to habitat and wildlife from training activities, erosion, and wildfires, air quality impacts from wind erosion due to training activities, and potential damage to cultural resources in the future.

The conversion of farmland to military use at PTA and SBMR could affect long-term agricultural productivity in Hawai'i. Therefore, there would be some adverse impacts to long-term productivity as a result of the Proposed Action, but regional socioeconomic impacts are not expected to be significant.

Long-term productivity would be improved by replacing inadequate and inefficient facilities at SBMR and KTA with modern fuel-efficient buildings designed to reduce long-term reliance on nonrenewable fuel sources. Such replacement would also remove workplace hazards to Army staff, such as lead-based paint and asbestos-containing material. Infrastructure upgrades (such as communications and power systems) associated with the Proposed Action would result in longer life of these facilities and fewer expenses in maintaining and repairing such facilities. New facilities, such as the vehicle washes, would be designed to reduce the spread of invasive species and would use recycled water, and other facilities, such as select Fixed Tactical Internet (FTI) sites, may be designed to use solar power, thus minimizing the project's long-term energy requirements.

The long-term productivity of the Proposed Action is based on the Army's ability to transform its forces to continue to provide relevant and ready forces in support of the Global War on Terrorism and national security requirements. Any measurement of long-term productivity in this context must recognize the overriding importance of national defense and the Army's obligation to adapt to changing national security needs. While the Army will take whatever actions are required by law and those that are reasonable and practicable to preserve and protect the natural environment under its stewardship, the necessity of national defense requires the Army to provide the nation with capabilities that meet current and evolving national defense requirements. The Proposed Action is designed to meet these goals and further the security and welfare of the U.S., its residents, and its natural environment.

10.3 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

NEPA requires that an EIS analyze the extent to which the Proposed Action's primary and secondary effects would commit nonrenewable resources to uses that future generations would be unable to reverse.

Implementing the Proposed Action or RLA Alternative would require commitments of both renewable and nonrenewable energy and material resources for demolishing inadequate facilities at SBMR and PTA; for constructing FTI antennas, proposed ranges, and support facilities at SBMR, DMR, KTA, WAAF, and PTA; and for constructing Dillingham, Helemanō and PTA Military Vehicle Trails. Material resources that would be used include wood, concrete, metals, asphalt and other petroleum products, and nonrenewable energy would be used for the construction activities. This temporary energy expenditure would

occur over the short term and would be irreversible once construction is completed. Additionally, further review has indicated that maneuver training at the WPAA may result in an irretrievable commitment of soil resources by loss through erosion of soils that support sensitive plant species and habitat.

Other nonrenewable resources would be used during SBCT training, such as the fuel used by Strykers and other vehicles in maneuvers and troop convoys; the water, power, and other resources necessary to maintain and operate the new military vehicle trails and new training facilities at SBMR, KTA, and PTA; and the increase in local resources required to support the additional military personnel and their families.

11.0 Mitigation Measures

11.1 Summary

Mitigation actions are expected to reduce, avoid, or compensate for most adverse effects. Subject to the availability of funds[5], the Army shall take all necessary steps to implement the mitigation and monitoring measures listed in Table ES-22, pages ES-56 through ES-65, of the Final EIS, which is hereby incorporated by reference into this ROD. These mitigation measures, including regulatory and administrative requirements, will help substantially reduce significant impacts to affected resources or will provide a substantial benefit to the affected resources with minimal costs. The table does not include those measures that are considered standard operating procedures and best management practices, which will be integrated into and implemented as part of the proposed projects. The table also describes the benefits of a given mitigation measure.

In a letter dated June 28, 2004, The Nature Conservancy proposed additional mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts to recreational use and management of the Honouliuli Preserve. The Army has determined that the following mitigation measures will be implemented in addition to those measures defined in Table ES-22 of the Final EIS.

(a) The Army, in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy, shall develop and implement a habitat management plan for the approximately 110-acre parcel that will be part of QTR2 in the South Range Acquisition Area, currently managed by The Nature Conservancy. The management plan shall include, amongst other things, a feral pig control strategy and a license agreement in favor to The Nature Conservancy to provide management assistance in the area under mutually acceptable conditions, for a term not shorter than the length of the lease The Nature Conservancy has with the Campbell Estate, including any future extensions for the remainder of Honouliuli Preserve.

[5] A key provision of the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 U.S.C. 1341 (a)(1)), provides that an officer or employee of the United States Government may not (a) make or authorize an expenditure or obligation exceeding an amount available in an appropriation or fund for the expenditure or obligation or (b) involve the government in a contract or obligation for the payment of money before an appropriation is made unless authorized by law.

(b) The Army shall involve The Nature Conservancy and the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources in reviewing and commenting upon future drafts of the Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan – O'ahu and Pōhakuloa Training Areas (IWFMP). The Nature Conservancy and the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources' comments shall be addressed in the plan to the extent possible. The Army shall undertake an initial review and update the IWFMP no later than July 30, 2005.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

UNITED STATES ARMY PACIFIC COMMAND

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

RECORD OF DECISION

TRANSFORMATION OF U.S. ARMY HAWAI'I

Reviewed and Approved by:

JAMES L. CAMPBELL
Lieutenant General, USA
U.S. Army, Pacific, Commanding

7 Jul 04.
Date

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

UNITED STATES ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

PACIFIC REGION OFFICE

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

RECORD OF DECISION

TRANSFORMATION OF U.S. ARMY HAWAI'I

Reviewed and Approved by:

STANLEY E. SOKOLOSKI
Pacific Region Director
U.S Army Installation Management Agency

06 JUL 2004
Date

RECORD OF DECISION
TRANSFORMATION OF THE 2ND BRIGADE, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION (LIGHT) IN HAWAI'I

U.S. Army Garrison, Hawai'i

HOWARD J. KILLIAN
Colonel, USA
U.S. Army Garrison, Hawai'i, Commanding

7 JUL 04
Date

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Friday, May 21, 2004

Army outlines Stryker impacts

By Kevin Dayton
Advertiser Big Island Bureau

HILO, Hawai'i — The Army has outlined plans to deal with dust, noise, endangered species and other issues surrounding its $1.5 billion plan to create a Stryker brigade combat team at Schofield Barracks, expected to be operational by 2007.

The environmental impact statement is expected to be studied closely by critics of the program, including David Henkin, staff attorney with Earthjustice, an environmental law firm. Henkin said he will review the document to see if the Army seriously considered alternatives such as putting the Stryker brigade in another state.

Given the scarcity of land and the number of endangered species and culturally significant sites in Hawai'i, it may be unwise to place what is essentially a mechanized brigade here, Henkin said. He said Army officials and the draft impact statement ignored that possibility.

"The law simply does not allow them to limit their analysis in that way," he said. "The law wants an informed decision. An informed decision includes the range of reasonable alternatives, and when you spend hundred of millions or billions of dollars to fundamentally change the 25th Infantry Division, you expect a broader treatment of the subject than the draft (impact statement) had."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is expected to publish an official notice today or next week announcing that the impact statement is available. That notice marks the beginning of a 30-day waiting period in which the Army considers the project, and thereafter publishes a record of decision on whether it intends to proceed.

Henkin argued the Army should allow more than 30 days for decision-makers and the public to digest the 2,000-page study. Making a decision in 30 days amounts to "trying to skate by on the bare minimum necessary," he said. "They're dealing with a decision that will have profound ramifications for the people of this state."

Reach Kevin Dayton at kdayton@honoluluadvertiser.com or (808) 935-3916.

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Four Hawaii-based Soldiers die

By

Three Schofield Barracks Soldiers were killed in attacks in Iraq over the weekend and another died of injuries sustained in Afghanistan.

Staff Sgt. Oscar D. Medina, 32, of Chicago and Spc. Ramon C. Ojeda, 22, of Ramona, Calif., were killed Saturday when their convoy was attacked outside the southern city of Al Amarah, Iraq. Both were assigned to the 84th Engineer Battalion at Schofield Barracks.

Staff Sgt. Todd E. Nunes, 29, of Chapel Hills, Tenn., died Sunday in Kirkuk, Iraq, when his convoy encountered an improvised explosive device and small arms fire. Nunes was assigned to 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment at Schofield Barracks.

Ten Soldiers were also wounded in Sunday's attack. Five of the 10 Soldiers wounded were in stable conditiNews Release on and the other five returned to duty.

Sgt. Phillip Witkowski, 24, died Saturday of non-combat related injuries sustained in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Witkowski, a cook with 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, was injured on Friday and flown to Homberg, Germany, where he died.

All three incidents are under investigation.

The four deaths bring to six the number of Schofield Barracks Soldier deaths since the deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan began in late January. About 9,000 Hawaii-based Soldiers are deployed, the largest deployment from Hawaii since the Vietnam War.

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HAW 5/7/04

BID SCHEDULE continued

05/13 2:00 PM **File # 9350**

AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING VEHICLE EXHAUST VENTILATION SYSTEM INSTALLATION AT LIHUE AIRPORT, KAUAI - PROJECT NO. FK1469-04 Contracts Office, Department of Transportation, 869 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 — phone 587-2130, and Kauai District Office, 3060 Eiwa St., Lihue, Hawaii 96766 — phone 274-3111.

wires and cables, medium voltage cable, boxes, wiring devices, grounding and bonding, electrical identification, pad mounted distribution transformers, overhead line materials, service and distribution, fuses, motor control, lighting, site lighting, fire alarm systems, telephone service/raceways and wiring, electrical sensing and measurement, lighting control, testing).

Proposals will be received at AAFES Hawaii, Attn: General Manager, 10 Hickam Court, Hickam AFB, Hawaii 96853-5297.

Bid Guaranty: 20%

Contract Bond: 100%

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Photo(s) by Sharee Moore
AAFES plans to replace the Schofield Barracks Main Post Exchange with a consolidated PX, PXtra, expanded food court and mall in 2006.

Related stories:

None

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Schofield Barracks to get new PX

By Sharee Moore, Assistant Editor

Schofield Barracks is getting a new Post Exchange that is scheduled to open in 2006.

The new PX will be about 175,000 square feet, which is more than half the size of the combined Navy Exchange and commissary at Pearl Harbor.

The new shopping center will house the PX, PXtra, newly expanded food court and other Army and Air Force Exchange Service shops under one roof.

Construction may begin as early as July 2004 so, patrons can expect to see a high steel construction fence erected around both buildings soon. No worries, there will be temporary entrances into the stores.

The main exchange will have several departments including: sewing, housewares, kitchenware, major and small appliances, linens, giftware and the food court. The mall area will include many of the same stores at the PX today.

According to the AAFES Public Affairs Office, both the PX and PXtra will stay open during the construction of the new store.

"We are simply upgrading a building, which is long overdue. We just want this base to achieve all that it has to offer," said Rich Pickering, Schofield Barracks Main Exchange manager.

Current customers are excited about the prospect of shopping in a bigger and better PX.

"It's been time consuming to go here and there. The new exchange will be a lot better, I think," said Sgt. Maria E. Gabbi, 125th Finance Battalion.

"It will be great to get all the things you want in one place. It's great on gas, too, since you don't have to drive everywhere for everything," said Honey Lou Jenkins.

AAFES employees are even more ecstatic about the upcoming changes. Just ask Robyn Bachiller, a self-professed member of the "operations squad."

"I'm excited! I've been working at this exchange for 18 years and am glad to know that we'll be together as one. It's very convenient for customers and we'll be one big family now," she said.

"This is just great," said Bill Wood. "I'll be food court manager and I'm looking forward to it. There are approximately ten new stores lined up to go in the food court," said Wood.

PRE-SOLICITATION NOTICES

A pre-solicitation is an advanced notice of an upcoming project due to open on or about the date listed as the "estimated bid opening." Plans and specs for these jobs will not be issued until the appropriate date following the * at the end of the job description. Sometimes, plans and specs are not issued for weeks or even months after the intended availability date. These notices become "pending" with an unknown bid opening date. Please keep in mind that these are only approximate dates. As soon as plans and specs become available the project is transferred into Bid Schedule.

Estimated Bid Opening: 05/27 2:00 PM File # 9313

FY04 MCA PN52268 & FY05 MCA PN52269, WHOLE BARRACKS RENEWAL, PHASE 4B, QUAD E - SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, OAHU - IFB NO. W9128A-04-R-0012

U.S. Army Engineer District Honolulu, Corps of Engineers, Bldg. 230, Attn: CEPOD-CT-C, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440 — contact: Jennifer Ko, phone 438-8564, Clyde Tomihara, phone 438-7013.

Scope of work for this project is to renovate two buildings in Quad E to provide unaccompanied enlisted personnel housing and renovate the other two buildings to house battalion and company administrative functions. Supporting facilities include electrical service, fire protection and fire alarm systems, paving, walks, curbs and gutters, storm drainage, information systems, ATFP and site improvements.

Selection will be based upon evaluation factors which may include (a) past performance, (b) experience, (c) Small Business Program and (d) price.

Solicitation documents will NOT be issued on CD-ROM format unless the Government determines that it is necessary. If the Government determines that issuance of the initial solicitation on CD-ROM is necessary, the CD ROM will be provided at no cost to self-registered contractors at the website mentioned above. However, the Government reserves the right to issue follow-on amendments to the solicitation on the website. It is therefore the Contractors responsibility to check the Honolulu District Contracting Website daily for any posted changes to the solicitation. All offerors are encouraged to visit the Armys Single Face to Industry Website at: https://acquisition.army.mil/asfi to view other business opportunities. Offerors should register themselves on the Honolulu District Contracting Website to view/download a copy of this solicitation. Offerors must be registered with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) in order to receive a Government contract award. To register, the CCR Internet address is: http://www.ccr.gov. Small, small disadvantaged and women-owned small business concerns are encouraged to participate as prime contractors or as members of joint ventures with other small businesses, and all interested contractors are reminded that the successful contractor will be expected to place subcontracts to the maximum practicable extent with small, small disadvantaged and women-owned small business concerns in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 95-507.

Traditional hard copies of plans and specifications will not be available for this project. Solicitation plans and specifications will be made available for viewing and/or downloading via the Honolulu District Contracting Website http://www.poh.usace.army.mil/pohct/contracting.asp on or about April 27, 2004.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $25,000,000 and $100,000,000

Estimated Bid Opening: 05/28 2:00 PM File # 9146

FY03 MCA PN 48783, WHOLE BARRACKS RENEWAL, PHASE 2C2, AND FY04 MCA PN 48784, WHOLE BARRACKS RENEWAL, PHASE 2D - SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, OAHU - RFP NO. W9128A-04-R-0009

U.S. Army Engineer District Honolulu, Corps of Engineers, Bldg. 230, Attn: CEPOD-CT-C, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440 — contact: Contracting POC: Jody Muraoka, phone 438-8575; Technical POC: Karen Chang, phone 438-0240.

This is an Unrestricted procurement.

Scope of work for FY03 Phase 2C2 portion is to construct site, grading, drainage, utilities, and one combination Barracks and Soldier Community Bldg (BK-3). It also involves demolition of existing barracks (845 and 846). Scope of work for FY04 Phase 2D portion is to construct site, grading, drainage, utilities, one combination Barracks and Soldier Community Bldg. (BK-4), and four Company Operations Facilities (COF-8, COF-9, COF-10, and COF-11). It also involves demolition of existing barracks (847), dining facility (855), a small building (876A), parking, and court in existing Quad J. Work involves multi-phased demolition and construction. Numerous historic trees are also located within the project site and must be preserved.

Selection will be based upon evaluation factors which may include (a) past performance, (b) experience, (c) Small Business Program, and (d) price.

Solicitation documents will NOT be issued on CD-ROM format unless the Government determines that it is necessary. If the Government determines that issuance of the initial solicitation on CD-ROM is necessary, the CD-ROM will be provided at no cost to self-registered contractors at the website mentioned above. However, the Government reserves the right to issue follow-on amendments to the solicitation on the website. It is therefore the Contractor's responsibility to check the Honolulu District Contracting Website daily for any posted changes to the solicitation. All offerors are encouraged to visit the Army's Single Face to Industry Website at: https://acquisition.army.mil/asfi to view other business opportunities. Offerors should register themselves on the Honolulu District Contracting Website to view/download a copy of this solicitation. Offerors must be registered with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) in order to receive a Government contract award. To register, the CCR Internet address is: http://www.ccr.gov. Small, small disadvantaged and women-owned small business concerns are encouraged to participate as prime contractors or as members of joint ventures with other small businesses, and all interested contractors are reminded that the successful contractor will be expected to place subcontracts to the maximum practicable extent with small, small disadvantaged and women-owned small business concerns in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 95-507.

Traditional hard copies of plans and specifications will not be available for this project. Solicitation plans and specifications will be made available for viewing and/or downloading via the Honolulu District Contracting Website http://www.poh.usace.army.mil/pohct/contracting.asp on or about April 13, 2004.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $25,000,000 and $100,000,000

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, April 26, 2004

Schofield Barracks to get shopping center

By Will Hoover
Advertiser North Shore Writer

The military plans a new, $27 million shopping center to open in 2006 at O'ahu's Schofield Barracks, according to the Army Air Force Exchange Service in Texas, which operates retail stores at bases throughout the world.

The 177,000-square-foot center will replace the base's current retail center, which has been in place for decades. Plans call for the demolition of the existing facility and building the new center on the same 18-acre site, said Judd Anstey, AAFES public affairs specialist in Dallas.

The purpose is to modernize, expand and consolidate into one building all the retail activities of the current exchange, complete with a 700-stall parking lot, according to details filed with the state Office of Environmental Quality Control.

"Construction will start in September, and the projected completion date is July of 2006," Anstey said.

Peter Yuh Jr., National Environmental Policy Act coordinator for the U.S. Army Garrison in Hawai'i, said the public has until May 8 to comment on the plan, but an environmental assessment concludes that the impact of the new center will be negligible. "It's on an existing shopping center," Yuh said. "All they are doing basically is consolidating facilities and building a new building there."

The proposed facility will be roughly half the size of the Navy exchange at Pearl Harbor — the largest in the world — and more than 20,000 square feet larger than the state's biggest Wal-Mart, which is under construction on Ke'eaumoku Street.

Reach Will Hoover at 525-8038 or at whoover@honoluluadvertiser.com.

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Photo(s) by Sgt. Jeremy Heckler
Stryker vehicles from 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, position themselves in the town of Samarra, a town northwest of Baghdad in December 2003.

Related stories:

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HRW 4/15/04

First Stryker brigade proving its worth in Iraq

By Joe Burlas, Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- A year after conducting its Initial Operational Capabilities testing, the Army's first Stryker Brigade Combat Team is fairing well in Iraq, according to senior Army procurement officials.

Members of the Pentagon press corps got an update April 5 on successes of the Army's first fielded SBCT -- 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, based in Fort Lewis, Wash. -- and the Army's fielding plan for the remaining planned Stryker brigades.

"The 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division is performing extremely effectively in combat in Iraq," said Col. Nick Justice, acting assistant deputy for Acquisition and Systems Management for the assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. "The SBCT has effectively used speed and situational understanding to kill and capture dozens of enemy fighters."

That speed and quietness of the wheeled Strykers, compared to armored track vehicles, has earned the 3-2nd a nickname among many Iraqis, Justice said. Iraqi citizens around Samarra gave the brigade Soldiers the nickname "Ghost Riders" as the Stryker vehicles arrive and deploy their infantrymen with little noise or warning.

Citing that no Soldiers have been killed due to rocket-propelled grenade or improvised explosive device attacks while riding in a Stryker vehicle since the 3-2nd arrived in Iraq last fall, Justice said that Army leaders are very pleased with its survivability in combat. The most serious injury due to an RPG or IED attack against a Stryker vehicle to date has been a broken ankle.

The brigade has suffered casualties in Iraq -- chief among them, three Soldiers were killed in a Stryker rollover when a roadway embankment gave way in December.

Strykers in Iraq are augmented with add-on slat armor that is proving effective against RPG attacks.

Despite the effectiveness of the slat armor against the current threat in Iraq, the Army is still pursuing the development of reactive armor.

"Slat armor is successful, but we don't want to be locked into it as there are other threats out there where reactive armor is needed," Justice said.

The Army plans on building enough Stryker add-on reactive armor kits to equip several brigades. Those brigade sets will be drawn from a pre-positioned site and used when a mission requires it, according to Army officials. The first brigade set of reactive armor is scheduled to be fielded in March 2005, with another set ready the following year.

Stryker operations in Iraq have given Army procurement officials some lessons learned that will be implemented in the near future. Among those lessons, there is a need for greater sensor range and greater reach back communications capability.

To address the sensor issue, the Army plans to make the sensor mast on the Stryker Reconnaissance Vehicle taller; and for the communications issue, replace the 44 Near-Term Digital Radios in the brigade with 53 satellite radio sets capable of operating in a joint environment over greater distances.

On the logistics side, the 3-2nd is proving that having a common chassis for its combat vehicles means a smaller logistics tail. The brigade is carrying about 160 lines of spare parts, compared to

NAVY newsstand The Source for Navy News www.news.navy.mil

Tripler Army Medical Center Opens Second Fisher House

Story Number: NNS040224-03
2/24/2004

By Journalist 3rd Class Devin Wright, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) -- Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) celebrated the official opening of its second Fisher House Feb. 19.

This Fisher House, dedicated to the memory of Tony and Anne Fisher, who died in a tragic airplane crash in April, provides comfort for service members, their families, veterans and many Pacific Island families while their loved ones receive healthcare at TAMC.

"The program as a whole is to improve the quality of life to all military men and women and their families," said Kenneth Fisher, chairman, Board of Trustees, Fisher House Foundation. "It is a place where military families aid each other."

Since the establishment of the Fisher Houses in 1990, the foundation has aided 60,000 families and saved them more than $70 million in expenses.

The second Fisher House opened unofficially Nov. 17. Since the opening, service members and their families have saved a significant amount of out-of-pocket expenses.

"Since the opening, we've had 24 families stay at this particular Fisher House and have saved an estimated $28,000 in temporary lodging and transportation costs," said Dan Hersrud, program manager, Army Fisher House.

Although the money saved by staying at the Fisher House is greatly appreciated, Fisher says the true value is the positive impact the houses have had on military family members.

"You can't downplay the savings in terms of cost, but it's not really something you can quantify in terms of material," said Fisher. "The true value is in the healing process that you find at a Fisher House."

The impact Fisher Houses have had on service members, both active and retired, is immeasurable.

"Having served in World War II, I know what it means to be wounded, away from home and extremely lonely," said Hawaii Senator and Medal of Honor recipient Daniel Inouye. "When I heard about the Fisher House foundation, I thought to myself, 'this is exactly what service men and women need.'"

The new Fisher House contains 11 family suites. Each is equipped with Internet access, a sitting room and a dining area. Tripler's second Fisher House is the 32nd home built by the foundation. There are currently two homes in Germany, 17 homes on military installations and six Veterans Affairs Medical Center homes worldwide.

"The Fisher family is very prolific," said Inouye. "Thankfully, they are also a very big family. As long as there are Fishers, I'm sure we'll have more Fisher houses."

For related news, visit the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnrh.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, December 22, 2003

Stryker decision caps an eventful year for Hawai'i

By B.J. Reyes
Associated Press

The Pentagon's year-end announcement that one of the Army's new, fast-moving Stryker brigades would be based in Hawai'i came as welcome news to state officials who have long lobbied for the unit.

The announcement capped a year that began with Hawai'i-based soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen all bracing for the possibility of war in Iraq, which came in March.

Since then, the Islands have seen a steady stream of ships and troops return or pass through on their way back to home ports els now 8,400 troops are preparing for duty next year in postwar Iraq or Afghanistan.

At least four soldiers with ties to Hawai'i were killed in the war.

Despite state officials' enthusiasm for a Hawai'i Stryker brigade, whether it becomes an economic boon, as some predict, or a b the state remains to be seen.

The Pentagon envisions a brigade of about 3,500 soldiers based within the 25th Infantry Division (Light) at Schofield Barracks.

The Army had completed an environmental assessment for conversion of existing facilities to accommodate the quick-strike vehicles and additional troops before the Pentagon's approval last week changed some of the criteria on which that assessment was based.

The Pentagon said approval for the brigade was based on setting it up with enhanced aviation, fire support, network and sensor capabilities. It remains unclear whether the Army will have to revise or redo its environmental assessment based on those enhancements.

Regardless, the Pentagon expects the brigade to be operational by 2006 — a plan that doesn't sit well with environmental attorney David Henkin.

"We have serious concerns about the transformation decisions that are being made," said Henkin, an attorney for the Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund. "They appear to be preordained decisions, rather than decisions that are going to be made based on the analysis of the full environmental impact statement as required by law."

The Stryker brigade is key to the Pentagon's goal of remaking the Army into a more versatile force that can move quickly onto distant battlefields. The units, built around the eight-wheeled Stryker vehicle, are far quicker than a traditional armored unit centered on the tank.

It's not the only change that could be in store for Island military installations in the coming years. The Navy continues to explore the possibility of basing an aircraft carrier battle group at Pearl Harbor, and the Marine Corps expects to receive five V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft in the next decade.

The most immediate change for Hawai'i forces will be the massive deployments to the Middle East.

In addition to 8,000 soldiers from Schofield Barracks who are spending the holidays preparing to go to Iraq or Afghanistan, nearly 400 Army reservists are being deployed to Iraq.

The horrors of war already have hit home for families of at least four soldiers with ties to Hawai'i.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Bolor, 37, who was born in Wailuku and raised in Lahaina, died Nov. 15 when two Black Hawk helicopters collided in Iraq.

Others killed in duty included Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Cameron B. Sarno, a 43-year-old Wahiawa native killed Sept. 1 while changing a flat tire on a transport truck in Kuwait City, Kuwait, and Chief Warrant Officer Sharon T. Swartworth, 43, the lead adviser to the Army's Judge Advocate General who had recently moved her family to Mililani when she was killed Nov. 7 in the crash of a Black Hawk helicopter near Tikrit, Iraq.

Army Sgt. Eugene Williams, 24, of Highland, N.Y., was killed March 29 when a car exploded at a checkpoint. His wife, Brandy, lives in Waipahu.

As more soldiers move out, Adm. Thomas Fargo, commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, has said more sea and air forces are likely to come into Hawaii, as evidenced by Friday's arrival of the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer USS Chafee and its 340 crew to Pearl Harbor.

Aside from personnel issues, military land concerns also made some of the biggest headlines in 2003.

The Army in January resumed live-fire training in Makua Valley for the first time since 1998, only to have training interrupted by a planned controlled burn to reduce brush that raged out of control and scorched half of the 4,190-acre valley.

After demanding that the Army take better care of the land or face a lawsuit, preservation groups later reached an agreement to allow live-fire training at Makua without the use of artillery shells and mortars to prepare the Schofield soldiers.

As the Army was returning to Makua, the Navy was leaving Kaho'olawe after 62 years.

Control of the 45-square-mile island just off Maui reverted back to the state on Nov. 11, with a formal ceremony the next day at 'Iolani Palace. The return marked the end of a 10-year cleanup of ammunition, scrap metal and unexploded bombs that began with a Congressional appropriation in 1993.

The island now will be set aside for cultural, education and archaeological activities, with no commercial development allowed.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, December 16, 2003

Stryker brigade is approved for Hawai'i

By Curtis Lum
Advertiser Staff Writer

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has approved a rapid-response Stryker Brigade Combat Team for Hawai'i that will include increased firepower from the ground and air.

The Stryker Brigade is expected to be operational in 2007, equipped with new lightweight 155 mm howitzers and new Comanche helicopters, scheduled to be in service in 2009. The Stryker will be the 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and be based at Schofield Barracks.

Stryker units — the first one is already in Iraq — are based around 20-ton, eight-wheeled personnel carriers.

Advertiser library photo • June 25, 2003

Army officials in Hawai'i could not be reached for comment yesterday, but Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawai'i, and the Inside the Army newsletter said Rumsfeld had made the decision last week.

Earlier this year, Rumsfeld delayed his final decision on Stryker pending an assessment of whether the brigade should be modified to be equipped with more firepower.

The newsletter, quoting unnamed sources, said the Pentagon had given the go-ahead for a fifth Stryker Brigade in Hawai'i and a sixth in Pennsylvania.

Abercrombie said the Stryker Brigade would be a boon for the local economy.

"The Hawai'i congressional delegation has already secured more than $100 million for infrastructure to support the brigade, and that's only the beginning," Abercrombie said.

The Stryker is key to the Pentagon's goal of remaking the Army into a more versatile force that can move quickly to distant battlefields. The units, built around the 20-ton, eight-wheeled Stryker vehicle, are far quicker than a traditional armored unit centered around the tank.

The first Stryker is in Iraq, accompanied by an aviation battalion task force comprised of OH-58 Kiowa Warriors and UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, according to Inside the Army.

The $1.5 billion project approved by Rumsfeld includes several "enhancements," such as the Comanches and 155 mm guns, Abercrombie said.

"They intend to enhance them with a more sophisticated aviation element and artillery element," Abercrombie said.

"We have an obligation to see to it that the people who are in the United States military have the best possible training and equipment and circumstances in which to live and conduct themselves," Abercrombie said.

The Army is completing an environmental impact statement for the Stryker plan, which would require extensive construction on O'ahu and the Big

Island. Nearly 30 projects are expected to cost $693 million and include the purchase of 1,400 acres on O'ahu and 23,000 acres on the Big Island.

The Army also will need to make improvements to training facilities at Schofield Barracks, and Hickam Air Force Base would need upgrades to accommodate the C-17 aircraft that will be used to transport the brigade, Abercrombie said.

The Army held a series of public hearings on the draft EIS that drew many people opposed to the project, who said it would destroy cultural sites and use valuable land. Peace activists objected to the military presence in Hawai'i.

Starbulletin.com

Tuesday, December 16, 2003

Abercrombie confirms Stryker unit coming to isles

Hawaii has more than $100 million so far for infrastructure support

By Gregg K. Kakesako
gkakesako@starbulletin.com

Hawaii should get a substantial boost from the Pentagon's long-delayed decision to convert a Schofield brigade to a Stryker combat force, local officials say.

U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie confirmed the Pentagon's decision, which was first released yesterday by the Inside the Army newsletter.

He said the addition of more soldiers -- 810 to the Army post in Wahiawa, as well as a new squadron of eight C-17 jet transports with 500 more personnel at Hickam Air Force Base -- will be "a boon for Hawaii's economy."

"The Hawaii congressional delegation has already secured more than $100 million for infrastructure to support the brigade, and that's only the beginning," he said in a written statement.

The Stryker unit is designed to deploy anywhere in the world within 96 hours on C-17 or other cargo planes. The unit is organized around the $2 million eight-wheeled, 19-ton Stryker vehicles.

"Obviously, this reinforces the importance of Hawaii as a forward base in the Pacific," said James Tollefson, president of the Chamber

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of Commerce of Hawaii. "It will help the U.S. respond quickly to military aggression."

Tollefson said although the chamber has not projected the financial implications of the changes at Schofield, he believes "it is going to be very good."

Army officials here declined to make any comments until an official announcement is made by the Pentagon later this week.

Col. Gary Ishikawa, deputy adjutant general for the state Department of Defense, said Gov. Linda Lingle's administration applauds the decision while recognizing that the Army still

"The decision by the Pentagon is very relevant and acknowledges the importance of the Pacific basin," said Ishikawa, whose son, Capt. Jonathan Ishikawa, is in Iraq with the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, from Fort Lewis, Wash. -- the first Stryker unit to go into combat.

Honolulu Star-Bulletin
BREAKING NEWS

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Posted on: Monday, December 15, 2003 9:31 AM HST

Stryker brigade approved for

Schofield

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The Army base will get 300 of the new combat vehicles and 810 more soldiers by 2005

Gregg Kakesako
gkakesako@starbulletin.com

The Pentagon apparently has approved equipping a brigade at Schofield Barracks with 300 Stryker combat vehicles and the Army's newest Commanche attack helicopter, U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie reported today.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's decision to convert the 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade means it will be armed with the Army's first new combat vehicle in 20 years — eight-wheeled, 19-ton Strykers.

It also means that the 2nd Brigade will receive 810 more soldiers to reach its projected 3,600-man fighting strength by [illegible]

Retired Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki had recommended the Commanche and other weapons systems be added to the last two Stryker brigades.

Abercrombie said this morning, "the Stryker brigade is everything we have been preparing for..."I've talked with Army officials here and they are preparing an environmental impact statement which should be ready early next year.

"Everything is on track."

The first Stryker Brigade Combat Team from Fort Lewis is already in Iraq and is equipped with OH-58 Kiowa helicopters and UH-60 Black Hawks.

The Army had been asked by Rumsfeld last year whether it should equip the 25th Division and the Pennsylvania National Guard units with more fire power. At one time Rumsfeld suggested that the last two brigades not be built and the money already allocated be spent on beefing up the four Stryker units already approved

Last month Congress approved spending more than $80 million to begin construction of new training facilities, upgraded weapons firing range and acquisition of more land for training at Schofield Barracks. In addition, another $75 million was approved for the Air Force to upgrade Hickam Air Force Base to support a new C-17 jet transport squadron that will carry the Strykers.

A total of 28 projects are proposed on Oahu and the Big Island, with the Army estimating that it will spend $693 million by the time the first of 810 new soldiers could arrive at Schofield in the summer of 2005.

To accommodate the Strykers the Army has proposed acquiring the 23,000 acres on the Big Island and 1,400 acres adjacent to the 27,000 acres Schofield now occupies in Wahiawa to build new facilities, including three live-fire ranges.

Abercrombie said today's decision represents "enormous investment in dollars to Hawaii...and gives the Army greater flexibility."

E-mail City Desk

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Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - November 30, 2003
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2003/11/24/daily68.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

LATEST NEWS

November 30, 2003

Dick Pacific wins construction contract

Honolulu-based Dick Pacific Construction Co. Ltd. has won an $18,870,000 firm-fixed-price contract for construction of battalion and brigade headquarters buildings on Oahu, the Pentagon reports.

"Work will be performed in Oahu, Hawaii [illegible]

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, November 4, 2003

Army extends Stryker comment period

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The Army is adding another 45 days for the public to comment about an environmental report on its planned $1.5 billion Stryker brigade combat team.

The doubling of the original comment period creates a new deadline of Jan. 3. The decision was made after some complained the initial 45 days allotted was not enough time to digest and comment on the massive 1,500-page draft environmental impact statement.

"The decision to extend the comment period is a good-faith effort, and it allows the public to review the document and provide feedback," said Col. David L. Anderson, commander of U.S. Army Garrison, Hawai'i.

However, Army officials were unsure yesterday if the extension would mean additional public meetings beyond the six already planned, or just extra time to submit written comments.

Kyle Kajihiro, program director of the American Friends Service Committee, a peace organization, said the extension is a victory "because people have been asking for it."

"Unfortunately, this whole process with the arrests has made it difficult for people to have their voices heard," he said.

Kajihiro was one of seven individuals with Stryker protest signs arrested on trespassing charges at public comment meetings last week.

The Army plans to base about 300 eight-wheeled Stryker armored vehicles on O'ahu as a fast-strike brigade.

A fourth public comment meeting is being held tonight at Turtle Bay Resort with an "open house" at 5:30 p.m. and testimony at 7 p.m. Two meetings are scheduled for the Big Island tomorrow and Thursday.

Army officials said Turtle Bay wants the protest signs to be brought through a loading dock instead of the main entrance and past hotel guests, potentially setting up another conflict.

"I guess we need to see — if the public is coming to this meeting through the front entrance, why are we (sign holders) being singled out for having visual testimony?" Kajihiro said.

Stryker protesters clashed with private security guards at the first two meetings last week when the Army and property managers refused to allow the protest signs in.

BI News

Pacific Command Building Completed

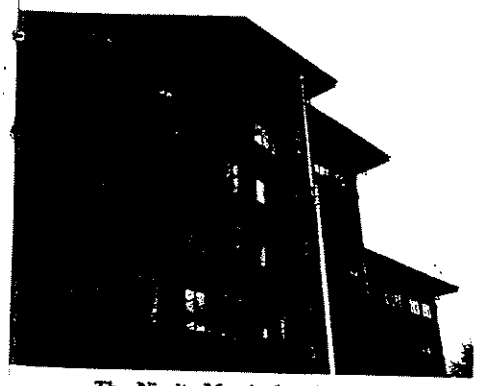
Built by general contractor Dick Pacific Construction Co., Ltd., the new Nimitz-MacArthur Pacific Command Center headquarters building at Camp H.M. Smith has been turned over to the U.S. Pacific Command, completing Phase A of the nearly $84 million design-built project.

This phase of the project includes the new 275,000 square-foot headquarters building, a utility building, exterior utilities, sitework and new parking lots. It will be home to personnel from the U.S. Pacific Command and Special Operations Command, Pacific, who are scheduled to move in early next year.

The six-story structure is home to several state-of-the-art features. These include: anti-terrorism/force protection, infrastructure for telecommunications and data cabling, multiple interconnected operations center and conference room "cells" that enable electronic collaboration, and uninterruptable power and emergency generators. It also includes a 110-seat auditorium style conference briefing room with three separate areas to support breakout sessions, and a food court on the third floor.

The design of the building reflects the 1920s Hawaiian and Pacific Rim architectural style, and the different branches of the military are represented by symbolic designs in architectural pre-cast concrete panels. A four-story atrium, with a grand staircase and elevators and balcony overlooks, serves as the interior focal point.

Phase B, the final phase, will consist of installation of electronic communications and network services equipment, multiple security systems, systems furniture, interior artwork and interior signage. Work is expected to be completed in February 2004, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony planned for April 2004.



The Nimitz-MacArthur Pacific Command Center at Camp H. Smith overlooks Halawa Valley, Pearl Harbor and Honolulu.

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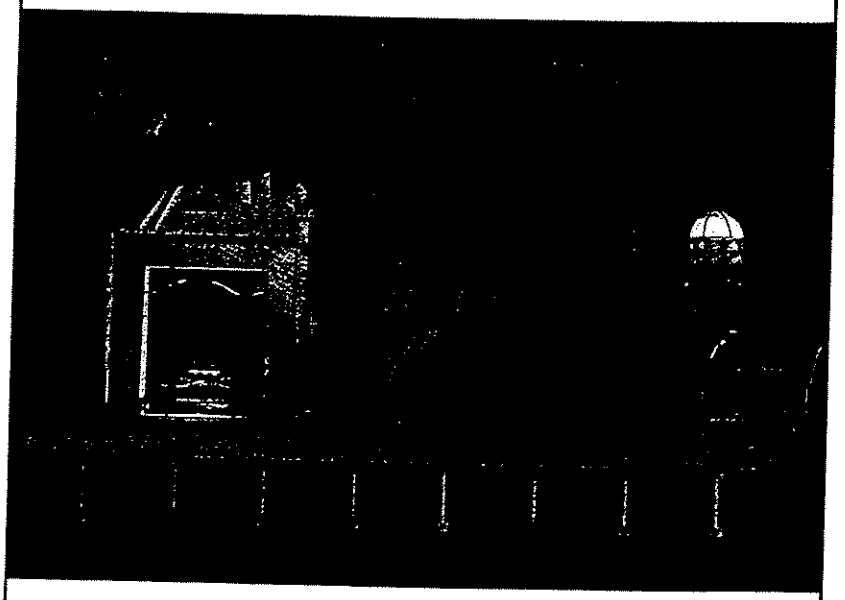

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

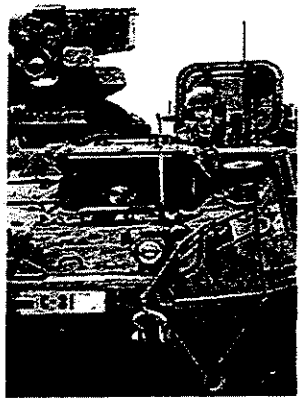
Posted on: Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Army faces resistance over Stryker plan

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

A group of peace, environmental and Hawaiian-rights activists yesterday said the Army's planned Stryker brigade does not belong here, and called for a longer public comment period for the massive undertaking.

About a dozen DMZ-Hawai'i/Aloha 'aina network members and supporters held a news conference in front of 'Iolani Palace to criticize the $1.5 billion Stryker brigade plan and urge participation in a series of public comment meetings, the first of which is tonight.



Activists are fighting Army efforts to claim more land on O'ahu and the Big Island for Stryker training.

Advertiser library photo

Kyle Kajihiro, program director of the American Friends Service Committee Hawai'i Area program, said the Stryker program would mean the acquisition of lands nearly totaling the size of Kaho'olawe, a 25 percent increase in munitions used, new threats to the environment and more unexploded ordnance hazards.

"The track record for the military in environmental protection is abysmal," Kajihiro said. "They have thousands of contaminated sites that have not been cleaned up, and the military is the largest polluter in our Islands."

The Army is seeking 1,400 acres south of Schofield Barracks and 23,000 acres on the Big Island for maneuver training or new firing ranges. A Stryker brigade of 300 eight-wheeled vehicles would accelerate a trend of cultural and environmental damage, Kajihiro said.

The Army said that it will work with organizations such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and State Historic Preservation Office to minimize impacts.

"We are committed to remain good stewards of the environment," the Army said yesterday.

Victoria Holt-Takamine of 'Ilio 'ulaokalani, a coalition of hula halau and Hawaiian cultural practitioners, said the military has not been a good steward of the land. Kajihiro said the training would mean an increase in hazardous chemicals and explosives.

"They already have Makua (Military Reservation). We know that when they return it — if they ever return it — it will be hazardous for our health," Holt-Takamine said.

" ... We don't think there is a need for the state of Hawai'i to offer more pristine, valuable land for military training. We think enough is enough."

Terri Keko'olani Raymond of 'Ohana Koa/Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific, said the 45-day public comment period ending Nov. 19 is too short to digest a recently released 1,500-page draft environmental impact statement.

Army officials said they would gauge the response at the six scheduled public comment meetings and decide if more time is needed. The first of those meetings will be at 5:30 tonight at Honolulu Country Club, 1690 Ala Pu'umalu St.

Although Hawai'i is on the verge of possibly the biggest military buildup since World War II, Kajihiro points to public pressure that forced the military out of Vieques in Puerto Rico, and Kaho'olawe.

"Those people, determined and willing to take some risks to protest in a peaceful way, were able to accomplish amazing things," Kajihiro said.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, October 27, 2003

Public to weigh in on Stryker plan

Advertiser Staff

The Army tomorrow is holding the first of six public meetings on O'ahu and the Big Island to gather public comment on its plans for a $1.5 billion Stryker brigade combat team.

The brigade of about 300 eight-wheeled vehicles is one of six fast-response units planned by the Defense Department, and would mean $693 million in construction and a fundamental change in the way the Army here trains and fights.

More than 49 miles of private trails are planned to keep the 20-ton vehicles off public roads as much as possible.

The Stryker brigade would affect the environment and cultural resources and cause a significant amount of dust when soldiers train with the vehicles.

The six public comment meetings are part of a required "Environmental Impact Statement" that now is in draft form.

All meetings are scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. and are being held as follows on O'ahu:

- Tomorrow, Honolulu Country Club, 1690 Ala Pu'umalu St.
- Wednesday, Helemano Plantation, 64-1510 Kamehameha Highway.
- Thursday, Makaha Resort Golf Club, 84-626 Makaha Valley Road.
- Nov. 4, Turtle Bay Resort, 57-091 Kamehameha Highway.

On the Big Island:

- Nov. 5, Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort, 69-275 Waikoloa Beach Drive.
- Nov. 6, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, 71 Banyan Drive.

The draft EIS is available at www.SBCTEIS.com.

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Posted on: Monday, October 20, 2003

$77M in contracts frozen

By Jim Dooley
Advertiser Staff Writer

Two military construction contracts worth approximately $77 million have been frozen pending the results of an FBI criminal inve two related companies that received the work last month.

One contract, worth $54.95 million, went to Nan Inc. for the design and renovation of four historic buildings at Quad C at Schofiel The other, worth $22.5 million, was awarded to a joint venture that includes Nan Inc. and JHL Construction Inc. It involves renovation of a building at Kalaeloa owned by the Hawaii National Guard.

Jennifer Goto-Sabas, chief of staff of U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye's Honolulu office, said last week she had been told by the FBI that the contracts were frozen pending the outcome of the criminal investigation.

"They didn't go into detail, but it's got to be serious for them to intercede in contracts that have been awarded," Goto-Sabas said.

Patrick Shin, owner of Nan, which also does business as Ocean House Builders, could not be reached for comment. His nephew, James H.B. Lee, owner of JHL Construction Inc., also was unavailable for comment.

Numerous phone calls to the FBI about the investigation were not returned last week.

Nan has received more than $100 million in military construction projects here in recent years.

In 2000, the company was honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration as one of the best small business contractors in the country.

That year, the company received more than $18 million in military construction contracts here as a participant in the SBA's 8(a) program, which helps minority- and women-owned small companies land government contracts.

The company won so many contracts that it was graduated from the 8(a) program four years early.

"I became too big and successful," Shin told The Advertiser two years ago. He was then living in a $3 million mansion on the slopes of Diamond Head and owned a collection of expensive automobiles that included a Lamborghini and Dodge Viper.

Shin said hard work, sacrifice and marketing savvy helped him get ahead.

"You've got to get one job and do really well," he said. "If you do well and you give a good price, they remember you and they ask for you again."

JHL Construction is now a participant in the 8(a) program, SBA officials said yesterday.

In the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, JHL received at least six construction contracts worth $10.7 million, according to SBA official Michael Youth. That did not include the $22.5 million contract awarded Sept. 24 to the JHL-Nan joint venture for the National Guard building at Kalaeloa.

Youth said the SBA is "aware that an investigation is ongoing" involving JHL, but he would not elaborate.

The basis for the investigation is unclear, but one Mainland businessman said he had written to federal contracting officials here to complain that Nan used materials on at least two local jobs that did not meet construction specifications.

Joe Braunschweig, owner of Aluminum Window Systems, based in Kent, Wash., told The Advertiser last week that after Shin learned about

one of the letters, sent Feb. 2, 2002, to the Navy Public Works Center at Pearl Harbor, Shin called him and demanded that he withdraw the letter.

"If I did not, he stated he would contact every contractor and agency on the Island and would destroy my company," Braunschweig told the Navy in a follow-up letter on March 18, 2002.

"I questioned him as to why he was so angry, as it was the responsibility of the window supplier and manufacturer to supply the specified product," Braunschweig wrote in the March 2002 letter.

"He then coldly informed me 'to withdraw the letter by Monday or (he) would (expletive) kill (me)," Braunschweig wrote.

Braunschweig sent copies of the correspondence to the offices of Sens. Inouye and Daniel Akaka, as well as the two U.S. senators representing Washington state.

The Navy informed Braunschweig in April 2002 that it had tested the windows alleged to be substandard and "confirmed your findings. We directed the contractor to comply with the requirements of the specifications and the contractor has agreed to replace all the glazing that does not meet with the requirements of the specifications," the Navy told Braunschweig.

Braunschweig said last week he had not spoken with the FBI about Shin or Nan's work.

Reach Jim Dooley at jdooley@honoluluadvertiser.com or 535-2447.

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Posted on: Monday, October 20, 2003

Pentagon's battle over land for training heats up

By Andrew Bridges
Associated Press

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — Since this sprawling base was carved out of a cattle ranch at the onset of World War II, Marines have stormed an unassuming stretch of beach here countless times to train for battles from Iwo Jima to Nasiriyah, Iraq.

The Marines have subjected Red Beach, as the 1,500-yard piece of Southern California sand is known, to punishing treatment in mock exercises designed to prepare them for combat.

Signs noting the presence of the western snowy plover and California least tern are reminders to Marines of the limits placed on their training by the Endangered Species Act and other environmental laws.

Associated Press

Now the Defense Department is doing battle over Red Beach itself, part of a larger war the Pentagon is waging in Congress over the nation's more than 425 military installations.

These range from the 2 million acres of the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico to the 870,000 acres of Fort Wainwright in Alaska, and 4,190 acres of Makua Military Reservation on O'ahu.

The Pentagon fears much of that land, originally set aside for its exclusive use, could be snatched away from it by the Endangered Species Act and other environmental laws that address everything from porpoises to pollution.

At stake, it argues, is the U.S. military's very ability to train in peace as it fights in war.

At Makua, after a July 22 Army "controlled" burn that got out control and burned half the valley, Earthjustice threatened to file suit, and the Army agreed to formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over habitat protection.

To counter the perceived threat of laws including the Superfund and Clean Air acts, the Pentagon is pushing for exemptions for its training areas.

"Use of the terrain is absolutely essential and is at the heart of our training," said John Walsh, a special assistant in the Pentagon office of the deputy undersecretary of defense for readiness. "Those pieces of terrain can't be reserved for the fostering of endangered species."

Environmentalists vehemently oppose the initiative and call it an unwarranted rollback of the nation's major environmental laws. They fear other agencies could follow the Pentagon's lead and seek similar exemptions.

"Essentially, it's an administrative and legislative strategy to exempt them from key environmental laws that every American and every other agency has to comply with," said Susan Holmes, senior legislative representative for the environmental group Earthjustice.

U.S. Rep. Ed Case, D-Hawai'i, said the military in Hawai'i has become much more sensitive to environmental concerns, but he believes the protection laws are "absolutely necessary to ensure long-term consistency with the rest of us in Hawai'i."

Case said he could not accept "wholesale exemptions" being sought to environmental law, and largely because of that, voted against the House defense authorization bill.

"I just thought that was over-reaching," he said.

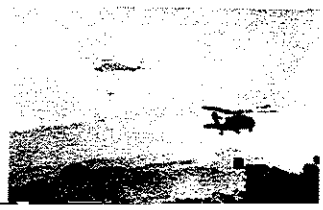
Base's mission threatened

The dispute comes at a time when military installations stand as some of the best, if not last, habitat for rare species.

Although much of the land included in the nation's 425 military installations gets hammered by tanks and troops, they also include large buffers that remain pristine and untouched.

If not for the break provided by Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, for example, Los Angeles and San Diego would likely merge into a single megalopolis, stretching 150 miles along the Southern California coast.

More than 300 threatened or endangered species of wildlife can be found today on the 25 million acres set aside for military use, the Pentagon estimates.



The military lost control of a "controlled" burn at Makua in July. The fire went on to destroy at least 71 individual endangered plants.

Advertiser library photo • July 23, 2003

Camp Pendleton alone is home to 18 such species. Two, the coastal California gnatcatcher, a bird, and the tidewater goby, a small fish, are found in the skinny stretch of brush and wetlands abutting Red Beach, despite its more than half-century of use.

Base officials fear the presence of those and other species, squeezed onto Camp Pendleton by rampant development beyond its perimeter, could curtail use of 70,000 of the base's 125,000 acres, if the land is designated critical habitat.

"This is ominous. This threatens the ability of this base to operate as a Marine Corps training base," said Stan Norquist, head of the natural resources department at Camp Pendleton.

Environmentalists dispute that and maintain the true figure is closer to 875 acres. Any other designated habitat on the base would be on farm fields or within San Onofre State Park, both of which lie within Camp Pendleton's boundaries.

Risk to readiness disputed

The White House-backed exemptions package, known as the Readiness and Range Preservation Initiative, was introduced last year and contained eight provisions.

Congress passed three of the provisions last year, including a temporary waiver from the 1918 Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which covers 850 species of birds, and an easing of requirements for land conservation and transfer of surplus property.

This year, the Pentagon reintroduced the remaining five provisions.

As of this month, just one of the five, which would allow for the exemption of some military land from critical habitat provisions of the Endangered Species Act, made it into the Senate version of the 2004 defense authorization bill. The House version also includes Navy-sought exemptions from the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

Hashing out the differences is a House-Senate conference committee that is also taking up proposals for tactical nuclear weapons and a buy-American mandate for the military.

The Department of Defense claims the environmental laws, coupled with population growth and development, have significantly restricted its use of land set aside for training and testing, including live-fire exercises. Such encroachment will worsen and could lead to readiness problems unless Congress steps in, Pentagon officials have warned.

However, a 2002 report by the U.S. General Accounting Office failed to uncover any data to quantify the effect of that encroachment on military training and costs.

And former Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christie Whitman, in Senate testimony earlier this year, could not cite a single case in which military training had been held up by environmental laws. Opponents point out that the laws allow for case-by-case exemptions for the military.

"There's no justification for it at all. There is no evidence presented by the military that training has suffered because of environmental laws," said Daniel Patterson, a desert ecologist with the Center for Biological Diversity.

Camp Pendleton subsequently undertook its own effort to do so. It now says, for certain exercises involving entire units, it can accomplish just 68 percent of the training tasks required of it.

Military plans ineffective?

The House version especially alarms environmentalists. It would exempt the Pentagon from habitat-protection mandates outlined in the Endangered Species Act, if the military substitutes its own plans to ensure the survival of the affected species.

Pentagon officials said their plans are effective. Environmentalists say they are unfunded, rarely implemented and ineffective.

The Senate version differs in that it would require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to review the plans before the Pentagon can implement them.

The House version would also exempt the Pentagon from restrictions that curtail the killing or harming of marine mammals, including dolphins and whales.

Conservation legacy at stake

On land, the military said it has been a good steward to endangered and threatened species. Officials frequently cite one of the rarest mammals found in the United States, the Sonoran pronghorn antelope.

The pronghorn's primary habitat in the United States lies within Arizona's Barry M. Goldwater Range, where pilots train in live-fire exercises.

On average, 7 percent of all scheduled bombing missions are scrubbed because pronghorn have been spotted near targets, said Air Force Col. James Uken, the Goldwater's range management officer; 26 percent are rerouted to secondary targets. The moves ensure the continued survival of the fewer than three dozen antelope that live in the region.

Environmentalists acknowledge the good work the military has done in places, but fear the sought-after exemptions could reverse its conservationist course. They cite examples of where the military has scored poorly on the environment.

The July Makua controlled fire that escaped control destroyed at least 71 individual endangered plants and 150 acres of critical habitat — area essential to species recovery. Four species in the area are found nowhere else.

"Ultimately, what's at stake is the military's legacy of conservation," Patterson said.

Advertiser staff writer William Cole contributed to this report.

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BID SCHEDULE continued

the Department in the amount equal to five percent (5%) of the liquidated damages per calendar day of delay.

Plans and specs may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Available at the Contracts office of the above agency at no deposit.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $50,000 and $100,000

PLANHOLDERS:

Walter Y. Arakaki Gen. Contractor, Inc. 808-841-3327
. . . . . Fax: 808-842-7682
BCP Construction of Hawaii, Inc. 808-841-4574
. . . . . Fax: 808-841-1645
Ralph S. Inouye Co., Ltd. 808-839-9002
. . . . . Fax: 808-833-5971
Kokea Construction & Consultants, Inc. 808-842-4454
. . . . . Fax: 808-842-4455
Oceanic Companies, Inc. 808-682-0113
. . . . . Fax: 808-682-0662
StarCom Builders, Inc. 808-952-6088
. . . . . Fax: 808-952-6588
Universal Construction, Inc. 808-845-3986
. . . . . Fax: 808-842-3881

10/23 2:00 PM File # 8572

• CONSTRUCT DUEL FOOD FACILITY - SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, OAHU -
SOLICITATION NO. AAFES-REZC93-035-03-057 Army & Air Force Exchange Services (AAFES), 3911 S. Walton Walker Blvd., Dallas, TX 75236 — contact: Linda Tavano, Contracting Officer, phone (214) 312-6980, fax (214) 312-6297.

The project consists of construction of an 8,823 S.F. Duel Food Facility with a Popeye's Chicken and Burger King Restaurant. In addition, a children playground is included in this project.

Site work (soil engineering reports, demolition, soil treatment for termite control, earthwork, chain link fence and gates, concrete sidewalks and curbs, asphalt concrete paving, piped utilities, storm drain, irrigation, soil preparation, lawns/grasses and wildflowers, trees/plants and ground covers), concrete (cast in place concrete), masonry (unit masonry), metals (structural steel, steel joists, steel deck, cold-formed metal framing, metal fabrications), carpentry (rough carpentry, custom casework), thermal and moisture control (building insulation, exterior insulation finished system (EIFS), firestopping, manufactured roof panels, single-ply membrane roofing, flashing and sheet metal, roof accessories, joint sealants), doors and windows (pressed steel doors and frames

Bid Guaranty: 20%
Contract Bond: 100%
Payment Bond: 100%
Work to be completed within 180 calendar days.
Liquidated Damages: per schedule

A copy of the CD-ROM is available in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $2,500,000 and $5,000,000

PLANHOLDERS:

BCP Construction of Hawaii, Inc. 808-841-4574
. . . . . Fax: 808-841-1645
Lyz, Inc. 808-845-3779
. . . . . Fax: 808-845-3748
Oceanic Companies, Inc. 808-682-0113
. . . . . Fax: 808-682-0662

10/23 2:00 PM File # 8580

• KAMAMALU BUILDING - PARTIAL REROOF, OAHU - JOB NO. 62-10-0173 D.A.G.S., Division of Public Works, Fourth Floor, Rm. 426, Kalanimoku Bldg., 1151 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 — phone 586-0518.

Work includes site work (selective demolition and removal), wood and plastics (rough carpentry, preservative treated lumber), thermal and moisture protection (elastomeric sheet roofing-single ply, roof scuttle, sealants), finishes (painting), and other incidental related work.

Note: Due to the nature of the work contemplated, bidders must possess a valid State of Hawaii Contractor's license classification C-42.

Written notice of intention to bid must be filed with the above Contracting Agency no later than 10 calendar days prior to the bid opening date.

Bid Guaranty: 5% of the amount of bid
Contract Bond: 100%

PART I - Upon receipt of the Letter of Award with written instructions from the Engineer, proceed with preparatory work including processing submittals, obtaining approvals and permits, or other work as approved by the Engineer. No work will be allowed at the jobsite and no ordering of materials will be allowed until (a) the date stipulated in the Notice to Proceed or (b) upon earlier written notice from the Engineer, or (c) upon receipt of the executed contract for the project.

PART II - Complete all work within 120 consecutive calendar days commencing from the date stipulated in the Letter of Notice to Proceed.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Army details Stryker impact

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The Army has released a draft environmental report for its Stryker Brigade Combat Team, a $1.5 billion project that would remake the Army in Hawai'i, require extensive construction on O'ahu and the Big Island, and significantly affect the state's environment.

The far-reaching plan would bring a rapid-response unit of 291 troop carriers to O'ahu as part of an Army goal become a lighter, faster and more lethal fighting force over the next decade.

"This is a red-banner day for the U.S. Army and the state of Hawai'i," said Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commander of the 25th Infantry Division (Light). "This announcement places the Tropic Lightning division in the forefront of the Army's transformation and portends a bright future for our continuing partnership and relations with our state and all its peoples."

The more than 1,000-page draft environmental impact statement released yesterday details 28 projects expected to cost $693 million and includes the purchase of 1,400 acres on O'ahu and 23,000 acres on the Big Island.

Among those projects: 49 miles of private trails on O'ahu and the Big Island for Stryker use, six new ranges, two airfield upgrades and support facilities including a virtual war-fighting trainer.

Four "unmanned aerial vehicles" would be flown by the brigade, and a huge catamaran support vessel that could accommodate all of the 20-ton, eight-wheeled Strykers is envisioned.

Troop versions of the Stryker can carry nine soldiers and two crew; another version will have a 105 mm cannon. A Fort Lewis, Wash.-based Stryker unit is expected to make its combat debut in Iraq next month.

The 2nd Brigade of 3,438 soldiers at Schofield would be increased by 810 soldiers as part of the changeover. The Army anticipates an additional 1,500 family members.

The draft environmental study says training-related fires could have a "significant impact" on sensitive species and habitats, and that the direct and indirect effects of training would be habitat disturbance, and destruction of endangered plants.

The effects of Stryker Brigade training on listed species are being evaluated in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Army "would carry out all reasonable and prudent measures determined during this consultation," the report said.

Dust to increase

Additionally, the study said vehicle travel on unpaved roads and in off-road maneuver areas would increase by 57 percent, resulting in 780 tons of additional dust per year at Schofield Barracks and 429 tons of dust at Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island.

The alternatives considered in the draft study include a "preferred" alternative, an alternative that considers reduced land acquisition, and a "no action" alternative.

The Hawai'i Stryker Brigade is envisioned to be operational by 2007.

The Pentagon has financed four of the units, while the fifth and sixth brigades for Hawai'i and Pennsylvania are being reviewed by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld for possible improvements.

Hawai'i's location within the Pacific Rim is a "critical area of interest for the United States," the report states. A Stryker Brigade is designed to respond to trouble spots within 96 hours.

Public comment sought

After the posting of a "notice of availability" in the Federal Register by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency — possibly on Friday — the draft study will be subject to a 45-day public comment period.

David Henkin, an attorney for Earthjustice, said yesterday that the Sierra Club had asked for a 90-day comment period instead.

"They (the Army) are trying to skate by on the bare minimum, and that's inappropriate when you are talking about something of this magnitude," Henkin said.

Henkin said the Army is looking at significantly ramping up military activities in the state.

More land needed

Among the additions at Schofield would be a 600-acre "battle area complex" for company gunnery training, and a six-acre "urban assault course."

All 1,005 vehicles associated with a Stryker Brigade, including trucks, Humvees and other support vehicles, would be based at Schofield.

Mounted maneuver training would involve up to 96 Strykers at Schofield, up to 27 at Dillingham Military Reservation, as many as 200 at the Kahuku Training Area, and up to 291 at the Pohakuloa Training Area.

Trails on O'ahu and the Big Island would be used to keep the vehicles off public roads as much as possible.

The brigade also could use Makua Military Reservation, where a separate environmental impact statement is being done.

Written comments on the draft study, which will be followed by a final version and record of decision, will be accepted through Nov. 19.

Additionally, a series of public meetings have been scheduled with the following tentative dates and locations:

- Oct. 28, Honolulu Country Club
- Oct 29, Helemano Plantation
- Oct. 30, Makaha Resort Golf Club
- Nov. 4, Turtle Bay Resort
- Nov. 5, Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort
- Nov. 6, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel

All meetings begin with an "open house" from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m., and conduct a formal meeting to hear comments from 7 to 10 p.m.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Starbulletin.com

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Groups want time to study Stryker report

By Diana Leone
dleone@starbulletin.com

Environmentalists are complaining the Army isn't giving the public enough time to review and comment on a three-volume environmental impact statement released yesterday about its planned Stryker brigade in Hawaii.

The environmental report "has more than 1,000 pages of core text, plus appendices," said David Henkin, an attorney for EarthJustice. "There are 11 pages of acronyms alone. The public is being asked to wade through a mountain of paper in the bare minimum of time that regulations require for public comment."

Public meetings are tentatively set to begin Oct. 28 on Oahu and conclude Nov. 6 in Hilo on what's expected to be one of the largest military construction projects in the islands since World War II. The Army's total price tag for local construction is $693 million.

The Army will allow written comments until 45 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes availability of the document in the Federal Register, which is expected soon, Army spokeswoman Maj. Stacy Bathrick said.

After holding public hearings, the Army may extend the comment period, Bathrick said, but waiting 90 days between the EIS release and the hearings, as requested by the Sierra Club, is "not part of our plan at this time."

"This is a massive transformation that's impacting many branches of the military and more than one island," said Jeff Mikulina, Sierra Club state director. "It's imperative to include the community every step of the way and ensure the broadest community participation. Clearly they're going with the bare minimum."

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KVH TACNAV for Stryker
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The draft report explains what environmental and cultural effects it expects from the transformation of the 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) at Schofield Barracks to a Stryker Brigade.

The Stryker is a new armored personnel carrier that is the namesake and centerpiece of new battle groups that are supposed to be deployable on short notice.

The Army says the Stryker project involves Schofield Barracks, Dillingham Military Reservation, Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa Training Area and Wheeler Army Airfield on Oahu and the Pohakuloa Training Area of the Big Island. As proposed, it would include construction of seven new ranges, two airfield upgrades, 13 support facilities and 20 antennas by 2007 and add 1,400 acres on [redacted]

Said EarthJustice's Henkin, who has represented the group Malama Makua regarding Army exercises in Makua Valley: "This is a dramatic increase in the military footprint in the islands and people need to have a chance to review this and be heard."

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, August 4, 2003

Stryker brigade ready for Iraq duty

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — Cool mountain air whispers through a window in Col. Michael Rounds' office at this Army post in the shadow of the Cascades. The setting could hardly be more unlike what Rounds' soldiers will face shortly in hot and chaotic Iraq.

Rounds commands a newly formed Stryker brigade combat team — the first of its kind, intended as a model for the Army of the future and scheduled to make its combat debut in Iraq within two months.

Soldiers with the Army's first Stryker brigade underwent intensive training at Fort Irwin, Calif., last spring to prepare them for their first combat mission. The unit, formed from the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division out of Fort Lewis, Wash., learned July 23 that it will be going to Iraq as part of a troop rotation plan.

Associated Press library photo

"The brigade is ready to go," Rounds said.

Rounds' unit, formed from the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, has trained intensively this year in anticipation of being certified combat-ready by October. It was not until July 23, however, that the soldiers learned they will be going to Iraq as part of a troop rotation plan.

Although President Bush declared on May 1 that major combat was over, commanders in Iraq have said repeatedly that they still are in a war zone, one in which the advantage they prize most — timely information about the enemy — is the very one that Rounds' soldiers are equipped to provide.

The Iraq mission is a milestone for the Stryker brigade, which itself represents a first step in the Army's effort to become a force more relevant to 21st-century missions.

It may one day be recognized as the most telling legacy of Gen. Eric Shinseki, who retired this summer after four years as the Army's chief of staff. In October 1999, Shinseki outlined a plan for remaking the Army by 2010 into a more versatile force that can move quickly onto distant battlefields, armed with unparalleled ability to dictate the pace of fighting.

Coincidentally, it was the Army's experience in the Persian Gulf in 1990, when Iraq invaded Kuwait and seemed poised to grab the oil fields of eastern Saudi Arabia, that led to the Stryker model.

Shinseki often recalled that the Army's only answer to Iraq's threat to those Saudi oil fields was to send the 82nd Airborne Division. The division, while quick to respond, was too lightly armed to sustain an effective defense if the Iraqi army were to have crossed the Saudi border and raced for the oil fields.

It was that gap between light and heavy forces that Shinseki and others realized must be closed.

Army officials are still waiting for a final decision from Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on whether to proceed with plans for a Hawai'i Stryker brigade.

The plan is to convert a Schofield Barracks brigade into a fast-strike Stryker unit, equipped with about 300 eight-wheeled, 19-ton armored vehicles. Tentative plans call for six such brigades around the nation.

Lt. Gen. Edward Soriano, commanding general of Fort Lewis and the Army's I Corps, said Friday that he has no doubt that Rounds has prepared his soldiers for the challenges of Iraq.

"They are pumped up," Soriano said. "They are psyched up."

The Stryker, the Army's first new combat vehicle in two decades, actually is intended as a stepping stone to the ultimate goal: a high-tech family of fighting systems known as the Future Combat System, which still is on the drawing board and is expected to include unmanned ground and aerial vehicles.

One Stryker can be flown aboard an Air Force C-130 cargo plane, which is designed to land on short, substandard airfields in remote areas. Thus the Stryker brigade is capable of reaching areas, including the deserts of western Iraq, that units built around tanks could not reach by air.

