

NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER
FORT IRWIN, CALIFORNIA
LAND EXPANSION

PUBLIC HEARING

29 November 2001
Barstow, California USA

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 INDEX 2 PRESENTATION By Timothy Reischl 11 3 PUBLIC COMMENTS 49 4 BILL MANN 50 5 JAMES DALEY 52 6 GORDON W. LIAT 53 7 DON PUTNAM 53 8 "DJ" MASKER 54, 66 9 CARL VonBADINSKI 58, 65, 70 10 CLIFF NELSON 60 11 PHIL WYMAN 67 12 EDWIN EVENSON 69 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 Mr. Ray Marler is the Director of 15:06:00 2 Strategic Programs. He is the head Army person 15:06:04 3 working on this project. 15:06:07 4 Major Rob Ali is the Fort Irwin Public 15:06:08 5 Affairs Officer. 15:06:13 6 Mr. Gary Ethridge is the Program Manager 15:06:14 7 for the Environment Impact Statement. He's the one 15:06:18 8 who is working on all of the things that go into the 15:06:21 9 EIS. 15:06:25 10 And finally, Ms. Marcia Wertenberger is 15:06:26 11 the Environmental Counsel working on the project. 15:06:29 12 She's the one who keeps me out of jail, hopefully; so 15:06:33 13 far, anyway. 15:06:36 14 Without further ado, this is a 15:06:39 15 complicated project and I'm going the hit you with a 15:06:42 16 little bit of a fire hose for about 30 minutes. I 15:06:47 17 want everybody to understand what we're talking about, 15:06:50 18 so please hold your questions until after that period. 15:06:53 19 We'll take about 15 minutes' worth of 15:06:59 20 questions. I think we should be able to get through 15:07:03 21 most of that. 15:07:05 22 We wanted, the most important part of 15:07:06 23 this thing is we want you all, the public, to provide 15:07:09 24 input to the alternatives that we are looking at in 15:07:12 25 the expansion, and to the issues that impact on the 15:07:14</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER 2 FORT IRWIN, CALIFORNIA 3 LAND EXPANSION 4 PUBLIC HEARING 5 Public Hearing was held pursuant to Notice at the City Council Chambers, Barstow, 6 California, USA, commencing on the 29th day of November, 2001, at 2:00 p.m. PT. 7 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 8 MR. REISCHL: If everybody will take 15:04:33 9 their seats, please, we'll get started. 15:04:40 10 Good afternoon everyone. My name is Tim 15:05:04 11 Reischl. I'm the Deputy Program Manager for Land 15:05:07 12 Expansion working for Fort Irwin. 15:05:10 13 I'd like to welcome you to this first 15:05:13 14 session of the public scoping session to Fort Irwin 15:05:14 15 Land Expansion Project. The agenda you'll see over 15:05:19 16 there posted over there. 15:05:22 17 We're going to start with a briefing on 15:05:25 18 what exactly the expansion project is. It's 15:05:27 19 complicated. 15:05:31 20 A lot of people don't know exactly what 15:05:31 21 it is. We're going to talk about all that, and then 15:05:34 22 we'll go into the, a short question period, and then 15:05:37 23 the public comment period will start. 15:05:40 24 First of all I'd like to introduce a few 15:05:44 25 people that we have here. First of all, Colonel Ed 15:05:46 Flinn is the Deputy Commander of Fort Irwin. He is 15:05:50 General Thurman's principal deputy, the second in 15:05:54 command of the post. 15:05:59</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 expansion. It's very important that we know what we 15:07:19 2 don't know. 15:07:23 3 You know, we obviously think we've, 15:07:23 4 we've, we've covered all the bases. We haven't. 15:07:25 5 We know that, and that's what we're 15:07:30 6 doing, is soliciting input for what we need to know 15:07:31 7 about as we go forward with the, with the land 15:07:34 8 expansion project. Okay. 15:07:39 9 This is basically what I just told you 15:07:41 10 we're going to talk about. This is what I'm going to 15:07:45 11 talk about in the briefing. 15:07:47 12 Question period, about two hours and 15 15:07:49 13 minutes for public comment. We'll also have another 15:07:53 14 session today scheduled exactly the same way. 15:07:56 15 This is what a scoping meeting is: 15:08:01 16 Input regarding the issues and the alternatives that 15:08:04 17 we are considering in the land expansion. We will 15:08:07 18 obviously take verbal testimony. 15:08:11 19 It is all, everything's being said in 15:08:15 20 this meeting is being transcribed and will be 15:08:19 21 available in, in public record. We are also taking 15:08:21 22 written comments. 15:08:25 23 There are comment sheets. If you would 15:08:25 24 like to put in it writing, that will also be entered 15:08:29 25 into the public record. 15:08:32</p>

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1 After the meeting is over, you go home 15:08:33
 2 and you think, "I forgot to say," we are also taking 15:08:36
 3 written comments up at least until the end of 15:08:40
 4 December. 15:08:43
 5 The ground rules, very simple. We want 15:08:46
 6 to let everybody speak, one speaker at a time. 15:08:49
 7 We will have a podium here in the 15:08:54
 8 middle. Initially we put a three-minute limit on it. 15:08:56
 9 Why? Because we want to give everybody 15:09:00
 10 a chance to speak. If you have more than three 15:09:02
 11 minutes' of things to say, we would ask you to either 15:09:04
 12 put the rest in the written comment, or wait to the 15:09:08
 13 end and, time permitting, we will allow you to come 15:09:12
 14 back and speak again. But we want everyone to get a 15:09:16
 15 chance to provide input. 15:09:18
 16 Handouts and maps, we have a map up here 15:09:21
 17 and you, and there are handouts that you all should 15:09:27
 18 have. If not, we have more outside. 15:09:29
 19 Let's talk about the purpose and need of 15:09:33
 20 the land expansion for Fort Irwin. The ex-, this is 15:09:36
 21 the explanation of why the Army wants to do an 15:09:42
 22 expansion of Fort Irwin. 15:09:46
 23 The Mission Statement for the National 15:09:49
 24 Training Center, of course it's written the Army-eze, 15:09:54
 25 so I'll decipher it a little bit. Unlike most Army 15:09:58

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1 bases where a Unit lives and it trains there and it 15:10:03
 2 goes somewhere to fight, nobody at Fort Irwin, there, 15:10:08
 3 there are no Units that are wartime units stationed at 15:10:14
 4 Fort Irwin. 15:10:17
 5 Fort Irwin is a training base. It 15:10:18
 6 trains brigade-sized units. 15:10:21
 7 Those are about 5,000 people in a 15:10:24
 8 brigade, 4,000 soldiers in a brigade, and they train 15:10:27
 9 them to prepare them for war. The's mission is to 15:10:32
 10 provide very hard training for units to prepare them 15:10:37
 11 for combat. 15:10:39
 12 If you think about -- If you saw Tom 15:10:43
 13 Cruz in Top Gun, he went to this school to learn how 15:10:44
 14 to be a good fighter pilot. We send 5,000 soldiers to 15:10:48
 15 Fort Irwin ten times a year to learn how to be good 15:10:53
 16 soldiers, and we do that by giving them very stressful 15:10:56
 17 training, the hardest that we can make it, most 15:11:00
 18 realistic to, to put them under the stress of almost 15:11:04
 19 real combat so that when they have to go to war, they 15:11:08
 20 know how tired they're going to be, how dirty they're 15:11:12
 21 going to get, what it's like to get someplace in the 15:11:15
 22 middle of the night. 15:11:17
 23 That is Fort Irwin's mission. Four 15:11:19
 24 things help Fort Irwin do that mission. 15:11:23
 25 The first thing is that realistic battle 15:11:29

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1 field. We use laser-type weapons and actual live fire 15:11:32
 2 to train units. 15:11:36
 3 They participate with all of their 15:11:38
 4 actual systems firing, all of their actual weapons in 15:11:39
 5 the live-fire part. And they are also using these 15:11:42
 6 laser weapons against our opposing force. 15:11:45
 7 Observer controllers, they're the 15:11:51
 8 teachers. Seven hundred of them stay with that 15:11:54
 9 brigade and they teach them what they don't know about 15:11:59
 10 how to fight. The goal is when they leave after their 15:12:02
 11 35-day rotation they're much better at what they do. 15:12:06
 12 Got to have an enemy. The Eleventh 15:12:10
 13 Armored Cavalry Regiment, 2,500 soldiers, are the 15:12:13
 14 enemy. 15:12:19
 15 That is their only job. They oppose the 15:12:19
 16 brigade that comes to train on every mission and 15:12:24
 17 provide essentially the perfect enemy. 15:12:27
 18 You know, you don't want to scrimmage 15:12:30
 19 against the junior varsity. You want to scrimmage 15:12:32
 20 against the -- I used to say the Cowboys, but I can't 15:12:36
 21 say that anymore. 15:12:39
 22 If you want to scrimmage, you want to 15:12:41
 23 scrimmage against the best, and that is the opposing 15:12:43
 24 force. 15:12:47
 25 Finally we have about \$200 million worth 15:12:48

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1 of instrumentation that watches that brigade from the 15:12:51
 2 day they get off the train to the day they get back 15:12:53
 3 on. We track where all vehicles are, we listen to the 15:12:57
 4 radio, we watch them, we take videos of them. 15:13:00
 5 Why? So that we can feed it back to 15:13:03
 6 them so they can get it better. 15:13:05
 7 You never believe what you actually said 15:13:08
 8 until somebody shows you that that's what you said. 15:13:10
 9 That's what we do. 15:13:14
 10 Fort Irwin's been doing this since 1982. 15:13:16
 11 About 1.2 million soldiers have traveled from their 15:13:19
 12 home station, trained at Fort Irwin, and traveled 15:13:23
 13 back. 15:13:27
 14 Proof of principle for this was the 15:13:27
 15 Desert Storm. That Army was trained at the National 15:13:31
 16 Training Center because you, virtually everyone who 15:13:36
 17 went there in some form or another was affected by the 15:13:38
 18 training at, at Fort Irwin. 15:13:42
 19 Now, we always are asked: Well, that 15:13:44
 20 was ten years ago. 15:13:49
 21 We understand that. One of Fort Irwin's 15:13:51
 22 major issues is we do not want to prepare the Army to 15:13:54
 23 fight the last war. 15:13:58
 24 We want to fight, to be able to get them 15:14:00
 25 ready to fight the next war. So Fort Irwin is 15:14:01

