

1 NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER
2 FORT IRWIN, CALIFORNIA
3 LAND EXPANSION
4 PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING
5 SESSION II
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13

14 17 January 2002
15 Riverside, California USA
16
17

18 BUNN & ASSOCIATES
19 Registered Professional Reporters Worldwide
20 2036 Adobe Avenue
21 Douglas, Wyoming 82633
22 In USA 1-800-435-2468 Worldwide 001-307-358-3222
23

24 Worldwide Telefax 001-307-358-2288
25 E-mail: BUNNORLDWIDE@compuserve.com

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

Page 2	Page 4
1 BOARD MEMBERS:	1 I N D E X
2 COL. EDWARD FLINN	2 PRESENTATION
Chief of Staff	BY TIMOTHY REISCHL 5
3 National Training Center	3 PUBLIC COMMENTS
National Training Center	4 HELEN WAGENVOORD 67
4 Post Office Box 105067	5 MONICA BOND 70
Fort Irwin, California 92310-5004	6 JIM RICKER 73
5 USA	7 TERRY WEINER 75
6 MAJ. ROBERT ALI	8 PETER KIRIAKOS 77
Public Affairs Officer	9 CAROL WILEY 81
7 National Training Center	10 TERRY WOLD 83
National Training Center	11 BARBARA TIDBALL 84
8 Post Office Box 105067	12 STAN SNIFF 89
Fort Irwin, California 92310-5004	13 ILEENE ANDERSON 95
9 USA	14 PETER KIRIAKOS 98
PH 760-380-5960	15
10 FX 760-380-3916	16
robert.ali@irwin.army.mil	17
11 GARY ETHRIDGE	18
12 EIS Project Manager	19
Charis Corporation	20
13 43460 Ridge Park Drive	21
Suite 140	22
14 Temecula, California 92590	23
USA	24
PH 909-695-1999	25
FX 909-695-4999	
16 ethridge@charisps.com	
17 RAY MARLER	
Director	
18 Strategic Programs	
National Training Center	
19 Post Office Box 105067	
Fort Irwin, California 92310-5004	
20 USA	
PH 760-380-3035/4937	
21 FX 760-380-5265	
DSN 470-3035/4937	
raymond.marler@irwin.army.mil	
22	
23	
24	
25	

Page 3	Page 5
1 BOARD MEMBERS (Continued):	1 PROPOSED FORT IRWIN
2 TIM REISCHL	LAND EXPANSION
Program Manager	2 SCOPING MEETING
3 Charis Corporation	3 Public Hearing was held pursuant to
43460 Ridge Park Drive	4 Notice at the Riverside Convention Center, Riverside,
4 Suite 140	5 California, USA, commencing on the 17th day of
5 Temecula, California 92590	6 January, 2002, at 6:00 p.m. PT.
6 USA	7 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
PH 909-695-1999	8 MR. REISCHL: Ladies and gentlemen, if I 18:15:11
6 FX 909-695-4999	9 could have your attention. 18:15:12
timothy.reischl@irwin.army.mil	10 Good evening. My name is Tim Reischl. 18:15:14
7	11 I am the Deputy Program Manager for Land Expansion for 18:15:19
MARCIA WERTENBERGER, Attorney	12 the Fort Irwin Land Expansion Project. I work for the 18:15:23
8 Environmental Counsel	13 Army at Fort Irwin. 18:15:26
Charis Corporation	14 And I would like to welcome you to the 18:15:27
9 43460 Ridge Park Drive	15 second session of today's scoping meeting. I 18:15:30
Suite 140	16 appreciate you coming out. 18:15:34
10 Temecula, California 92590	17 We seriously solicit your input on this 18:15:36
USA	18 issue. Very noncontroversial issue, we understand 18:15:39
PH 909-695-1999	19 that. But seriously, we thank you for coming. I know 18:15:47
FX 909-695-4999	20 it's a long way for some, and it's the middle of the 18:15:50
wertenbergem@charisps.com	21 night for others. 18:15:52
13 PUBLIC SPEAKERS:	22 Just a little bit of introduction. 18:15:55
14 ILEENE ANDERSON	23 We've done -- this is the third of four scoping 18:15:58
15 MONICA BOND	24 meetings. There will be a fourth one in Pasadena on 18:16:02
16 PETER KIRIAKOS	25 Saturday, which should finish the scoping process for 18:16:05
17 JIM RICKER	
18 STAN SNIFF	
19 BARBARA TIDBALL	
20 HELEN WAGENVOORD	
21 TERRY WEINER	
22 CAROL WILEY	
23 TERRY WOLD	
24	
25	