Gen. John Keane, the acting Army chief of staff, announced a plan last month to maintain troop strength in Iraq while allowing those who have been there longest to go home. To do that, the Army is calling on the National Guard as well as active duty units such as the Stryker brigade.

Asked what gave him confidence that the first Stryker brigade is ready for combat, Keane pointed to the training sessions that the Strykers underwent last spring at Fort Irwin, Calif., and Fort Polk, La.

"We put it through its paces against the toughest opponent our forces have ever faced," Keane said, referring to competitions at the training centers. "They are ready to go."

The Stryker is a 19-ton, eight-wheeled armored vehicle built in the United States and Canada. It comes in two variants — an infantry carrier and a mobile gun system. The infantry carrier, in turn, has eight configurations, including a reconnaissance vehicle, a mortar carrier and a vehicle for the brigade commander.

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site inspection must notify the HCDCH Property Management Coordinator to confirm attendance prior to the site inspection date. All prospective vendors are encouraged to attend.

Bid Guaranty: 5% of the amount of bid

Performance Bond: 100%

Bid specificationss may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Documents may be obtained from the above agency.

Questions relating to this solicitation shall be directed to Mr. Kelfred Chang, Property Management Coordinator at (808) 832-5970.

08/04 2:00 PM **File # 7941**

• FY03 MCA/BUP PN52068/69, WHOLE BARRACKS RENEWAL BRIGADE COMPLEX PHASE 3A, QUAD C - SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, OAHU - RFP NO. DACA83-03-R-0013

U.S. Army Engineer District Honolulu, Corps of Engineers, Bldg. 200, Attn: CEPOD-CT-C, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440 — contact: Renee Hicks, phone 438-8564.

This procurement is Unrestricted. NAICS Code 236118

This will be a Design/Build project. The project requires design and construction (renovation) of four 3 story concrete buildings to house the barracks, community activities, company operations, battalion headquarters, and dining facility for soldiers at Schofield Barracks Quad C. The work will also include the demolition of existing building components and replacement of these components with new material that comply with current standards, to include current anti-terrorist and force protection standards [illegible]

0451. Address technical and all other inquiries to the points of contact identified in this document. Firms with Internet access are requested to obtain plan holder listings from DAPS website http://www.pacific.daps.dla.mil. Project information, to include Bid Opening Dates, can be obtained from the Honolulu Engineer District website http://www.poh.usace.army.mil/pohct. Small, small disadvantaged and women-owned small business concerns are encouraged to participate as prime contractors or as members of joint ventures with other small businesses, and all interested contractors are reminded that the successful contractor will be expected to place subcontracts to the maximum practicable extent with small, small disadvantaged and women-owned small business concerns in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 95-507.

A copy of the CD-ROM may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $25,000,000 and $100,000,000

PLANHOLDERS:

Bodell Construction Co. (Mainland) 801-261-4343
. . . . . Fax: 801-261-1020
Caddell Construction Co. (Mainland) 334-272-7723
. . . . . Fax: 334-272-8844
Dick Pacific Construction Co., Ltd. 808-533-5000
. . . . . Fax: 808-533-5339
Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co. 808-735-3211
. . . . . Fax: 808-735-3232

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Saturday, July 19, 2003

Defense bill moves Hawai'i Stryker unit closer to reality

By Derrick DePledge
Advertiser Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Senate has agreed to spend $17.5 million next fiscal year on a Stryker brigade for Hawai'i, another sign Congress intends to move forward with the brigade even if the Pentagon still has questions.

A defense spending bill approved Thursday contains money for Stryker brigades in Hawai'i and Pennsylvania. The House endorsed money for the brigades earlier this month in its version of the defense spending bill, which now goes to a House-Senate conference committee.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has asked the Army to evaluate the combat power and configuration of the six Stryker brigades, leading some to question whether the final two, in Hawai'i and Pennsylvania, will survive as planned.

The Stryker brigades are designed as quick-strike teams that could be deployed faster than the Army's traditional heavy forces.

Sen. Dan Inouye, D-Hawai'i, ranking Democrat on the Senate defense appropriations subcommittee, said the defense bill would provide $482 million for projects in Hawai'i. Taken together with a military construction bill approved earlier this year, Hawai'i would get $812 million in defense money beyond military payroll and operations.

"In Hawai'i, many projects vital to our military maintaining its position as the world's strongest and most advanced force will receive continued funding under this legislation," Inouye said.

According to the senator's staff, the bill includes $27 million for equipment and maintenance at Pearl Harbor, $24 million for telemedicine at Tripler Army Medical Center, $27 million for the Maui Space Surveillance System, $20 million for the Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kaua'i, and $18.4 million to help the Navy with unexploded ordinance on Kaho'olawe.

The bill also includes $7 million for a man-overboard identification system for the Navy, $6 million for a Kailua-based computer project to better detect submarines, $4 million to study ocean-wave power as an energy source for electricity, and $1 million to prevent brown tree snakes from entering Hawai'i from Guam.

"Once again, the brown tree snake has slithered its way into our defense appropriation act," said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who frequently mocks local projects that appear unrelated to the focus of spending bills.

The snake has devastated bird life on Guam and military and wildlife officials have worked to keep it from spreading to Hawai'i.

Inouye also added a provision that would lift a Bush administration cap on a loan program for Native American veterans, including Native Hawaiians. Loans were suspended after the cap was exceeded, causing problems for about 50 Hawaiian families, the senator's staff said.

Inouye also was instrumental in restricting money for the Terrorism Information Awareness program, a Pentagon intelligence effort that civil liberties groups feared could be used to spy on American citizens. The senator was among

several lawmakers who successfully placed limits on the program in a federal spending bill passed in February.

An Inouye spokesman said the Senate again added the limits "because of great concern as to how this particular program would affect civil liberties."

Correction: The Department of Defense has renamed the Total Information Awareness project the Terrorism Information Awareness program. A previous version of this story did not reflect the name change.

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Posted on: Thursday, July 17, 2003

By Kevin Dayton
Advertiser Big Island Bureau

HILO, Hawai'i — The Army plans to spend $693 million on new construction projects on O'ahu and the Big Island in the coming years to accommodate a new Stryker Brigade Combat Team.

That includes $293 million for construction and land purchases on the Big Island as the Army revamps portions of the Pohakuloa Training Area for Stryker live-fire exercises and maneuvers, according to a military briefing for Big Island community leaders yesterday.

Army officials are still waiting for a final decision from Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on whether to proceed with the $1.5 billion Hawai'i Stryker brigade, but briefing materials provided by the Army yesterday showed military planners have spent nearly $30 million on environmental studies, engineering, planning and other groundwork for the project.

The plan is to convert a Schofield Barracks brigade to a fast-strike Stryker unit, equipped with about 300 eight-wheeled, 19-ton armored vehicles. Tentative plans call for six such brigades around the nation.

The Stryker project would expand the Pohakuloa training area by about 23,000 acres to allow for maneuvers on lands now used by Parker Ranch for cattle grazing.

Col. David L. Anderson, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Hawai'i, [illegible]

07/24 2:30 PM **File # 8319**

• INSTALL AUTOMOTIVE WASH AREA - MAUI COMMUNITY COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, KAHULUI, MAUI - IFB NO. 03-056 Procurement and Property Management Office, 1400 Lower Campus Road, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 — phone 956-8687/956-8641.

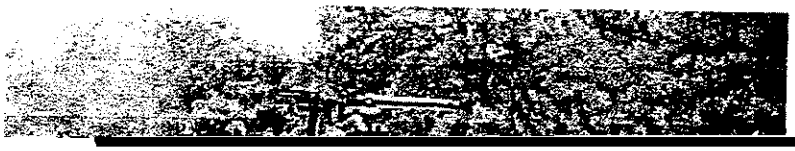
Work includes site work (selective demolition, earthwork), concrete (concrete formwork, concrete reinforcement, cast in place concrete), metals (structural steel, metal fabrications), thermal and moisture protection (membrane waterproofing, preformed metal roofing, sealants), finishes (painting), mechanical (plumbing), electrical (electrical work), and other incidental related work.

Note: Due to the nature of the work contemplated, bidders must possess a valid State of Hawaii Contractor's license classification B.

Written notice of intention to bid

mailboxes, operable partitions, toilet accessories), equipment (security vault door), furnishings (cabinets, window treatment), special construction (seismic protection for miscellaneous equipment, asbestos abatement, removal and disposal of lead-containing paint, handling of lighting ballasts and lamps containing PCBs and mercury, removal and disposal of mercury containing fluorescent lamps, fire detection and alarm system-addressable, wet pipe sprinkle system, fire protection), conveying systems (hydraulic elevators), mechanical (seismic protection for mechanical equipment, thermal insulation for mechanical systems, hydronic heating/chilled and condenser water piping and accessories, plumbing, liquid chillers, cooling tower, air supply/distribution/ventilation and exhaust system, direct digital control for HVAC, direct digital control for central plant, testing/adjusting/balancing of HVAC systems), electrical (seismic protection for electrical equipment, aerial and underground electrical distribution system, interior electrical work, exte-

Sunday, July 6, 2003



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were a betting man, I would easily say don't worry. We'll get it."

The Hawaii Democrat said there were some "technical" problems that still need to be ironed out before the official announcement can be made. "But they are workable," Inouye said.

Those issues focus on training areas needed by the Air Force's C-17 cargo jets, which will be used to transport the combat vehicles, Inouye said. This involved use of the runways at the Navy's Pacific Missile Range on Kauai.

The Stryker, named after two Medal of Honor recipients, is the brainchild and legacy of retired Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric "Ric" Shinseki from Kauai, once the Army's highest-ranking officer. The Strykers, much lighter than the 67-ton M-1A1 Abrams tanks, were conceived to be easily deployed. It is the first new Army vehicle to enter service since the Abrams tank in the 1980s.

However, late last year, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld postponed until this summer the final decision on whether the two last Stryker brigades would be assigned to Schofield Barracks and the Pennsylvania Army National Guard.

This was after tests on the first two Stryker brigades at Fort Lewis, south of Tacoma, Wash., raised questions about its capabilities. However, at the same time, the Pentagon approved two other brigades and assigned them to Fort Polk, La., and Fort Richardson in Alaska.

Each combat team comes with more than 350 Strykers, vehicles that can be outfitted in 10 different ways, with everything from a 105 mm cannon for a mobile gun system to a completely wired command center. The units with 3,614 soldiers are designed to be deployed anywhere in the world within 96 hours.

Last year, Rumsfeld said the Army would have until this summer to justify funding the Hawaii and Pennsylvania units.

At a Mililani Rotary Club luncheon June 18, Inouye pointed to large sums of money in the military construction budget, which will go into effect Oct. 1, earmarked for Hawaii to prepare for the transformation of the 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade to the more lethal and mobile Stryker unit.

Later in the month, Inouye said four of the 21 military construction projects for Hawaii at Schofield Barracks next year are to build new facilities, add more soldiers and buy more training area in anticipation of the conversion to the

Stryker brigade.

The Army here will receive $71.8 million in Stryker-related funds: $33 million to build facilities to support additional training needs, $18 million for information systems, $19.4 million to acquire training areas at Schofield Barracks' South Range, $1.4 million for land easement in Helemano.

Eventually, the Pentagon envisions spending more than $693 million in 32 Army construction projects at Schofield Barracks and the Big Island's Pohakuloa Training Area to accommodate the new unit. By 2004, Schofield's Stryker brigade would be beefed up with nearly 500 additional soldiers and 350 new combat vehicles.

Inouye said the $9.2 billion military construction appropriations bill expected to clear Congress by the end of this summer also allocates nearly $78.3 million for seven projects at Hickam Air Force Base that would pay for the formation of a new transport squadron with eight new C-17 cargo jets.

The unit would be composed of active-duty Air Force and Hawaii Air National Guard personnel whose mission would primarily be to support the Stryker brigade.

Each of the six Stryker brigades will cost between $2 million and $3.4 million.

Capt. Kathy Turner, 25th Division spokeswoman, said the environmental impact statement justifying the conversion of the 25th Division's 2nd Brigade into a Stryker unit, which was scheduled to be released last month, is still being reviewed by the Pentagon.

As part of the process, the Army is negotiating with Campbell Estate to acquire 71 acres adjacent to its Kahuku Training Area on Windward Oahu. The price tag on the land, which once was a windmill farm, is $1 million. That would be in addition to the 8,214 acres the Army bought from Campbell Estate in 1999 for $23.5 million.

The Army is also seeking the purchase or lease of an additional 1,500 to 2,100 acres from Campbell Estate in Kunia to build a new firing range and a motor pool and equipment storage and maintenance facilities large enough to support a brigade-size unit in South Range.

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Sunday, July 6, 2003

STRYKER

Way of the future or a waste of money?

Decision due soon

The Department of Defense will soon decide whether to fund a reorganization of the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, at Schofield Barracks into one of six newly created light armored units called Stryker Brigades. Supporters of the concept say Stryker Brigades will be lighter, faster and more mobile than traditional armored forces, filling the operational gap between initially deployed light forces and slower-deploying heavy-armored forces around the world. However, critics of the concept say that it is a waste of money that could endanger soldiers' lives.

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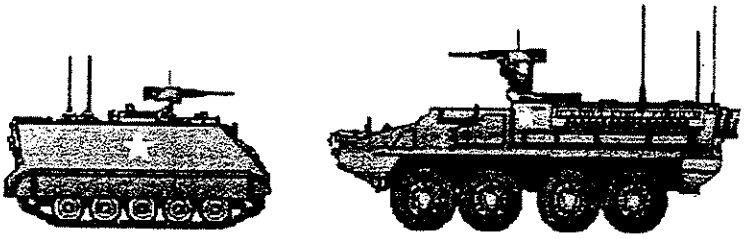
5. Driver's hatch and vision port

6. Detroit diesel engine: The Stryker is equipped with a 350-horsepower Caterpillar diesel engine, which is common to the Army's family of medium tactical vehicles. This means some of the same repair parts can be used with many of the Army's vehicles.

7. Crew stowage

8. Commander's hatch

The Stryker will replace the M-113 APC...



The 40-year-old M-113 Armored personnel carrier, left, will be replaced by the Stryker Infantry Carrier Vehicle, right, as the Army's main troop transporter. Below are the specifications:

M-113 Armored personnel carrier (APC)		Infantry carrier vehicle (Stryker)
.50-caliber machine gun .30-caliber machine gun	**Armament**	Mk 19 40 mm grenade launcher .50-caliber machine gun 7.62 mm machine gun 4 smoke grenade launchers
Aluminum hull with bolt-on armor	**Armor protection**	1/2-inch steel
13 (2 crewmen, 11 troops)	**Personnel**	11 (2 crewmen, 9 troops)
41 mph	**Maximum speed**	62 mph

300 miles	**Maximum range**	300 miles
8 feet, 9 inches	**Width**	9 feet
7 feet, 2 inches	**Height**	8 feet, 6 inches
27,000 pounds	**Weight**	38,000 pounds
16 feet	**Length**	23 feet

...but its size, weight, cost and wheels have caused concerns

The Stryker has produced widely differing opinions throughout the defense industry, with critics as well as proponents. Critics charge that the Army already has a smaller, lighter and cheaper armored vehicle, the M-113 APC. Also, the Stryker's use of wheels, instead of metal tracks like the M-113 APC uses, has led many armor experts to claim that in addition to being more vulnerable to breakdown, the Stryker's tires will not negotiate mud, snow, ice or sand as well as the M-113.

SIZE

GM DEFENSE

The photo above shows a Stryker exiting from a C-130 transport aircraft, which critics say will not accommodate the Stryker unless equipment and parts are removed from the vehicle due to its size and weight. Because of its oversize dimensions, the Stryker will require a waiver of U.S. Air Force safety rules for transport on a C-130. This waiver allows no more than four men to accompany each vehicle, so the rest of the infantry squad will have to travel in another aircraft. Less fuel and ammunition will also be stowed.

WEIGHT

The Stryker weighs 11,000 pounds more than the M-113 APC. This means that a C-17 transport aircraft can carry five fully combat loaded M-113s but only two fully combat loaded

Strykers. Also, the Stryker cannot be airdropped onto the battlefield, while the M-113 can.

COST

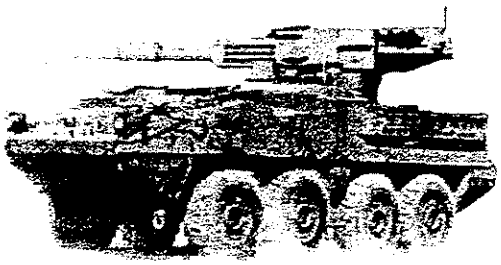
The cost of the Stryker program is high: $4 billion to build 2,131 vehicles, which comes out to be about $1.4 million each. The M-113 APC costs $300,000 each. It would cost between $100,000 and $500,000 to update its communications system with digitized systems like those on the Styker.

WHEELS

GM DEFENSE

Since the beginning of mechanized warfare, virtually every tank in every army has been on tracks, not wheels. Metal tracks provide better cross-country mobility and are less prone to damage from poor road conditions or enemy fire. Critics say the Stryker's tires would be easier to immobilize than the M-113's tracks, at left, putting soldiers and crewmen at risk.

Stryker family of vehicles



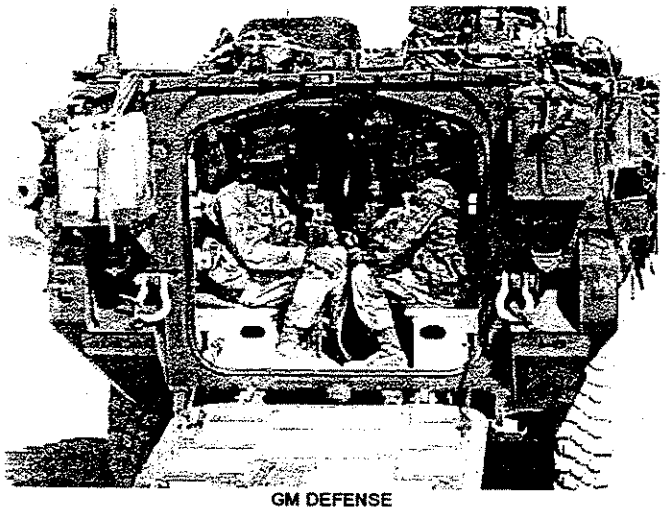
GM DEFENSE
Mobile Gun System

Two primary models will be built: the Infantry Carrier Vehicle and the Mobile Gun Sysytem. The Mobile Gun System is equipped with a 105 mm cannon, an anti-tank guided missile,

two 7.62 mm machine guns and two smoke grenade launchers. There are eight other configurations available based on those two:

>> Anti-Tank Guided Missile Vehicle
>> Mortar Carrier
>> Reconnaissance Vehicle
>> Fire Support Vehicle
>> Engineer Squad Vehicle
>> Commander's Vehicle
>> Medical Evacuation Vehicle

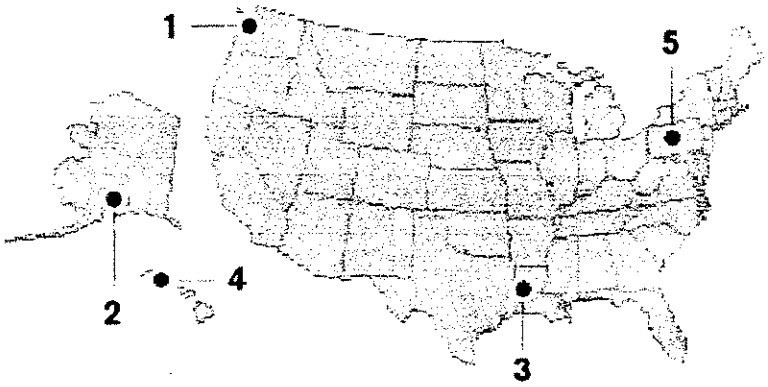
>> Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Reconnaissance (NBC) Vehicle



GM DEFENSE

Troops enter and exit through the Stryker's rear access door. Along with the driver and commander, the cabin will allow room for nine soldiers and their gear.

Bases of operation



The Stryker will be the central element in the Army's new Stryker Brigade Combat Teams. The Army is committed to fielding six SBCTs with more than 300 vehicles each. Here is where they will be located, in order of formation:

1. Fort Lewis, Washington 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division
2. Fort Richardson, Alaska 172nd Infantry Brigade
3. Fort Polk, Louisiana 2nd Armored Calvary Regiment
4. Schofield Barracks, Hawaii 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division
5. Pennsylvania The 56th Brigade of the 28th Infantry Division, Army National Guard

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Sources: GM Defense Group; Military Analysis Network.com; Global Security.org; U.S. Army Strategic Communications Planning Division; U.S. Department of Defense; 25th Infantry Division Association; hackworth.com; worldnetdaily.com/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=32898

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gravel, and all other equipment and materials. The drilling unit and compressor must be in good working condition and of such capacity to drill to a depth of 200 feet (61 m) below the water table. The contractor must also employ knowledgeable and experienced personnel to do this work, and be responsible for their performance and conduct. The Contractor must supply all casing, well covers, cement, gravel, and water for the work. Because the work will be near roads and recreational beaches, suitable mufflers or noise abatement may be required to comply with local regulations. Control of noise, dust, water, and fluids from the drilling are the responsibility of the contractor, and must meet all local regulations. The Contractor is also responsible for controlling access to the immediate work site and ensuring the safety of all bystanders and other people. The Contractor is further responsible for clean up and any site restoration or property damages incurred during this work.

The Government will furnish locks and Survey markers that must be installed by the Contractor upon completion of well construction at each site. Each well at Sites A, B, and C should be approximately 110 feet (33.5 m) deep, so that the well penetrates 100 feet (30.5 m) into the water table. The well must have solid casing from the top of the well to the water table, and open casing from the water table to the bottom of the well. The well at Site D should be approximately 260 feet (79 m) deep, so that the well penetrates 200 feet (61 m) into the water table. The well must have solid casing from the top of the well to the water table, and open casing from the water table to the bottom of the well. All wells must be completed with nominal 2-inch (5.1-cm) diameter PVC casing. Casing lengths must be screwed together or of the Certa-Lok type (which uses a spline to couple the sections). Glue and solvents must not be used. Open sections of the casing must have a slot size of 0.02 inches (0.5 mm) or similar. The annulus outside of the open section must have a minimum of 1.5 inches (3.8 cm) diameter of gravel packing around the slots. Clean silica sand must be used for the gravel packing. Solid sections of each well must have a minimum of 2 inches (5.1 cm) of grout seal around the casing. Wells must be completed with a cement pad that is 4 inches (10.1 cm) deep. The Contractor must provide a non-rusting protective cover with a secure locking cap. The wells must be finished at-grade and secured with a flush-mounted cover to provide access for sampling and measurement equipment.

The completion date for this project is September 30, 2003.

The Invitation for Bid is anticipated to be issued July 10, 2003 and the bid opening date is anticipated to be August 10, 2003

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $100,000 and $250,000.

Estimated Bid Opening: 08/15 2:00 PM File # 8291

• FY03 OMA PKG A-121, RENOVATE BUILDING 672, SCHOFFIELD BARRACKS, OAHU - RFP NO. DACA83-03-R-0027, U.S. Army Engineer District Honolulu, Corps of Engineers, Bldg. 230, Attn: CEPOD-CT-C, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440 — phone 438-8585 — contact: Julius Kaneshiro, (808) 438-8567, email: julius.y.kaneshiro@usace.army.mil.

This procurement is restricted to 8 (a) firms serviced by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Hawaii District Office.

etc.) to: Document Automation & Production Service (DAPS), Att Pearl Harbor Naval Base Building 550, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860; ((c) via facsimile (if paying by credit card) to (808) 473-2604. Reques must state company name, address, telephone number, facsimile nun ber, solicitation number, project title, and company designation (prin contractor, subcontr actor, supplier, or plan room). Envelope fror must show the solicitation number. Checks shall be made out payable t Superintendent of Documents. Provide separate checks for each pro ect requested. Checks containing payment for multiple projects will b r eturned to requestor without action. Facsimile requests must state (1 the above required company information, and (2) cardholder nam account number, and card expiration date. VISA and MasterCard ar the only credit cards accepted. Firms requesting air e xpress service sha furnish completed airbills showing recipient name, company name, tele phone number, company billing account number, and type of deliver required. Firms with foreign delivery addresses shall provide complete commercial or corporate inv oices in addition to the completed airbills Failure to supply completed airbills and commercial or corporate invoic es (if applicable) will result in solicitation documents being sent via reg ular US mail. Failure to provide any of the foregoing information , doc uments, and/or payment may delay mailing of solicitation documents Solicitation documents are not available for purchase or pick-up ove the counter at DAPS. Please allow up to five days from the date DAP receives requests for solicitation documents to be mailed out.

Address inquiries regarding issuance of solicitations, amendments and plan holder listings to DAPS at (808) 473-0451. Address technica and all other inquiries to the points of contacts identified above.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $1,000,000 and $5,000,000

Estimated Bid Opening: 08/25 2:00 PM File # 8288

• DESIGN-BUILD AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR, GUAM - RFP NO. N62742-03-R-1307, Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Engineering Field Division, Pacific, Acquisition Department, Code ACQ0262, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Pearl Harbor, HI, 96860-3134 — contact: Wanda Okemura, Contract Specialist, Phone (808) 474-7318, Fax (808) 474-7316, Email okemurawl@efdpac.navfac.navy.mil; Stan Louis, Supervisory Contract Specialist, Phone (808) 474-6731, Fax (808) 474-7316, Email louissj@efdpac.navfac.navy.mil.

This procurement is Unrestricted. NAICS Code 236220

This project is to design/build an aircraft maintenance hanger to be constructed of reinforced concrete, able to withstand super typhoon conditions (170 mph), Seismic Zone 4 criteria and to shelter a B-1, B-2, B-52, or KC-135 aircraft. It will also be used to perform phase maintenance, engine replacement, aircraft fuel system repair and will have environmental climate controls to accommodate the maintenance of the B-2. Two concrete aprons will access the hangar and an adjacent roadway will be realigned. The hangar will include, but not limited to, a general ventilation system with a local preconditioned air system, an underground collection tank, a bridge crane and a required fire detection and foam fire suppression system. Administration spaces shall include general offices, a security storage room to store classified documents and

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Posted on: Thursday, June 19, 2003

Inouye promises Stryker brigade

By Zenaida Serrano Espanol
Advertiser Staff Writer

WAHIAWA — A Pentagon decision to bring a much-anticipated fast-strike unit of wheeled armored vehicles to Schofield Barracks may come by next month, Sen. Daniel Inouye said yesterday.

"An official decision will be made in July, but I am assured personally that Hawai'i will get its Stryker brigade," Inouye said at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Mililani.

"For additional assurance, about $16 million will be included in this year's military construction budget to begin the process."

Each eight-wheeled Stryker can carry a crew of two and a nine-person infantry squad. It can be fitted with weapons ranging from machine guns to a cannon.

Six brigades of about 300 Stryker vehicles and 3,600 soldiers are planned as a transitional step for the Army as it prepares to respond to multiple unconventional threats around the globe.

Inouye, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, said a Schofield Stryker brigade would mean the addition of eight C-17 transport planes to Hickam Air Force Base. The C-17s are expected in 2005; Strykers could arrive in 2006.

"To prepare for this new detachment, a sizable infrastructure investment is going to be made, probably about $65 million this budget year alone," he said.

Other changes to Hawai'i's military include private management of Army and Navy housing, redevelopment of Ford Island in the next decade and a $150 million Pacific Command headquarters that will open next year, Inouye said.

Under the housing initiative, private companies will be awarded 50-year leases to renovate, remodel and maintain military housing. The military will pay the companies rent for its military residents at set occupancy levels, Inouye said.

"This new initiative provides a higher quality of housing for military families, and in doing so I hope fosters a greater sense of community, both on and off base," he said.

The Ford Island redevelopment will include creating 600 family housing units and 1,000 bachelor quarters, a conferencing center, shops, restaurants and a museum.

"With each of these new initiatives will come a substantial infusion of funds into our economy," Inouye said. "The Stryker Brigade alone is anticipated to bring about $750 million over the next decade."

The senator also addressed briefly the state's crystal methamphetamine problem, commending grassroots efforts in communities statewide, including Mililani and Hale'iwa, to combat the problem.

He said a follow up to last year's National Crystal Meth Summit in Kona by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's would be held in August.

"(Big Island) Mayor (Harry) Kim and I will convene Summit II — a year in review — to chart our progress and to unveil initiatives that will be undertaken utilizing federal, state, county and private funds," Inouye said. "About $5 million in federal dollars alone will go to help make a

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Posted on: Monday, June 9, 2003

Stryker brigade part of Shinseki's Army legacy

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

FORT POLK, La. — Instead of kicking its tires, Gen. Eric Shinseki evaluated the Army's new armored vehicle by interrogating the soldiers who had driven it, repaired it and maneuvered it through miles of pine forest in west-central Louisiana.

His verdict: "It's ready."

The Army and the rest of the U.S. military are changing profoundly, and the eight-wheeled Stryker — surprisingly quiet as it streaks down a dirt path at 60 mph — is leading the way.

Shinseki, a Kaua'i native and the Army chief of staff, spent a recent day at Fort Polk to get a firsthand look at the Stryker and the new combat organization built around it, the Stryker Brigade Combat Team. Both are to be declared ready by late summer for combat missions anywhere.

It was Shinseki's final visit with soldiers in the field before retiring as Army chief on Wednesday. He is ending a 38-year career that included service in Vietnam, where he lost part of a foot, and as commander of U.S. peacekeeping forces in Bosnia. The White House has not nominated his successor.

The Stryker symbolizes a historic step toward the goal Shinseki announced in October 1999. He wanted to remake the Army by 2010 into a more versatile force that can move quickly onto distant battlefields, armed with unparalleled ability to dictate the pace of fighting.

"The Stryker is going to be one of the enduring legacies of Shinseki's leadership," said Dan Goure, a defense analyst with the Lexington Institute in Arlington, Va. "This is the leading edge."

Shinseki said there will eventually be six Stryker brigades with about 3,500 soldiers each, including two at Fort Lewis, near Tacoma, Wash., one in Alaska, one in Hawai'i, and one to to be made part of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

The units are capable of arriving at a hot spot within days, far quicker than a traditional armored unit built around the unmatched firepower of the tank, which weighs three times more than a Stryker.

Barely three years ago, the Stryker was little more than an idea on paper, and not a terribly popular one.

Armor loyalists scoffed at the notion of wheeled maneuver forces. But Shinseki insisted it could and must be done to give the Army the mobility and agility needed to maintain relevance in the 21st century.

On a recent morning at Fort Polk, Shinseki ducked inside a stuffy tent and approached Lt. Col. Dennis Thompson, commander of the 296th Brigade Support Battalion, which provides maintenance and other support for the Stryker.

"What don't you like about the Stryker?" Shinseki asked pointedly.

Thompson, a sheen of sweat lighting the green-and-black paint on his face, said he found nothing lacking with the vehicle itself. But he suggested that the combat team, which includes artillery, armed Humvees and other vehicles, should add ambulances and other medical evacuation vehicles.

Maintenance specialists are fond of the Stryker, Thompson said. "They love working on the Stryker. It's easy to work on," he said.

So it went on Shinseki's visit to the Stryker brigade as it neared completion of 10 days of nonstop exercises at Fort Polk's Joint Readiness Training Center.

Inside a set of tents that formed the brigade's tactical operations center, Shinseki sat on a plastic chair facing the commanders of two infantry

battalions, an artillery battalion and a cavalry battalion. He outlined the rationale for creating Stryker brigades:

- The Stryker has superior speed, which allows battlefield commanders to quickly seize what Shinseki called the "Big I" — the initiative. "Once you've got it, hold onto it," he said.
- The brigade is organized to enable its command network to keep up with the fighting and support forces. In other words its vital communications links — for intelligence, surveillance and command — can be maintained 24 hours a day across a larger geographic area.
- The focal point of a brigade is its infantry, which can advance more quickly and with less effort than the soldiers who are carried in today's Bradley Fighting Vehicle or armored personnel carrier. Shinseki cited examples from the Iraq war of how dismounted infantry can be more effective than tanks against paramilitaries holed up in a mosque or school.

One of the knocks on the Stryker is that although it is armored, it has less protection than today's M1A1 Abrams tank or M2 Bradley fighting vehicle. Shinseki insists that's beside the point.

"It's not a question of how much armor you can put on it," he said, since eventually an enemy will figure out a way to defeat the armor. He noted that two M1A1 Abrams tanks were knocked out by Iraqi paramilitaries who fired at the tanks' more vulnerable rear.

"The idea is to avoid taking a hit in the first place," Shinseki said.

The soldiers who form the Stryker brigade are from the 2nd Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade, based at Fort Lewis. The next Stryker brigade will

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Posted on: Tuesday, May 27, 2003

Army planning to burn 1,200 acres at Schofield

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

A "prescribed burn" of 1,200 to 1,500 acres will be conducted at the Schofield Barracks West Range starting as early as June 7 as the Army continues to plan for a Stryker Brigade Combat Team.

The five- to six-day burn at McCarthy Flats could start as late as June 11 depending on weather conditions. It is part of work being done to clear the land of unexploded ordnance and to allow archaeological surveys as part of an environmental impact statement for the fast-strike unit.

Additionally, the burn will help minimize the risk of wildfires by reducing the vegetation in the range impact area, the Army said.

A herbicide is expected to be used to kill the vegetation and make for more combustible fuel for the fires.

The $1.5 billion planned Stryker Brigade would include more than 300 eight-wheeled armored vehicles that can be delivered to the battlefield faster and can provide 25th Infantry Division (Light) soldiers greater protection and firepower.

The House Armed Services Committee recently voted to include $8.7 million in the fiscal 2004 national defense authoriza-tion bill for a "qualification and training range" at Schofield that will replace five existing ranges.

The Army also is planning to acquire 1,500 to 2,100 acres next to Schofield for a motor pool, artillery "firing points" that would fire into the existing impact area, a pistol and rifle qualification training range, roadway easements, and to provide greater control over aircraft "accident prevention zones" west of Wheeler Army Airfield.

The Army said there could be unexploded mortar, artillery and rocket-propelled grenades in the impact area, which has been used for decades.

The service also said it has developed a comprehensive safety plan for the burn.

The Army had at one time considered condemning up to 40 percent of the 3,700-acre Honouliuli Preserve, but shifted the proposed acquisition after concern was raised by the Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i. About 80 acres of the preserve still may be used, but in an area not actively managed by the group.

"We've been talking to them (the Army) quite a bit regarding our concerns, and they've listened," said Pauline Sato, the conservation group's O'ahu director.

Honouliuli Preserve, extending across the southern end of the Wai'anae range, was designated critical habitat for the 'elepaio, an endangered forest bird, and is home to more than 70 rare and endangered species.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Posted on: Sunday, May 25, 2003

Army rolls out Stryker vehicles

By Derrick DePledge
Advertiser Washington Bureau

FORT POLK, La. — Scouts from Raider platoon slowly pull their Stryker reconnaissance vehicle off a dirt road, kill the engine, and take cover in the trees. It is not too long after dark, but with clouds shielding the moon, everything outside is black except for the sparkle of fireflies.

Inside the Stryker, Lt. Gerry Resmondo taps on a keyboard. On the computer screen is a map and grid, with blue circles that track the position of Army troops and red diamonds to mark the enemy. Instead of sending scouts into the unknown, Resmondo can use the latest intelligence — from satellites to ground radar, field sensors, thermal imagery and unmanned aerial vehicles — to get a good idea of what the battlefield looks like before leading his scouts out on foot to set up an observation post.

"From here," he says, "I can connect with everyone else in the entire brigade."

The Stryker, an eight-wheeled armored vehicle that can morph into 10 different combat and support configurations, is the bridge between the Army's past and its future. As the Defense Department evaluates the project's future, a Stryker brigade for Hawai'i is under consideration.

With more firepower and digital wizardry than a Humvee and more agility than the Abrams tank or Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle, the Stryker is the star of nimble new combat brigades that could be deployed much faster than the Army's traditional, equipment-heavy force.

The brigades, each with about 300 Stryker vehicles and 3,600 soldiers, are a transitional step for the Army as it prepares to respond to multiple, unconventional threats around the globe. Commanders will use the brigades as a step toward a mobile, lethal force that ultimately could deploy a combat-ready brigade in four days and a division within weeks, instead of the months it takes now.

"It's a new way to fight," said Col. William Grisoli, deputy director for Army transformation.

Army commanders want to have six Stryker brigades ready by the end of the decade, but even as the first brigade completes its final combat exercises at Fort Polk, the Pentagon is evaluating whether to reshape, or perhaps even drop, some of the brigades.

The first four — two based at Fort Lewis, Wash., one at Fort Richardson, Alaska, and one at Fort Polk — are on track. The last two, at Schofield Barracks in Hawai'i and at the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, are still under review.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is expected to decide this summer how the Army will proceed. The Pentagon could choose to modify the brigades with stronger air or artillery components, which would make them more powerful, if slower to deploy.

Named for two Medal of Honor recipients — Pfc. Stuart Stryker, killed while charging the Germans in World War II, and Spc. Robert Stryker, killed after throwing himself on a mine to save his squad in Vietnam — the $1.5 million Stryker weighs 19 tons and can reach speeds faster than 60 mph.

Its armor can withstand up to 14.5 mm fire, and the Army is developing add-on armor that can protect the vehicles against rocket-propelled grenades. Although not designed for heavy combat, different Stryker variations are armed with .50-caliber machine guns, 40 mm grenade launchers, a range of mortar power, tank-busting Javelin missiles and TOW guided missiles.

The real strength of the brigades, according to the Army, is the potential to give commanders greater awareness on the battlefield and flexibility to quickly adapt and maneuver troops.

"They will know where they are. They will know where their buddies are. They will know where the bad guys are," said Maj. Harris Morris, who is helping to coordinate the inaugural Stryker brigade, the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, at Fort Lewis.

The Army intends to move the brigades by air and sea, but there is some doubt about how quickly the brigades can deploy. A Rand study found that by positioning some equipment in advance in Europe, Guam in the Pacific, and Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, Stryker brigades could

be deployed to key regions five to 14 days after leaving their home base.

In Congress, lawmakers have pressured Defense Department officials over whether Stryker vehicles can be carried by C-130 aircraft, a significant selling point when lawmakers originally approved money for the brigades.

A single Stryker can barely fit on a C-130 now and would not fit at all with the additional armor that will be standard by the time the third brigade rolls out. The Army wants to use the C-130 to land Stryker vehicles at makeshift or seized airfields that are not suitable for the larger C-17s, which can carry three Stryker vehicles.

[illegible] hearing in April, Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., the committee's chairman, said: "We're not saying it

Stryker: designed for many missions

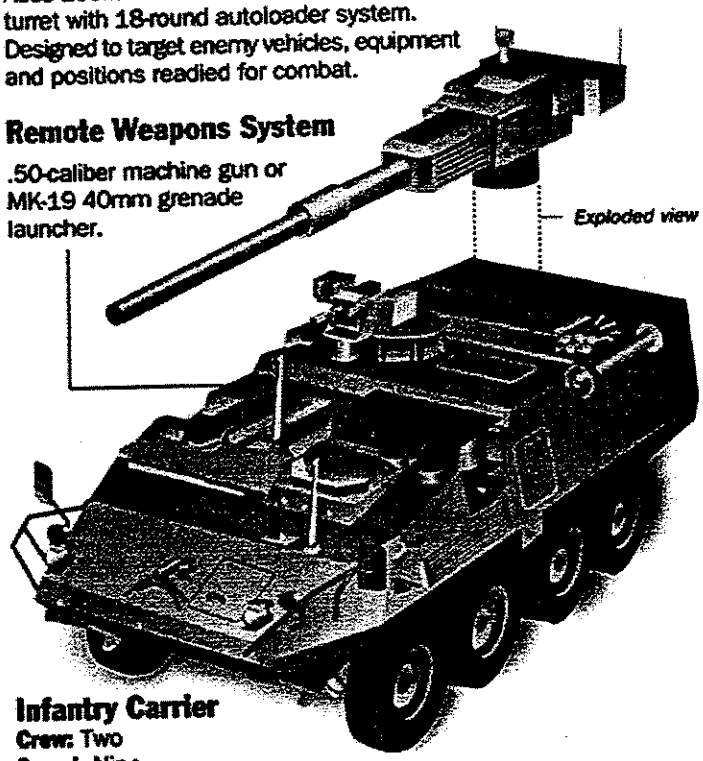
The Army plans six Stryker Brigade Combat Teams to create a mobile and lethal new force. The first brigade is finishing combat-readiness exercises at Fort Polk, La., this month.

Mobile Gun System

Adds 105mm cannon mounted on low-profile turret with 18-round autoloader system. Designed to target enemy vehicles, equipment and positions readied for combat.

Remote Weapons System

.50-caliber machine gun or MK-19 40mm grenade launcher.



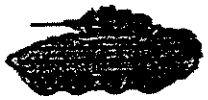
Infantry Carrier

Crew: Two
Squad: Nine
Weight: 19 tons
Length: 23.5 feet
Height: 8.5 feet
Width: 8.8 feet
Engine: 350-hp Caterpillar diesel
Road speed: 62 mph
Range: 330 miles
Main armament: MK-19 40mm or .50-caliber machine gun
Locomotion: Eight-wheel drive, four-wheel steering

Stryker's profile against other Army vehicles

To scale

M1 tank
Main battle tank



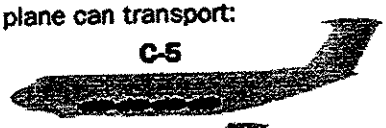
Bradley M-2/M-3
Armored fighting vehicle

Humvee
General-purpose vehicle

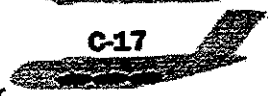
Delivering Stryker by air

Number of vehicles each cargo plane can transport:

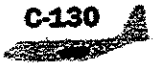
C-5



C-17



C-130



Source: General Dynamics Land Systems, Army Times Publishing Co.

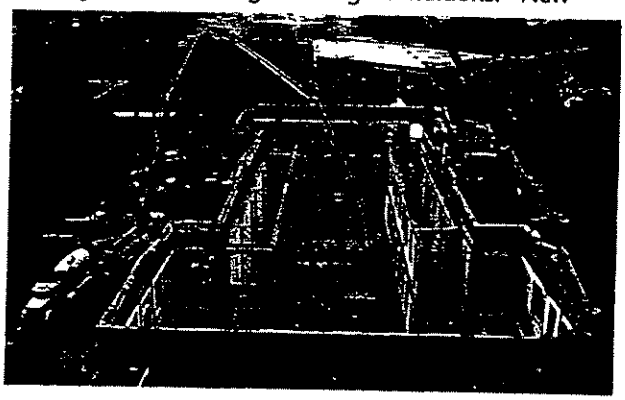
ATPCO, Gannett News Service

PRE-SOLICITATION NOTICES

A pre-solicitation is an advanced notice of an upcoming project due to open on or about the date listed as the "estimated bid opening" Plans and specs

This will be a Design/Build project. The project requires design and construction (renovation) of four 3 story concrete buildings to house

had to be preserved. This required bracing of the exterior walls while the interior was completely demolished." French also reports that the interior finishes at the second floor's historic corridor were replaced to closely match the original design conditions. "New



The recent renovation of Hawaii Hall on the University of Hawaii's Manoa campus, a Nordic Construction. Inc. project

crown molding, chair rails, wood base, stair rails and pickets, window and door trim, all were designed, fabricated, and installed to match the appearance of the original architectural woodwork while complying with current building codes and ADA requirements. Since the original building was not air conditioned, Architects Hawaii balanced the floor heights to provide a plenum space. And there were more challenges, such as unforeseen problems with the deteriorating concrete foundation and exterior walls. "Much of the existing concrete and plaster," said French, "had been spalling for years and several layers of paint had to be removed. The unsound concrete and plaster were chipped out and the existing paint removed with grinders and scrapers to expose a sound substrate for the new paint." Nordic has high praise for renovation team member Architects Hawaii, the project's subcontractors, and DAGS.

Preserving Military History

Hawaii's military bases house many historical sites, with renovation work planned or ongoing at several locations. Building 251 at Makalapa Crater was constructed in 1943 for Fleet Radio Unit Pacific Fleet, associated with intelligence gathering, especially through radio technologies. It was one of the most important intelligence structures in the Pacific during World War II and subsequently was recorded in an historic building survey. Mason Architects, Inc. currently is part of a design/build team led by Nan Inc. dba Ocean House Builders, for renovation of the structure.

The work will include an extensive interior renovation of the first and second floors and exterior repair and painting. John Fullmer of Mason Architects says, "It's going to be quite an impressive engineering feat as we will be performing compaction grouting of the soil under the building to stabilize it. This has never before been done in Hawaii. And we will be completely replacing the foundation system. All of this will be done while the building remains suspended in the air above."

In January of this year, the Department of the Army issued a notice to proceed to Dick Pacific to begin a $43.6 million project at Wheeler Army Airfield. This phase includes both renovation and alteration of historic buildings and new construction in the Wheeler National Historic Landmark District. Scope of the 17-month project includes the construction of three barracks buildings, a soldier community/central plant, and a company operations facility. Dick Pacific also will be renovating two existing buildings for administrative use for company operations and battalion headquarters. Support facilities planned include new walkways, parking utility services, and communications systems. Constructed in 1922, Wheeler Army Airfield is a National Historic Landmark recognized for its significance in World War II.

Building 251 at Makalapa, built in 1943, is scheduled for renovation. The design/build team is led by Nan Inc. and includes Mason Architects, Inc.

Home for the Ages

The Historic Hawaii Foundation is supporting efforts to preserve Maui's Argonauta, the historic home of Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh and the adjacent Writer's Cottage. Each structure was built in 1970 and designed by John Theodore Jacobsen, architect for Ala Moana Shopping Center and Sea Life Park.

To keep it from being demolished, the structure is being bought then donated to the Haleakala National Park. It will be relocated to a site a mile from its current location and renovated as part of the Kipahulu Conservation Center for native Hawaiian culture and history of the Hana area. The new site of Argonauta, appropriately, sits on park lands that Lindbergh helped to acquire for Haleakala National Park.

The cost to repair and renovate the historic structure is approximately $600,000 and is scheduled to begin in about six months.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, February 10, 2003

Briefs

Advertiser Staff and News Services

NAVY

Pearl ship aids in rescue off California

The Pearl Harbor-based cruiser USS Chosin helped with the recovery of a Marine F/A-18D Hornet crew after the jet crashed at sea 10 miles of the coast of San Clemente Island in California on Jan. 17.

The aircraft from Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225 went down while conducting a routine training flight, the Navy said.

Chosin and destroyers Oldendorf and Fitzgerald, all assigned to the USS Nimitz aircraft carrier battle group, were selected to assist in the search, recovery and salvage operation.

The F/A-18D pilots were in the water less than 30 minutes before being rescued by a CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter inbound to Chosin for a passenger transfer.

Chosin launched one of its embarked Kane'ohe Bay-based Marine Corps SH-60B helicopters to search the debris field. A salvage team in one of Chosin's inflatable boats also searched for debris. The team recovered the flight data recorder and numerous pieces of the airframe.

AIR FORCE

Stealth bombers train over Hawai'i

Hawai'i airspace in December saw a first-time visitor as three B-2 stealth bombers from Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri dropped 2,000-pound BDU-50 practice bombs on Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island.

The bat-wing bombers trained with members of the 25th Air Support Operations Squadron.

Capt. Todd Moore, the air liaison officer for the 25th ASOS, told Hickam Air Force Base's newspaper the training was significant because his unit never trained with the B-2 before.

The 25th ASOS, which calls in air strikes for planes such as the F-16 and A-10, is based at Wheeler Army Airfield and works closest with the Army's 25th Infantry Division (Light).

"They're so quiet and stealthy," Moore said of the B-2. "It

The 31 Fisher Houses, donated by New York philanthropists Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher, provide a "home away from home" when a loved one receives care at a major military or VA medical facility.

Twelve of the houses are owned and operated by the Army.

The current Fisher House was built in 1994 and has room for seven families.

Tripler officials say the fact the hospital serves the entire Pacific region proved the need for another facility.

"We always have a waiting list," said manager John Ost.

Schofield troops back from Japan

Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) based at Schofield Barracks recently took part in Yama Sakura '03, a joint exercise between U.S. Army Pacific and the Japan Self-Defense Force.

The training, from Jan. 22 to 30 at Camp Higashi Chitose, Japan, is an annual computer-driven command post exercise designed to strengthen military operations and ties between U.S. and Japanese military forces.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, January 9, 2003

Senators protest Stryker delay

By Tony Capaccio
Bloomberg News Service

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon ignored congressional

Stryker manufacturers General Motors and General Dynamics will receive about $600 million in orders if the fiscal 2004 budget is approved b Congress.

Advertiser military writer William Cole contributed to this report.

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talize Waikiki, the Kuhio Beach Park Expansion/Kalakaua Promenade was developed to give the area a more prominent "Hawaiian" sense of place "by creating a greenbelt along the length of [Kuhio Beach] with landscaping, promenade walkways, interactive water features and plazas," describes Lester Inouye of Lester H. Inouye and Associates.

"The design concept was to bring Kapiolani Park into Kuhio Beach," says Inouye. "Concrete allowed the landscape vegetation to flow into and become part of the promenade where people could enjoy both strolling along the beach and lounging on the grassy mounds, yet be very close to the beach. Concrete is the only medium that could provide the fluid walkway/promenade. [It] flowed from the urban street through the 'park' to the ever shifting sand, making it a natural transition."

Landscape aspects of this $14.2 million project include "colorful trees, shrubs, flowers and twice the number of coconut palms."

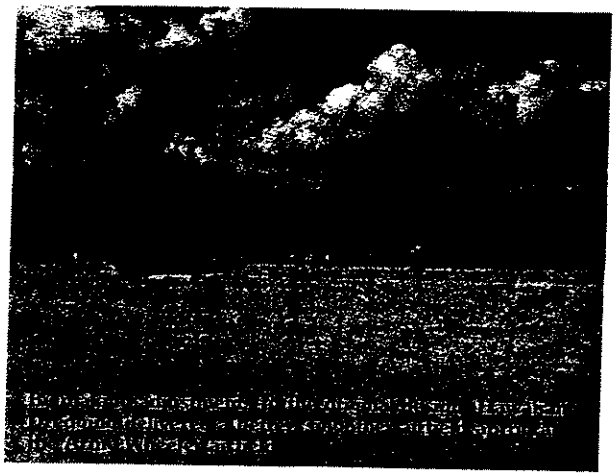
New Concrete Paving Award — Category A

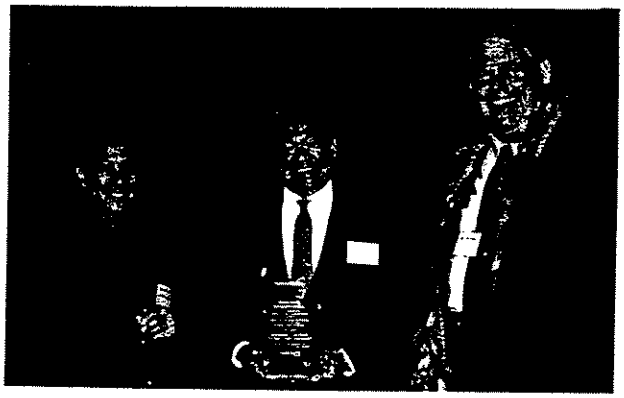
Construct Hangar with Apron, CH47D Helicopters, Wheeler Army Airfield

- Engineer: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District
- General Contractor: Nordic Construction, Ltd.
- Paving Contractor: Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company
- Owner/Developer: U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, Directorate of Public Works

Because the original concrete mix specified for this project was based on U.S. mainland materials and its climate, and not created for Hawaii's environment, the mix was adjusted and approved using local materials better suited to the local climate.

Other adjustments for this 30,811 square yard paving project include: building 32 equal lanes to





(L-R) Nordic Construction's Glen Kaneshige, Hawaiian Dredging's Mel Miyamoto and Hawaiian Cement's Earl McCaskill with the Concrete Achievement award for construction of a hangar and apron at Wheeler Army Airfield.

eliminate the 15 and 20-foot odd-shaped and mismatched lanes originally called for, which also reduced shrinkage cracking; use of a 4-inch slump, instead of the 3-inch slump called for, to allow better placement and consolidation; and installation of an isolation joint between the new apron and the existing apron to allow each to move independently of the other.

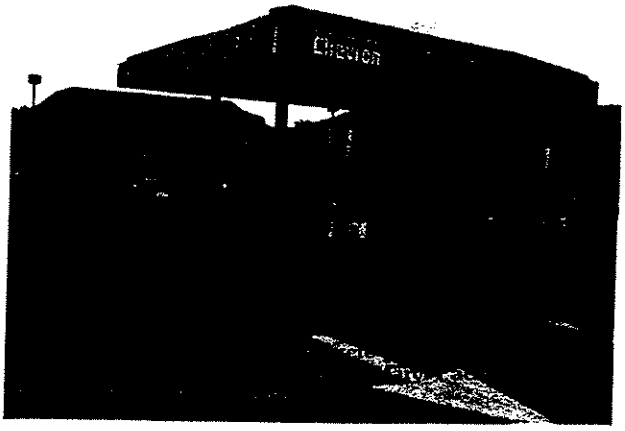
These and other approved adjustments provided the Army with a better, smoother finished product than what was originally designed.

New Concrete Paving Award — Category B

Kapolei Chevron

- Engineer: RHL Design Group, Inc.
- General/Paving Contractor: Maryl Pacific Construction, Inc.
- Owner/Developer: Chevron Products Company

The Kapolei Chevron project was begun in December 2000 and completed in April 2001, with paving occurring between February and April. Although a Chevron representative/special inspector was present at every major pour, "Maryl Pacific was responsible for ensuring the concrete delivered had the correct water content, workability, etc. per specifications prior to accepting the delivery," explains Anna



Building Industry Jan '03

DEPLOYMENTS

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, March 3, 2005

Thousands greet returning Guard soliders

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Somehow, after nearly a year in Iraq, and with families ogling, waving and hoisting newborn babies yards away, the soldiers of Charlie Company, 193rd Aviation were able to stay focused and at attention for a few minutes more.

After a thank-you yesterday from Lt. Gov. James "Duke" Aiona for a job well done, the 180 returning soldiers were given the order they were most eager to hear: Dismissed.

And with that, they were enveloped by a sea of family and friends, balloons, lei and hugs inside a base hangar.

Thousands turned out for the redeployment in a battalion-size welcome home for the company of soldiers — the single largest return of Hawai'i National Guard members from combat since the Vietnam War.

Spc. Nathaniel Luff, 23, of Kapolei climbed over three rows of chairs to get to his family.

"It's great," Luff, a little lost for words, said of being home.

Balad Air Base, where Charlie Company and 14 Hawai'i Guard CH-47 Chinook helicopters operated, was "hot, cold, miserable. Lots of mud," Luff said.

Sgt. Matt Werts, 23, of Mililani beamed as he held his 4-month-old son, Micah, for the first time.

"It's hard for families — and people who have newborn sons," said Werts, a plumber in civilian life, of the yearlong tour of duty.

A friend passed a Star Market tray of ahi poke, and Werts dug in with chopsticks.

"It's good. I haven't tasted it in a while," he said.

His wife, Natalie, said the deployment was "very, very depressing."

"It was kinda hard because I had the baby, and I was on my own," she said. "So I was looking forward to this day a lot."

More than 200 soldiers with Charlie Company, including helicopter pilots and mechanics, were mobilized Jan. 7, 2004.

A small advance party returned last week, and a group remains in Kuwait with the big twin-rotor Chinooks.

Commander Maj. Joseph Laurel said the company flew 6,240 combat hours — double that of the helicopter rotation before.

"The company exceeded all expectations," he said.

The unit carried just under 50,000 passengers, 15 million pounds of cargo, flew 1,280 combat missions and was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation. Eight Charlie Company soldiers received Bronze Stars.

Hawai'i Guard helicopters flew $1.65 billion in U.S. currency to Kurdish-held Irbil in the north of Iraq, and even gave former

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein a lift for a court hearing.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jack Sharkey, 62, a Vietnam War veteran and retired Aloha Airlines pilot, added to his flying time during the deployment.

The unit would fly to the border of Iran in the East, up to Kirkuk, Irbil, Tikrit and Mosul in the North, and to Nasariyah and Al Kut south of Baghdad.

"We went everywhere. We were kind of like Federal Express," Sharkey said.

The extensive use of the 193rd coincided with a reduction in Chinook units in Iraq and a spike in the insurgency last April, when the unit still was in Kuwait.

One Chinook went down in a hard landing in April. No one was seriously hurt, officials said.

"We brought everyone back. That's the main thing," Sharkey said. There were some close calls, though, and incoming rockets at Balad Air Base "took some chips" out of one Chinook on the ground, he said.

Asked if the Iraq duty was worth a year of his life, Sharkey said, "At first I didn't think it was, and I'm still not sure what the final outcome will be over there. But I think it's worth it serving your country and fulfilling your commitment."

Natalie Werts said it's up to her husband whether he wants to stay in the Guard. .

"I'll support him whatever — as long as he doesn't go to Iraq again," she said.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

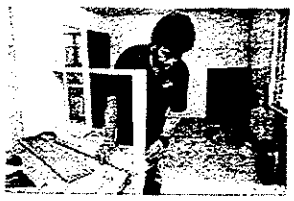
Posted on: Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Army takes steps to [illegible]

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Soldiers returning from war, new soldiers coming to Hawai'i and large-scale family housing and barracks renovation projects have created a housing crunch at Schofield Barracks.

Some 880 people are on the waiting list for family housing, and the situation is expected to peak in the summer with the soldier overlap and arrival of 800 more personnel plus their families for a new Stryker brigade.



Arturo Manalo frames a base for cabinets being installed at Schofield Barracks in one of several Army housing renovation projects.

"Field grade officers (major, lieutenant colonel, colonel) who are not key and essential will have to look off post," Janine Lind, Army Hawai'i Family Housing property manager, said in a post publication.

With so many moving pieces, the Army is preparing for a worst-case housing scenario this summer. In addition to the family housing effort, the base also is in the midst of a more than $802 million barracks renovation that started

"At this point, we want to work with the Army, and as they have their need identified, we just want to be ready to respond," Colon said.

The Army and its housing landlord, Army Hawai'i Family Housing, call the shortage a temporary bubble. The cause, they say, is that 5,200 soldiers

"The best thing that we can do is ... come up with solutions to try to solve the problem and take care of families and soldiers the best we can," she said.

"Stop-loss" and "stop-move" provisions intended to keep a stable force in time of war are in effect for 90 days after soldiers return home, meaning they are kept longer in Hawai'i than usual before transferring somewhere else, Turner said.

Staff writer Mike Gordon contributed to this report. Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, February 23, 2005

Businesses happy to see soldiers

- O'ahu deployments had little impact

By Catherine E. Toth
Advertiser Staff Writer

It took six months for Mike Royce to get a city permit to build his take-out restaurant in Wahiawa.

Though he had to pay months of rent, insurance and utilities, opening Maui Mike's Fire-Roasted Chicken on Kamehameha Highway two weeks ago — just when the deployed soldiers from Schofield Barracks were returning to Hawai'i — has worked out.

The deployments seriously hurt business at the Top Hat Bar on Kamehameha Highway, but owner John Eiting said he was more interested in letting returning soldiers know how much they're appreciated.

Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

"We've been packed," said Royce, who opened the chicken take-out with a partner, professional surfer Jairus Cannon. "We can't handle the business. ... People warned us that because the military wasn't going to be around, we should have a back-up plan. And we did — but not a plan for what to do when you're too busy. It's a great problem to have."

Businesses in Wahiawa and Mililani, from small alteration shops to large fast-food chains, are seeing improvements in sales since soldiers from Schofield Barracks have come back from deployments to the Middle East last month.

Many of these businesses were hurt by the deployments, which started a year ago when more than 8,000 soldiers left Schofield Barracks for a year-long tour in Iraq and Afghanistan. So dependent are they on the military for business, many wondered if they would survive.

Business at Michael's Barber Shop on Wilikina Drive dropped at least 75 percent last May, said barber David Phan. And it stayed that way for months.

Now the barbers are seeing more soldiers return to the base and, more importantly, coming in for haircuts.

"We're getting more people," Phan said. "It's good to see signs of life."

The exact amount of revenue the more than 100 Wahiawa businesses lost during the deployments is difficult to calculate. Last year, economists estimated that roughly $80 million to $100 million in potential revenue could have been lost in that one-year period.

During that time, merchants from Wahiawa, Mililani and Waialua offered discounts to the remaining military troops and their families to show their support and drum up business.

Now the support is evident just driving through downtown Wahiawa. Kamehameha Highway is lined with yellow ribbons and businesses have put up signs welcoming back the soldiers.

The Top Hat Bar on Kamehameha Highway lost about 80 percent of its business when the soldiers left. But the deployments hurt owner John Eiting much more emotionally.

He spent those months renovating the 64-year-old establishment, making the place more comfortable for when the troops returned.

"It shouldn't be about trying to make money off people who are serving our country," said Eiting, who enjoys sitting and talking with his military patrons, many of whom had never been to war before. "We should be comforting them and letting them know how much we appreciate what they've done. That other thing comes later."

Since January most merchants have seen immediate boosts to business, as troops venture back to familiar restaurants, shops, golf courses and bars.

Business has bounced back at El'Gant Alterations on Kamehameha Highway, which reduced its staff last year because of slow sales. Soldiers are streaming into the 15-year-old shop to get uniforms cleaned and starched.

"We've improved quite a bit," said general manager Peter Nelson. "You can't pay the bills when you've got no money."

Some merchants are offering discounts to military troops and their families to show their appreciation and encourage patronage. For example, Zippy's Restaurant on Kamehameha Highway, which has a steady local crowd, offers a 10-percent discount on menu items at the restaurant, take-out window and bakery for the military through April.

"Wahiawa was a sleepy little town for a while, so it's great to see the families reunited and coming into Wahiawa again," said Dan Nakasone of the Wahiawa Community and Business Association. "I'm sure our businesses will show their appreciation."

About three-fourths of customers to Maui Tacos in the Mililani Shopping Center are military, said assistant manager Mark Hayes. Now that the soldiers have come back, sales at the take-out restaurant are up 20 percent.

"We were pretty slow back then," Hayes said. "Now we're a lot busier. We're real optimistic."

But not all businesses in Wahiawa suffered as much during the deployments.

"For those that rely on the military, they definitely took some major hits," Nakasone said. "But the ones that had a local market made it through OK, and they're probably better for it now."

For 10 years, Kitchen Delight on California Avenue has catered to residents with its local-style menu. Business went up a little when National Guard soldiers, most of whom were residents, were activated and staying at Schofield Barracks. But otherwise, sales at the tiny restaurant haven't fluctuated much.

"We've been doing pretty good," said owner Gladys Okamura. "The military didn't really affect me before (the deployments)."

The soldiers who have come in, she said, have enjoyed her now-famous "Shock & Awe" breakfast of two eggs, two scoops of rice and a choice of five meats for just $1.75. It's the most popular item on the menu.

"I wanted to take advantage of that phrase and do a breakfast in support of the troops," Okamura said. "It's so cheap. I really shocked-and-awed them."

Reach Catherine E. Toth at ctoth@honoluluadvertiser.com or 535-8103.

• • •

O'ahu deployments had little impact

The deployment of more than 10,000 troops based in Hawai'i to Iraq and Afghanistan last year may not have affected O'ahu's economy as much as expected, according to an economist studying the issue.

Lawrence Boyd, economist for the Center of Labor Education and Research at the University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu, has been researching the military's economic impact on O'ahu, where most of the soldiers are based.

His research showed that while at least 25 percent of O'ahu's civilian workforce is connected to the military, the recent deployments didn't destroy these businesses.

Many of these soldiers left families, who continued to live, work and shop on O'ahu, contributing to the local economy. Military-related projects that involved local businesses, such as renovations to base housing, weren't disrupted by the deployments, either.

"If that's the case, and I think that it is, (the deployments) didn't have much of an impact," Boyd said. "The families are still here and the basic infrastructure in those relationships hasn't changed. You will have some local effects (to businesses around bases), but in terms of the economy as a whole, I don't think it's made a big dent."

According to his research, the military ranks second to tourism in providing jobs. And these jobs tend to be higher in pay, averaging better than $50,000 a year. Military and tourism industries account for about 60 percent of economic activity on the island, he said.

"What surprised me was the high annual income and that it comprised a large sector of the workforce, either directly or indirectly," Boyd said. "A lot of O'ahu's underlying prosperity, or lack thereof, relates to the military."

— Catherine E. Toth

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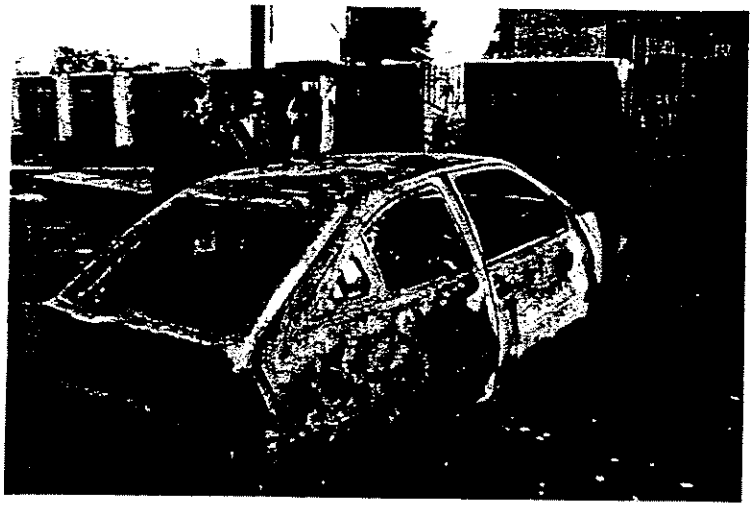
News
starbulletin.com

Friday, January 7, 2005

THE WAR IN IRAQ



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iraqi policemen inspected a vehicle yesterday that was damaged in a car bomb attack the previous day in Hillah, some 60 miles south of Baghdad. The explosion outside a gate of the police academy killed at least 20 people and wounded others.

Hawaii's Army Guard dwindles presence in isles

Isles have the highest ratio of reservists and National Guard

soldiers on active duty of any state

By Gregg K. Kakesako
gkakesako@starbulletin.com

More than 88 percent of the 3,000-member Hawaii Army National Guard Division have been called to active duty -- the highest ratio of reservists and National Guard soldiers of any state in the country.

"The only unit I have left is the band," Maj. Gen. Bob Lee, commander general of the Hawaii Guard, told members of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii yesterday.

Annually, the chamber calls on the military heads of the services stationed in Hawaii to give business leaders their assessment on the status of the military here and the impact it has on the state's economy.

Lee told commerce members that another 67 Hawaii Army National Guard soldiers mobilized on Monday. They include 10 members of the 117th Mobile Affairs Detachment and another 57 soldiers

Part-timers' active-duty limit could change

WASHINGTON » Stretched thin by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Army is considering a National Guard and Reserve policy shift that could result in part-timers being called to active duty multiple times for up to two years each time, a senior Army official said yesterday.