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 changing as the Army is changing. 15:14:04 2 How, how is the Army changing? Well, 15:14:06 3 this is something that's called the spectrum of 15:14:10 4 operations. 15:14:13 5 If you read all of these, these are all 15:14:15 6 the missions that the Army is expected to be able to 15:14:18 7 do simultaneously. And if you look at them, you can 15:14:23 8 pick out some things. 15:14:27 9 This is hurricane relief. This is 15:14:28 10 Cosavo. This is counterterrorism. 15:14:33 11 Peace enforcement, that's Bosnia. Blue 15:14:38 12 side is obviously peace-types of operations. 15:14:44 13 These are the Rangers landing in 15:14:48 14 Afghanistan. Limited conventional conflict, we hope 15:14:50 15 it doesn't come to that, but that is the most 15:14:54 16 dangerous mission that the Army has to fight, putting 15:14:58 17 all of our soldiers into harm's way. 15:15:00 18 That's the principal thing that we train 15:15:05 19 at Fort Irwin, is this spectrum much combat, 15:15:07 20 everything from raids up to limited conventional 15:15:12 21 conflict. That's, that's a big-unit fight like you 15:15:15 22 might expand out, and think about where that might 15:15:18 23 happen. There are, there are some places. 15:15:22 24 That is Fort Irwin's mission and that is 15:15:26 25 how Fort Irwin has to change from what it does now. 15:15:27</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 cheap. 15:16:55 2 Lots of people have them. We have to 15:16:57 3 figure out how to deal with an enemy that does that. 15:16:58 4 So the Army back in '99 officially 15:17:01 5 started what's, what was called "Army transformation." 15:17:05 6 It's a program that brings in new units, new tactics, 15:17:11 7 and new weapons systems. 15:17:14 8 For example, the M1, the M1A-2 tank, 15:17:16 9 heavy, 72-ton tank, they're essentially going away. 15:17:20 10 Why? Because they're very hard to deploy, they are 15:17:25 11 very hard to put in places. 15:17:28 12 If you remember what it took to take, to 15:17:33 13 put forces into Albania, very heavy vehicle. We have 15:17:35 14 to find something lighter that's just as lethal so 15:17:39 15 that we can fight those kinds of threats. 15:17:42 16 That Army's got to be responsive. We 15:17:46 17 want to have a brigade anywhere in the world in four 15:17:49 18 days, a division in seven, five divisions in 30 days. 15:17:54 19 We're not there yet. 15:17:58 20 Got to be able to cross across the range 15:17:59 21 of missions. It's got to be survivable, sustainable. 15:18:04 22 Well, the NTC trains our Army to do 15:18:08 23 those things, so the NTC has to reform, modernize 15:18:12 24 those pillars so that we do our mission of leader 15:18:15 25 development, providing that operational experience 15:18:19</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 We were originally set up to fight the 15:15:32 2 Cold War, Warsaw Pact, eschelon enemies. Don't fight 15:15:35 3 that way anymore because nobody's going to attack the 15:15:41 4 United States like that. 15:15:45 5 So we have to figure out how to train 15:15:45 6 our solders to prepare them for the kinds of wars 15:15:49 7 we're going to see in the future. So this 15:15:53 8 modernization process looks essentially like this. 15:15:56 9 We have a different world. Lots of 15:16:00 10 cities in that world. 15:16:03 11 Asymmetrical operations: That's 15:16:06 12 basically an operation that somebody does against you 15:16:09 13 that you won't do against them. Chemical weapons, for 15:16:12 14 example, we have no chemical weapons policies but we 15:16:16 15 have to train and be worried about those kinds of 15:16:20 16 things. 15:16:22 17 Adaptive threats: That's an enemy that 15:16:23 18 sees us, sees how we operate, and adapts their tactics 15:16:26 19 to go to our weak spots. 15:16:30 20 A dispersed enemy: We are not going to 15:16:32 21 see Soviet steamroller-type attacks. We're going to 15:16:36 22 see hen pecks, small attacks, very dispersed over wide 15:16:39 23 areas. We have to be able to deal with that. 15:16:45 24 Advanced technology: Stinger missiles 15:16:48 25 are relatively cheap. Antitank weapons are relatively 15:16:51</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 that prepares people for the shock of combat and the 15:18:23 2 unit readiness which has our units ready to fight. 15:18:27 3 A piece of that, and really it's one 15:18:35 4 part of about an \$800 million modernization program, 15:18:39 5 is an expansion of the National Training Center. NTC 15:18:45 6 is a unique institution in the Army, in fact, in the, 15:18:51 7 in the Free World. 15:18:55 8 There is not another place that trains 15:18:57 9 Army brigades, or brigades of 5,000 soldiers with 15:18:59 10 their actual systems on the ground against a 15:19:04 11 sophisticated enemy with instrumentation. There is 15:19:07 12 not another place that does that. 15:19:11 13 No other country does that. We have 15:19:12 14 people come up, 50 Countries a year come up and say, 15:19:14 15 "This is what we need to train. You guys are the only 15:19:21 16 ones that have it." 15:19:23 17 So it's not a question of us going 15:19:25 18 somewhere else to do this. Fort Irwin is going to be 15:19:27 19 the place to conduct this training. 15:19:30 20 Some limitations: About, Fort Irwin's 15:19:33 21 640,000 acres. About 40,000 of those acres are 15:19:39 22 currently off limits, mostly voluntarily, because of 15:19:47 23 environmental issues: Springs, cultural sites, places 15:19:51 24 that we just don't want to go. 15:19:56 25 NASA Goldstone's Deep Space Tracking 15:20:01</p>

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1 Facility is on our western boundary. This is the 15:20:04
 2 place where they've, where a very valuable mission 15:20:07
 3 goes on, the tracking of our space program. 15:20:10
 4 There are billions of dollars-worth of 15:20:14
 5 infrastructure and technology in that place. Excuse 15:20:18
 6 me. 15:20:22
 7 We co-exist with it, but as far as Army 15:20:22
 8 training is, it's a black hole. We do not fly over 15:20:27
 9 it. 15:20:30
 10 We only very seldom drive through it. 15:20:30
 11 And we have to worry about spectrum RF energy and 15:20:36
 12 radios and things like disrupting their operations. 15:20:40
 13 The Leach Lake Training Range up here in 15:20:45
 14 the north is an active bombing range. 15:20:50
 15 You have to excuse me. I have a snow 15:20:54
 16 cold for, from this morning. 15:20:57
 17 The Leach Lake Training Range is the 15:20:58
 18 only permanently duded area at Fort Irwin. The rest 15:21:02
 19 of the installation, if we shoot live fire out there 15:21:07
 20 we shoot non-, nonexplosive ordnance that we can't, so 15:21:10
 21 we don't produce duds that are dangerous, things like 15:21:15
 22 solid bullets. 15:21:20
 23 We drop artillery on there that has like 15:21:22
 24 a 99.99 percent probability of going off. But the 15:21:25
 25 Army has to train other things: Cluster munitions, 15:21:28

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1 bombs out of aircraft, rockets out of helicopters, 15:21:33
 2 things like that. That's where we do it, at Leach 15:21:38
 3 Lake. 15:21:41
 4 We also have to train our soldiers and 15:21:42
 5 the California Guard in live fire, so we use the area 15:21:44
 6 down here for live fire. This all combines to put 15:21:48
 7 about 150- to 180,000 of those acres unusable for 15:21:52
 8 brigade training. 15:21:59
 9 Forces that require us to expand: We've 15:22:02
 10 talked about Army transformation. We talked about the 15:22:05
 11 changing operational environment, a force which is no 15:22:09
 12 longer concentrated. It is very dispersed; requires 15:22:13
 13 us to operate dispersed. 15:22:16
 14 Equipment advances: When I was in 15:22:20
 15 training back about 15 years we took a tank battalion 15:22:25
 16 and put it on Fort Irwin and it would fight its way 15:22:29
 17 across Fort Irwin in about three days, and that was, 15:22:32
 18 was doing well. We have had units in the, in the past 15:22:36
 19 two years fight their way across the 55 kilometers of 15:22:40
 20 Fort Irwin in less than eight hours. 15:22:44
 21 It is an Army that is much faster, much 15:22:46
 22 more capable, and if we are going to teach it how to 15:22:49
 23 be employed, we need more land to do that. 15:22:53
 24 Improving the corridors: Right now our 15:22:57
 25 major corridors are used every month for eight to ten 15:23:01

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1 days. That does not give us the time and the 15:23:05
 2 capability to restore any of those corridors to take 15:23:08
 3 care of things like erosion problems, revegetation, 15:23:13
 4 things like that. 15:23:17
 5 If we had more land we would not have to 15:23:18
 6 use all of the installation as much as we do now. It 15:23:22
 7 gives us more capability to do those kinds of 15:23:27
 8 operations. 15:23:31
 9 Please. There are some seats in the 15:23:33
 10 back over there. 15:23:34
 11 Currently this is what the expansion 15:23:38
 12 area, or, excuse me, the training area looks like, and 15:23:40
 13 it's what we use for training. Essentially the area 15:23:44
 14 ringed in blue here, two corridors, or one and a-half 15:23:50
 15 corridors are used for force-on-force operations; that 15:23:55
 16 is, laser weapons against the live opposing force. 15:23:59
 17 Up in the northern corridor we have a 15:24:04
 18 lot of remote-control targets and we use those for 15:24:07
 19 live-fire operations. The proposed expansion does 15:24:11
 20 this: Expands out to the east to bring this part of 15:24:16
 21 the corridor into effect. 15:24:23
 22 Right now the support areas and 15:24:26
 23 logistics facilities that are, will, will be out here 15:24:29
 24 in the future are now right here, cutting down the 15:24:34
 25 length we can operate by about 20 kilometers. The 15:24:36

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1 southern corridor is, is blocked now because it's too 15:24:41
 2 narrow to operate in. 15:24:45
 3 Under the proposed expansion it is 15:24:47
 4 opened and training out to the west occurs. The Army 15:24:49
 5 in its doctrine says a Brigade operates on an, on an 15:24:53
 6 area 50 kilometers by 100 kilometers. 15:24:58
 7 That's about 30-by-60 miles. We know 15:25:02
 8 we're not going to get that much land. 15:25:07
 9 This area gives us about 70 kilometers 15:25:09
 10 in depth and about 40 kilometers in width for our 15:25:12
 11 operations. We believe that is adequate to train the 15:25:18
 12 brigade if we use some electronic tricks to expand the 15:25:22
 13 training area out into, into places we don't go, out 15:25:27
 14 here. 15:25:32
 15 The enemy out there is made out of 15:25:32
 16 electrons and the enemy inside the boundary is the 15:25:34
 17 Eleventh Armored Cavalry. I know a lot of people know 15:25:38
 18 about the expansion legislation, so I, let's talk a 15:25:46
 19 little bit about that. 15:25:50
 20 Now, back in summer of 2000 the Bureau 15:25:52
 21 of Land Management and the Department of the Army were 15:25:59
 22 basically told to come together and determine a joint 15:26:05
 23 proposal for expanding the National Training Center. 15:26:10
 24 A lot of people with a lot more rank than I, I have, 15:26:18
 25 had, met at Fort Irwin, Bureau of Land Management 15:26:23