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 the expansion. 18:16:09 2 I will give about 30 or 40 minutes of 18:16:10 3 presentation before we get into the actual public 18:16:15 4 comment. 18:16:19 5 What we really wanted -- it's a very 18:16:19 6 complicated issue. There are a lot of changes and 18:16:22 7 things that have happened, and I want to get everybody 18:16:24 8 up to speed on just exactly where we are in the 18:16:27 9 expansion proposal and then go through the time lines 18:16:30 10 and the alternatives and things like that before we go 18:16:36 11 to the public comments. 18:16:42 12 I know this is old hat for a lot of you, 18:16:49 13 but the purpose of this meeting is to get public 18:16:53 14 comment on issues and alternatives relating to the 18:16:55 15 expansion. 18:17:03 16 It is really not a public hearing in the 18:17:03 17 sense of support or opposition to the project, 18:17:05 18 although if you want to voice that, you're welcome to. 18:17:11 19 There is a separate set of public hearings after the 18:17:16 20 EIS is published that will address that. 18:17:19 21 But we mostly want to understand what 18:17:22 22 are the factors and what are alternatives and what's 18:17:24 23 the public comment on those so that we can steer the 18:17:28 24 EIS in the right direction. 18:17:34 25 If you do not want to speak publicly, 18:17:37</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 for the EIS development. 18:19:17 2 Our Environmental Counsel is Marcia 18:19:21 3 Wertenberger. 18:19:26 4 And, finally, Ray Marler is the Director 18:19:26 5 of Strategic Programs at Fort Irwin. He is in overall 18:19:30 6 charge of the land expansion for Fort Irwin. 18:19:34 7 Talk about the purpose and need. A 18:19:43 8 very -- obviously, the Fort Irwin project has been a 18:19:48 9 controversial project since it was started in 1986. 18:19:51 10 So what I would like to do is cover just very briefly 18:19:56 11 a brief purpose and need for the expansion. 18:20:00 12 Understanding that it will be more fully covered in 18:20:06 13 the EIS and trying to keep it short, I'm not going to 18:20:10 14 be able to cover the whole thing, but we'll give it a 18:20:14 15 shot. 18:20:17 16 First of all, Fort Irwin -- 85 percent 18:20:18 17 of the people in Los Angeles don't know where 18:20:21 18 Fort Irwin. But if you go to Barstow, 30 miles north 18:20:23 19 of Barstow off of I-15 is the Fort Irwin reservation, 18:20:27 20 the home of the so-called National Training Center for 18:20:32 21 the Army. 18:20:36 22 You will see on the map lots of 18:20:38 23 different Department of Defense installations: Camp 18:20:42 24 Pendleton, Twentynine Palms, Nellis, Fallon. The 18:20:44 25 reason those installations are listed is because they 18:20:50</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 there are written comment sheets that will all be 18:17:43 2 entered into the record. 18:17:46 3 Everything that is said here is being 18:17:48 4 transcribed and will be also entered into the record. 18:17:49 5 By the NEPA process we will take written 18:17:57 6 comments for up to 30 days after the last scoping 18:18:00 7 meeting. And that date right now is the 19th of 18:18:02 8 February. 18:18:07 9 Ground rules. Our intent here is to let 18:18:11 10 everybody get a chance to speak. So we -- one of the 18:18:15 11 ground rules that we have started with is to put a 18:18:19 12 three-minute time limit on it. That is obviously 18:18:22 13 variable, depending on the number of speakers. Fewer 18:18:28 14 speakers, we'll probably say no time limit. But our 18:18:29 15 goal is to give everybody a chance to speak. 18:18:33 16 What I would like to do now is cover -- 18:18:43 17 back up one and introduce some people. 18:18:47 18 We have some people from Fort Irwin and 18:18:53 19 the people who run the expansion project here in the 18:18:56 20 audience. And let me introduce them first. 18:19:00 21 First of all, the Deputy Commander and 18:19:02 22 Chief of Staff of Fort Irwin is Colonel Flinn. 18:19:05 23 Major Ali is the Public Affairs Officer 18:19:09 24 for Fort Irwin. 18:19:13 25 Mr. Gary Ethridge is the Program Manager 18:19:15</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 are installations that participate in our training on 18:20:53 2 a regular basis. 18:20:56 3 For example, you see Point Magu. When 18:21:00 4 we bring in forces by sea, the ships that bring them 18:21:02 5 in normally land at Point Magu. And we unload them 18:21:06 6 there and bring the equipment up that way. 18:21:10 7 Fallon Naval Air Station close to Reno 18:21:18 8 is a source of close air support. When the Navy and 18:21:22 9 the Marine Corps fly close air support for our 18:21:25 10 missions, it comes out of Fallon. Also, Nellis Air 18:21:29 11 Force Base is used for that. So those are all 18:21:33 12 partners in the training that goes on at Fort Irwin. 18:21:35 13 What exactly does Fort Irwin do? 18:21:41 14 Most people think of Army bases as a 18:21:48 15 place where a unit is stationed and it trains there 18:21:48 16 and then it goes somewhere else. 18:21:50 17 In contrast to that type of an 18:21:52 18 installation, Fort Irwin has been designated a 18:21:54 19 training center, a combat training center. 18:22:00 20 What that means is the only forces that 18:22:03 21 are stationed at Fort Irwin are those required to run 18:22:05 22 the training that we do at Fort Irwin. 18:22:08 23 Fort Irwin's mission is to be a training 18:22:13 24 base for the Army. We bring in U.S. Army brigades. 18:22:15 25 That's a combat structure. Three brigades in a 18:22:21</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 division, brigade of about 5,000 soldiers, about 8 18:22:27 2 battalions within that brigade, each with 5- to 800 18:22:32 3 soldiers in them. And we train them. 18:22:38 4 We give them what we call a capstone 18:22:39 5 training exercise. We want to train them in the most 18:22:42 6 rigorous, stressful way to validate their training 18:22:46 7 proficiency and to give their soldiers and leaders a 18:22:53 8 very rigorous operational experience. This is what 18:22:59 9 combat is like. 18:23:04 10 So we train them very hard. The normal 18:23:05 11 rotation when it is in training, it goes 24 hours a 18:23:09 12 day, seven days a week. There are no breaks. We do 18:23:13 13 not simulate anything. 18:23:16 14 If you want to dig a tank ditch, it has 18:23:18 15 to be dug with a bulldozer. If you want to put in a 18:23:21 16 minefield, you have to get the mine, haul it to the 18:23:24 17 minefield, dig it in. All of those types of things. 18:23:29 18 When you take a simulated casualty, that 18:23:32 19 casualty has to be evacuated back to the aid station 18:23:34 20 and have the applicable first aid done on the soldier. 18:23:38 21 The task basically that we have been 18:23:48 22 given is to make this as rigorous an exercise as 18:23:51 23 possible. 18:23:56 24 Why? Because we found that the more 18:23:56 25 stressful training that a unit has, the better 18:24:01</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 will see in combat as possible. There are no lights. 18:25:39 2 There are no -- there are mostly no roads. We don't 18:25:43 3 stop when it's raining. We don't stop when it gets 18:25:50 4 dark. The battlefield is the way they see it. 18:25:54 5 We use observer controllers as trainers. 18:26:00 6 About 750 observer controllers, officers and NCOs are 18:26:03 7 stationed at the National Training Center. They are 18:26:09 8 hand-picked. They have all performed the job for 18:26:13 9 which they are the teacher. And their job is to stay 18:26:15 10 with the unit and to help them improve. 18:26:20 11 It's a large investment in people and in 18:26:22 12 experience. It's the equivalent of one of those 18:26:27 13 brigades that they train -- of all the senior leaders 18:26:29 14 in that brigade, we have the equivalent that we use as 18:26:33 15 teachers. 18:26:36 16 We want to train against the best enemy 18:26:40 17 possible. So we have stationed at Fort Irwin the 11th 18:26:43 18 Armored Cavalry Regiment, which is our OPFOR or 18:26:49 19 opposing force. Their job, to be the best enemy that 18:26:52 20 we can possibly face. 18:26:57 21 We want to face the varsity and not the 18:26:59 22 freshman team. So they have a very serious mission, 18:27:02 23 to replicate the best enemy that we can find anywhere 18:27:07 24 in the world. Take it very seriously, and they're a 18:27:12 25 very tough opponent. 18:27:14</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 prepared they are when first they get into combat. 18:24:04 2 They understand how they function when they're very 18:24:08 3 tired. They understand how long it takes to go a 18:24:11 4 certain distance at night. They understand how to 18:24:14 5 operate when there are no lights on at night. 18:24:18 6 All of these types of things we stress 18:24:21 7 in the training. We do it at a very high level, at a 18:24:23 8 level that cannot be accomplished at the unit's home 18:24:29 9 station. 