The official, who discussed the matter on condition of anonymity, said the Army probably will ask Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld

2,200 soldiers and airmen from the Hawaii National Guard have been placed on active duty.

Operating under the state Department of Defense, the Hawaii National Guard has about 5,500 members serving in the Army, Air and Civil Defense divisions. The Army has about 3,000 members, while the Air Guard has nearly 2,500. The rest serve under the Civil Defense branch. The bulk of those serving overseas are from the Army division.

Lt. Gen. John Brown, commanding general of U.S. Army Pacific, told chamber members he will be checking on Hawaii Army National Guard soldiers who are training in Louisiana this month before they are sent to Iraq. Training and equipment complaints by Hawaii soldiers training in Texas were taken seriously and corrected, he told chamber members.

"On the whole, the training the 29th Brigade received was right on target," he said.

There are 2,200 soldiers from Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa and Saipan who are members of the 29th Brigade and will be in Iraq for a year. The remaining 1,000 soldiers of the 29th Brigade are from units in California, Minnesota and Oregon.

Brown also promised that Hawaii Army National Guard soldiers will only use fully armored vehicles when they travel by convoy from Kuwait to Iraq.

Brown expects the 29th Brigade to take over operations now being conducted by the 81st Brigade Combat Team from the Washington National Guard in March. The Washington soldiers are stationed at Baghdad International Airport, Balad, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Addressing other island concerns, Brown said he expects the Army to bring a Stryker combat team to Hawaii despite an ongoing lawsuit by Earthjustice.

The group contends that the Army's environmental assessment is inadequate. The lawsuit is expected to be heard in federal court in February.

The Army plans to spend $1.5 billion to convert the 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade to a highly mobile Stryker unit. A total of 28 military construction projects are planned for Oahu and the Big Island for the 300 Strykers, 100 other vehicles and trailers, and 810 more soldiers.

Turning their attention to Hawaii's waters, Rear Adm. John Donnelly, deputy commander of Pacific Fleet, said no decision has been made to station an aircraft carrier at Pearl Harbor. Such a move would mean

5,000 more sailors would call Hawaii home.

Hawaii Army National Guard
www.dod.state.hi.us/hiarng/

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, January 18, 2005

350 troops are home from Iraq

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

More than 350 soldiers arriving yesterday and today in Hawai'i are the first from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team — the main body from Schofield Barracks — to return home from a year of duty in northern Iraq.

Sgt. Matthew Yost's mom, Diane, was tracking his progress through stops including Bangor, Maine, and she expressed what others must be feeling.

"He should be touching down in Hawai'i any minute," the Florida woman said yesterday. "Our family isÊbreathing a collective sigh of relief and feel so totally blessed to have him home safe."

The group includes fewer than 90 soldiers who returned as an "advance party" to make sure soldiers have barracks and other necessities as the remainder of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team's 4,400 soldiers prepare for redeployment.

Additionally, 263 support element soldiers from units including the 125th Signal, 65th Engineer, and 125th Military Intelligence battalions, and 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, are returning today.

Units that have returned from Iraq before yesterday were attached to other headquarters. The 2nd Brigade Combat Team, which makes up most of the 5,200 Schofield soldiers in Iraq, was supposed to start returning early this month, but its deployment was extended by up to two months as part of a bulking up of U.S. forces to 150,000 troops through the Jan. 30 election.

Rebels have been trying to derail the process with stepped-up attacks on U.S. forces and Iraqi officials.

Also extended by about the same length of time were 1,000 Marines with the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment from Marine Corps Base Hawai'i, who fought in fierce battles in Fallujah in November and have lost 18 Marines in Iraq.

The homecoming for Schofield Barracks soldiers began on Dec. 31. The 40th Quartermaster Company was the first unit to return from operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom since the 25th Infantry Division (Light) left early last year on its first combat deployment since Vietnam. Twelve division troops were killed in Iraq.

Diane Yost said her son, who is with the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, has always been the type that "the party starts the moment he walks in the door."

But reality set in very quickly in Iraq when a friend, Pfc. John D. Amos, 22, was killed on April 4 by a suicide car bomb in Kirkuk. Yost was so close he felt the blast.

"That had a very sobering effect on him," his mother said. He also was disappointed with the news of

the extension.

"He kind of took a deep breath and sucked it in and said, 'If our staying here keeps one other soldier alive,' then he was prepared to stay longer," Diane Yost said.

Most of the 4,300 soldiers in the Idaho National Guard's 116th Brigade Combat Team arrived in Kirkuk in December to replace the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, and had begun "ride-along" training as of early January, with Schofield troops, the Spokesman Review newspaper reported.

Sgt. Kendrick Washington, a Schofield spokesman, said the remainder of the Hawai'i soldiers still are on track to return from Iraq in March. "Right now, there's no set date," he said. "Everything is a little fluid."

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted at 11:33 a.m., Tuesday, January 18, 2005

263 Schofield soldiers back in Hawai'i

Advertiser Staff

Families and friends welcomed back 263 Schofield Barracks soldiers who returned from Iraq early this morning.

The soldiers had been deployed for a year as members of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division (Light) from Schofield Barracks. Theirs was the first large contingent — 263 men and women from nine units — to return. Those returning yesterday include members of the the 125th Signal, 65th Engineer, and 125th Military Intelligence battalions, and 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment.

The troops arrived first at Hickam Air Force Base, touching down about 4:15 a.m. today after traveling for 25 hours.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, January 19, 2005

Schofield troops elated to be back

By Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writer

Everywhere in the small hangar yesterday at Wheeler Army Airfield, soldiers felt the safe embrace of home. It felt good.

They had been to Iraq and back, deployed for a year as members of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division (Light) from Schofield Barracks. Theirs was the first large contingent — 263 men and women from nine units — to return.

Pfc. Kashara Torres of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team hugs husband Gilbert Torres in one of many joyful reunions. Yesterday, 263 Army men and women came home to Hawai'i. Most of the 5,200 troops deployed from Schofield Barracks a year ago are still in Iraq.

Jeff Widener • The Honolulu Advertiser

More than 5,200 Schofield soldiers have spent the past 12 months in Iraq, and most are still there.

Erick Sutton, a first lieutenant, held his daughter, 9-month-old Mackenzie, in the crook of his left arm as the child sucked on a pacifier. Her blue eyes sparkled.

He was in a war zone when she was born last March. It was just about then that time seemed to slow down, he said.

"In the middle it was very long, but looking back, it wasn't that bad," Sutton said.

Sutton is making a career of the Army — he has 12 years in already — and his time away from loved ones has not changed his feelings.

"It has definitely strengthened my resolve," he said. "I'm very happy to serve my country. But right now, I'm mainly happy to be home."

Vanessa, his wife, could barely contain her joy. Like many who greeted loved ones, the deployment was described in single-word bursts.

Intense. Overwhelmed. Ecstatic. The best, however, was "Da-Da."

"I'm so excited to see my husband, and to have him hold Mackenzie," Vanessa Sutton said. "We've been practicing how to say Da-Da. She can say it now."

The troops arrived first at Hickam Air Force Base, touching down about 4:15 a.m. yesterday after traveling for 25 hours. They still faced a bus ride up the hill to Wheeler.

But the worst part of the trip may have been the final moments when they were

Returning units

Soldiers returning yesterday include 263 members of the the 125th Signal, 65th Engineer and 125th Military Intelligence battalions, and 1st

forced to stand at attention, their loved ones a dozen feet away.

Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment.

Their eyes — darting this way and that, searching for familiar faces amid the balloons and flowers and smiles — gave them away as their commander thanked them and a band played patriotic themes.

When they were dismissed, bedlam ensued. Cheers, screams, squeals.

Chief Warrant Officer Michael LaGrave kissed his wife, Teresa, and this was not a delicate peck on the lips, either. Two of his sons and his grandmother from North Dakota watched the happy homecoming.

"I've been gone on and off for 36 months," he said. "The only thing going through my mind is getting to spend some quality time with my family and to watch them grow up."

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, January 11, 2005

More Hawai'i troops go to war

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Curtis Matsushige has been a teacher for almost 25 years, and a National Guardsman for about the same length of time.

For the first time, the 50-year-old citizen soldier is going off to war.

Matsushige, of Mililani, says his two jobs have similarities.

"Both have been exciting," Matsushige said yesterday. "Teaching is like being on the front lines. It's dealing with the youth, yeah?"

Debora Lum puts a lei on her husband, Master Sgt. Stephen Lum,

About 10 Hawai'i Guard soldiers with the 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment — to which Matsushige, a sergeant first class, is attached

Hawai'i Air National Guard's 2,500 airmen are mobilized.

The 29th Brigade is going through combat certification at the 100,000-acre Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

Hawai'i National Guard soldiers scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan stand at parade rest in front of their units during a mobilization ceremony at Waiawa Armory. A total of 88 percent of Hawai'i's Army Guard has been mobilized — the highest percentage in the nation.

Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

Lee noted the 29th, as the largest unit in the Hawai'i Guard, gets a lot of attention.

"But every soldier, every unit in the Hawai'i Army National Guard is important," Lee said, giving his thanks to the soldiers and their families for their sacrifice.

He said they would be joining Guard and Reserve comrades who will represent 55 percent of U.S. forces in the two war zones.

Gov. Linda Lingle, who along with Lee shook every soldier's hand, told the group that there is nothing the state can do to replace their time away.

"We can't understand the weddings that they will miss, and birthdays and anniversaries they will miss," she said.

But Lingle said as a continuing way for the state to express its gratitude, legislation will be proposed, including a bill to ensure that state employees who are deployed receive the equivalency of their civilian salary.

Hawai'i has 800 National Guard members and Reserve soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, Lingle said.

The 67 public affairs and engineering soldiers have a long road ahead. Several months of training will be conducted at Schofield Barracks before the soldiers deploy to Afghanistan for approximately a year.

First Lt. Anthony Tolentino, 28, who lives in Foster Village, and works for the Navy as an engineer at Pearl Harbor, said he understands the need for the mission, but isn't necessarily happy with the year deployment to Afghanistan on top of the several months of training.

"We're not full time, so we have to catch up to standards," he said.

As for the long time away from home Tolentino noted, "there's a shortage of military personnel."

Said Matsushige, an 11th-grade science teacher at Campbell High School:

"I put my name there and I'm ready to make the commitment, to follow through."

Among the concerns he has are for his wife, Kayoko, who doesn't speak English very well.

Asked if he thought about getting out of the Guard, Matsushige said, "Yes, most recently with concerns about family.

"After fulfilling my commitment, I may choose to spend more time in teaching," he said. "We'll see."

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted at 4:25 p.m., Monday, January 10, 2005

More Hawai'i guardsmen mobilized

Associated Press

More citizen soldiers from Hawai'i were called to active duty today as Gov. Linda Lingle unveiled new proposals aimed at helping members of the Hawai'i National Guard and their families cope with deployment.

Lingle announced the proposals at a mobilization ceremony for 67 members of the Hawai'i Army National Guard's 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment and 10 soldiers with the 298th Engineering Detachment.

The key measure would make up the difference in pay for state employees whose active duty pay with the National Guard is less than what they make in their civilian jobs. That measure is expected to cost the state about $200,000 a year.

Other proposals would exempt Guard members from vehicle taxes and registration fees, which is expected to cost the state and the counties about $1.3 million in lost revenue, according to Lingle's office.

Another proposal would grant guard members grace periods if their auto registrations, driver's licenses or professional licenses expire while they are away on duty.

Citizen soldiers mobilized today are to undergo two to three months of training at Schofield Barracks before leaving Hawai'i, said Maj. Chuck Anthony, a Guard spokesman.

The public affairs unit — which includes military journalists, cameramen and other media who record and report on the Army's activities — is headed to Afghanistan, while it hasn't yet been announced where the engineers will go, Anthony said.

Meanwhile, about 4,700 members of the Hawai'i Army National Guard and Reserves are at Fort Polk, La., making final preparations for their deployment to Iraq in late February and early March. The citizen soldiers trained for four months at Fort Bliss, Texas, for their mission of providing security around major bases in Iraq.

The Guard and Reserve members head off as more than 12,500 soldiers from the Army's 25th Infantry Division (Light) are scheduled to return from Iraq and Afghanistan in the [illegible]

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Updated at 10:23 a.m., Friday, January 14, 2005

Schofield soldiers return to open arms

just hang out in a non-combat zone.

Davis credited her students at Moanalua High School for helping her get through the lonely months.

"They taught me so much about patience and loyalty. That really got me through. That and my daughter," she said.

Reach Peter Boylan at 535-8110 or pboylan@honoluluadvertiser.com. Staff Writer Mike Gordon contributed to this report.

Olivia gets a big hug from her father.

Spc Daniel Kelly/U.S. Army

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This spouse couldn't wait for the ceremony to be over to hold her husband once more. More than 240 soldiers from the 84th Engineer Battalion and 540th Quartermaster Company returned Wednesday and yesterday to Wheeler Army Airfield after serving a year in Iraq.

Spc Daniel Kelly/U.S. Army

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, December 15, 2004

HAWAI'I BRIEFS

9 in Air Guard Iraq-bound

Advertiser Staff

Nine Hawai'i Air National Guardsmen with the 297th Air Traffic Control Squadron will deploy next week to Iraq to provide air traffic control for U.S. military aircraft.

The Guardsmen will be operating at an undisclosed air base. The 297th was mobilized last year and deployed to an undisclosed location in Iraq.

The nine, based at Kalaeloa, volunteered for this rotation, which is expected to last four months.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, December 19, 2004

Older reservists likely to face Iraq deployment

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Calvin Nomiyama looks and acts every bit like the principal he is at Kalihi Uka Elementary School.

Sitting in his office, the 52-year-old soft-spoken man in gray slacks and nondescript short-sleeved shirt and tie gets most animated talking about the pie charts and graphs on the wall that track the school's reform plan to help kids achieve academic standards.

Kalihi Uka Principal Calvin Nomiyama reads to students. Nomiyama, a colonel in the Army Reserve, may soon deploy to Iraq.

Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

"We're doing exciting things," he said.

But Nomiyama also wears another hat — one with an eagle on it denoting the rank of colonel, and with it, the school principal of 280 kids might soon be off to war.

Nomiyama was one of about 150 Hawai'i-based Army reservists who were recently told to prepare for a likely 18-month mobilization and deployment to Iraq.

The 322nd Civil Affairs Brigade is far from the first Hawai'i Guard or Reserve unit to be called up for active duty, but it is emblematic of the increasing number of professionals or soldiers in their 40s and 50s who are serving in the war.

The Guard and Reserves now make up 40 percent of the 138,000 U.S. troops in Iraq. Stephen M. Duncan, a former assistant secretary of defense for Reserve affairs, predicted that by the spring, that number could be 55 percent, The Philadelphia Inquirer reported.

With calendars marking 2004 and 2005 on the wall behind him, Kalihi Uka Principal Calvin Nomiyama, a colonel with the Army Reserve's 322nd Civil Affairs Brigade, based in Hawai'i, works in his office at the school knowing that he may soon be deployed to Iraq.

Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

A unit like the 322nd, heavy on lawyers, doctors, engineers and government administrators, gives new meaning to the term senior NCO and officer.

About 70 percent of the soldiers in the brigade are 40 to 60 years of age. About a quarter are 24 or younger.

Sgt. Maj. Cal Sagara is a Vietnam veteran a month shy of his 58th birthday. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert Bretschneider, who was a combat medic in Vietnam, already is 58.

It's one thing for a 24-year-old to put his or her college education on hold, or to serve in Iraq while seeking some direction in life. It's another for entrenched professionals to do so.

"We already have direction in life," replies Dr. Edie Ramsdell, 41, associate director of the comprehensive weight management program at The Queen's Medical Center.

Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Irie, 45, says wearing 40 to 50 pounds of full combat gear every day is a bit of a strain for older reservists.

Ramsdell also is part of the 322nd, and facing possible call-up. Speculation among the reservists is that they will go to Iraq sometime after the Jan. 30 elections there.

"The hospital's been super supportive, but we've been really working very diligently to get this program off the ground," Ramsdell said. "We've been starting this brand new program, and Uncle Sam comes calling."

Reservists like Ramsdell and Nomiyama knew what they were getting into when they signed up — in Nomiyama's case 33 years ago. For the first time, he's hearing the bugle call to war.

Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

There's still a chance he won't have to deploy. He admitted there's not even a small piece of him that wants to go.

"Not one bit," said Nomiyama, who is married but has no kids. "It's centered around the job here. I've got a really good thing going."

If he goes, he'll have a job with the Department of Education upon return, but not as principal of Kalihi Uka School.

He also understands his obligation.

"I've benefited a lot from the Army. You can't just take something. You've gotta give something back," he said. "Plus, duty, honor, country — it goes without saying."

Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Irie, 45, with the 411th Engineer Battalion, has been there, done that. In fact, he's still doing it.

Irie, who works as a range operations officer at Schofield Barracks in the civilian world, is back in Hawai'i on R&R from Camp Liberty — formerly called Camp Victory North — northeast of Baghdad International Airport.

The 600 reservists at Camp Liberty include about 300 from Hawai'i, a company each from Alaska and Guam, soldiers from American Samoa and about 100 from the Mainland. They have worked on medical centers, churches, office space and the base post office.

"We travel to like five different locations, so not just Liberty," Irie said. "It's the whole Baghdad area."

Irie said about 40 percent of the engineer battalion is about age 24; 20 percent is 30 to 40 years of age; and about 20 reservists are in their 50s.

Irie is one of those soldiers who knows he's not 20 years old anymore.

"Lugging things around is not easy, especially keeping up with the younger soldiers," he said. "Yes, it puts a strain on all of us having full battle rattle (full combat gear) every single day."

That's 40 to 50 pounds of gear. The Waipahu man said it takes a toll on your back and legs.

"It is an issue, but we all try to think we're still young at heart," he said. "We take our little beating. It's a little extra that we have to put into it."

But he added that "everyone's actually in pretty good shape."

Ramsdell joined a reserve civil affairs unit in Chicago in May of 2003 and switched to the 322nd with a move to Hawai'i in March of last year.

She said she did so in large part to take advantage of excellent preventive medicine and public health courses the Army has to offer.

"I really enjoy my patients. It's going to be real really hard to leave the clinic and my colleagues. We've worked really hard to develop an outstanding program," Ramsdell said. "I understand. I don't want to say I'm not looking forward to serving my country. It's what we do."

Like many others his age, Nomiyama joined the Army Reserve in 1971 to avoid going to the Vietnam War. His unit, the famed 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment — now also training for Iraq duty — was coming off a mobilization.

"I convinced myself that since they had come back for demobilization, I was safe for the next six years," Nomiyama said.

"Then after six years, I thought, it's not bad. There's good people, you get to do a lot of things you wouldn't normally do."

People he got to know in the Reserves became mentors.

"It's that camaraderie that makes you want to stay on — plus there wasn't the threat of war," said Nomiyama, who's a planner and trainer with the 322nd.

Irie said it's harder for reservists 30 and younger to deploy to a war zone like Iraq because they've got young kids to take care of. Older reservists may have children in college.

"They still miss their wife and all that," Irie said, "but it's the little kids that make the hardship."

There's also the experience that a reservist like an educator brings to Iraq.

"That's what we're doing right now (in Iraq) — we have operations to get into the colleges, the universities, elementary schools," Irie said. " ... Yes, it puts everything on hold here in Hawai'i for the students here, but there's another gain on the other side."

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, January 2, 2005

Tsunami aid mission leaving O'ahu tomorrow

Advertiser Staff

A Coast Guard C-130 will take off from Barbers Point tomorrow to carry emergency supplies and personnel for humanitarian missions to help victims of the tsunami that hit South Asia.

Not far behind will be approximately 100 Marines and sailors and six helicopters that will deploy on another mercy mission to the region.

The U.S. Coast Guard will launch a C-130 airplane from Air Station Barbers Point tomorrow at 8 a.m. The primary cargo will consist of food, water, and emergency medical and shelter supplies.

U.S. Coast Guard personnel from the Coast Guard Pacific Area Strike Team from Alameda, Calif., will make initial assessments of hazardous materials and conditions in the vicinity of Sri Lanka, Indonesia, the Maldives, Malaysia and Thailand. The team will make assessments of cleanup requirements and long-term support for operations in the region.

In addition to Hawai'i crews from Air Station Barbers Point, the Coast Guard will launch an additional C-130 airplane with strike team members and supplies attached to Coast Guard Air Station Sacramento, Calif.

The Marines and sailors will deploy from Marine Corps Base Hawai'i. The helicopters are six CH-53D Sea Stallions from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362, the "Ugly Angels."

The commanding officer is Lt. Col. Scott Minaldi. The helicopters will be airlifted via C-5 Galaxy cargo aircraft to the region, where they probably will be used to transport emergency relief supplies and help evacuate injured people.

The Marines and sailors are deploying from the squadron and from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, both assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 24.

The length of their deployment and return date have not been determined.

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Posted on: Friday, December 31, 2004

Pearl Harbor team heading to ravaged region

By Will Hoover
Advertiser Staff Writer

In what's being called the largest deployment of its kind since World War II, virtually the entire Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit 6 at Pearl Harbor began loading up 16,000 pounds of equipment yesterday before shipping out this weekend for Indonesia and then on to Sumatra.

The exercise is part of a joint U.S. military effort to move relief supplies and personnel into tsunami-ravaged South Asia as fast as possible. The Pacific Command is coordinating the relief effort.

Pearl Harbor's Unit 6 is one of only four such teams in the Navy, and 31 of the unit's 39 epidemiologists, entomologists, industrial hygenicists, lab technicians, environmental health and preventive medicine specialists will be involved in the humanitarian assistance effort.

That team will be augmented by a dozen specialists from other areas, bringing the total team number to 43, said Capt. Gail Hathaway, a physiologist and the officer in charge of the unit.

"We're packing right now," Hathaway said. "Most likely we'll be going this weekend. We have a lot of water testing supplies, we have equipment we use to track mosquitoes. This is what we do all the time."

In addition to the Navy team, members of the Hawai'i Air National Guard's 154th Security Forces Squadron, 154th Wing, received the word they're being mobilized to assist with tsunami relief and recovery. Members could leave as soon as this weekend, a news release said. At least 26 airmen will be on active duty for at least 45 days, under the command of Pacific Air Forces.

According to Commander Fred Landro, a public health doctor who is deputy officer in charge of Unit 6, the task force requested a multi-disciplinary preventive medicine team.

"And we are that team," Landro said, who added that how long the team remains in South Asia will be up to the Indonesian government.

"Our initial orders are for 90 days, but we're anticipating that we'll be there for 45 days," he said. "It's their country and they know what's best. We will tell them all our capabilities, and they will direct us."

Landro said the team will tackle some of the worst conditions in the tsunami-stricken area.

"In Sumatra, the northern province of Banda Aceh is a very. very impoverished area. to begin with," he said. "These people have lost everything they have. The wells have all been contaminated with sea water or with sewage."

He said the team anticipates encountering some of the most grisly scenes imaginable.

Lt. Commander Duane Eggert, unit operations officer, said he expects the experience in Indonesia will eclipse anything he found when he did similar work in Iraq in 2003.

"Even though it's a humanitarian mission, I think this is much worse than anything we had over there," Eggert said. "With this, you're talking all sorts of infectious diseases and dead bodies floating everywhere. Just from the footage I've seen, it's pretty hideous."

Lt. Pete Obenauer, chief entomologist, will be one of the team's most important players because of his knowledge of eradicating flying insects.

"The country is littered with some of the most fascinating insects any entomologist ever encountered," said Obenauer, who has extensive experience in humanitarian relief operations. "We're going into an area with plenty of mosquitoes, as well as mites and ticks. So, there's lots of vector-borne diseases to fight."

Reach Will Hoover at whoover@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8038.

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Posted on: Wednesday, January 5, 2005

More Hawai'i teams sent to help with relief

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — Three more teams from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command are deploying to the devastated tourist resort area of Phuket, Thailand, to help recover and identify the dead from the Dec. 26 tsunami.

The 21 military and civilian team members, including forensic anthropologists, odontologists, mortuary affairs specialists and medics, will join two accounting command teams in Thailand.

Sgt. Ronald Taylor, Sgt. 1st Class David Groce and Sgt. 1st Class Devon Escoffery, from left, stack food boxes destined for Thailand.

Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

One estimate put the number of confirmed dead at more than 5,000 in Thailand, with 4,500 still missing. Half are foreigners.

"Generally, because we're working with remains from World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War, (this) is a different effort for sure. Time is of the essence," said Elizabeth Goodman, a forensic anthropologist with the command. "Generally, we have some time to work things out, but this is going to be move, move, move."

The nature of identification is changing by the day. Increasingly, fingerprints and photographs don't help as decomposition progresses.

"So we have to start moving towards, are there dental records available?" Goodman said. Dental samples are being taken to do nuclear DNA analysis.

The teams will be used to identify Americans, many of whom were vacationing in Thailand.

"That's a burden that they will take off the Thais and other countries," said Lt. Col. Mark Brown, a spokesman for the accounting command.

Goodman said there were 300 forensic anthropologists in South Asia from 18 countries. Personnel are working frantically at makeshift morgues, including ones in Buddhist temples, to identify the dead.

Army Sgt. Ronald Taylor, 29, a photographer who was helping pack water, military rations, tents and duffel bags yesterday, said, "It's going to be emotional. But the main thing is helping the people that need to be helped."

The three latest teams are expected to leave tonight on a C-17 transport. Taylor, from Beaumont, Texas, will go as a photographer and videographer tasked with documenting the mission, but he also will be attached to a Marine unit.

"Whatever mission they have for me to do, that's what I'll do," he said. "I might be delivering water."

The teams are joining up with 14 other accounting command personnel already in Phuket. Teams also could be sent to Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

Derek Benedix, 34, a civilian forensic anthropologist who's making the trip, described the recoveries the accounting command usually goes out on as "bio-archaeological" missions.

"This is more of a strictly forensic anthropological investigation," he said. "For me, it's OK, because I worked at the medical examiner's office when I was in grad school."

Goodman said the teams already in Thailand are on their second or third day of "really working" after hammering out the logistics of getting to Phuket and setting up.

Thirty-nine members of the Hawai'i Air National Guard's 154th Security Forces Squadron are preparing to deploy today to help in the relief effort.

The deployments are the latest from Hawai'i ordered by U.S. Pacific Command, headquartered at Camp Smith. Adm. Thomas B. Fargo said about about 13,000 U.S. military personnel are in theater or on the way.

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Posted on: Thursday, December 30, 2004

113 Schofield soldiers returning

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The return today of 113 Schofield Barracks soldiers signals the start of the long road home for Hawai'i-based service members in a year that has brought one deployment after another to Iraq and Afghanistan. Soon, the total number of deployed will exceed 15,000.

About 100 soldiers with the 40th Quartermaster Company and 13 with the 84th Engineer Battalion are expected to arrive this morning at Wheeler Army Airfield after nearly a year in Iraq.

Adrienne Eckstein, whose husband, Lt. Col. Jeffrey R. Eckstein, commands the 84th Engineer Battalion, yesterday said, "In general, of course, the whole post is anxiously awaiting their spouses coming home. For the 84th in particular, we feel like we're getting very close."

A handful of 84th soldiers who were part of the advance party to go into Iraq returned a few weeks ago. The rest should be back in January.

"I think everybody just feels very ready to have everybody come home, and I think everybody is just a little tired," she said. "But everybody understands what they are doing over there is important."

Eckstein said as the return date nears, the days and weeks left just seem longer.

"The anticipation — you get pretty excited," she said. "You just anticipate your life going back to what it used to be."

The units are the first in a series to return from Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom since the 25th Infantry Division (Light) left early this year on its first combat deployment since the Vietnam War.

The remaining several hundred soldiers with the 84th Battalion, based out of Balad, north of Baghdad, are expected home in coming weeks. Units such as the 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment; 540th Quartermaster Company; and 25th Transportation Company, will arrive home shortly thereafter.

"Hopefully, they'll come home within the next month or so," said Schofield spokeswoman Capt. Kathy Turner. "It's just hard to say until they are actually manifested."

Most of the 25th Division soldiers deployed to Iraq — about 4,400 with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team based in and around Kirkuk in northern Iraq — were to return in early January but recently had their mission extended by about two months.

Since crossing into Iraq by convoy from Kuwait on Feb. 11, the engineer battalion poured 700 cubic meters of concrete at Logistical Supply Area Anaconda in Balad for a maintenance facility, built a new combat support hospital, worked on POW camps, and supported the transportation of engineering and bridge parts, participating in the repair of several damaged bridges.

The battalion also lost two soldiers. Staff Sgt. Oscar D. Vargas-Medina, 32, of Chicago, and Spc. Ramon C. Ojeda, 22, of Ramona, Calif., were killed on May 1 when their convoy came under attack in Al Amarah.

The soldiers returning today will have to turn in weapons and go through brief administrative duties before being reunited with families. They'll get three days off, have to return for additional administrative duties, and then will get block leave.

In addition to the approximately 5,200 Schofield soldiers in Iraq, another 5,800 are in Afghanistan, about 2,000 Hawai'i Marines are in the two countries along with several hundred Guard and Reserve soldiers.

More than 2,000 Hawai'i National Guard soldiers and 700 reservists with the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment are deploying to Balad and the Baghdad area in February and March.

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Posted on: Friday, December 31, 2004

Schofield 'heroes' home at last

- Photo gallery

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — After nearly a year away, hundreds of convoy trips through Baghdad, Fallujah and Najaf, and 140-degree summertime heat, Sgt. Cheryl Sledge returned to her mom and three ecstatic kids yesterday.

The feeling was mutual. All Sledge could do was hug them one after the other. And then hug them some more.

One of 113 Schofield Barracks soldiers to return from Iraq, Sledge, 30, gave up her M-249 machine gun and had it replaced by a bouquet of flowers.

"It is wonderful. It is the best feeling in the world," she said of being back in Hawai'i.

A year is a long time to be away, and it brought a sense of getting reacquainted.

"Mommy, guess how old I am — 7," said daughter Chatae.

It also brought changes

Col. Michael McBride, commander of U.S. Army, Hawai'i, told the soldiers, "This is an important day for us, this is an important day for the division ... You are all heroes and our nation is grateful."

The soldiers convoyed from Camp Stryker near Baghdad International Airport to Kuwait, and then flew 31 hours with stops in Ireland, New York and California before arriving at Hickam Air Force Base.

It was the first time they didn't have body armor and a weapon close at hand.

"It kind of feels strange right now. I feel too light," said 40th commander Capt. Jerry LaCross. "I'll get used to it quickly, I'm sure."

LaCross, 36, who took command of the unit in August, said the soldiers "did what I asked of them and did it well. They never failed."

Mortars and rockets occasionally would fall on or near Camp Stryker — typical attacks on U.S. forces in Iraq. A few 40th soldiers were injured in a roadside bomb attack, and at least one received shrapnel lacerations.

"A couple went back to duty, a couple re-deployed back to Hawai'i and are OK now," LaCross said.

LaCross, from Alabama, said the soldiers felt what they did was worthwhile.

"Overall, they were happy to be there and do their part," he said. "I'm sure there were days obviously they wished they weren't there, but overall, I think they were happy to be there."

Reuniting with family brings its own challenges after being away so long. There's a lot of catching up.

Three days off will be followed by some counseling and administrative duties, and then the soldiers will have another three to four weeks off.

LaCross' wife, Ashli, said, "We're doing Christmas again today. The children want to celebrate everything he missed."

That means wearing Halloween costumes while opening Christmas presents while eating Thanksgiving dinner and having birthday cake for dessert.

Sgt. Raynard Freitas, 28, a mechanic with the 40th who grew up in Wai'anae, said being away from family for a year was the hardest part.

Before the soldiers' arrival, Michelle Sartain nervously waited for her husband, Sgt. Christopher Sartain, with the 8-month-old son he had never held.

"It's kind of like going out on a first date and meeting him again," she said.

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Posted at 11:46 a.m., Wednesday, December 1, 2004

Deployments extended for Hawai'i-based troops

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

About 4,400 troops of the 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division, which is based in Hawai'i, will have their deployments extended until mid-March, instead of departing in early January, military officials said today. Those soldiers are operating in north-central Iraq.

Also, about 2,300 members of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, based in Okinawa, Japan and in Hawai'i and California, will stay until mid-March instead of leaving in January.

The extensions come as the United States is expanding its military force in Iraq by 12,000 troops, to the highest level since the war began in March 2003, in order to bolster security in advance of national elections, officials said today.

The expansion will be achieved by sending about 1,500 troops from the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, N.C., this month and by extending the combat tours of about 10,400 troops, including thousands of Hawai'i-based troops, already in Iraq.

Brig. Gen. David Rodriquez, deputy operations director of the Joint Staff, told reporters that these moves would increase the size of the American force in Iraq from 138,000 today to about 150,000 by January.

That is the highest number of U.S. troops in Iraq since the invasion, he said. By May 2003, when President Bush declared major combat operations over, there were about 148,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, he said.

Other extensions listed:

- About 3,500 soldiers of the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Cavalry, will be extended until March. These are the soldiers who originally were told they would be leaving Iraq in November.
- About 160 soldiers of the 66th Transportation Company, based in Germany, was due to depart Iraq in early January but instead will stay until early March.

The moves announced today are in line with expectations — a combination of holding some troops in Iraq longer than scheduled and sending some fresh forces from the United States.

Officials have said they were considering sending some elements of the 3rd Infantry to Iraq earlier than scheduled, as part of a force-bolstering plan. But Rodriguez said it was decided that no units will have their deployments accelerated as part of the pre-election security effort.

Security problems are most severe in the area north and west of Baghdad, as well as in the capital itself. Voter registration has not yet begun in the more unstable cities such as Fallujah and Ramadi, west of Baghdad.

Recently there also has been trouble in the northern city of Mosul. Today, U.S. soldiers traveling through Mosul on a mission to discuss the January election with Iraqis came under fire at a gasoline station, witnesses said. One U.S. soldier was wounded in the ensuing gunbattle.

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Posted on: Thursday, November 25, 2004

HAWAI'I BRIEFS

75 sailors will deploy Saturday

The Navy is sending 75 sailors from Patrol Squadron Four to locations in the Western Pacific Saturday in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

The sailors, deploying from Marine Corps Base Hawai'i, are among 390 being sent to support the 5th and 7th Fleet operations.

The squadron, commanded by Cmdr. David Smith, will participate in anti-submarine warfare, reconnaissance, intelligence and surveillance over a six-month period.

Patrol Squadron Four, the "Skinny Dragons," was sent to the Middle East in late 2001 and flew more than 500 combat missions over Afghanistan.

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Posted on: Thursday, February 3, 2005

Troops back from Afghanistan

- Marines in Iraq salute 31 fallen
- Memorial photo gallery

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — In the latest sign that the 25th Infantry Division (Light's) year-long deployments to two war zones are winding down, 61 soldiers with the 725th Main Support Battalion arrived yesterday to be among the first to return from Afghanistan.

"I'm hanging in there. It won't be reality until I see him," said Rhonda Canteen, who was waiting for her husband, 1st Sgt. Gary Canteen, 35, with their four children. "As long as the kids are composed, I'm OK. Once they start to cry, it's a chain reaction."

Sgt. Rafael Conner yesterday held his daughter Nivia, 2, after returning from Afghanistan at Wheeler Army Airfield.

Eugene Tanner • The Honolulu Advertiser

When Canteen did reunite with his family in a hangar at Wheeler, he was assaulted with multiple lei, hugs, kisses and a balloon — pretty much simultaneously.

It's a scene that will be repeated many times over as Schofield soldiers return home in the weeks and months to come.

Nearly 1,000 of the 5,200 Hawai'i soldiers in Iraq have returned, and soldiers with units like the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry "Wolfhounds" were walking around a forward base in Iraq with big grins on their faces in anticipation of the exodus home.

The 5,800 troops in Afghanistan, meanwhile, will be leaving the country over the next couple of months.

Fifteen soldiers with the 725th who were part of an "advance" party returned Jan. 2.

Sgt. Rafael Conner, his 2-year-old daughter in his arms, had a hard time describing just how happy he was to be back yesterday with his family, including two other children 18 and 12. But his smile said it all.

"Being away for one year is life-changing," he said. The 32-year-old New Yorker added that he has mixed feelings about being gone for that long, "but it's gratifying to know my family is safe, and I did so much for my country."

Sgt. Pete Hanson, with daughter Hailey and wife Nikki, was one of the soldiers from the Army's 725th Main Support Battalion to come home.

Eugene Tanner • The Honolulu Advertiser

"They call it 'the other war,' but it was still difficult, still frustrating," he said in a reference to Afghanistan's lower profile than Iraq in the media.

Thirteen Schofield Barracks soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan since the 3rd Brigade Combat team deployed last February and March. An identical number have been killed in Iraq.

Conner attended three memorial services at Bagram Air Base, where he was based.

"Depressing," is how he described them. "Whether you knew them or not, you are part of one team," he said.

Tracy Conner said her husband re-enlisted in Afghanistan to be part of the planned Stryker Brigade at Schofield Barracks. It wasn't a decision she was particularly happy about.

"This is something he wanted to do for his country," she said.

The 25th Division's commander, Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, is the No. 2 U.S. commander in Afghanistan, and the Hawai'i soldiers helped usher in successful elections in Afghanistan in October that saw high voter turnout, low levels of violence and participation by women.

Lt. Gen. John Brown, commander of U.S. Army Pacific at Fort Shafter, recently said, "The first election (in Afghanistan) would not have happened if not for the work of the 25th."

The 725th, providing supplies and services, was spread among Bagram Air Base, Kabul, Kandahar and Khowst. A medical assessment team was in Uzbekistan.

A few soldiers driving trucks were injured from shrapnel from roadside bombs, but there were no major injuries, said Lt. Col. Derek Smith, the battalion's commander.

A band played, and several hundred family members were on hand at Wheeler to greet the returning soldiers.

Nikki Hanson, an Army sergeant and recovery room nurse at Tripler Army Medical Center, said the deployment has been extremely hard.

Sgt. Pete Hanson, 28, who worked with radio repair and operations, had been gone since Feb. 12. Nikki felt Afghanistan was a safer place for her husband than Iraq.

"But you never know. There's no safe spots over there," she said. "He went on a couple of different missions. We didn't hear from him around Christmastime. That was the worst part."

After a year in Afghanistan, he's looking forward to sleeping in, going to the beach, and eating fast food. "He just wants a Big Mac," she said.

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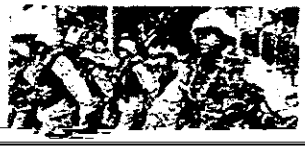
Posted on: Friday, September 3, 2004

250 support troops Iraq-bound

By Rod Ohira
Advertiser Central O'ahu Writer

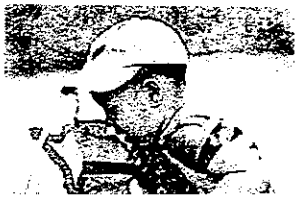
Army Staff Sgt. Dennis Calvert shut his eyes and recalled a five-day family vacation to Maui in July.

In his mind, Calvert sees himself snorkeling with his wife, Florence, and two children — Steven, 11, and Rosella, 7 — in the pristine waters near Molokini Island.



"The water was so blue and the sun's beams shining through it look like prisms," said Calvert, a native of Cambridge, Ohio. It was, he said, "my best memory."

her husband, Nick, is away. She hopes to have a nursing degree when he returns.



"It'll be hard while he's away but we always knew (deployment) might come," Jamie Pullen said. "School will help to keep me busy." Four Hawai'i-born soldiers are in the deployment group.

They are Sgt. 1st Class Darlene (Sakai) Shakur, a Radford High graduate; Staff Sgt. Randy Perez, a 15-year Army veteran from Campbell High; Sgt. Shawn Judd from Wai'anae; and Lance

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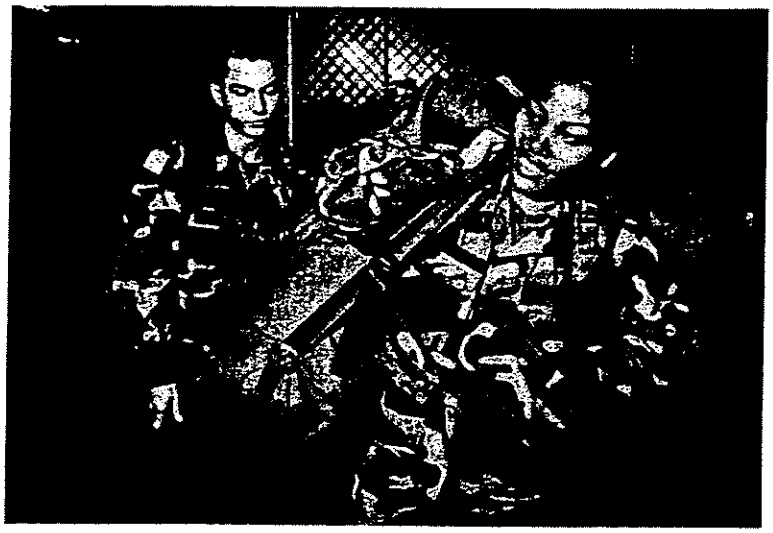
Posted on: Tuesday, August 17, 2004

Hawai'i's Guard prepares for training, Iraq duty



Hawai'i Army National Guard truck drivers Spc. Troy Manandic, left, of 'Aiea, and Spc. Wienee Jacobe, of 'Ewa Beach, haul their gear as they report for the first day of active duty to prepare for deployment to Iraq. They will undergo training first.

Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

- **National Guard activates Rep. Tamayo**
- **Guard duty hits workplaces**

By William Cole
Advertiser Staff Writers

KALAELOA — Separately, they've worried, planned and steeled themselves for the moment that came yesterday.

About 1,000 citizen-soldiers from the Hawai'i Army National Guard's 29th Separate Infantry Brigade came together in formation at Kalaeloa, about 240 reported to Fort Shafter Flats, and others gathered elsewhere in Hawai'i as well as in Saipan, Guam, American Samoa, Oregon and California.

Altogether, about 3,600 Guard and Reserve members officially gave up their civilian lives and jobs yesterday and will spend the next 18 months on active duty, including a year in Iraq, in the first combat duty for the Hawai'i-based brigade since the Vietnam War.

The newly activated soldiers will report to Schofield Barracks throughout the week for billeting and the start of intensive training that will take them to Fort Bliss in Texas in October and the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La., in January before heading to Iraq in February and March.

"It feels different today, that we're actually here," said Spc. Barry Asberry, 20, from Hau'ula, a water treatment specialist with the 29th Support Battalion. "It's just the realization we're actually getting deployed. The realization is starting to sink in."

Those mustering at Kalaeloa — one of several reporting locations on O'ahu — are giving up a variety of civilian jobs. About 2,000 Hawai'i Army National Guard soldiers are being pulled out of civilian life.

Pfc. Levi Barboo, 25, from Kane'ohe, was a student at Windward Community College.

"I was supposed to go to UH. So much for that. Thank

Reservists with the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry gathered with their families at Fort Shafter Flats and then boarded buses for Schofield.

"Of course there were a lot of tearful goodbyes," said Lt. Col. Howard Sugai, a spokesman for the Army's 9th Regional Support Command. "But knowing they will be here for another six weeks makes reporting a little easier."

Soldiers with the 29th Brigade from the neighbor islands will be staying at Schofield Barracks, and all the deploying soldiers will get billeting there. But O'ahu-based Guard soldiers can go home in the evening, said Guard spokesman Maj. Chuck Anthony.

Before leaving for training in Louisiana, the troops are expected to receive a several-week break before Christmas and will be able to come home at that time, but will have to pay their own airfare.

Louis said it helps that she can go home at night, at least for the time being.

"Any time with my family is good," she said. "Even if it's just an hour."

Advertiser staff writer Mike Gordon contributed to this report. Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Posted on: Wednesday, July 21, 2004

War a step closer to home

By Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writer

The citizen soldiers with Hawai'i's Army National Guard moved a step closer to war after receiving orders this weekend to report for active duty Aug. 16, the first step of a yearlong deployment in Iraq.

The August date is a month sooner than what Hawai'i Guard leaders originally expected. The orders came Friday and the soldiers were notified over the past few days.

And in another sign of the strains on the U.S. military in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks and the Iraq war, the Pentagon for the first time is considering extending the mobilization of National Guard soldiers who will soon hit the federal limit of 24 months of active service, defense officials said yesterday.

Regarding the Hawai'i troops, nearly 2,000 men and women with the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade will muster at Kalaeloa for several weeks of preliminary training, said Maj. Charles Anthony, Guard spokesman.

After that, they will travel to Fort Bliss, Texas, sometime in October, Anthony said. In January, the soldiers will need to earn their combat certification at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

Nothing is certain at this point, but Hawai'i Guard leaders are optimistic that the troops will be able to spend time at home between the two training sessions.

The brigade's 12-month mission to Iraq will begin sometime in February when the Hawai'i soldiers arrive in Balad, a city north of Baghdad in the volatile Sunni Triangle. They will replace the 81st Brigade of the Washington Army National Guard.

"It stands to reason there would be a gap there for Christmas and New Year's and they could be home, but we don't have a crystal ball to look that far forward," Anthony said. "It seems likely, though."

Training for the deployment is expected to be rigorous.

"There is going to be a tremendous amount of physical training, calisthenics," Anthony said. "But in the broader sense there will be a lot of physical training in terms of being able to comfortably carry the individual body armor with its ceramic tiles, which can be very heavy."

The armor weighs about 35 pounds.

Those soldiers who live on O'ahu will be able to go home at night during their Hawai'i-based training, Anthony said. Housing is still uncertain for Neighbor Island soldiers, he said.

The decision to extend the deployments of Guard troops, would initially affect approximately 450 soldiers of the Arkansas National Guard who are in Iraq with the 39th Brigade Combat Team. The soldiers, mobilized after Sept. 11 and first sent to the Sinai Peninsula on a peacekeeping rotation, are the first group of Guard members to approach the 24-month limit that the Pentagon established days after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Waiving the limit ultimately might lead to extended deployments for thousands of other reservists and Guard members in Iraq and Afghanistan, and provide ammunition to critics in Congress who are pushing the Bush administration to increase the size of the military.

This article contains information from the Los Angeles Times. Reach Mike Gordon at mgordon@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8012.

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Posted on: Sunday, July 11, 2004

Soldiers saluted at Wheeler

By Will Hoover
Advertiser Staff Writer

Yesterday morning, in a first-of-its-kind occasion in Hawai'i, the state and the military recognized the role Army National Guard soldiers, their families and their employers have played in Operation Enduring Freedom and the war on terrorism.

Staff Sgt. Willie Ray holds his son, Masaki, 3 months, at the Freedom Salute Ceremony for 60 soldiers of the Hawai'i Army National Guard's Company B, 193rd Aviation. After 10 months in Afghanistan, the soldiers were relieved in May by a second rotation of Company B troops.

Rebecca Breyer • The Honolulu Advertiser

The welcome-back Freedom Salute Ceremony for 60 soldiers from Company B, 193rd Aviation took place inside the unit's hangar at Wheeler Army Airfield.

After 10 months as part of the U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan, the unit was relieved by a second rotation of Company B troops in May. While there, the company specialized in helicopter service and maintenance for the Army. Yesterday marked the official salute of thanks.

"This is the first unit from the Hawai'i National Guard that deployed to the war on terrorism when it left for Afghanistan last summer," said state Department of Defense public affairs officer Maj. Charles Anthony, as the 111th Army National Guard Band played in the background.

"This is just a way to give them a nice thank you now that they've had a chance to settle in and relax with their families."

Anthony, who's with the Hawai'i Air National Guard, completed his own tour of duty in Iraq two weeks ago. He and Air National Guard Maj. Pat Fierro were also honored yesterday.

The salute was one of numerous National Guard recognition ceremonies around the country yesterday. The Wheeler celebration, attended by about 350 people, may have established a new standard in military memorabilia disbursed as a way of showing appreciation.

Each soldier received an American flag encased in a glass-and-wood frame, a limited edition commemorative coin, a certificate of appreciation, and a lapel insignia. Spouses of soldiers got their own special lapel insignia and a round of well-deserved applause. Employers and organizations were singled out for awards and Defender of Freedom certificates for their support of the troops.

But the show-stealing focus of fascination turned out to be the Future Soldier footlocker kits that were given to soldiers' kids. The footlockers, which looked like wood but were actually cardboard, contained games, trading cards, a comic book and a file full of "Top Secret" information.

"The awards were really something," said Staff Sgt. Mark Rivera of Waipahu, who like most of the 60 soldiers dressed in desert-camouflage uniforms, wrestled with an armload of thank you remembrances. "This has really been an honor for the soldiers, the families and the employers."

As guest speaker, Gov. Linda Lingle thanked the unit members for their

dedication and sacrifice in helping to liberate the people of Afghanistan and fighting for the ideals of this country.

Gov. Linda Lingle welcomes home Spc. Sean Kaupu at the Wheeler ceremony. Before leaving, Lingle walked up and down the aisles, shaking hands and thanking every soldier for their service.

Rebecca Breyer • The Honolulu Advertiser

"You were representing our country and protecting our freedom, and that's what your families will remember you for in the years ahead," she said.

But there was more. Lingle had her own surprise — in the form of House Bill 1904, which she signed into law right at the podium and presented to the state adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Robert Lee.

The bill will increase a National Guard soldier's annual allowable income tax deduction from $1,750 to $2,500 beginning in 2005, and incrementally raise the amount to a total of $4,725 a year over the following five years.

There are issues that Republicans, Democrats, senators and representatives disagree about, Lingle said. That's part of the political process, she said.

"But there is a subject that we have complete nonpartisan agreement on, and that's our desire to do something more for our troops." she said.

"We wanted to do something that was a significant and concrete expression of our appreciation."

Before leaving Wheeler for another scheduled engagement, Lingle slowly walked up and down the aisles, shaking the hands and thanking each soldier and members of his or her family.

"I'm so happy you came home," Lingle said to Sgt. Gilbert Pascua.

There was little doubt his wife, Kellie, and daughters Kilinahe, 2, and Anuhea, 6, agreed with the sentiment.

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Posted on: Friday, July 9, 2004

Hawai'i National Guard Iraq-bound in February

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Nearly 2,000 Hawai'i Army National Guard soldiers are deploying to Iraq in February

The Hawai'i brigade will be headquartered at Logistical Support Area Anaconda in Balad, an airfield about 50 miles north of Baghdad, but units could be farmed out from there.

As of May, the base had 17,000 troops. Smaller "forward operating bases" are spread out across the region.

About 200 Hawai'i Army National Guard soldiers with Company C, 193rd Aviation, deployed to Balad with Chinook helicopters in March.

According to GlobalSecurity.org, a Virginia-based think tank focusing on the military, most troops at Anaconda had been moved by June into trailers with air conditioning. Four cafeteria-style dining facilities are run on the post.

Two National Guard soldiers attached to the 81st Brigade were killed June 22 in an ambush near the base, which comes under periodic mortar and rocket attack, and gunmen strafed a Turkish truck yesterday on the road between Samarra and Balad, The Associated Press reported.

Maj. Gen. Robert Lee, the state adjutant general, said yesterday that he would rate the brigade as "well prepared," given one weekend of training a month and two weeks a year.

There has been a lot of concentration on platoon-level training, he added.

"I honestly believe, whether it's Afghanistan or Iraq, war is won at the platoon level, so I think that (emphasis) is appropriate," Lee said.

Additional training will be held to identify roadside bombs and to improve convoy safety, cultural awareness and weapons use. The mobilization station has not yet been identified.

Lee said a good share of the deploying soldiers are older, with about two dozen Vietnam veterans, bringing experience to the group. "They are like the dads looking after the young pups," Lee said.

Bihag, who works in security with Burns Security, said he has been to Thailand and Germany for exercises, but this is his first combat deployment.

"I always wanted to say I did something (in the Army)," he said, adding that he's not worried about the yearlong deployment. He's also single.

"It's just some of the guys who have mortgages or really good-paying jobs. They are having some problems," Bihag said.

Yoshimura said he looks at the deployment as an adventure — a dangerous one, he admits.

"It hasn't sunk in yet," he said. "I think when that plane door opens and I'm standing on Iraqi soil, it will hit me — that and the 105 temperature."

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Guard troops return after 9 months in Afghanistan

By Curtis Lum
Advertiser Staff Writer

WAHIAWA — They say soldiers aren't supposed to cry. Tell that to Spc. 4 Maria Eugenio and Sgt. John Oliveros Jr., who were among the 62 Hawai'i Army National Guard members who returned last night from a nine-month deployment to Afghanistan.

Eugenio, a single mother from Waipahu, was greeted by her mother, Victoria Santos, and 3-year-old daughter, Naomi, at Wheeler Army Airfield. As soon as the soldiers entered the hangar, Eugenio saw her daughter and her eyes welled with tears.

"They tell you to be strong, but it's hard," said Eugenio, who turned 24 on Monday and missed Naomi's third birthday in August. "This is a good birthday gift for me."

"He can't wait. He wants to go see Daddy," Jeannette Domingo said.

Reach Curtis Lum at culum@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8025.

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Division takes control in Afghanistan

April 1

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Photo(s) by Sgt. Bradley Rhen
Soldiers from the 25th ID (L) board a plane March 24 at Hickam Air Force Base.

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Main body leaves for Afghanistan

By Sgt. Bradley Rhen, Editor

The main body of Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) began deploying to Afghanistan last week.

Eventually, about 4,500 Soldiers will deploy for a one-year rotation in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Soldiers deploying to OEF-A are from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Aviation Brigade, Division Artillery, Division Support Command and the Division Headquarters.

The deployment is personal for Pfc. Michael Hennigan, who works in the S-3 shop for 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment. Hennigan, who is originally from New York City, deployed from Hickam Air Force Base March 24.

He said he knows several people who lost family and friends in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack.

"It was tragic. It was devastating. It was an awful day," he said. "A lot of innocent people lost their lives unnecessarily. A lot of emergency workers who responded there lost their lives."

Hennigan has been in the Army for just over 11 months now. He said one of the main reasons he joined the Army was to help pay back those responsible for the attacks.

"Going to Afghanistan, being from New York, is absolutely where I want to go," Hennigan said. "I'm looking forward to doing anything I can to contribute to our mission in Afghanistan."

Maj. Lance Davis, operations officer for 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt., said he is anxious just to get in-country.

"I was over there three or four weeks ago, and in my mind, one of the biggest hurdles is just getting into the country," he said.

As part of the 3rd BCT, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt. will be headquartered in Kandahar and will conduct stability, sustainment and combat operations. Davis said that Afghanistan is coming out of winter and going into spring, and with all that's been happening in the news, he expects an increase in activity.

"We're going over there ready to have our guard up and know that we'll probably be involved in combat operations right off the bat," Davis said.

The Hawaii-based Soldiers will be at several locations throughout Afghanistan and will have a variety of missions.

The Division Headquarters will be located at Bagram Air Base and will serve as the Combined Joint Task Force headquarters for coalition units in country.

The 25th Aviation Brigade will be operating from both Bagram Air Base and Kandahar.

The Division Support Command will operate as the Joint Logistics Command, and will be headquartered and operating from Bagram Air Base. The JLC is providing logistics support to the CJTF forces throughout the area of operations.

April 1

Schofield Soldiers settle in Bagram Air Base

By Spc. Daniel P. Kelly, 25th ID (L) Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan -- After more than 36 hours of flying more than halfway

5,000 sent off in style to OEF, OIF

March 25

5,000 sent off in style to OEF, OIF

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Friday, March 19, 2004

Middle East mission 'a first' for division

By Will Hoover
Advertiser Staff Writer

Yesterday, on the eve of the first anniversary of the war in Iraq, thousands of soldiers bound for Afghan-istan beginning next week received a glorious send-off at Schofield Barracks, complete with brass bands, speeches and dignitaries — and emotions that ranged from pride to gratitude among hundreds of family, friends and well-wishers.

Members of the 411th Engineer Battalion were among 5,000 soldiers who participated in the deployment ceremony yesterday at Schofield Barracks. Sometime in the next three weeks, the 600-member battalion will deploy to Iraq to build roads and new schools.

Gregory Yamamoto • The Honolulu Advertiser

Row upon row of soldiers in battle gear with weapons spread out across Sills Field — nearly 5,000 strong — on what Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commander of the 25th Infantry Division (Light), called a historic occasion.

The assignment of some 5,000 soldiers to Afghanistan, along with more than 4,000 Schofield-based soldiers already in Iraq, will mark the largest deployment of the 25th Infantry Division since the Vietnam War.

Those numbers, in addition to 150 Kane'ohe Marines already en route, as well as 600 Hawai'i Army reservists and Army National Guard bound for Iraq, will bring Hawai'i's troop strength in the Middle East to around 10,000.

"The 25th Infantry Division has historically been focused on the Pacific theater," Olson said at a press briefing before he addressed the crowd. "There has been no major deployment out of the Pacific theater.

"So this is really a first for us."

The element of fear

It was also a new experience for Christina Ballew, whose husband of 15 years, 1st Sgt. Gary Ballew, will be deploying for the first time. She said the prospect can be frightening to her and the couple's two daughters, Brittany, 14, and Ashley, 12.

"It's a little scary," Christina Ballew said. "This is new for my two daughters. It's a little harder for them than I thought it would be, to be honest. They're obviously at an age that they understand what's going on. They watch the news and hear other people talking.

"So, you try to soften it a little bit for them."

Ballew said above all she and her daughters are proud of her husband's commitment.

"He's doing something that's very honorable, I believe," she said.

Olson seemed to relish what will be his expanded role once he arrives in Afghanistan.

"In this case the fight in Afghanistan is going to be built around the 25th Infantry Division," he said. "It's going to be

soldiers from lots of other commands. All the other services are going to be represented, and various nations who are going to be providing forces.

"And my role there will be as the combined joint task force commander, as well as being the division commander."

Find enemies, then secure

Olson described the mission in Afghanistan as twofold. The first is to find and capture or kill the enemies of America, whether al-Qaida or other terrorist groups. The second is to establish a secure environment so terrorists can never again use the country as a sanctuary.

Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, right, and Command Sgt. Maj. Franklin G. Ashe participated in the casing of 25th Infantry Division colors during the deployment ceremony yesterday at Schofield Barracks.

Gregory Yamamoto • The Honolulu Advertiser

"I'm very excited to hear the reports that a key al-Qaida leader may be almost in our grasp," he said, referring to reports yesterday that al-Qaida's No. 2 man, Ayman al-Zawahri, may be surrounded by Pakistani troops in fierce fighting along the Pakistan/Afghanistan border.

According to Patricia Simoes, a spokeswoman for the 25th, the Afghanistan deployment will operate differently than the Iraq deployment, which began in mid-January. In that instance thousands of soldiers were sent to Iraq over a two- to three-week period, she said.

The Afghanistan deployment will take much longer because it involves a number of different missions in various locations.

"This one we start next week and it's going to take us all the way through April — and even in May maybe," she said.

For Sgt. Brian Mickles, 24, who returned from fighting in Iraq in June, it will be a second trip to the Middle East. He described his new mission as an honor.

"I'm excited because this is a privilege for the 25th to be able to go on its first combat deployment in years," he said. "It's very special for me to be a part of that. I feel that we're ready."

But even he expressed some trepidation.

"I'm pretty sure everybody has some kind of fear about going," said Mickles, who will lead a team of four men in his squad. "Everybody has a fear of being shot at. But bravery can overcome that."

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, March 15, 2004

Iraq-bound reservists say their goodbyes

By Beverly Creamer
Advertiser Staff Writer

Folded carefully and tucked inside Nerony Tuimalealiifano's military fatigues are two crayon drawings, gifts offered by his 9-year-old daughter, Nileen, and 7-year-old son, Elijah, as Tuimalealiifano left American Samoa to join his U.S. Army Reserve unit called up for service in Iraq.

"It reminds me of the family," he said softly, touching the place where the drawings of his two youngest children are held against his heart. After 17 years in the Army Reserve, this is the engineer's first deployment.

Tuimalealiifano bent his head in the bright Kunia sunshine outside the Kanana Fou Samoan church, where more than 800 family members and community well-wishers had gathered in a show of support for the 411th Engineer Battalion.

Sometime in the next three weeks, the 600-member battalion made up of engineers, electricians, masons, plumbers, police officers, cooks, heavy equipment officers, teachers and others, will be on its way to serve in Iraq, building roads, repairing schools and designing and engineering new systems where needed.

The battalion has been gathered from 26 states, and as far away as Guam and American Samoa. But with 40 members from American Samoa, yesterday's service was a celebration of strength and unity.

American Samoa Gov. Togiola Tulafono told congregation members, many of them dressed in combat fatigues, that each person would be blessed on his or her way to the Middle East.

"Your body will be unseen, invisible," Tulafono said in the Samoan language, "but your eyes will be bright to see everything."

The Samoan expression is often used as people face danger or go off to an uncertain future, said Rita Achica, who served in the city and county information office under former Mayor Frank Fasi.

Twelve of the Iraq-bound reservists are family friends — "I know the parents," Achica said — and one is a distant relative.

For Patrick Tulafono, these moments were especially difficult. His wife, Moetoto, an assistant manager at a Pizza Hut in Tafuna, American Samoa, will be gone for 15 months — a year in Iraq and three months more in Hawai'i.

It means the duties of parenting their two young children, ages 3 and 5, will fall on his shoulders. He's trying to plan how to adjust to life as a single parent and to juggle the children's school schedule with his job as an information systems officer for the Development Bank.

"It was really a shock," Patrick Tulafono said of the deployment, adding that the children don't yet truly understand.

"It will hit them later on," he said.

Frank Lefiti, too, is facing a long haul as Mr. Mom.

"Or Mrs. Dad," he said with a laugh. With six children between the ages of 2 and 12, and his wife, Filomena, leaving for Iraq, Lefiti said he feels fortunate that he can cook.

"But I would rather have her back with us, safe and sound," he said. The children are trying to understand why their mother is leaving, "but it's hard right now."

Concerned, 12-year-old Sofe's school classmates wrote her a letter of encouragement.

About 12 percent of the reservists are women, and battalion commander Lt. Col. Jonathan Wung acknowledged the anxieties that families are facing.

"It's a long deployment, and they're not used to it," he said of the reservists. For many, it will be their first deployment.

"When I speak to them, they're highly motivated," he said. "But they're all going through separation anxiety. That's a tough thing."

It's made tougher by the fact that their families' lives go forward despite the war. Some have parents who are ill. Others have just had babies or

"Soldiers have a lot of things on their minds," said Wung.

Alefosio Paulo does. A high-school math teacher, he stands with his wife, Josephine, cradling their first child.

Evangeline is just a month old and her dark head wobbles against her father's chest. Tiny fingers are hidden in baby mittens.

By the time her father returns, she will be walking, babbling a few words and eating solid food.

Paulo's eyes are moist as he holds his newborn. But it's his wife who speaks of the hardest thing ahead — "raising a child by myself."

As the service ended, with the choir singing a moving "Glory, glory hallelujah ... " chorus, and tears clouding the eyes of many, the governor of American Samoa had another message.

"May all Samoa come together and pray for your safety," he said in his native tongue. "Our lives are going with you."

But for 26-year-old Bill Sapolu, a Honolulu Police Department foot patrolman who has been with the force just a year, there is just one important thing he'll take with him.

Standing alone among those who didn't get seats for the service, Sapolu glanced down at his gold wedding band.

"Just this," he said.

The helicopter crew chief acknowledged that the news of deployment was rough.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, March 8, 2004

Families get ready for Guard deployment

By Karen Blakeman
Advertiser Staff Writer

Hawai'i National Guard soldiers got a little down time with their families yesterday, a bit of a breather before Company C, 193rd Aviation heads out to the Middle East later this month.

For the next year, the Chinook helicopter unit — with about 200 of Hawai'i's citizens — will ferry soldiers and supplies across hostile territory and provide combat support in Iraq.

Spc. Ricky Bell of Kapolei plays with his 7-month-old daughter, Alena Sirin-Bell, at the lu'au for the Hawaii Army National Guard at Wheeler Army Airfield.

Rebecca Breyer • The Honolulu Advertiser

Since the Guardsmen and women were taken out of their civilian jobs across the state and placed on full-time military duty in January, they've worked long, hard hours preparing for the trip, with little off-duty time for anything beyond sleep.

Yesterday, the Guard threw Company C families a lu'au, which included long tables decorated with orchids and pineapples and stretching the length of a hangar at Wheeler Army Airfield, and inflatable bouncers for the children near the hangar doors. A band, made up of Company C Guard soldiers, warmed up as Capt. Joe Laurel, company commander, stood next to one of the two remaining CH-47 Chinook helicopters and discussed the deployment.

"It's been a challenging mobilization period," he said. "But the company is over the hump."

Most of Company C's Chinooks have been shipped out to the Middle East, so flying time is down. The company has one more major exercise this week: Its soldiers will learn, under realistic conditions, to protect their ground convoy across Iraq should it come under fire.

"Real bullets, real vehicles — the culmination of a lot of the training we've been through to date," Laurel said.

But the primary focus of the next couple of weeks, Laurel said, will be the soldiers' families.

"The National Guard has ponied up with an aircraft and flown some of them over here from the Neighbor Islands," Laurel said. Families of some Ohio soldiers who have been training and will deploy with the Hawai'i Guard soldiers also are flying in over the next weeks, he said.

In addition to spending time with the soldiers, the next weeks will be a time for family members to solidify the company's Family Readiness Group, an organization that will keep the families informed during the company's absence.

Leilani Kerr, wife of the company's executive officer, 1st Lt. Chris Kerr, said the Family Readiness Group has been meeting in small gatherings since January. The information passed on is extremely helpful for families of soldiers who were part-timers and don't fully understand the military benefits available to them now that the spouses are on full-time active duty.

The first half-hour of the meetings are business, she said. Trying to figure out how to get money so the

How to help the families

People and organizations interested in assisting the families of the Guard's Company C, 193rd Aviation may contact Leilani Kerr at Kerrlei003@hawaii.rr.com.

Organizations wishing to adopt a deploying platoon in Company C or any other Guard, Reserve or active-duty unit may contact George Vickers at vickersg001@hawaii.rr.com.

"They had some really weird things on those lists," she said. "Like panty liners. Why do they need panty liners? Well, to put in their helmets to

Leilani's activities with the FSG won't stop her from snatching her husband away from work and taking him to some quiet place in the coming days, where he can spend time with her and the couple's four children.

Esther, 7, and Zachary, 5, don't seem to fully understand what is going on with their father, she said. The older two children, Titus, 9, and Micah, 10, ask a lot of questions.

"Like: What if Daddy gets killed in the war?" Leilani said. Esther, who stood at her mother's knee, made a noise in a singsong voice. Her mother kept talking.

The couple tell the children that Daddy has been working so hard these past weeks so that he will be very well trained to survive the deployment, she said.

"We reinforce our faith in God and say Daddy will be OK, and he'll be protected," she said.

Esther looked up. She asked her question in a tiny voice: "But how do you know?"

But she stepped away before Leilani had a chance to answer, and she moved toward her father and climbed into his arms.

Reach Karen Blakeman at 535-2430 or kblakeman@honoluluadvertiser.com.