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 folks and the Department of the Army, and put together 15:26:26 2 an expansion proposal. 15:26:28 3 That expansion proposal was put into a 15:26:30 4 piece of legislation that was passed and signed the 15:26:34 5 twenty-first of December, 2000. And what that 15:26:39 6 legislation said was: Department of Army and 15:26:45 7 Department of the Interior come up with a plan to 15:26:49 8 expand the National Training Center. 15:26:52 9 It did not expand Fort Irwin before. It 15:26:54 10 did, did not appropriate any land. 15:26:58 11 It appropriated money to conduct the 15:27:00 12 studies, but no money to buy land. So it said, "Come 15:27:04 13 up with a plan." 15:27:08 14 So, the Department of the Army and the 15:27:10 15 Department of the Interior got together and formulated 15:27:12 16 this plan. It had some preliminary screens, but it 15:27:16 17 went to Congress with some draft legislation. 15:27:21 18 It went to Congress the thirteenth of 15:27:25 19 July of this year, and that legislation is currently 15:27:27 20 in the Defense Appropriations Bill that is being 15:27:35 21 considered by the House and Senate at this time. 15:27:41 22 Okay, let's go back to the 2000 Bill. 15:27:46 23 It required us to do this plan in about 15:27:48 24 six months, and it said: When that happens, give us 15:27:51 25 draft legislation and then you have essentially two 15:27:55</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 the Army can go train on it. Not what, not what 15:29:38 2 happens. 15:29:42 3 We have to complete all of the 15:29:42 4 Environmental Impact Statements and NEPA actions, 15:29:44 5 mitigation, whatever is required. All of those things 15:29:50 6 have to be physically complete before the Army can 15:29:53 7 train on the land. 15:29:56 8 Things that are going on right now: We 15:30:01 9 are using, we, on a previous land expansion proposal, 15:30:04 10 1997, we developed a Draft Environmental Impact 15:30:10 11 Statement. In order to not lose all of the work that 15:30:16 12 was done before that, we are incorporating the new EIS 15:30:19 13 in what's called a Supplemental. 15:30:23 14 It is in addition to the 1997 EIS. We 15:30:26 15 did a lot of work, and, and there was a lot of 15:30:31 16 studies. 15:30:34 17 We are incorporating -- Everything that 15:30:34 18 is still relevant from that EIS will be, will be 15:30:37 19 included in this one. The Army is now the lead agency 15:30:41 20 for the EIS. In the past it was the Bureau of Land 15:30:46 21 Management. 15:30:53 22 We know right now that we have to deal 15:30:54 23 with in the EIS, any threatened or endangered species, 15:30:55 24 the desert tortoise, the Lane Mountain milkvetch, and 15:31:02 25 the Mojave ground squirrel, those being addressed in 15:31:08</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 years from the passage date to complete the 15:27:59 2 Environmental Impact Statement. That is the proposal 15:28:03 3 and, and examination of all of the alternatives and 15:28:09 4 effects of what's going to happen if Fort Irwin 15:28:14 5 actually gets this land. 15:28:18 6 So, that Environmental Impact Statement 15:28:20 7 is the piece that we are working on right now. This 15:28:23 8 scoping meeting is a precursor to that in that all of 15:28:27 9 the inputs that we are going to put into that EIS are 15:28:32 10 going to be determined, some have been determined by 15:28:37 11 us, some are going to come from you, and then we have 15:28:40 12 two years to study, consult with Fish and Wildlife 15:28:43 13 Service, consult with cooperating agencies to come up 15:28:46 14 with this Environmental Impact Statement. 15:28:50 15 All of the actions for that Impact 15:28:53 16 Statement will be complete about the twentieth of May 15:28:57 17 of '03 under the, under the current schedule. I 15:29:00 18 emphasize the second piece of legislation, the one 15:29:10 19 that actually withdraws the land, is pending in 15:29:13 20 Congress right now. 15:29:17 21 It is in this Defense Appropriation Bill 15:29:18 22 that is currently in conference between the Senate and 15:29:21 23 the House. I emphasize that this land withdrawal is 15:29:24 24 actually just a placeholder. 15:29:30 25 It does not say once the Bill is passed, 15:29:32</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 the ongoing studies and the biological studies that 15:31:13 2 are in progress. 15:31:19 3 We also know that we have all of these 15:31:20 4 ongoing studies and consultations that have to go on. 15:31:22 5 All of these are in the preliminary stages right now. 15:31:26 6 Other considerations: Recreational 15:31:31 7 uses. Off-road vehicles. On the southeastern corner 15:31:37 8 of the Fort Irwin is a L.A. Department of Water power 15:31:43 9 corridor. 15:31:49 10 We have to figure out a way to handle it 15:31:50 11 so that, so it doesn't impact our training and L.A.'s 15:31:52 12 power. So we will be dealing with, with that issue. 15:31:57 13 Mining, we know there is an active mine 15:32:02 14 in the eastern part of Fort Irwin. There is also an 15:32:04 15 inactive mine that has a great deal of hazardous waste 15:32:07 16 around it. We know that has to be dealt with. 15:32:12 17 Within the proposed expansion area there 15:32:15 18 are about 12,000 acres of private land. If where the 15:32:18 19 withdrawal is, is successfully passed by Congress and 15:32:23 20 the NEPA actions are successfully done, the intent is, 15:32:26 21 is to purchase that land and use, and convert it for 15:32:32 22 training. 15:32:36 23 Cooperating agencies: These are people 15:32:39 24 who have official agencies that have a large stake in 15:32:42 25 our, our land expansion. They are essentially 15:32:46</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 partners in the work that we do on the Environmental 15:32:51 2 Impact Statement, the ones as you see here. 15:32:55 3 Of course, the Bureau of Land Management 15:33:00 4 has a lot of the land. Our air training affects both 15:33:01 5 Nellis and Edwards Air Force Base. 15:33:05 6 China Lake is our next-door neighbor. 15:33:11 7 Of course, that is a, Goldstone is right on Fort Irwin 15:33:13 8 and the Federal Aviation Administration controls the 15:33:17 9 air space over which we fly. 15:33:20 10 So, all of those are cooperating 15:33:23 11 agencies, essentially partners in the preparation of 15:33:26 12 the Environmental Impact Statement. 15:33:28 13 These are the timelines that we are 15:33:34 14 looking at. We have lots of studies going on right 15:33:36 15 now. 15:33:41 16 Legislation enacted? Big question mark. 15:33:42 17 We don't know whether it's going to be or not. It 15:33:47 18 may; it may not. 15:33:49 19 We are doing scoping meetings right now. 15:33:52 20 The Draft Biological Assessment should be done about 15:33:55 21 March. 15:33:59 22 That will trigger a Section 7 15:34:02 23 consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service 15:34:04 24 ongoing as we try and figure out if and how to deal 15:34:07 25 with threatened and endangered species. The 15:34:11</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 kilometers short of Highway 127. It reopens 22,000 15:36:05 2 acres that are currently part of Fort Irwin, and it 15:36:13 3 uses as, as the western part, about 64,000 acres of 15:36:18 4 the northern part of the Superior Valley. 15:36:23 5 This is the piece of land that is in 15:36:29 6 that first piece of legislation, but it is not by any 15:36:31 7 stretch the final piece of land. It is just the first 15:36:37 8 alternative. 15:36:40 9 The second one, this is the alternative 15:36:43 10 that was proposed by the Bureau of Land Management in 15:36:46 11 1997. Again, it takes about 45,000 acres out here, 15:36:50 12 and then it takes the bulk of the Coyote Basin south 15:36:57 13 of Fort Irwin. 15:37:05 14 This is what we call the Eastgate 15:37:12 15 Alternative. This is the alternative that has no 15:37:20 16 critical habitat in it. 15:37:23 17 Comes up the east side in the power 15:37:26 18 corridor and it has about 40-some-thousand acres out 15:37:28 19 to the eastern part of Fort Irwin. 15:37:33 20 Alternative 4, this is the one that the 15:37:36 21 Army proposed after BLM's '97 proposal. It basically 15:37:38 22 looks like an alternative that the DA and BLM agreed 15:37:46 23 to, except that it added about 44,000 acres down here. 15:37:55 24 The DA/DOI alternative cut out this 15:38:00 25 entire Paradise Mountain eastern part of Fort Irwin 15:38:05</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 publication of the Supplemental Draft, we're shooting 15:34:15 2 for December of '02. 15:34:19 3 That will trigger public hearings. It 15:34:21 4 will be released to the public, and that will trigger 15:34:25 5 public hearings sort of like this one but where you 15:34:28 6 get to read the whole thing and, and provide input on 15:34:31 7 what has been written in that EIS. 15:34:35 8 Hopefully a completion date in June. 15:34:40 9 Thirty days after, a Record of Decision, and if all 15:34:46 10 goes as the Army intends, we will be able to start 15:34:49 11 doing mitigation, compensation, and the acquisition of 15:34:53 12 lands within the training area to hopefully open the 15:34:59 13 training area sometime in '04 or later. 15:35:05 14 Let me talk about the alternatives that 15:35:15 15 we are looking at. We have -- This is called, is key 15:35:17 16 word "Study Area." 15:35:25 17 This encompasses all of the 15:35:27 18 alternatives. This is not, I emphasize, not a 15:35:30 19 proposal for land expansion. This is just the sum of 15:35:37 20 all areas that we will study in the land expansion. 15:35:41 21 Alternative 1, we call it "East-West." 15:35:48 22 This is the one jointly developed by the Bureau of 15:35:52 23 Land Management and the Department of the Army. 15:35:53 24 It has about 45,000 acres out on the 15:35:56 25 eastern side of the reservation; stops about five 15:36:02</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 Road area, but it is, it is an alternative. This 15:38:11 2 alternative uses only the pieces of land that the Army 15:38:17 3 currently owns or the land that is not currently 15:38:22 4 critical habitat for any species. 15:38:27 5 This is the last, the second-to-the-last 15:38:30 6 of the alternatives, about 64,000 acres. One other 15:38:35 7 alternative that we will look at is the do-nothing 15:38:38 8 alternative; that is, no land expansion. 15:38:41 9 That is Alternative 6, and it will also 15:38:46 10 be considered as part of this process. 15:38:49 11 Points of contact, they're all in your 15:38:55 12 brochures. We have a, a Web site that has all of this 15:38:57 13 information on it. 15:39:02 14 We will be, of course, urge you to list 15:39:04 15 any comments at any time. You can call any time and 15:39:07 16 ask how it's going. We'll have somebody there to talk 15:39:11 17 to you. 15:39:14 18 I now open it for questions about this. 15:39:22 19 I realize it was very fast. 15:39:25 20 I apologize for that, but we've got 15:39:27 21 about 15 minutes for questions, basically on anything. 15:39:30 22 I'll answer anything I can answer, and -- 15:39:34 23 Sir. 15:39:37 24 A SPECTATOR: I believe you said that 15:39:40 25 the Army's recommended training area for a 15:39:41</p>