18:24:33 10 For example, the unit that is at 18:24:35 11 Fort Irwin right now is the 2nd Armored Cavalry 18:24:35 12 Regiment from Fort Polk, Louisiana. About 4200 18:24:42 13 soldiers are there. It's a little unusual rotation in 18:24:47 14 that there are no tanks on that rotation. It is a 18:24:49 15 light cavalry regiment which doesn't have any. So 18:24:52 16 they use all wheeled systems. And they also have an 18:24:56 17 airborne battalion from the 82nd. 18:25:00 18 But they will undergo the same type of 18:25:05 19 training as any other unit would do in that they 18:25:07 20 will -- we will stress them out as much as we can to 18:25:12 21 help them get better. 18:25:15 22 Components of NTC training, we basically 18:25:26 23 say there are four. 18:25:29 24 First of all, a realistic battlefield. 18:25:32 25 We want to make that battlefield as close to what they 18:25:35</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 Finally, infrastructure. We have the 18:27:18 2 ranges, logistics facilities, barracks and 18:27:20 3 instrumentation system to make that training possible. 18:27:24 4 We use an instrumentation system that is 18:27:29 5 unique in the world. We take 2500 player units. And 18:27:35 6 those are mounted on vehicles, personnel, whatever's 18:27:39 7 required. And we can track those vehicles or 18:27:44 8 personnel 24 hours a day wherever they are at 18:27:48 9 Fort Irwin. The player unit reports to a central 18:27:51 10 computer, and we can track on a computer screen the 18:28:00 11 locations. 18:28:00 12 We also have a system of radio 18:28:02 13 monitoring where we can monitor all radio nets. 18:28:04 14 We can also put battlefield cameras out 18:28:08 15 on the battlefield to look at what the unit is doing. 18:28:11 16 The purpose of all of this is providing 18:28:17 17 performance feedback back to the unit so we can tell 18:28:20 18 how well they're operating and, from there, learn what 18:28:23 19 they're doing wrong, help them get better. That's the 18:28:26 20 whole scheme of training, is to train, assess the 18:28:30 21 performance of the training, train some more. 18:28:35 22 Unit training statistics. Just kind of 18:28:43 23 a roll-up. We have been doing brigades since 1982. 18:28:45 24 Trained about 1.2 million soldiers. The number these 18:28:50 25 days is about 65,000 soldiers come to NTC from 18:28:57</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 someplace in the United States every year to train. 18:29:01 2 Shift gears a little bit and talk about 18:29:11 3 the purpose and need for the expansion. 18:29:13 4 First of all, you need to understand 18:29:17 5 that Fort Irwin is a unique installation in the world. 18:29:20 6 Not just in the United States Army, but in the world. 18:29:24 7 It is the only place in the world where the Army can 18:29:28 8 train a full brigade of 5,000 soldiers at realistic 18:29:32 9 distances with all of their equipment, with minimum 18:29:38 10 numbers of things simulated. Anywhere else in the 18:29:42 11 world is not as large or as capable as NTC is. 18:29:48 12 CONUS installations, some of you might 18:29:57 13 know some of them. Fort Hood, Texas, and Fort Bragg, 18:30:01 14 North Carolina, are two of the biggest that we have. 18:30:04 15 Those are really only capable of training a battalion. 18:30:07 16 And they do not have the opposing force or the 18:30:11 17 instrumentation or the observer controllers that we 18:30:14 18 need to train the unit. That is only present at 18:30:17 19 Fort Irwin. 18:30:20 20 So it's a very unique installation. If 18:30:21 21 we didn't have it, the Army wouldn't train it because 18:30:26 22 there's no other place to train. 18:30:28 23 That having been said, there's a lot of 18:30:33 24 factors that are decreasing our ability to train at 18:30:35 25 Fort Irwin. 642,000 acres -- about 300,000 of those 18:30:39</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 area in which we train. I'm going to talk a little 18:32:21 2 bit about some of these as we go on. 18:32:24 3 But the chief -- the two chief ones are 18:32:29 4 the Army's ongoing transformation process and the 18:32:32 5 changing operational environment, that is, the 18:32:36 6 changing of the world, which means the Army must 18:32:40 7 change its training. 18:32:42 8 Other ones, as you see there, don't need 18:32:47 9 a whole lot of explanation. Our equipment is a lot 18:32:49 10 more capable than it used to be. We shoot longer, see 18:32:52 11 farther, move faster. 18:32:56 12 Reserve component training. We are a 18:32:58 13 major training base for the California National Guard. 18:33:03 14 And we have National Guard rotational brigades come in 18:33:05 15 every year to the point where we train about 18:33:09 16 20-plus-thousand National Guard soldiers every year. 18:33:12 17 How is the Army changing, and how is the 18:33:23 18 world changing? 18:33:26 19 It used to be that you said, well, the 18:33:27 20 Army is going to attack, or it's going to defend. 18:33:29 21 Actually, the spectrum of missions and operations that 18:33:33 22 the Army does is much broader than that. 18:33:37 23 In blue you see some of the missions 18:33:40 24 that we are -- that we undertake in peacetime. 18:33:43 25 Environmental operations. That's things 18:33:48</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 acres are not available for training for various 18:30:46 2 reasons. 18:30:52 3 First of all, the environmental 18:30:53 4 off-limits piece. We have taken a lot of the post and 18:30:55 5 put it off limits due to environmental concerns. 18:31:02 6 All of the dry lakes, for example, are 18:31:07 7 not trained on. All of the archaeological sites, all 18:31:10 8 of the springs -- they're all fenced and off limits 18:31:15 9 for training. 18:31:20 10 NASA Goldstone -- this area right here, 18:31:23 11 it's about 30,000 acres -- is unavailable for training 18:31:25 12 because it's the site of all of the NASA Deep Space 18:31:29 13 tracking facilities. 18:31:32 14 Leach Lake training range up here is an 18:31:35 15 active Air Force bombing range. It is used every day 18:31:38 16 of the rotation and many days when the rotation is not 18:31:44 17 working by the Air Force as a bombing range. We're 18:31:47 18 often asked, why don't you just clear it? 18:31:51 19 Well, we could clear it, but we don't 18:31:54 20 want to because we're using it for its intended 18:31:57 21 purpose, which is delivery and evaluation of live 18:31:59 22 ordnance. 18:32:04 23 At the same time as we have things that 18:32:09 24 are diminishing our ability to use the training area, 18:32:12 25 there are forces that are driving us to expand the 18:32:17</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 like Hurricane Andrews support, environmental support 18:33:51 2 in Central America, things like that. 18:33:56 3 Peace operations. Think of Bosnia as a 18:34:00 4 peace operation. 18:34:04 5 Peace enforcement. Think of Kosovo as a 18:34:06 6 peace enforcement mission. 18:34:10 7 If we deploy troops in a peace 18:34:11 8 enforcement mission to Afghanistan, that will be 18:34:17 9 another variation of that. 18:34:22 10 On the wartime side, the Army 18:34:22 11 simultaneously does things like raids. A raid is a 18:34:24 12 mission that the Rangers jumped into in Afghanistan. 18:34:36 13 That was a raid where they have a limited mission, 18:34:37 14 limited duration operation. 18:34:39 15 Strikes. That's the Special Forces 18:34:41 16 controlling B-2 Stealth Bombers dropping laser-guided 18:34:44 17 ordnance, those types of things. 18:34:52 18 Fort Irwin's mission given to us by the 18:34:54 19 Department of the Army is to train at the higher level 18:34:59 20 of combat operations. We train by rule in the 18:35:01 21 spectrum of limited conventional conflict, regional 18:35:10 22 conventional war, the higher intensity kinds of 18:35:14 23 operations. 18:35:18 24 Now, because of the changing world, we 18:35:20 25 no longer just do that. We -- you don't see us, for 18:35:23</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 example, training just against Soviet-style opposing 18:35:28 2 forces. We actually train where the major part of the 18:35:33 3 force is engaged in these types of operations. 18:35:38 4 But other parts of the force are doing 18:35:42 5 all of these operations at the same time because 18:35:44 6 anyplace that we go, we can expect to have multiple 18:35:48 7 missions simultaneously. And we need to prepare our 18:35:52 8 soldiers to be able to do that. 18:35:56 9 If we are going to keep NTC's 18:36:03 10 contribution to Army training relevant, it has to 18:36:06 11 change. So we are undergoing a modernization program 18:36:11 12 which is designed to keep NTC in the forefront of 18:36:14 13 training and keep our ability to provide a trained and 18:36:19 14 ready Army. 18:36:25 15 Very simply, we are going to modernize 18:36:28 16 virtually every part of the National Training Center. 18:36:33 17 Seven major programs that are ongoing are modernizing 18:36:35 18 the NTC. 18:36:39 19 Things like modernizing the fleet of 18:36:41 20 equipment that is out there, modernizing the 18:36:44 21 instrumentation system, changing the size and 18:36:46 22 composition of the opposing force. 18:36:51 23 Land expansion is one of those seven 18:36:54 24 programs. And it's geared towards providing us with 18:36:55 25 enough land to train that brigade-sized unit over a 18:36:59</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 enemy. 