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Photo(s) by Spc. Sean Kimmons
Col. Lloyd Miles, 2nd BCT commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Jerry Taylor, 2nd BCT command sergeant major, uncase the brigade's colors Feb. 19 at a transfer of authority ceremony.

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2nd BCT assumes authority of Kirkuk area

By Spc. Sean Kimmons, 25th ID (L) PAO

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq -- Nearly a year after parachuting into enemy territory, the 173rd Airborne Brigade was relieved of its area of operations by the 2nd Brigade Combat Team Feb. 19 during a transfer of authority ceremony here.

"Today marks the official transfer of authority for the Al Tamin and Al Sulayminiah provinces from the Bayonet Brigade to the Warrior Brigade," said Col. Lloyd Miles, 2nd BCT commander. "This transfer of authority is indeed a visible symbol of America's unwavering commitment to the people of Iraq."

With its newly-assigned AO, the 2nd BCT becomes the first brigade-sized element from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) to operate in a combat zone since the Vietnam War. Nearly 3,000 Soldiers from 2nd BCT are spread out over Northern Iraq in support of OIF II.

More than 1,000 Soldiers from 45th Corps Support Group (Forward) and Aviation Bde. are also supporting operations in Northern Iraq.

Miles said the 2nd BCT's new mission will change the lives of its Soldiers forever.

"Over the course of the next year, you will be more than just peacekeepers. At times, you will also be ambassadors in uniform, negotiators, teachers, friends [and more]," Miles said. "You are superbly trained and led, and I am confident that you will advance the democratic process and add another story to the proud history of your unit."

Col. William Mayville, 173rd Airborne Bde. commander, welcomed the 2nd BCT and ensured them that their time here will be worthwhile and challenging.

"This land will test your skills as Soldiers, as well as challenge your pursuit for peace. But I am confident that you will be successful in every endeavor," he said.

Soldiers of 173rd Airborne Bde. are ready to redeploy home to Vicenza, Italy, but heading home with missions still ongoing and saying goodbye to new friends will leave most with mixed emotions, Mayville said.

"We are anxious to go home and be with our loved ones, but at the same time we have invested much of ourselves over the past year," Mayville said.

Unfinished or not, Soldiers of 173rd Airborne Bde. left their mark in history.

"You have shown the Iraqi people the side of what it means to be Americans," Mayville said. "You have liberated this province and unshackled the Iraqi people."

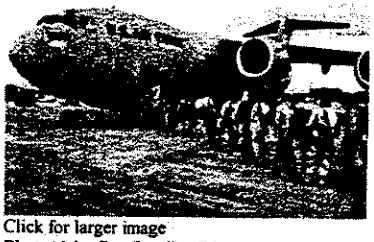
"In the aftermath of conflict, you have restored the municipal services, health and education. You have also created police, public safety and ICDC [Iraqi Civil Defense Corps] forces," Mayville added.

Battalion leaders from both brigades, and representatives from the ICDC and Iraqi police formed with their guidons outside of the Warrior tactical operations center during the ceremony. Miles said for both forces to stand in formation together represented the ongoing missions with another.

"It is appropriate that in this ceremony, Coalition Forces are standing shoulder to shoulder with Iraqi security of the ICDC and Iraqi police, for this is the road to the future," Miles said.

Miles also expressed hope for a brighter future to the Iraqi people but said it would not be an easy task.

"Never again must the forces of terror, tyranny and brutality be allowed to rule this land," he said.



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Photo(s) by Sgt. Bradley Rhen
Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan board an Air Force C-17 Feb. 12 at Hickam Air Force Base. About 150 Soldiers from the 25th ID (L) and USARHAW left Feb. 12 for a year-long deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom - Afghanistan.

First flights leave for Afghanistan

By Sgt. Bradley Rhen, Editor

At this time last year, Pvt. Willie Morgan was in high school.

Today, the 18-year-old Atlanta native is in Afghanistan.

Morgan was one of about 150 Soldiers who flew out of Hickam Air Force Base Thursday for a year-long deployment to Afghanistan.

Two flights left Thursday, marking the beginning of the second major deployment this year for the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii. About 4,500 Hawaii-based Soldiers will deploy to Afghanistan between now and April.

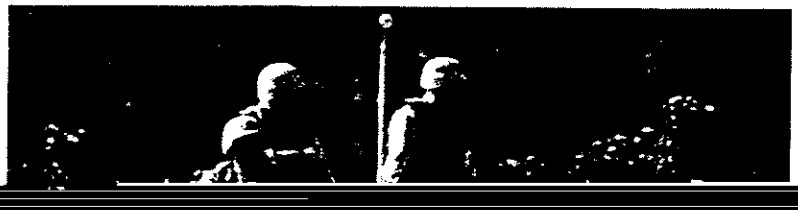
Last month, about 4,000 Soldiers deployed for a year-long mission in Iraq.

Morgan, a generator mechanic from Company D, 725th Main Support Battalion, said he enlisted in the Army last March around the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While at Basic Training, he knew there was a possibility he would go to war.

"I knew anything could happen," he said. "If I don't go, I don't go, [illegible]

Starbulletin.com

Sunday, January 11, 2004



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Top officials in Hawaii paint a rosy future for a continued strong military presence -- with more than $4 billion pumped into the state's economy annually.

Last month, the CongressDaily noted that Schofield Barracks was among the biggest winners in federal funding last year. "As usual, Hawaii was among the top 10 states receiving fiscal 2004 military construction funding, with an appropriation of nearly $333.4 million," said Rick Sia, a former island journalist who wrote part of the article.

In the Dec. 28 report, Sia noted the funding happened "in the scramble for military construction funds a year before the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission is expected to cut as much as 25 percent of excess domestic base infrastructure."

He added, "An analysis by CongressDaily of funding allocations in the military construction bill shows bases with high-priority missions -- for example, Hawaii's Schofield Barracks, home of one of the Army's new Stryker brigades -- among those receiving the most federal funds."

At the annual Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii briefing Thursday for local political and business leaders, Maj. Gen. Ronald Lowe, U.S. Pacific Command chief of staff, said that "despite sham Web sites and press releases, there have been no decisions made" by the commission regarding base closures.

He told chamber members that the Pentagon is now gathering data

In his 10-minute presentation, Lowe pointed out that over the next five years, 14,000 to 15,000 military housing units will be built or remodeled, for a total construction value of $2.2 billion. He noted that the new $77 million command center for Adm. Thomas Fargo's staff at Camp Smith will be dedicated by the middle of this year -- one of the results of military construction projects here that totaled $257 million last year.

The Pentagon spends $4 billion annually here, Lowe added, and is the second major source of revenue for the state, behind tourism.

Both Maj. Gen. Bob Lee, head of the state Department of Defense, and Lt. Gen. Victor Renaurt, Pacific Forces vice commander, reported on the progress of the C-17 jet transport squadron, which will receive the first of eight cargo planes at Hickam Air Force Base at the end of next year. The unit will be a made up of active Air Force and Hawaii Air National Guard personnel, and the C-17 jets will replace propeller-driven C-130 transports.

Renaurt said more than $150 million will be spent at Hickam in preparation for the new squadron, whose mission will include airlifting the new Stryker Combat Brigade from Schofield.

Col. Bernard Champoux, assistant 25th Infantry Division commander, said the conversion of the Tropic Lightning's 2nd Brigade to a Stryker mobile fighting force will mean an increase of 810 soldiers and 607 vehicles.

More than $693 million will be spent on Oahu and the Big Island on 28 projects to accommodate the eight-wheeled, 19-ton combat vehicles.

Champoux said Jan. 3 was the deadline for public comment on the draft environmental impact statement, and that Maj. Gen. Eric Olson, 25th Division commander, should render a decision by June or July.

As for the proposal to home-port a nuclear aircraft carrier at Pearl Harbor, Rear Adm. Jonathan Greenert, Pacific Fleet deputy commander, said the Navy is in the "fact-collection stage."

This means the Pacific Fleet is collecting data on the conditions of Navy runways here, the capacity of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, and pier and harbor space and depths at Pearl Harbor. Also under study are the status of Navy housing, areas where jet aircraft could be housed, and other amenities 6,000 sailors and aviators connected to carrier would need.

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Photo(s) by Courtesy photo
A DPW employee completes final details to a room in C Quad before Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers arrived in early January.

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DPW continues improvements on historic C Quad

By Modesto R. Cordero, Directorate of Public Works

The recent mobilization of about 600 Army Reservists and about 200 Army National Guard Soldiers to Schofield Barracks and the need for barracks and administration space for them created monumental tasking for the Directorate of Public Works.

Reservists from Hawaii, Guam, Samoa and Alaska began arriving Jan. 2 to complete training before deploying. Normally, Schofield Barracks' Area X would be used to house Reservists in tents, but Col. David Anderson, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, requested barracks to house the mobilized Soldiers.

In mid-November, C Quad was scheduled for major renovation as part of the Whole Barracks Renewal Project. It stood emptied of furnishings, ready to be gutted and renovated.

C Quad was in serious need of repairs. There were deep holes in the walls, doors broken off hinges, and marginally operable air-conditioning, electrical, and plumbing systems. Other needed repairs included new door locks, the replacement of damaged floor tiles, missing cove bases, refastening of light covers and the replacement of ceiling tiles.

DPW's directive was to make buildings 356, 357, and 358 in C Quad livable for the Reservists. This meant DPW had to ensure fire safety devices were functional, all latrine fixtures were operable, and all electrical power worked. Repairs had to be completed by Dec. 20 so the rooms could be cleaned and furnished, ready for those Soldiers who arrived on Jan. 2.

Thanks to a combined effort between DPW's in-house resources and outside contractors, that goal was achieved.

In all, 294 rooms and hallways needed repairs with DPW having only two weeks to complete renovations for what would normally have been scheduled as a six-month job.

"Everybody worked together to get this done," said Cliff Kusunoki, an engineering technician for DPW. "Contractors went beyond what they were supposed to do because they knew what we were up against."

In addition to repairs, furnishings had to be obtained. Beds, lockers, desks, chairs, and drapes had been disposed of in anticipation of the Whole Barracks Renewal renovation. To replace these items, DPW's Family Housing Division provided used beds, and Unaccompanied Housing furnishing beds, chairs, tables, and lockers. The Directorate of Logistics supplied tables and chairs for administrative areas.

When Anderson toured C Quad on Dec. 22, after the contract work was completed, he was still not content with the appearance of the rooms and wanted the rooms "dazzling" for the arriving Soldiers. He requested completion of repairs that were beyond the scope of the completed renovation contract. This included such tasks as painting rooms and hallways and completing minor repairs still needing attention, as well as removing scuff marks, and stripping and rewaxing floors.

Again, the work was given to DPW's shops to do the repairs and painting done by contract. A plan was developed and by Dec. 27 materials were delivered to the quad so that further work could begin.

"This was a unique, last minute project," said Alphonse Domingo, a maintenance mechanic foreman at Fort Shafter. "Some suppliers were closed for the holidays. I think the key to its success was because people knew it supported the Soldiers

The repair of C Quad was considered a Priority-1 job, meaning some employees scheduled for annual leave had to cancel their leave and come in to work throughout the holiday season.

"Our men and women worked so hard and were so dedicated to get this job done," said Fred Ching, building facility manager. "There were constant changes needed and our work force remained ready to tackle the changes."

Faced with severe time limits at perhaps the worst time of the year, DPW exceeded customer expectations. Reservists arrived on Jan. 2 to find freshly-painted barracks with plumbing and AC in good working order.

Rather than tents, the Soldiers will sleep in beds and have a chance to unwind from the large amount of information and training they will take in during the day. If a good night's sleep enables them to absorb more during their 50 days of training so that they can apply that knowledge to situations they will face in Iraq, then the rewards of C Quad go unsaid for DPW.

For more information call Modesto R. Cordero, a customer relations representative DPW, at 656-1288 ext. 2241.

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - February 2, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/02/02/story2.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

From the January 30, 2004 print edition

Wahiawa feels pinch with Army deployed

Harold Nedd
Pacific Business News

On a cloudy Friday in Wahiawa, the lunchtime rush hits El'gant Alterations, where sewing machines are humming over military uniforms.

It seems busy for the middle of a workday with the usual mix of young soldiers dropping off uniforms that need to be stitched, patched or hemmed.

But business is slower than usual according to the supervisor for the crew of 14 seamstress. A big chunk of their usual crowd is missing. An estimated 4,000 of the men and women stationed at Schofield Barracks about two miles away have been deployed to Iraq, and 4,500 are being sent to Afghanistan in March or April.

"We don't know what we're going to do," said Anh Nelson, owner of the shop at 90 South Kamehameha Highway. "About 60 percent of our business is from sewing their uniforms."

In Wahiawa, there's been nothing bashful about businesspeople's pride in the military and their expectations of its economic benefits. But now the recent large-scale troop deployment has owners and employees at more than 150 Wahiawa businesses thinking about their salvation.

Chief among them is M.A.S.H Inc., a five-person used car dealership on Kamehameha Highway. About 80 percent of its business is from soldiers who have problems with credit and can't afford to buy a new car, said John Penny, sales manager.

With so many soldiers from Schofield being deployed, Penny said he's lately had to think a lot more about how to ease the economic pain for the business.

"We're going have to hunker down and watch those expenses a lot closer," Penny said.

A block away, Nuimage Motorsports is also thinking about the absence of the deployed soldiers.

The shop was selling, on an average day, $5,000 worth of high-performance tires and rims before the first 4,000 soldiers left, said Aaron Kahakewai, CEO and manager. Now, the average sales figure is down to about $2,000 a day, he said.

"Hopefully, we're going to be able to make it work through more advertising," said Kahakewai. "We're also going to look for another location, but keep (Wahiawa) open for when the soldiers return."

Around the corner in the 400 block of Kilani Avenue, a dental practice is among businesses that have started marketing to the dependents of deployed military personnel.

Dr. Gordon M. Kanemaru said military dependents make up about 30 percent of the patients at his dental practice. He is taking up to 15 percent off their co-pay or bill.

Kanemaru, vice president of the Wahiawa Community and Business Association, said others in his 120-member organizations are offering similar deals. He said it's part of an organized effort to keep more people around to spend money in Wahiawa's

economy.

Col. Bernard Champoux, assistant division commander for operations at the 25th Infantry Division, whose soldiers are being deployed, said that about 10 percent of the dependents will return to the U.S. mainland to be with relatives for emotional and financial support. The other 90 percent, Champoux said, will remain in Hawaii.

They will stay behind with the 1,500 soldiers who will be left at Schofield, said Kathy Turner, a spokeswoman for the barracks.

Back at El'gant Alterations, Nelson is cringing over losing 8,000 soldiers to peacekeeping missions. "Business is going to be a lot harder without those soldiers," she said.

Reach Harold Nedd at 955-8039 or hnedd@bizjournals.com.

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Photo(s) by Sgt. Stephanie L. Carl
Soldiers from Co. C, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt. dismount from their HMMWV to inspect a possible IED during exercise Bronco Stampede.

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3rd BCT conducts final FTX

1/22/04

By Sgt. Stephanie L. Carl, 17th Public Affairs Det.

The 3rd Brigade Combat Team spread across Oahu from Jan 6 -- 14 to conduct exercise Bronco Stampede.

The exercise, which was the first time in about six months the entire BCT trained together, was also its last opportunity to train collectively before deploying to Afghanistan this spring.

"This is our last chance to finish forming the team," said Maj. Lance Davis, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, plans and operations officer. "We're seeing the faces we'll be working with in Afghanistan."

Reinforcing teamwork was one of the major purposes of the exercise. It gave all the slice elements of the brigade combat team an opportunity to work together. Field artillery, infantry, aviation, signal, military intelligence and other specialties came together to train as they will fight in Afghanistan.

"We have all kinds of assets coming our way," said Maj. Thomas Melrose, the 3rd BCT intelligence officer. "This is especially good for the infantry Soldiers, as they are getting an opportunity to work with people they don't usually work with."

For Cpl. James Shortway, a 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt. communications chief, the combined exercise was definitely a plus.

"We are getting to see the capabilities of the other job specialties," he said. "We're finding out just how big an asset units like the military police and the engineers are. We can get on the radio and call for those elements to support us, and they can focus on their specialties. The MPs are really good with civilians on the battlefield, and the engineers have helped us a lot with improvised explosive devices, which allows us infantrymen to focus on our combat mission."

But it's not just practicing the combat mission that made Bronco Stampede such an imperative exercise before Operation Enduring Freedom. Soldiers also spent time on new equipment that has been rushed to the units so they could better perform in Afghanistan.

A new multi-channel tactical satellite system allows the team to communicate better, while the Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below System allows units to better track friendly forces. While both of these systems are tremendous additions to the brigade, they also require extensive training time.

"We want to ensure that all our equipment works properly and that the people responsible for making that happen get the training they need," said Sgt. Maj. Tim Stampley, the 3rd BCT operations sergeant major.

The training plan took advantage of all the training areas possible to help better simulate the environment in Afghanistan, and learn all the aspects of their new equipment.

The BCT positioned units in the Kahuku Training Area, on Schofield Barracks and East Range training areas, and operated its command post on Wheeler Army Airfield.

"We wanted to disperse our units as widely as possible," Stampley said. "This was an attempt to replicate the distance everyone will be from each other in Afghanistan."

The 3rd BCT command element was not located in a tactical field environment with camouflage nets and tents, but instead, is set up in the Battle Simulation Center on WAAF. This is to further identify the staff with the conditions they will work with while deployed.

"This entire exercise was a part of a deliberate thought process," Davis said. "We're stressing communication and time-distance ratios. We're going to need to put a lot more planning into missions that come down with a lot less time to plan. This exercise is very similar to what we will be dealing with during OEF."

To make the training even more realistic, Soldiers practiced convoy operations, air assaults, slingload operations and other tasks that were developed based on scenarios Soldiers already in Afghanistan have encountered.

"Instead of conducting ground resupply, we used a lot of slingload operations," said Col. Dick Pedersen, commander of the 3rd BCT. "We've also had the Soldiers air assault into different locations just as they'll have to do in Afghanistan. This has given us a chance to work very closely with our brothers and sisters in aviation."

According to Stampley, there was also a great opportunity to integrate garrison and tactical environments as they will be during OEF.

"Instead of leaving our administrative sections behind, we brought them out with us as well," Stampley said. "Over the last few days, they have completed numerous powers of attorney, wills, even medical and dental records checks. These tasks are a challenge to the leadership to push their Soldiers forward to (receive customer service from) the different sections while they are in the field."

Another element that came out in force was the chaplain section. All of the chaplains and

chaplain assistants from the 3rd BCT met during the exercise to conduct their own training.

"We've conducted five hours of unit ministry team training, as well as our third in-progress review," said Maj. James Schaefer, the BCT's head chaplain. "Bronco Stampede has given us a chance to join together and hone our skills. Our job is to love our Soldiers, pray for them, protect their spiritual care, and, as best we can, protect their lives. This exercise has allowed our section an opportunity to train and get back to the spiritual fight."

While Schaefer and his chaplain section trained on protecting the spiritual well-being of the 3rd BCT Soldiers, the Soldiers on the ground were carrying on with their own training. As part of the scenarios, the Soldiers had to learn how to deal with civilians on the battlefield, something they didn't encounter much in the past. The scenarios forced the Soldiers and the leadership to think before they acted.

"What we're doing throughout this entire field problem is creating conditions of uncertainty," Pedersen said. "We're placing the units in positions they don't usually train for."

Pedersen said that the training consisted of a variety of missions and scenarios that helped hone all the skills of the combat team.

"We've conducted battalion-controlled search and attack movements, quick reaction force training, battalion-level air assaults and company air assaults," he said.

Pedersen added that individual platoons were also getting some training at their level.

For each different level of training, there were observer-controllers from the next level up looking to give feedback. After-action reviews allowed the different elements to make adjustments to how they were doing things, hoping to make the entire combat team more effective.

"We've been able to embed many of our combat multipliers and have gotten them to train with us and alongside us," said Command Sgt. Maj. Arthur Coleman, command sergeant major of 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt, one of the three infantry batta.lions that fall under the BCT. "It's not often we get everyone together in the same spot to accomplish the same mission. But because of this training we've improved the combat team 100 percent."

Now that the exercise is over, Soldiers have another focus: packing their gear and enjoying their time with family and friends before they deploy.

"This FTX has been critical," Pedersen said. "It has made the deployment to Afghanistan more of a reality for our Soldiers, and they are ready. I know because I've been watching them train."

Reserve, National Guard units join Soldiers deploying to Iraq

1/24/04

By Staff Sgt. Steven Petibone and Spc. Dennis Gravelle, Contributors

As Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii deployed to Iraq during the past few weeks, mobilized Soldiers from the National Guard and Army Reserve were at Schofield Barracks preparing for deployments of their own.

Citizen Soldiers from Company C, 193rd Aviation (Heavy Helicopter) of the Hawaii Army National Guard, and the 411th Engineer Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Hawaii, answered the nation's call to active duty and will deploy to Iraq.

Members of the Ohio Army National Guard have also reported to Schofield Barracks to prepare for deploying.

Company C, 193rd Avn., is an airlift unit that uses CH-47 Chinook helicopters to transport personnel and cargo. It was mobilized Jan. 5, and is scheduled to be in Iraq for a year.

Approximately 200 personnel from Co. C are scheduled to leave around March, and while in Iraq, they will be attached to 1st Infantry Division.

The 411th Eng. Bn. will also be in Iraq for a year, where it will be attached to the 1st Cavalry Division.

More than 600 Soldiers will deploy with the unit, which is scheduled to leave at the end of March.

This deployment is the first federal active duty call-up for the 411th since World War II. Although some of these Soldiers have served in Grenada and Desert Storm, most have not been deployed to a foreign country.

To get his Soldiers mentally prepared, 1st Sgt. Thomas Rafippiy, first sergeant for Co. A, 411th Eng. Bn., was mission oriented.

"The focus of our mission will keep them motivated," he said. "My Soldiers can stay focused if they know what to expect."

Rafippiy, a 17-year veteran and father of three, prepared his children for the deployment by explaining that he has the opportunity to bring the same freedoms they have to Iraqi children.

Preparing an engineer combat company to deploy overseas is a day-by-day process, said Capt. Barry Matthews, commander of Co. A, 411th Engineer Bn..

"We prepared for this mission within the 56 unit training assembly days, to answer the nations call to serve on active duty," he said.

The 411th is a construction battalion that specializes in road-building, motor pool construction, bridge-building and general-purpose housing and building construction. Matthews expressed confidence that his Soldiers will perform their mission, serve their country willingly and return home to their families.

The National Guard and Reserves bring part-time Soldiers with diverse backgrounds, into a full-time active force. Pfc. Ema Gugu, a full-time student at Hawaii Community College, is a carpenter for the 411th.

"I'm kind of excited about being deployed," she said. "This is my first deployment, and I'm looking forward to traveling to a foreign country."

Sgt. Jarrett Kodani, a science teacher at Ka'u High School in Hawaii, is a carpenter and mason for the 411th.

"I am intrigued about fulfilling our mission, the types of climate and people I will encounter and what will be expected of me," he said.

This will be Kodani's first deployment.

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Photo(s) by Spc. Sean Kimmons
Pfc. Joey Blacksher leads a team of Soldiers from Co. B, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Rgt., as they demonstrate how to clear a building on Schofield Barracks Jan. 7. The Soldiers were preparing to deploy to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team.

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Hawaii-based Soldiers ready for diverse Iraq mission

By Spc. Sean Kimmons, 25th ID (L) Public Affairs 1/29/04

Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, Aviation Brigade and the 45th Corps Support Group (Forward) who deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom are now transitioning from the busy beaches of Oahu to the vast sand dunes of Iraq.

More than 4,000 Soldiers deployed from Hawaii in support of the operation, with the bulk coming from the 2nd BCT with its 3,200 Soldiers.

Although the different units from the 2nd BCT, Avn. Bde. and 45th CSG (F) might conduct operations in different theaters, they will all have a common mission: to assist Iraq and its people.

The 2nd BCT will help to provide a more secure environment in Northern Iraq, so the Iraqi people can better govern themselves, according Maj. Scott Halstead, S-1 for 2nd BCT.

"In the process, we will destroy our enemies, former regime loyalists and anti-coalition forces, that will prevent us from establishing a secure environment," he said.

Prior to beginning their missions, Soldiers will go through reception at a Kuwait staging area. There, leaders will also determine the best route for convoying to their areas of operation in Iraq. The convoys are expected to take several days and will cover hundreds of miles.

Improvised explosive devices and mines are common weapons that the enemy employs on convoys, so prior to deploying, Soldiers will receive guidance on their dangers and also what to expect over in Iraq when operations begin.

"We have been training up for several months for this type of mission," Halstead said. "So, our Soldiers at the individual, squad and higher levels have been through individual and collective training focusing not only on the cultural differences of living and fighting in Iraq, but also their training has been tailored toward the kind of enemy that they will fight."

Col. Lloyd Miles, the 2nd BCT commander, said their mission is to relieve the 173rd Airborne Brigade in northern Iraq near Kirkuk, but once on the ground they could be deployed anywhere.

Miles said the sector they will be operating in is about the size of the state of New Hampshire, and it has flat desert-like terrain, as well as mountainous terrain. Temperatures can be as high as 120 degrees, and in the mountainous area, it can get as low as 20 degrees, he said.

Miles said one of the reasons they were picked to go to that region is because of their flexibility.

"We can move throughout the entire division's area of operations relatively easy," he said. "And then of course as you get further to the east and the mountainous terrain, obviously light forces are the kind of force you want there. Heavy forces with their tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles just wouldn't be as suitable for that."

Spc. Alberto Locsin, a medic with Company B, 65th Engineer Battalion, said the only way to be ready for what the enemy dishes out is to be adaptable, and that's exactly what pre-deployment training consisted of -- becoming familiar with Iraq battlefield tasks.

"Being in the Army, you have to be adaptable, hence we will be tasked with many types of duties out there. We're part of a one team, one fight," Locsin said.

"With the training I received, I feel as prepared as I could be," Locsin continued. "The training has been advantageous in many ways, since it taught us how to be multi-tasked."

Unlike the units that were in Iraq at the start of the war, these Soldiers have the advantage of knowing some of the things that await them.

"We are the beneficiaries of all the units that have gone before us," Miles said. "They have sent back tons of information on the kinds of things they are having to do right now on the ground. So it's not guess work like some of the early units who didn't know what they were getting in to."

Because of all the information that has been sent back, Miles said they know the general area they're going to and they know the general makeup so everything from cultural sensitivity to the ethnic diversity that's located there.

"Our Soldiers have a better awareness of what they're getting into than the previous units," Miles said.

Knowing the mission that lies ahead provided an advantage for the Soldiers before they deployed because it allowed them to have a focus, Halstead said.

"And when you have a focus, it's easier to train, prepare and deploy, as opposed to not knowing what your mission may be," he said.

The Soldiers who deployed from Hawaii knew their mission by the name of Operation Iraq Freedom. They have been trained for it, now it's time for them to execute it.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Kane'ohe Marines, sailors returning to Persian Gulf

By Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writer

The news has buzzed through the base since Friday: 150 Marines and sailors from Kane'ohe are headed back to the Persian Gulf, some of them for the second time in six months.

But no one with the 3rd Radio Battalion is complaining about the unusually quick turn-around. The tempo of the nation's war on terrorism demands nothing less, they say.

"Someone has to go, so it doesn't surprise you when it happens," said Gunnery Sgt. Richard Taylor, one of 50 Marines in the battalion who also deployed to the region last February. Taylor spent 4 1/2 months in Iraq and Kuwait when his unit was known as the 1st Radio Battalion.

"It helps our mission to have veterans," he said. "Our experience really lends itself to the completion of the mission. We don't have to guess at what we're doing."

The communications and electronic warfare specialists out of Marine Corps Base Hawai'i do not know exactly where they are going, but they are being sent to support the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force out of Camp Pendleton, Calif.

They don't have details, except that they will be leaving sometime in the next few weeks.

The 31-year-old Taylor said his wife and two young sons, now living in Temecula, Calif., are understanding.

"She understands I'm a military professional, and my kids understand there are still bad guys out there," he said.

Holly Hofer understands that, too.

But saying goodbye to her husband, Staff Sgt. Nathan Hofer, won't be easy because Holly is four months pregnant with their first child.

"It's kind of a rough situation," she said, smiling gamely as her 26-year-old husband spoke about his own fears.

This will be Nathan Hofer's first deployment to the region.

"It's kind of hard when you hear about mortar attacks and helicopters being shot down," he said.

At 23, Cpl. Israel Campbell is a veteran of all this. He spent six months in the region last year. When he returned to Hawai'i in September he had hoped to do more scuba diving and learn to surf.

That will have to wait now.

"I don't know when we're coming back," he said. "When the job is done, I guess."

Campbell isn't nervous about the return trip, but his mother, back in Hope, Kan., worries about him. He called her on Saturday and he was pretty straight with her: This was his job, he told her.

"It's what I do," he said. "It's why I joined."

The commanding officer for the unit is 42-year-old Lt. Col. Mark T. Aycock, an active duty Marine for 20 years. Aycock led his Marines to the region last year. He doesn't sugarcoat their new mission.

Even though major combat operations were declared over last May, dangers still exist on nearly every Iraqi street.

"It's tough on the Marines because they have to be able to adjust from low-intensity behavior, drinking tea with someone, to something where someone is trying to kill them," he said.

They haven't trained as much for urban warfare as Aycock would like, but training only goes so far, he said. Experience is its own teacher.

"All the training in the world doesn't prepare you for the first bullet that whizzes by your head or the first bomb that goes off nearby or the first time a mortar lands outside your tent," Aycock said. "That's when it sinks in. That's when it's for real."

When he was in the region last year, an enemy missile screamed overhead while Aycock, a father of two, sat in a tent with other Marines. It landed a few hundred yards away. It was the first time he had been that close, the first time something whizzed by, and he said it kept him focused on his Marines.

"The question is always going through my mind," he said. "Have I done everything I possibly can? Have I done everything to make them ready? Marines are out there depending on me to do my job."

Reach Mike Gordon at mgordon@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8012.

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Posted on: Monday, January 19, 2004

Briefs

Advertiser Staff

AIR FORCE

Airmen bound for Afghanistan, Iraq

About 50 members of the 25th Air Support Operations Squadron are expected to deploy to Afghanistan and Iraq.

The Air Force unit is based at Wheeler Army Airfield and provides close-air support, communications and other Air Force capabilities to ground-based units.

At the start of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, members of the 25th ASOS worked out of uniform with U.S. special operations forces and Afghan members of the Northern Alliance.

IRAQ

Troop strength to fall by 20%

The United States is reducing its troop strength in Iraq by about 20 percent as part of the biggest force rotation since World War II.

The number through the spring will drop from 130,000 to 105,000, and include about 4,000 Schofield Barracks soldiers moving into northern Iraq as part of a move to a lighter, faster fighting force in the country.

The number of M-1 Abrams tanks will be trimmed from 600 to 150, and the United States will rely more on Humvees, including armored versions that have bulletproof glass.

NAVY

Role in Iraq to be discussed

Navy Capt. Phillip Greene, commander of Destroyer Squadron 31 at Pearl Harbor, will be the keynote speaker at the Honolulu Council of the Navy League of the United States annual meeting Thursday.

The event at the Waialae Country Club will begin at 6 p.m. with cocktails, dinner at 6:45 p.m., the keynote address at 7:45 p.m., and an awards presentation at 8 p.m.

Recently returned from the Iraq region, Greene will discuss the Navy's role in Operation Iraqi Freedom. As commodore of Destroyer Squadron 31, Greene is in charge of eight Pacific-based destroyers.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, January 18, 2004

Soldier-customers leave Wahiawa to cope

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

WAHIAWA — Spc. Julius Joseph pulled his wife's Honda Accord into Car Audio & Security Specialists last week to have a last-minute car alarm installed before he ships out to Iraq this weekend.

Spc. Julius Joseph stops in at Car Audio & Security Specialists to have a car alarm installed before his deployment to Iraq.

Photos by Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

"I just wanted to get this done for her before I leave," said Joseph, an Army medic.

Around the corner on California Avenue, soldiers have been streaming into Aloha Pawn to sell their guitars, tools and stereos before they're deployed. And along Kamehameha Highway, the 14 workers at El'gant Alterations continue to hem Army uniforms from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. amid piles of camouflaged bullet-proof vests, pants and jackets. Soldiers often stand in a line that snakes out the door and down the sidewalk.

In Wahiawa, a town linked by geography and economic fortunes to Schofield Barracks, a handful of merchants are experiencing a last-minute rush of business as the first of 4,800 soldiers have begun shipping out to Iraq.

In a few months, another 4,000 Schofield soldiers will begin to leave for Afghanistan in an overall deployment the size of which hasn't been seen since the Vietnam War. For some, the last major conflict involving Schofield soldiers provides the freshest memories.

John Eiting worries about his soldier-customers at Top Hat Bar. "They really are nice guys, and I'm going to miss them," he said.

"Desert Storm is probably the closest deployment that comes close to this," said Dan Nakasone of the Wahiawa Community and Business Association. "But this particular deployment is much bigger. That's the scary part. Even though it's much bigger, it's hard to tell the depth of the impact until they're all gone."

The fears of many Wahiawa business people have been confirmed, as sales dropped by as much as half in one week.

"It's started already," said Penny Penny, the owner of Ebony's House of Hair salon.

In the middle of the afternoon, Penny's shop normally would be filled. Instead, she sat in the empty salon and estimated she would lose 80 percent of her business when an unknown number of spouses move back to the Mainland while their husbands and wives are deployed for the next year or more.

"Lots of my customers have already packed up and left," said Penny, whose Navy husband, Chief Petty Officer

In the past two weeks, a handful of soldiers have gotten tattoos of their girlfriends' or wives' names just before shipping out.

"But it hasn't been like I've had a line out the door," McLain said. "People like me are just waiting and wondering what's going to happen."

Other businesses that don't attract an Army crowd haven't been affected.

Gladys Okamura, owner of the tiny Kitchen Delight restaurant, advertises a popular "Shock & Awe" breakfast of two eggs, two scoops of rice and a choice of five meats for just $1.75.

But 99 percent of her customers are local residents drawn to her plate lunches. "No change," Okamura said. "The soldiers don't eat this kind of food."

Penny Penny says many of her clients at Ebony's House of Hair are Army spouses who will now be returning to the Mainland.

Lance McLain, owner of Dragon Tattoo, is among the Wahiawa business owners who depend heavily on Army customers.

Some 150 businesses from Mililani to the North Shore that do rely on military customers have organized under the Wahiawa Community and Business Association, Rotary Club of Wahiawa-Waialua and the Rotary Club of Mililani Sunrise to offer discounts to family members left behind.

The discounts vary, and generally run throughout the year.

John Eiting, who owns the Top Hat Bar, expects to lose half of his business when the soldiers pull out. To make up for it, Eiting is trying to attract more local business from the North Shore.

Even if he does cover his anticipated losses, Eiting still expects to worry about the soldiers. He was a Navy hospital corpsman in Vietnam who

Click for larger image
Photo(s) by Sgt. Bradley Rhen
Soldiers from the 25th ID (L) board a bus at Schofield Barracks that will take them to Hickam Air Force Base, where they will fly out for their deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom. See story on OIF deployment ceremony on page A-4.

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First Soldiers leave for Iraq

1/15/04

By Sgt. Bradley Rhen, Editor

One by one they marched out of the terminal at Hickam Air Force Base early Tuesday morning. The Soldiers moved silently down the flight line, up the stairs and onto the waiting plane.

Some of them carried pillows, some carried laptop computers and some carried snacks. All of them carried weapons.

Around 5:30 a.m., the plane went wheels-up carrying about 250 Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and other U.S. Army, Hawaii units. The 27-hour journey would take them to Kuwait, from where they will eventually move into Iraq for a one-year rotation.

The flight marked the beginning of the first major deployment for the 25th ID (L) since Vietnam. During the next two weeks, more flights will take about 4,800 Hawaii-based Soldiers to Iraq.

After saying goodbye to families and friends, the Soldiers assembled at locations on Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield. Around 1 a.m., they boarded buses and began the trip to Hickam.

At Hickam, they were greeted with free pizza, cookies, soda and coffee courtesy of the USO.

As he chowed down on pizza and watched TV while waiting for his flight at Hickam, Pfc. John Cooper, a radio operator and maintainer from Company B, 125th Signal Battalion, said he was as ready as he could be.

"I'm excited to serve my country," the 19-year-old said.

However, he said his mother wasn't at all thrilled he was deploying.

"I don't think my mom really wants to think about it too much," he said

Cooper said with the training he received over the past several months, he's sure he'll do fine.

While Cooper is relying on his training to get him through the deployment, Spc. Natissa Robertson, of the 25th Military Police Company, is counting on her spirituality to get her through.

She also thinks the support she's received from her family and company will help a lot. "Our company has a lot of camaraderie, we're like brothers and sisters," she said. "I know a lot of units say that, but not a lot are really like a family, but we are. There are people I can actually say I trust that will be there for me and watch my six."

The 25-year-old Newport News, Va., native said she wasn't really nervous and was ready to use what she's been trained on.

"I'm just ready to get over there to accomplish the mission at hand and come back to my family and friends," she said.

Col. Chuck Cardinal, the 25th ID (L) and USARHAW chief of staff, was one of the many leaders at Hickam to see the Soldiers off. He said he wanted to be there to ensure everything went smoothly.

While the Soldiers were waiting for their flight, Cardinal went around and talked to some of them. He asked them if they were ready to go, if they needed anything and if everything was going smoothly.

"I got good feedback that they felt like it was a pretty clean process," he said.

Cardinal said he got the feeling that all the Soldiers were ready to go.

"You can tell when you're talking to somebody," he said. "You can tell by what they say, but more importantly, by the look in their eyes and their body language. They all seemed ready, they all seemed positive."

The last time the 25th ID (L) deployed as a Division was during the Vietnam War. During Operation Blue Light in 1965, the Division deployed 4,000 3rd Brigade infantrymen and 9,000 tons of equipment from Hawaii in 25 days to the Northwest sector of South Vietnam. It was the largest and longest airlift of personnel and cargo into a combat zone in military history before Operation Desert Shield.

In 1991, three platoons took part in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. More than 3,700 Schofield Soldiers deployed to Haiti in 1995, and more than 1,000 Soldiers deployed to Bosnia in 2002 for peacekeeping missions.

Most recently, more than 200 25th ID (L) and USARHAW Soldiers deployed and participated in combat actions during Operation Iraqi Freedom last year.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, January 13, 2004

Schofield soldiers departing for Iraq

- Schools pledge support during troop deployments

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The first waves of 4,800 Schofield Barracks soldiers were expected to leave early today and Friday for a year of duty in northern Iraq.

The deployment — along with the departure of more than 4,500 soldiers to Afghanistan in March — marks a new chapter in the diverse history of the 25th Infantry Division (Light), and means an extended period away from loved ones and friends.

"I think me and my soldiers are excited. We have a lot of confidence in our unit and our senior-level leadership," said 1st Lt. Walter Cartin, 23, who's with Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, and headed to Iraq. "Morale is actually pretty high for what's getting ready

Groups of soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team will leave for Iraq through Jan. 26, when the last of the chartered flights leaves Hickam Air Force Base.

A typical route will take Hawai'i soldiers to the Mainland, Germany and then Kuwait for staging and rendezvous with a supply ship before the six-day, 600-mile convoy trek to the region around the oil-producing city of Kirkuk. The 25th will patrol an area more than double the size of the Big Island.

Today's planned departure of about 250 soldiers from Hickam at about 2 a.m. was expected to be low-key, with families saying goodbye at

in history.

Several platoons took part in the first Gulf War, more than 3,700 Schofield soldiers deployed to Haiti in 1995 for peacekeeping, and more than 1,000 soldiers were sent to Bosnia in 2002.

Charlie Company, 1-21, is moving out of the Lightning Towers barracks this weekend ahead of the Iraq deployment, and soldiers leaving later this week and next week are packing up belongings and doing weapons maintenance.

"We're ready to go and we're just pretty much tying up loose ends," said Staff Sgt. Eric Salmond, 25.

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Saturday, January 10, 2004

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The story of L Company, 399th

while another general stood on the reviewing stand and told another group of 4,000 Tropic Lightning soldiers, "Today is your turn to answer America's call to arms."

Beginning next week, 3,500 members of the 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team as well as another 500 Tropic Lightning helicopter pilots, support personnel and medics will leave Wahiawa to spend a year in Iraq.

After the one-hour farewell ceremony, Weyand, who also served as Army chief of staff from 1974 to 1976, recalled that "it might have been exactly the same time in January when I addressed my soldiers bound for Vietnam."

"For me there is a lot of pride here," said Weyand, who retired here in 1976 and is now a Damon Estate trustee. "I am overwhelmed with pride. These are the same kind of young men ready to fight for our freedom."

Except for peacekeeping missions to Haiti and Bosnia, Iraq will be the 25th Division's first combat mission since the Vietnam War.

Col. Lloyd "Milo" Miles, brigade combat team leader, said his soldiers have anticipated the deployment since September when it was assigned to replace the 10th Mountain Division in Afghanistan. That mission was changed in November, and now the 2nd Warrior Brigade will be attached to the 4th Infantry Division in the so-called Sunni Triangle in northern Iraq.

Sgt. Jaime Oliveros, a squad leader in Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, was in Kuwait three years ago with the 1st Infantry Division. He has told his squad of nine soldiers: "It's going to be hot. The sand fleas are a big problem."

"The biggest thing is hydration," said Oliveros, 23. "When you are outside you have to drink at least a quart of water every hour."

In his deployment address, Maj. Gen. Eric Olson, 25th Division commander, told his soldiers to trust the months of training they have endured.

"You have benefited from the lessons learned by our comrades in arms who have gone before us," said Olson, who also will be deploying two months from now with another 4,500 Tropic Lightning soldiers to Afghanistan, "and as a result, you are extremely well prepared and each of you is ready."

Olson told the soldiers that "there are no quick solutions to the challenges of combat there. It will take hard work -- the type you are used to -- to get the job done.

"But it is not just arms or the ammunition that you carry that will

determine whether you win the battles you will find in Iraq. It's also who you are as individuals and who you have become as American soldiers that will make or break your efforts in Iraq."

Turning to the more than 2,000 family members and supporters who turned out for the farewell ceremony, Olson said: "These soldiers are ready. They are ready for anything that will come their way."

Gov. Linda Lingle noted: "Our world became a more dangerous place after 9/11. This global war on terrorism knows no boundaries. This deployment to Iraq will require great acts of courage. ... Things in Iraq are not orderly, but crucial in the nation's effort to fight global terrorism."

"Iraq and Afghanistan are two of the most dangerous places on the earth, and that is why they are sending America's best."

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Posted at 12:06 p.m., Friday, January 9, 2004

More Isle Guard troops may go to Iraq in 2005

By Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writer

About 2,100 members of the Hawai'i Army National Guard could be sent to Iraq sometime in 2005, a military spokesman said today.

Although no orders have been issued, guard leaders in Hawai'i believe that current U.S. troop rotations will ultimately mean the state's 29th Infantry Brigade will be activated and sent en masse to Iraq, said Maj. Charles Anthony, a spokesman for the Hawai'i National Guard.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, December 31, 2003

Schofield's Iraq-bound troops learn destination

- Map: Schofield Barracks soldiers in Iraq

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Army officials said 4,800 Schofield Barracks soldiers heading to Iraq will be operating in a New Hampshire-sized chunk of territory around the northern city of Kirkuk, an oil-rich region where ethnic tensions are on the rise.

The 9,200-square-mile region populated by Kurds, Turkmen and Muslim Arabs is outside the so-called "Sunni Triangle" north and west of Baghdad where many attacks on U.S. troops have occurred.

But ambushes continue to take American lives in Mosul to the north of 418,000-population Kirkuk and to the south in Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's hometown.

In Kirkuk, a truck bomb last month killed five bystanders in an attack aimed at Iraqis cooperating with the U.S. occupation. On Dec. 22, thousands of Kurds demonstrated in favor of incorporating Kirkuk into the northern autonomous region.

"I think we're going to have a complicated mission," said Capt. Bill Venable, a company commander with the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment "Gimlets."

"We'll be involved in standing up and supporting the new Iraqi government in that area. We'll be sorting out the differences between the various ethnic groups there. We'll be assisting (with) the local economic infrastructure and getting oil fields back in operation."

Although there have been fewer attacks on U.S. forces in Kirkuk, Venable said, "Our assumption, in planning for this, is (that) the area we're going to remains a dangerous place."

The first contingents from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team deploying to Iraq for the year-long mission are expected to leave Hawai'i around mid-January. Soldiers will deploy into February.

For several months, the Schofield soldiers will be operating in Iraq under the 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized) out of Fort Hood, Texas, whose 17,000 soldiers, along with about 13,000 reservists, Special Forces and engineers make up Task Force Iron Horse.

The 4th Division's area of responsibility encompasses a much larger area from Kirkuk to Baghdad where American forces have faced repeated ambushes in cities like Samara, Baqubah and Tikrit.

"There's a lot of activity taking place in the 4th ID area," said Patrick Garrett, a defense analyst with Virginia-based GlobalSecurity.org. "Those units are under quite a bit of threat and are taking part in a lot of operations against insurgents and guerrilla forces."

More than 20 OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopters, hundreds of Humvees — some with extra armor — and other equipment are on the way to Kuwait. From there, many soldiers will travel 600 miles by convoy over six days to get to Kirkuk.

Another 3,500 Schofield soldiers are deploying to Afghanistan in March and April for 12 months of "boots on the ground" in that country as part of the biggest combat deployments from Schofield since the Vietnam War.

Iraq-bound soldiers are being issued cold-weather overalls and jackets for duty in Kirkuk, where daytime temperatures have been in the 50s and nighttime lows are in the 40s.

"The soldiers that are there now are living in a combination of contractor-built facilities, tents with wooden flooring and former Iraqi government buildings," Venable said. "We'll probably fall in on that infrastructure when we go in."

The Hawai'i-based brigade will then be assigned to the 1st Infantry Division out of Germany. South Korea has moved to send 3,000 troops to Kirkuk in April, meanwhile.

The 2nd Brigade Combat Team originally was slated for duty in western Iraq as part of a massive troop rotation involving up to 250,000 troops coming and going from Iraq and Afghanistan next year.

That area of responsibility was changed to central and northern Iraq, and 25th Infantry Division (Light) officials this week narrowed that area of responsibility to the Kirkuk region, 150 miles north of Baghdad.

Under Saddam's reign, Kurds were forced out of the oil-producing city and replaced by Arabs. Tensions have mounted with Kurds flooding back into the city, seen as key to the future stability of the country.

The Kurdish call for autonomy and the possibility of an independent Kurdish state are opposed by the Turkmen and by Turkey, Iraq's neighbor to the north.

Venable said he has general information about the type of missions his company will be performing, and "it's right in line with the training that we've been conducting over the past several months."

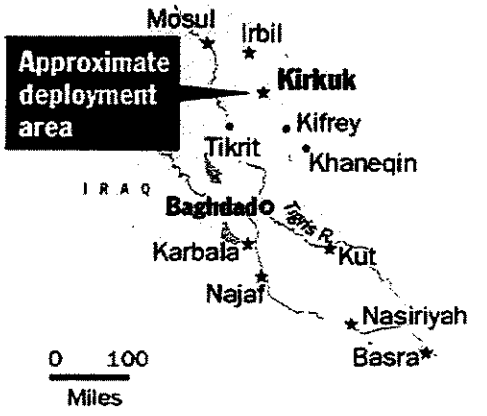
Those responsibilities may include counterinsurgency, "presence patrols," training programs for the Iraqi army, and checkpoint control.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

• • •

Schofield Barracks soldiers in Iraq

Soldiers from Hawai'i will patrol Kirkuk and the area south of the city.



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Posted on: Tuesday, December 2, 2003 12:21 PM HST

Nearly 400 isle reservists ordered to report

They will train for 3 months for combat duty in Iraq

Gregg Kakesako
gkakesako@starbulletin.com

Nearly 400 Hawaii Army reservists received their orders today to report to Schofield Barracks in January to begin three months of preparation for combat duty in Iraq.

Members of the 411th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy) were alerted Nov. 20 for the possibility of 18 months of active duty, including a year in Iraq.

Today's mobilization order for the 411th — which also has units in Guam and Alaska — is the first major activation of a Hawaii-based reserve unit since the Vietnam War. About 540 combat engineers from Guam, Alaska and Hawaii under the command of Lt. Col. Jonathan Wung are covered by today's mobilization order.

"While the orders will cover 18 months, soldiers and units will be de-mobilized prior to 18 months whenever possible," Lt. Col. Howard Sugai, Army Reserve spokesman said.

"By issuing orders for longer than needed, our soldiers are less at risk of being inadvertently deleted from active component pay, administrative, and medical systems that cover them when on active duty."

Wung said the next three months will be spent "making sure our families and soldiers are taken care of."

He expects the reservists to undergo intensive training.

A total of 390 reservists — 260 from Oahu and 130 from Maui or the Big Island — could leave Schofield Barracks as early as March, possibly to work on rebuilding Iraq's roads, schools and other facilities.

The Army Reservists are the among the more than 8,000 locally based soldiers who will see duty in Iraq and Afghanistan next year. Nearly 40 percent of the 105,000 troops in Iraq next year will be National Guard and Reserve. That compares with about a 20 percent share in the current force of 130,000 troops.

Other Hawaii units bound for Southwest Asia include 4,500 25th Division soldiers scheduled to leave for Iraq in February. Another 3,500 Tropic Lightning soldiers will relieve the 10th Mountain Division in Afghanistan two months later. The Hawaii Army National Guard also is sending helicopters and crews to the area.

E-mail City Desk

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Posted on: Friday, November 7, 2003

Schofield Barracks units ordered to Iraq

- Coping with deployment different for each family
- Merchants brace for troops' departure
- Graphic: Troop deployments in Iraq

By Mike Gordon and William Cole
Advertiser Staff Writers

Soldiers at Schofield Barracks are preparing for their most dangerous and lengthy assignments in decades after receiving new deployment orders yesterday that will send many of them to Iraq.

Nearly 8,000 soldiers will be involved in two missions, each of which will last 12 months, or twice as long as previous deployments.

Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) have been training at Schofield Barracks for deployment to either Iraq or Afghanistan early in 2004. Pfc. Danny Shedd, above, checks the sights of his M249 automatic weapon.

Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

Despite the risks of ambushes and increasingly organized attacks, some soldiers heading to Iraq yesterday said they are eager for the assignment.

"Myself and a few of my friends, we watch CNN and see all the ambushes, (but) this morning, when we were told by the company commander that we were going, there were just cheers coming from the platoon," said Sgt. Anthony Waters, who's with A Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment — the Wolfhounds.

Waters, 22, said the boobytraps or "improvised explosive devices" that regularly kill soldiers in Iraq are a "huge worry."

"I've got troops that are married, and the thought of not bringing one of them home is terrifying enough," Waters said. "But we'll just go out there and face the danger. I believe we're trained. We're

For the 25th Infantry Division (Light), which was largely kept back from Afghanistan and Iraq for a Korean contingency, the combat deployment is the biggest since the Vietnam War.

Two brigades from the 25th Division had been planning since July for six-month deployments next year to Afghanistan.

troops have been killed in combat since the end of major fighting was declared May 1.

Some apprehension

As 1-27 soldiers practiced searching Iraqi homes yesterday at an urban training facility at Schofield Barracks, some admitted they are apprehensive.

Training for deployment in either Iraq or Afghanistan for Schofield troops included practice in searching homes for weapons.

Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

"I'm a little nervous. I'm sure I'll get a lot more nervous when I'm doing my first patrol," said Pvt. 2nd Class Lloyd Evans, 19, with Alpha Company. "I'm pretty young, but I enlisted for this. I feel pretty ready, and I trust my leaders."

With fellow soldiers dressed in Middle Eastern garb, including full-length veiled dresses on female soldiers, the Wolfhounds practiced yesterday what they'll probably be doing for real in just several months: checking homes for weapons and munitions.

"I'm with U.S. forces. May I come in and check your house?" asked Sgt. Jay Lawrence, a team leader taking part in the exercise.

Six other combat-equipped soldiers had their backs to the wall around the corner for security, and Lawrence and other soldiers went room by room looking for weapons and asking the "occupants" to tilt over tables and chairs.

Battalion commander Lt. Col. Scott Leith, 40, said the soldiers are "masters at immediately breaking down a door and dominating a facility," but that approach — while available — has been replaced by diplomacy and talking to village elders and leaders.

The battalion's chaplain, one of six Muslim chaplains in the U.S. Army, also has been guiding the unit on "dos and don'ts" in dealing with Muslim cultures, Leith said.

"We're not just going over there to be bad mama jamas," Waters said. "We're also there to help them out — get them back on their feet."

The level of preparation at the central O'ahu post underscores the severity of each mission. Schofield soldiers have been training to deal with landmines and booby traps, 25th Division spokeswoman Maj. Stacy Bathrick said. They have also been told to have their wills in order and powers of attorney signed.

"We know that any time you are involved in combat operations, it is serious business," Bathrick said. "We train as we fight. We train in

"Our soldiers have been training for a very long time for when we would get the call," she said. "Our soldiers are really excited to answer the call of our nation."

Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commanding general for the division and U.S. Army, Hawai'i, said his troops are proud to have been selected for "these challenging and diverse missions."

12-month deployment

The 12-month deployment cycle, which was announced yesterday by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, is needed to provide the Pentagon with cohesive and stable units. But they will be a challenge for families used to being apart for six months.

The 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment Alpha Company is training to be culturally sensitive during deployment to either Iraq or Afghanistan. A Muslim man played by Sgt. David Anderson, above foreground, was asked to move a woman in his home so that soldiers don't look at her.

Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

Deployed personnel will be eligible for "rest and relaxation," or R&D, between the end of the third month of the mission and the start of the 11th month, Bathrick said.

"Taking care of our family members while our soldiers are deployed will remain a top priority," Olson said.

Division officials plan to reach out to families through Army support groups, Bathrick said.

"We're going to work with our family readiness groups and our chaplains to make sure we provide them with the information about the soldiers while they are deployed," Bathrick said.

Similarly, soldiers in the combat zone will be given safe places to store their possessions while they are deployed, she said.

"Our goal is to make sure we can take care of the soldiers as much as possible with their personal affairs so when they are deployed they can focus on the mission and not have anything to worry about," Bathrick said.

battalion

Leith, who'll command close to 700 soldiers in Iraq, said a priority will be setting up communications back to families at home. Leith's wife is pregnant, and he's among a number of soldiers who will have to get the good news from the battlefield.

The Iraq deployment is part of an 85,000-member troop rotation being sent to Iraq to relieve forces who have been there for up to a year Rumsfeld said yesterday.

In addition, nearly 47,000 National Guard and Reserve forces are in the process of being notified that they will be activated to serve in Iraq or Afghanistan, Rumsfeld said. Even more Army soldiers could be alerted soon to add to those deployments, he said.

Some of the troops rotating into Iraq will be returning for their second tour of duty there — and some only a short time after they were sent home.

Reservists will be called up for a maximum of 18 months, with a year in Iraq, Rumsfeld said. The Marines will be activated for a year, with seven months in Iraq, he said.

"While there will be imperfections along the way, the services made every effort to make sure the guard and reserve forces are treated respectfully," Rumsfeld said.

The Pentagon has been working for months on a troop rotation plan. It is based on a commitment to keep troops in Iraq for no more than a year at a time, and because tens of thousands have been there since last spring, the Pentagon needs to notify replacements to get ready.

Rumsfeld signed the orders yesterday, and members of Congress were briefed on the details.

The Associated Press contributed to this report. Reach Mike Gordon at mgordon@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8012, and William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Troop deployments in Iraq

About 85,000 active duty, Reserves and National Guard troops will be deployed to Iraq, the Pentagon said yesterday. Among them are 4,500 soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division from Schofield Barracks, who will go as early as February. Another 3,500 from the 25th will be sent to Afghanistan as early as April 2004.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Friday, November 7, 2003

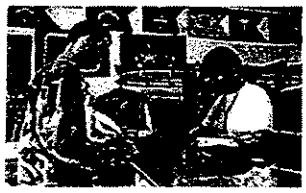
Merchants brace for troops' departure

- Schofield Barracks units ordered to Iraq
- Coping with deployment different for each family
- Graphic: Troop deployments in Iraq

By Mike Leidemann and Kelly Yamanouchi
Advertiser Staff Writers

The sad, sour expression on Minho Yang's face said it all.

"We're done. We're fried," he added anyway. "A lot of us are going to go belly up."



Justin Watts takes his uniforms to El'Gant Alterations in Wahiawa. Jenny Porteous says 90 percent of the firm's clientele is military.

Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

The deployment of 8,000 Army troops from Schofield Barracks to Iraq and Afghanistan could wind up costing the local economy $310 million, according to estimates from the state Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

In Wahiawa yesterday, you didn't need an economist to tell you that things are going to get worse before they get better. All you had to do was step inside any of the small, weather-beaten storefronts to feel the human impact of the upcoming move.

"The troops are our bread and butter. If they're gone, it's going to be a disaster. You better call FEMA. Every merchant in town is going to cry," said Yang, who owns Avocado Pawn, the first business you see as you roll into the O'ahu town that for more than 60 years has been the one most visibly and intricately tied to the military.

Whether it was at the M*A*S*H, Inc. auto dealer, the venerable Top Hat bar or the $ Advance Til Payday check-cashing store, business people all said that the loss of the troops and their families was going to hurt economically and emotionally.

"We've had deployments and cutbacks before, but nothing like this one," said Les Brinkley, who runs the Clip & Dip dog grooming business on Olive Avenue, where about 40 percent of the clientele is military.

"This is going to be spooky. If it really lasts a year, it will be devastating," Brinkley said.

Some, however, said they had been anticipating the move and feel the community's efforts at diversification have made it better prepared to survive such situations than in the past.

Molly Walker, owner of Molly's Smokehouse, said she expects a 30 percent drop in business, but it could have been worse; in the past few years, she's been aiming her advertising at more permanent residents.

"After Sept. 11, things have been like this continuously. You have been been getting big peaks and valleys with the military," she said. "It's not that they (soldiers) aren't my focus — I still cater to them — but I do twice as much advertising to the community at large."

Jim Tollefson, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, said local businesses can prepare for possible

declines next year by saving money and going after more civilian business.

Many remember the difficulty Windward-area businesses faced during a deployment of about 7,500 Marines from the Marine Corps base at Kane'ohe in the first Persian Gulf War in 1991.

Retailers, gas stations and eateries saw double-digit drops in business and lost some employees with the deployment. At the same time, visitor-industry businesses suffered from declines in tourism because of the war. The economy may be in better shape to sustain itself through a deployment now, several businessmen said.

WALKER

"Back in '91 when we went into the Gulf War, the state was really starting to slip into a long-term stagnant economy. This period is different in that we're stronger and we have the potential for some meaningful growth in the state," Tollefson said.

A pickup in military construction also could help offset the loss of business associated with the deployment, he said.

EITING

Still, the worry was everywhere around Wahiawa yesterday.

"Eight-thousand troops means 8,000 less customers," said Rosie King, a teller at the check-cashing store on California Avenue, who admitted that she was exaggerating only a little bit. "On military payday, they're lined up out the door to renew their advances."

Merchants on the margin of staying in business could be at risk of shutting down, said economist Leroy Laney, a Hawai'i Pacific University professor.

"The military in Hawai'i is a two-edged sword," Laney said. "I think Hawai'i as a state has just got to take the bitter with the sweet. ... At times like this, I think we ought not to forget some of the pluses of having the military here."

John Penny, the sales manager at M*A*S*H (Military Auto Sales Hawaii), said local businesses have learned to take the good with the bad.

"With the military here, you don't get all the ups and downs that you do in some areas," Penny said. "There's always new people coming and going, so business stays pretty steady, but when you have a major deployment like this, people are bound to suffer."

Others were concerned about the stresses on families left behind and wondered whether some spouses and children may leave for the Mainland to be closer to family members.

"Crazy things can happen when families are apart that long," said Jeff Eckford, a former Schofield Barracks soldier

"The business has been slowing down for years," said John Eiting, owner of the Top Hat bar, where during World War II, soldiers were rationed to three drinks and then had to get in a long line outside to come back for more.

"With all the training the troops go on these days, it's not like they're here all the time anyway," said Eiting, standing inside the nearly empty bar that opened on Dec. 1, 1941, and had its sign shot off a few days later by Japanese pilots strafing nearby Schofield Barracks.

"I guess if we survived World War II, we can survive this, too," Eiting said.

Advertiser staff writer William Cole contributed to this report. Reach Mike Leidemann at mleidemann@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5460.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Friday, November 7, 2003

Coping with deployment different for each family

- Schofield Barracks units ordered to Iraq
- Merchants brace for troops' departure
- Graphic: Troop deployments in Iraq

By Derrick DePledge
Advertiser Staff Writer

Lynn Leith's son Jacob was just 14 months old when his father was sent by the Army on a peacekeeping mission to Bosnia. The couple worried that Jacob would grow distant with his father away at such an early age, but when dad returned home safe a little more than a year later, the reunion was sweet.

"He jumped right into his daddy's arms," Leith recalled yesterday at Schofield Barracks, not long after learning that her husband, Lt. Col. C. Scott Leith, would be going to Iraq early next year. "My son is already telling me, 'Mom, we're going to get through this thing.' "

Danielle Vidal, with 3-year-old daughter Sadie Goers, plans to return to Florida while her husband is on a one-year

Soldiers and their families have been preparing for a deployment announcement for the past several months, but most thought the mission would likely involve six-month tours of Afghanistan. Instead, 4,500 soldiers at Schofield will leave as early as February for a yearlong tour in Iraq, while 3,500 soldiers will be sent in the spring for a yearlong stint in Afghanistan.

These moments are what soldiers train for and their loved ones have grown to accept as facts of military life, but the reality can still be difficult, especially given the dangerous climate in Iraq. More U.S. soldiers have been killed in Iraq since President Bush declared that major combat operations were over in May than were killed during the heart of the

For the past few months, families have been attending Army Community Service classes on

Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

Danielle Vidal said her husband, Anthony, who is part of the 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, is going to either Afghanistan or Iraq.

"We'll probably find out all the details in December," said Vidal, who is two months pregnant with the couple's second child. "It's crazy to live like this because it will be around Christmastime when we find out where he goes, how long he goes for, when he's leaving."

Asked how she'll cope, Vidal said, "You go home." In her case, that's Florida. "You pack up your household goods and stay with family," she said, "because what would I do over here?"

Vidal, who got out of the Army about a year ago, said some spouses do the same thing during a lengthy deployment. "A year is a long time by yourself, especially me having a baby," she said.

Vidal said she would worry more if her husband has to go to Iraq. "When you've got people saying it's the next Vietnam — yeah, it's a huge deal," she said. "(But) both ways it's a foreign country, and both ways they are in danger."

Even for those spouses who stay, routines and responsibilities could soon change and cause feelings of anxiety, particularly for those with younger children.

At Wheeler Elementary School in Wahiawa, where more than 90 percent of students are from military families, administrators are discussing evening family wellness sessions. Joe Lee, the school's principal, said he would like to see a potluck or other social activities for parents and counseling, if necessary, for children.

"We want to make it so it's enjoyable, but we would also offer the kids therapy if they needed it," Lee said.

Dewhurst recommends that spouses experiencing their first deployment be flexible because in the military, orders can always shift. "Believe in yourself," she advised. "Have the confidence to know that you're going to be OK."

Leith, who made it through her husband's mission to Bosnia, is now five months pregnant with the couple's third child. She has organized "Operation Bun in the Oven" for the handful of other expectant mothers in the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment.

She knows her husband will probably not be here when she gives birth in March, but she also knows that she is not alone. Her sister from Chicago plans to be her delivery coach, and her parents are coming from Mississippi.

Before he leaves, her husband will read children's books on videotape so the new baby and Jacob, now 7, and Andrew, 3, will remember how their father looks and sounds.

"He knows what he has to do," Leith said. "He's ready. It's been amazing. I've been OK with this whole thing.

"I'm just going to keep showing them those videotapes until their daddy comes home."

Advertiser staff writer William Cole contributed to this report. Reach Derrick DePledge at

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted at 9:21 a.m., Thursday, November 6, 2003

Schofield soldiers bound for Iraq

By Mike Gordon
and William Cole
Advertiser Staff Writers

Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) will be sent to Iraq for a year-long deployment instead of Afghanistan for a six-month deployment, a division official at Schofield Barracks said today.

More details from the division were expected this morning.

About 3,500 members of the 2nd Brigade were told this summer that they would deploy to Afghanistan in February. It was not yet clear how many of them would be going to Iraq and when.

The initial orders for Afghanistan also meant that the division's 3rd Brigade would deploy to Afghanistan six months after the 2nd Brigade's departure.

The 3rd Brigade will still be sent to Afghanistan but for a year. It was not clear yet as when those soldiers would deploy.

The deployments are the biggest for Schofield soldiers since the Vietnam War.

More details to come.

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Media Release

25th Infantry Division (Light) &
U.S. Army,Hawaii
America's Pacific Division

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2003-11-03
November 6, 2003

Schofield Soldiers prepare for deployment

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS—Approximately 8,000 Soldiers are scheduled to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan next year as part of two separate 12-month rotations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan.

"The Tropic Lightning Division is proud to have been selected for these challenging, diverse missions in our nation's global war on terrorism," said Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, Commanding General, 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii. "Whether in the mountains of Afghanistan or the deserts of Iraq, the Soldiers of America's Pacific Division are proud and ready, and eager to show our Army and our nation that we are true to our motto, 'Ready to strike! Anywhere, anytime…'"

Approximately 4,500 Soldiers from 2nd Brigade "Warriors", Aviation Brigade "Wings of Lightning" and 45th Corps Support Group (Forward) "We Fight to Serve" will deploy as early as February to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Approximately 3,500 Soldiers from 3rd Brigade "Broncos", Division Support Command "Lightning Support", Aviation Brigade and the Division Headquarters will deploy in the spring, as early as April. The mission for the division headquarters is to serve as the Combined Joint Task Force headquarters for units in Afghanistan. The Brigade Combat Team's mission is to conduct stability, sustainment and combat operations.

-more-

DEPLOYMENT/2-2-2

Soldiers with various specialties will comprise the Brigade Combat Teams. These specialties include: field artillery, military police, military intelligence, engineers, air defense artillery and support and logistics personnel.

The new 12-month rotation policy is required throughout the Army to provide the Combatant Commander with the cohesive and stable units and teams that are fully prepared to counter the threat. These rotation plans provide stability, continuity and predictability through a deliberate and detailed process.