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1 brigade-sized operations is 30-by-60 miles currently. 15:39:44
 2 MR. REISCHL: Yes. 15:39:49
 3 A SPECTATOR: And what would, what would 15:39:50
 4 the total area be available for training if the first 15:39:50
 5 proposal goes through? 15:39:53
 6 MR. REISCHL: If the, if the Army/DOI 15:39:57
 7 proposal goes through it will give us an area roughly 15:40:01
 8 -- I'm thinking -- 70 kilometers by, by about 45 15:40:05
 9 kilometers, essentially 40 miles by, 40 miles by about 15:40:10
 10 30 miles. 15:40:16
 11 Sir. 15:40:20
 12 A SPECTATOR: I'm concerned about the 15:40:21
 13 closure or the possible closure of Copper City Road. 15:40:22
 14 Now, how many of your proposals does that, is if, is 15:40:27
 15 the Copper City Road closed in? 15:40:32
 16 MR. REISCHL: Okay, Copper City Road, 15:40:35
 17 if, if it had been closed, -- 15:40:38
 18 A SPECTATOR: Yeah. 15:40:41
 19 MR. REISCHL: -- and that hasn't been 15:40:41
 20 decided, would only be closed about four or five miles 15:40:43
 21 south of Superior Lake, Superior Dry Lake. Well, any 15:40:46
 22 proposal that looks, that looks at the, that has a 15:40:51
 23 piece in the west, I believe it's three of the six, 15:40:56
 24 has the Army training out here. 15:41:00
 25 Now, honestly, and we talked before the 15:41:04

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1 meeting. 15:41:08
 2 A SPECTATOR: Yeah. 15:41:09
 3 MR. REISCHL: You need to tell us what 15:41:10
 4 the effect is on that. There's nothing that says it 15:41:12
 5 has to be closed. 15:41:15
 6 People drive onto Fort Irwin during 15:41:17
 7 rotations all the time. This road right here, the 15:41:19
 8 main artery stays open 24 hours a day, and we intend 15:41:23
 9 to train across it. 15:41:27
 10 So, we, we just need to, to consider 15:41:29
 11 what's, what's the effect, and is there a, a way to 15:41:31
 12 get around it? It does, it doesn't necessarily say -- 15:41:34
 13 You know, we may say we need to build an alternate 15:41:40
 14 road, or we need to close it, or we'll close it for 15:41:45
 15 certain periods. 15:41:48
 16 But that's something, that's an issue 15:41:50
 17 that we need to discuss. 15:41:51
 18 A SPECTATOR: I'm very concerned about 15:41:53
 19 closing off the route to Inscription Canyon. 15:41:55
 20 MR. REISCHL: I understand, and again, 15:41:59
 21 it's something -- 15:42:00
 22 A SPECTATOR: If you could work out 15:42:01
 23 something like that where people could pass through, 15:42:02
 24 even though it would be inside the base, but they 15:42:04
 25 could pass through. 15:42:07

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1 MR. REISCHL: And I'll tell you 15:42:09
 2 honestly, people ask us a lot about: How long are you 15:42:10
 3 going to train on this? Any area like this, or like 15:42:13
 4 this, will be occupied for a maximum of about five 15:42:16
 5 days a month. 15:42:20
 6 So, it's not like it's going to be, 15:42:22
 7 there's going to be somebody there all the time. So 15:42:24
 8 that, that's just an issue that we need to look at. 15:42:26
 9 A SPECTATOR: Thank you. 15:42:28
 10 MR. REISCHL: Any other questions? 15:42:31
 11 About anything? Sir. 15:42:33
 12 A SPECTATOR: If you only train on it 15:42:35
 13 five days of the month, still nobody would know which 15:42:37
 14 days those were, and so therefore you better not be 15:42:41
 15 out there. 15:42:45
 16 MR. REISCHL: Umm. 15:42:45
 17 A SPECTATOR: It's still unusable. 15:42:50
 18 MR. REISCHL: Not necessarily. 15:42:52
 19 A SPECTATOR: Oh. 15:42:55
 20 MR. REISCHL: We know, like, I can tell 15:42:56
 21 you four months out exactly where that brigade is 15:42:58
 22 going to be on any particular day. And four years out 15:43:01
 23 I can tell you what the windows are for that brigade 15:43:06
 24 to train at Fort Irwin. 15:43:09
 25 So we know those, we know those kind of 15:43:11

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1 things. Honestly right now nobody asks to come onto 15:43:14
 2 Fort Irwin except the California National Guard, and 15:43:18
 3 they come and train on the ranges and things like that 15:43:21
 4 while we're training the brigade. 15:43:26
 5 And we, and we coexist with that. So 15:43:28
 6 it, it's an issue that, that we need to look at, but 15:43:31
 7 it is not an iron-clad, "The Base is going to close 15:43:34
 8 down everything." 15:43:38
 9 A SPECTATOR: Oh. 15:43:39
 10 MR. REISCHL: It's, it, it may or it may 15:43:40
 11 not. Just depends on -- And, you know, and, of 15:43:42
 12 course, safety, safety is the prime consideration. 15:43:46
 13 Sir. 15:43:49
 14 A SPECTATOR: Couple things I'm not 15:43:50
 15 actually clear on. You probably said and I missed it. 15:43:51
 16 Has the, has the mission of the base 15:43:57
 17 changed recently, or has it been doing this same 15:43:59
 18 mission? 15:44:01
 19 MR. REISCHL: This is, this is the same 15:44:02
 20 mission that we've had since 1982. 15:44:04
 21 A SPECTATOR: And your example was the 15:44:07
 22 worst that we've had, and the effectiveness of the 15:44:08
 23 mission, the Base's mission, and how well it's done 15:44:11
 24 its mission. Absent some kind of big increase in the 15:44:15
 25 Armed Forces, I mean, I see where Army transformation 15:44:18

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p>1 is a great thing, but that's a change in attitude, not 15:44:22 2 a change in requirement of land space. 15:44:26 3 MR. REISCHL: It is actually a 15:44:30 4 tremendous change in land space, equipment, tactics. 15:44:31 5 That brigade-sized unit currently has the capability 15:44:38 6 to see the enemy 20 kilometers away, 12 miles away. 15:44:42 7 When we start to downlink satellites, 15:44:48 8 hook them to reconnaissance aircraft, unmanned Army 15:44:51 9 vehicles, that Brigade will now be able to see 80 15:44:56 10 kilometers away. We, our weapons, MLRs, 15:45:01 11 multiple-launch rockets, the long-range weapon, about 15:45:04 12 40 kilometers, 325 miles. 15:45:09 13 Nonlinear sight weapons, satellite 15:45:13 14 guided in the future will have a range of over 40 15:45:17 15 miles. And we are using, you know, we use tanks now 15:45:20 16 that we slug it out with people. 15:45:23 17 We don't care if you hit us, because it 15:45:26 18 can't go through. If we're going to make a vehicle 15:45:29 19 that's very deployable, it's very light. 15:45:31 20 Lots of things can kill it, so we now 15:45:35 21 have to hide and know where the enemy is a lot better 15:45:36 22 if we get where we need to go. Army transformation is 15:45:40 23 almost a total transformation of the way the Army 15:45:44 24 fights. 15:45:47 25 Currently there are brigades up at Fort 15:45:48</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p>1 MR. REISCHL: Well, you've actually got 15:46:59 2 Special Forces on the ground lasing the target. And 15:47:00 3 when you get into a large war, you've got to have lots 15:47:03 4 of people that can do that, and you've got to identify 15:47:05 5 where they're coming from, where they're going to go 15:47:08 6 so you can get the right people there. 15:47:10 7 A SPECTATOR: Well, if, if you -- I 15:47:12 8 mean, your example of being able to take a tank across 15:47:14 9 the property in eight hours versus three days is 15:47:17 10 excellent, but if you continue that scenario on, then 15:47:21 11 your, your need to grow is going to be infinite with a 15:47:24 12 simple changing argument. 15:47:27 13 My argument is if I want to teach an 15:47:28 14 olympic swimmer to swim a mile, I don't need to build 15:47:33 15 a mile swimming pool. I can teach him to turn around 15:47:36 16 when he gets to the other side. 15:47:40 17 MR. REISCHL: That's a very good point. 15:47:42 18 We have, we say you don't really know how to do it 15:47:44 19 unless you can do it in the dirt. 15:47:47 20 That means somebody is actually X miles 15:47:49 21 away from you and you can see them. To, to get that 15:47:52 22 hundred miles, the way we do is it anything inside the 15:47:55 23 boundaries is live. 15:47:58 24 There's an actual vehicle there. 15:47:59 25 There's an actual enemy there. 15:48:02</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p>1 Lewis in Washington changing right now. They've given 15:45:53 2 up their tanks. 15:45:54 3 They don't own any tanks. The heaviest 15:45:54 4 vehicle they have is about 25 tons and it fits into a 15:45:57 5 C-130. 15:46:01 6 So this ability to fight anybody 15:46:02 7 anywhere quickly is, is a revolutionary change. 15:46:04 8 A SPECTATOR: Oh, yeah, and I appreciate 15:46:09 9 the, the advantage and the benefit of a long-range 15:46:10 10 weapon, but it seems to me like it doesn't matter if 15:46:13 11 you shoot it from the North Pole; the target is the 15:46:16 12 important thing. And we're supposed to be getting 15:46:19 13 more accurate, so we should actually need less space, 15:46:21 14 not more. 15:46:25 15 MR. REISCHL: But you have to be able to 15:46:27 16 find it, and we want it on the -- One of the things 15:46:28 17 that the op war does very well is that they hide from 15:46:30 18 people and they're going to be very adaptive. And Air 15:46:34 19 Force weapons, precision-guided weapons are very good, 15:46:39 20 but they have to, they have to have a good target. 15:46:42 21 You notice they, they're very effective 15:46:46 22 in Afghanistan because they've got people on the 15:46:48 23 ground lasing, identifying. 15:46:51 24 A SPECTATOR: I realize because they 15:46:54 25 have AWACs in the air painting the ground targets. 15:46:56</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 That brigade footprint is much bigger 15:48:04 2 than that. The enemy may start out out here. 15:48:08 3 What we use is computer simulations that 15:48:11 4 feed the intelligent systems of that brigade, and it 15:48:13 5 tracks that unit as it comes close into the unit or 15:48:18 6 within the killing zone, whatever. When it crosses 15:48:23 7 the actual boundary, what we have is an Op 4 unit 15:48:27 8 stationed there, and that electron on a, on a display 15:48:33 9 now becomes physically a vehicle, an infantry squad, 15:48:35 10 or whatever, and the Unit then has to actually deal 15:48:40 11 with them. 15:48:44 12 It, it's, honestly it's a lot more 15:48:45 13 difficult to do than it is to talk about. 15:48:47 14 A SPECTATOR: The mechanics of the 15:48:50 15 actual units is ever-changing, but the requirement, 15:48:51 16 the land requirement for those tactics, the, I haven't 15:48:54 17 seen the relationship between the two yet, especially 15:48:58 18 if accuracy goes up not down, and these Units are 15:49:02 19 learning to work together, not needing more space 15:49:06 20 independently. 15:49:10 21 MR. REISCHL: They'll, they'll actually 15:49:12 22 operate, the current Brigade, the one that's out in 15:49:13 23 the box right now is operating on a frontage of about 15:49:15 24 15 kilometers, 15, about, that's about nine miles wide 15:49:19 25 and about 20 miles long. We want, thereby, the, the, 15:49:23</p>