18:38:44 2 Adaptive threats. That just basically 18:38:46 3 means the -- our enemy is learning from us. They are 18:38:49 4 learning what we do well, what we don't do well and 18:38:54 5 adapting what they have to use against us. 18:38:57 6 So it is things like cell phone 18:39:01 7 technology, weapons of mass destruction, chemicals, 18:39:03 8 those kinds of things. 18:39:10 9 Dispersed. In Desert Storm, we saw an 18:39:12 10 enemy that was hunkered down in positions. And what 18:39:17 11 that enemy did was let us pound on him. That's not 18:39:21 12 going to happen anymore. Threats are going to be 18:39:26 13 dispersed. It's going to be a challenge to find them. 18:39:28 14 And when you find them, they have to be defeated. 18:39:32 15 Obviously unconventional threats. There 18:39:37 16 is less of a regular force opposition to American 18:39:39 17 military power than there used to be. 18:39:45 18 Finally, advanced technology. 18:39:48 19 Technology's cheap. Satellite phones are cheap. 18:39:52 20 Satellite imagery is available on a commercial basis. 18:39:58 21 Stinger missiles are available on the open market. 18:40:02 22 We have to understand that our threat is 18:40:08 23 going to be a lot more sophisticated than a guy with 18:40:10 24 an AK-47 and a bag of clips. 18:40:13 25 In recognizing that, the Army has 18:40:17</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 larger space and to do more detailed and complex 18:37:07 2 missions. 18:37:11 3 It's partly in reaction to the world 18:37:14 4 that we live in, the world that the Army will have to 18:37:16 5 fight in, one that we see as increasingly urban. 18:37:19 6 We are in the process of putting what we 18:37:24 7 call mount sites, military operations in urban 18:37:27 8 terrain -- cities, if you will -- out at Fort Irwin so 18:37:31 9 that we can train our soldiers to operate just like we 18:37:34 10 have seen them operate in the past in places like 18:37:38 11 Somalia, Kosovo, Bosnia. And you've seen Afghanistan 18:37:43 12 lately. 18:37:49 13 Asymmetrical operations. Asymmetrical 18:37:53 14 ops basically means you operate on the enemy or the 18:37:55 15 enemy operates on you with a weapon or system that 18:38:00 16 your opponent does not have. 18:38:04 17 From the enemy point of view, an 18:38:07 18 asymmetrical weapon is an airliner. From our 18:38:09 19 perspective, an asymmetrical weapon is a B-2 and a 18:38:15 20 laser-guided bomb or a tank that cannot be penetrated 18:38:19 21 or an air mobile operation that cannot be countered by 18:38:24 22 a conventional weapon that the enemy has. 18:38:29 23 So we have to recognize that people are 18:38:34 24 going to try to use asymmetrical ops on us. And we 18:38:36 25 must continue to use our abilities to put that on the 18:38:40</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 undertaken a program called Army Transformation in 18:40:20 2 which we are developing new units, new tactics, new 18:40:23 3 weapons systems so that the Army is going to be 18:40:28 4 characterized as one that is a lot lighter and a lot 18:40:31 5 more flexible, one that can move faster, has the 18:40:37 6 intelligence systems to see farther and is capable of 18:40:41 7 precision engagement. 18:40:44 8 What we want to do is be able to find 18:40:47 9 the enemy when he doesn't know that we're looking. 18:40:49 10 And we want to be able to hit him when he can't hit 18:40:55 11 us. 18:40:55 12 We also want to be a lot more 18:40:58 13 deployable. It took us -- it takes us currently over 18:40:59 14 a month to deploy a heavy division. 18:41:05 15 We are developing medium-weight brigades 18:41:08 16 that have a mission to deploy anywhere in the world in 18:41:12 17 96 hours. 18:41:14 18 What does that mean? It probably won't 18:41:15 19 be a tank-based force. Tanks are too heavy. You 18:41:19 20 can't move them. They use too much fuel. 18:41:21 21 The medium brigades we're developing at 18:41:24 22 Fort Lewis have no tracked vehicles in them. They are 18:41:27 23 all wheeled vehicles. They're all a lot lighter. 18:41:30 24 Disadvantages. They aren't very 18:41:33 25 armored. So we have to develop a force that has great 18:41:35</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 battlefield visibility and agility because we use that 18:41:40 2 to make up for the lack of armor that it will have for 18:41:47 3 protection. 18:41:51 4 So NTC's goal is to assist the Army in 18:41:54 5 becoming all of these things: responsive, deployable, 18:41:58 6 agile, very lethal, survivable, sustainable. 18:42:02 7 We currently have a problem with all of 18:42:08 8 those things, and it becomes very evident whenever we 18:42:09 9 think about sending a tank division anywhere. It's 18:42:14 10 very difficult to get there. And so we have to have a 18:42:16 11 force that is able to get there quickly and able to 18:42:20 12 complete the same mission that that tank unit had. 18:42:25 13 NTC's part of that is to train the Army 18:42:34 14 and all of these units, tactics and systems, develop 18:42:37 15 leaders, provide soldiers with an operational 18:42:42 16 experience and serve as a check on how ready our units 18:42:45 17 are to go to war. 18:42:49 18 This is currently the footprint of the 18:43:00 19 maneuver area at the National Training Center. This 18:43:03 20 is how we use what we have right now. 18:43:06 21 Basically the limitations are the one 18:43:13 22 central corridor and a partial piece of a southern 18:43:16 23 corridor does not give us the capability to let a 18:43:20 24 brigade operate on the planned footprint of a hundred 18:43:26 25 kilometers, or about 60 miles by 30 miles. That is 18:43:30</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 And it gives us the capability to 18:45:11 2 exercise all of the systems that we have and that we 18:45:13 3 have coming in over their actual doctrinal distances. 18:45:16 4 Before I talk about the land expansion 18:45:28 5 process, any questions about NTC's mission, 18:45:31 6 transformation, what we're trying to do with the land 18:45:36 7 expansion? Anybody? 18:45:41 8 A SPECTATOR: I just wanted to -- 18:45:47 9 maybe -- and maybe you spoke to this a little bit, and 18:45:49 10 I didn't follow it. 18:45:52 11 But I know there are changes in tank 18:45:53 12 technology and you are moving to a lighter tank and -- 18:45:54 13 but also one that's more agile and able to go into 18:45:57 14 geographic areas and slope areas that are different 18:46:01 15 than what you have used historically. And I wondered 18:46:04 16 if you could speak to that. 18:46:08 17 MR. REISCHL: Probably no different in 18:46:13 18 mobility on the new vehicle than we have right now. 18:46:14 19 The difference is an M-1 tank weighs 18:46:19 20 about 70 tons, and it's fully tracked. It's very 18:46:21 21 capable and will go anywhere. The problem is it's too 18:46:26 22 heavy. 18:46:30 23 The medium brigades are now using a 18:46:31 24 vehicle which is an eight-wheeled armored car that is 18:46:34 25 about 20 tons. It has various configurations. Some 18:46:40</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 the area that we plan to have that brigade operate in 18:43:35 2 the future. 18:43:39 3 We cannot do it in the area that we 18:43:40 4 have. And we are always training the units in the 18:43:44 5 same place. We need to be able to vary the terrain. 18:43:47 6 And we also need to be able to hide the 18:43:51 7 threat a lot more than we have been able in the past 18:43:54 8 because we want to exercise the intel-gathering 18:43:58 9 systems that are part of the transformed Army as a way 18:44:06 10 to train those units. We want to make them find the 18:44:06 11 enemy and defeat him. 18:44:11 12 In this -- with this setup, we don't 18:44:12 13 have that capability. 18:44:16 14 Under the proposed expansion, the one 18:44:20 15 that was passed by the Congress just a week ago, this 18:44:22 16 is what the maneuver area at Fort Irwin looks like. 18:44:27 17 It has a second maneuver -- a second 18:44:33 18 full maneuver corridor. It has the ability to put 18:44:35 19 logistics areas out of the training box. And where we 18:44:39 20 used to have to put a logistics unit there and we cut 18:44:47 21 our maneuver space down by one-third, we can now put 18:44:50 22 it outside, either here or here, and we're able to do 18:44:54 23 a lot more maneuver and a lot in a lot larger number 18:44:58 24 of different places so that we can hide and maneuver 18:45:06 25 units over a much larger area. 18:45:08</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 carry mortars. Some carry direct fire weapons. Some 18:46:44 2 carry cannons. Some carry infantry. 18:46:50 3 We believe that's going to be the basis 18:46:54 4 of what we call the future combat system, which is 18:46:57 5 essentially the tank follow-on. 18:46:59 6 But the mobility characteristics of that 18:47:02 7 vehicle are pretty much the same as a tank. A tank's 18:47:04 8 limited to under 20 percent slope, and that vehicle 18:47:09 9 will be also. It's honestly a little bit less mobile 18:47:12 10 than a tank is, but it's a lot lighter. I think the 18:47:19 11 operating footprint is probably about the same. 18:47:24 12 Now, I will tell you the big difference 18:47:27 13 is there is a lot more infantry in this force. It's a 18:47:28 14 lot more what we call infantry centric. In other 18:47:33 15 words, the combat strength of the unit is based on the 18:47:37 16 ground infantry and their weapons and not the tank and 18:47:40 17 its weapons. 