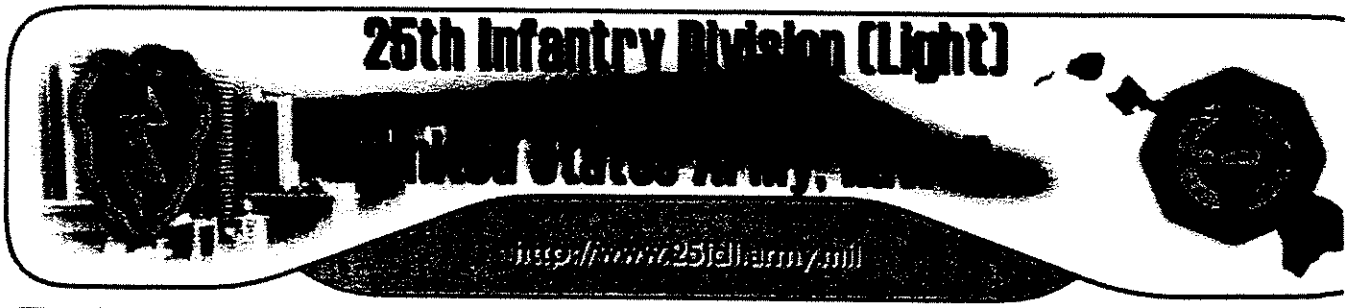
"Taking care of our family members while our Soldiers are deployed will remain a top priority," said Olson. "Our family readiness groups and Chaplain support programs will focus on the families so the Soldiers deployed will know their families are taken care of while they conduct this important mission."

This deployment marks the largest unit size deployment of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii since the Vietnam War. Recently, more than 100 Soldiers returned from a deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In 22 of the 62 years of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) history, Tropic Lightning Soldiers have distinguished themselves in combat operations.

-30-

(MEDIA NOTE: For more information, contact Major Stacy Bathrick or Mr. Troy Griffin at (808) 655-2918/4221 or cell (808)271-8414))



Major Subordinate Commands

1st Brigade (Ft Lewis)
(Stryker Brigade Combat Team)
1-33 Armor Battalion
1-24 Infantry
2-8 Field Artillery
1-5 Infantry
3-21 Infantry

2nd Brigade
1-14th Infantry
1-21st Infantry
1-27th Infantry

3rd Brigade
2-5th Infantry
2-27th Infantry
2-35th Infantry

Aviation Brigade
3-4th Cavalry
1-25th Aviation Regiment
2-25th Aviation Regiment

Division Support Command
225th Forward Support Battalion
325th Forward Support Battalion
725th Main Support Battalion
Division Material Management Office

45th Corps Support Group
524th Corps Support Battalion
29th Engineer Battalion
84th Engineer Battalion

Separate Battalions

1-62 Air Defense Artillery

65th Engineer Battalion

125th Military Intelligence

125th Signal Battalion

556th Personnel Service Battalion

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, July 24, 2003

Wahiawa stores will miss the troops

- 7,000 Schofield troops to deploy to Afghanistan

By Karen Blakeman
Advertiser Staff Writer

During the lunch and evening rush hours in Wahiawa, shop owners and managers say, the streets are filled with Army green.

But next year, when 3,500 Schofield Barracks soldiers are sent to Afghanistan, many of the fast-food restaurants and the mom-and-pop shops are likely to see less of that color.

Jenny Porteous assists a military customer at the El'gant Alterations shop on Kamehameha Highway. Business is brisk, but it's expected to slow down drastically next year when troops leave for Afghanistan.

Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

"Most businesses will feel it," said Lance McLain, owner of Dragon Tattoo.

"That's 3,500 soldiers who won't be coming into town to eat at Zippy's or get their mufflers fixed at Midas or to grab a hamburger.

"In a little town like Wahiawa, you need all you can get."

The 25th Infantry Division (Light) announced yesterday that 7,000 troops will deploy in two consecutive six-month shifts, beginning in February.

McLain said some of the hotel workers who commute to jobs in Waikiki had told him they were still working shorter hours since the Sept. 11 attacks caused a downturn in visitor arrivals. Removing several thousand soldiers from Wahiawa would be a shock to a town that has little tourist income.

Often when the soldiers are gone for that long, McLain said, their families go home to the Mainland, exacerbating the town's financial difficulties.

Anh Nelson, owner of El'gant Alterations and Albert's Dry Cleaners, motioned toward the work area of her alteration shop. Every inch of wall was lined with military uniforms. On the floor was a waist-high stack of flak jackets.

"We are busy, busy now," Nelson said. "But later, when they are gone? It will be very slow."

Nelson said she has survived other Schofield deployments.

One of her customers, Monica Tolley, is the wife of a Schofield soldier who has never gone through a deployment this long.

It won't be easy, Tolley said, "and, no, I haven't decided whether to go home or not — but it would be difficult to be away from all my family."

Military Auto Sales Hawaii (M*A*S*H), is a red-white-and-blue establishment with a sign advertising zero-down loans for lower-ranking service members.

"I'd say 80 percent of our sales are military," said manager John Penny. He did some mental calculations to estimate the loss that the business would suffer.

"So you'd figure, maybe, 20 percent?" he said. "This is going to be tough."

Aylia Tillman of Molly's Smokehouse was tending to business yesterday for her mother. The Texas-style barbecue restaurant is popular with the Schofield soldiers; about 50 percent of the customers are military.

Tillman and the cook discussed the business ramifications of the deployment before deciding they could lean on the catering part of the barbecue operations and concentrate on targeting Hickam and Pearl Harbor a little harder.

"It's OK, we'll work it out," she said.

Reach Karen Blakeman at 535-2430 or kblakeman@honoluluadvertiser.com.

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Posted on: Thursday, July 24, 2003

7,000 Schofield troops to deploy to Afghanistan

- Wahiawa stores will miss the troops
- 25th Infantry Division by the numbers

By William Cole and Karen Blakeman
Advertiser Staff Writers

More than 7,000 soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) will be sent to Afghanistan next year as part of the biggest combat deployment from Schofield Barracks since the Vietnam War.

As the Pentagon yesterday laid out a new troop rotation plan for Iraq and Afghanistan, Schofield officials announced the 2nd Brigade will go in February as a combat team of about 3,500 soldiers with helicopters and artillery, to be followed by the 3rd Brigade of an equal number of soldiers six months later.

The deployments are to last six months each.

Some Wahiawa shopkeepers expressed worry that the Schofield deployment will hurt the local economy — as did the deployment of 3,700 soldiers to Haiti for peacekeeping duties in 1995.

The mission of the brigade combat teams, which will replace elements of the 10th Mountain Division from New York, will be to conduct combat patrols and provide continued "force protection" and humanitarian assistance.

A division headquarters also will serve as the Combined Joint Task Force headquarters for U.S. units in the country. About 7,500 U.S. troops remain in Afghanistan, and another 148,000 are in Iraq.

"Our soldiers are extraordinarily well trained and ready for this mission in service of our great nation," said Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commanding general of the 25th Division. "We take great Tropic Lightning pride in answering our nation's call to fight and win the global war on terrorism."

The deployment may be followed by the activation of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade of the Hawai'i Army National Guard for overseas or replacement duty at Schofield.

Some members of the brigade, with 2,100 soldiers in Hawai'i, believe it's a matter of when, not if, they will be called up. Hawai'i National Guard spokesman Maj. Chuck Anthony said no word on a call-up has been received.

More than 100 Schofield soldiers recently returned from Operation Iraqi Freedom, but the Hawai'i division of about 15,000 soldiers has largely been kept at home during the fighting in Afghanistan and

Spc. Jose Garcia, who was finishing up lunch at McDonald's, shrugged when asked what he thought about the deployment.

"It's something to do," he said. "Something that's [illegible]

Ralph Cossa, president of the Pacific Forum Center for Strategic and International Studies in Honolulu, said military planners kept the bulk of the division back from the fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"(But) they're just running out of people to send," Cossa said. "What we're doing is really stretching these guys thin, and we've got them going in all different directions."

Cossa said Afghanistan is still a pretty inhospitable place — despite the greater attention focused on Iraq.

"In Afghanistan, there's still cave-to-cave fighting in some cases," he said.

Capt. Kathy Turner, a Schofield spokeswoman, said she wasn't sure what other U.S. forces would be serving with the 25th.

Recent complaints by service members about the length of time they have been in Iraq — particularly by soldiers from the U.S. Army 3rd Division who have been deployed for eight months — preceded the announcement of new troop rotations.

The 25th Division said its troops will be deployed for six months. Cossa said he doesn't believe that time will be extended.

"It sounds like they are trying to get on some kind of predictable schedule," he said. "If they're laying it out this far in advance and they're saying six months, they probably mean that."

During the Vietnam War, the 25th Infantry Division sent 2,200 troops to Southeast Asia by mid-1965, and 4,000 3rd Brigade infantrymen in December of that year.

Members of the 27th Infantry "Wolfhounds" deployed for Desert Storm in 1991, and more than 1,000 Schofield soldiers served on peacekeeping duty in Bosnia last year.

Olson said family readiness groups and chaplain support programs will focus on families so deploying soldiers know their loved ones will be taken care of during the Afghanistan duty.

25th Infantry Division by the numbers

Two brigades from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) are preparing to deploy to Afghanistan for sixth months each. The units will include a total of about 7,000 troops from Schofield, plus helicopters and artillery. The division at a glance:

27 locations/sub installations

3 active airfields

166,335 acres of land

15,729 active Army personnel

7,234 civilian personnel

6,225 Army Reserve/National Guard personnel

8,693 family members on post

9,992 family members off post

Source: U.S. Army

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HICKAM

C-17 Ground breaking ceremony complet-

1By Capt. Tricia Teran-Matthews
Chief, 15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Base and community leaders broke ground last week on facilities that will house the Air Force's newest squadron of C-17s.

The arrival of the C-17 Globemaster IIIs culminates the transformation of the wing into a Pacific Mobility Hub.

During the ground breaking ceremony, Col Ray Torres, 15th Airlift Wing commander noted, "Today is milestone one in preparing for enhanced support to the war fighter in the Pacific Theater." Bringing the C-17 into the Pacific theater and Hickam Air Force Base not only enhances support to the war fighter, it can aid in humanitarian relief when called upon by our nation, he said.

Eight C-17s will be built and scheduled for delivery to Hickam, creating the new 535th Airlift Squadron. The 535th will be an active duty C-17 squadron, while the 204th Airlift Squadron will remain a guard unit, converting from C-130s to C-17s. The blend of active duty, reserves and Hawaii Air National Guard personnel involved symbolize the commitment to support the C-17 readiness, mobility and humanitarian missions across many fronts.

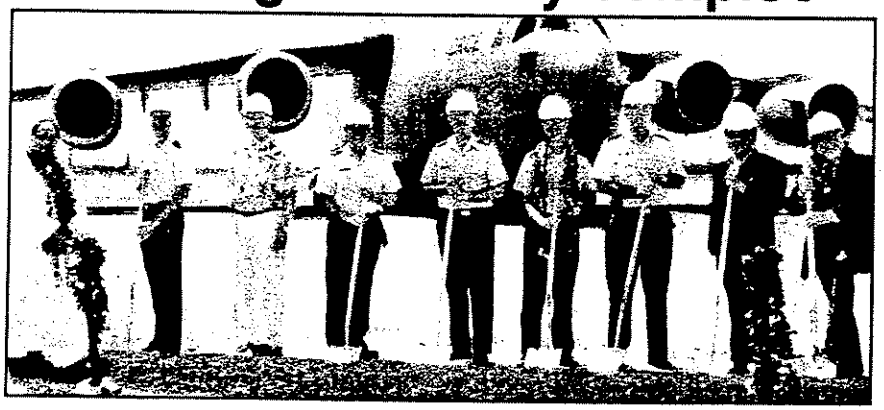

Photo by Mysti Bicoy

From left Hawaiian Kahu Kordell Kekoa, Col. Ray Torres, 15th Airlift Wing commander, Steve Grief, Kiewit Pacific, Col. Peter Pawling, Hawaii Air National Guard 154th Wing commander, Army Brig. Gen. Larry Davis, Pacific Ocean Division commander, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Maj. Gen. Robert Lee, HIANG Adjutant General, Gen. Paul Hester, Pacific Air Forces commander, U.S. Sen. Daniel Inoyue and U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie prepare to break ground on the C-17 facility.

The C-17s have the unique and efficient ability to carry almost four times the amount of C-130 cargo load, which means more resources are transported in less time. "Another strategic benefit of the C-17 is its ability to land on a short runway, which opens up thousands of additional runways for use in varying conditions around the world," said Lt Col Chris Davis, 15th AW Operations Support Squadron commander. That ability gives the warfighter greater flexibility in determining how and where to transport resources and personnel, often in time-critical situations, he said.

Colonel Davis has personally seen the span of support the C-17 provides. His missions have ranged from transporting Red Horse teams and equipment to the southern tip of Columbia for a school building project, to carrying more than a million tons of cargo that included food rations, vehicles, building supplies and much more, during a 45-day deployment to Qatar and Afghanistan.

"Anything, anywhere, anytime..." are words made famous by Maj Gen William H. Tunner more than 50 years ago. General Tunner successfully orchestrated the India-China, "Hump" airlift in 1944, the Berlin Airlift in 1948-49, and the Korean Airlift effort. His words continue to hold true as we consider what our mobility air forces accomplished in the distant and recent past as well as what our C-17s have to look forward to in the future.

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Posted on: Friday, August 20, 2004

Hickam breaks ground for C-17 cargo carriers

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — Eight of the Air Force's latest cargo carriers, the C-17 Globemaster III, will start arriving in Hawai'i, one per month beginning in January of 2006.

The Air Force yesterday celebrated the start of the new era of airlift capability at Hickam with a groundbreaking for the first three facilities planned, a year-long $30 million project for a C-17 training simulator and operations and maintenance buildings.

Kahu Kordell Kekoa offers a blessing during groundbreaking at Hickam Air Force Base for support facilities for C-17 cargo carriers.

Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

Three hangars and a reinforced concrete strip for short takeoff and landing combat practice are part of $190 million in construction projects that eventually will be completed.

Four locations are being considered for the 3,500- to 5,000-foot landing strip — Kalaeola and the Marine Corps base at Kane'ohe Bay, Kona International Airport and Barking Sands on Kaua'i — but officials said Kona may be the best spot.

Each of the big jet cargo carriers will be able to transport two of the Army's 20-ton Stryker vehicles as part of a plan to rapidly move the new fast-strike brigade to trouble spots in Asia and the Pacific.

Air Force officials and U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye and Rep. Neil Abercrombie, both Hawai'i Democrats, attended the groundbreaking , which included a traditional Hawaiian blessing and untying of a maile lei.

The arrival of the C-17s will transform Hickam from a mid-Pacific refueling stop to the home of a strategic airlift wing with greater reach for military and humanitarian missions.

An Air Force honor guard stands by for groundbreaking ceremonies at Hickam Air Force Base for $190 million in construction projects.

Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

It will also mean a unique partnership between the Hawai'i Air National Guard and the active-duty Air Force. Pilots and maintenance crews will come from both sides to work on and fly the C-17s.

"It's brand new. There's nothing like it in the United States as far as the way the organization will look," said Col. Peter Pawling, commander of the Air Guard's 154th Wing. "The Guard is looking at how to operate more effectively in the future, and this is one example of how to do that."

Officials previously said 100 full-time Air Guard and 400 active-duty jobs would be created by the C-17 basing.

Both of Hickam's missions — refueling and airlift — were on display on the tarmac. A C-17 from Charleston, S.C., was parked near one of the Air Guard's C-130 Hercules propeller-driven aircraft that the new cargo carriers will replace.

A B-1 bomber returning to Texas from a mission was parked nearby, and several F/A-18 Hornet attack aircraft are at Hickam from California for training with the Air Guard's F-15A/B Eagle fighters. The Guard also has KC-135R tankers.

"This is a day when we are demonstrating to our nation and the world that our active force, the Air Force, and the Guard, can work together ... ," Inouye said. "But more important than that, it demonstrates our commitment in the Pacific. "

The Air Force has been looking for a short takeoff and landing strip for steep combat maneuvers that would put ruts in most runways.

Of the four locations being looked at, Kona International may have the lead. The C-17s, which will be flown to Washington state for the practice before a strip here is built, will make about 40 trips to the site a month.

"As we collect all the information, it's clear the west coast of the Big Island of Hawai'i both meets our requirements for good training ... and it's also not in a densely populated area as some of the other runways may be," said Col. Raymond Torres, the 15th Airlift Wing commander. "So if you are asking, are there more concerns with some of the other areas — clearly. Reopening of Barbers Point (Kalaeloa) would be more of a challenge for the C-17s than building a runway with state support on the Big Island."

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Posted on: Friday, August 20, 2004

Two islands may share air wing

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye said yesterday that the Navy is considering whether it can base an aircraft carrier air wing at four locations on O'ahu and Kaua'i to make it easier to secure one of the flattops for Hawai'i.

Inouye, D-Hawai'i, said the Navy would like to base a carrier here, "but they have to clear up a few things as to how they would accommodate the air wing." Infrastructure for a carrier's 70 to 80 aircraft is a concern, as is jet noise.

"What I suggested was you can have some at Barbers Point, some at Kane'ohe, some can go to Barking Sands and some can go to Wheeler (Army Airfield)," he said. "For example, why should a helicopter — because that's part of an air wing — have to be with the fighters?"

Inouye noted that a reinforced concrete strip for combat takeoff and landing practice may be built at Kona International Airport on the Big Island for eight C-17 cargo carriers that are coming to Hickam Air Force Base in 2006.

"Why should (a carrier's) reconnaissance planes do the same kind of exercises as the fighters?" he said. "They can have a different place, just as the C-17 will do much of its training in Kona."

Inouye said the Navy is investigating the air wing basing proposal. If the decision is made to base a carrier in Hawai'i, it wouldn't arrive for at least five years, he said.

"That's not my decision to make, but it will not be tomorrow," he said, "because ... you'll have to prepare to accommodate that. You need housing. You need a berthing place."

In October, the Pacific Fleet initiated a $1.8 million study on the possibility of basing a carrier strike group and air wing in Hawai'i.

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Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - May 31, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/05/31/story4.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

From the May 28, 2004 print edition

Incoming C-17s will bring millions in economic impact

Harold Nedd
Pacific Business News

With eight C-17 planes headed this way, the U.S. Air Force expects to help bulk up a construction industry in Hawaii that is already drooling over military contracts.

Plumbers, electricians and carpenters should be among the first in line for the $150 million worth of construction jobs these cargo planes will create over the next three years, said Air Force Col. Raymond G. Torres.

Congress within the past week approved $25 million for Hickam Air Force Base to get started on construction work for the planes, which are scheduled to arrive in December 2005, said U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawaii.

"The bottom line here is jobs, contracts and small-business survival," Abercrombie said.

National security efforts to root out terrorism continue to drive military buildup in Hawaii, which helps the military respond quickly and forcefully to any conflict in the region.

If attacks occur, the Hawaii-based C-17s would be able to transport troops -- including Army Rangers and Navy Seals who specialize in missions such as storming an enemy stronghold -- to anywhere in the Pacific Rim within 24 hours.

The decision to bring C-17s to Hawaii grew out of a July 2000 study that pointed to a need for the military to station eight of them outside of the U.S. mainland for the first time.

The construction industry is expected see a big growth spurt from the military basing C-17s in Hawaii, Torres said.

Hangars and other buildings for the planes have to be built before the aircraft arrive. Hickam also has been approved for a $35 million maintenance training system for the planes, which require personnel who know a lot about engines, avionics and aircraft systems.

For every $1.8 billion the military spends in Hawaii, $123 million trickles into the construction industry, according to the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

The industry also racks up 1,131 construction jobs from every $1 billion the military spends in Hawaii.

Only retail and professional services see more jobs from military spending.

The C-17s coming to Hawaii also will be a source of well-paying jobs at the state Department of Defense, Torres said. The estimated 560 department jobs will each pay $60,000 or more annually, he said.

The department is staffing up to meet the high-tech needs of these planes. Each plane costs about $235 million -- about $32 million more than First Hawaiian Bank paid six years ago to construct the state's tallest building.

Along with troops, the planes can help with relief efforts from a hurricane or any other natural disaster in the state.

Approximately 112 of these planes are in stock. Home for many of them is Charleston, S.C, where 53 C-17s are based, said Mary Graham, spokeswoman for the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce.

Roughly 8,000 people are employed on the base, which has an annual payroll of $250 million, Graham said.

On top of that, the planes create $60 million worth of construction each year in Charleston, she said.

"The planes have been good for our economy," she said, noting that they account for about half of the $3 billion that the military pumps into the Charleston economy annually.

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Y -- REPLACE FAMILY HOUSING UNITS, PHASE II, HICKAM AFB, HAWAII

General Information

Document Type: Award Notice
Solicitation Number: F64605-03-R-0018
Posted Date: Oct 30, 2003
Archive Date: Nov 28, 2003
Classification Code: Y -- Construction of structures and facilities
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Department of the Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, 15 CONS, 90 G Street, Hickam AFB, HI, 96853-5230

Description

Contract Award Date: Oct 28, 2003
Contract Award Number: FA5215-04-C-0007
Contract Award Amount: $25,953,534.00
Contract Line Item Number:
Contractor: HUNT BUILDING COMPANY 4401 N MESA EL PASO TX 79902-1107

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, September 24, 2003

Air Force to start $150M in construction at Hickam

- Kona considered for training of C-17s

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Boosting the state's economy and the military presence in Hawai'i, the Air Force is preparing to begin more than $150 million in construction projects at Hickam Air Force Base to accommodate eight C-17 jet transports due to arrive in 2005.

Meanwhile, a contractor has been selected and will be named Oct. 3 for the privatization and renovation of roughly half of Hickam's 2,658 homes.

"We're getting ready for quite a bit of construction and flashing lights and tape and diverting traffic around the base," said 15th Airlift Wing commander Col. Raymond Torres.

The Air Force is completing an environmental assessment for the C-17 basing that will transform Hickam from a mid-Pacific refueling stop to the home of a strategic airlift wing.

Not since 1988 — when Hickam was home to HH-53 helicopters and JC-130s that made satellite photo recoveries — has the base hosted an active-duty squadron of the type now planned. The Hawai'i Air National Guard has KC-135R tankers, C-130 transports and F-15A/B fighters at Hickam.

With eight C-17 transport jets arriving in Hawai'i in late 2005, the Air Force is looking for a suitable training site.

Advertiser library photo

Following the completion of the environmental assessment, the first sign of several years' worth of projects is expected at year's end with the widening of Kuntz Gate.

The coming year is expected to see the construction of a C-17 painting and maintenance hangar, squadron and maintenance operations buildings, and a state-of-the-art flight simulator.

Torres said $54 million to $57 million in construction projects will be awarded in fiscal 2004, not including the housing renovations.

"I can't quantify how many jobs (that represents)," Torres said, "but it is clearly a lot of construction jobs over at least the next two years."

Hawai'i was selected for a squadron of Boeing C-17 Globemaster IIIs, the Air Force's latest-generation transport, because of its proximity to potential Asian and Pacific hot spots, and because the C-17s will be available to transport the $1.5 billion Stryker Brigade, a fast response unit that the Army is planning to base in Hawai'i.

A final environmental assessment for the project is due in several weeks. A draft version can be found at www.hickamc17.com.

The basing, which will be done with the Hawai'i Air National Guard as an associate unit, will mean the addition of about 100 full-time Air Guard jobs, and about 400 active-duty Air Force personnel. At least one other hangar, and possibly two others, will be built for the C-17s in future years.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, September 24, 2003

Kona considered for training of C-17s

- Air Force to start $150M in construction at Hickam

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

The military is considering using the Kona International Airport at Keahole for training involving eight C-17 transports that are due to arrive in Hawai'i in late 2005.

Col. Raymond Torres, 15th Airlift Wing commander, said the Air Force still is looking for a landing strip, or multiple strips, needed for combat training, and is looking at the Kona airport to meet the requirement in addition to Barking Sands on Kaua'i and the Marine Corps base at Kane'ohe.

A training facility originally was considered as part of an environmental assessment looking at the entire C-17 basing plan, but was split off for separate review when issues arose that have delayed a training agreement.

The four-engine jets, which can carry 102 paratroopers or 85 1/2 tons of cargo, would require a 3,500- to 5,000-foot concrete runway to practice an estimated 60 landings and takeoffs a month.

Honolulu International Airport was ruled out because it is too busy and runways would have to be closed while they are reinforced to handle the high-impact landings. Kalaeloa and Wheeler Army Airfield are surrounded by too many homes, Torres said.

Only the Marine Corps base and Barking Sands were considered previously, and of the two, the Navy facility on Kaua'i was regarded more favorably because fewer residents would be affected.

"(But) to be honest, we didn't realize how many limitations there were at some of the military fields either due to community encroachment or due to some of the other services' plans for some of their fields," Torres said.

At Barking Sands, the training landing strip would be built adjacent to the runway, and the proximity of existing Navy buildings has become an issue.

"We're still considering it (Barking Sands)," Torres said, "but it's a pretty tight, small strip of land."

Torres said the Air Force now is going to look into Kona International, a 10,000-foot strip surrounded by lava field and with no beach or residential community issues to worry about.

"But I don't want to mislead you. We're still working on Barking Sands and trying to figure out which one, or which one of maybe two or three, is more viable," Torres said.

Meetings are just now being organized with the Federal Aviation Administration and airport officials. Torres said the need to examine the issue separately, and the extra time it takes, would mean the combat training might have to be delayed or conducted elsewhere, but it does not affect the timing of the arrival of the C-17s.

A new environmental assessment would not be finished until next year, he said.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, August 11, 2003

Briefs

Advertiser Staff

AIR FORCE

Hickam 911 calls expedited

Hickam Air Force Base 911 calls are now being routed directly to Hickam dispatchers, saving precious time in an emergency.

For years, the calls were processed through Honolulu first.

New computer terminals in fire and police emergency dispatch centers on base permit the change, with caller information for dispatchers.

New enlisted club open

The new $9.5 million Tradewinds Enlisted Club is open at Hickam Air Force Base, replacing the 63-year-old enlisted club on Porter Avenue.

Hickam's original noncommissioned officers club was destroyed by fire in 1940.

The new 50,000-square-foot club has the JR Rockers Sports Cafe, with more than $50,000 in sports memorabilia and a video game room; a 500-seat ballroom; all-purpose room; and outside eating and cocktail areas.

MARINES

Marines get new commander

Lt. Gen. Wallace C. Gregson Jr. has assumed command of U.S. Marine Corps Force Pacific, Fleet Marine Force Pacific and Marine Corps Bases Pacific at Camp Smith. He took over for retiring Lt. Gen. Earl Hailston.

Marine Forces Pacific is the senior command for nearly two-thirds of the Marines' operational forces and 11 major installations. It handles operations for U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Central Command, including those in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Gregson most recently was commander of III Marine Expeditionary Force in Okinawa.

While the Pentagon is looking at reshuffling troops in Europe, Gregson said last month that there were no plans to move troops stationed in Okinawa.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, July 24, 2003

Hickam to cut 37 civilian jobs

By Sean Hao
Advertiser Staff Writer

Hickam Air Force Base yesterday said it will eliminate 37 civilian jobs by October as it realigns its workforce to keep it in line with its mission and budget.

The jobs amount to 2.7 percent of the 1,375 civilians employed at the base.

Another 61 civilians will be shifted to other jobs as Hickam eliminates a total of 150 positions.

The remaining positions were either not filled or were vacated as employees took early retirement, said Col. Raymond Torres, commander of the 15th Airlift Wing.

The job cuts were necessitated by budget constraints and the changing nature of operations, which in recent years have been shaped by the war on terrorism.

"We are constantly moving around civilians and enlisted officers because we're constantly making changes," Torres said.

The job cuts were initially announced in May. The salaries of those being cut range from about $20,000 to $80,000 a year. Those losing their jobs will be eligible for up to $25,000 in severance pay depending on length of service and current pay grade.

Torres said furloughed workers also will receive job relocation services and preference for other defense jobs, should they open up.

"Our job continues to be to help these people return and find jobs in the defense department," he said.

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Posted on: Wednesday, June 4, 2003

Air Force seeking new runway for C-17 jets

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

As part of a plan to base eight C-17 jet transports in Hawai'i, the Air Force wants to build a new runway at either Barking Sands on Kaua'i or the Marine Corps base at Kane'ohe Bay.

There would be 60 takeoffs and landings on the new runway each month as part of practice for landing in combat areas.

Some Kaua'i residents worry that if the runway is built at Barking Sands, aircraft noise could become a problem, access to surfing beaches could be cut and the military jets will detract from the island's beauty.

But if Kane'ohe Bay is used for the runway, the additional 60 takeoffs and landings would amount to less than 1 percent of the total air traffic at the base, according to an environmental assessment done as part of the plan to base the C-17s at Hickam Air Force Base.

The environmental review also notes two other alternatives: conducting the training landings on the Mainland, or not basing the C-17s in Hawai'i.

Tour company operator Mitch Skaggerberg said at a public meeting that Kaua'i's visitors come "because it's one of the last ... unspoiled places in the island(s)" and that the training flights would disturb many of the visitors to Koke'e and Waimea.

But Col. Raymond Torres, commander of the 15th Airlift Wing, said at the meeting that the C-17s would have engines quieter than those on Aloha and Hawaiian airlines jets that fly into Lihu'e in far greater numbers every day.

Torres said the Air Force doesn't want the C-17s flying over housing, something that would occur at Kane'ohe Bay but not at Barking Sands.

"Barking Sands is unique in the islands of Hawai'i because it is out on the edge of a peninsula, meaning at least from the perspective of people and housing it has the least amount of, both on approach and departure, housing associated with the field."

Torres said he was not sure how beach and surfing access would be affected, but he emphasized the aircraft would be there for training.

"What you're going to likely see it do, if you see it at all, or hear it at all, is you'll see it come in, do a landing stop and probably a few minutes later take back off," he said.

The C-17 requires a concrete runway 3,500 feet to 5,000 feet long to practice short-distance combat landings. Hickam was not considered for the training landings because runways are shared with Honolulu International Airport and would have to be closed to be reinforced to handle the C-17 landings.

Bringing C-17s to Hawai'i is seen as key to transporting a planned Army brigade of 300 Stryker armored vehicles, and would give Hickam a capability it does not now have for military missions and disaster relief.

The House Armed Services Committee recently approved $62.6 million as part of the 2004 national defense authorization bill for C-17 maintenance facilities, squadron operations and a flight simulator at Hickam. The aircraft are expected to arrive in fiscal 2006.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Friday, January 10, 2003

Training complex planned at Bellows

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

A $35 million to $40 million military urban training facility at Bellows is being planned by Marine Corps Base Hawai'i officials, who are hopeful the project will be financed by 2006.

With seaside populations on the rise around the world, military experts say coastal areas will increasingly become the urban war zones of the future. With that in mind, Marines are planning ahead and planning big.

Brig. Gen. Jerry McAbee, the base commander, said yesterday that an urban training facility at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows would have not only buildings but also below-ground sewers, a mock subway system and an elevator shaft.

Officials are pursuing money in fiscal 2006 for the 15- to 20-acre Military Operations on Urban Terrain training area, or MOUT project, but McAbee said the money may come sooner.

Later in the decade, the Marine Corps expects to be fighting from the sea in Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicles, and from the sky in the V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, which is in testing.

To train for beach landings, the Marines are looking at purchasing or leasing land on Moloka'i for assaults that won't involve live fire.

Additionally, McAbee said he has hopes a high-speed vessel that could carry a battalion's worth of Marines will be based at Pearl Harbor or Kane'ohe Bay to transport troops to Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island or as far as Guam.

McAbee laid out the Marine Corps wish list yesterday at the annual Hawai'i-U.S. Military Partnership Conference held at The Royal Hawaiian hotel by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i.

Among other Hawai'i military improvements noted at the conference, attended by several hundred business community and military members, was the Air Force plan to base a squadron of eight C-17 cargo carriers at Hickam Air Force Base.

Maj. Gen. Garry Trexler, director of space and air operations for Pacific Air Forces, said an increase of about 500 people and $152.7 million worth of military construction is needed at Hickam before the arrival of the latest-generation transports in 2005 or 2006.

Plans for more than $1 billion in projects for Ford Island also were detailed as the Navy centralizes operations and plans on putting in restaurants, shops and a Military Aviation Museum of the Pacific on the historic landmark. The work would be accomplished through public and private ventures.

McAbee's presentation was the first time some of the Marine Corps' ambitious plans were revealed.

McAbee said the urban training facility is envisioned to be used by more than just the Marine Corps, and was planned with U.S. Customs, the FBI, Honolulu Police Department, Hawai'i National Guard and other service components.

Moloka'i land, meanwhile, would give the Marines the opportunity to train with new Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicles.

The Marines stopped training on Moloka'i in the mid-1990s. At the time, Molokai Ranch land was being sought for a training site to replace Hawaiian Homestead land that the military leased.

Maj. Chris Hughes, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i spokesman, said the ranch land may be one of the areas being considered "but it's so far out in the future we have not specifically limited the location."

To date, McAbee said, a "needs statement" has been sent to Marine Corps headquarters, and no talks with landowners have begun.

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Pacific may get 30 cargo planes

An Air Force proposal to base a squadron of eight C-17 cargo aircraft at Hickam Air Force Base is part of a larger Air Force plan that calls for 30 total cargo aircraft for Pacific Air Forces.

Eight C-17 Globemaster IIIs also are slated for Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. Yokota Air Base in Japan, meanwhile, would replace 10 aging C-130Es with 14 C-130H models.

In Hawai'i and Alaska, the C-17 cargo carriers would be used in part to move soldiers, equipment and vehicles from th Army's new fast-strike brigades, including one plan-ned for Schofield Barracks, to trouble spots around the world.

JOINT SERVICES

Graduation day set at Tripler

Tripler Army Medical Center's intern and resident graduation ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m. Friday at Tripler's flagpole.

Lt. Gen. James B. Peake, the Army Medical Department surgeon general, will be the speaker.

The healthcare providers in the graduating class include an Air Force officer, a Navy officer, 101 Army officers and five civilians.

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MARINE CORPS

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - July 26, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/07/26/story6.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

From the July 23, 2004 print edition

Waimanalo goes high-tech for Marine Corps project

Terrence Sing
Pacific Business News

The number of high-tech jobs in Waimanalo is arguably zero.

That's expected to change this fall when a small group of Native Hawaiian homesteaders begins working on part of a $9.6 million contract to convert thousands of paper documents into digital files for the U.S. Marine Corps.

The project will bring tech jobs and training into the heart of a community where many have no experience with computer software and hardware, much less digitizing documents.

Native Hawaiian homesteaders in Anahola, Kauai, got the ball rolling last year with their own document-digitization project that has met with great success. Both ventures are part of the $54 million Native American Document Conversion program to convert mostly military technical manuals, charts and maps into digital format. The program was sponsored by U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii.

Unique partnerships

It's a unique partnership among two Alaska Native tribes, seven American Indian tribes and the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, a nonprofit serving Native Hawaiian communities. Together, they formed the Inter-tribal Economic Alliance to create document-digitization jobs in rural Indian reservations, Alaska native villages and Hawaiian homestead communities.

The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement created the nonprofit Hawaiian Homestead Technology to oversee its tech-based community economic development projects that create tech centers through partnerships with Hawaiian homeland communities.

While the Anahola project was the first Hawaiian Homestead Technology tech center/conversion facility and focused on paper files, the Waimanalo project will convert mostly maps, charts and graphics that now exist only in paper format.

"We will be giving them back CAD -- computer-aided design files -- from their paper files," said Hawaiian Homestead Technology CEO Olin Lagon. "For example, wiring diagrams and building diagrams."

Hawaiian Homestead Technology plans to send three of its staff to Seattle next week to train for the project. They in turn will train Native Hawaiian homesteaders in Waimanalo for the expected 12 jobs the project eventually will create. The goal is to create sustainable living-wage jobs with full medical and dental benefits for both part- and full-time workers.

The project will operate out of a 200-square-foot space in the newly built 3,200-square-foot Waimanalo Community Center, which has an open-air design.

Hawaiian Homestead Technology has scheduled a grand opening for the new Waimanalo tech center on Monday, Aug. 16. Intensive three-month on-the-job training is set to begin in September for the first six employees.

Though small, the Waimanalo tech center will be equipped with advanced high-tech software and hardware, including a system that uses a video camera to convert into digital format large maps that can't be copied on a standard-sized scanner.

The council wants to open document-conversion sites in Hawaiian homestead communities statewide, according to CEO Robin Danner. Most are rural, with more than 30 scattered throughout the islands.

"We are dedicated to only opening a tech center in partnership with a community association," Danner said. "Our model respects and honors the choices and economic self-determination of [Hawaiian] communities."

Organized as nonprofits

Associations typically are organized as member nonprofits.

"We don't assume that just because we and our national native partners believe that tech jobs are a good idea that it is every community's priority," Danner said. "Every community is unique."

Hawaiian Homestead Technology hires the association to manage the facility and recruit from within the community to fill jobs in the tech centers. In turn, HHT provides all tech training.

All profits go back to social and community development initiatives in Hawaiian communities.

"This is not an initiative where individuals are profiting," Lagon added.

Paul Richards, president of the Waimanalo Hawaiian Homes Association, will manage the new tech center.

"It's really exciting because it's something that will provide 10 or 12 permanent jobs," he said. "We are all kind of anxious about it. Once we start advertising and getting the word out, everyone is going to be even more excited."

Richards visited Anahola when it first started its document project last year.

"I saw the Anahola project take off," he recalled. "It was something unique to the area."

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, July 21, 2004

Possible assignment to actual war zone 'very, very real'

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

MARINE CORPS TRAINING AREA BELLOWS — The 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines hit the beach yesterday with the subtlety of a sledgehammer.

Big troop-carrying CH-53 Super Stallion helicopters roared overhead, swaying Ironwoods below.

Amphibious assault vehicles surged out of the sea with Marines in camouflage face paint, followed by 87-foot fan-driven hovercraft that disgorged Humvee after Humvee.

Marines keep watch over Bellows beach from the back of an Amphibious Armored Vehicle during RIMPAC exercises. With the possibility of deployment looming, the exercises were "great preparation" for Kane'ohe Marines, one battalion commander said.

Photos by Richard Ambo • The Honolulu Advertiser

It was part of Rim of the Pacific 2004 war games, but the possibility of going to war in Iraq or Afghanistan for Hawai'i Marines is all too real.

"What is the possibility? I think if you're asking me (about 3rd Marines) going to the Middle East or another theater that's active in the global war on terror — very, very real," said Lt. Col. Norm Cooling, the battalion's commanding officer.

"There is obviously a portion to play for everyone in that fight, and 3rd Marines is certainly expecting and preparing to go into that campaign area," he said.

Cooling said he has been given a general warning "that we should prepare to deploy on short notice to relieve forces that are currently there," but a specific deployment date hasn't been given.

The battalion commander said he's prepared for three potential missions: Afghanistan, Iraq or with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), in the Pacific theater.

As part of the regular deployment rotation for nearly 7,000 Kane'ohe Bay Marines, the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines recently deployed to Okinawa for six to seven months.

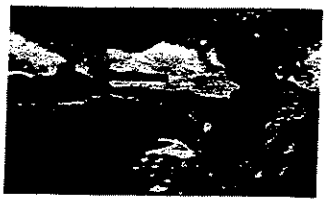
The 3/3 Marines, known as "America's Battalion," are expected to make that trip in the winter, but that is subject to changing mission needs.

Staff Sgt. Jason Jerome, 30, said he'll go wherever Cooling tells him to go, including Iraq or Afghanistan.

Asked if he wants to go, Jerome, who is married and has a 10-year-old son, said: "It all depends on how you look at it. I like being with my family. But also, it's my job, and whatever my country calls for, I'll gladly do it."

While Schofield Barracks' 25th Infantry Division (Light) is distributed between Iraq and Afghanistan, Hawai'i's Marines remain ready at Kane'ohe Bay.

Nearly 2,000 Hawai'i-based soldiers with the Army National Guard's 29th Separate Infantry Brigade were told they need to report Aug. 16 for active duty and a yearlong mission to Iraq beginning in February.



Staff Sgt. Jason Jerome of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines, says that while he wants to be with his family, he accepts the likelihood

John Pike, director of the military think tank GlobalSecurity.org, last month said he doubted the Hawai'i Marines will remain out of the war zones.

"At the rate we're going, everyone's going to get an opportunity to get a campaign medal," he said.

During Operation Desert Storm, about 7,600 Kane'ohe Marines were deployed. Hawai'i Marines with Task Force Taro were the first to cross the mined Iraqi-Kuwait border.

Cooling said yesterday's beach assault at Bellows was good practice — regardless of the fact such a landing wouldn't be used for Iraq or Afghanistan duty.

of deployment. It's "my job, and whatever my country calls for, I'll gladly do it."

"Anytime we can participate in an exercise — get them out of garrison, get them into the field — it's great preparation," Cooling said.

He added the effectiveness of amphibious landings can't be discounted. Marines pushed several hundred miles into Afghanistan in the opening of the war in 2001.

"Certainly we can do that over long distances as we demonstrated when we opened the campaign in Afghanistan, so the legs, the traditional legs of amphibious reach, if you will, is quite a bit longer than we used to think they were," he said.

More than 40 ships, seven submarines, 100 aircraft and almost 18,000 service members from seven nations are participating in RIMPAC, which runs through July 27 in Hawai'i.

Yesterday's beach landing was preceded by antisubmarine warfare and mine-clearing exercises. About a dozen Marine amphibious assault vehicles and the Landing Craft Air-Cushioned hovercraft were launched from the amphibious ships Rushmore and Tarawa several miles off the coast.

The ongoing exercise included attacks on mock terrorist camps at Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island with close-air support from a B-52 bomber out of Guam, and about 50 "opposing force" Marines in the forests of Bellows resisting the 3/3 Marines with blank gunfire.

An Australian diesel submarine was among the participants in the exercise, and a company of Australian soldiers made the helicopter assault on Bellows with Kane'ohe Marines.

There were some hiccups. The morning beach assault was delayed several hours when the stern ramp of the Tarawa would not lower. It had to be cranked down by hand. And the Marine amphibious assault vehicles landed on the beach at about the same location as the hovercraft — instead of separated as planned.

"It is part of the training because believe me, there were a lot of people scrambling to figure out how to manually raise that stern gate — not a common thing we do — but something that is great training," Cooling said.

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Posted on: Monday, June 14, 2004

Kane'ohe Marines await their turn at war

By William Cole
Advertiser Military writer

The Marine Corps, stretched thin by two wars, has 25,000 troops in Iraq and another 5,000 on the way. In Afghanistan, there are 4,000 Marines.

Army units are having yearlong tours extended, total U.S. troop numbers in Iraq are on the rise, and the next round of rotations is to be determined.

Marine Sgt. Daniel Gibson, based at Kane'ohe Bay, doesn't have to be a math whiz to know it's a matter of when, and not if, he'll go.

"I think the general thinking is pretty much everyone is going to be sent over (to the Middle East) one way or another," said Gibson, 23, who's with Combat Service Support Group 3.

While Schofield Barracks' 25th Infantry Division (Light) is now distributed between Iraq and Afghanistan, the nearly 7,000 Marines of Marine Corps Base Hawai'i remain ready at Kane'ohe Bay.

John Pike, director of the Virginia-based military think tank GlobalSecurity.org, said he doubts the Hawai'i Marines will remain out of the war zones.

"At the rate we're going, everyone's going to get an opportunity to get a campaign medal," Pike said.

Some already are deployed. About 150 Marines from the 3rd Radio Battalion are in Iraq, as well as a number of individuals.

One of those radio battalion Marines, Lance Cpl. Daniel Powell, 22, received a Purple Heart last Monday for shrapnel wounds received in a mortar attack in Iraq in May.

Officials here, though, say there are no large-scale deployment orders for Hawai'i-based Marines.

"Right now, as far as we know at this moment in time, there are no plans for Marine Corps Base Hawai'i Marines — other than the ones who are deployed — to go to Iraq," said base spokesman Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans.

That hasn't stopped Marines and their families from thinking about it. And worrying. And planning for it.

Gibson is taking leave in July to visit his parents in Colorado Springs because he knows he is likely to be deployed soon as an individual replacement.

Gibson works with Marine Corps Community Services and could work at a base exchange or travel by convoy delivering store goods from base to base.

"I've had people go for six months and come back, and two others have gone to supplement those two coming back," Gibson said. "As long as the (troop) numbers stay constant over there, they are going to rotate as much as possible to lower the stress on families."

With the uncertainty ahead, Karen Rochon has seen a change in the way her two children interact with their father. Gunnery Sgt. Leo Rochon, 42, is operations chief for Marine Aircraft Group 24.

"The difference with my children I would say would be when they started watching all the other daddies moving out," said Karen Rochon. "They just kind of gravitated more to their father. They appreciate their father more than they used to."

Leo Rochon went on a trip to the Pentagon, "and they asked, 'Are you coming back?' They are on pins and needles," added Karen Rochon, who trains "key volunteers" to help families on the home front.

The Pentagon has accelerated the deployment of two Marine Expeditionary Units to Iraq.

The San Diego-based USS Belleau Wood Expeditionary Strike Group with the 11th MEU and 2,200 Marines stopped in Hawai'i on June 4 and pulled out days later, heading for Iraq.

The 24th MEU and a similar number of Marines out of Camp Lejeune, N.C., also are deploying to the Middle East.

A Marine on board the USS Essex in Singapore asked visiting Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on June 4 if the Marines on board would start rotating into Iraq and Afghanistan.

"The demand is considerable for ground forces — capable ground forces — the kind that you represent, and at the moment the Marines are, I believe, on a ribbon ... of a seven-month service over there," Rumsfeld said. "And I suppose the answer to your question depends on how long we're there... ."

About 800 to 900 Kane'ohe Bay Marines deploy to locations like Okinawa on a rotating basis for six to seven months.

The 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment is deployed to Okinawa now, and the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment — slated to be the battalion landing team for the 31st MEU — is expected to deploy later this month.

During Operation Desert Storm, about 7,600 Kane'ohe Marines were deployed. Hawai'i-based Marines in Task Force Taro were the first to cross the mined Iraqi-Kuwait border.

GlobalSecurity's Pike said there's no way to gauge how many of Hawai'i Marines would be sent to the Middle East.

"They are working the Iraq situation on a week by week basis," Pike said, "and the problem with Iraq is you've got good days and then you've got bad days — as in, we just got a United Nations resolution for the next phase of the occupation, so that looks good."

On the other hand, the Kurds are chafing over independence concerns and a slew of militias have agreed to disarm — but not that of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr in Najaf, about which the United States is worried the most, Pike said.

"Which one of those a month from now is going to turn out to be the main headline?" Pike added, pointing to the uncertainty ahead.

Michael Pavkovic, director of the diplomacy and military studies program at Hawai'i Pacific University, also believes Hawai'i Marines are likely to see duty in the Middle East.

"There's only so many troops to go around, and I think we've pretty much exhausted any other units we might pull in, so it wouldn't surprise me in the least if (Hawai'i Marines) went over there," he said.

Whatever comes, Karen Rochon said the Marines and their families will cope. "We learn to network with each other."

Marines, often called the "nation's 911 force," regularly deal with uncertainty anyway.

" 'What ifs' is what we're about," Karen Rochon said.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Saturday, April 3, 2004

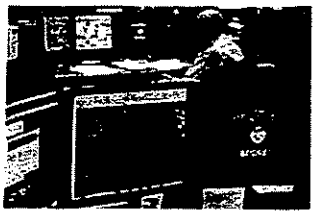
Command center goes high-tech

By Will Hoover
Advertiser Staff Writer

The world's largest combat command now has a technological facility equal to its geographic span.

"In the military, this is as high-tech as it gets anywhere," Army Maj. Gen. Ron Lowe told a press contingent visiting the normally restricted areas inside the new

$152 million Nimitz-MacArthur Pacific Command Center yesterday at Camp Smith. "Bill Gates might have something that compares with it, but ... "



Journalists got a rare opportunity to visit the top-secret Pacific Command Joint Operations Center, underground at the new $152 million Nimitz-MacArthur Pacific Command headquarters at Camp Smith. At the center, military officials can track every person and vehicle in Pacific Command.

Jeff Widener • The Honolulu Advertiser

The facility's high-tech communications capability dramatically increases the command's capacity to focus on all 105 million square miles in its area of responsibility — an expanse equal to more than half the Earth's surface.

Its Joint Operations Center can monitor military activities, video-teleconference with Washington and far-flung military leaders, and track every person and vehicle within the Pacific Command.

The six-story, 274,500-square-foot structure sits across the road from the old headquarters building, which began as a 1,650-bed hospital in 1941. In 1957, the deactivated hospital became the headquarters for the joint forces Pacific Command, and it will continue to serve Marine Forces Pacific and other command support activities.

In the past two weeks, 1,200 service members have packed up their desks and moved from the old complex to the new. For Lowe, the command chief of staff, the contrast between the two is hard to fathom.

"When the other building was constructed, the electronic infrastructure was the telephone," Lowe said as he showed off the new facility's Command Conference Room. "We've got about 12,000 data channels that have been built into this headquarters."

The nerve center for so much high-tech power is found in the underground Joint Operations Center, a 1,500-square-foot, split-level auditorium straight out of "War Games" — except that the Hollywood version could barely fake what this one does for real.

Backed by a high-definition screen 35 feet long by 7 feet high, Col. Robert Clinton, Operations Center director, highlighted some of the top-secret control room's wizardry.

"One of the unique capabilities we have here on the floor is that we integrate both the intelligence and operations information," said Clinton. That includes coordinating a staggering array of military, political, legal, medical or weather-related data from all parts of the world and projecting it in graphic form quickly and comprehensively.

"This allows us to seamlessly and quickly get the complete picture of what's going on throughout the world," Clinton said.

From there, the processed information goes directly to Adm. Thomas Fargo, commander of Pacific Command, for evaluation.

"We never lose contact with the commander," Clinton said.

Amazing as the new command center is, the facility has pulled off an even more astounding feat: Lowe said it came in under budget.

Reach Will Hoover at 525-8038 or whoover@honoluluadvertiser.com.

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security number, company name and company telephone number. All persons attending the conference must provide picture identification at the gate in order to be allowed entry into the facility.

Written notice of intention to bid must be filed with the above Contracting Agency no later than 10 calendar days prior to the bid opening date.

Bid Guaranty: 5% of the amount of bid

Contract Bond: 100%

Work to be completed within 180 consecutive working days from the date of commencement specified by the written order of the Adjutant General including the date of said order.

Liquidated Damages: per schedule

Documents in CD-ROM format may be obtained from the above agency.

A copy of the CD-ROM may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Estimated Cost of Project: Between $1,000,000 and $1,400,000

PLANHOLDERS:

BCP Construction of Hawaii, Inc. 808-841-4574
. . . . . Fax: 808-841-1645
Ralph S. Inouye Co., Ltd. 808-839-9002
. . . . . Fax: 808-833-5971
Lyz, Inc. 808-845-3779
. . . . . Fax: 808-845-3748

01/23 3:30 PM File # 8915

• HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY - MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII, KANEOHE MCB, OAHU -
RFP NO. N62742-03-R-1410 Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Building 566, Kaneohe MCB, Hawaii — contact: Joy Okimoto, phone 257-1523.

This procurement is restricted to eligible Hawaii and Guam 8 (a) basic ordering agreement (BOA) holders with the resident officer in charge of construction, Pearl Harbor serviced by the Hawaii District office and other 8 (a) BOA holders with bona-fide places of business in Hawaii and Guam.

Construction work includes reinforced concrete footings, floor slabs, precast prestressed concrete roof plans with concrete topping, concrete masonry unit walls, modified bitumen sheet roofing on rigid insulation, flashing and sheet metal work, rolling service doors, metal doors and frames, metal louvers, smoke vents, epoxy mortar flooring system, painting, fire sprinkler and alarm systems, mechanical ventilation, electrical work, and other incidental related work. Site work includes utilities connections, asphalt concrete pavement, landscaping, and other miscellaneous site work.

Site work (demolition, clearing and grubbing, earthwork for structures and pavements, excavation, backfilling and compacting for utilities, water distribution, base course for rigid paving, turf), concrete (cast in place concrete, plant-precast prestressed structural concrete), masonry (masonry), metals (metal fabrications), woods and plastics (rough carpentry), thermal and moisture protection (fluid-applied waterproofing, flashing and sheet metal, smoke and heat vents, firestopping, joint sealants), doors and windows (steel doors and frames, rolling service door, door hardware), finishes (epoxy mortar flooring system, paints and coatings, high-build glaze coatings), specialties (interior signage), special construction (lightning protection system, analog/addressable interior fire alarm system, wet-pipe fire suppression sprinklers), mechanical (plumbing systems, air handling units, ductwork and ductwork accessories), electrical (underground transmission and distribution, interior distribution system, interior lighting).

Bid Bond: 20%

Payment Bond: 100%

Performance Bond: 100%

Work to be completed within 270 calendar days after the Notice to Proceed.

Liquidated Damages: $500.00 for each calendar days of delay

A copy of the CD-ROM may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $500,000 and $1,000,000

PLANHOLDERS:

Anonui Builders 808-672-5655
. . . . . Fax: 808-672-5559
Goto Construction, Inc. 808-845-6366
. . . . . Fax: 808-845-6377
Lyz, Inc. 808-845-3779
. . . . . Fax: 808-845-3748
M. Shiroma Painting Co. 808-678-8535
. . . . . Fax: 808-678-2625
Niking Corp. 808-423-2524
. . . . . Fax: 808-423-4476

01/29 3:00 PM File # 8533

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE RECYCLING FACILITY FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, OAHU - RFP NO. 034
Department of Budget & Fiscal Services, City and County of Honolulu, 530 South King Street, Room 115, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 — phone 523-4682, fax 523-4847.

The City and County of Honolulu is soliciting bids on a full-service contract for the furnishing of all necessary labor, equipment, materials, tools, supplies, accessories, and appurtenances to finance, design, engineer, construct, operate, and maintain for ten (10) years a Municipal Solid Waste Recycling Facility which, when operating at the Guaranteed Capacities of municipal solid waste specified in the Offeror's Proposal, will produce a marketable product.

Offerors who have successfully operated Recycling Facilities which are of similar complexity and size for six (6) months prior to this RFP processing one (1) or more tons per day of municipal solid waste or similar materials will be considered. This solicitation is part of the City's plan to divert materials presently being landfilled.

A six (6) acre site at the Campbell Industrial Park adjacent to City's H-POWER Facility as shown on Figure 1, will be leased to the successful Contractor for $1.00 per year and will be exempt from property tax assessment. The facility shall be sized to be capable of processing the Guaranteed Capacity of MSW as stated in the Offeror's Pricing Proposal. The quantities and types of MSW to be processed at the facility are materials presently being landfilled at the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill. The City intends to deliver the Guaranteed Capacity in its present delivery format. Material will not be presorted by the City prior to delivery. Information regarding the quantities and types of MSW available for processing may be obtained in the "Waste Composition Study" dated May 1999 available at www.opala.org/additional resources.html#technical.

A Mandatory pre-submittal conference will be held at Kapolei Hale, 1000 Uluohia Street, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707 at 2:00 PM on October 23, 2003.

A copy of the CD-ROM is available in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Documents in CD-ROM format may be obtained from the Purchasing Division of the above agency at no deposit.

Notes:

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, December 15, 2003

Briefs

Advertiser Staff

NAVY

Blue Angels to appear in Hawai'i

The Blue Angels, the Navy's F/A-18 Hornet flight demonstration team, will appear for an air show Oct. 9-10 at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i at Kane'ohe Bay.

The Blue Angels, a flight demonstration team inspired by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, first performed in 1946.

Flying Grumman F6F Hellcats, the Blue Angels would perform daring maneuvers to thrill the public and maintain interest in naval aviation.

The Blue Angels have used the F/A-18 Hornet since 1986.

MARINES

New Kane'ohe rec center opens

A $400,000 renovation to Kahuna's Sports Bar & Grill at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i at Kane'ohe Bay is providing a new recreation center for E-5 and below sailors and Marines.

Attached to the year-old Kahuna's, the new recreation center features pool tables, a movie theater, computer stations, a Starbucks and video games.

The new theater will seat 20 and show the same movies playing at the base theater. The alcohol-free center was to open last weekend. A grand opening even is scheduled for Wednesday.

Marines heading to Okinawa

More than 800 Marines from the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment arrived on Okinawa for a seven-month deployment as part of the rotating Unit Deployment Program.

The battalion replaced the 1st Battalion at Camp Hansen, and will be attached to the 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division.

"We have several training opportunities that we're looking forward to during our time with the 4th Marines," said Lt. Col. Andrew R. MacMannis, battalion commander. "The bigger highlights of our time here will be the training we conduct at JWTC (Jungle Warfare Training Center), Camp Fuji and Exercise Forest Light."

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, September 8, 2003

Kane'ohe Marines to replace aging choppers

- Graphic: A look at the Sea Stallion vs. the Osprey

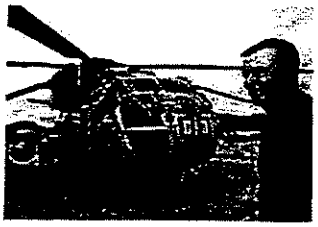
By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Sometime after fiscal 2008, Ospreys are slated to replace Kane'ohe Bay's fleet of CH-53D Sea Stallions, helicopters that are 30-plus years old and among the oldest in the Marine Corps.

Once they arrive, there will be quite a contrast.

The Corps' V-22 Osprey aircraft, with big, windmill-like propellers, or rotors, deliver troops faster and farther than helicopters but with a similar ability to hover and land.

Production of the Osprey — which can tilt its rotors up for vertical takeoff, and forward for fixed-wing flight — is back on track after being dogged by development and flight problems, including two crashes in 2000 that killed 23 Marines and put the program in jeopardy.



First Lt. Tom Pohl, an aircraft maintenance officer, will eventually see the Kane'ohe Bay Marines' aging CH-53D Sea Stallions replaced by V-22 Osprey aircraft, which can be used in helicopter or airplane mode.

Bruce Asato • The Honolulu Advertiser

The Pentagon has approved production of 152 of the aircraft through 2009.

Officials previously said 36 Ospreys were destined for Hawai'i.

An Osprey training squadron was stood up at Marine Corps Air Station New River in North Carolina last week. The first operational Ospreys will replace older CH-46E Sea Hawk helicopters on the East and West coasts before any arrive in Hawai'i.

In the meantime, Kane'ohe Bay Marines continue to fly and fix the CH-53D Sea Stallion, the same Vietnam-era helicopters that Col. Greg C. Reuss flew 23 years ago as a new lieutenant.

"I could go to my log book and walk out to an aircraft, and I've flown just about all of these (before)," said Reuss, who now commands Marine Aircraft Group 24 and the last remaining Sea Stallions in the Marine inventory.

The base has 40 CH-53Ds in three tactical squadrons, and training, headquarters and logistics units.

The single rotor helicopters, which were consolidated at Kane'ohe Bay in the mid-1990s following a Marine Corps force reduction, are a challenge to maintain because of their age.

But Reuss said the Sea Stallions are extremely reliable and remain a capable aircraft.

"We're still in the fight with our capability to put so many people in the back," said Capt. Rob Garrison, 29, a Sea Stallion pilot with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362, the "Ugly Angels."

Marines here have become creative in maintaining what would be considered a classic if it was a car on the street.

Maintenance crews make several trips a year to a helicopter "bone yard" outside Tucson, Ariz., to retrieve parts such as engine cowlings that aren't made anymore.

Newer aircraft have television screens and digital readouts. The Sea Stallions have analog gauges. Although wiring upgrades have been made, Staff Sgt. Ryan Morris, who works in avionics, said '60s- and '70s-style handiwork remains.

"That's one of the main things that takes up our maintenance time — old wiring — fixing it and replacing it," he said. "I've done it for approximately eight years now and I still get challenged on occasion."

Although the maintenance time required for every hour of Sea Stallion flying time was 38 hours, Reuss said the total is now less with better trained crews.

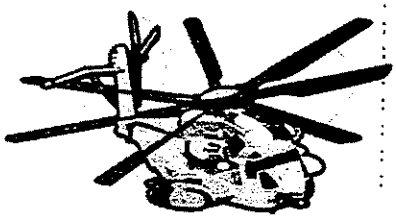
What's inside the CH-53Ds is "not much different than was flying in Vietnam," Reuss said. "We've got some new radios, and we have some avionics equipment and re-wiring."

The Sea Stallions have a 10,000-hour flight service life

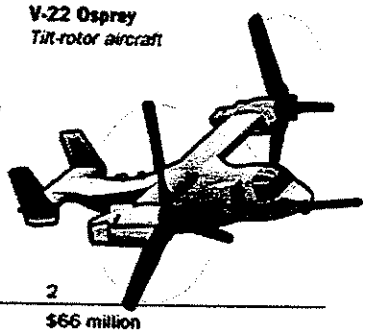
A look at the Sea Stallion vs. the Osprey

The Marine's old fleet of CH-53D Sea Stallions will be replaced with the redesigned vertical lift V-22 Osprey sometime in 2008.

CH-53 Sea Stallion



V-22 Osprey
Tilt-rotor aircraft

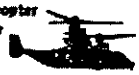


3	CREW	2
$25 million (1993)	COST	$66 million
88 feet 6 inches	LENGTH	57 feet 4 inches
24 feet 11 inches	HEIGHT	22 feet 1 inches
42,000 pounds	WEIGHT	60,500 pounds
149.5 mph	CRUISE SPEED	316 mph (airplane mode), 213 mph (helicopter mode)
56 passengers	CAPACITY	24 passengers

The versatile Osprey

The Osprey lifts off and lands in helicopter mode.

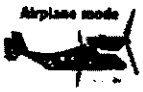
Helicopter mode



Once in the air the rotor engines tilt forward

In its airplane mode the Osprey becomes a high-speed, fuel-efficient turboprop airplane.

Airplane mode



Sources: Military Analysis Network; Boeing Company; United States Marine Corps

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LATE ARRIVALS continued

08/14 2:00 PM File # 8316

• FY03 MCON PROJECT P-444, RELIGIOUS MINISTRY FACILITY, MCBH, KANEOHE BAY, OAHU -
RFP NO. N62742-02-R-1306. ROICC, Naval Facilities

The Request for Proposal (RFP), CD-ROM only are available for a non-refundable charge of $67.92.

Your request for purchase of the CD-ROM, if mailed, should be sent to: Document Automation and Production Service, 1025 Quincy Avenue, Suite 200, Pearl Harbor Naval Base Building 550, Pearl Harbor

stuffed shirts? No way!
Visit www.hawaiiopera.org
and find out what you've
been missing.

Teixeira is one of several state officials who gather information from business and government leaders in order to advise the governor on state homeland security issues.

When Gov. Linda Lingle chose to keep Hawaii at the blue (guarded) level earlier this month when the federal gov-

would say how much they have spent on extra security since Sept. 11, 2001, or how much it would cost them to increase security measures. But they agree that security costs money — a lot of it.

If the threat level in Hawaii rose from blue to orange (high), for example, "You

03/06 2:00 PM **File # 7840**

UPCOUNTRY MAUI WATERSHED PROJECT - DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE - PHASE 2, MAUI - JOB NO. DOAM01 Department of Land and Natural Resources, 2nd Flr., Kalanimoku Bldg. , Rm. 221, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 - phone 587-0230.

Work includes installation of a 20-inch ductile iron, irrigation pipeline approximately 2,300 feet long and appurtenant structures, and other incidental related work. The pipeline will be below grade and flow via gravity from an approximate elevation of 4,120 feet down to approximately 3,900 feet mean sea level.

Clearing and grubbing, structure removal, pollution control, seeding/sprigging/mulching, mobilization and demobilization, water for construction, removal of water, excavation, earthfill, drainfill, structure concrete, steel reinforcement, ductile iron pipe, water control gates, identification markers/plaques, valves and meters, connectors, grouted rubble paving slope lining, valve markers, maintenance access roads.

Site inspection is scheduled for February 13, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. Bidder shall meet at the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office, 210 Imi Kala St., Suite 209, Wailuku, HI 96793. Site inspection of the pipeline alignment is required before bidder will be qualified to submit a bid proposal.

Note: Due to the nature of the work contemplated, bidders must possess a valid State of Hawaii Contractor's license classification A.

Written notice of intention to bid must be filed with the above Contracting Agency no later than 10 calendar days prior to the bid opening date.

Bid Guaranty: 5% of the amount of bid

Performance Bond: 100%

Work to be completed within 150 consecutive calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

Liquidated Damages: $800.00 for each and every calendar day of delay

Plans and specs may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Documents may be obtained from the above agency at no deposit.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $450,000 and $600,000

03/07 2:00 PM **File # 7785**

• REPLACEMENT OF 55 FAMILY HOUSING QUARTERS - MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII, KANEOHE BAY, OAHU - RFP NO. N62742-00-R-1346 Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Engineering Field Division Pacific,Acquisition Dept. (Code ACQ0262), 258 Makalapa Drive, Honolulu, HI 96860 — contact: Loredana King, phone 474-6321, fax 474-8908.

This procurement is Unrestricted. NAICS Code 23322.

It is the intent of the Government to demolish 55 units and construct 55 units of quality family housing within the available funds. The work shall include design and construction of a complete and usable project consisting of all necessary site improvements and related work as required, considering safety, energy efficiency, and reduced maintenance expense. The family housing units and street system for the project shall be identical for a visually homogeneous community. All dwelling units will be equipped with air-conditioning and solar water heating system. The construction shall be phased: Phase 1 shall include the demolition and construction of 15 housing units at Mokapu Court and 6 housing units at Capehart South for a total of 21 units. Phase 2 will not start until Phase 1 is complete and tenants from FY63 North (Pond road) moved into Phase 1. Phase 2 includes the demolition and construction of 34 units.

This is a source selection procurement requiring both technical and price proposals. Contract award will be made to the offeror proposing the best value to the Government from a technical and price standpoint.

Bid Guaranty: 20%

Payment Bond: 100%

Performance Bond: 100%

All work to be completed within 630 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

Liquidated Damages: $290.00 per housing quarter for each calendar day of delay

The RFP documents via CD-ROM format are available for a non-refundable fee of $67.92.

Your request for purchase of the CD-ROM, if mailed, should be sent to: Document Automation and Production Service, 1025 Quincy Avenue, Suite 200, Pead Harbor Naval Base Building 550, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860. Checks shall be made payable to: "Superintendent of Documents". If using a company VISA, Mastercard, or Discover card you may fax your request to (808) 473-2604. Be sure to include the cardholder's name, account number, and expiration date in your request along with your company name, mailing address, telephone number, facsimile number, RFP No., and project title, and whether the solicitation will be picked up at the Contracting Office. Also indicate if you are prime, subcontractor, or supplier. Mark the front of the envelope with the RFP No. Allow at least ten days for mailing from the date your request is received. Companies wanting the RFP to be sent via air express service must furnish their express service airbill label with the recipient's name, telephone no., company name, address, company's account no., and type of delivery filled in. If the Company is outside the 50 U.S. states, provide a Commercial invoice as required by the air express service. If the airbill label or commercial invoice, if any, is not received in correct/complete form, the CD-ROM will be mailed via U.S. postal service and will not be expressed mail. DAPS will no longer attempt to retrieve the correct information from the Contractor in order to express mail the CD-ROM. Failure to provide any of the above information, as indicated, may delay the processing of your request and is at no fault of the Government. Planholder's list will be available after the solicitation is issued and may obtained at http://www.hawaii.wnbt.daps.mil/PACDIV/pacdiv.htm. Please note that the DAPS planholders' list may not be all inclusive. Any request for solicitation received within 10 working days prior to the closing date will be processed in accordance with the above procedures. However, there is no guarantee that the recipient will receive the solicitation prior to the closing date. Amendments will be posted on the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil for downloading. This will normally be the only method of distributing amendments. Therefore, it is the offeror's responsibility to check the website periodically for any amendments to this solicitation. It is highly recommended that all interested offerors create an account at the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil Solicitation Registration Registration for this solicitation is optional. You may still view plans/specifications and amendments without registering. If you register for this solicitation, you will receive a courtesy email notifying you of all amendments for this solicitation posted to this website. Registration for this solicitation, however, does not release bidders/offerors from the responsibility of checking the solicitation daily for ammendments. Unless otherwise indicated in the synopsis this is an Internet only Solicitation. It is the bidders/offerors responsibility to check this site daily in order to be notified of any changes to this solicitation.