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1 what's called the "objective force," the future Army, 15:49:29
 2 to be able to see and operate on a lot larger distance 15:49:32
 3 than that, and what we've found out is you can't use a 15:49:36
 4 computer game to do that. 15:49:40
 5 They physically have to see it and 15:49:42
 6 detect it when it's out there, and, and bring whatever 15:49:44
 7 action they want to against it. And, and that's the 15:49:49
 8 whole premise of the National Training Center, is you 15:49:53
 9 must actually do the action that you would have to do 15:49:56
 10 in combat -- 15:49:58
 11 A SPECTATOR: Uh-huh. 15:50:00
 12 MR. REISCHL: -- because it's a lot 15:50:02
 13 easier to do, excuse, it's a lot harder to do in 15:50:03
 14 reality than it is to plan to do. 15:50:07
 15 A SPECTATOR: Uh-huh. Was there some 15:50:09
 16 objective to a joint land use, to a joint land use 15:50:11
 17 idea between China Lake and what is currently being 15:50:13
 18 used at Fort Irwin, since it's being done with the Air 15:50:17
 19 Force? 15:50:22
 20 MR. REISCHL: There is currently limited 15:50:22
 21 co-use of China Lake. It basically is we use attack 15:50:24
 22 helicopters to fly against the electronic target 15:50:28
 23 arrays of, of China Lake. 15:50:32
 24 A SPECTATOR: I just didn't see it as a, 15:50:35
 25 as an option under this scenario. 15:50:36

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1 MR. REISCHL: Honestly, the Army, the 15:50:41
 2 Army would like to do that. Currently the, the, the 15:50:43
 3 missions of the two, of the two Bases are different 15:50:46
 4 and we have to reconcile those. 15:50:48
 5 A SPECTATOR: Well, if you're only 15:50:51
 6 working five days out of the month I didn't see where 15:50:52
 7 it was a significant coordination problem. 15:50:54
 8 MR. REISCHL: But I will tell you, if we 15:50:58
 9 are going to use China Lake, this corridor allows us 15:51:00
 10 to get into China Lake. This one, this mountain range 15:51:04
 11 very much limits how we can go into China Lake from 15:51:08
 12 there. 15:51:12
 13 So its co-use is something that we need 15:51:13
 14 to look at. Honestly, it's been an obstacle in the 15:51:15
 15 past. 15:51:19
 16 A SPECTATOR: You said there was an 15:51:20
 17 active mine in the eastern part. Would that happen to 15:51:21
 18 be an iron mine? 15:51:25
 19 MR. REISCHL: Yes. 15:51:27
 20 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 15:51:28
 21 MR. REISCHL: It's about right there. 15:51:29
 22 A SPECTATOR: Thank goodness, because I 15:51:33
 23 own, I own a mine pretty close, the Green Rock, Afton, 15:51:34
 24 but it's outside. It has been inside some of the 15:51:40
 25 proposed ones that -- 15:51:42

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1 MR. REISCHL: The only one that we know 15:51:45
 2 of in the proposed area is the one that's right there. 15:51:46
 3 A SPECTATOR: Is the iron, okay. 15:51:51
 4 MR. REISCHL: The real dirty one is 15:51:54
 5 right there. 15:51:56
 6 Sir, question. 15:51:57
 7 A SPECTATOR: Yes. Along with what the 15:51:59
 8 gentleman over here said, urban training that they're 15:52:01
 9 getting or they're going to start getting now, we 15:52:04
 10 don't need an Abrams, we don't need a Bradley to go 15:52:06
 11 into a cave and dig these people out. 15:52:10
 12 We don't even need our own people out 15:52:12
 13 there to die when their own people are doing it for 15:52:15
 14 us. All we do is support it from here now. 15:52:18
 15 MR. REISCHL: Now, I can't tell you -- 15:52:22
 16 A SPECTATOR: What other country is big 15:52:24
 17 enough to do any real fighting? It's training. 15:52:26
 18 MR. REISCHL: Lots of them. Lots of 15:52:31
 19 them. 15:52:32
 20 And it's changing. I mean, I'm not, I 15:52:32
 21 certainly -- I don't have a crystal ball, and the 15:52:36
 22 President, you know, hasn't told me -- 15:52:38
 23 A SPECTATOR: Right. 15:52:40
 24 MR. REISCHL: -- what he's going to do 15:52:41
 25 next, but, you know, if you go back and you look at 15:52:43

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1 Somalia in 1993, there was a major, major fight as 15:52:46
 2 part of a peace-keeping operation. 15:52:49
 3 If in Cosavo in 1998, if President 15:52:52
 4 Melosovich had not pulled his forces out of Cosavo, 15:52:58
 5 some ground unit would have had to attack into Cosavo 15:53:03
 6 as a possibility. The Army has to be ready to do 15:53:08
 7 those things. 15:53:10
 8 It, it's a dangerous and a very 15:53:13
 9 uncertain world, and that's what the Army is trying to 15:53:15
 10 do, is to be ready to do that spectrum of missions 15:53:18
 11 that it might be called upon to do. And, and you can 15:53:23
 12 put lots of different names on, on possibilities that 15:53:26
 13 it might have to deal with. 15:53:30
 14 And, and that's what we are trying to 15:53:34
 15 do, is prepare the Army to, for those kinds of 15:53:35
 16 missions. 15:53:37
 17 Let me take one last question and we'll 15:53:42
 18 need to start. Sir. 15:53:43
 19 A SPECTATOR: Is that Albert Mountain 15:53:45
 20 right to the south? 15:53:47
 21 MR. REISCHL: Right here. 15:53:49
 22 A SPECTATOR: Okay, there is, there are 15:53:51
 23 mining claims down there that you didn't mention and 15:53:52
 24 in one of your proposals they're in there. You're, 15:53:55
 25 the things you, you've presented seem pretty good to 15:53:58

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 me, and I understand your need and the need for the 15:54:00 2 expansion and everything, but the thing you haven't 15:54:03 3 addressed in your presentation are what lands are 15:54:07 4 going to be taken in addition to this as compensation 15:54:10 5 to the lands that you use. 15:54:13 6 And that could eliminate our access to 15:54:14 7 the, the Claims at Albert Mountain. 15:54:15 8 MR. REISCHL: Okay, not addressed 15:54:20 9 because I don't know. As we prepare the EIS and we do 15:54:21 10 the Biological Assessment and get a Biological Opinion 15:54:24 11 there are mitigation and compensation measures that 15:54:29 12 will be determined. 15:54:33 13 Those are not determined yet. I will 15:54:35 14 tell you in the legislation, the first Bill that I 15:54:38 15 talked about, the agreement between the Department of 15:54:41 16 the Army and the Department of the Interior is that 15:54:45 17 the Army will provide money, mitigation money to the 15:54:47 18 Department of the Interior and in consultation with 15:54:52 19 all of their agencies, the Department of the Interior 15:54:55 20 will figure out what the mitigation and compensation 15:54:58 21 is going to be. 15:55:02 22 The Army did not want to be in the 15:55:03 23 position of telling DOI what compensation. So as, as 15:55:06 24 we work on this, we work with BLM and Fish and 15:55:12 25 Wildlife to do that. 15:55:14</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 about the inadequacy, inadequacies about that Draft 15:56:25 2 EIS in the Supplement? 15:56:31 3 MR. REISCHL: Yes. We have to address 15:56:36 4 all public comments. 15:56:37 5 A SPECTATOR: Okay, you'll have the 15:56:39 6 Draft EIS? 15:56:40 7 MR. REISCHL: Yes. 15:56:42 8 A SPECTATOR: Your continuation? 15:56:43 9 MR. REISCHL: So we'll address all the 15:56:45 10 scoping comments to the Draft and all the 15:56:47 11 public-hearing comments to the Draft, as well as the 15:56:49 12 scoping comments that were taken today and the ones 15:56:52 13 that will, that, that will come after the Draft is 15:56:55 14 complete, after the Draft Supplemental is complete in 15:56:58 15 December. 15:57:01 16 Okay. 15:57:08 17 A SPECTATOR: On-line? On your on-line 15:57:08 18 Web site? You wouldn't happen to have a, a 15:57:11 19 multi-spectral image of mineral overlay of those same 15:57:13 20 perspective areas? 15:57:20 21 MR. REISCHL: No. 15:57:23 22 A SPECTATOR: Wouldn't want to put one 15:57:23 23 on there, would you? 15:57:24 24 MR. REISCHL: No. If you can bring it 15:57:26 25 up and we can put it, find one, we'll put it on there. 15:57:28</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 But at this point in time I cannot tell 15:55:16 2 you what the, the, that mitigation and compensation is 15:55:19 3 going to be because it hasn't been determined. 15:55:23 4 A SPECTATOR: We, we work with Gish and 15:55:26 5 Game a lot, and they usually require three-to-one. So 15:55:28 6 to me what you are proposing there is minuscule 15:55:31 7 compared to what the big final effect is going to be. 15:55:35 8 A SPECTATOR: Uh-huh. 15:55:38 9 MR. REISCHL: All I would say is 15:55:39 10 possibly, because I don't know. 15:55:41 11 Okay, one more. Sir? 15:55:44 12 A SPECTATOR: Oh, will you be sending 15:55:46 13 out the, the Draft EIS to people along with the 15:55:49 14 Supplement? Because if it's a Supplement, it's going 15:55:53 15 to be heavily referenced to the, that Draft EIS. 15:55:58 16 MR. REISCHL: Yes, the current Draft EIS 15:56:02 17 is currently on our Web site in total. It's like 500 15:56:05 18 pages, but it is all there. 15:56:08 19 And when the EIS is, when the, when the 15:56:10 20 Supplemental is complete, it will have all applicable 15:56:13 21 references in it. 15:56:16 22 A SPECTATOR: And -- 15:56:18 23 MR. REISCHL: We have to do that. 15:56:20 24 A SPECTATOR: -- will you be addressing 15:56:21 25 any of the comments that people made back in 1997 15:56:23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 A SPECTATOR: I'm sure you can find one. 15:57:32 2 MR. REISCHL: If, if we can find one. 15:57:33 3 No, I -- Okay, what I'd like to do now is take about a 15:57:35 4 five-minute break. 15:57:40 5 We're going to take this stuff down and 15:57:41 6 put the podium out and so we can start taking public 15:57:43 7 comment. If, if you have a question, please bring it 15:57:46 8 up real quickly during your three-minute time and 15:57:49 9 we'll, and we'll get it answered, but, but we would 15:57:54 10 prefer that, that comments and all be made so 15:57:57 11 everybody gets a chance to speak. 15:57:59 12 Now, there are Speaker Request Forms 15:58:01 13 over there, so please fill one out if you wish to 15:58:03 14 speak, and rest rooms are right outside. There's 15:58:08 15 soda, vending machines out the back. 15:58:13 16 Thank you. Appreciate your attention. 15:58:17 17 (Whereupon, those present took a brief 15:58:17 18 recess and returned, after which the following 15:58:17 19 occurred:) 16:07:56 20 PUBLIC COMMENTS 16:07:56 21 MR. MARLER: If we can have you, 16:07:56 22 everybody take your seats, I'd like to get started. 16:08:05 23 I'd like to thank everybody for submitting their 16:08:35 24 comment cards. 16:08:38 25 I'll call you up one at a time. The 16:08:39</p>