18:47:45 18 Those people will deal in areas where we 18:47:46 19 don't normally operate now. They will be in the 18:47:48 20 rocks, in the hills, because that's where the 18:47:50 21 protection is. So that part we know is going to 18:47:54 22 happen. 18:47:58 23 But in terms of where the vehicles go, 18:47:58 24 the limits of technology says that won't happen. 18:48:01 25 Pretty much the same. 18:48:05</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 Sir. 18:48:08</p> <p>2 A SPECTATOR: Kind of a follow-up 18:48:09</p> <p>3 question taking back on that -- piggybacking on that 18:48:11</p> <p>4 is whether you have maybe or not looked at potentially 18:48:16</p> <p>5 the difference plus or minus in maneuver area 18:48:20</p> <p>6 requirements for these lighter vehicles as compared to 18:48:24</p> <p>7 the main battle tanks. 18:48:30</p> <p>8 Because it seems that's really something 18:48:32</p> <p>9 that -- in an environmental document that should be 18:48:34</p> <p>10 stated in one fashion or another, different types of 18:48:37</p> <p>11 vehicles. 18:48:41</p> <p>12 You said there were certain similarities 18:48:41</p> <p>13 and differences, but it seems like in a thorough 18:48:42</p> <p>14 evaluation you have some kind of a statement you need, 18:48:46</p> <p>15 whatever you need, as compared to, you know, the M-1s. 18:48:49</p> <p>16 MR. REISCHL: I think we talked about 18:48:53</p> <p>17 the land use requirements document. It's going to be 18:48:54</p> <p>18 addressed in that. Currently -- we're currently under 18:48:58</p> <p>19 construction right now. 18:49:02</p> <p>20 It's a difficult thing to address 18:49:05</p> <p>21 because when you've got a 20-ton vehicle that can be 18:49:06</p> <p>22 defeated by a 50-caliber machine gun, it's not going 18:49:11</p> <p>23 to operate the same places where a main battle tank 18:49:14</p> <p>24 would be. 18:49:17</p> <p>25 So we are seeing uses of that tank in 18:49:18</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 You have to define what the threat is, 18:50:41</p> <p>2 define what the tactics are. There are numbers that 18:50:42</p> <p>3 account for the operating footprint of various kinds 18:50:46</p> <p>4 of units. And we're going to define all that and 18:50:49</p> <p>5 crunch all the numbers. And from that comes a 18:50:55</p> <p>6 requirement for acreage for training. 18:51:00</p> <p>7 The '93 LURS is on the Web site. And 18:51:07</p> <p>8 you could take a look at it and see what it's going to 18:51:09</p> <p>9 look like. But those aren't the words. It's -- it's 18:51:15</p> <p>10 going to be a lot different, but the same basic 18:51:19</p> <p>11 methodology, and it's the one required by the Army. 18:51:23</p> <p>12 And it's a document that has to be 18:51:26</p> <p>13 approved by the Department of the Army. So... 18:51:28</p> <p>14 A SPECTATOR: And it will be available 18:51:33</p> <p>15 in advance of or at the same time as the draft EIS? 18:51:34</p> <p>16 MR. REISCHL: It will be part of the 18:51:38</p> <p>17 draft EIS. You can see it's in the '97 draft. It is 18:51:38</p> <p>18 in that document. It is an appendix to that document. 18:51:43</p> <p>19 Sir. 18:51:50</p> <p>20 A SPECTATOR: Just a side. You're 18:51:51</p> <p>21 mentioning medium forces being accepted by the Army. 18:51:53</p> <p>22 I thought all of that was a major controversy as to 18:51:56</p> <p>23 whether the tank was even going to be eliminated from 18:51:59</p> <p>24 the Army training. 18:52:03</p> <p>25 MR. REISCHL: We are -- honestly, we are 18:52:06</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 places other than the central corridor, for example. 18:49:25</p> <p>2 The sweeping maneuvers down the central corridor are 18:49:29</p> <p>3 probably not going to happen because that vehicle 18:49:31</p> <p>4 couldn't live out there. 18:49:34</p> <p>5 So we will use slower movement and a lot 18:49:35</p> <p>6 more use of the folds in the ground than we have right 18:49:40</p> <p>7 now. And those are the things that we are trying to 18:49:44</p> <p>8 account for in the land use requirement statement, how 18:49:47</p> <p>9 do we exactly account for that change in tactics. 18:49:50</p> <p>10 A SPECTATOR: And will that be a part of 18:49:56</p> <p>11 the environmental documents? 18:49:58</p> <p>12 MR. REISCHL: Yes. Yes. It will be 18:50:01</p> <p>13 part of the EIS, and it's a basis of developing the 18:50:03</p> <p>14 EIS. 18:50:07</p> <p>15 A SPECTATOR: Can you describe just a 18:50:09</p> <p>16 little bit more of the process with the land use 18:50:10</p> <p>17 requirement study? In terms of, I guess, there hasn't 18:50:14</p> <p>18 been one done for several years now -- 18:50:18</p> <p>19 MR. REISCHL: '93. 18:50:21</p> <p>20 A SPECTATOR: '93. Okay. 18:50:22</p> <p>21 MR. REISCHL: '93 was the last one. 18:50:24</p> <p>22 There's an Army regulation. I can't 18:50:26</p> <p>23 remember the regulation, but it's -- we're using a 18:50:31</p> <p>24 training circular called 25-1 that gives a formula and 18:50:34</p> <p>25 requirements for developing that document. 18:50:39</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 probably going to see tanks in the inventory until 18:52:08</p> <p>2 2012, until 2019, something like that. And it's -- 18:52:14</p> <p>3 it's sort of an evolving issue. We're always -- you 18:52:19</p> <p>4 know, we're always told there's never going to be 18:52:25</p> <p>5 another Desert Storm. And we're really not practicing 18:52:27</p> <p>6 for a Desert Storm, but there's a lot of places in the 18:52:30</p> <p>7 world where that kind of an operation could be 18:52:33</p> <p>8 required. 18:52:36</p> <p>9 If we had to go back to Iraq, for 18:52:37</p> <p>10 example, that has to be fought by tanks. There are no 18:52:40</p> <p>11 other forces to do that. If there was an action in 18:52:44</p> <p>12 North Korea, for example, there would be tanks in 18:52:49</p> <p>13 North Korea. 18:52:51</p> <p>14 The Army's transformation is moving down 18:52:53</p> <p>15 basically three paths: 18:52:56</p> <p>16 The first path is called the legacy 18:52:58</p> <p>17 force. Those are tanks, infantry carriers and things 18:53:02</p> <p>18 like that. And the goal for those forces is to keep 18:53:06</p> <p>19 them combat-ready. Because if we have to fight, 18:53:10</p> <p>20 that's what we have to fight with. 18:53:16</p> <p>21 The second path, and it's parallel, is 18:53:16</p> <p>22 what we call the immediate force, interim force. It's 18:53:19</p> <p>23 those medium-weight brigades. There have been about 18:53:24</p> <p>24 eight of them authorized, which is -- about 20 percent 18:53:27</p> <p>25 of the Army's combat power will be those light 18:53:31</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 brigades or those medium brigades. 18:53:34 2 Those will be fielded somewhere between 18:53:38 3 2003 and 2006. 18:53:40 4 The third point in the trident is called 18:53:47 5 the objective force. That is the force that doesn't 18:53:49 6 have any tanks. It has a vehicle called a Future 18:53:51 7 Combat System, which looks sort of like that wheeled 18:53:53 8 vehicle, but it's multiuse. You know, it has 18:53:57 9 non-line-of-sight weapons. It has direct-fire 18:54:01 10 weapons, command and control. Those kind of things. 18:54:05 11 So the problem is that we can't just 18:54:10 12 take the whole Army down and wait for the new stuff to 18:54:12 13 happen. We have to maintain a force that is ready to 18:54:16 14 fight tomorrow. And Fort Irwin's piece of that is we 18:54:19 15 will be simultaneously training all three of those 18:54:23 16 types of forces in the future. 18:54:26 17 We see our first interim brigade -- 18:54:28 18 about 2004 is when we'll see that wheeled brigade. 18:54:32 19 We'll actually see one of their companies this summer. 18:54:40 20 And we will continue to see legacy forces. And as the 18:54:43 21 objective force becomes developed, we will see those 18:54:47 22 forces because everybody comes out here to train 18:54:50 23 because we're the ones that have the capability to do 18:54:52 24 it. 18:54:55 25 So long way around the question, 18:54:57</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 quickly. Desert Storm, it took us six months to move 18:56:30 2 about 6 divisions. 18:56:34 3 Our goal right now in transformation is 18:56:36 4 to move three divisions in 30 days, anywhere. In one 18:56:38 5 brigade -- one brigade in 96 hours, one division in 18:56:43 6 seven days, three divisions in 30 days. 18:56:49 7 Because we're probably going to have to 18:56:53 8 fight where we don't have enough forces. And that's 18:56:56 9 the whole goal on lightening up and getting the Army 18:56:58 10 more agile, more deployable and more lethal with 18:57:02 11 lighter units. 18:57:06 12 A SPECTATOR: Can you explain how the 18:57:13 13 Army came up with the corridor, the training corridor? 