Plans and specs in CD-ROM format may be examined in the plans room at Trade Publishing Company.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $10,000,000 and $25,000,000

PLANHOLDERS:

Bodell Construction Co. (Mainland). 801-261-4343
. . . . . Fax: 801-261-1020
JCVC Inc. dba Ching Construction 808-842-1844
. . . . . Fax: 808-841-7138
Close Construction, Inc. 808-678-9493
. . . . . Fax: 808-678-0723
Dellew Corporation (Mainland) 757-342-0794
. . . . . Fax: 757-865-3562
Hunt Building Corp. (Mainland) 915-533-1122
. . . . . Fax: 915-533-0119
J. A. Jones Management Services (Mainland) 704-553-6610
. . . . . Fax: 704-533-6687

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, February 10, 2003

Kane'ohe radio battalion latest from state to deploy

By Walter Wright
Advertiser Staff Writer

KANE'OHE — "Norris! Newman! Meadows!" the gunnery sergeant barked, sending Marine after Marine toward five U.S. Army buses park on a dusty asphalt road in the middle of the base at Kane'ohe Bay.

"Go, Marine!" the gunny yelled out.

With spouses teary eyed and children calling out, "Bye, Daddy," about 220 members of the 1st Radio Battalion shouldered their M-16s and their laptop computers, flashed shaka and V-for-victory signs and headed out yesterday for a possible showdown in the sand with Saddam Hussein.

The communications and electronic warfare specialists were the latest of several small contingents from Hawai'i shipped out to the Middle Ea in preparation for war, following 30 of their own, more than 350 Pearl Harbor sailors on the destroyer O'Kane who left Jan. 17, and 200 Marines from Camp Smith who set up headquarters in Bahrain almost a year ago.

About 40 Marine reservists from Hawai'i also are about to be deployed in the 4th Force Reconnaissance Company activated Jan. 14 for amphibious and deep ground scouting and spying and raids.

One Marine getting on the buses yesterday was Sgt. Leah Philbrook, a clerk with the radio battalion, leaving home only three weeks after her husband, Sgt. Nicholas Philbrook of Marine Forces Pacific, returned to Hawai'i after his own deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Daughter Elya looked from Mom in her camouflage uniform to her civvies-clad Dad to try to figure out what was going on.

"Where's Mommy going? Nowhere," Elya said hopefully.

Leah Philbrook held Elya's little brother, Duncan, 18 months, in the distracted grasp of a mom helping her children down their cheeseburgers from McDonald's, but said she knew it was the last meal the family would have together for quite a while.

Another h

lawnmowers running that he hadn't had to dwell too much on his own challenge of saying goodbye to wife, Gretchen, and their seven children

"We eat dinner together every night and we talk," Power said, pausing occasionally, his eyes hidden behind his dark glasses. "I try to keep thei informed, we watch the news; they have to understand that the news directly affects us."

His youngest, Lily, 3 1/2, "knows only that Dad is going to get on a plane and go away for a while." His eldest, Megan, 18, a college student, knows a lot more, but already has a military history of her own, having been commander of her Navy Junior ROTC unit at Kalaheo High School.

Wife Gretchen, he said, "has to be mom and dad for the duration, and our orders are 'for the duration.' We have no idea how long we'll be gone."

But "if somebody marries a Marine, they come to understand they are marrying the Marine Corps as well," he said.

Lt. Col. Mark Aycock, commanding officer of the battalion, said his men and women are ready, but probably "a little bit more nervous for this deployment than for others," which have been exercises.

"This is the real thing. The adrenaline gets going, there's a little bit of apprehension, and a little bit of excitement, because this is what Marines are supposed to do," he said.

And they will do it well, Aycock said, because "they know there are other Marines out there depending on us to do our job. If we don't do our job, other Marines could die.

"And a Marine," he said, "will never, ever, let another Marine down."

Reach Walter Wright at wwright@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8054.

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MILITARY HOUSING

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, December 16, 2004

Ground broken for military homes

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

Gone will be the 18-hole golf course, built in the 1920s, used as a supplementary airstrip in World War II, and rated as the second best military course in the nation.

But junior enlisted soldiers and their families at Schofield Barracks will gain something far more valuable — at least to a non-golf way of thinking: new three-bedroom homes with living room ceilings two stories high, as much as 40 percent more living space, and lanais that overlook green spaces, not streets.

This is what a Schofield junior enlisted duplex will look like. It's part of the Army's $1.6 billion family housing privatization project on O'ahu.

U.S. Army and Actus Lend Lease

The ironwood- and palm-lined Kalakaua Golf Course will see its last rounds on Dec. 31 as the Army and Actus Lend Lease begin to pave the way for dramatic housing changes at Schofield and six other Army installations.

Ground was broken yesterday at Schofield for the 10-year military family housing privatization project that will include the construction of more than 4,050 homes, renovations to more than 3,400 existing residences, and repairs to 386 historical homes.

The $1.7 billion contract, which could rise to $6.9 billion over 50 years with maintenance and management of the Army housing, represents the largest military family housing privatization project in the United States and will affect thousands of Hawai'i families as well as workers vying for subcontracting jobs.

Even though actual construction isn't expected to begin until summer of next year, $10 million to $15 million in business already has been contracted out for housing operations and maintenance with Actus taking over those duties in October.

"That's 100 percent local. Hawai'i businesses," said Ryan Mielke, a spokesman for Actus.

Officials yesterday spoke of the major scope and uniqueness of the project and the privatization approach, through which the military enters into public-private partnerships to manage, construct, renovate and operate family housing.

Geoffrey Prosch, assistant secretary of the Army for installations and environment, said more than 2,000 new homes have been constructed at four installations in Colorado, Texas, Washington and Maryland — more than 2 1/2 times the number of homes built using traditional financial sources over 20 years, and in less than a quarter of the time.

"We cannot support the United States military as a whole, and in this instance, the Army in particular, with respect to families and soldiers ... with the kind of

At a glance

- The Army's $1.7 billion family housing privatization project on O'ahu with Actus Lend Lease is the largest in the Department of Defense.
- Construction will start next year, probably in summer. Homes at

system we had previously," said U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawai'i. "... We had to find another way to do it."

Among the 11 individuals to take part in the groundbreaking was Cpl. Clinton Davis, 23, a

1st Battalion, 27th Infantry "Wolf-hound" who was shot three times in Iraq on April 7 and had to undergo 13 surgical operations to rebuild a shattered lower left leg.

Davis had in mind the greater comfort new housing will bring to soldiers.

"I'm pretty honored to do it (the groundbreaking)," he said. "I was able to represent our future soldiers and future NCOs."

The other services in Hawai'i also have initiated family housing privatization, and $10 billion worth of work is expected on Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard homes.

The Army installations that will see the housing projects include Schofield, Wheeler Army Airfield, Aliamanu Military Reservation, Tripler Army Medical Center, Fort Shafter, Helemano Military Reservation and Kia'i Kai Hale.

Approximately 700 1940s and 1950s homes at Schofield will be the first to be demolished. Harry Jackson, vice president and asset manager for Napa, Calif.-based Actus Lend Lease, said every effort will be made to save mature trees like those on the golf course, which is needed in part for new utilities, and to maintain the integrity of historical homes.

"We worked hand in hand with the (State Historic Preservation Office) on the renovations," Jackson said. "Whatever work we do on the historic homes, they have very clear guidelines on what we do."

Col. Howard Killian, commander of U.S. Army Garrison, Hawai'i, said 64 percent of Hawai'i housing doesn't meet Army standards for habitability.

"So I think this is an extraordinary time," he said.

It also will be a very busy time for Schofield, with plans for a fast-response Stryker Brigade, new barracks projects, a reorganization putting more emphasis on brigades rather than a full division, and a new $27 million shopping center.

"We've got an enormous amount of change going across about everything that we put our hands on," Killian said.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

Schofield and Aliamanu Military Reservation will be built or renovated first and allotted in twos or threes when they are ready.

• The project will involve Schofield Barracks, Aliamanu Military Reservation, Fort Shafter, Wheeler Army Airfield, Helemano Military Reservation, Tripler Army Medical Center; homes for 100 Marine Corps personnel at Aliamanu, and 300 Coast Guard houses at Kia'i Kai Hale.

• The Army's family housing privatization includes 45 installations, equating to more than 84,000 housing units, or 92 percent of the Army family housing inventory. The Hawai'i project represents nearly 10 percent of that total.

• Family homes will have at least three bedrooms and most will have living room ceilings two stories high.

Junior enlisted homes will be between 1,600 and 1,700 square feet.

Source: U.S. Army and Actus Lend Lease

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Forest City prepares to build and renovate Navy homes

By Nina Wu
Pacific Business News

From a retail and entertainment complex at 42nd Street in New York to residential lofts in downtown Los Angeles, Forest City Enterprises has made its development mark across the nation.

Now Forest City

How Hawaii Works

Phase I of the contract with the Navy involves the construction of more than 1,000 new homes and renovation of about 900 existing military family homes over the next four years.

McGrew Point, Halsey Terrace and Radford Terrace will get new contemporary homes designed by Denver-based Woodley

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS - OAHU

Ranked by building permit value

Rank	Project name Project address or general location Tax Map Key number	• Building permit value • Financing source	Building size (sq.ft.) Land size (acres or sq.ft.)	Name of: • Developer • General contractor • Engineer or architect	Residential project description	• Project start date • Project completion date
1.	**Hawaii Military Communities Navy Housing Redevelopment** Radford Terrace, Halay Terrace and McGrew Point 1-1-1-10-17; 1-1-1-10-4; 1-9-8-10-3	• $282,500,000 • Private bond financing	1,850,000 sq.ft. 218 acres	• Hawaii Military Communities, LLC • HMC-DB, LLC • R.M. Towill & Lyon Associates	Redevelopment of three entire residential communities, including the demolition of 961 homes and construction of 910 new homes with the associated infrastructure and amenities	June 2004 May 2008
2.	**Koolani** 1189 Waimanu St., Honolulu 2-3-4:73; 2-4-5:27; 2-3-6:4; 2-3-7:0	• $139,500,000 • Various	987,000 sq.ft. 5 acres	• Crescent Heights • Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co. Inc. • Desimore Consulting Engineers	Construction of a 46-story, 370-unit upscale condominium tower and parking lot.	December 2003 May 2006
3.	**Kahala Nui** 4389 Malia St. 3-5-017:044; 3-5-017:042	• $100,000,000 • Revenue bonds	750,000 sq. ft. 6.6 acres	• Greystone Communities • Nordic/PCL Joint Venture • Architects Hawaii	A continuing-care retirement community with 270 independent living apartments with separate accommodations for assisted living, memory support and skilled nursing facilities.	January 2003 April 2005
4.	**Schofield Whole Barracks Renewal – Phase 2A** Schofield Barracks DND	• $80,000,000 • U.S. Army	DND DND	• U.S. Army • Dick Pacific Construction • DND	Construction of two barracks buildings and battalion headquarters/operation buildings	August 2001 September 2004
5.	**The Peninsula at Hawaii Kai (Parcels A&B)** 520 & 580 Lunalilo Home Road, Hawaii Kai 3-9-8-16 and 3-9-8-36	• $58,869,901 • DND	DND DND	• Stanford Carr Development • Robert M. Kaya Builders Inc. • M&E Pacific	Construction of 96 single-family dwellings, 123 single and multi-family dwellings and 92 multi-family townhome units	August 2001 2005
6.	**Ko Olina Residential Resorts** 92-1168-2 Olani St., Kapolei 1-9-1-56:4	• $50,000,000 • DND	Various sizes 29.8 acres	• Brookfield Homes • Brookfield Homes • Structural Analysis Group (Structural)	Resort residential consisting of five building types with eight different units	March 2001 March 2004
7.	**Family Housing Quarters, Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Hawaii** 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Kailua NA	• $48,994,000 • U.S. Navy	212 units 45 acres	• U.S. Navy • Metcalf Construction Co. Inc. • Edward J. Casa & Associates	Replacement of family housing quarters. fiscal year 2001 project H-570 and fiscal year 2002 project H-571, fiscal year 2003 projects H-571 and H-563	October 2002 Spring 2005
8.	**The Colony at the Peninsula** 520 Lunalilo Home Road, Honolulu 3-9-8:16	• $27,710,000 • Private	238,600 sq.ft. 33.7	• Stanford Carr Development LLC. • Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co. Inc. • M&E Pacific Inc.	Construction of Building One of a luxury condominium complex in Hawaii Kai.	August 2003 September 2004
9.	**The Windsor** 343 Hobron Lane, Honolulu 2-6-12:47	• $25,060,000 • First Hawaiian Bank	250,000 sq.ft. 1 acre	• Hobron Hotel LLC • U.S. Pacific Construction Inc. • Richard Matsunaga & Associates	Renovation of hotel into condominium units	February 2003 May 2004
10.	**Bachelor Enlisted Quarters and Post Office** Marine Corps Base Hawaii Kaneohe DND	• $22,500,000 • U.S. Navy	DND DND	• U.S. Navy • Dick Pacific Construction • DND	Two-story bachelor enlisted quarters and Post Office	October 2002 June 2004
11.	**Keke Villas** Kealahou St., Hawaii Kai 3-9-10-45	• $20,924,086 • DND	DND DND	• Realty Asset Management Inc. • Robert M. Kaya Builders Inc. • IGGY Group / Robert A. Alaze AIA	Construction of 70-single family dwellings	April 2004 April 2005
12.	**The Plaza at Punahbowl** 918 Lunalilo St., Honolulu 1-2-4-14:5, 6,7,8,14	• $13,879,278 • DND	94,000 sq.ft. 0.85 acres	• Plaza Retirement Center • Nordic Construction Ltd. • Wattenberger Architects/Baldrige & Assoc.	A 7-level building including underground parking, ground-floor-based community area, 4 apartment levels totaling 108 residential units	November 2002 March 2004
13.	**Bachelor Enlisted Quarters P-487** Pearl Harbor DND	• $13,500,000 • U.S. Navy	DND DND	• U.S. Navy • Dick Pacific Construction • RIM Architects	Design/build of 5-story, 56-unit bachelor enlisted quarters facility	August 2002 June 2004
14.	**Kalihi Valley Homes Site Dwelling Improvements Phase 3A** 2250 Kalena Drive, Honolulu 1-3-22:1	• $12,000,000 • State of Hawaii	60,400 sq.ft. 24.43 acres	• HCDCH • DND • GYA Architects Inc.	Demolition and renovation of 6 existing buildings, landscaping, existing parking lot improvement and reconstruction	July 2004 July 2005
15.	**Kahanui Senior Apartments Phase I** Hawaii Kai Drive, Honolulu 3-9-8: 48 lot 1-E	• $4,400,000 • City Bank, HCDCH	27,500 sq.ft. 0.68 acres	• Hawaii Intergenerational Community Development Association • U.S. Pacific Construction Inc. • Miura & Kuo Architects Inc.	31-unit apartment complex for seniors	June 2002 January 2004

Notes: DND: Did not disclose; NA: Not applicable/available.
Information on this list was supplied by individual companies through questionnaires and/or telephone interviews and could not be independently verified by Pacific Business News. Only those companies that responded to our inquiries were considered for this list. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy and thoroughness of the list, omissions sometimes occur. Please send corrections or additions on company letterhead to Rachel Neville, Pacific Business News, P.O. Box 75130, Honolulu HI 96836. If you wish to be surveyed when this list is next updated, please send your company name, name of contact person and fax number to Rachel Neville at the same address.

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - September 6, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/09/06/smallb1.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

ENTERPRISE

From the September 3, 2004 print edition

Military contract will add more than 100 Hawaii jobs

Harold Nedd
Pacific Business News

Hawaii's largest general contractor got a $64.6 million boost from the U.S. Army that is expected to help create more than 100 construction jobs over the next two years.

Dick Pacific Construction Co. Ltd. will mainly need help from carpenters, electricians, plumbers and masons to spruce up Schofield Barracks for the Army, said Gerry Majkut, senior vice president and general manager.

The money from the Army helps pay for renovating and remaking housing for 380 soldiers, according to the Army Corps of Engineers.

It also covers the costs for improving curbs, sidewalks and roads at Schofield. The project is part of a 14-year effort by the Army to breathe new life into all of its barracks.

Dick Pacific's contract to do the work at Schofield comes at a time when increasingly more small businesses in Hawaii are circling the military for federal contracts. The federal government's counterterrorism efforts have led to a multibillion-dollar surge in planned renovation and construction of military housing in Hawaii.

According to U.S. Small Business Administration data for 2002, the most recent statistics available, Dick Pacific's parent, Dick Corp. in Pittsburgh, Pa., is the largest U.S. Department of Defense contractor in Hawaii.

Records show that Dick Corp. racked up more than $151 million worth of contracts in Hawaii in 2002.

At the same time, military contracts account for more than half of Dick Pacific's business, Majkut said.

He attributed repeat business from the military to the company's focus on performance, quality and safety.

"You have to make the best out of each opportunity you get from the military," Majkut said.

The Schofield project is scheduled to be completed May 6, 2007. Plans call for building a barracks, a community building for soldiers and four other buildings.

U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawaii, said the contract shows that "island contractors can compete successfully for military business against mainland firms."

Reach Harold Nedd at 955-8039 or hnedd@bizjournals.com.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Updated at 1:45 p.m., Friday, July 2, 2004

Privatized projects for Navy to break ground

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

Lt. Cmdr. Michael Whitt's Navy-issued house has a World War II-era feel that makes him feel connected to the Navy's rich legacy in the Islands.

But there are plenty of reminders that his ranch-style home in the Navy's 44-year-old McGrew Point officer housing project in 'Aiea isn't quite up to modern standards.

The single-wall construction is so thin that the pointy ends of the nails that Whitt pounded into the walls to hang pictures on have come out the other side, visible outdoors.

"Considering the age of the homes, it's in good shape," said Whitt, who moved into the house in May with his two daughters, ages 6 and 4. "If I had to stay in it another three years, that wouldn't bother me and it wouldn't bother my children, either."

But the Navy and its civilian partners broke ground today on the first of 1,948 new homes in McGrew Point, Halsey Terrace and Radford Terrace. The groundbreaking represents the beginning of work that could eventually expand to $1 billion covering a total of 7,300 Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps homes on O'ahu.

Don Hamilton and his wife, Bridgette, are on the list for a new Navy home. But they say they are very pleased with their older home at Halsey Terrace military housing near Salt Lake.

Deborah Booker • The Honolulu Advertiser

The groundbreaking also represents the first of separate construction projects to build and renovate another 7,800 Army homes and 1,356 for the Air Force.

The so-called privatized military projects replace the old military way of building and renovating homes around the world.

Since 1996, the Pentagon has been diverting officer and enlisted housing allowances into developers' hands so they can get projects launched sooner. The private developers are then responsible for collecting the housing allowances and managing and maintaining the homes for the following 50 years.

Under the old system, the Department of Defense estimated it would take 30 to 40 years — at a cost of $30 billion — to upgrade the 168,000 military homes around the country that have been deemed "inadequate."

Now O'ahu has become the site of one of the biggest privatized projects of its kind and the work is expected to drive Hawai'i's construction industry over the next decade.

For Navy military families such as Whitt's, the promise of new, modern homes also represents peace of

mind while their country is at war.

"Having a good, safe home for your family to live in while you're on deployment is a must, a priority and a significant quality of life issue," Whitt said.

Like Whitt, Chief Warrant Officer Don Hamilton, his wife, Bridgette, and their three teenage children also love their 44-year-old home in the Navy's Halsey Terrace for senior enlisted sailors and officers.

It's right next door to tired-looking homes that have been vacated to make way for new ones. On the other side, where people still live, one of the Hamilton's neighbors hung a sign that reads, "Free Weeds Pull Your Own."

Although they'd be happy to stay in their older house, Hamilton — the electronics material officer for the guided missile destroyer USS O'Kane — would be happier knowing his family was living in something brand new.

"When I'm out to sea, I don't want to worry, 'Does the house need a new roof?' " he said.

Hamilton moved into the four-bedroom, two-bath house on June 2 and is on the list for a new Navy home. He and Bridgette joke that their new house might end up being right next door.

Even if they don't get one of the first new houses in Halsey Terrace, the Hamiltons are already seeing the benefits of the property management side of the privatized housing program that began in May at Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani, McGrew Point, Radford Terrace and Halsey Terrace.

The Navy has partnered with a hui of companies under the name Hawai'i Military Communities LLC — principally comprising Texas-based builder C.F. Jordan L.P. and Ohio-based property manager Forest City Enterprises Inc.

Within two weeks of moving in, the Hamiltons called Forest City officials for minor problems, such as rusted areas inside the washing machine that Hamilton feared would stain his Navy whites.

Three days later, Forest City workers showed up with a new washing machine.

The Hamiltons called again just before they left for a trip to the store to inquire when the former residents' discarded boxes and other debris might be picked up from the curb. By the time the Hamiltons got back, the curb was clean.

But Don Hamilton was particularly impressed when he called Forest City to ask about their keys that kept sticking in the front door lock.

Just as soon as he hung up the phone, a Forest City worker knocked on their door.

"He says, 'I'm here to look at your lock,'" Hamilton said. "I said, 'You're kidding me.' They are definitely customer-service oriented."

To say thanks for the good service, Don and Bridgette brought flowers to the Forest City office.

Now they — and the Navy — hope the same kind of attitude will carry over into the new Navy homes.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, June 30, 2004

Actus signs 50-year labor deal

By Kelly Yamanouchi
Advertiser Staff Writer

Actus Lend Lease LLC signed a 50-year labor agreement to modernize and maintain 7,800 U.S. Army housing units on O'ahu at a ceremony yesterday where representatives of Hawai'i's congressional delegation lauded the move.

Government, union and company officials said the " 'Ohana Stabilization Agreement" with multiple labor unions for a military housing project that will last half a century is unprecedented.

Richard Tacgere of the Glaziers Architectural Metal & Glass Workers Local 1889 signs the 50-year agreement. "It means a lot," said Tacgere, who hopes at least 50 of his 135 members will find work under the agreement. "We got a lot of work for the locals."

Jeff Widener • The Honolulu Advertiser

"With this model the nation will benefit," said Sen. Dan Inouye. "It's a long agreement. It shows the trust and confidence we have in each other."

Rep. Neil Abercrombie said that in the past, "We were criticized for not being able to provide the quality-of-life housing that was necessary for our armed services, particularly the volunteer service where more and more people were being married, and where more and more couples had children." Now, he said, the project labor agreement sets a precedent he hopes will be emulated across the country.

Inouye said colleagues in Congress from Arkansas, Mississippi and California have looked at this labor agreement as a possible model for projects in their jurisdictions.

The Army selected California-based Actus Lend Lease, which has built military homes in Hawai'i for more than 12 years, as the preferred developer for the housing privatization contract in August 2003. The company said the contract would be worth about $1.7 billion over the initial 10-year development period and $5.1 billion over the life of the agreement through 2054.

Abercrombie has been a critic of tax exemptions from the city and the state proposed in the privatization contract and said that issue is still being worked out.

Lynn Kinney, business manager and secretary treasurer of the International Union of Painters & Allied Trades Local 1791, said the contract means work for "three generations of our people."

Actus expects at the height of construction on the project to employ more than 500 Hawai'i workers affiliated with 30 to 50 local subcontractors.

Richard Tacgere, business representative for the Glaziers Architectural Metal & Glass Workers Local 1889, said he hopes at least 50 of the approximately 135 members of his union will work on the contract.

"It means a lot," Tacgere said. "We got a lot of work for the locals."

Peter Koziol, chief executive of Actus Lend Lease, said he's hearing the work is bringing some Hawai'i residents back "who have gone to Vegas or have gone to other places — men and women who want to return to Hawai'i to work."

Reach Kelly Yamanouchi at kyamanouchi@honoluluadvertiser.com or 535-2470.

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Actus Lend Lease Will Launch 50-Year Development Plan In April

By Ryan Mielke, Regional Communications Director
Actus Lend Lease, Hawaii

Actus Lend Lease has been part of Hawai'i's business and social 'ohana and 2) jobs, bringing income, improved livelihoods and a host of opportunities for years in Hawai'i has nourished a corporate culture of respect, our island way of life.

Countdown For $358 Million 'Phase One' Launch Now Underway

By Thomas W. Henneberry
President, Hawaii Military Communities

In September 2003, Hawai'i Military Communities, LLC, a partnership of Forest City Enterprises, Inc. and CF Jordan LP, was selected to redevelop and manage military family housing in five of the U.S. Navy housing communities throughout Hawaii. The contract with HMC was awarded under the U.S. Department of the Navy's Hawaii Regional Housing Privatization Initiative. Their joint experience in complex residential developments makes Hawaii Military Communities an ideal partner for the Department of the Navy.

Bringing A Quality Lifestyle To Hawai'i's Military Families

Our vision is to create first-class, safe and attractive homes in modern communities and neighborhoods that offer the finest in reconfigure density, foster a sense of community and create wonderful new homes.

We are committed to providing Hawai'i's Navy families with renovated and newly built homes having the highest level of maintenance, ensuring long-term viability, desirability and enhancement of value. Our goal is to give Hawai'i's Navy families a sense of well-being through high-quality construction and exceptional management service.

Our vision will take shape as we implement Phase One. This initial development, estimated to cost $358 million, will begin in April 2004 and involves a four-year plan to construct 918 new homes and renovate 1,040 existing military family homes within the communities of McGrew Point, Hokulani, Moanalua Terrace, Halsey Terrace and Radford Terrace. In addition, we will provide

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Friday, July 2, 2004

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"Having a good, safe home for your family to live in while you're on deployment is a must, a priority and a significant quality of life issue," Whitt said.

Like Whitt, Chief Warrant Officer Don Hamilton, his wife, Bridgette, and their three teenage children also love their 44-year-old home in the Navy's Halsey Terrace for senior enlisted sailors and officers.

It's right next door to tired-looking homes that have been vacated to make way for new ones. On the other side, where people still live, one of the Hamilton's neighbors hung a sign that reads, "Free Weeds Pull Your Own."

Although they'd be happy to stay in their older house, Hamilton — the electronics material officer for the guided missile destroyer USS O'Kane — would be happier knowing his family was living in something brand new.

"When I'm out to sea, I don't want to worry, 'Does the house need a new roof?' " he said.

Hamilton moved into the four-bedroom, two-bath house on June 2 and is on the list for a new Navy home. He and Bridgette joke that their new house might end up being right next door.

Even if they don't get one of the first new houses in Halsey Terrace, the Hamiltons are already seeing the benefits of the property management side of the privatized housing program that began in May at Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani, McGrew Point, Radford Terrace and Halsey Terrace.

The Navy has partnered with a hui of companies under the name Hawai'i Military Communities LLC — principally comprising Texas-based builder C.F. Jordan L.P. and Ohio-based property manager Forest City Enterprises Inc.

Within two weeks of moving in, the Hamiltons called Forest City officials for minor problems, such as rusted areas inside the washing machine that Hamilton feared would stain his Navy whites.

Three days later, Forest City workers showed up with a new washing machine.

The Hamiltons called again just before they left for a trip to the store to inquire when the former residents' discarded boxes and other debris might be picked up from the curb. By the time the Hamiltons got back, the curb was clean.

But Don Hamilton was particularly impressed when he called Forest City to ask about their keys that kept sticking in the front door lock.

Just as soon as he hung up the phone, a Forest City worker knocked on their door.

"He says, 'I'm here to look at your lock,'" Hamilton said. "I said, 'You're kidding me.' They are definitely customer-service oriented."

To say thanks for the good service, Don and Bridgette brought flowers to the Forest City office.

Now they — and the Navy — hope the same kind of attitude will carry over into the new Navy homes.

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or at 525-8085.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, June 14, 2004

Privatization effort to work around trees

By Karen Blakeman
Advertiser Staff Writer

Old homes will be coming down and new ones going up as the privatization of military housing continues on O'ahu, but naturalists and developers say many of the large, older trees in those neighborhoods will stay.

"We planted many of those trees during the war for the military to use as camouflage," said Mary Steiner, chief executive officer of the Outdoor Circle. "We feel very protective of our trees."

The Circle is working with two private developers to make sure those World War II-era trees and other mature trees are protected.

"We wanted to say that Hawai'i is really special and should be treated differently than a privatization program in Kansas," Steiner said. "We feel our input has made a difference."

Developers said they were happy to work with the group.

"Preserving the tree canopy is one of our primary goals," said Thad E. Bond, senior vice president of Hawaii Military Communities LLC.

HMC has a 50-year contract with the Navy to modernize and manage nearly 2,000 homes in five Navy housing areas. In three of those communities, old homes will be torn down and replaced.

Ryan Mielke, spokesman for Actus Lend Lease, the California-based company that plans to modernize and maintain 7,800 U.S. Army housing units on O'ahu, said that although reconstruction work on Army projects is further off than the Navy projects, Actus, too, is working closely with the Outdoor Circle.

"Our priority is to insure that we take great care to preserve as much as the treescape as possible," Mielke said.

Preliminary work is scheduled to begin within a week at the Navy's McGrew Point, Bond said. Houses also will be razed and rebuilt at Halsey Terrace and Radford Terrace.

In all, 961 Navy homes will be demolished and 910 larger, more modern homes will be built to replace them.

"Right from the start," Bond said, "we hired arborists to be on our team. We have two landscape architects working with land planners and civil engineers to study each neighborhood."

About 1,100 trees in the three Navy neighborhoods will remain in place, Bond said.

Sidewalks will skirt them. Buildings will be aligned to avert them.

Before work gets started at Pearl Harbor's McGrew Point, orange construction fences will be installed around each of the designated trees to protect them, he said.

Environmental groups and developers are joining forces to save older trees during privatization work at McGrew Point and other areas.

Andrew Shimabuku • The Honolulu Advertiser

To claim a tree

People who are interested in reclaiming small trees from the Navy's construction areas and who have the means and expertise to remove them may call Deborah Beck at Hawaii Military Communities at 834-5656.

A subcontractor will be responsible for the care and watering of those trees during construction.

But that doesn't mean every tree will be kept, Bond said.

"In the landscape plan, there are trees that make sense and trees that don't," he said. "Those that don't will be sold or given away or otherwise removed."

Steiner of Outdoor Circle said about half the trees at McGrew will be removed, and around 45 percent of those at Halsey.

Mature monkey pod, plumeria, coconut and some of the ear pod are among the trees that will be saved.

"Trees that make Hawai'i Hawai'i," Steiner said.

Reach Karen Blakeman at 535-2430 or kblakeman@honoluluadvertiser.com.

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May Town Hall Meeting focuses on RCI, housing

By Joy Boisselle, Contributing writer

The monthly Town Hall Meetings have evolved into a comfortable well-established routine. The meeting held May 18 at Schofield Barracks' Sgt. Smith Theater was no exception.

May's meeting opened with a video of deployed Soldiers set to the music of the band, Lone Star, singing, "I'm there for you." Voices of spouses and children mixed with the song to deliver words of love and encouragement to their Soldiers. Not a few in the audience furtively wiped their eyes in the poignancy of the moment. Afterwards, the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Band again stirred the crowd with a selection of patriotic favorites.

The first briefer, Lt. Col Malcolm Frost, U.S. Army, Hawaii operations officer, gave an overview of ongoing missions here and abroad. Concerning Operation Enduring Freedom - Afghanistan, he pointed out the transfer of authority name change from Combined Joint Task Force 180 to Combined Joint Task Force 76.

Following Frost was Jack Weirs, Directorate of Community Activities marketing chief who highlighted several upcoming community events. Of those events, Operation Ohana received top billing. As explained by Weirs, Operation Ohana is a free event sponsored by the state of Hawaii and Governor Linda Lingle as an opportunity to show support and appreciation to Soldiers and their families for their sacrifices. The event will be May 29 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Nehelani Convention Center. Operation Ohana features free food, games, raffles, entertainment, and an opportunity for photos with the governor.

Weirs encouraged spouses to sign up for the Blue Star Card and to put the upcoming Fourth of July Spectacular on their calendars. "This is one of the largest, if not the largest 4th of July celebrations in the Army," he said.

Col. Dave McKenna, Commander, U.S. Army, Hawaii closed the 40 minute briefing. "The Town Hall Meetings have come a long way and you deserve of our best efforts," he said, "Thank you for caring and for what you do every day in this community."

The question and answer period followed a brief break. Crowds have thinned and issues more close to home have now replaced the previously hot topic, deployment issues. The focus this month was on housing and the Residential Community Initiative (RCI).

An overview of the issues follows:

Q. Is the housing area at Willi Willi Circle going to be torn down?

A. Not in the near future, but probably several years down the road.

Q. I am going to the mainland for an extended period. Do I change my Tricare region here before I go or when I arrive at my destination?

A. Change your Tricare region when you arrive at your destination.

Q. How does the ongoing tax issue with ACTUS, the company selected for the RCI project, and the state of Hawaii affect the Oct. 1 transfer date?

A. Until the issue is resolved, ACTUS cannot move forward on the construction of new homes. Earliest possible date to begin construction now is Dec. 1.

Q. What will happen when Madison Services contract expires in June?

A. Actus will take over grounds and facility maintenance from Madison as scheduled on June 1.

Q. Some of us need help maintaining our yards. Is there any available?

A. Maintenance and upkeep of yards is an occupant responsibility regardless of whether the sponsor is here or not. Some options are to hire a yard service, neighborhood teenager, or trade off with a neighbor.

Q. What is the policy on a government move to quarters or a self-move to quarters?

A. Government moves are not for the convenience of the Service Member. Housing representatives review each request on a case-by-case basis to determine what kind of move a SM will be authorized.

Q. Who do we call for Work orders now?

A. This week, ACTUS will mail an informational newsletter to all housing occupants detailing the impending transfer. The newsletter will include contact phone numbers, emails, and community outreach locations. Additionally, refrigerator magnets with contact information will also be provided to housing occupants.

Q. Is there an age that children are authorized their own bedrooms?

A. No, housing regulations specify the age and sexes at which a child will receive his or her own room. Every attempt is made to provide each child with their own room; however, due to the shortage of 4- and 5-bedroom housing available, this is not always possible.

Q. When ACTUS does take over the housing, is the water bill included in the rent?

A. Yes.

Q. What is the projected completion date of fencing at [illegible]

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - May 24, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/05/24/focus4.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

IN DEPTH: MILITARY

From the May 21, 2004 print edition

Forest City prepares to build and renovate Navy homes

Nina Wu
Pacific Business News

From a retail and entertainment complex at 42nd Street in New York to residential lofts in downtown Los Angeles, Forest City Enterprises has made its development mark across the nation.

Now Forest City makes its first foray into Hawaii as a private partner to build U.S. Navy housing.

Forest City along with Texas-based construction firm C.F. Jordan and the Navy are doing business as Hawaii Military Communities LLC.

They will build and renovate a total of 1,952 homes at five U.S. Navy communities in Hawaii -- from McGrew Point to Radford Terrace.

Forest City beat out several developers for the Navy privatization housing bid last September, and just sealed the deal at the end of April. It's a 50-year contract with a four-year initial development phase.

Hawaii Military Communities will be the managing partner in charge of property management, maintenance, assets and all development-related activity, with a 70 percent ownership.

C. F. Jordan LP, which recently completed the new Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange, will have a 30 percent share in the venture.

The initial cost for the five neighborhoods is estimated at $358 million.

"The names will remain the same, but the places will become new communities in every sense," said Thad Bond, vice president of Forest City Hawaii. "They will be safe and attractive homes in modern neighborhoods with the finest facilities. In short, exactly what Hawaii's Navy families deserve."

Bond, who formerly worked as a project manager for the Hualalai Development Co. on the Big Island, said it's also a matter of service.

"We're building a product for our soldiers who are going off and risking their lives for us on a daily basis," he said. "We are building a place for their families to live in. It's a service we all feel good about."

With a higher percentage of military families living on base again, more affordable housing should open up to the rest of Hawaii residents, he said.

Phase I of the contract with the Navy involves the construction of more than 1,000 new homes and renovation of about 900 existing military family homes over the next four years.

McGrew Point, Halsey Terrace and Radford Terrace will get new contemporary homes designed by Denver-based Woodley

Architecture.

The homes range from 1,750 to 2,700 square feet -- larger than many market-rate homes. They will come with 20 different floor plans in a variety of colors.

Moanalua Terrace and Hokulani, meanwhile, will undergo renovations.

Preliminary sketches feature plantation-style homes with front porches facing a park. New road networks, trails, open spaces, community centers with family support services and recreational facilities are in the blueprint for each neighborhood.

To help win the bid, Hawaii Military Communities teamed up with about 20 Hawaii-based companies to develop its comprehensive bid for the Navy contract.

Among them are Sato & Associates Inc., Wolff Lyon Architects, Calthorpe Associates, Engineers Surveyors Hawaii Inc. and Ferraro Choi and Associates Ltd.

Hawaii Military expects to hire about 450 trade workers on-site during the initial phase.

"Our first-choice hires are local," Bond said. "If all else fails, we will look elsewhere."

Forest City Enterprises Inc., the parent company for Forest City Military Communities, is a $5.3 billion, NYSE-listed real estate company with headquarters in Cleveland. Its portfolio includes retail centers, apartment communities, office buildings and hotels in 21 states and the District of Columbia.

Reach Nina Wu at 955-8038 or nwu@bizjournals.com.

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Hee, Alan K.

From: Willoughby, George
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2004 7:45 AM
To: Waller, Dave; Hee, Alan K.; Seese, Estrella; Creveston, Norris; Fetherland, Paul; Lee, Richard E.-Energy Service
Cc: Tam, Allyn
Subject: Army housing contract on hold over tax breaks

FYI - From today's Advertiser:
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Posted on: Monday, May 17, 2004

Army housing contract on hold over tax breaks

By Jim Dooley
Advertiser Staff Writer

Final award of a massive U.S. Army contract to privatize all Army housing on O'ahu has been put on hold until the state and county decide whether to grant more than $200 million in tax exemptions requested by the private contractor, Actus Lend Lease LLC., an Army official said last week.

Even if the company does win those tax exemptions and is awarded the privatization contract — worth nearly $7 billion over 50 years — U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie said he would "do everything I can to prevent" final congressional approval of the contract.

Actus chief executive officer Peter Koziol said Thursday the company was working with Abercrombie and state and city officials to resolve concerns about the tax-exemptions request, and to reach an agreement regarding use of union and non-union labor on the Army contract.

Pending resolution of the privatization contract issue, the Army has awarded Actus a sole-source, four-month contract worth $13.5 million to take over management and maintenance of more than 6,000 housing units on O'ahu. The contract takes effect June 1 and may have to be extended if the privatization issue is not resolved by Oct. 1, when the short-term contract expires, said Gordon Takeshita, head of the Army's Residential Community Initiative office here.

The sole-source contract to Actus replaces two existing Army housing maintenance and repair contracts each worth $10 million per year. One is held by a Mississippi company, Madison Services Inc., and expires at the end of this month; the Army will not exercise a six-month option to renew the contract, Takeshita said.

The other contract, held jointly by California-based Agbayani Construction Co. and local firm Shinco Inc., expires June 30, but the Army is terminating it a month early, Takeshita said, and

contract termination.

But John Lange, head of Madison Services, called the Army's decision to award a sole-source, four-month contract to Actus "unconscionable."

"Never have I seen the government do anything like this," Lange said. "Don't get me wrong — it's 100 percent within their prerogative. We've had a very good working relationship with the Army, and I don't want to upset that. But I'm just surprised they'd make a change like this now without even talking to us."

Takeshita said the short-term contract was planned well before problems cropped up in awarding the privatization contract to Actus. It is a "transitional" contract, designed to help Actus and the Army adjust to fundamental changes that will take place under privatization, he said.

Both the Army and Actus said the transitional contract was the Army's idea.

"The Army approached us," said Koziol, adding that the company had received similar treatment on another huge privatization contract on the Mainland.

But Abercrombie said he did not like the sole-source contract any more than he likes proposed tax-exemption requests Actus is seeking in the privatization agreement.

"The plain fact is, it's an awful lot of money for a very short period of time," Abercrombie said of the sole-source agreement. "Something doesn't smell right to me." Existing maintenance contracts "should have been extended until the whole issue is resolved," he said.

Madison Services and Agbayani-Shinco are paid a total of $1.67 million per month for their housing maintenance work. The new Actus sole-source contract is worth $3.38 million per month.

Army contracting official Gary George said the new contract is worth more because Actus will perform in-house maintenance work now handled by the Army, as well as take over housing management duties — assignment of units, inspection of facilities and other functions — performed by Army personnel.

It is unclear how long the city and state will take to resolve Actus' tax-exemption requests.

Linda Smith, special adviser to Gov. Linda Lingle, said Actus needs to submit exemption requests for housing units it believes qualify for low- and moderate-income tax breaks to the Housing and Community Development Corp. of Hawaii.

"As far as I know, they haven't done so yet," Smith said. Stephanie Aveiro, executive director of HCDCH, could not be reached for comment last week.

The Honolulu City Council last week passed on second reading a bill that could impose real property taxes on military housing once it is privatized and controlled by Actus.

Actus officials claim the housing projects will not be using city services such as police and fire

protection, and should not be subjected to property taxes.

Last week, City Council Budget Committee chairwoman Ann Kobayashi said: "We're trying to be fair about this. If military families are not using services, then they shouldn't have to pay for them. But we don't want them to stay behind the gates and not use our beaches, our parks, our cultural events."

The bill is scheduled for another hearing Wednesday.

"We may amend it," Kobayashi said. "I don't know what we'll do."

Abercrombie objects to the tax-exemption requests because the Army had told competitors for the $6.9 billion privatization contract they would have to pay any taxes levied by the state and local governments.

After Actus was selected for the contract, it said completion of work on an as many as 2,097 housing units would be delayed if it had to pay the taxes.

The company said it would not earn more money if the exemptions are granted, but would be able to add more amenities such as swimming pools and community centers to housing projects.

The office of Sen. Dan Inouye said last week it supported the tax exemptions sought by Actus.

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Posted on: Friday, May 7, 2004

Developers sign Navy housing agreement

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, May 2, 2004

EDITORIAL

Th[redacted]ere's been almost universal euphoria about billions of dollars in "privatized" military contracts recently authorized to repair, renovate or build housing for the armed forces here.

The huge contracts are seen as a major boost for the local economy, offering jobs and opportunities for everyone from construction workers to architects and engineers.

And that promise is likely to remain fulfilled.

But U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, who helped write the federal law that opened the door to this huge privatization program, charged last week that the promised boom might come with an unexpected price.

As reported by staff writer Jim Dooley, Abercrombie says the private contractor, Actus Lend Lease LLC of California, now wants hundreds of millions of dollars in tax breaks from the city and state as a condition of moving forward with its $1.7 billion housing project.

The idea is that since the housing is for the federal government — the military — it should be exempt from state excise taxes and city property taxes.

Abercrombie charged that the proposed tax relief is simply a form of "extortion" designed to offset the cost of a low bid.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Thursday, April 29, 2004

Army builder seeks tax breaks

By Jim Dooley
Advertiser Staff Writer

Congressman Neil Abercrombie yesterday accused a company that won a $1.7 billion contract to build and operate Army housing on O'ahu of trying to "extort tax exemptions" from the state and city and of offering a $500,000 "hush money" payment to a local construction firm.

Actus is scheduled to renovate or build 7,700 Army housing units here, a project worth $6.9 billion over 50 years, but Abercrombie said the company is threatening to build 2,000 fewer units if it is not exempted from paying the state's general excise tax and city and county property taxes.

U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie said Actus is "reneging" on an Army housing contract.

Advertiser library photo

"Basically, they're saying, 'Please bail us out from a low bid we made and can't fulfill by giving us hundreds of millions of dollars in tax waivers,' " Abercrombie said.

The congressman's highly critical statements about Actus Lend Lease LLC, a Napa, Calif., firm are contained in letters he sent last week to Gov. Linda Lingle and Honolulu Mayor Jeremy Harris. He elaborated on those accusations in an interview with The Advertiser and spoke to a Honolulu City Council committee via telephone yesterday urging the city to make sure it collects what it is entitled to from the company.

Actus spokesman Ryan Mielke said yesterday that the company is seeking tax waivers but that any money generated by such waivers would be plowed back into its Army housing projects here.

Mielke denied that any threats were made, saying that construction of the units would be delayed "three to four years" but would still be completed within the overall development deadlines imposed by the contract. He said the company's original bid included the cost of paying the state and city taxes.

If the tax exemptions are granted, the units would be completed earlier and extra money generated by the exemptions would be used to add

Mielke of Actus said the company is "involved in very confidential discussions with Haseko" and "it is unfortunate that they (the discussions) are being characterized that way" by Abercrombie.

Actus has had a "non-binding agreement" with Haseko regarding the Army housing contract since 2002 and "we have enjoyed our relationship with Haseko," Mielke said.

The $500,000 figure cited by Abercrombie involves payment for services already rendered by Haseko, Mielke said.

Abercrombie helped write federal legislation, passed in 1996, that allows the military to privatize housing, speeding up a nationwide effort to renovate and build tens of billions of dollars worth of homes for members of the armed services and their dependents.

The Actus Army contract is one of three such multi billion dollar jobs awarded here last year. It requires Actus to maintain and operate the housing for 50 years.

Actus also won a $1.1 billion Air Force housing contract last year. The Navy selected Hawaii Military Communities LLC — a partnership of two large Mainland firms and 18 local companies — for the initial phase of a housing contract that will eventually involve renovation or construction of 7,300 homes for Navy and Marine Corps personnel on O'ahu. The first phase is valued at $358 million and the entire contract is estimated to be worth $1.1 billion.

Abercrombie urged members of the Honolulu City Council Budget Committee yesterday to pass legislation meant to ensure the city collects taxes for federal property leased to private companies.

Budget director Ivan Lui-Kwan said federal law may trump any bill the council approves.

"We're in favor of generating as much revenues as possible, but we have to be careful to do it in a way that's fair to the payer and is legal," Lui-Kwan said.

But several council members said taxpayers shouldn't be forced to pay for city services supplied to privately operated military housing projects.

Mielke said the Actus project housing sites would not use such city services as police or firefighter protection.

Councilman Charles Djou said demanding taxes or other payments connected to the military housing would be a bad move.

"It just does not look right for the City Council to be moving to tax their housing while they are overseas fighting," Djou said.

Linda Smith, senior policy adviser to Gov. Linda Lingle, said HCDCH, the state's public housing agency, was approached last year about granting a "blanket exemption" from state taxes for privately operated military housing projects. The housing agency has drafted amendments along those lines that are under review by the administration, Smith said.

"There are serious tax, budget and legal issues involved," she said.

Amended regulations allowing such exemptions would have to go through a public hearing process before taking effect, she said.

The issue will come up again today during a hearing of the state House Labor Committee, and Abercrombie said he plans to deliver more telephone testimony at the hearing.

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Starbulletin.com

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Labor pact sets tone for building industry

By Lyn Danninger
ldanninger@starbulletin.com

All sides who signed a labor agreement covering the Navy's Ford Island master development say it sets a precedent in the construction industry and could provide a template for future agreements.

The so-called aloha stabilization agreement between developers **Fluor Hawaii LLC** and representatives from the various construction trades who will work on the project was signed Saturday in a ceremony at the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

Alan Mockler, construction manager for the prime contractor, Fluor Hawaii, said the agreement will provide stability for everyone involved in the project.

Any contractor or subcontractor or union that works on the project will sign the agreement, which covers such areas such as wages, workforce safety compliance, work schedules, overtime and dispute resolution, Mockler said.

The agreement will also mean that workers who work for non-union contractors will temporarily join the union for the duration of their job.

"It allows them a one-time sign up with the union," Mockler said.

At its height, the Ford Island project will employ nearly 400 people and involve a payroll of around $100 million. The entire project will take about four years and create almost 500 homes.

Ronald Taketa, financial secretary/business representative for the Hawaii Carpenters Union Local 745, characterized the agreement as "a good beginning."

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"This project (Ford Island) is not as big as the upcoming housing projects, but it is the first of its kind between the trades and the contractors. It allows the contractors greater flexibility. They don't have to deal with 17 different agreements. It's a recognition that there can be cooperation with the trades and the contractors," he said.

Taketa said he and other unions have been meeting with prime contractors for other upcoming major military projects, **Actus Lend Lease** and **Forest City Enterprises Inc.**, in hopes of forging similar agreements.

"Hopefully, this trend will continue with all military work coming down," he said.

Fluor's Mockler said such a labor agreement also sends a positive message for other developers considering projects in Hawaii.

A solid labor force working together means a booming construction period, such as the one Hawaii is beginning to undergo, can be sustained for a lot longer, Mockler said.

"It's a positive step towards unifying the complete workforce on the island to better handle the economic growth and sustain it for a lot longer," he said.

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Pearl Harbor Housing Changes Faces

Story Number: NNS040220-21
2/20/2004

By Karen S. Spangler, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) -- At town hall meetings held Feb. 10-11 at Sharkey Theater, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, housing residents learned more about what's in store under the public-private venture (PPV) and the Navy's partnership with Hawaii Military Communities (HMC).

The Navy in Hawaii is on track to start the first phase of its family housing privatization beginning April 1.

Capt. Norman Ho, assistant chief of staff for housing for Navy Region Hawaii, expressed his enthusiasm about PPV for the Navy in Hawaii.

"I'm really excited about this program. This is the best thing for the Navy. These are fabulous homes," said Ho.

Ho said that since 1994, the Navy has spent $426 million in military construction (MILCON) funds to replace and renovate the existing housing inventory. He explained that at the current rate of military construction, it would be at least another 15-20 years before the Navy could replace its current inventory of older homes.

The departure from the traditional MILCON way of doing business to PPV allows the Navy to replace its inadequate housing inventory at a much faster pace and for much less money than would be required under MILCON. Navy officials see PPV as a "win-win" situation for everyone--greatly enhancing the quality of life for Sailors and their families, replacing the Navy's deteriorating homes at a much faster rate and pumping millions of dollars into the local economy.

According to Denise Gammon, senior vice president of development at HMC, "The overall plan is to create neighborhoods that will enhance quality of life for Navy families. Our focus is not just on houses, we build communities," she said. This will be achieved by avoiding a "cookie cutter" appearance by using varied designs for the homes, Gammon said. Emphasis in the new communities will be placed on pedestrian-friendly environments and safer places for children.

Arranged in duplex and single family configurations in a green court arrangement, the floorplans of the homes will offer a strong indoor-outdoor connection, with front porches, side lanais and fenced side yard, and rear patios. They will have central air conditioning, state-of-the-art energy-efficient appliances, abundant storage and larger bedrooms.

The new designs will range from three to five bedrooms and, depending on the neighborhood, comprise a minimum of 1,750 square feet up to 2,775 square feet.

Another aspect contributing to quality of life would focus on gathering places, such as green spaces and community centers, which would be the focal point of each community.

"Open spaces are integral to the plan--not residual," said Gammon.

Five community centers will be constructed, ranging in size from 5,000 to 12,000 square feet. The centers will feature such amenities as fitness rooms, meeting rooms and outdoor pools. In addition to centralized community centers, the neighborhoods will feature "tot lots" and play areas, and an abundance of common areas. Grassy, lighted pathways will connect homes to larger, shared spaces. Management, maintenance and service for all housing residents in the five neighborhoods affected by the first phase of PPV will be handled by Forest City Management.

Construction of new homes will begin soon after housing privatization starts April 1 in the three

communities slated for replacement--Halsey Terrace, McGrew Point and Radford Terrace. Each community will be divided into four phases of development.

The first segment of the newly-constructed homes is expected to be completed and ready for occupancy by December. The Navy Aloha Center will continue to maintain waiting lists and will refer residents to the contractor as homes become available.

It's an exciting time for Navy housing in Hawaii as the Navy moves another step closer to housing privatization.

"Housing is the premiere quality of life issue in today's Navy," said Ho, "and it will continue to be, as the Navy implements plans to make the most of its resources and acquire more for its housing dollars," he said.

For more information about Hawaii Military Communities, LLC and Forest City Management and the plan for the first phase of PPV, visit www.Hmcliving.com.

For more information about the Navy's PPV initiative in Hawaii, visit www.hawaii.navy.mil/housing/PPV/ppv_index.htm.

For related news, visit the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnrh.

HNN 2/20/04

PPV project to begin

space and green areas. These
designs are fabulous." He commented

by using varied designs for the homes, Gammon said. Emphasis in the new communities will be placed on pedestrian-friendly environments and safer places for children.
Arranged in duplex and single family configurations in a green court arrangement, the floor plans of the homes will offer a strong indoor-outdoor connection with front porches, side lanais and fenced side yard, and rear patios. They will have central air conditioning, state-ofthe-art energy-efficient appliances, abundant storage and larger bedrooms.
The new designs will range from three to five bedrooms and depending on the neighborhood, comprise a minimum of 1,750 square feet up to 2,775 square feet.
The plan for Radford Terrace calls for three-four bedroom duplex homes for enlisted service members E-1 through E-6 and living area from 1,750 to 1,995 square feet. In Halsey Terrace, homes will be single family, three to five bedroom floor plans from 1,950 to 2,430 square feet and will be assigned to enlisted E-7 and higher and officers through O-3. McGrew Point homes, ranging in size from 2,300 to 2,775 square feet, will be single family, three to five bedrooms and assigned to officers O-4 and O-5.
Another aspect contributing to quality of life would focus on gathering places, such as green spaces and community centers, which would be the focal point of each community. "Open spaces are integral to the plan - not residual," said Gammon.
Five community centers will be constructed, ranging in size from 5,000 to 12,000 square feet. The centers will feature such amenities as fitness rooms, meeting rooms and outdoor pools. In addition to centralized community centers, the neighborhoods will feature tot lots and play areas and an abundance of common areas. Grassy, lighted pathways will connect homes to larger, shared spaces.
Management, maintenance and service for all housing residents in the five neighborhoods affected by the first phase of PPV will be handled by Forest City Management.
Although the company plans to eventually locate management offices in each community, they will begin operations with offices in two locations – one at Moanalua Terrace and one at the Navy Aloha Center. Hours of operation for both offices will be from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.
There will also be a maintenance office located at building 16 adjacent to the current housing self-help store.
A service request line and emergency maintenance line will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergency service requests, the response time will be approximately 30 minutes. Urgent calls will be answered within a couple hours and routine calls will take about 24 hours for response.
As part of Forest City's landscaping/ grounds program, housing residents in phase one of PPV will receive the following services: maintenance of all yards except for fenced in back yards, tree service, modified self-help programs, annual preventive maintenance and professional pest control services.
Renters' insurance coverage of $35,000 will be provided for all residents at no cost; policies will have $250 deductible clauses.
Pat Reynolds, director of loss prevention and security for Forest

City Management, explained that the management company will manage safety, security, fire prevention and loss prevention at all of the PPV properties. Police and fire protection will be provided by the city and county of Honolulu. There will be 24-hour security patrols throughout the communities. The management company will hold neighborhood orientations to apprise housing residents of the changes taking place. They will also distribute a community newsletter and establish focus groups.

Housing residents in PPV neighborhoods will be required to convert to a Forest City rental agreement. Gen Lewis, assistant vice president for military housing for Forest City Management, described the rental agreements as militaryfriendly, 12-month leases with military clauses. There will also be "grandfather clauses," pertaining to various conditions such as pet requirements, for current housing residents.

Rental agreements will be mailed out in mid-February and must be signed and returned to Forest City Management by March 16. Military members should also complete allotment forms, ensuring that BAH payments are available to the management company for in the three communities slated for replacement – Halsey Terrace, McGrew Point and Radford Terrace. Each community will be divided into four phases of development.

The first segment of the newly-constructed homes is expected to be completed and ready for occupancy by December 2004. The Navy Aloha Center will continue to maintain waiting lists and will refer residents to the contractor as homes become available.

It's an exciting time for Navy housing in Hawai'i – as the Navy moves another step closer to housing privatization.

"Housing is the premiere "quality of life" issue in today's Navy," iterated Capt. Ho. "And it will continue to be as the Navy implements plans to make the most of its resources and acquire more for its housing dollars," he said.

Information about the PPV presentation at the Feb. 10-11 town hall meetings will air on Navy Channel 2 at the following times: 8 a.m. 1 p.m. 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Viewers can check Navy Channel 2 listings for more airings.

For more information about Hawai'i Military Communities, LLC and Forest City Management and the plan for the first

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - February 2, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/02/02/story6.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

From the January 30, 2004 print edition

Army, Air Force homes to incorporate function, Hawaii style

Nina Wu
Pacific Business News

Army families can look forward to a more modern community if design plans from Group 70 International for military privatization homes go forward, mixing functionality with a touch of Hawaii open-style living.

The award-wining architectural and planning firm that won the bid to work with Actus Lend Lease on rebuilding both U.S. Army and Air Force homes, worth a total of $6.4 billion over a 50-year term, had a grand goal for the projects from the beginning.

"When we started on the project, we set a goal that what we wanted to provide was an environment [the Army] would be proud of," said Jim Nishimoto, president of Group 70 International. "We want them to reflect back on Hawaii as being the best assignment."

Actus plans to build about 7,700 homes for the Army and 1,350 homes at Hickam Air Force Base. With 3,366 homes, Schofield Barracks will be one of the largest projects, according to Nishimoto.

Nishimoto's vision is to transform the various installations into unique communities, complete with parks, recreational centers and homes that fit the military lifestyle. A retired Army colonel himself, Nishimoto

archway will announce that it is Helemano.

Group 70 has a five-step process through which it approaches community layout and design. The first step, according to Nishimoto, is to gather all major players for a day of brainstorming and to understand lifestyle needs. Once those ideas are gathered, Group 70 establishes themes-- which it has already done -- and then focuses on the physical design of the homes, including details, color and style. All are subject to approval from Congress.

While design plans for Army homes continue to evolve, Hickam Air Force homes are more defined, said Nishimoto. Hickam will have two neighborhoods with 1,300 units each that will include a community center, swimming pool complex and housing office.

Nishimoto said his goal is to create a sense of pride among military families, not only in their service, but in the place they call home. Only about 60 percent of military personnel live on base, but the new homes are expected to draw close to 95 percent of them back.

When all is said and done, Nishimoto said: "Many of these homes may be more desirable than market homes."

Group 70 International

Having worked in Hawaii since 1971, Group 70 is an alliance of architects, planners, interior designers, technicians and consultants that takes a unique approach to redesigning communities.

Locally, Group 70 designed the Kamehameha Schools Hawaii campus, Parker Ranch Center, Ward Entertainment Center and Kalihi Valley Homes.

Signature projects include the Maluhia luxury home on the shores of Wailea, Maui, and The Lodge at Koele on Lanai.

The firm has extended its reach throughout the Pacific Rim, having completed nearly 20 projects in China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Okinawa, the Philippines, Singapore and the South Pacific.

Recent Pacific Rim projects include the design of Vietnam's first master-planned resort community on Cat Ba Island and redevelopment of French Polynesia's port capital, Papeete.

"They have a wealth of experience in military construction and developments of significant size and scope," said Ryan Mielke, on why Actus chose the firm. "After looking around town for who could provide the best value, they were for us a logical choice."

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Raise the Roof

THE MILITARY'S BIG-BANG-LIKE BUILDING BOOM WILL ENERGIZE THE ECONOMY. BUT WILL IT BLOW UP THE ISLAND'S HOUSING MARKET? BY DAVID K. CHOO

Later this spring, Hawaii's construction industry will begin one of the country's largest and most complicated remodeling projects. The multibillion dollar effort to reconstruct and refurbish thousands of homes on Oahu's various military bases will not only transform the look and feel of those installations, but it will also alter the state's economic landscape.

On Feb. 1, Actus Lend Lease will take over the management of much of the housing assets of Hickam Air Force Base. In a five-year period, the Napa, Calif.-based developer/contractor/asset manager will be replacing 816 homes and renovating 540 others. Once completed, Actus will be managing the communities and their surrounding assets for the next half-century. The contract is valued at $197 million during the five-year development period and $1.3 billion over 50 years.

In spring of 2005, Actus will likely begin the construction phase of an even bigger project, the Army's Residential Communities Initiative (RCI), which includes the Army and Coast Guard housing assets at Schofield Barracks, Fort Shafter, Tripler Army Medical Center, Wheeler Army Airfield, Aliamanu Military Reservation (including 100 units for the U.S. Marine Corps), Helemano Military Reservation and Kiai Kai Hale.

The massive effort will involve the construction and renovation of approximately 7,700 homes. The project's value over its 10-year development period is $1.7 billion. Over the course of its 50-year term, the contract is valued at $5.1 billion. The Hawaii RCI project is the 17th privatization contract awarded by the Pentagon and the largest to date.

"It's hard to get a handle on the scope and the speed at which we will be working," says Lucien Wong, regional vice president-Hawaii of Actus Lend Lease. "Hawaii Kai has about 10,000 homes that were built over the course of 40 years. We will be building nearly that many in a quarter of the time."

PHOTO: KENT S. HWANG

Homemakers: (left to right): Actus Lend Lease's David Falls, Lucien Wong and Harry Jackson aren't just building houses but also communities. (next page): A model of one of Actus' Hawaiian homes, which will have as many as five bedrooms.

Big Bucks, Big Bang

The University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization estimates that construction spending will soar more than 17 percent in 2004, thanks largely to military privatization projects. Since the Army's RCI construction won't begin until 2005, this would be only the beginning of an upward cycle that will last at least 10 years. With an estimated 85 percent of the work contracted out to local companies, the economic impact will be significant, widespread and, with work continuing through 2014, relatively long-lived.

But will military privatization create a land of milk and honey for everyone? What effect, if any, will this big-banglike creation of nearly 10,000 new homes have on the local real estate market, especially during the 10-year construction phase in which military families are likely to be displaced as their new communities are being built? Will a sudden release of military renters and buyers cause a meltdown in a market that has already gone nuclear? Once construction is complete, will the new communities recapture off-base military families and bring some relief to the market?

Actus officials say there is plenty of housing inventory on the various bases to handle the overflow, so they believe that any impact on the real estate market will be temporary and minimal. In addition, if there is a housing surplus, Actus will offer those homes to people in various military categories and Department of Defense (DOD) personnel, not the general public.

"Based on what we know today, there will be enough vacancies both in the privatized area and those under Air Force control, so no one will be forced to move off base," says David Falls, vice president and asset manager for Hickam Air Force Base. "There is a house on Hickam to accommodate every family who needs to move because of construction."

"I don't know whether to be afraid if they build too few homes or too many," says Ricky Cassiday, local real estate market research consultant.

planners slowly but surely sur-

"The market is so tight right now that almost anything will affect it profoundly. Someone should be going to the services right now and telling them that they are changing the dynamics of housing, and it could have serious impacts on the local economy."

According to Cassiday, although Hawaii's privatization contract may be one of many being executed by the military, the project, and, more importantly, its economic impact, will likely be unique to the Island. He points out that Honolulu isn't a "one-pony town" nor is it a rural community, which many bases with privatized housing are. Land and housing inventory is limited.

Six years ago, Cassiday, then working for Prudential Locations Research, conducted two studies on military housing inventories, which were eventually used to justify to Congress the building of additional housing units and the closing down of others. He says that it is worrisome that a significant replacement of homes is going forward without similar studies, since military personnel are a large segment of Hawaii homebuyers. He estimates that they account for about 10 percent of all Oahu buyers. In Makakilo they may make up nearly 50 percent of the residents.

Since Actus will not only be constructing homes, but building cutting-edge, tightly knit communities, the company will likely recapture many off-base residents. Actus officials are planning on increasing the occupancy rates at Schofield and its other projects from 60 percent to 95 percent.

Homes Sweet Homes

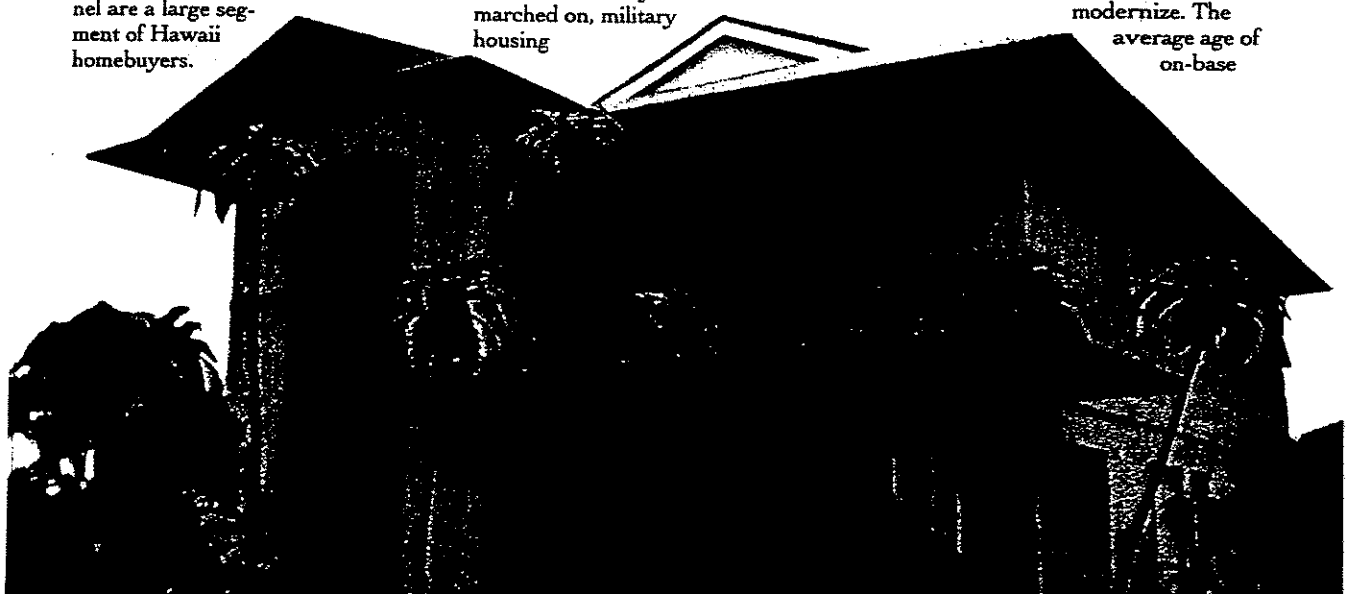
A drive through Schofield Barracks' hodgepodge collection of single-family residences offers a quick journey back in time. Graceful and airy plantation-style cottages, which hail from the '20s, '30s and '40s, stand near stout, stuccoed homes whose designers seem to have taken their inspiration from Eisenhower-era bomb shelters. Further into the installation's interior are cinder-block structures from the '60s that resemble outdated college dormitories and '70s-ish stacked townhouses, which, although efficient, are as ungainly as they are outdated. As the years marched on, military housing

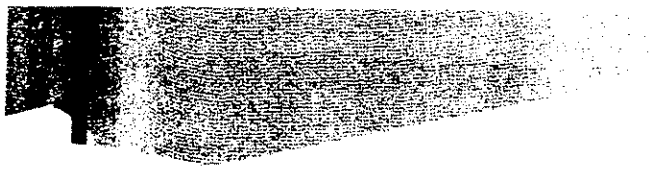
However, aesthetics aside, the most noticeable characteristic of many of Schofield's homes is the overall state of disrepair. Some neighborhoods, with saggy rooflines and a majority of homes boarded up, are only a fresh coat of paint away from being considered tenements.