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1 first speaker commenter is Mr. Bill Millman. That -- 16:08:42
 2 MR. MANN: That's Bill Mann. But 16:08:48
 3 anyway, I've been called worse. 16:08:50
 4 Okay, my name is Bill Mann and I'm a 16:08:52
 5 charter member of the Mojave River Valley Museum 16:08:54
 6 started in 1946. I, I ran their field trips for 30 16:08:58
 7 years and I've taken tours for colleges and other 16:09:02
 8 things, other entities on the desert for over 30 16:09:05
 9 years. 16:09:08
 10 In 1998 I was asked to do a guide book 16:09:10
 11 on some of the sites that I've been taking the people 16:09:13
 12 out to, to the back country of the desert, and I 16:09:15
 13 grouped them in chapters so that the sites would be 16:09:20
 14 all together. They could take a tour of that 16:09:24
 15 particular area. 16:09:28
 16 They've been fantastically successful. 16:09:28
 17 They're on the Internet. 16:09:31
 18 I've just passed 10,000, sold 10,000 16:09:33
 19 books, but would you believe the most popular tour is 16:09:37
 20 up Copper City Road to Superior Valley and west to 16:09:39
 21 Inspiration Canyon? 16:09:46
 22 And if that's closed, you're really 16:09:47
 23 hanging me out to dry. And I have approximately 16:09:50
 24 \$100,000 invested in this venture, and I really don't 16:09:54
 25 like to see Copper City Road closed. 16:09:59

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1 So, is there any questions or anything 16:10:03
 2 that I could add to that? I've been in the mining 16:10:05
 3 business. 16:10:09
 4 I've been prospecting out here for 51 16:10:10
 5 years, and this is the result of the, the, the places 16:10:13
 6 I've found in the last 50 years of also delivering 16:10:19
 7 explosives and, and things like that. Incidentally, 16:10:24
 8 they are for sale. 16:10:28
 9 Might as well but a pitch in here 16:10:32
 10 before. But anyway, that's what I want to get across 16:10:34
 11 or in the records. 16:10:38
 12 I'm protesting the closure of Copper 16:10:38
 13 City Road. It would impact, and I have people -- I'm 16:10:41
 14 on the Internet. 16:10:46
 15 I have people coming from Germany, 16:10:47
 16 Japan, and stuff to take these tours. I hate to have 16:10:48
 17 them come out, go on up there, and find out that the 16:10:52
 18 road is closed. 16:10:56
 19 Be bad news. Thank you very much. 16:10:57
 20 MR. MARLER: Mr. Mann, thank you. 16:11:00
 21 MR. MANN: Any questions? 16:11:03
 22 MR. MARLER: No, but this is the type of 16:11:05
 23 information that we have these meetings for, and thank 16:11:06
 24 you very much. 16:11:09
 25 MR. REISCHL: Please, please make sure 16:11:12

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1 that you're in the database so we can get ahold of 16:11:12
 2 you. 16:11:16
 3 MR. MANN: Okay, how do I -- 16:11:17
 4 MR. REISCHL: The "Interested Party" 16:11:20
 5 letter, if you filled one out, that would be good. 16:11:21
 6 MR. MANN: I've already got all of them. 16:11:25
 7 A SPECTATOR: Someone gave me a couple. 16:11:27
 8 A SPECTATOR: Thank you. 16:11:30
 9 MR. MARLER: Mr. Jim Daley. 16:11:31
 10 MR. DALEY: Thank you for your time and 16:11:39
 11 letting us speak. My name's Jim Daley. 16:11:40
 12 I'm the quarry manager of Specialty 16:11:43
 13 Minerals' limestone quarry in the Cerin Valley. We 16:11:46
 14 also own a large limestone deposit in the Albert 16:11:50
 15 Mountains. 16:11:50
 16 Your Option 2 encompasses that area, and 16:11:55
 17 I noticed that wasn't mentioned in the presentation. 16:11:58
 18 So, number one, we want to make sure that you're aware 16:12:00
 19 that those claims are there, and number two, we want 16:12:04
 20 to make sure that our access is maintained to those 16:12:05
 21 deposits from the Albert Mountain Overpass across 16:12:10
 22 I-15. 16:12:14
 23 That overpass was put in specifically 16:12:15
 24 for those claims. It's about six and a-half, and 16:12:18
 25 we're concerned that any more mitigation for it would 16:12:21

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1 come down and encompass that area. 16:12:26
 2 And also that same comment goes to 16:12:27
 3 anybody else who has any kind of claims. We have 16:12:29
 4 mining claims; other people do out in the Mojave that 16:12:32
 5 might be used as mitigation that might not be 16:12:37
 6 conducive with the expansion. 16:12:40
 7 And I'll submit this as written. 16:12:43
 8 MR. MARLER: Thank you very much. Very 16:12:44
 9 good. 16:12:46
 10 Gordon W. Liat. 16:12:47
 11 MR. LIAT: My name's Gordon Liat. I 16:12:49
 12 live out just south of fort border. 16:12:52
 13 I had some questions of what was going 16:12:56
 14 to happen of, happen after or before the Army could 16:12:57
 15 take the property, and I'm, I've been answered pretty 16:13:03
 16 well on that part. But I, like I say, I live in the 16:13:08
 17 valley and I've talked to most everybody there, and 16:13:12
 18 there's only about two families I know of that live 16:13:14
 19 there that doesn't go along with the Army. 16:13:16
 20 And myself, I have 700 acres out there, 16:13:19
 21 and I would like to see them come out. 16:13:22
 22 MR. MARLER: Thank you. 16:13:25
 23 Don Putnam? 16:13:28
 24 MR. PUTNAM: I probably won't influence 16:13:39
 25 this decision too much, but I think one of the 16:13:41

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1 resistances to this is that the BLM, due to influence 16:13:46
 2 of uninterested people in Los Angeles and San 16:13:53
 3 Francisco, have closed off practically all the desert. 16:13:58
 4 I just got a map from them and it's all full of 16:14:04
 5 circles where I can't go. 16:14:07
 6 I've even thought of suing the 16:14:11
 7 Government, and I'm too old to carry enough water to 16:14:13
 8 walk across the wilderness areas. But I think that's 16:14:16
 9 one of the resistances to this program, is that 16:14:20
 10 they've already closed off 90 percent of the desert. 16:14:24
 11 Now you want to take some more. 16:14:29
 12 But I guess you have to have it. Thank 16:14:32
 13 you. 16:14:35
 14 MR. MARLER: Thank you. 16:14:36
 15 D. J. Masker. 16:14:41
 16 MS. MASKER: Good afternoon. I hope 16:14:49
 17 that I'm heard better in the back than the previous 16:14:51
 18 speaking guest that spoke. 16:14:54
 19 I have grave concerns about the addition 16:14:55
 20 of this land to Fort Irwin. I question the need for 16:14:58
 21 expansion. 16:15:02
 22 I've looked at your slide presentation. 16:15:04
 23 I've heard your concepts. 16:15:07
 24 I still question your need. We're, it 16:15:08
 25 sounds to me like we're reducing the tracked vehicles 16:15:11

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1 but we don't know why then you need more room to move 16:15:16
 2 them about. 16:15:19
 3 The need to go 100 miles versus 25 is, 16:15:19
 4 is un-, is just not penetrating my mind. I'm glad to 16:15:23
 5 hear that you did not bring into the equation the, the 16:15:28
 6 endangered species situation, because I don't think 16:15:32
 7 any of this decision should be based on whether it's 16:15:35
 8 going to affect the tortoise or any other endangered 16:15:38
 9 species. 16:15:43
 10 I think we should look at this project 16:15:44
 11 for what it is. Fifteen, possibly 15 years ago I was 16:15:46
 12 at Fort Irwin, set in your war theater, watched the 16:15:51
 13 simulated battles, heard the instructors telling the 16:15:56
 14 students, et cetera, you know, what you did wrong, 16:16:01
 15 what you didn't do, what you did right, et cetera. 16:16:03
 16 I question why this cannot continue 16:16:07
 17 today. I'm sure you have spent dollars in maintaining 16:16:09
 18 that war theater, thousands and thousands. 16:16:11
 19 I just don't feel that we need to go out 16:16:15
 20 further to run tracked vehicles. We train pilots from 16:16:18
 21 a simulation. 16:16:21
 22 They're landing planes. Then we give 16:16:22
 23 them the opportunity to put them in the air. 16:16:27
 24 We don't need them in the air every hour 16:16:29
 25 they're training. I have, some of my notes may not be 16:16:32

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1 relative because if I had had your slide projection I 16:16:36
 2 would have felt a little different about what I'm 16:16:39
 3 saying here maybe. 16:16:42
 4 I would like to see the National 16:16:43
 5 Training Center get experience in land mine and other 16:16:47
 6 ordnance clearance and detonation. Clear the land 16:16:49
 7 that's contaminated now. 16:16:53
 8 Continue to use it. You're never going 16:16:56
 9 to revegetate it. 16:16:57
 10 One focus that all our Services need is 16:16:59
 11 the warfare on the street. We are no longer going to 16:17:02
 12 be battling with tanks. 16:17:06
 13 How about the sewers, the high-rise 16:17:08
 14 buildings, the sprawl of houses and caves? Where, 16:17:10
 15 that's the battlefield of today and tomorrow; it's, 16:17:14
 16 it's not the tanks. 16:17:18
 17 Our Department of the Defense needs to 16:17:19
 18 look at the duplication, the effort and expense on our 16:17:21
 19 current components, the Army, the Navy, the Marine 16:17:24
 20 Corps, the Coast Guard. We need a Department of 16:17:27
 21 Defense. 16:17:30
 22 We do not need a Department of Army, a 16:17:31
 23 Department of Navy, a Department of Air Force. We 16:17:33
 24 need a Department of Defense. 16:17:35
 25 This is a great place to start. Instead 16:17:37