18:57:14 14 MR. REISCHL: How we came up with the 18:57:19 15 ones we needed or the ones we have now? 18:57:22 16 A SPECTATOR: The ones you need. You 18:57:24 17 said there was 30 by 60 or something. 18:57:25 18 MR. REISCHL: First of all, we used what 18:57:37 19 we had. There are basically three corridors at 18:57:38 20 Fort Irwin. The northern corridor up here is fairly 18:57:41 21 short. Central corridor at the present time is the 18:57:50 22 longest. And the southern corridor is down here. 18:57:53 23 Historically, we have used all of them. 18:58:00 24 Live fire (sic.) is used almost all the time for live 18:58:04 25 fire because it has a lot of targets in it. It has 18:58:07</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 eventually there are going to be no more tanks, I 18:55:00 2 think is basically -- is the Army's transformation 18:55:03 3 plan. But it's not going to be for quite a while. 18:55:07 4 A SPECTATOR: Can you underscore a 18:55:13 5 little bit about the CONUS space power projection as 18:55:14 6 opposed to where we used to be forward based with a 18:55:18 7 lot of the heavy equipment and why it's driving that 18:55:21 8 light vehicle. 18:55:25 9 MR. REISCHL: Pre-1989, when there was 18:55:27 10 still a Soviet Union and a Warsaw Pact, we had about 18:55:29 11 one-third of the Army that was forward-stationed, and 18:55:35 12 we had an Army of about 800,000. 18:55:36 13 After Desert Storm and in a reaction to 18:55:39 14 lots of things that have changed, the Army went from 18:55:44 15 about 780,000 soldiers to currently less than 480,000. 18:55:47 16 We went from 18 divisions to 10. 18:55:52 17 Right now we have -- of the 10 18:55:56 18 divisions, 3 are stationed overseas, 7 are stationed 18:55:59 19 in CONUS. Those overseas divisions are relatively 18:56:05 20 fixed. You won't take -- normally you won't take the 18:56:11 21 division in Korea and send it to some other place to 18:56:13 22 fight because its mission is Korea. 18:56:15 23 So we have a power projection Army and 18:56:18 24 it's -- part of the transformation is to be able to 18:56:20 25 move the reaction forces of the Army anywhere very 18:56:23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 about 1600 remote-controlled targets in it. So you 18:58:10 2 can't drive over the targets. They're expensive and 18:58:15 3 they break. 18:58:18 4 So the only thing we do up in the 18:58:19 5 northern part is live fire. 18:58:21 6 The central corridor is the best 18:58:23 7 training corridor. And currently we use the whole 18:58:27 8 length of it every rotation for about eight or nine 18:58:31 9 days of the rotation. And the problem is, is that it 18:58:37 10 no longer replicates the needs of the unit for 18:58:42 11 training. 18:58:46 12 We have intelligence systems, fire 18:58:47 13 systems and mobility to be able to move through that 18:58:52 14 whole corridor in a day. And we've -- we need 18:58:56 15 additional land so that we can hide the OPFOR, make it 18:59:00 16 harder to find and stretch out the distances for which 18:59:06 17 the brigade is required to operate. 18:59:09 18 More than that, all of the numbers and 18:59:14 19 things like that are being crunched. I can't give 18:59:16 20 you, you know, the exact numbers. But that's the way 18:59:23 21 our analysis is driving us, is that we need to add a 18:59:23 22 second corridor to be able to test -- test is not a 18:59:26 23 good word -- allow the brigade to train over a larger 18:59:35 24 distance because it makes -- it complicates their 18:59:40 25 issue. 18:59:46</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 Just give you an example. If the 18:59:46 2 brigade is defending right here, under the current 18:59:47 3 mission, the OPFOR really can only come this way. We 18:59:51 4 want to be able to have that brigade defend right 18:59:57 5 there and have them see an enemy that comes from 19:00:00 6 multiple directions because they have -- they have to 19:00:05 7 then find that unit, find that enemy and figure out 19:00:09 8 how to engage it. 19:00:12 9 We can't do that now. Right now they 19:00:14 10 just come from the west, and they're very easy to 19:00:17 11 find. 19:00:21 12 Sir. 19:00:24 13 A SPECTATOR: With the new 19:00:27 14 administration, with the Bush Administration in place, 19:00:28 15 the question is how much effort, if any, has been 19:00:32 16 expended within the Department of Defense to push for 19:00:35 17 the Air Force to have more heavy lift to try to deal 19:00:41 18 with some of the real world issues as opposed to, you 19:00:45 19 know, trying to go into a potentially heavier enemy 19:00:51 20 with light vehicles, but actually increase our 19:00:55 21 capability on a rapid basis to get the heavy tanks in? 19:00:57 22 MR. REISCHL: The Army would love the 19:01:02 23 Air Force to buy more C-17s. And honestly, it's an 19:01:03 24 issue that's been addressed. I really can't -- I 19:01:10 25 really can't address it to your satisfaction. 19:01:13</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 Airlift alone will not fix that problem. It has to be 19:02:34 2 a sealift improvement also. 19:02:35 3 A SPECTATOR: Seems there should be a 19:02:40 4 parallel effort as you look at expanding, maybe 19:02:42 5 that -- they may be dissimilar issues, but it seems 19:02:45 6 that that should be something that should be pursued. 19:02:49 7 MR. REISCHL: And I believe it is, but 19:02:52 8 it's really way above Fort Irwin's mission. Because 19:02:53 9 we're -- our mission is to train brigades. 19:02:58 10 But I will tell you they come to us -- 19:03:00 11 brigades come to us using all means. It is not 19:03:02 12 unusual to load a brigade on a ship, bring it through 19:03:06 13 the Panama Canal, land it at Port Hueneme and bring it 19:03:10 14 up. 19:03:16 15 We also deploy by rail. We also deploy 19:03:16 16 things by air. So we use all of the components. 19:03:19 17 Again -- and it's a training issue for us. 19:03:24 18 But in terms of what we get, that's 19:03:27 19 Department of Defense's real issue. 19:03:31 20 Yes, sir. 19:03:37 21 A SPECTATOR: Can you elaborate a little 19:03:38 22 bit. Because since 1981, you focused a little bit on 19:03:39 23 tank weapon systems, but the reality is as you've 19:03:43 24 trained battalion task forces out there, you've really 19:03:46 25 used a variety of equipment. Some very light -- most 19:03:49</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 I know that there is a move within 19:01:16 2 Congress to add 40 C-17s to the buy so that the Air 19:01:19 3 Force gets more. 19:01:25 4 But honestly, more strategic lift is 19:01:27 5 only part of the answer. Because we can lift -- the 19:01:32 6 Air Force can lift everything that the Army owns right 19:01:35 7 now. 19:01:37 8 A SPECTATOR: But the issue is quantity 19:01:39 9 and time. 19:01:39 10 MR. REISCHL: Exactly. I mean we can 19:01:42 11 put -- a C-17 will take four of the intermediate 19:01:42 12 armored vehicles or one M-1 tank. 19:01:48 13 A SPECTATOR: If you have twice as many, 19:01:50 14 you can get there twice as fast or fall within your 30 19:01:54 15 days. 19:01:57 16 MR. REISCHL: And we obviously would 19:01:57 17 like to do that. But the Army has been pushing for 19:01:58 18 more strategic lift of all types, more roll-on, 19:02:01 19 roll-off ships that are 30-knot ships. We can get 19:02:05 20 anywhere in seven days with a 30-knot ship. 19:02:09 21 But there are only about six of them. 19:02:14 22 We could use more of those too. And that goes to the 19:02:16 23 issue of five divisions in 30 days, anywhere. 19:02:19 24 You can't -- there's no way that airlift 19:02:23 25 will supply that deployment, that deployment problem. 19:02:26</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 of it track, but some light and also some heavy. 19:03:52 2 So reality is it's always been a mix of 19:03:56 3 some light equipment out there. 19:03:58 4 MR. REISCHL: Generally on every 19:04:02 5 rotation there is at least one light combat battalion. 19:04:02 6 This rotation there is a light infantry battalion from 19:04:08 7 the 82nd Airborne here. 19:04:13 8 Ten rotations, about seven of them have 19:04:15 9 at least a battalion, light infantry component. Some 19:04:17 10 are all light infantry. We've had 101st come out with 19:04:22 11 its helicopters and the 82nd come with two light 19:04:26 12 infantry battalions. 19:04:32 13 But we want to train all of the Army's 19:04:33 14 weapons. And we have systems to replicate the effects 19:04:37 15 of all of those weapons. And we see infantry in the 19:04:41 16 rocks, you know, doing lots of damage to a tank unit 19:04:45 17 if they can lure the tank unit into doing something 19:04:49 18 stupid, like attack light infantry in the rocks. 19:04:53 19 A SPECTATOR: But light vehicles are not 19:04:57 20 new, correct? 19:04:59 21 MR. REISCHL: Light vehicles are not 19:04:59 22 new. The 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, which is a 19:05:02 23 light vehicle-based unit, has been coming out here 19:05:08 24 every other year ever since they were stood up. 19:05:10 25 A SPECTATOR: That sort of leads into 19:05:17</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