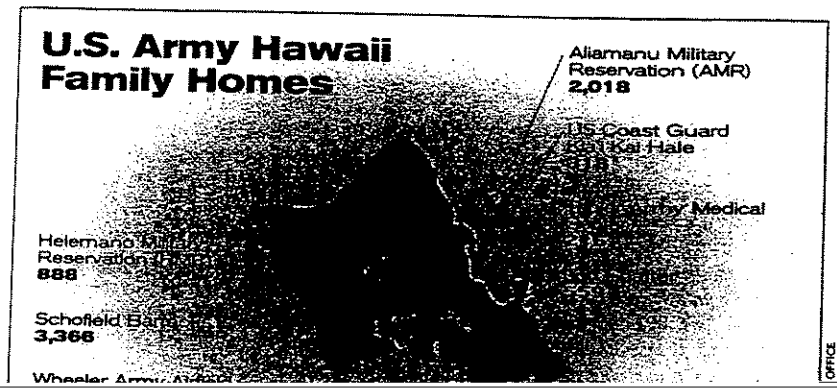
An old soldier may never die, he just fades away. However, old military houses do perish, and they often endure slow, uncomfortable and very public deaths.

"These problems aren't because of poor management," says Harry Jackson, vice president, Actus Asset Management-Hawaii. "The staff are working hard, but they just don't have the money or the resources to get the job done. Congress doesn't have the funds to fix this problem and the military doesn't have the mechanism to do it on the scale that is necessary."

Schofield's housing problems are shared by military bases across the country and the world. According to a 2000 study by the DOD, 70 percent of military housing units, including 163,108 for military families, are considered inadequate or too costly to modernize. The average age of on-base







G COURTESY: ACTUS LEND LEASE

every house on base. Planners, there-

Raise the Roof

Company personnel will be running the community centers, maintaining the infrastructure and homes, fixing the plumbing and mowing the lawns. Fifty percent of Actus' revenues will come from the rent it collects from its tenants and 50 percent will come through incentive payments from the military. Customer satisfaction levels will determine the amount of incentive payments.

"The traditional developer sells the house and moves on," says Wong. "We will do surveys once a year, and if those surveys indicate that the families aren't happy, we don't get our incentive fee. I was the general manager of Hawaii Kai and it was a whole paradigm shift. We have a long-term relationship with our customers, which extends through nearly the whole gamut of our organization. Also, in Hawaii Kai we didn't have to consider the morale of our residents."

The Army RCI project is still in development stage, with heavy involvement by the affected communities. Actus officials report that input has been enthusiastic and reaction to some of the initial concepts has been overwhelmingly positive. Even a handful of military personnel have decided to re-enlist after seeing an artist's rendering of some of the future neighborhood.

But Cassiday is still worried for the residents on the other side of the base fence.

"I don't think they've studied the possible effects very much," says Cassiday. "They're playing in our back yard and no one knows how all this will affect the local people."

"We are going to try and keep the amount of military families released into the rental market at a minimum," says Jackson. "It will be a challenge, especially at Schofield, because we don't have too many available homes. It will take a lot of planning, but it can be done. We are a good neighbor, and we're going to keep in close touch with our local communities and businesses and try and enrich everyone." ■

The Eclectic Executive

ACTUS LEND LEASE'S LUCIEN WONG HAS A SOLID AND SURPRISINGLY VARIED RÉSUMÉ

"I've always told my kids that if your company asks you to do something that is out of your area of expertise, do it," says Lucien Wong, regional vice president-Hawaii, Actus Lend Lease. "You never know what you're going to learn from that experience and when it will come in handy."

Wong should know. The former president of Castle & Cooke's commercial division has an extensive background in commercial and residential real estate, as well as master-planned community development. However, Wong has also managed a vineyard, a training center for jockeys and an RV park, among many other duties. One of the most likely choices to run Actus' local operations has one of the most unlikely résumés.

Wong, who was born in London and raised in Hong Kong, received his B.S. in biology with a minor in chemistry, from New York's Pace University. He came to the Islands in the late '60s to pursue graduate degrees in physiology and pharmacology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, but abruptly shifted gears and got his MBA instead. After graduation, he entered the management-training program at Sears and then landed a job as assistant manager at the new McInerny's department store in Kahala. After a short six months in retail, Wong changed direction again.

"I had a friend who was working for Kaiser Development out in Hawaii Kai, and he was complaining that the company was always asking him to do different things all the time," says Wong. "I was in retail, where nothing changes. His seemed like the ideal job. When he eventually quit, I applied for the position and got it."

Wong quickly went to work on Hawaii Kai, Kaiser's ambitious East Honolulu development, which was converting pig farms and fishponds into one of Oahu's first planned communities. Soon thereafter he was sent off to Guam, eventually heading Kaiser's operations there. In 1978, Kaiser sent him to Southern California to run the commercial and industrial division of Rancho, Calif., a 36,000-acre master-planned community. It was at Rancho, now known as Temecula, that Wong really broadened his management skills, running many of the community's unconventional commercial enterprises. Besides the aforementioned vineyard and training center, he also helped run a motel and a cable television system.

"We had nearly 100,000 acres of land. We couldn't develop it all at one time. The market could have never absorbed it," says Wong. "So we found interim uses for the land. At the time, I didn't want to do any of that stuff. But I did it anyway."

In 1984, Wong returned to the Islands and Hawaii Kai. He was general manager of the community he helped build until 1989, when he joined Castle & Cooke, where he negotiated the first lease for Wal-Mart and Home Depot as well as signing up Signature Theatres to build their 18-screen multiplex in Dole Cannery Square.

One of Wong's favorite projects was the redevelopment and revitalization of Dole Plantation. He renovated the gift shop and snack bar to reflect Old Hawaii, and then added an attraction, the world's largest maze. It was an idea he got after a family trip to Colorado. The facelift doubled Dole Plantation's revenues.

"When they first asked me to take over Dole Plantation, I told them I didn't want to do it. It was retail again," says Wong. "But with my background, I was able to look at it from a lot of different ways, not just as retail or real estate. The one thing that I've learned after all these years and different jobs and locations, business isn't rocket science. It usually comes down to common sense."

—DKC

HAWAII'S LARGEST CONTRACTORS

Based on 2003 Hawaii Business *Top 250 list. Compiled by David K. Choo*

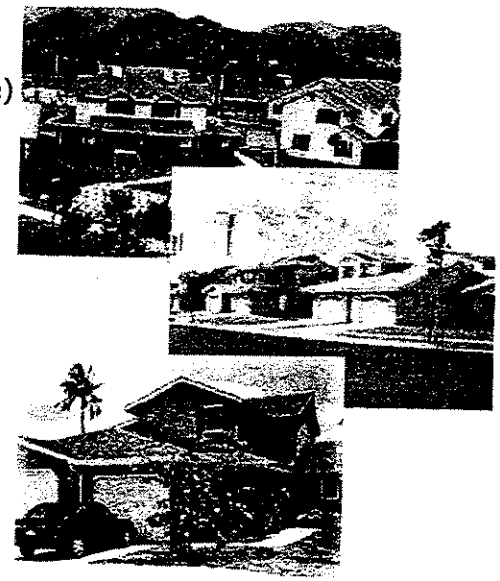
RANK	NAME	LINE OF BUSINESS	2002 SALES $MIL	% CHANGE	2001 SALES $MIL	YEAR FOUNDED	DBAS, DIVISIONS SUBSIDIARIES	PARENT COMPANY
1	**Dick Pacific Construction Co. Ltd.** www.dickpacific.com	General contractor; designer and builder	375	33.9%	280	1939	Dick Pacific (Guam)	Dick Corp. (PA)
2	**Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co.**	General construction	268	5.51%	254	1902	[illegible]	Kajima International

December 30, 2003

About PPV

MISSION

The mission of the Navy Aloha Center (Family Housing Office) is to ensure eligible service members and their families are provided excellent customer service, and are always suitably housed.



VISION

The vision of the Navy Aloha Center (Family Housing Office) is to provide dedicated professional and personal one-stop customer service and top-quality

high quality, affordable housing and enhanced property maintenance by a private entity. PPV projects offer a faster method of getting more housing for the same dollars, not the same housing for less money. In 1998, planning and programming for future PPV projects began. Since then, several Navy activities have successfully transitioned to PPV housing.

PPV quality standards and amenities are comparable to what the private sector builds, renovates, or operates for civilians with the same overall income ranges in the community. PPV is different from the recent traditional military construction in that PPV homes are built quicker and are generally more spacious. Service members receive basic allowance for housing (BAH) and pay rent directly to the landlord. The Navy's goal is that families will not have to pay additional out-of-pocket expenses.

PPV for the Navy on Oahu

The current plan is to privatize all of the Navy Family Housing on Oahu in several phases. The first Phase will privatize up to 2,003 homes and is projected to be awarded in March of 2004. The neighborhoods included in phase I are: Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace, Mc Grew Point, Hokulani, and Moanalua Terrace.

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http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2003/12/29/focus10.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

IN DEPTH: SPECIAL REPORT: HELP WANTED — JOBS IN '04 AND BEYOND

Construction boom brings white-collar jobs

Help Wanted: Where Hawaii's jobs are in 2004 and beyond

Nina Wu
Pacific Business News

A PBN special report on job growth and workforce training demands in Hawaii.

With the multibillion-dollar military construction boom on the horizon, Hawaii should expect to reap more than 12,000 additional jobs -- not only in the blue-collar sector, but also the white-collar sector.

"The professional and managerial sector often gets overlooked when we talk about construction jobs," said U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawaii. "The rule of thumb is that these categories account for about 35 percent of the jobs on a typical project, and they're just as important as the trades in getting the work done."

Positions ranging from project managers to engineers, asset managers, architects, accountants and real estate agents will be created as a result of the construction boom. Already, many of these positions have been created and filled in Honolulu.

Actus Lend Lease, the developer that won the privatization contracts for both the U.S. Army, worth $1.7 billion over the first 10 years, and the U.S. Air Force, worth about $197 million during the initial five-year development, expanded to 12,000 square feet at 1132 Bishop St. and recently made 14 new hires.

"A lot of the recent hires are based on the two projects set to close here very quickly, with the Air Force and the Army," said Ryan Mielke, director of communications, who himself was a recent hire. The new management positions are in the fields of pre-construction, environmental services, urban design, architectural design and assets.

"We're building a team of project managers and design managers to help us through the design process." said Robert Scott, Actus' regional vice president of construction. Actus Lend Lease will make it a priority to hire locally, Scott said, and expects to subcontract about $133 million to Hawaii businesses during the initial development period.

Hunt Building Co., which was awarded the Navy's Ford Island master development agreement in partnership with Fluor Federal Services LLC, hired Steve Colon, a Navy captain on reserve, as senior vice president to oversee local development activities.

Forming a partnership called Fluor Hawaii LLC, the team will provide about $85 million in design-build projects, making improvements to the infrastructure and building a high-tech conference center.

With 12 years in the housing business under his belt, Colon will oversee five properties, including Ford Island, Halawa Landing, the Waikele Naval Magazine and the renovation of Barber's Point in Kalaeloa and Iroquois Point in Puuloa.

"It's a very exciting opportunity," Colon said. "How often do you get the chance to revitalize large housing areas with a large number of single-family homes, lots of open space and big yards in Hawaii? How often do you get to work on a new development in a historic location like Ford Island?"

He said the Hunt development team expects to hire additional personnel to handle the projects in the near future.

Chaney Brooks & Co. Inc. was hired as a property-management company for the Iroquois Point/Puuloa and Barbers

Point/Kalaeloa properties.

Jim Muratsuchi, senior vice president of Chaney Brooks, said the firm teamed up with Pl[illegible]

"In the last construction boom in the late 80s, the UH School of Architecture was producing only about half of the new hires in the state," he said. "I don't see a repeat coming but architecture jobs always follow the economy."

AT SSFM Engineers Inc., CEO Michael Matsumoto said an average of two to three interns work at the firm throughout the year, and many are hired after graduation. He is not expecting to make hires in the near future, but said the construction boom has brought more business.

"We have noticed a significant increase in project opportunities and activities," he said.

SSFM is a subconsultant in structural engineering for Group 70 International, the architecture firm working for Actus Lend Lease. The number of projects began increasing about 18 months ago, Matsumoto said, including the construction of support facilities for the Stryker brigade and the C-17 hangars at Hickam Air Force base. SSFM has a current staff of 105.

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PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

IN DEPTH: SPECIAL REPORT: HELP WANTED — JOBS IN '04 AND BEYOND

Military plans major local presence in next decade

Help Wanted: Where Hawaii's jobs are in 2004 and beyond

Harold Nedd
Pacific Business News

A PBN special report on job growth and workforce training demands in Hawaii.

After Wilmarie Alomar moved to Hawaii for her new assignment seven months ago, she discovered stores that offered her dee discounts on clothing and free delivery on furniture.

With her military ID, she also could watch a movie at the theater behind her house in Mililani for nearly $2 less than what mos moviegoers pay.

Then there's her favorite thing about her career in the military: job security.

"No matter what, you have a job in the military," said Alomar, a 17-year veteran of the U.S. Navy. "You would have to do something really bad -- drugs or a crime -- to lose your job."

Membership does have its privileges for the military work force in Hawaii, home base for troops who have helped win wars and enriched the peace.

It's a work force that in the next decade will have a significant physical presence throughout the state, which is preparing for th hefty amount of payroll and procurement dollars that soon will begin flowing from the U.S. Department of Defense to Hawaii. Defense dollars will generate employment and income that would come despite the potential for large-scale troop deployment at any time that can result in a lot fewer people around to spend money in the Hawaii economy.

"The investment will be in the billions of dollars," said U.S. Rep. Ed Case, D-Hawaii. "You don't make an investment like that and walk away from it. And they are not going to walk away from it."

Military officials already are pushing the Legislature to better fund public schools, said Senate President Robert Bunda.

"They are demanding that and other resources for the amount of money that will be coming out of the federal government in

On top of that, 600 more troops will be added to the Army's Stryker Brigade Combat Team. And a crew of more than 6,000 is headed to the Pacific on a U.S Navy carrier and the two ships escorting it.

Hawaii already is among the states with the most active-duty military and civilian personnel. In 2001, the latest figures available, the state was home to more than 51,000 military personnel, or 3.2 percent of the total U.S. military population, according to the Department of Defense. At the time, eight states had more military personnel than Hawaii.

Along the West Coast of the mainland, only two -- California and Washington state -- have a stronger military presence than Hawaii.

"Honolulu is a lot closer to some parts of Asia than California or Washington state," said Richard Baker, an international relations scholar at the East-West Center on Oahu, which studies U.S. policy toward the Asia-Pacific region.

"The strategic thinking is to be able to deliver more firepower with more destructive capability faster over a greater distance," Baker said. "That's the whole drill. But that may not mean keeping people where they are. It's about reshuffling the deck to coincide with your vision of how to get the job done today."

As a result, recruiting and retaining personnel will have to be a big part of the military's goal in Hawaii, said David Gold, an economics professor who studies military spending for New School University in New York.

Gold said both recruitment and retention have been hurt by Operation Iraqi Freedom, which has been eight months too long for troops.

"It's already showing up in that re-enlistment rates are down," he said. "Over time, we'll see more funds put into -- if not pay-- other perks such as housing and health care."

Congress has approved wage increases several times, including a 4.1 percent minimum increase for 2003 and a 5.5 percent to 6.5 percent raise for certain midlevel personnel, but soldiers still feel underpaid.

Research by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond in Virginia showed that about 42 percent were not happy with their compensation, which includes base pay, allowances and bonuses.

A private on active duty for a minimum of four months makes a base salary of $13,800 a year, while a sergeant with two years of experience earns $19,500 annually, the Reserve Bank research shows.

Retailers in Hawaii such as Hilo Hattie know military personnel don't make a lot of money and can shop on base for better prices, said Carlton Kramer, vice president of sales and marketing. He says his company has been offering 20 percent discounts on fashions and gifts to military personnel for the past eight years.

"We wanted to show our appreciation for the armed services and encourage them to shop at our store," he said.

Ashley Furniture Home Store shaves 10 percent off the price of its furniture for military personnel and provides free delivery, said Donald Okimoto, store manager in Waikele.

"It's $70 for everybody else," he said.

And general admission for a movie is $8 at some Consolidated Theatres. For military personnel, it's $6.25.

Alomar and her family have been taking advantage of these prices since moving to Hawaii from Florida last May.

For her assignment, the wife and mother of a 9-year-old chose Hawaii over Germany, England and Georgia, citing the tropical weather as a factor.

"Hawaii also reminded me of home," said Alomar, 38, a native of Puerto Rico.

But, like other enlisted people who may have a change in duty five or six times during their career, she knows she can't get too

attached.

"You're here for three years and move," said Alomar, who also has been stationed in Spain and Thailand. "After two-and-a-half years in one place, you feel that itch -- and you're ready to go."

Reach Harold Nedd at 955-8039 or hnedd@bizjournals.com.

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Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - December 29, 2003
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2003/12/29/story4.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

EXCLUSIVE REPORTS

Pearlridge sees green in military projects

Debbie Sokei
Pacific Business News

Pearlridge Center expects to benefit from the multibillion-dollar military housing contracts coming to Oahu.

Retail sales at Pearlridge have been positive and will get even better when construction work on the housing projects starts, sai Marty Lastner, general manager of Pearlridge Center. Most of the construction work will be done on bases located near the mall.

"We are very excited and positive toward the next several years," he said.

Actus Lend Lease, of Napa, Calif., was awarded a $7 billion U.S. Army housing contract for Oahu and a housing contract for Hickam Air Force Base worth $1.1 billion over 50 years.

Construction on the Hickam project is expected to begin in April and be completed by February 2009. Construction on the U.S. Navy project is expected to begin next year and be completed by 2008.

The federal contracts will pump millions of dollars into the state's economy, create jobs, increase disposable income and generate healthy sales at Pearlridge.

"With an increase in sales comes the need to have people to do business for you ... from people out on the floor to stockers," Lastner said. "You name it, people are hiring."

Sales at Pearlridge have been climbing over the past several years and occupancy is almost at 100 percent, Lastner said. The positive growth is attributed to the growing residential market in the Leeward area, he said.

"Over the past several years there has been a large expansion in residential development in Ewa, Kapolei and Mililani areas, which are our target market," he said. "There will be more growth in residential housing in the next five to 10 years which will clearly do nothing but help us. We expect our business will grow accordingly with that expansion."

Only two vacant spaces are available at the mall compared to four at this time last year. In the coming months Lastner expects to lease the vacant 500-square-foot office and 1,300-square-foot retail spaces.

The military construction is good news for Cathy Lee, co-owner of Hanai Bear LLC in Uptown at Pearlridge Center, who expects her business to grow when construction begins in April.

"It's good for our business," she said. "I would think once Schofield Barracks is fully staffed with the new Stryker brigade -- they're going to bring in about 800 more troops -- that would definitely increase business."

Lee has 12 employees working at the store, which sells customized stuffed bears.

Ed Thompson, executive director of Hawaii Food Industry Association, which represents the major supermarket chains, said the increase in construction jobs will help stimulate the industry.

"I'm sure any additional group that comes in will help us marketwise," he said. "The people coming to work on these

construction projects will help us in the long run."

Reach Debbie Sokei at 955-8042 or dsokei@bizjournals.com.

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Hickam AFB, HI

December 2003

HOUSING PRIVATIZATION--Fact Sheet

GOAL

To provide military families access to safe, quality, affordable, well-maintained housing in a community where they will choose to live.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

This project involves a real estate transaction to privatize approximately half of the military family housing at Hickam AFB. The Air Force intends to lease approximately 238 acres of land for 50 years and convey 1,356 existing housing units and other improvements to Actus Lend Lease, a private community development company. Once an agreement is signed, Actus Lend Lease will own and operate the rental housing development for military families for 50 years, as well as finance, plan, design, and construct improvements. Actus Lend Lease will within approximately five years after closing:

- Construct 638 new units in the Earhart housing area
- Conduct major renovation on 178 Capehart units
- Conduct minor renovation on 354 Capehart units and 186 Earhart units

THE DEAL

The success of the project is based on a long-term commitment between the Air Force and Actus Lend Lease.

Hickam AFB brings:

- 1,356 revenue-producing housing units and improvements.
- Long-term land lease (50 years) for the Capehart and Earhart housing areas.

Actus Lend Lease brings:

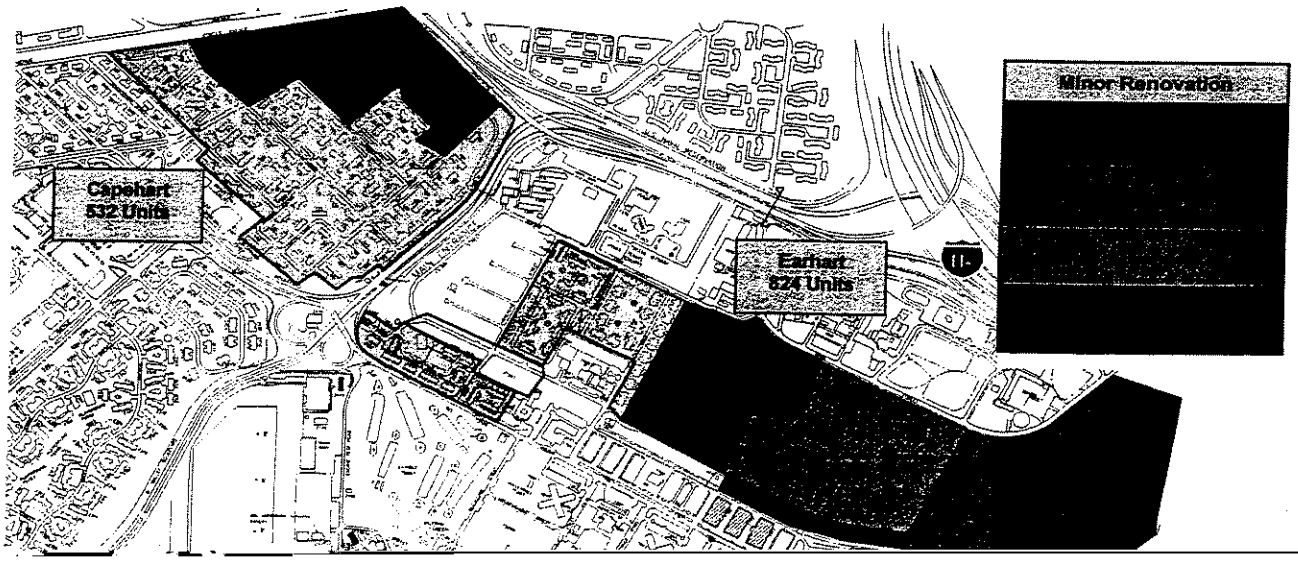
- A complete and feasible business and financing package.
- Construction of 638 units and renovation of 718 units
- Well-developed community plans and quality designs.
- Quality property management for 50 years

INITIAL CONSTRUCTION PERIOD

Actus Lend Lease plans to conduct four major phases of construction. Minor renovation work will be scheduled in a manner to minimize inconvenience to residents:

- Phase One – Commencing 4/2004 and completed 6/2005
  Demolish 194 units in Capehart, build/replace 178 units in Capehart, build 16 new units in Earhart, and build housing office & community center
- Phase Two – Commencing 5/2005 and completed 8/2006
  Demolish 222 Earhart units and build 266 new units
- Phase Three – Commencing 8/2006 and completed 9/2007
  Demolish 214 Earhart units and build 196 new units
- Phase Four – Commencing 9/07 and completed 9/2008
  Demolish 186 Earhart units, build 160 new units, and build swimming pool and recreational sports complex

Figure 1 – Housing Units to be Privatized (Colored) and Actus Lend Lease Improvements to be Made



RENT STRUCTURE

- Military members receive their basic allowance for housing (BAH).
- Referred military members will be offered units designated for their rank at a cost equal to BAH (with dependents).
- Military tenants pay rent to the private developer.
- Rent includes refuse collection, water, and sewage.
- Tenants pay phone & cable TV charges to respective providers.
- Electricity will initially be included in the rent. After meters are installed on new or renovated units, the rent will be reduced by 110% of the projected electric cost and the tenant will pay for actual electricity used.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

Details on what Actus Lend Lease will provide are forthcoming. However, below is a minimum of what the company intends to provide:

- **Community Planning:**
  - Incorporate green space, landscaping, underground utilities, and recreation areas to enhance the overall neighborhood environment and improve quality of life
  - Reconfigure existing vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns as needed for new construction.
  - Cut curbs to provide handicapped accessibility.
  - Provide tot lots and playgrounds

- **Unit Design and Construction for Major Renovation or New Construction:**
  - Modern efficient floor plans incorporating orderly arrangement of functions, circulation and open spaces.
  - Designs with inviting entrance, indoor/outdoor integration and pleasing interior appearance.
  - Modern kitchens & bathrooms with well organized work area and quality fixtures and finishes.
  - Conveniently located interior storage.
  - Housing units will be a combination of multiplex, duplex, and handicap accessible units.
  - Durable, low maintenance, and functional materials, equipment, and finishes.
  - Central air conditioning.
  - Two full baths and one ½ bath in 3 and 4-bedroom units.
  - Covered lanais.
  - Hard finish floor in kitchen, dining area, and entry foyer.
  - Carpet in bedrooms, halls, and other living areas.
  - Overhead lighting in all rooms.
  - Window treatments (such as mini-blinds)
  - Utility meters for billing purposes.
  - Exterior trash storage areas screened.
  - New energy efficient appliances.
  - Screen doors for exterior entrances.
  - Solar water heating.

- **Perform Major Renovations on 178 Units in Capehart.**
  In addition to the major renovation requirements described in the previous paragraph, Actus Lend Lease must ensure these homes are architecturally compatible with the existing homes in the area.

- **Perform Minor Renovations on 540 Units in Capehart and Earhart**
  - On all 540 units, add solar water heating
  - On 84 Earhart units, add central A/C and lanai roof
  - On 82 Earhart units, add roof over lanai
  - On 20 Earhart units, add CATV outlets

REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

- Professionally staffed property management office.
- Certified Real Estate Property manager.
- Tenant leases/eviction/dispute resolution procedures.
- Allow tenants to provide in-home childcare and operate other in-home businesses, provided they obtain applicable permits.
- Allow domesticated pets on premises with no pet deposit.
- Provide pest control.
- Provide curbside refuse collection and recycling service.
- Provide all utilities and refuse collection for common areas.

TARGET MILESTONES

Inspection of Homes*	8-19 Dec
Neighborhood Meetings (Lease signing)*	8-17 Dec
Conveyance Date (Tentative)	1 Feb 04

* See website for schedule

HOUSING PRIVATIZATION INFORMATION SOURCES

Mr. Darryl Nii, of Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. is the on-site consultant tasked with supporting the base's housing privatization needs. Contact him at 448-3969; email: darryl.nii@hickam.af.mil.

See http://www2.hickam.af.mil/housing/PrivMH/index.htm for updated information regarding the Hickam Housing Privatization project. The site is found on the 15 AW public website.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, December 28, 2003

MILITARY

Base construction will be booming

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

General contactor Rick Hill already is seeing the boom in military construction arriving at his doorstep.

State to lose 8,000 soldiers this year

An Army Kiowa helicopter flies over a convoy of soldiers taking part in live-fire exercises that began this month at the Makua Military Reservation in preparation for deployment to the Middle East.

Advertiser library photo

The Wai'alae-area owner of Hill Construction Inc. was approached about two months ago by someone from the carpenter's union.

"I was working on remodeling a home, a $200,000 contract on a home over here," Hill said, "and he walked up and wanted to know if we wanted to work on any military projects that are coming in the future."

It's an unusual approach, said Hill, who has been a contractor for 22 years and is not a member of the union.

"I don't (usually) have anybody walk up on a job site and do that. They need more help — more carpenters, more construction people, period."

Jim Tollefson, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, won't call it a boom year for defense-related spending in the state. He prefers to characterize it as the start of a "ramping up" of military investment.

But by all accounts, it's the start of something big.

Expected to begin next year is work on more than $3 billion in military housing renewal projects involving 16,000 homes, $693 million in construction on O'ahu and the Big Island for an Army Stryker brigade, and more than $150 million in additions at Hickam Air Force Base for eight C-17 cargo carriers.

Defense-related, dual-use technology is on the upswing, and a second $1 billion Navy destroyer will be added to the Pearl Harbor fleet, bringing more than $15 million in salaries. And state and military officials are looking at the possibility of basing an aircraft carrier battle group in Hawai'i.

"It's the start of a (military) buildup," Tollefson said. "This is primarily due to the strategic location of Hawai'i. The term I heard used the other day in a military briefing was 'power projection platform.' "

On the downside, the deployment of more than 8,000 soldiers from Schofield Barracks — 4,800 heading to Iraq in February and 3,500 going to Afghanistan in April — will be sorely felt in central O'ahu's economy.

"They (the Schofield soldiers) are doing their job — that's why they are there. Again, it's the strategic positioning of the military here in Hawai'i," Tollefson said. "So there's going to be a definite impact during the 2004 time period, but we have to kind of look beyond that."

With the end of the Cold War, and a new focus on Asia, the merits of having significant U.S. firepower projected 2,000 miles out in the Pacific are being seen in the Pentagon and on Capitol Hill.

For Hawai'i, that means the state's second-biggest source of income is reaching new highs. And with it come new opportunities.

"It means more jobs and more capital investment in the state. Construction is going to take off," Tollefson said. "I'm definitely optimistic for 2004 and see it as a continuation of the improving economic climate of the state. And a lot of that is going to be driven by military activity."

It's not only carpenters and plumbers that will be needed; some in the high-tech sector are hiring, too.

Honolulu-based Science & Technology International, which gets 60 percent of its business from the Defense Department, recently more than doubled its work space. It has grown from 12 employees to 150 in 10 years and just won two new government contracts worth $75 million that will mean more hiring.

Another Hawai'i firm, NovaSol, received nearly $30 million in new contracts since September to develop new software for the Navy and to work on small optical "tags" for U.S. Special Operations Command that can identify and track targets.

"We recently staffed up to over 80 people, and we'll break the 100-person mark this coming calendar year, so we're looking for a number of staff — trained engineering staff, science staff," said Rick Holasek, NovaSol vice president in charge of product development and services.

Defense-related expenditures in Hawai'i totaled nearly $4 billion in 2002, up from $2.5 billion in 1986, according to the state Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

The figure is only increasing.

The 2004 defense authorization and military construction bills reached $772.3 million combined for fiscal 2004, or about $89 million more than approved the previous year.

The chamber estimates that every $1 billion in military expenditures in Hawai'i translates to $1.8 billion in revenues to local businesses and the creation of 24,650 jobs. These will be not only in military and civilian defense, but also in business and professional services, retail, construction and health services.

Civilian employment in the military in Hawai'i fluctuated between 19,350 people in 1990 and 16,508 people in 2002.

The Air Force is preparing to begin more than $150 million in construction projects at Hickam for C-17 jet aircraft due to arrive in late 2005, including a new painting and maintenance hangar, squadron and maintenance operations buildings and a state-of-the-art flight simulator.

Col. Raymond Torres, commander of the 15th Airlift Wing, previously said that $54 million to $57 million in construction projects would be awarded in fiscal 2004.

"I can't quantify how many jobs (that represents)," Torres said, "but it is clearly a lot of

The later start for the bulk of the military construction projects provides time for Hawai'i's workforce to gear up, Tollefson said.

"That's really the good news, because what this will allow is the various job-training activities to gain momentum," he said.

Reach William Cole at wcole@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-5459.

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Final Privatization Contract Awards

The final two military housing privatization contracts recently have been awarded: the $250 million Navy project to Hawaii Military Communities, LLC (HMC) and the $1.1 billion Air Force project to Actus Lend Lease LLC, the second privatization contract awarded to the Napa, Calif.-based company.

The first phase of the Navy contract involves replacing or renovating 2,003 existing housing units at Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace, Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani and McGrew Point. About 960 homes will be demolished and replaced by 908 single-family homes or duplexes, while the others will be upgraded. Construction is expected to begin in 2004 with completion in 2008.

HMC consists of Forest City Enterprises, Inc., based in Ohio; C.F. Jordan L.P. from Texas; and 19 Hawaii businesses including: Construction Management & Development; Helber, Hastert & Fee; and Quad Design Group, Inc. HMC also is in negotiations for future phases of the Navy project, which also would involve Marine Corps housing, with the total value approaching $1 billion.

Included in the Air Force project is renovation or replacement of 1,356 housing units at Hickam Air Force Base. Actus will replace 638 units and renovate 718 units. Scope of work also includes undergrounding of utilities, adding recreation areas and landscaping and improving parking. Construction is expected to start in April 2004 — before either the Army or Navy projects begin — and completed by February 2009.

Actus Lend Lease previously also was awarded the $1.7 billion Army project in August this year.

Each of these projects fall under the federal Military Housing Privatization Initiative, which partners the private sector with the federal government to build and renovate military housing in an efficient, cost-effective manner.

"I'm very pleased to see this public-private housing partnership moving forward," says Congressman Neil Abercrombie. "It allows us to leverage defense dollars to provide more housing upgrades more quickly for military families. Along with the ... arrangements for Army and Navy housing, the Air Force agreement will be a big boost for Hawaii's economy."

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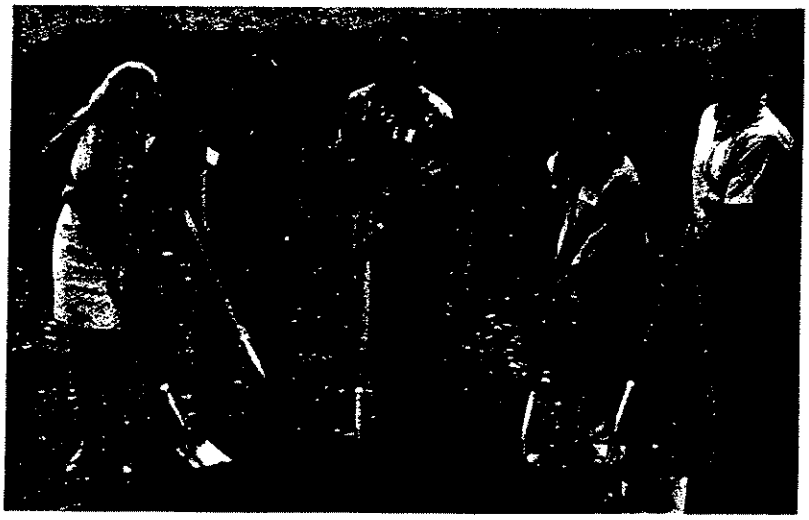
Sea Country at Maili Breaks Ground



Schuler Homes recently held a groundbreaking ceremony for Sea Country at Maili; this is the third of eight communities at Schuler's master-planned development Sea Country located on Oahu's western coast. Pookela and Palekai at Sea Country opened earlier this year. Also included in the development are an 11-acre park and a commercial/retail facility. Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony for Sea Country at Maili are, from left, Lisa Kay Marsian (RA), Schuler Homes sales manager; Malcolm Mamac, Schuler Homes project manager; Mike Jones, Schuler Homes president; Janine Clifford, Clifford Projects; and Jim Lyon, Lyon Associates.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Construction labor pool to be studied

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

Hawai'i's congressional delegation wants to understand the labor demands that 7,700 new military homes will place on Hawai'i's construction industry and is planning a summit by the end of the year of developers, unions and building industry officials.

The goal is to come up with an inventory of the kind and number of jobs that will be needed — and whether Hawai'i's 26,700 construction workers can fill them all.

"There are a lot of questions about whether or not we have a labor pool in Hawai'i that can meet the demand," said Mike Slackman, spokesman for Rep. Neil Abercrombie, who will serve as honorary chairman of the summit. "This is the kind of problem you want to have, rather than too many people looking for work.

"At the same time, there hasn't been a systematic look at the numbers of what's going to be needed, how many people, what skills are going to be needed and what kind of resources there are in the Hawai'i work force."

Planning for the summit is still in the "embryonic stages" and many details still haven't been worked out, Slackman said. It won't happen until after Congress adjourns, scheduled for Oct. 31, he said.

The summit most likely would include representatives from all of the trade unions, the Building Industry Association-Hawaii, Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i and the two developers selected to build separate $2.2 billion worth of Army, Navy and Air Force housing projects.

They would start by making an inventory of the needs of the various projects and the ability of unions and training programs to meet the demand, Slackman said.

The disclosure of the summit yesterday came as Hawaii Military Communities LLC, the builders of new Navy housing on O'ahu, unveiled their ideas for the first time since being selected contractor last month.

They showed drawings of open porches fronting large, friendly neighborhoods unfettered by cars that would be parked in back.

The homes would surround "greenways," where small children could gather. And no home would be more than a quarter-mile from major neighborhood recreational areas featuring swimming pools, exercise areas and meeting rooms.

Hawaii Military Communities LLC, a Mainland partnership, will build and manage the first phase of a Navy housing renovation project that could expand to $1 billion covering 7,300 Navy and Marine Corps homes.

Hawaii Military Communities is made up of Forest City Enterprises Inc., which is based in Cleveland, and C.F. Jordan LP of El Paso, Texas.

State Sen. Cal Kawamoto earlier had asked Hawai'i's congressional delegation to postpone all of the so-called

Before the presentation, Kawamoto solicited assurances that Hawaii Military Communities LLC would pay federal Davis-Bacon wages and adhere to state regulations regarding workmen's compensation, the prepaid medical-care act and general excise taxes.

"There's no doubt these guys do good work. I just wanted to clear the air," said Kawamoto, chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation, Military Affairs and Government Operations. "I want to make sure we understand each other."

Hawaii Military Communities will now enter into as many as six months of negotiations with the Navy for the first project phase involving 1,948 units in the Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace, Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani and McGrew Point housing areas. The cost is estimated at $358 million for construction, renovation and demolition and for amenities such as community centers, landscaping and street improvements.

Work could begin late next year and is expected to take four years, said Thomas Henneberry, chief operating officer of Forest City, which will be the managing partner.

But the project will last half a century, with Hawaii Military Communities responsible for managing and maintaining the homes and centers.

Forest City has plenty of experience managing some 30,000 apartments around the country but will fine tune its approach for Navy families, said Angelo Pimpas, co-president of Forest City's residential group.

Workers will mow lawns and assemble toys and furniture for Navy spouses left at home. They'll also water indoor plants when families go on vacation, Pimpas said.

And they'll even help families move when they're reassigned.

"Customer service," Pimpas said, "is No. 1."

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8085.

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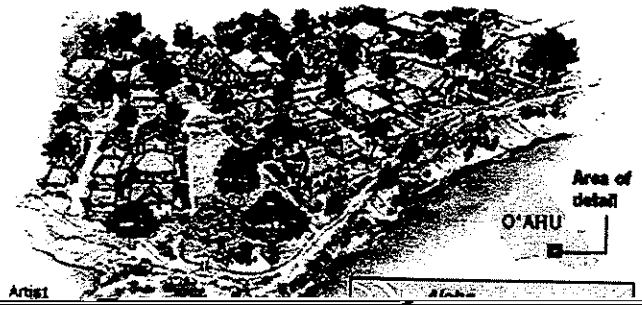
Planned Navy housing



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The mainland partnership awarded a $250 million 50-year contract to build and renovate nearly 2,000 Oahu homes for the Navy unveiled some of its plans yesterday for how the new communities will take shape.

Building community centers and recreational facilities will be a top priority once construction begins, according to Thomas Henneberry, president of **Hawaii Military Communities LLC**, a partnership of Cleveland-based **Forest City Enterprises Inc.**, a real estate development firm, and Texas-based construction firm **C.F. Jordan LP**.

"We want to get the community centers up first so existing residents can get to enjoy it," he said.

The company envisions groups of homes clustered around a central green park area that connects via green walkways to shared recreational and community facilities located no more than one-quarter mile away from any home in the development. Garages will be behind, rather than in front of the homes and each home will have a lanai in front, he said.

"It's about improving the quality of life for out military families," said Henneberry.

He envisions plenty of work for local contractors once the project, slated to begin next year, gets under way.

Hawaii Military Communities teamed with about 20 local contractors when it submitted its bid for the contract. Henneberry said he's not sure how many more companies and individuals will come on board once the project begins.

"I don't know the exact amount but probably about five times the amount in terms of consultants, contractors and construction people than we have now. It's absolutely our goal to include as many local labor, contractors and consultants as we can," he said.

---

already owns and manages about 36,000 residential units in other communities it has built and will do the same in Hawaii, he said.

"We are a long-term owner of real estate in all the projects we do so you'll see us around for a long time," he said.

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www.hawaiimilitarycommunities.com

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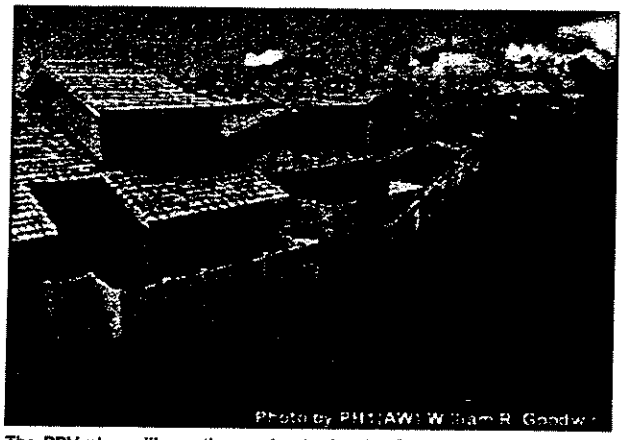
Volume 28 Issue 40 Oct. 3, 2003

PPV contractor announced



The PPV plan will greatly accelerate the timeframe for replacement of the Navy's older homes, providing Navy families with modern homes like these.
Click here for high-res.

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

In the latest step toward privatization of family housing in Hawai'i, the Navy has selected the development team of Hawai'i Military Communities, LLC (HMC) to participate in exclusive negotiations for a public-private venture.

HMC includes Forest City Enterprises of Cleveland, Ohio, a real estate development firm, and a Texas-based construction firm, C.F. Jordan of El Paso. HMC also teamed with 19 Hawai'i-based businesses to develop its comprehensive bid for the Navy contract and includes world-class master planners, architects, engineers, construction managers and environmental consultants.

C.F. Jordan recently built the Navy's Commissary/Exchange Mall at Pearl Harbor, the largest NEX in the world and Hawaii's largest commissary. The firm will manage the demolition and construction of 918 homes and infrastructure.

HMC/Forest City Residential will take ownership and control of 1,958 existing Navy homes for the next 50 years, providing property and asset management services. Forest City Residential currently owns and manages about 36,000 residential rental units in multi-family communities throughout the country.

The PPV will greatly accelerate the timeframe for replacement of the Navy's older housing units. PPV makes it possible for the Navy to get more housing for the same dollars as well as to renovate and construct family housing quickly and affordably.

Phase I of the privatization project includes 1,958 preferred rent and management homes in the Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace, Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani and McGrew Point housing areas. Approximately 918 homes will be replaced, with 1,040 homes undergoing renovation.

Thomas Henneberry, president of Hawaii Military Communities and chief operating officer for Forest City, said that his company is very excited about the opportunity to work with the Navy in Hawaii on the PPV project. "We're very excited about the opportunity to improve the quality of life for Sailors and their families by improving their homes and the communities in which they live," he said. According to Henneberry, the company plans to quickly integrate new community centers and other programs, bringing "a whole new sense of community and way of life."

Emphasizing that the project isn't just a win-win situation for the Navy and its families, Henneberry said that the company's team approach will utilize many local contractors and workers. "This is not only a good thing for the Navy, but for Hawai'i," he said.

HMC will own, operate, manage, maintain, repair and renovate the homes for a period of 50 years. Future phases of Navy and Marine Corps housing privatization in Hawai'i may also be negotiated with the company. Exclusive negotiations to finalize project and partnership documents will take place over the next several months. Following Congressional notification, execution of the business agreement is expected to begin in late-March 2004. Construction is expected to commence later in 2004, with completion sometime in 2008.

PPV for the Navy in Hawai'i will evolve over a period of time with plans to privatize approximately 7,400 Navy and Marine Corps homes by 2007. The Army and Air Force are also undergoing privatization in Hawai'i. Actus Lend Lease recently won the contract for the Army's housing in Hawai'i, which will include the construction and/or renovation of about 7,700 housing units. The Air Force will also privatize abot half of its homes at Hickam Air Force Base.

Housing is the premiere "quality of life" issue in today's Navy and will continue to be as the Navy implements PPV. Navy officials agree that the impact on the morale of its service members may be the single greatest reason for support of the PPV program.

Under PPV, the service member signs a lease, starts drawing BAH, and makes monthly rental payments to the partnership which covers rent and normal utility usage. These business deals are designed to ensure no out-of-pocket expenses for service members who use utilities wisely

Capt. Norman Ho, Assistant Chief of Staff for Housing at Navy Region Hawai'i, emphasized the importance of providing quality homes for Sailors and their families. According to Ho,

"With an eye to the future and the implementation of the Hawai'i Regional Housing Privatization, Navy housing on Oahu will continue to make even greater strides in providing quality homes for Sailors and their families," he emphasized. "These projects represent the continued commitment of Navy leadership to back up what we say about the importance of quality of life and taking care of our people."

More information about the Navy's PPV initiative is on the Navy Region Hawai'i housing website at **www.hawaii.navy.mil/housing/PPV/ppv_index.htm**.

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If commenting on a web page, please specify web page address.
Last updated: 10/02/03

INTENSIVE CARE FOR YOUR NURSING CAREER

Hee, Alan K.

From:	Willoughby, George
Sent:	Friday, October 03, 2003 3:26 PM
To:	Luckett, Stephen; Waller, Dave; Alan K. Hee; Estrella Seese; Norris Creveston; Paul Fetherland; Richard E.-Energy Service Lee
Cc:	Acquanette Higa; Allyn Tam; Milton Fujioka; Pamela Chun; Ralph Earle; Stanley Shimoda; Wade Shimoda
Subject:	From PBN: Hickam Housing

LATEST NEWS

3:05 PM HST Friday

Hickam to award $300 million lease to California firm

Hickam Air Force Base announced Friday it plans to award California-based Actus Lend Lease LLC a lease to privatize 1,356 base housing units, pending Congressional approval.

The initial development cost is estimated at $300 million, with gross revenues of about $1.1 billion from the lease over the next 50 years.

Under the terms, Actus will build 638 replacement units, complete major renovations on 178 units and minor renovations on 540 units. Construction is expected to begin in April 2004 and completed by February 2009.

"This is a great day for Air Force families stationed in Hawaii," Sen. Daniel Inouye said through a statement.

The awarding of the contract to Actus will result in improved housing for Air Force families, he said.

"I understand Actus intends to subcontract a fair portion of the work for this venture to Hawaii companies and use Hawaii banks for financing," Inouye continued.

Ultimately, the contract will help the state's economy, resulting in jobs.

Inouye said he would focus on establishing training programs to ensure the involvement of the local workforce in the project.

Congressman Neil Abercrombie also issued a statement announcing he was pleased the housing project was proceeding.

"It allows us to leverage defense dollars to provide more housing upgrades more quickly for military families," he said.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Tuesday, September 30, 2003

Military housing projects compete for workers

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

The two companies selected to build separate, massive Army and Navy housing projects on O'ahu expect a

manager of Skylights Hawaii.

Buckner didn't know yesterday whom to contact with Hawaii Military Communities. And Buckner isn't sure whether Actus officials still have the contact information he gave them several weeks ago.

But with the upcoming job fairs, Buckner can't wait to talk to the two companies about working [illegible]

"I don't have to be said 'no' to once," Buckner said. "I have an opportunity to be said 'no' to twice. Or, hopefully, said 'yes' to twice."

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8085.

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Dan Inouye
U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII
NEWS

INOUYE ANNOUNCES $250 MILLION NAVY HOUSING CONTRACT

September 26, 2003

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON — U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye announced today that Hawaii Military Communities, LLC, a partnership of Hawaii and mainland companies, has been awarded a $250 million contract to build and renovate nearly 2,000 U.S. Navy homes on Oahu.

The first phase of the privatization project involves 2,003 existing Navy housing units in the Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace, Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani, and McGrew Point housing areas, said Senator Inouye, the ranking member of the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. Approximately 960 homes will be demolished and replaced with 908 single-family homes or duplexes, he added. The other existing homes will be renovated.

"This is a significant contract," said Senator Inouye, the third most senior member of the Senate. "It will provide the men and women of our armed forces and their families with better housing. It will also mean work for the construction industry, and it will help to boost Hawaii's economy. Construction is scheduled to begin next year, and finish in 2008."

Assuming Hawaii Military Communities, also known as HMC, is successful in negotiating future phases of the Navy project, which would also involve Marine Corps housing, the total value of the contracts could approach $1 billion. The partnership was selected by the Department of the Navy for "exclusive negotiations" for what the Navy calls a "public-private venture."

HMC will own, manage, and maintain the homes for 50 years. The key members of HMC are Forest City Enterprises, Inc., a publicly traded commercial and residential real estate firm based in Cleveland, Ohio, with more than $5 billion in total assets, and C.F. Jordan, L.P., an El Paso, Texas, construction company that has completed projects with a combined value of more than $5 billion.

Nineteen Hawaii businesses are part HMC, and they include Construction Management & Development, Helber, Hastert & Fee, and Quad Design Group, Inc.

HMC does not yet have an office in Hawaii, but plans to open one soon, Senator Inouye

said.

Negotiations to finalize the project and sign partnership documents will be done over the next several months, he added.

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Return to Senator Inouye's main page.

NAVY NEWS RELEASE

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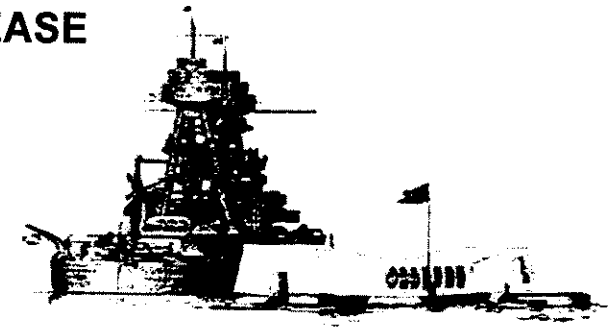
PEARL HARBOR, HI 96860

Tel: (808) 473-2888
Fax: (808) 473-2876
www.hawaii.navy.mil



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
POC: LCDR Jane Campbell

September 26, 2003
RELEASE #050-03

Navy Selects Hawaii Military Communities, LLC for Hawaii Regional Housing Privatization Project

PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII - - The Department of the Navy has selected the development team of Hawaii Military Communities, LLC, to participate in exclusive negotiations for a significant public-private venture partnership in Hawaii. Principal members of Hawaii Military Communities, LLC are Forest City Enterprises, Inc. and C.F. Jordan, L.P. The privatization initiative will make available high quality, energy efficient, well-managed, affordable housing to military families located on Oahu, Hawaii.

Phase I of the privatization project includes 1,948 units in the Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace, Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani and McGrew Point housing areas. Approximately 908 homes will be demolished and replaced, with the remainder undergoing renovation.

Hawaii Military Communities, LLC will own, operate, manage, maintain, repair and renovate the homes for a period of 50 years. Future phases of Navy and Marine Corps housing privatization in Hawaii may also be negotiated with the company.

Exclusive negotiations to finalize project and partnership documents will take place over the next several months. Following Congressional notification, execution of the business agreement is expected to begin in March 2004. Construction is subsequently expected to commence later in 2004, with completion sometime in 2008.

Section 2801 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996 provides a series of authorities that allow the Department of Defense (DOD) to work with the private sector, nationwide, to provide family housing for its service members.

END

For public affairs or media inquires, contact Navy Region Public Affairs at (808) 473-2888.
For all other inquiries, contact Mr. Brad Davis at (808) 473-0404.

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted at 12:35 p.m., Friday, September 26, 2003

Navy picks contractor for housing

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

A hui of Mainland companies under the umbrella Hawaii Military Communities LLC has been selected to build the first of the Navy's privatized military housing, the Navy announced today.

The entire scope of the Navy's housing project includes more than 6,000 homes. But a Navy statement only mentioned the first phase of the project, which includes 1,948 units in the Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace, Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani and McGrew Point housing areas.

The value of the phase one contract is estimated at $358 million.

Navy officials said they did not know if Hawaii Military Communities LLC also has been selected for the remaining phases.

The principal members of Hawaii Military Communities LLC are Forest City Enterprises Inc. and C.F. Jordan LP, which built the Navy Exchange and Commissary at Pearl Harbor.

Officials from Forest City did not immediately return telephone calls seeking comment. Representatives for C.F. Jordan could not be reached for comment.

The Army already has selected California-based Actus Lend Lease to build and renovate 7,700 O'ahu homes for a contract valued at $1.7 billion. The Air Force is scheduled to select a builder for its much smaller housing project next week .

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8085.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Saturday, September 13, 2003

Military construction may drain local labor

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

The labor needed to build and renovate 7,700 Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine housing units on O'ahu in the next several years could drain workers from the island's expanding construction industry, the head of the company selected for the $1.7 billion project said yesterday.

O'ahu's construction boom of the past two to three years has been one of the forces pushing Hawai'i's economic recovery, but the industry may see a defection of construction workers to the military projects, said Peter Koziol, CEO of Napa, Calif.-based Actus Lend Lease LLC.

For an Army housing project the company built at Fort Hood, Texas, "we came in and used so many local laborers that the building community, the home builders, said, 'You're using up all of our laborers,' " Koziol said. "You're paying them very good wages, so it actually goes the other way, where the community says, 'Don't use up all of our lab

So Hawai'i will need to train workers in a hurry to fill the sudden demand, Nakamura said.

"Yes, there is going to be a shortage," she said. "There is going to be a huge deficit. We estimate that there are going to be about 40,000 jobs that will be available in the sector, almost double what we have currently."

Gov. Linda Lingle met with Koziol Thursday and noted his point "about drying up the labor pool," she said yesterday.

"We'll see if that happens. If it happens, it happens. But let's hire the people that are here, and secondly let's train up and get people up to speed, as many as we can, so they don't have to hire from outside," Lingle said.

Administration officials have been talking about the need for more vocational training to meet the privatized military construction demand, possibly through Honolulu Community College, Lingle said.

The administration likely will introduce legislation "to address this issue," she said. "People are making the point that jobs are going to be created, but there's a need for more vocational training in construction."

Lingle said she wasn't worried that a shift in construction work would slow the economy.

But she is concerned that a shortage of workers will allow other developers to charge premium rates for government construction, as they did when Lingle was Maui's mayor.

While several large hotel projects were under way on Maui in the 1980s, Lingle said, county officials needed their own projects built.

"Contractors said, 'I don't want to do it because I have all of this other work. So I'll charge you double for this fire station,' " Lingle said. "We were getting bids that were ridiculously high. ... When the private sector is doing well, we'll tend to stick with the high-priority projects."

Lingle characterized her discussion with Koziol as "a very candid meeting."

"I take them at their word for saying they will hire local people," she said. "It's not your word, but your actions that matter most."

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8085.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Friday, September 12, 2003

Military housing proposed delay worries local industry

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

A group of state legislators wants to postpone going forward with $2 billion worth of privatized military housing contracts on O'ahu, raising concern among small business leaders that Mainland companies might get an edge in the anticipated subcontracting boom.

Business leaders' anxiety was only exacerbated this week when the Navy unexpectedly delayed an announcement about its billion-dollar housing contract.

The issue centers on wages for workers building and renovating 2,000 former Navy homes at Iroquois Point and Barbers Point, one piece in a large-scale project to "privatize" military housing projects. Developer Fluor Hawai'i contends it is not bound by the Davis-Bacon Act, which sets labor standards, including wages.

In response, state Sens. Cal Kawamoto and Carol Fukunaga and Rep. Ken Ito have asked Hawai'i's congressmen to postpone all O'ahu components of what has been called the largest military construction project of its kind.

"I asked them to either further delay or rescind the contracts until such time as we can straighten out all of these rules that we have," Kawamoto said. "I'm concerned that we're going to have another Mainland company coming in here and circumventing Davis-Bacon and the prepaid medical care act and workman's comp rules."

He has yet to hear back from Hawai'i's congressional representatives. Their spokesmen could not immediately comment yesterday.

Gregg Yamanaka, recent chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i's small business council, called the legislators' request "a shame."

"Every delay is going to work against the local subcontractors," Yamanaka said. "... Otherwise, Mainland subcontractors are going to get all of the work."

Issues such as salaries and benefits will be among the details to be worked out later by each military branch, he said.

But officials from Fluor and competitor Actus Lend Lease — which won the Army's $1.7 billion contract to build and renovate 7,700 homes — said the massive Army, Navy and Air Force projects would be built in accordance with Davis-Bacon and state regulations.

Actus Lend Lease is still in the running for the Navy and Air Force contracts. Fluor Hawai'i is a 10 percent partner, along with Hunt Corp., in the Air Force bid.

The so-called privatized military housing projects create 50-year partnerships between private developers and the military. But the $80 million Iroquois Point and Barbers Point agreement "was an outright lease and an outright sale," said Roy Yee from Fluor Hawai'i.

Tom Swain, a spokesman for Actus Lend Lease, said, "they have a right to do anything with it, as any other developer

Fukunaga said she had heard similar claims, "but there is some discrepancy. Our objective is really to get this discrepancy cleared up as soon as possible, because we agree it would be a good thing for the state of Hawai'i."

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8085

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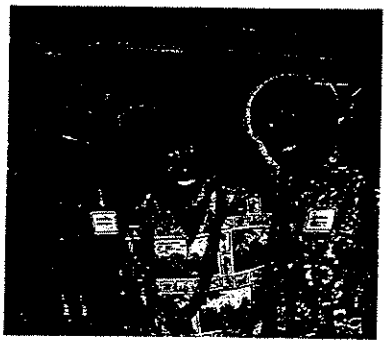
Breaking News

$1.7 Billion Contract for Army Housing



Congressman Neil Abercrombie recently addressed leaders of the Building Industry Association to discuss the Military Housing Privatization Initiative and its potential impact on Hawaii's economy. Shown here are, from left, Kenneth Choate of HASEKO Construction, BIA-Hawaii president; Abercrombie; and John Cheung of CC Engineering, BIA-Hawaii president-elect.

Actus Lend Lease, a general contractor that has been building military homes in Hawaii for over 10 years, has won a $1.7 billion contract to build and renovate about 7,700 homes for the Army. With a 50-year life, the contract will ultimately be worth about $6.9 billion, as Actus also will maintain and manage the housing it will be constructing.

This Residential Community Initiative (RCI) award from the Army is the first of three large contracts under the nation's Military Housing Privatization Initiative, which partners the private sector with the federal government to build and renovate military housing more efficiently and cost-effectively.

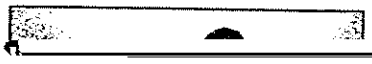
Construction, expected to begin in mid-2004, will occur at Schofield Barracks, Tripler Army Medical Center, Helemano Military Reservation, Fort Shafter, Wheeler Army Air Field, Aliamanu Military Reservation, and Kiai Kai Hale, the family housing recently transferred from the Coast Guard to the Army. The project entails construction of 6,500 new homes, renovations to 1,200 units and associated work. Actus Lend Lease will then be responsible for leasing and maintaining the homes for 50 years.

"This project means a torrent of cash for Hawaii," said Abercrombie. "It's a welcome infusion for our state economy, especially since the 50-year lifespan of the partnership means a stable cash flow over a long period of time."

The Army has scheduled an RCI partnership signing ceremony for Sept. 12 at Schofield Barracks.

"The People are Very Helpful!"

Meet Mike Haisen, Facilities Director for Chaminade University!



door to Chaminade. Mike, Luka, Greg and Pete go to City Mill about

BUILDING INDUSTRY NEWS OF HAWAII

Written and compiled by Heather Horiuchi

More Navy Housing Construction

The Navy is building a total of 100 units at Radford Terrace and Hale Moku (Phase V) on Peltier Avenue, across the street from the Navy Reserve Center. ROICC Pearl Harbor is overseeing the contracts for the modern, Navy junior enlisted homes.

Lend Lease Actus and Hunt Building Corp., are building 30 and 70 units each, respectively. The estimated completion date for the Hale Moku Phase V is May 2004. The Ford Island homes are estimated for June 2004.

The Lend Lease Actus site is a part of the 170 Navy replacement homes located at Ford Island. The project includes installing metal frames, hurricane wind bracing, masonry with stucco, as well as covered parking. Additional aspects of the project include private fencing, exterior storage, community recreation facilities, and fireproof building materials.

Photos courtesy of Richard M. Saltzman

A total of 100 housing units will be constructed for the Navy by Lend Lease Actus and Hunt Building Corp.

As the construction has been impacted by dust blowing due to the wind and the moving equipment, a black dust catcher fabric

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Saturday, August 9, 2003

New Army contract opens job opportunities

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

The company selected to build $1.7 billion worth of Army homes on O'ahu began looking for people yesterday to do everything from making signs to managing purchasing orders to cleaning swimming pools.

The contract to Napa, Calif.-based Actus Lend Lease, the biggest U.S. military contract of its kind, dwarfs the $1.3 billion that went into building H-3 Freeway, one of the nation's most expensive stretches of highway. And to put the

swimming pools, and someone else to clean them and monitor the water condition, Wong said.

Actus Lend Lease also wants each Army housing community to have its own entrance with a sign and will need someone to build the signs, Wong said.

For now, Actus Lend Lease will merely collect names and contact information from companies interested in getting subcontract work, Wong said. Actus Lend Lease plans to update each of them as the project moves along.

Wong hopes that by the first part of September, he'll be able to give a more specific deadline for the small businesses.

"We want to explain the process so they understand when things are supposed to happen," Wong said. "We'll send out information and let them know what to expect and when to expect it."

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8085.

• • •

Jobs the contract will create

Construction	9,423
Retail trade	598
Engineering and architectural services	412
Other services	337
Miscellaneous manufacturing	332
Wholesale trade	323
Business services	277
Communications	182
Other transportation	159
Finance	71

Source: Actus Lend Lease

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Posted on: Friday, August 8, 2003

$1.7B Army contract awarded for housing

By Dan Nakaso
Advertiser Staff Writer

Actus Lend Lease has won a $1.7 billion contract, the biggest of its kind, to build and renovate 7,700 Army homes on O'ahu, the Army announced yesterday.

The ultimate value of the Army project is worth $6.9 billion over its 50-year life because Actus will also maintain and manage the housing, said U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawai'i.

"This will mean an avalanche of money for Hawai'i, a torrent," Abercrombie said.

Robert "Scotty" Scott, Actus Lend Lease's regional vice president of construction, called it "the largest privatization contract in the nation."

Napa, Calif.-based Actus Lend Lease technically has been "selected" to build, upkeep and run the Army's O'ahu homes for the next 50 years. The company will begin negotiating the fine points of its new partnership with the Army over the next six months before the Army officially "names" its prime contractor.

Army officials have scheduled a signing ceremony for Sept. 12 at Schofield Barracks.

Army housing contract

- **Contractor:** Actus Lend Lease
- **Amount:** $1.7 billion
- **Length of contract:** 50 years
- **The job:** Build and refurbish 8,100 homes at Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Airfield, Fort Shafter, Tripler Army Medical Center, Helemano, Military Reservation and Aliamanu Military Reservation.
- **Subcontract bids:** Call 536-8886

As word of the contract spread, local small businesses were calling Actus Lend Lease's Bishop Street offices yesterday trying to get a piece of the subcontracting work.

"The phone's been ringing off the hook," said Lucien Wong, the company's regional vice president.

But even as Actus Lend Lease officials celebrated yesterday, some small-business owners were questioning whether they will ever see a piece of the billion-dollar prize.

"I hope Actus does the right thing," said George Toyama, the owner of a flooring contractor and facility maintenance company called General Trades and Services.

At forums designed to close the gap between the needs of the primary contractors and the skills of small businesses, Toyama has repeatedly asked military representatives whether the Mainland primary contractors will be required to pay often-higher local wages.

Each time, Toyama has failed to get a clear answer.

"People like myself won't be able to compete if it just goes to the low bidder," Toyama said. "Actus Lend Lease, I think, is a pretty good company and they said they intend to do the right thing. I guess we're going to find out."

Construction could begin as early as mid-2004. The work involves new and refurbished homes at Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Airfield, Fort Shafter, Tripler Army Medical Center, Aliamanu Military Reservation and Helemano

Military Reservation. It also includes 100 Marine Corps homes and 318 Coast Guard units in or around Aliamanu Military Reservation.

The Navy and Air Force are also expected this month to select their prime contractors for similar new homes and renovations on O'ahu worth another $1.1 billion. Actus Lend Lease remains in the running for the projects.

The work is possible because of legislation co-authored by Abercrombie that changes the way the Department of Defense builds and overhauls military homes. It's intended to speed up home construction and help keep soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines in the military.

Under the old system, the Department of Defense estimates, it would take 30 years to 40 years — at a cost of $30 billion — to upgrade the 168,000 military homes around the country that have been deemed "inadequate."

But since 1996, private developers have been controlling housing allowances and in return must commit to maintaining and managing the homes for 50 years.

"The quality-of-life side of things — the housing, upkeep, maintenance, landscaping — tends to fall to the edges and we could never come up with the dollars to meet the needs of an all-volunteer service that increasingly is made up of families with children," Abercrombie said.

"An initial hit of $1.7 billion, with a total expenditure of $6.9 billion — that kind of money simply isn't available in the defense department."

Actus Lend Lease has been building military homes throughout O'ahu for more than a decade. It also built two of the first "privatized" military projects — Army housing at Fort Hood, Texas, and Fort Campbell, Ky.

For the O'ahu Army project, company officials expect to subcontract 90 percent of the work to local, small businesses.

"We're going to run this like it's a local operation," Scott said. "We don't plan on importing anybody. We all live here. ... Part of our credibility here is that we do employ local folks."

But local small-business owners interviewed yesterday were either unsure what they need to do next or outright cynical that they would ever see any of the business.

"Actus has their subcontractors already," said Thomas Aceves, owner of Landscape Services Corp. "I gave them my (pricing) numbers and they didn't call me. I cannot dwell on those bids I don't get. There's not much I can do about it."

Glenn Shiroma, owner of M. Shiroma Painting, isn't sure whether his company will be hired because of the salaries of his 50 employees, who belong to two unions — Painters Union Local 1791 and Carpenters Union Local 745.