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1 of putting those billions of dollars into expansion at 16:17:39
 2 Fort Irwin, let's talk about consolidating our 16:17:42
 3 efforts. 16:17:45
 4 That money could better be spent, in my 16:17:45
 5 judgment, on the homeless, jobless, ill, handicapped 16:17:48
 6 citizens in our United States. Let's see. 16:17:51
 7 We as a, we as a nation, and especially 16:17:55
 8 our Joint Chiefs of Staff, our top military brass, 16:17:58
 9 along with state and national elected officials need 16:18:02
 10 to upgrade their thinking to what the next September 16:18:05
 11 11 catastrophe will be, how to prepare for that type 16:18:09
 12 warfare. We certainly weren't prepared for the ordeal 16:18:13
 13 that we have endured now, and I feel safe in saying it 16:18:17
 14 is being done on the free battlefield of that type of 16:18:20
 15 invasion beyond the sands of the desert. 16:18:25
 16 We understand the commitments of our 16:18:28
 17 Defense Department looks at high qualities, lack a 16:18:32
 18 high quality. Let's appropriate the millions set 16:18:35
 19 aside to the expansion and get a mission that prepares 16:18:40
 20 us for other events in our country and in our world. 16:18:42
 21 I was glad to hear that there was an 16:18:48
 22 Alternative 6 which said no expansion. I will do 16:18:51
 23 everything in my power to write every Congressperson 16:18:54
 24 that's in this flow of trying to expand wherever to, 16:18:57
 25 to encourage them please to take another look. 16:19:01

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1 The Department of Defense, Defense, 16:19:04
 2 Department of Army as the lead agency is the Chicken 16:19:06
 3 Little, the fox in the hen house. How could we do 16:19:10
 4 this to ourselves? 16:19:14
 5 It's a way to get the answers we want. 16:19:16
 6 I wish that Congressman Finstein were here, and I wish 16:19:18
 7 that Congressman Lewis were here. They'll have my 16:19:22
 8 views in writing. Thank you. 16:19:25
 9 MR. MARLER: Thank you. 16:19:30
 10 Pardon me if I butcher this name. Carl 16:19:30
 11 VonBadinski. 16:19:30
 12 MR. VonBADINSKI: My name is Carl 16:19:37
 13 VonBadinski. Thanks for taking me here. 16:19:39
 14 I'm going to have a slight problem in my 16:19:42
 15 speech. The Fort is a very important item in our, in 16:19:46
 16 buying here, buying land and acquisiding -- How do I 16:19:56
 17 say it? And acquisiding land. Is that close enough? 16:20:02
 18 A SPECTATOR: You need to speak up, 16:20:09
 19 Carl. 16:20:09
 20 A SPECTATOR: I don't think the 16:20:11
 21 microphone works. 16:20:11
 22 A SPECTATOR: We can't hear you. 16:20:14
 23 MR. VonBADINKSI: Can you hear this? 16:20:16
 24 A SPECTATOR: I don't think that thing 16:20:18
 25 is working, is it? 16:20:20

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1 A SPECTATOR: No, it's not. It's not 16:20:23
 2 working. 16:20:27
 3 A SPECTATOR: Hello. Hello. You're 16:20:30
 4 right. Sorry. 16:20:32
 5 MR. VonBADINSKI: I'm bad enough without 16:20:39
 6 on -- Can you hear this now? Hello? Can everybody 16:20:41
 7 hear this? 16:22:05
 8 A SPECTATOR: Yes. 16:22:06
 9 MR. VonBADINSKI: The DT is one of the 16:22:10
 10 biggest acquisition of land that we need here. It's, 16:22:14
 11 this tortoise has been 160 million years extant. 16:22:21
 12 It's been that many years. It's been 16:22:26
 13 that same earth. 16:22:29
 14 Now, crocodiles in Florida were 16:22:30
 15 overcame, overcame with torts, torts, tort -- God 16:22:37
 16 bless it. If you have a, the court -- Damn it. 16:22:42
 17 Excuse me. 16:22:49
 18 A SPECTATOR: I'm going to -- 16:22:51
 19 MR. VonBADINSKI: Crocodiles, crocodiles 16:22:53
 20 come from California, from, from Florida. They are 16:22:57
 21 over, over -- God, I haven't, I know what I want to 16:23:02
 22 say. It's just, I would like to say one thing anyway. 16:23:07
 23 This is going to drive me nuts. I can't 16:23:13
 24 speak to begin with. 16:23:15
 25 The main problem I have that I want to 16:23:16

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1 record, the sharpest thing, the Army, wherever it 16:23:20
 2 goes, is needed in our war with these other people in 16:23:23
 3 Afghanistan. Nothing should stop or get in their way. 16:23:27
 4 If it takes money, if, the money should 16:23:33
 5 be given to those people. Pay them off for their 16:23:36
 6 mines. Pay them off, off for whatever we need. 16:23:40
 7 We need the expansion. We need it for 16:23:44
 8 the Army. 16:23:46
 9 That's the most important thing we have. 16:23:46
 10 There's nothing more important. 16:23:49
 11 God bless the American Army and the 16:23:53
 12 people there. Thank you. 16:23:55
 13 Thank you. 16:23:57
 14 (Whereupon, applause was had.) 16:23:57
 15 MR. MARLER: Cliff Nelson, please. 16:24:04
 16 MR. NELSON: Well, I have to confess I'm 16:24:11
 17 not a public speaker, and, and I admit that my 16:24:11
 18 interest in the area is strictly limited to 16:24:17
 19 recreational hobby. I'm familiar with Bill Mann and 16:24:20
 20 his books, and they were probably instrumental 15 16:24:26
 21 years ago in getting me to, or books like that, to 16:24:29
 22 getting me to look in historical sites around the 16:24:32
 23 desert. 16:24:34
 24 I was actually amazed. One of the 16:24:35
 25 things I discovered, Barstow, your great city, is 16:24:37

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1 called the crossroad of the, crossroad of the West. 16:24:43
 2 And the "crossroad" meant that there were people 16:24:45
 3 looking for a new way of life here, and this is where 16:24:47
 4 they could find it, where ultimately we left England 16:24:51
 5 to find a new way of life and we continued to push 16:24:54
 6 west just for that new way of life, whether it, it was 16:24:57
 7 from Jedediah Smith or, or Lane or any other pioneers 16:25:00
 8 who made their way here so you can sit behind that 16:25:06
 9 desk and collect a government paycheck. 16:25:11
 10 But one other point, and your, your 16:25:14
 11 presentation was excellent. In fact, I'm impressed 16:25:16
 12 about your knowledge of the military and its current 16:25:19
 13 workings, in fact, the high technical level of the way 16:25:23
 14 it works. 16:25:26
 15 You've done your homework well for the, 16:25:27
 16 for the members, what do they call them? The impact 16:25:30
 17 study members, the partners, the, in the group. 16:25:38
 18 I'm a little concerned that you were 16:25:42
 19 only aware of one mine and possibly one other dirty 16:25:44
 20 one, but yet I know three other groups represented 16:25:49
 21 here in the audience that have a multitude of private 16:25:54
 22 claims out there that you weren't even aware of. 16:25:56
 23 Might be lifestyle for them, but I will tell you one 16:26:02
 24 thing I'm concerned about, that the true issues that 16:26:06
 25 are being discussed here are not the issues that 16:26:09

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1 should be being discussed. 16:26:10
 2 I've seen a trend since we've had 16:26:12
 3 multispectral satellite imaging that indicates that 16:26:15
 4 certain military bases expand, certain desert areas 16:26:19
 5 close off, and one minute you can't walk on the 16:26:23
 6 turtles and the next minute you can blow him up with a 16:26:25
 7 bomb. There's something wrong with the consistency of 16:26:29
 8 this picture. 16:26:32
 9 You know, not once did I see a satellite 16:26:33
 10 imaging showing what these people are talking about, 16:26:36
 11 their hobbies, their mines. You know, the pursuit of 16:26:39
 12 happiness, it's out there, but yet you don't even know 16:26:45
 13 it exists. 16:26:47
 14 So somebody's mentioned some people that 16:26:49
 15 weren't in this room that maybe should be, and maybe 16:26:52
 16 the people that are in this room talking about what 16:26:54
 17 they believe in, they really believe in, but I suspect 16:26:57
 18 there might be more behind what they're talking about 16:27:02
 19 than what you're talking about. I would really like 16:27:04
 20 to see a satellite image of the metals in the 16:27:08
 21 mountains that you want to absorb. 16:27:11
 22 And I have no doubt you're going to 16:27:14
 23 absorb one now and one later and one later as your 16:27:16
 24 need increases. But show me it's not what I think it 16:27:19
 25 is. 16:27:23

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1 Make me happy. You know, make these 16:27:25
 2 people happy that they're giving up something for a 16:27:26
 3 reason instead of for Channel 200 hype or "America at 16:27:29
 4 War." That's all I'm asking. 16:27:37
 5 I think these people would give their 16:27:38
 6 left hand. I mean, this man was almost in tears 16:27:40
 7 because of his love for this country. 16:27:46
 8 He couldn't even speak his mind beyond 16:27:48
 9 his love for his country. And in a country for the 16:27:51
 10 people, by the people, where we're trying to do 16:27:54
 11 everything to destroy the cons, the, the Ten 16:27:56
 12 Commandments, and take the Bible out of the, the 16:28:00
 13 education system because dumb people are more easily 16:28:03
 14 led, I think the one thing he held onto was probably 16:28:07
 15 the single most important thing he could hold onto in 16:28:10
 16 spite of what his personal feelings are. 16:28:13
 17 But if you're going to represent the 16:28:15
 18 people, then for crying out loud, know what the people 16:28:17
 19 you're trying to represent want, what they believe, 16:28:23
 20 what they do. You don't know anything about them, but 16:28:25
 21 yet you could have. 16:28:28
 22 "If you can get one." Well, if you 16:28:30
 23 can't get them, nobody can. 16:28:32
 24 That's all the time I need. 16:28:37
 25 MR. MARLER: Thank you. 16:28:40