Page 38

1 one of my other questions. Its future training type 19:05:19
 2 of possibilities with the new, higher-velocity weapons 19:05:23
 3 on light vehicles that can shoot way off the current 19:05:28
 4 ranges in theory. But are you planning for that, as 19:05:32
 5 well, in this mix of scenarios? Because this doesn't 19:05:35
 6 look like much space if that's it. 19:05:38
 7 MR. REISCHL: Yes. Well, we are 19:05:41
 8 planning for all of that to happen. There is -- of 19:05:43
 9 course, you have direct fire weapons that are kind of 19:05:45
 10 like this laser shooting from here to there. We also 19:05:48
 11 have what's called non-line-of-sight-type weapons that 19:05:52
 12 shoot over the next hill. And we have a category of 19:05:56
 13 weapons called beyond-line-of-sight weapons that shoot 19:06:00
 14 a long way and they're precision. 19:06:05
 15 We will train anything the Army has in 19:06:07
 16 its inventory. Our mission is to make sure units can 19:06:09
 17 train with what they are going to go to war with. 19:06:13
 18 So as soon as they field it -- one of 19:06:16
 19 the components of fielding it is a training system 19:06:18
 20 that allows you to train with it. 19:06:20
 21 Now, the second part of your question, 19:06:23
 22 though, was actually really the one that's harder to 19:06:25
 23 answer, but I talked about a footprint of 60 miles by 19:06:31
 24 30 miles. Well, that's not 60 miles. 19:06:37
 25 The way we deal with that now is we use 19:06:42

Page 39

1 a family of simulations that looks at the battlefield 19:06:44
 2 in an area that's way out here like this, about a 19:06:51
 3 200 -- at least a 100-by-200-mile footprint. It's 19:06:54
 4 called the battle space. 19:07:00
 5 And what we will do in that area where 19:07:01
 6 the unit couldn't see eyes on, that they will have a 19:07:03
 7 sensor feed. They use an unmanned aerial vehicle, a 19:07:09
 8 JSTARS radar. And that will be fed into a computer 19:07:15
 9 and simulated, fed into a computer, and then sent down 19:07:19
 10 to the brigade's systems in the field. 19:07:23
 11 So they might be tracking an enemy 19:07:26
 12 that's up here. Of course they can't see them because 19:07:29
 13 they can't go up there. 19:07:32
 14 But when that enemy gets to right there, 19:07:34
 15 the boundary, it's replaced by an opposing force 19:07:39
 16 vehicle, an actual vehicle, and then it becomes a real 19:07:40
 17 system to them. That's how we deal with now and plan 19:07:47
 18 to deal with in the future a bigger battlefield. 19:07:50
 19 You know, somebody this afternoon said 19:07:54
 20 you just keep adding and pretty soon you're going to 19:07:55
 21 want Southern California. 19:07:58
 22 Well, we sort of use Southern California 19:08:02
 23 right now because it's on the computer. 19:08:03
 24 Now, in terms of ground space, this is 19:08:07
 25 what we think we're going to need for ground space for 19:08:12

Page 40

1 the next 25 years. That's about all, you know, with 19:08:12
 2 as much crystal ball as we can have. 19:08:17
 3 A SPECTATOR: That's what I was looking 19:08:21
 4 for. 19:08:21
 5 MR. REISCHL: Let me now transition into 19:08:24
 6 the details of land expansion. 19:08:26
 7 We have been trying to do land expansion 19:08:33
 8 since 1986. We actually -- the actual progress really 19:08:34
 9 started in October of last year when we received a 19:08:42
 10 directive. 19:08:47
 11 Basically it was a Congressional 19:08:49
 12 initiative brokered through Senator Feinstein and 19:08:51
 13 Congressman Lewis where we were told to get with the 19:08:56
 14 DOI, develop a plan for land expansion for the 19:09:00
 15 National Training Center. 19:09:05
 16 So back in October we developed a land 19:09:08
 17 expansion option with the DOI. 19:09:10
 18 That option was put into a bill that was 19:09:16
 19 signed by President Clinton in December of 2000. What 19:09:21
 20 that bill required was for DA and DOI to come up with 19:09:27
 21 an expedited plan to expand the National Training 19:09:32
 22 Center. 19:09:35
 23 It stipulated that it must be a joint 19:09:35
 24 plan and that all of the NEPA/ESA regulations had to 19:09:39
 25 be complied with. 19:09:45

Page 41

1 It also authorized about \$75 million for 19:09:48
 2 mitigation and compensation. 19:09:52
 3 That was a number jointly developed by 19:09:56
 4 DA and DOI that was really a best guess as to what the 19:09:58
 5 mitigation might cost. That's where that number came 19:10:03
 6 from. 19:10:07
 7 These were the time lines that were 19:10:10
 8 stipulated in the bill: 19:10:12
 9 120 days to formulate a plan. Done on 19:10:14
 10 the 5th of July. 19:10:16
 11 24 months to complete the EIS. Due 19:10:18
 12 December this year. 19:10:22
 13 30 months to complete all NEPA actions. 19:10:24
 14 Due June of next year. 19:10:27
 15 That's what's in the bill and what we 19:10:29
 16 are trying to march to under the -- under the current 19:10:31
 17 plan that we have. 19:10:36
 18 That draft legislation and the expansion 19:10:40
 19 plan went to Congress on the 5th of July. 19:10:42
 20 The draft legislation for the withdrawal 19:10:48
 21 of the land was inserted into the FY2002 Defense 19:10:51
 22 Authorization Bill. And it was signed by President 19:10:59
 23 Bush, 11th of January of this year. So the land, 19:11:06
 24 about 115,000 acres, has been withdrawn from public 19:11:10
 25 use and given to the Army. 19:11:15