"Because we're a union company, it's going to be tough to compete," Shiroma said. "I guess all we can do is offer our services."

Abercrombie plans to ensure that Actus Lend Lease follows through on its promise to hire local subcontractors.

"It's my legislation," he said. "This is my baby. You bet I'll be monitoring them in the years ahead."

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8085.

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Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - July 3, 2003
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2003/06/30/daily44.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

LATEST NEWS

July 3, 2003

Chaney Brooks re-enters residential real estate market

The real estate and property management firm Chaney Brooks has decided to re-enter the residential real estate market, now driving Hawaii's economy, focusing on two kinds of customers: U.S. military [illegible]

CEO Steve Sombrero named Kailua High graduate and former Army Corps of Engineers Lt. Col. Jim Muratsuchi as senior vice president to lead a reorganized Residential Group combining brokerage services of the new "American Homes" Division with existing residential and military property management services.

Chaney Brooks, founded in 1960 but owned for more than a dozen years by a Hawaii subsidiary of Nihon Building Services in Japan, has been reshaping itself in the past year, getting out of the condo management building while entering the business of managing military housing with a contract to manage more than 2,000 homes at Barbers Point and Iroquois Point as the property manager for Fluor Hawaii LLC.

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HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Monday, January 27, 2003

MILITARY UPDATE

Privatization slowly improving military housing

Military Update focuses on issues affecting pay, benefits and lifestyle of active and retired servicepeople. Its author, Tom Philpott, is a Virginia-based syndicated columnist and freelance writer. He has covered military issues for almost 25 years, including six years as editor of Navy Times. For 17 years he worked as a writer and senior editor for Army Times Publishing Co. Philpott, 50, enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in 1973 and served as an information officer from 1974-77.

By Tom Philpott

Military families stuck in shabby quarters have been hearing for years about a boom in the quality of base housing expected to flow from 1996

Despite all the talk, progress has been slow. The services resisted turning control of housing inventories over to private firms, even though their own construction budgets failed to sustain decent housing standards.

Private contractors balked at military housing deals, worried at the risks of investing in property for renters susceptible to base closures, massive deployments or deeper downsizing of forces in the post-Cold War era.

As a result, 60 percent of military family housing today is officially described as "inadequate."

Estimated Bid Opening: 02/21 2:00 PM File # 7786

• HAWAII REGIONAL HOUSING PRIVATIZATION - RFP NO. N62742-02-RP-00001 ROICC, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Field Construction Contracts Branch (R110), Bldg. 62, 4262 Radford Dr., Honolulu, HI 96818 — contact: Thomas Allison, phone 472-1087

Section 2801 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, Public Law 104-106, 110 Stat. 186 (10 U.S.C. 2871-2885), as amended by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2001, 2002, and 2003 provides a series of powerful authorities that allow the Department of Defense (DOD) and the military services to work with the private sector, nationwide, to build and renovate family housing and ancillary facilities in key areas of need. The Department of Navy (DON) intends to utilize the unique powers and authorities provided under the legislation to ensure that safe, good quality, energy efficient, well-managed, affordable housing will be available to military families, as needed, over the long term at Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace, Moanalua Terrace, Hokulani, and McGrew Point, Oahu, Hawaii. Accordingly, the DON intends to become a partner in a public-private partnership or a similar business entity to provide such housing. Subject to the limitations of the authorities provided, the DON will contribute up to $25.0 million, up to 2,003 existing units of DON-owned and DON-occupied family housing, renovation of 942 units, demolition of 961 units, replacement of 906 units, for an end state of up to 1948 units. The DON envisions the private partner (managing member) securing debt and/or contributing equity, as needed, over the long term to carry out the project. Acting on behalf of the partnership, the private partner will own, operate, manage and maintain the existing inventory of DON-owned family housing units, and any new and replacement units constructed, including site infrastructure, for a term of 50 years. In addition, the DON will reserve the right, as noted in the solicitation and stated in the business agreements to be executed, to utilize the business entity to be established via this program to address the privatization of additional family housing units at Navy Region Hawaii, Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) Kauai, Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) Kaneohe, Camp Smith, Manana or other areas subject to prior Congressional approval.

This acquisition will be conducted by the Commanding Officer, Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. In Step 1 Request for Qualifications (RFQ), interested parties

Estimated Bid Opening: 02/28 2:00 PM File # 7785

• REPLACEMENT OF 55 FAMILY HOUSING QUARTERS - MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII, KANEOHE BAY, OAHU - RFP NO. N62742-00-R-1346 Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Engineering Field Division Pacific,Acquisition Dept. (Code ACQ0262), 258 Makalapa Drive, Honolulu, HI 96860 — contact: Loredana King, phone 474-6321, fax 474-8908.

This procurement is Unrestricted. NAICS Code 23322.

It is the intent of the Government to demolish 55 units and construct 55 units of quality family housing within the available funds. The work shall include design and construction of a complete and usable project consisting of all necessary site improvements and related work as required, considering safety, energy efficiency, and reduced maintenance expense. The family housing units and street system for the project shall be identical for a visually homogeneous community. All dwelling units will be equipped with air-conditioning and solar water heating system. The construction shall be phased: Phase 1 shall include the demolition and construction of 15 housing units at Mokapu Court and 6 housing units at Capehart South for a total of 21 units. Phase 2 will not start until Phase 1 is complete and tenants from FY63 North (Pond road) moved into Phase 1.

This is a source selection procurement requiring both technical and price proposals. Contract award will be made to the offeror proposing the best value to the Government from a technical and price standpoint. Price is considered approximately equal to the technical evaluation factors. Technical evaluation factors are as follows: (1) Experience/Past Performance; (2) Qualifications/ Experience of Key Personnel; (3) Construction Management Plan and (4) Small Business Subcontracting. A site visit will be scheduled within 2 weeks after issuance of the RFP. Offerors are advised to periodically check the the NAVFAC E-solicitation website for further information on the site visit.

Bid Guaranty: 20%

Payment Bond: 100%

Performance Bond: 100%

The RFP documents via CD-ROM format will be available on/or about January 29, 2003 for a non-refundable fee of $67.92.

Your request for purchase of the CD-ROM, if mailed, should be sent to: Document Automation and Production Service, 1025 Quincy Avenue, Suite 200, Pearl Harbor Naval Base, [illegible]

or's responsibility to check the website periodically for any amendments to this solicitation. It is highly recommended that all interested offerors create an account at the website http://www.esol.navfac.navy.mil Solicitation Registration Registration for this solicitation is optional. You may still view plans/specifications and amendments without registering. If you register for this solicitation, you will receive a courtesy email notifying you of all amendments for this solicitation posted to this website. Registration for this solicitation, however, does not release bidders/offerors from the responsibility of checking the solicitation daily for ammendments. Unless otherwise indicated in the synopsis this is an Internet only Solicitation. It is the bidders/offerors responsibility to check this site daily in order to be notified of any changes to this solicitation.

Estimated Construction Cost: Between $10,000,000 and $25,000,000

Estimated Bid Opening: 03/01 2:00 PM File # 7384

GROUNDS AND TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII - RFP NO. N62742-02-R-2211 ROICC, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Field Construction Contracts Branch (R110), Bldg. 62, 4262 Radford Dr., Honolulu, HI 96818 — contact: Julie Shimoda, phone 471-1563..

The contract is a combination firm fixed-price/indefinite quantity contract. Parts of the contract requirements will be full performance-based service contracting, where the Contractor shall have full responsibility to perform the services using their own and industry best practices and processes to ensure that specified outcomes are achieved. The contract term will be a base period of one year plus four option years. The total term of the contract, including all options, will not exceed 60 months. If the Government does not award a follow-on contract in time, the Government may require the Contractor to continue performance for an additional period up to six months under the Option to Extend Services clause. In either case, the Government will not synopsize the options when exercised.

This contract will replace a contract for similar services awarded in 2000 for $2,609,711.00 (firm fixed-price) and $42,126.00 (indefinite quantity) per year. We will include information about the current contract and the incumbent contractor (e.g., value of last option exercised, firm name, address, etc.) with the solicitation package. We do not require requests under the Freedom of Information Act for this information. Offerors can view and/or download the solicitation at http://www.efdpac.navfac.navy.mil/ebsroot/pacindex.htm when it becomes available.

The proposed contract is limited to qualifying 8(a) firms in the Honolulu District Office of the Small Business Administration. The Government will not consider offers from 8(a) firms outside of the Honolulu District. Firms shall submit with their proposal a letter from their SBA district office with a statement that the firm is in full compliance with the requirements of the 8(a) program. The solicitation utilizes source selection procedures, which require offerors to submit a Technical and Price proposal for evaluation by the Government. Proposal receipt date is approximate.

Estimated Bid Opening: 04/01 2:00 PM File # 7787

• GROUNDS AND TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR CENTRAL/WEST OAHU - N62742-02-R-2212 ROICC, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Field Construction Contracts Branch (R110), Bldg. 62, 4262 Radford Dr., Honolulu, HI 96818 — contact: Julie Shimoda, phone 471-1563.

The contract is a combination firm fixed-price/indefinite quantity contract. Parts of the contract requirements will be full performance-based service contracting, where the Contractor shall have full responsibility to perform the services using their own and industry best practices and processes to ensure that specified outcomes are achieved. The contract term will be a base period of one year plus four option years. The total term of the contract, including all options, will not exceed 60 months. If the Government does not award a follow-on contract in time, the Government may require the Contractor to continue performance for an additional period up to six months under the Option to Extend Services clause. In either case, the Government will not synopsize the options when exercised. This contract will replace a contract for similar services awarded in 2000 for $1,056,000.00 (firm fixed-price) and $143,105.00 (indefinite quantity) per year. We will include information about the current contract and the incumbent contractor (e.g., value of last option exercised, firm name, address, etc.) with the solicitation package. We do not require requests under the Freedom of Information Act for this information. Offerors can view and/or download the solicitation at http://esol.navfac.navy.mil when it becomes available.

The proposed contract listed here is 100 percent Small Business Set-Aside. NAICS Code 56173. The Government will only accept offers from small business concerns. The solicitation utilizes source selection procedures, which require offerors to submit a Technical and Price proposal for evaluation by the Government. Proposal receipt date is approximate.

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"Privatization of housing is a new thing," Hirono said. "Congress is getting smarter as they learn from experience how to best structure these deals to get the most out of them."

This means that policy requirements have been changing as the Hickam project was progressing. There is now a requirement to notify Congress of the intent to award the contract followed by a 45-day review period before the announcement can be made.

Hirono said that the announcement of the winner at Hickam was likely to be made in early 2003.

According to experiences at other bases, residents of privatized units are seeing benefits beyond new construction and renovation. For example, at Robins AFB, the contractor provides all landscaping services and some houses have a two-car garage.

"Private sector partners do business differently and that could be reflected in additional benefits for Hickam residents of privatized units," Hirono said.

Any freebies at Hickam will be divulged once the contract winner is announced. *(Article compiled with information courtesy of Air Force News)*

OTHER DOD

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Saturday, November 13, 2004

Pentagon sees role in Hawai'i growing

By William Cole
Advertiser Military Writer

As the Pentagon proceeds with planning for the biggest force reorganization in 50 years — including moving 70,000 troops out of Asia and Europe — its third most senior official said Hawai'i is increasingly important.

"Hawai'i plays an important role," said Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Douglas J. Feith on a stopover. "It's strategically located. We have important facilities here and it's a secure location. The idea that we can have an important piece of American territory deep into the Asia Pacific region is something that figures in our thinking, of course."

Douglas Feith

Feith stopped yesterday at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies on his way to Guam and Japan to discuss the bilateral defense relationship with the Asian nation and look at U.S. military facilities there as part of the "global force posture" and realignment.

Feith, talking to reporters after addressing participants in the Asia-Pacific Center's Executive Course, which comprises future leaders from 37 nations, said Hawai'i may be considered for more troops in the far-reaching realignment expected to take place over the next decade.

"Everything is being considered," he said. "What we're doing in this global posture realignment is looking at our forces and our facilities and our relationships all over the world."

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld told the Senate Armed Services Committee in late September that rearranging the global military posture is part of a larger effort to transform the military into a more agile and efficient force.

Rumsfeld said the United States still is situated as if little has changed in the past 50 years, and, for example, Germany is still bracing for a Soviet tank invasion. In South Korea, U.S. troops were virtually frozen in place since the Korean War ended in 1953, he said.

The global posture decision process and a 2005 round of U.S. military base closures "are tightly linked," Rumsfeld said. "Indeed, they depend on each other."

The Overseas Basing Commission will make its first fact-finding trip to Hawai'i, Guam and Asia this month, Stars & Stripes reported. Created by Congress, the commission is assessing the overseas basing structure.

Commission members are to meet with Adm. Thomas Fargo, commander of Camp Smith-based Pacific Command, and will visit Guam, Japan and South Korea, according to Stars & Stripes.

As the Pentagon looks to close bases in countries such as Germany, Hawai'i and Guam are poised for military buildups. The decision also was made to move 12,500 soldiers out of South Korea by 2008.

Fargo noted at the Senate hearing that fast-response Army Stryker brigades based around eight-wheeled armored troop carriers are being co-located with high-speed transport vessels and new C-17 cargo aircraft in Hawai'i and Alaska, and bombers and attack submarines are being based out of Guam.

Feith said no decision has been made on whether to base an aircraft carrier strike group in Hawai'i.

"I would say there's a general recognition that we have enormous and growing interests in Asia," Feith said, "so the whole region is increasingly important and Hawai'i is therefore increasingly important as our forward presence in the region."

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS 5

DECEMBER 31, 2004

DAILY EDITION: PACIFIC.BIZJOURNALS.COM

Military bases test fuel-cell technology

By Prabha Natarajan
Pacific Business News

Demonstration fuel cells installed at defense stations at Pearl Harbor, Marine Corps Base Hawaii and Schofield Barracks will test the viability of alternative energy sources.

The one-year test installation at the military bases is part of a nationwide effort, mandated and funded by Congress, to explore emissionless power production to meet the needs of the U.S. Department of Defense. It also could become another source of contracts, worth millions of dollars, for local energy companies.

Fuel cells, each with a capacity to produce 5 kilowatts of power, were installed at the bases earlier this month by a Hawaii company, Energy Industries LLC. The estimated $150,000 system will produce power, and heat released as a result will be used to heat water.

"The system will allow us to reuse more of the energy we pay for," said Keith Saito, energy manager for Navy Region Hawaii. "We are looking at how feasible, economical and efficient the system is."

Saito had a fuel cell installed at his office building, called Building 166 at Pearl Harbor Naval Station. The 53,000-square-foot, two-story building is home to workshops, warehouses and offices that support the Navy. Its round-the-clock operations generate an annual energy bill of $54,000.

He acknowledged that the energy produced from the demonstration fuel cell, presently 2.5 kilowatts, will not contribute much to its average daily consumption of 1,000 kilowatts. About 2.5 kilowatts are needed to power a home.

"We are participating because we are trying to figure out how efficient these machines can be," he said.

The system should be at least 70 percent to 80 percent efficient to be commercially feasible.

Energy Industries, the local contractor handling the demonstrations, will keep track of production and consumption of propane that will fuel the cell, said company President Darren Kimura.

"After a year we will do a post-mortem on the product to see how it reacted," he said.

Reach **Prabha Natarajan** *at 955-8041 or pnatarajan@bizjournals.com.*

mic engine gains steam

expenditures in Hawaii

Every $1 billion in military spending in Hawaii has the following economic impact:

MPLOYMENT: 24,650 JOBS

TOP AFFECTED INDUSTRIES EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)

- Business & professional svcs: 1,836
- etail trade: 1,44[illegible]
- nstruction: 1,131
- alth services: 1,087
- ng/drinking places: [illegible]
- king & insurance: [illegible]
- onal services: 576
- estate: 478
- lesale trade: 42[illegible]

,000 6,000 [illegible] 10,000

HOUSEHOLD INCOME: $1 BILLION

TOP AFFECTED INDUSTRIES HOUSEHOLD INCOME (IN $ MILLIONS)

- Business & professional svcs: $[illegible]
- Construction: $54M
- Health services: $4[illegible]M
- Retail trade: $31M
- Banking & insurance: $21M
- Wholesale trade: $14M
- Real estate: $13M
- Eating/drinking places: $11M
- Transport & warehousing: $11M

0 $100 $200 $300 $400 $500 $600 $700
(in $ millions)

SOURCES ◆ DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII

Convention Center

Number of ECONOMIC IMPACT*

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Friday, October 8, 2004

Federal spending here up 7.6 percent

By Sean Hao
Advertiser Staff Writer

A surge in defense spending led to a 7.6 percent increase in federal money coming into the state last year.

The federal government spent $11.27 billion statewide in the year to Sept. 30, 2003, compared with $10.47 billion during the prior fiscal year, according to a report released yesterday by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Much of that gain came from a 13 percent, or $520 million, jump in defense spending to $4.84 billion.

"Overall defense spending nationwide has increased and Hawai'i of course has seen an increase as well," said Pearl Imada Iboshi, the state's chief economist. Defense "continues to be an important part of our economy and a very stable part of our economy."

The military spending gains came from increased spending on services, supplies, construction, and research and development. Total defense payroll expenses rose $130 million to $1.64 billion despite a dip in the number of active-duty military, dependents and civilian defense workers statewide.

Higher defense spending is being driven in part by projects such as the construction of support facilities for C-17 cargo planes at Hickam Air Force Base and work at the

Defense spending

Figures represent the total amount of spending in Hawai'i broken down by county. Honolulu figures are in billions of dollars; other counties are in millions of dollars:

County	2002	2003
Honolulu	$3.80	$4.29
Kaua'i	$74.48	$79.11
Maui	$41.89	$58.46
Hawai'i	$46.97	$56.23

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, September 26, 2004

Defense spending crucial to Hawai'i

By Dan Nakaso and Sean Hao
Advertiser Staff Writers

From Barking Sands on Kaua'i to the peaks of Mauna Kea, nearly $4 billion worth of military money flows through the Island economy each year, giving Hawai'i a boost unlike nearly any other state.

Military spending in Hawai'i translates into $3,184 per year for each resident, making it second only to Virginia — home to the Pentagon and the Atlantic Fleet headquarters.

Direct military spending on wages, equipment and services creates thousands of indirect jobs as it multiplies through the economy. Every billion dollars the military brings in, adds about $1.8 billion to the state's economy.

Art Ong certainly knows the benefits.

He is the owner of Magnum Firearms, a small gun shop in Kaka'ako, where military contracts for flashlights, ammunition, body armor and anti-terrorism training have added more than 10 percent to his sales.

"I can give away a little bit more to my church," says Ong.

Margaret McManus also feels the effects.

Paul Brewbaker, chief economist for Bank of Hawaii. "Military looks like it's going to be a real positive."

While Hawai'i's economy gets a boost from military spending, there are those who argue the state might be better off with less military spending. It isn't productive spending — no consumer goods are produced — and dependence on it stifles creativity and ingenuity within the private sector, according to Ivan Eland, director of the Oakland, Calif.-based Center on Peace & Liberty, The Independent Institute, a nonprofit that supports smaller government.

Bases such as Pearl Harbor and Marine Corps Base Hawai'i in Kane'ohe are sitting on prime oceanside real estate that could be converted into housing or resorts, Eland added. In some cases the return of bases to nonmilitary use has resulted in creative entrepreneurial activities and people making better use of facilities, he said.

But you won't hear any objection to military spending from Gerry Majkut, senior vice president and general manager of Dick Pacific Construction Co. Ltd.

Dick Pacific, a Hawai'i-based firm and subsidiary of Pennsylvania-based construction giant Dick Corp., has been winning contracts for military construction throughout the history of the 65-year-old company. The bulk of Dick Pacific's military work, however, began in 1996.

Now the company wins an average of five military contracts per year, ranging from $5 million to $85 million each.

Since 1996, military spending has made up about 50 percent to 60 percent of Dick Pacific's revenue, said Majkut.

Efforts by the military to privatize projects such as new military housing on O'ahu will ensure more contracts for years to come for big and small local companies.

"It's very, very important for our economy to have the military here," Majkut said. "The businesses are very, very happy to get the work. ... As long as there's military work in the state, we're all going to be benefit one way or another."

As a percentage of Hawai'i's gross state product, military spending reached its peak in the 1950s at about 23 percent. Military spending still represented about 15 percent of the gross state product during the Reagan-era military build-up. It now accounts for 9.3 percent of total output.

Tourism, on the other hand, went from 3 percent of the gross state product in the 1950s to a peak of 32 percent in 1988 during the height of the Japanese visitor and investment bubble. It now accounts for nearly 22 percent of the state economy.

The drop in military spending as a percentage of the gross state product coincides with a decline in active-duty, shore-based personnel statewide to 34,203 people last year, versus 60,621 people in 1988.

The drop in military employment, coupled with the loss of tourism when Japan's economy stumbled, set the stage for Hawai'i's stagnant economy during the 1990s, said Brewbaker, the economist. Slowing military spending "had huge effects and for O'ahu, in particular, really profound effects on the tone of the economy in the late '90s, the ability of construction and real estate to get any traction."

Even as military spending continues to slip as a percentage of the gross state product, the terrorist attacks of

Sept. 11 proved to a tourist-based economy that military money can provide a balance to the often fickle visitor industry.

In addition to direct spending, military dollars have helped the effort to diversify the state's economy away from tourism into technology. Businesses involved in "dual-use" technology — military technology with commercial applications — are pushing the tech sector forward in the Islands, said Mike Fitzgerald, president and chief executive of Enterprise Honolulu, an economic development agency.

"When you look back at the history, I think the defense contracts and the related military activities here in this area called dual use have really been the creator and the driver of technology development in Hawai'i including research at the University of Hawai'i," Fitzgerald said.

The Department of Defense is required to offer many contracts to local, small and minority-owned businesses. But that doesn't mean getting the work is easy, said Christopher Dawson, president of Dawson Group, Inc., which in May was awarded a $30 million contract for environmental cleanup — primarily for soil contamination — for Navy bases in Hawai'i, Guam, South Korea and Japan.

As a Native Hawaiian organization, the Dawson Group has been certified as a disadvantaged enterprise, or Small Business Administration 8(a) firm, making it eligible to win Defense Department construction contracts without going through the typical bidding process.

Winning government contracts only came after the Dawson Group invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in human relations and administrative procedures and policies to comply with government guidelines, Dawson said.

"There's a miscommunication in the 8(a) community that you're going to get flooded with work because you're an 8(a)," he said. "The military's a great client, absolutely awesome. But if you want to get the work, you've got to be quicker, faster, cheaper and better than anybody else."

When you do that, you reap the benefits.

McManus, the oceanography assistant professor at UH, has a Navy grant to study thin, subsurface layers of ocean plankton. The grant allows McManus to buy oceanographic instruments that can be used for further studies around the Hawaiian Islands.

For others on her team, McManus said, "The money comes from the Navy ... and pays for salaries for a full-time technician who lives here and a student."

The Navy money also helps augment McManus' UH salary and helps McManus and her husband, Grieg Steward, another UH assistant professor of oceanography, with their personal finances.

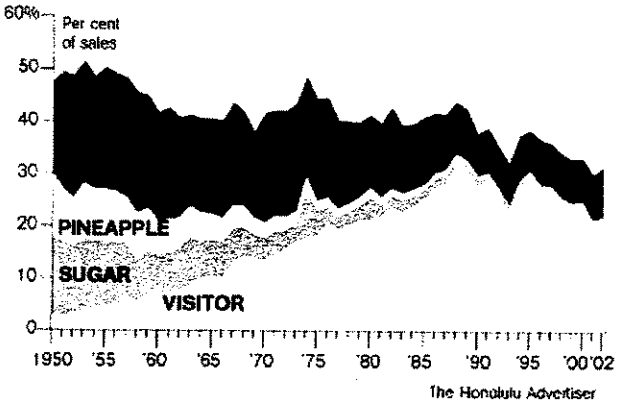
"We're trying to buy a house," McManus said, "but the market's really tough."

Reach Dan Nakaso at dnakaso@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8085. Reach Sean Hao at 525-8093 or shao@honoluluadvertiser.com.

• • •

CHANGING MIX OF LEADING INDUSTRIES

As Hawai'i's tourism gained, agriculture and military declined.



Allen Hunter

Title: President, Trex Hawaii, LLC

Getting military contracts since: 1998 through Trex parent company, Trex Enterprises. Trex Hawaii was formed in 2000 to take advantage of Hawai'i's Act 221 tax exemption for technology companies. Trex has since created other Hawai'i-based subsidiaries, Silicon Kinetics, Loea Corp, Trex Enterprises Advance Materials and e-Phocus.

Type of contracts: $30 million involving Trex and its subsidiaries for a wide range of projects, including high-definition television video chips, a mid-infrared adaptive optics system, funded by the Missile Defense Agency, a missile tracking system on Kaua'i and a portable digital X-ray device for use in the field.

Percentage of business: "Almost all of it, 90 percent."

Personal benefits of military contracts: "Following my four years as a cadet at the Air Force Academy, I spent 12 years on active duty in the U.S. Air Force, leaving the service as a major. I spent all of my military time in research and development in Air Force laboratories or teaching in graduate school at the Air Force Institute of Technology. ... Today I

work with military and civilian Air Force personnel that I have known for as long as 31 years of professional life."

Margaret McManus

Title: Assistant professor of oceanography at the University of Hawai'i

Getting military grants since: 1996

Type of current grant: Studying subsurface layers of plankton

Benefits of military grant: "These layers interfere with visibility in the water. ... The ultimate goal is to predict when they'll occur and where they'll occur."

Personal benefits: Salary from Navy grant helps McManus and her husband in their search for a new house around UH.

Art Ong

Title: Owner, Magnum Firearms

Getting military contracts since: Sept. 11.

Type of contracts: Provide M-16 magazines, flashlights and ammunition for Army; Provide Coast Guard with body armor; Maximum $7 million contract over four years to train Navy personnel in anti-terrorism force protection using 11 full-time and six part-time instructors, all but one of whom are former Department of Defense personnel living in Hawai'i. Recently awarded $10,000 contract to supply under-armor sports bras for female soldiers.

Percentage of business: 10 percent to 12 percent.

Personal benefits of military contracts: "They do help our business grow. We can pick up more of the lines that the guys want and that supports the men. But it's not something I can count on. There's really a very small profit margin. It's more of a gravy thing. ... I work six days a week and I live a pretty frugal life. But it's nice that I can give away a little bit more to my church, which is the main beneficiary."

Laurence Vogel

Title: President and CEO, Y. Hata & Co. Ltd., which celebrated its centennial last year.

Getting military contracts since: 1998.

Type of contracts: $22 million for food distribution for Navy ships; $40 million contract to provide food service for the Army, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard. "Our company was named the best prime vendor in the West, based on the degree of service. We were quite pleased."

Percentage of business: 25 percent.

Benefits of military contracts: "What it did for us was make us an infinitely better company. The standards, requirements and the overall contractual relationship puts a very high bar of service on the provider. ... The military always says thank you, which is a wonderful way to have a relationship. When you do a good job, you get a note or a medal or a commendation, which makes you want to work all the more harder."

Personal benefits: "Personally, I'm heading a better, more exciting company than before this business came our way. I've gotten to interact with generals and admirals and colonels and captains and civilians in the military that leave you feeling very, very proud of our nation and the caliber of the people who have been attracted to serve our nation."

Back

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, September 26, 2004

Carrier group could be a fistful of dollars

By Andrew Gomes
Advertiser Staff Writer

One of the biggest potential boosts to Hawai'i's economy in the next several years could come from basing an aircraft carrier strike group in the state.

The Navy has been evaluating the idea for the past year as part of a $1.8 million study. A decision is pending.

Moving a carrier group to Hawai'i was contemplated and rejected in the late 1990s, after the Navy concluded the state had inadequate infrastructure.

But a redefined globe of potential threats now bolsters the case for a carrier base in the state, which is five sailing days closer than the West Coast to such possible trouble spots as the Korean Peninsula.

The nation's 12 carriers are divided evenly between Atlantic and Pacific fleets, with six based at East Coast ports, five on the West Coast and one in Japan. Acquiring a carrier from the Mainland likely would involve a political dogfight because of the economic impact associated with homeporting one of the "floating cities."

The move, however, has the staunch backing of Hawai'i Sen. Dan Inouye, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Appropriations defense subcommittee.

The scope of the ongoing Navy study is limited to reassessing the condition, availability and improvement costs of Hawai'i infrastructure related to accommodating a carrier strike group, which includes a host of other fighting and support ships plus 70 to 80 aircraft.

Among the major infrastructure needs would be upgrades to port facilities, airfields and housing.

Carrier group's economic impact

Ships: About six

Planes: 70 to 80

Surface ships stationed at Pearl Harbor: Increase by 50 percent.

Sailors: 3,200

Air wing personnel: 2,300

Family members: Nearly 15,000

Non-military jobs created: 4,200*

Contribution to gross state product: $375 million per year.*

Source: U.S. Navy; * Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i estimates from 1998

The Navy analysis in 1999 pegged the cost at $678 million without the air wing. Inouye has recently estimated the carrier group's infrastructure cost to be at least $1 billion over 10 years.

The construction alone would create a huge economic boost to the state. Besides that, maintenance contracts, personnel spending and other expenditures would flow into Hawai'i's economy.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, in 1998, estimated the economic contribution of a carrier base at $375 million a year, and 4,200 jobs.

In San Diego, home port of three carriers, the Regional Chamber of Commerce last year figured each carrier has an annual $270 million economic benefit, including $111 million in payroll spent locally and $40 million in maintenance contracts.

The economic impact for Hawai'i may be less than for San Diego because the carrier's time spent in the state could be less.

The Navy's 1999 study said Hawai'i had limited air-to-air and air-to-surface training access, so a carrier would need to make eight six-day trips to Southern California for exercises.

Back then, carriers typically deployed for six months and returned to base for 12 months of maintenance and training. Today, carrier deployment cycles are more flexible to make readiness less predictable and to enable quicker and more frequent deployments.

"We have to be ready to deploy when the president needs a carrier," said Jon Yoshishige, spokesman for the Navy's Pearl Harbor-based Pacific Fleet.

Every day a carrier group is in port brings more spending. Last October when the San Diego-based USS Nimitz carrier strike group stopped in Honolulu following an eight-month deployment in the Persian Gulf, 6,500 personnel and 1,300 family members pumped an estimated $5 million into the local economy.

Paul Kosasa, president and chief executive of convenience store chain ABC Stores, likened the five-day visit to a convention being in town.

A carrier strike group in Hawai'i would conceivably operate much like one based in Yokosuka, Japan, where the Navy maintains its only permanent "forward-deployed" carrier, the USS Kitty Hawk.

As such, a carrier group in Hawai'i would need a land base for the carrier's air wing, which includes a variety of planes and helicopters. Air wings for Mainland-based carriers are dispersed at centralized land bases grouped by aircraft type.

Last month, Inouye said the Navy was assessing the possibility of basing an air wing at four Hawai'i locations — Barking Sands on Kaua'i, and Kalaeloa, the Kane'ohe Marine Corps base and Wheeler Army Airfield on O'ahu.

Accompanying the carrier also would be a ship support group that varies in size and makeup. A typical group might include a guided-missile cruiser, two guided-missile destroyers, an attack submarine and a supply ship.

The additions would roughly increase the number of surface ships stationed at Pearl Harbor by 50 percent. There are 12 surface ships at Pearl, down from 23 in 1987. The number of submarines homeported in Hawai'i has remained more constant at 17, compared with 19 in 1985.

On the crew side, a carrier group has about 3,200 sailors and 2,300 air wing personnel. Nearly 15,000 family members also would be likely to reside in Hawai'i.

The influx would add to the demand at some overpopulated Hawai'i schools, a concern recently raised by the state in relation to the implementation of the Army's Stryker brigade that would add 800 soldiers and nearly as many children.

The state estimated the Stryker-related cost to schools at an initial $16 million plus $3.5 million a year. The brigade's estimated benefit to the economy via construction alone is $693 million.

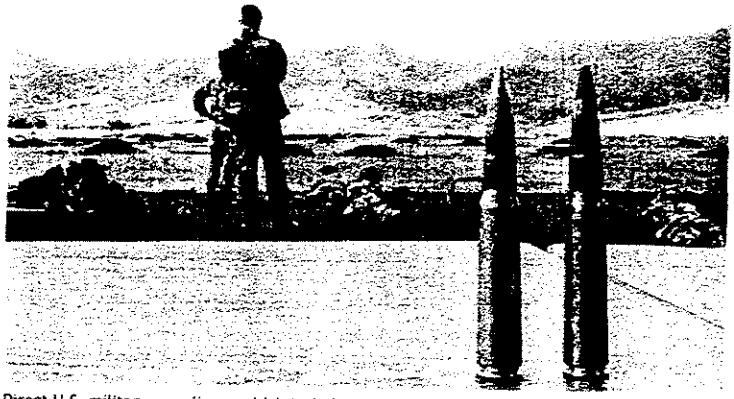
In the Navy's 1999 carrier study, officials concluded that the state and city would receive $32 million more in revenue than expenses, factoring the impact on schools of 600 children of carrier personnel.

Some 5,500 carrier group personnel would represent about a 1 percent to 2 percent increase to the roughly 40,000 military personnel stationed in Hawaii last year. The [illegible]

HonoluluAdvertiser.com

Posted on: Sunday, September 26, 2004

Defense spending in Hawai'i



Direct U.S. military spending — which includes all salaries, equipment, defense contracts, etc. —Êtotals about $4 billion per year in Hawai'i. Indirect spending — when soldiers spend their paychecks — adds nearly $3 billion more to the state's economy.

Advertiser Staff

The U.S. military spends more per capita in Hawai'i than in any other state except Virginia. For every dollar spent, $1.80 is added to the state's economy. O'ahu gets almost 96 percent of all spending.

Per-capita defense spending by state

SPENDING PER PERSON IN 2002

1.	Virginia	$4,063
2.	**Hawai'i**	**$3,184**
3.	Alaska	$3,068
4.	Maryland	$1,872
5.	Connecticut	$1,803
6.	Arizona	$1,577
7.	Alabama	$1,566
8.	Maine	$1,303
9.	Georgia	$1,284
10.	Mississippi	$1,274

Total defense spending by state in 2002

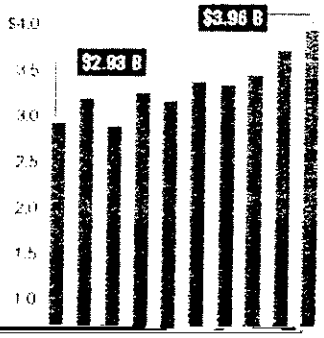
1.	California	$36.15 billion
2.	Virginia	29.63 billion
3.	Texas	22.27 billion
4.	Florida	14.28 billion
5.	Georgia	10.99 billion
6.	Maryland	10.22 billion
7.	Arizona	8.61 billion
8.	Missouri	7.14 billion
9.	Alabama	7.03 billion
10.	Pennsylvania	6.83 billion
21.	**Hawai'i**	**3.96 billion**

Direct defense expenditures

Total military spending in Hawai'i from 1993 to 2002.

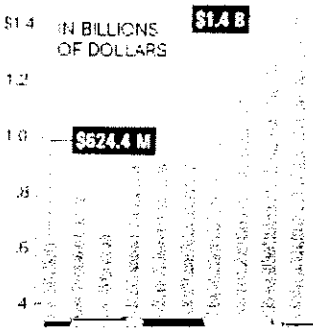
NOT ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION

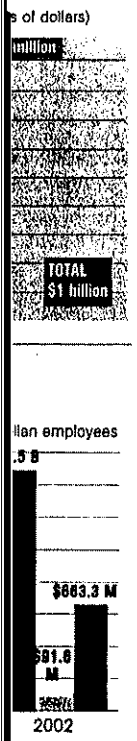
IN BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



Department of Defense contracts

Value of procurement contracts for goods and services provided by Hawai'i businesses to military facilities in the state from 1993 to 2002.

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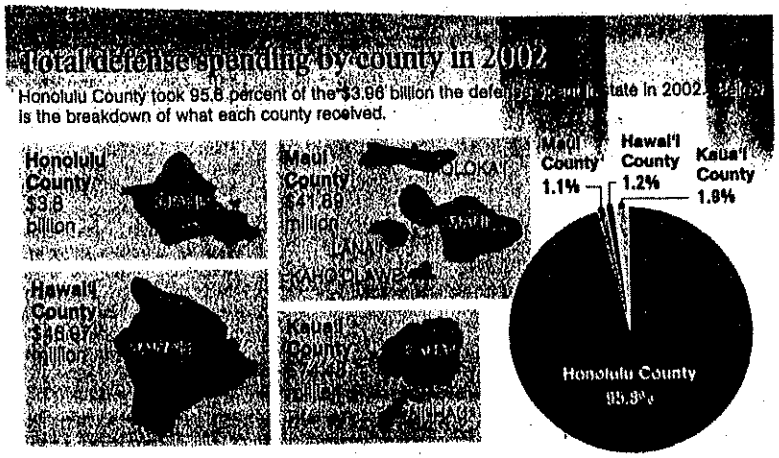
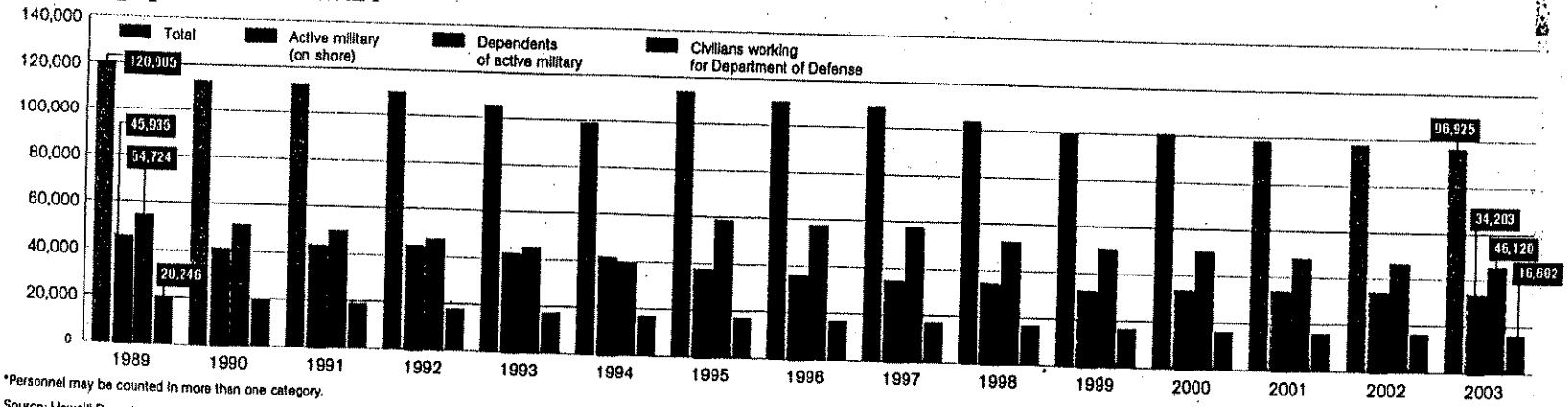


Military population in Hawai'i*



*Personnel may be counted in more than one category.

Source: Hawai'i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, U.S. Census Bureau, Advertiser Research

MARTHA P. HERNANDEZ | The Honolulu Advertiser

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - May 24, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/05/24/list.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

TOP OF THE LIST

From the May 21, 2004 print edition

Largest military facilities

Ranked by number of military personnel stationed at each base

Schofield Barracks	Wahiawa region between the Waianae and Koolau mountain ranges Oahu (808) 665-2918 12,310
Pearl Harbor Naval Complex	Pearl Harbor Oahu (808) 471-0281 11,185
Marine Corps Base Hawaii	Kaneohe Bay Mokapu Peninsula Oahu (808) 477-8308 7,903
Hickam Air Force Base	East of Pearl Harbor Oahu (808) 449-9360 5,326
Tripler Army Medical Center	North of Salt Lake Oahu (808) 433-5785 2,716

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Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - May 24, 2004
http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2004/05/24/editorial2.html

PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

OPINION

From the May 21, 2004 print edition

Military provides economic firepower

PACOM commander outlines concerns, priorities for region

By Rudi Williams, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- Calling transformation his primary concern, Navy Adm. Thomas B. Fargo told the House Armed Services Committee March 31 that sustaining and supporting the war on terrorism is the U.S. Pacific Command's highest priority.

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IN WASHINGTON — Congressional bargainers dropped efforts to end the government's ban on travel by most Americans to Cuba, awarding a victory to President Bush, who had threatened a veto.

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, which will include stops in Japan and South Korea, is his first to Asia since becoming defense secretary in January 2001.

Rumsfeld planned to visit a U.S. Navy facility on Guam, meet with local troops and commanders and take an aerial tour of the island, which was ceded to the United States by Spain in 1898.

Guam was surrendered to the Japanese on Dec. 10, 1941, and remained under Japanese occupation until July 1944, when U.S. forces led by the 3rd Marine Division liberated the island.

Regarding the future disposition of U.S. forces worldwide, Rumsfeld told reporters flying with him yesterday from Washington that after review, the Pentagon had come to preliminary conclusions and was "now at a stage where we can begin discussions with our allies and with Congress."

"Obviously, these things will be adjusted as we talk with our allies and friends and as we test various ideas that might make sense," he added, without explaining what ideas were on the table for discussion.

The changes will be part of a worldwide adjustment of U.S. forces to reflect Rumsfeld's view that the static defensive positions adopted by the United States and its allies during the Cold War are not well suited to meet evolving security threats.

n for U.S.

Synthetic life forms may be on

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Posted on: Thursday, April 18, 2002

Hawai'i retains West Coast forces

By Susan Roth and Mike Gordon
Advertiser Staff Writers

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld yesterday announced a realignment of the U.S. military, but no changes were made to the Pacific Command's operational control of forces based on the West Coast.

Rumsfeld unveiled a plan that creates a U.S. Northern Command with the mission of defending the United States and providing coordinated military assistance to civil authorities such as the FBI and local governments in the event of future attacks or natural disasters.

U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye recently raised concern about the plan, saying the Pacific Command based in Hawai'i could possibly lose operational control of some West Coast Navy and Marine forces.

"If this is ever translated in such a way that people in Asia would would get the idea that we are beginning to withdraw our forces and thereby show a lack of interest (in the region), then we are in deep trouble," Inouye, D-Hawai'i, said. "For every terrorist we stop inside our borders, a hundred will be trained in this region if we turn our backs on the people and governments who need our support," he said.

While no changes were made yesterday to the Pacific Command's operational control of forces based on the West Coast, their future is being examined by Pentagon officials, said Maj. Sean Gibson, a spokesman for the Pacific Command.

"At this point, no decision to reassign West Coast forces has been made," Gibson said. "The Department of Defense is beginning a review of the assignment of West Coast-based forces."

That review is expected to be finished by October, Gibson said.

With more than 308,000 military personnel, the Pacific Command now covers 43 countries and more than half the globe from the West Coast to Madagascar. It is the largest of nine unified commands.

Lt. Col. Stephen Barger, another Pacific Command spokesman, said the Northern Command's mission has been established, "and now you have to allocate the resources. That part is still under study."

Adm. Dennis Blair, commander in chief of the Pacific Command, was in Hong Kong yesterday and unavailable for comment.

Control over U.S. military responses to incidents in the Pacific is not likely to change when the realignment goes into effect Oct. 1, the Pentagon said.

The most substantive change for now is the addition of Russia and most of the former Soviet republics to the European Command, now that they are U.S. allies. And the entire continent of Antarctica will be added to the Pacific Command's area of responsibility, carving up the entire world into areas of U.S. military oversight.

Under the new structure, defense of the West Coast and Alaska will come under the new Northern Command, which will likely be based at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado.

But Pentagon officials said Alaskan forces would remain assigned to the U.S. Pacific Command, and the Pacific Command would oversee all responses to incidents in the Pacific Theater.

U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawai'i, yesterday said he was "pleased that the forces in Alaska remain in the Pacific Command."

"It is imperative that the U.S. military sustain its forward commitment to our allies and partners in the Pacific," he added.

Rumsfeld said the plan "streamlines the U.S. military structure to better address 21st century threats."

"If you think about it historically, in modern decades we have been looking out, we have been oriented to the outside world as the way to defend the United States of America," Rumsfeld said. "On Sept. 11, things happened inside the United States that were dramatic and involved the death of thousands of people. Immediately the phone call rings at the Pentagon, even though the Pentagon's job had been to look out — not to look at internal threats, but to look outside."

The military's response to local authorities needing help was not as unified or efficient as it could have been, Rumsfeld acknowledged.

"In this new organizational arrangement, we will have a four-star military person, who will be the Northern commander, who will be responsible for being ready to function in a supporting role and assist all of the other elements of the federal government, as well as the state and local governments, to see that those assets and those capabilities that are distinctive and unique to the Department of Defense are, in fact, promptly put into play to be of assistance to deal with that crisis in city X, if and when that occurs," he said.

Advertiser Military Writer William Cole contributed to this report.

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Posted on: Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Western states out of Pacific Command

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon is making the biggest changes in decades to its master plan for assigning war-fighting responsibilities at home and around the world, officials said yesterday.

Under the changes, the Hawai'i-based Pacific Command will lose operational control of forces based on the West Coast to a new Northern Command covering the Mainland and nearby waters, according to officials who discussed some details of the plan on condition of anonymity.

The Pacific Command's geographic area of responsibility will be expanded to include Antarctica, the officials said.

The redesign, expected to be announced today by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, is meant to reflect a stronger emphasis on defense of the United States in light of the Sept. 11 attacks.

"It will be a plan which will restructure and streamline a number of aspects of the military command, which we believe will better fit it for the challenges of the 21st century," Rumsfeld said Monday.

Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawai'i, said at an April 3 U.S. Senate hearing in Honolulu that removing the West Coast from the Pacific Command could leave the impression across Asia that the United States is losing interest in the critical region, where the threat of terrorism is high.

Adm. Dennis Blair, the Pacific Command chief who is stepping down at the end of the month, had opposed removal of West Coast Navy, Army and Marine units from the Hawai'i command, saying U.S. forces in California and Washington state should continue to "lean towards the Pacific."

The changes, which were discussed at a White House meeting of senior national security aides yesterday, are to take effect Oct. 1.

Back

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Monday October 1 3:57 PM ET

New Pentagon Plan Stresses Homeland Defense, Asia

By Charles Aldinger

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Defense Department unveiled a major new long-term strategy on Monday stressing increased "homeland defense" and an expansion of American military presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Quadrennial Defense Review, sent to Congress by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld after a devastating attack on America, said the Pentagon was considering appointment of a senior military officer to coordinate homeland defense.

Although the review has been under way for months, the report said the Sept. 11 attack by hijacked airliners against the Pentagon and New York's World Trade Center made clear that increased military defenses were needed at home and that more money must be spent on the 1.4 million-member armed forces.

Pointing to shifting global security challenges after the Cold War, the Pentagon said it had ordered the Navy to increase aircraft carrier battle group presence in the Western Pacific region and to ``explore options" for three or four additional warships and submarines capable of carrying cruise missiles in the area.

Without being specific, it also stressed that ``additional access" would be sought for U.S. military forces in Asia at the same time that the United States ``will maintain its critical bases in Western Europe and Northeast Asia."

Rumsfeld told Congress in the report that an increased emphasis was needed on military homeland defense and that "preparing forces for security of bases and ports was likely to force structure and organization changes.

HOMELAND COMBAT COMMANDER?

``The Defense Department will review the establishment of a new unified combatant commander to help address complex inter-agency issues and provide a single military commander to focus military support," the report said.

The report was ordered by Congress and largely completed before the attacks on America, which left nearly 6,000 people dead or missing and presumed dead. And while that attack sparked major support in Congress for increased defense spending, Rumsfeld cautioned that such support must not fade.

``It would be reckless to press our luck with false economies or gamble with our children's future. This nation can

dbedt e-reports

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dr. Seiji Naya
Director

Of the 15,600 Federal defense workers in Hawaii, 8,800 or nearly 56 percent worked for the U.S. Navy. The Army accounted for about 30 percent of defense workers while the Air Force employed the remaining 14 percent.

MILITARY POPULATION

Federal procurement by defense and non-defense agencies is also a significant factor in Hawaii's economy. In 2000, Federal procurement expenditures for the wide range of goods and services needed by civilian and military agencies was nearly $1.3 billion. Much of this spending is through local suppliers of goods and services and generates a considerable amount of indirect employment in the community among the supplying firms. More than 45 percent of procurement expenditures, nearly $600 million were spent on construction projects, which represent an important investment in Hawaii's economy. Examples of procurement projects in fiscal year 2001 are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Selected Procurement Projects from the Fiscal 2001 Federal Budget
• $55 million for Kauai's Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) Operations and Support
• $46 million to address labor shortfalls at the Pearl Harbor Shipyard and technology investments
• $31 million to the Maui High Performance Computing Center for various projects
• $20 million for the Maui Space Surveillance System
• $10 million for the Pacific Disaster Center (Maui) to continue support of this state-of-the-art facility

The recently announced Fiscal year 2002 budget request by the administration includes more than $350 million in new construction projects for Hawaii. Some examples are shown in Table 2.

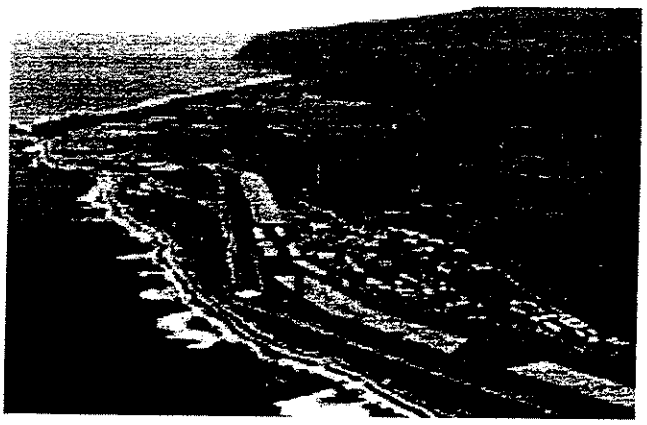
Table 2: Selected Projects Proposed in the Fiscal 2002 Federal Budget
• $100 million for new construction and improvements to Pearl Harbor
• $73 million for a housing complex at the Army's Schofield Barracks
• $47 million to replace 172 housing units and build a new Post Office at The Marine Base at Kaneohe
• $5 million for a command-and-control range building at the Army's Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island

The Federal Government has a substantial "balance of trade" that is favorable to Hawaii. That is, Federal spending in Hawaii is considerably more than Federal tax and other receipts that leave the State. In 1998, the most recent years for which a comparison is available, tax and other payments to the Federal government from Hawaii were about $2.7 billion less than Federal spending in the State. This meant Hawaii experienced a net gain from Federal Government activity of nearly $2.7 billion.

FEDERAL ACTIVITY AND HAWAII'S NEW ECONOMY

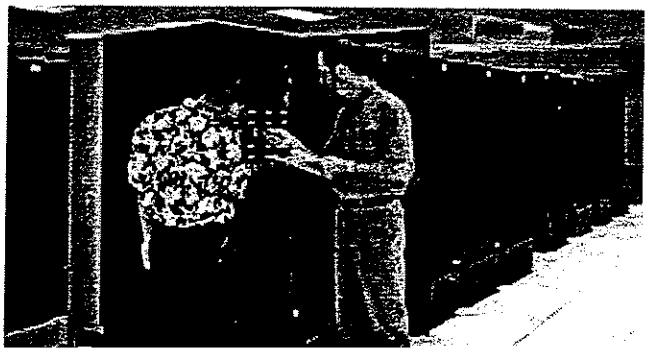
Beyond its direct role in the economy, Federal activity has also played a significant role in helping Hawaii move into the technology-driven, *New Economy*. Resources ranging from the Air Force's High Performance Computing Center on Maui to the Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai, provide both an infrastructure and market for Hawaii's expanding technology sector. While Federal activity is often identified as one of Hawaii's "traditional" industries it is making a contribution to the *New Economy* of the 21st century. The phrase "New Economy" has been coined to describe the emergence of companies that utilize the advantages of leading-edge technology to compete effectively in markets that have become globalized thanks to the internet and the communications revolution. In that respect even traditional industries can enter the new economy if they adopt new technologies and approaches to doing business. Federal activity is playing a role in propelling Hawaii's industries into the 21st century by building vital infrastructure for high-tech activity and providing a market for technology products.

Much of this is being done through the concept of *Dual-Use Technology*. This is a process in which technology developed with and for the military can be later adapted and marketed to civilian markets. Even where the products have limited civilian applications, firms engaged in producing technology for the military develop invaluable techniques and skills that can be applied to civilian technology products. Here are a few examples of the resources of the Federal Government that are facilitating Hawaii's entry into the *New Economy*.



The **Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF)** on Kauai is the largest multi-environmental military range in the world. PMRF's capabilities provide a wide variety of simulations for training, research, development, testing and evaluation as well as education endeavors. The Facility was recently approved as the primary test range for Navy missile de-

fense tests of ship-borne defenses. Companies involved in these initiatives include ITT, Sandia Labs, MIT-Lincoln Labs, Boeing, DSR, STI, SAIC, Textron Systems Division, TREX Enterprises, Oceanit Labs, Solipsys Corporation, Northrop Grumman, and Lockheed Martin. PMRF has received in excess of $500 million over the last four years.



The **Maui High Performance Computing Center (MHPCC)** is located at the Maui Research & Technology Park, MHPCC is a national supercomputing center established by the University of New Mexico through a Cooperative Agreement with the Air Force Research Laboratory. MHPCC offers a large-scale parallel computing platform with both classified and unclassified capabilities, terabytes of disk and on-line tape storage, and a high-speed communications infrastructure that connects directly to the Defense Research and Engineering Network (DREN) and the Internet backbone. MHPCC is uniquely positioned to assist in the migration of basic research to production by offering a state-of-the-art computing environment for prototyping and testing high performance computing applications.

FEDERAL ACTIVITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF HAWAII'S TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

The technologies developed through federally funded activity in Hawaii help raise the state's productivity level and output growth. In addition, the development of "dual-use" technologies promotes further innovation and transfers technical and managerial skills to the private sector. This, in turn, provides Hawaii with a more skilled workforce and a greater potential to support new industries.

The Federal government's presence in the state's economy, therefore, presents opportunities to develop and utilize leading edge technology. Hawaii's positive response to these opportunities is, in turn, an incentive for the Federal government to engage in more technology activity involving Hawaii, and other economically valuable activity where Hawaii can show a comparative advantage over other locations.

Table 3: Selected Federal Activity Indicators, 1986 to 2000

	Federal Expenditures ($millions)			Civilian Employment			Military Related Population		
Year[1]	Total	Defense	Non-Defense	Total	Defense	Non-Defense	Total	Military Members	Dependents
1986	4,646.9	2,484.7	2,162.3	32,100	20,400	11,700	124,332	58,122	66,210
1987	4,811.9	2,502.9	2,309.0	32,800	20,100	12,700	122,972	58,122	64,850
1988	5,064.9	2,564.1	2,500.8	33,800	20,200	13,600	126,720	56,815	69,905
1989	5,570.9	2,805.8	2,765.1	34,000	20,100	13,900	116,634	56,360	60,274
1990	5,633.9	2,602.6	3,031.3	34,150	19,350	14,800	115,157	55,222	59,935
1991	6,198.1	2,935.8	3,262.4	33,850	18,850	15,000	118,066	54,738	63,328
1992	6,636.3	2,895.8	3,740.5	33,250	18,100	15,150	112,093	55,099	56,994
1993	7,283.5	2,928.2	4,355.3	31,800	17,450	14,350	114,840	52,674	62,166
1994	7,719.3	3,212.2	4,507.1	31,250	16,850	14,400	107,183	52,845	54,338
1995	7,450.0	2,900.6	4,549.3	31,050	16,750	14,300	97,248	50,729	46,519
1996	7,990.3	3,258.1	4,732.1	31,100	16,800	14,300	103,323	47,986	55,337
1997	8,159.3	3,178.6	4,980.7	30,650	16,300	14,350	100,117	44,542	55,575
1998	8,442.0	3,394.4	5,047.6	30,400	16,050	14,350	105,522	44,984	60,538
1999	8,568.2	3,355.8	5,212.4	30,300	15,750	14,550	85,711	41,361	44,350
2000	9,015.3	3,473.0	5,542.3	30,950	15,550	15,400	83,329	40,796	42,533

[1] Fiscal year for expenditures.
Source: DBEDT, compiled from various sources.

2002 Preview

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
Civil Engineering Unit, Honolulu

300 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm 8-134
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96850-4982

Project	Construction To Start	Contract Amount	Duration (Months)	Probability Factor
REHABILITATE LOCKER ROOMS - USCG AIR STATION BARBERS POINT, KALELOA, HI	June	$250,000 - 500,000	3	Definite
FIRE ALARM UPGRADE - USCG AIR STATION BARBERS POINT, KALELOA, HI	June	100,000 - 250,000	1	Definite
REPLACE/REPAIR FINGER PIER, USCG INTEGRATED SUPPORT COMMAND, SAND ISLAND, HI	July	100,000 - 250,000	2	Definite
REHAB A/C AT VARIOUS BUILDINGS, USCG INTEGRATED SUPPORT COMMAND, SAND ISLAND, HI	July	100,000 - 250,000	2	Definite
PROVIDE PLUMBING REPAIRS TO THE ADMIN BUILDING, USCG AIR STATION BARBERS POINT, KALELOA, HI	August	250,000 - 500,000	2	Definite
REHABILITATE GYMNASIUM, USCG INTEGRATED SUPPORT COMMAND, SAND ISLAND, HONOLULU, HI	September	250,000 - 500,000	4	Tentative
UTILITY REPAIRS AT BERTH ECHO, USCG INTEGRATED SUPPORT COMMAND, SAND ISLAND, HONOLULU, HI	September	100,000 - 250,000	5	Tentative
ROAD REPAIRS AND RESURFACING, USCG INTEGRATED SUPPORT COMMAND, SAND ISLAND, HONOLULU	October	100,000 - 250,000	2	Probable

ISLANDS OF MAUI, MOLOKAI AND LANAI
County and State Agencies

U.S. Government *Department of the Army Corps of Engineers (Army)*

State of Hawaii *Department of Accounting and General Services - C.I.P. Projects (DAGS CIP)*

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Posted on: Thursday, July 4, 2002

Coast Guard dedicates crew quarters

By Kapono Dowson
Advertiser Staff Writer

The Coast Guard dedicated crew quarters at Barbers Point Air Station yesterday to the memory of a helicopter crewman who was one of three people who perished in a Moloka'i crash during a 1982 rescue mission.

The widow of Petty Officer 2nd Class David L. Thompson, Kim Olsen, unveiled a plaque at Thompson Hall, as well as a portrait of her late husband that is being displayed inside the new quarters.

"It's appropriate that this station be dedicated to Petty Officer Thompson. His role as flight mechanic is played out every day," said Lt. Clint Trocchio, Coast Guard spokesman. "The Coast Guard rescue workers are there at Barbers Point to respond to emergencies around the Islands. That's what Petty Officer Thompson did 20 years ago. The purpose is the same now."

Thompson, a 23-year-old native of Sequim, Wash., had been married only five months when he lifted off on a mission on Jan. 7, 1982. He was the flight mechanic in the HH-52A Sea Guardian helicopter, outfitted for ocean rescue and piloted by Lt. Cmdr. Horton Johnson, 33, of Orange, Calif., and co-pilot Lt. Colleen Cain, 29, of Burlington, Iowa.

It was 4 a.m. when the helicopter lifted off from Barbers Point Air Station in torrential rains and heavy winds. They were responding to a distress call from the Pan Am, a 74-foot fishing boat that was taking on water off Maui and was in danger of sinking.

"The crew had returned late from another mission. It was a busy night," Trocchio said. "Poor weather always seems to lead to many more rescue calls."

By 5:15 a.m., the Coast Guard had lost radio contact with the crew. Almost nine hours later, another helicopter discovered the wreckage on a steep ridge in Moloka'i's Wailau Valley. Thompson, Johnson and Cain died in the crash.

Thompson Hall will house "ready crews" who are on 24-hour watches for rescue missions. It has sleeping quarters and a large kitchen and living area.

The Coast Guard recently dedicated bachelor officer quarters to Lt. Cain in Yorktown, Va.

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Posted on: Thursday, June 27, 2002

Coast Guard office changes command

Associated Press

The commanding officer of the Coast Guard's Marine Safety Office who oversaw the relocation and recovery of the Ehime Maru and the rescue operation of a dog from a disabled Indonesian tanker stepped aside in a change of command ceremony Tuesday.

Capt. Gilbert Kanazawa, the office's commanding officer since 1999, retired after 26 years of service, the Coast Guard said in a news release.

After the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Kanazawa also oversaw the Coast Guard's maritime homeland security in Hawai'i.

He was succeeded by Capt. Timothy Skuby, a 23-year Coast Guard veteran, who has served as the chief of the Budget and Resources Division of the Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection.

Also Tuesday, the Coast Guard conducted a change of command ceremony for the cutter Rush.

Capt. Paul F. Zukunft, who is transferring to the 14th Coast Guard District in Honolulu to be the chief of operations, was succeeded by Capt. Patrick H. Stadt. Stadt has served aboard the cutters Midgett, Sherman and Gallatin.

The Rush is a 378-foot high endurance cutter based out of Honolulu.

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Posted on: Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Coast Guard to get upgrade for new mission

By William Cole and Shayna Coleon
Advertiser Staff Writers

The U.S. Coast Guard in Hawai'i, undertaking a new role in the war on terrorism, will receive new ships and aircraft and an upgraded communication system as part of a nationwide, $17 billion contract to bring far-reaching improvements to the agency over the next 20 years.

At the same time, the Coast Guard is taking on a lead maritime role for homeland defense in the state.

"America has never needed the Coast Guard as much as America needs the Coast Guard now," commandant of the Coast Guard Adm. Tom Collins, a former Hawai'i District commander, said yesterday in Washington, D.C., when announcing the improvements.

Coast Guard officials yesterday did not know Hawai'i's exact share of the new $17 billion contract, but among the state's cut are two new "national security" cutter ships, new aircraft and ship upgrades.

Lt. DesaRae Atnip, a Coast Guard spokeswoman in Hawai'i, said maritime terrorism, drug trafficking, and illegal immigrant operations are all threats, and "now is the best time for the Coast Guard to step up and be in the spotlight finally and get the funding it needs to protect the American people."

Atnip said "it's still up in the air where all the chips are going to fall with (homeland security), but in Hawai'i, the Coast Guard is going to be in charge of domestic maritime security."

Under the still evolving role, Atnip said, the Coast Guard will work with the Customs Service, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of Agriculture to coordinate intelligence-sharing, and "get the right assets and right resources at the right time" to counter threats like terrorism.

The replacement program was triggered in part by post-Sept. 11 security needs, Atnip said. The joint contract, awarded yesterday to Lockheed Martin Corp. and Northrop Grumman Ship System Corp., is the largest in the Coast Guard's 212-year history.

The national security cutters, more than 400 feet long, would replace two 378-foot cutters, the Rush and the Jarvis, that were launched in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Atnip said.

Two 110-foot cutters stationed in Honolulu and a third in Hilo would be upgraded and lengthened to 123 feet, and short-range "prosecutor" speed boats would be added at their sterns for swift ship interdiction.

New aircraft are planned to replace the fleet of four aging C-130s, and four Dolphin helicopters will be upgraded at Air Station Barbers Point. Hawai'i also will receive at least four unmanned aerial vehicles similar to those used in Afghanistan that the Coast Guard plans to use for surveillance, Atnip said.

The first new ships should be delivered to Hawai'i in the first five years of the program, with the upgrades to the 110-foot cutters coming in the 2003 fiscal year starting in October.

The contract also will mean updated communication systems that will allow ships and planes to share more information.

The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks dramatically shifted the Coast Guard's traditional missions of search and rescue to harbor and port security, making modern equipment more essential than ever, Atnip said. For years, the Coast Guard has complained of financial neglect.

"All of our assets are old," Atnip said. "We are using old cutters, old aircraft and computer systems to do heightened homeland security, so this new contract is like a shot in the arm that the Coast Guard very much needed."

Norway, Brazil, Italy, Greece and South Africa are among nations that have Coast Guards equipped with newer cutters.

Atnip said that before Sept. 11, the Coast Guard spent only 4 percent of its time on domestic security issues. Since then, that's increased to 50 percent. In Hawai'i, more than 8,000 hours have been spent on homeland security patrols. There have been 350 ship boardings, and the Coast Guard also has inspected 695 cargo containers.

"Locally, we began to put greater emphasis on harbor security in Hawai'i ports than we ever have since World War II," Atnip said. "To have search and rescue sharing a spotlight with homeland security and defense, that certainly shows a huge shift in our assets, priorities, time and people."

President Bush recently proposed adding several thousand personnel to the Coast Guard, Atnip said, adding, "If the president's budget is approved, Hawai'i certainly would get more personnel." The Coast Guard has about 1,000 active-duty personnel in Hawai'i.

Atnip said the new contract calls for the purchase nationwide of 91 ships, 35 fixed-wing aircraft, 76 unmanned aerial vehicles and 34 helicopters. It also provides upgrades to 49 cutters, 93 helicopters and the communication systems in Coast Guard stations nationwide.

Currently, the Coast Guard has 91 ships and 207 aircraft.

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Posted on: Monday, June 17, 2002

MILITARY UPDATE

Coast Guard may shift to Homeland Security Dept.

Proud of its military and law enforcement heritage, dating to 1790, the Coast Guard has never been wild about being under the Transportation Department. It won't be sorry to leave either, it seems.

Collins called it a change whose time has come and said new "security realities necessitate bold action" to protect Americans. The Department of Homeland Security will bring unity of effort and unity of command to the goal of preventing further terrorism on U.S. soil, he said.

There are two critical parts to the move, Collins said. One is organizational and the other is resources. Coast Guard budgets should continue to grow. Its active force is projected to rise from 36,000 this year to 42,000 in three years. Even with that, the Coast Guard will continue to operate by managing risk — putting its limited resources against the greatest threats, the most critical missions.

"We could grow multiple fold and we still couldn't handle 95,000 miles of waterways and 361 ports," Collins said. The private sector has to do more to protect facilities, he said. Meanwhile, Coast Guard missions have been restacked, Collins said.

"People have said, 'This is a new mission for you.' Port Security is not a new mission. We had more people in World War II on the port security mission than we have right now in the entire Coast Guard." But he conceded "the flame on the (port security) burner was turned down real low because of lack of incidents that would stimulate a focus on that."

More money — including a 20 percent rise in dollars for 2003 — will help address an expanded port security mission, he said. "There's a lot of investment in small boats, maritime safety and security teams, additional people at search and rescue stations, contingency plans for captain of the port offices, enhanced secure communications for captains of the port offices."

Sept. 11 revealed problems with inter-agency communications. Coast Guard port security offices, for example, couldn't access the Defense Department's classified e-mail system.

"Building out that basic set of capabilities is terribly important right now," Collins said. "And all that is being done."

Questions, comments and suggestions are welcome. Write to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centreville, VA 20120-1111, or send e-mail to: milupdate@aol.com.

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