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1 MR. REISCHL: Can we clarify a couple of 16:28:44
 2 issues? 16:28:46
 3 MR. NELSON: Sure. Would you like me 16:28:47
 4 back up there, or back up there? 16:28:48
 5 MR. MARLER: Tim? 16:28:48
 6 MS. WERTENBERGER: I just want to 16:28:53
 7 clarify that when we're talking, referring to one 16:28:54
 8 mining climb, we're referring to one active. We're a 16:28:57
 9 hundred percent aware of every mining claim that's 16:29:00
 10 within the expansion area. 16:29:02
 11 The Army Corps of Engineers in Las Vegas 16:29:04
 12 just completed a mineral survey. It was just an 16:29:07
 13 unfortunate misspoke, is what occurred. 16:29:12
 14 But we, we are aware of the recreation 16:29:15
 15 interests in the area and as well as the rock and 16:29:17
 16 minerals hobbyists and the, and the rock hounders. So 16:29:19
 17 I just wanted you to be aware of -- 16:29:24
 18 MR. NELSON: Well, if you're saying the 16:29:26
 19 only claim you're aware of is a commercial one, -- 16:29:28
 20 MS. WERTENBERGER: No, we're talking 16:29:33
 21 about one commercial mining claim. There's thousands 16:29:34
 22 of mining claims. 16:29:36
 23 In fact, there's excess -- 16:29:37
 24 MR. NELSON: No. But that really wasn't 16:29:39
 25 the issue, was it? 16:29:41

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1 MS. WERTENBERGER: No, but we need to 16:29:43
 2 clarify the Record. 16:29:45
 3 MR. NELSON: Why don't you clarify the 16:29:45
 4 issue with the overlay? 16:29:46
 5 MS. WERTENBERGER: If you look in the 16:29:48
 6 1997 Draft EIS there's a mineral overlay in there, but 16:29:48
 7 it will be updated for this report. 16:29:54
 8 MR. NELSON: Uh-huh. 16:29:57
 9 MS. WERTENBERGER: Thank you. 16:29:58
 10 MR. MARLER: Okay. If there are no 16:30:01
 11 other speakers, thank you very much for attending. 16:30:04
 12 MR. VonBADINSKI: I'd like one thing to 16:30:09
 13 say as best as I can. I don't want to be included in 16:30:11
 14 this. 16:30:14
 15 I'm for the Americans. I'm for the Army 16:30:14
 16 all the way, hundred percent for the Army. 16:30:16
 17 I don't want to be put in with this guy. 16:30:18
 18 Thank you. 16:30:21
 19 (Whereupon, applause was had.) 16:30:21
 20 MR. REISCHL: Ladies and gentlemen, I'd 16:30:26
 21 tell you, though, even if there are no other speakers, 16:30:27
 22 we, we are staying here until 1700, until, until 5:00 16:30:30
 23 o'clock. If someone wants to change your mind, come 16:30:33
 24 and speak, whatever, we, we're going to be here, so -- 16:30:36
 25 MS. WERTENBERGER: Ask questions. 16:30:41

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1 People can ask questions. 16:30:43
 2 MR. REISCHL: If you, if you have 16:30:45
 3 questions, if you want to say -- I mean, this, this is 16:30:47
 4 a public forum and I know you may not know all, you 16:30:49
 5 may want to sit and think about it for a while. We're 16:30:53
 6 going to be here until 1700. 16:30:56
 7 We'll be -- Excuse me. -- 5:00 o'clock, 16:30:58
 8 and then we'll be here from 6:00 till 9:00 tonight. 16:31:01
 9 And you have questions to ask, if you want to think of 16:31:07
 10 something else, if you want to discuss, we genuinely 16:31:10
 11 want to know what the issues and what, that's what 16:31:16
 12 we're here for. 16:31:18
 13 And we're not here to just because 16:31:19
 14 there's only X number of speak-, of people who want 16:31:20
 15 to speak. We're still going to be here. 16:31:25
 16 So, if you didn't want get to say all 16:31:26
 17 you wanted to say, or you want to rephrase it, that's 16:31:29
 18 what we're here for. And so, and honestly if you, if 16:31:32
 19 you have heard enough and want to go, that's, that's 16:31:36
 20 also acceptable. 16:31:38
 21 MS. MASKER: I'll take that opportunity 16:31:44
 22 again to just say another, a thing I, that I did 16:31:45
 23 forget or overlooked. D. J. Masker's the name, and 16:31:49
 24 that is the diversity of the Army's role today. 16:31:53
 25 You indicated that they, you know, five 16:31:57

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1 or six areas that you now need to train in, and I say 16:31:58
 2 instead of taking all the trails that you have had in 16:32:02
 3 the past to run your tanks, your tracked vehicles, 16:32:04
 4 divide that land you currently own and put your 16:32:06
 5 separated needs into areas. Combine your needs with 16:32:09
 6 China Lake, with the Marine Corps and Twenty-nine 16:32:14
 7 Palms and the Air Force, et cetera. 16:32:18
 8 These things can be done through 16:32:22
 9 cooperation without taking the public lands. You 16:32:24
 10 should not take our lands. 16:32:26
 11 We need that. We need the endangered 16:32:28
 12 species. 16:32:30
 13 We need all of this to continue in our 16:32:31
 14 world today. You don't need it for training. Thank 16:32:33
 15 you. 16:32:35
 16 DR. WYMAN: Afternoon, gentlemen. I'm 16:32:45
 17 Dr. Phil Wyman, and I have a couple of rebuttals that 16:32:47
 18 I'd like to make and to what some of the people have 16:32:51
 19 been speaking about. 16:32:55
 20 We're, one gentleman addressed the Army 16:32:59
 21 as saying we don't need the land. Well, there's a 16:33:02
 22 difference between playing hide-and-seek in your yard 16:33:04
 23 and playing hide-and-seek in a neighborhood, and you 16:33:07
 24 gentlemen need a neighborhood. 16:33:11
 25 You've got to get out of the yard. You 16:33:13

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1 need more space. 16:33:15
 2 Seventy-five percent of the threat in 16:33:17
 3 the world today comes from Governments or peoples of 16:33:18
 4 the desert: The Middle East, the Far East. And I 16:33:24
 5 think that the job that's being done at Fort Irwin 16:33:29
 6 addresses these needs, and I think that from that same 16:33:34
 7 point you are preparing for the war of the future 16:33:38
 8 because they're not going to be faught in Europe as 16:33:40
 9 they've been in the past. 16:33:43
 10 I think, and I strongly feel that you 16:33:46
 11 should be taking over China Lake from the Navy. Let 16:33:51
 12 the Navy come in like the National Guard and perform 16:33:55
 13 their service. 16:33:59
 14 We're the only animal in nature that 16:34:02
 15 fouls its own nest. And China Lake has been pretty 16:34:05
 16 badly fouled. 16:34:11
 17 They estimate that the cleanup of it 16:34:12
 18 would be about \$120 million. But that investment 16:34:14
 19 would be all that you would have to put out for the 16:34:18
 20 entire facility, and I think that that would be a very 16:34:20
 21 cheap acquisition of land. 16:34:23
 22 I know that there was a lot of political 16:34:25
 23 football, you know, the Army, the Navy. In fact, I 16:34:28
 24 think they just had a game. 16:34:32
 25 But I think that this is, the bigger 16:34:33

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1 picture is the need of the Military, and that China 16:34:36
 2 Lake should be there on the full agenda. Let's see. 16:34:40
 3 I think that that is about it. Like I 16:34:48
 4 said, we're the only animals in nature that foul our 16:34:51
 5 own nest. 16:34:53
 6 If China Lake is allowed to become 16:34:55
 7 dormant it will not be used by anybody because it, 16:34:58
 8 it's unsuitable until it's cleaned up and nobody is 16:35:02
 9 going to go in there and spend \$120 million to clean 16:35:05
 10 it up. I think it should stay within the system and 16:35:10
 11 be cleaned up and incorporated. 16:35:13
 12 I think your expansion program, 16:35:17
 13 Alternative 1, is excellent with the addition of China 16:35:21
 14 Lake. Thank you for your time, gentlemen. 16:35:27
 15 MR. MARLER: Thank you. 16:35:31
 16 Any additional speakers? 16:35:49
 17 Yes. 16:35:49
 18 MR. EVENSON: My name is Ed Evenson, and 16:35:56
 19 I'm very much with Bill Mann and what he said. I've 16:35:59
 20 got all his books and I've enjoyed his works very 16:36:02
 21 much. 16:36:02
 22 And I belong to three different gold 16:36:06
 23 prospecting organizations, and they've, these clubs 16:36:08
 24 have a vested interest in these areas out there, and I 16:36:13
 25 sure would hate to see Copper City Road closed. I 16:36:18

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1 like to see that kept open. 16:36:22
 2 I've made out a -- It's in writing here. 16:36:25
 3 Should I leave that with someone? 16:36:29
 4 MR. MARLER: Please. 16:36:33
 5 MR. EVENSON: Okay, thank you very much. 16:36:35
 6 MR. VonBADINSKI: I give a, I'm going to 16:36:36
 7 give another short spiel. I think the most important 16:36:39
 8 thing on top of everything else that we lost, we, we 16:36:43
 9 should hold this meeting when everybody can be at work 16:36:46
 10 for it, when everybody's at work, not during the 16:36:51
 11 afternoon. 16:36:55
 12 It should be during the day. At night. 16:36:55
 13 It wasn't here. Too many people were working for a 16:36:59
 14 living now and they can't be here, and that's sad. 16:37:04
 15 MR. ETHRIDGE: Actually, I'm sorry, we 16:37:09
 16 have a separate session this evening from 6:00 to 9:00 16:37:09
 17 just for that reason. 16:37:16
 18 MR. VonBADINSKI: That's the way it 16:37:18
 19 should be. If I could be able to speak as I ought to, 16:37:21
 20 as I used to, I'd be able to, you know. But I can't. 16:37:24
 21 I get all excited and my words get all 16:37:28
 22 fouled up. I know exactly what I need to say, but I 16:37:31
 23 sure as hell hope you get what you need. 16:37:34
 24 MR. MARLER: Okay. Ladies and 16:37:38
 25 gentlemen, we'll take a break until at least 5:00 16:37:48

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1 o'clock, and if anybody has a question, we'll be happy 16:37:52
 2 to respond. 16:37:55
 3 MS. WERTENBERGER: Just remember, your 16:37:57
 4 questions will not be on the Record. If you don't ask 16:37:59
 5 them in front of the podium, then the Court Reporter 16:38:02
 6 will not be taking them down. 16:38:05
 7 (Whereupon, the above Public Meeting was
 8 concluded.)
 9 I certify the foregoing to be a
 10 true transcript from my notes.
 11
 12 E-signature: D. I. Bunn
 13
 14 _____
 15 CSR CP RPR
 16
 17 CERTIFICATION
 18 I, Dorothy I. Bunn, a Registered
 19 Professional Reporter, Certified Conference Reporter,
 20 and Notary Public, do hereby certify that the
 21 foregoing testimony was duly taken and reduced to
 22 writing before me at the place and time therein
 23 mentioned. I further certify that I am neither
 24 related to any of the parties by blood or marriage,
 25 nor do I have any interest in the outcome of the above
 matter.

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1 In witness whereof, I have hereunto set
 2 my hand and affixed my official seal, at Douglas,
 3 Wyoming, this 1st day of December, 2001.
 4
 5 E-signature: D. I. Bunn
 6
 7 Notary Public
 8
 9 My Commission expires November 17, 2003.
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