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 I would emphasize, though, that per the 19:11:18 2 regulation, the Army might be the owner of the land, 19:11:23 3 but we are not authorized to train on it until after 19:11:27 4 all of the NEPA actions are completed -- mitigation, 19:11:32 5 compensation, those types of things are done. 19:11:38 6 Depending on the size of the area that 19:11:46 7 is used, there are about 12,000 acres -- or up to 19:11:46 8 12,000 acres of land that is private that will have to 19:11:50 9 be acquired. That was not affected by the withdrawal. 19:11:53 10 And that will have to be negotiated for and purchased 19:11:58 11 after the NEPA actions are complete. 19:12:01 12 We are using a supplemental EIS as the 19:12:09 13 vehicle to complete the NEPA actions. We did a draft 19:12:13 14 in 1997. Instead of just throwing it out and the 19:12:17 15 several million dollars' worth of work that went into 19:12:24 16 it, we are using those parts of the EIS which are 19:12:27 17 still applicable and supplementing it with the other 19:12:29 18 pieces that either were not there or are no longer 19:12:33 19 applicable. 19:12:37 20 The Army has taken over from the BLM as 19:12:39 21 the lead agency basically because it's the Army's 19:12:43 22 action. 19:12:47 23 Currently, three endangered species that 19:12:49 24 we know of. Not complete so we're not sure that 19:12:52 25 that's all of them, but three that we know of. 19:12:57</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 We have identified six alternatives. 19:14:55 2 And, again, these are the ones that we would like 19:14:58 3 comment on, factors and alternatives. 19:15:01 4 This is the study area, 244,000 acres. 19:15:06 5 It is not an alternative. It is merely a summary of 19:15:11 6 all the lands that are affected by any of the 19:15:15 7 alternatives. 19:15:20 8 Alternative I: This is the land that 19:15:25 9 was in the legislation, the withdrawal legislation. 19:15:31 10 This is the land that has actually been withdrawn, 19:15:35 11 115,000 acres. Consists of in the east about 45,000 19:15:38 12 acres. We know of no endangered species in that area. 19:15:44 13 The area along the power corridor really 19:15:51 14 just straightens out the boundary and gives us a 19:15:55 15 defined boundary so that we can put a buffer zone in 19:15:58 16 between the training and the Department of Water & 19:16:02 17 Power's power towers. 19:16:07 18 In the south, 22,000 acres are proposed 19:16:10 19 to be reopen to training. These have been closed 19:16:14 20 since 1993. This is physically Fort Irwin land and 19:16:20 21 did not have to be withdrawn. 19:16:23 22 The western expansion in the northern 19:16:27 23 Superior Valley is about 66,000 acres. Now, I forgot. 19:16:31 24 This is -- some of it's desert tortoise critical 19:16:43 25 habitat. 19:16:46</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 As part of the NEPA process, lots of 19:13:01 2 studies, consultations have to go on. These are all 19:13:04 3 ongoing as we speak. 19:13:07 4 Other considerations: Recreation, ORV. 19:13:13 5 The Department of Water & Power has a power corridor 19:13:18 6 in the southeast. There are mining claims, both 19:13:22 7 commercial and private. And up to 12,000 acres of 19:13:27 8 private land in the area. 19:13:29 9 Cooperating agencies are -- as you see, 19:13:33 10 we are working with all of them to develop the EIS, 19:13:36 11 and they all have a piece of the EIS. 19:13:39 12 These are the time lines. The last 19:13:45 13 scoping meeting will be on Saturday. The draft BA is 19:13:56 14 in preparation right now. And we think the draft will 19:14:00 15 be out about March. That will trigger a Section 7 19:14:04 16 consultation. We're assured that the Fish & Wildlife 19:14:08 17 Service will do a record job and have it done in 135 19:14:15 18 days. 19:14:19 19 Wanting to put the supplemental on the 19:14:23 20 street in December. That will trigger about a 19:14:25 21 six-month public hearing period where we will have 19:14:30 22 extensive public hearings, hoping to finalize the EIS 19:14:33 23 in June, record of decision, and then commence the 19:14:38 24 acquisition of land and the application of mitigation 19:14:43 25 and compensation measures. 19:14:47</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 66,000 acres in the west. There is 19:16:47 2 desert tortoise critical habitat, as well as 19:16:51 3 populations of Lane Mountain milk vetch in the west. 19:16:54 4 134,000 acres, of which about 110,000 19:16:59 5 acres are new. 22-plus-thousand acres are already 19:17:03 6 part of Fort Irwin. 19:17:11 7 Alternative II is the early 2000 19:17:15 8 proposal by the BLM. It was one of the steps that was 19:17:21 9 used on the way to the DA/DOI compromise. 19:17:27 10 It takes the same area in the east. And 19:17:35 11 it addresses about two-thirds of the width of the 19:17:38 12 Coyote Basin. 19:17:42 13 Now, the thing to understand on this is, 19:17:45 14 this area is not part of the withdrawal legislation. 19:17:48 15 If the Army selects this option, it will be required 19:17:55 16 to go back to Congress and to have that -- and to have 19:17:58 17 that land withdrawn with some obvious drawbacks to 19:18:04 18 that course of action. 19:18:09 19 Of course, this area is desert tortoise 19:18:10 20 critical habitat. 19:18:14 21 A SPECTATOR: Can I ask a question? 19:18:16 22 MR. REISCHL: Yes. 19:18:18 23 A SPECTATOR: Can you describe why the 19:18:20 24 Army would prefer one option or another? 19:18:20 25 What is the configuration of the land 19:18:24</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 that is important from the military perspective? 19:18:26 2 Because we can't get that from this map. 19:18:31 3 MR. REISCHL: Okay. Let me go back one. 19:18:34 4 This is the land that was in the 19:18:47 5 withdrawal legislation. We selected this piece 19:18:48 6 because it gives us a place to put logistics units so 19:18:55 7 that we can use the entire width of the current 19:19:00 8 Fort Irwin as combat area. That's for a rotation that 19:19:05 9 starts in the east and goes to the west. 19:19:11 10 For a rotation that goes from the west 19:19:15 11 to the east, this area, especially right in here, 19:19:18 12 gives us a set of terrain that we call close terrain 19:19:22 13 that requires -- it's a good place to fight dismounted 19:19:30 14 infantry. It's a good place to defeat armor. It's a 19:19:34 15 hard place to fight into. And so we wanted to use 19:19:38 16 basically this western half as an objective area in 19:19:41 17 the training. 19:19:46 18 The area in the south, currently a 19:19:49 19 brigade operates on a footprint that's at least 10 19:19:53 20 miles wide because of the range of its systems. 19:19:56 21 We right now are limited to this area 19:20:01 22 right in here because of the impact of this line. The 19:20:04 23 90 UTM line does not allow us enough space to operate 19:20:09 24 in here. Essentially you can put a tank right there 19:20:14 25 and you can put a tank right there, and they can fire 19:20:18</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 If you've ever seen the Coyote Basin, 19:21:56 2 it's flat as a billiard table. You can see all the 19:21:56 3 way across it. You would never fight in that area 19:21:59 4 because you can't live out there. You would be killed 19:22:03 5 by the enemy. So that one is -- has less value for 19:22:07 6 maneuver. 19:22:09 7 The third alternative takes only the 19:22:12 8 east gate and straightens out this boundary. This 19:22:17 9 alternative has no endangered species in it. There is 19:22:23 10 no critical habitat and no endangered species. And 19:22:26 11 obviously what it gives us is the eastern objective or 19:22:33 12 logistics area. 19:22:37 13 The fourth alternative was the Army's 19:22:42 14 answer to the BLM alternative. And what it does for 19:22:47 15 the Army is the eastern area expands the central 19:22:52 16 corridor, but it gives two routes to get into the 19:22:57 17 western area. 19:23:03 18 You can either maneuver south of the 19:23:04 19 Paradise Mountains and up this way, or you can 19:23:06 20 maneuver directly west into the Superior Valley. 19:23:09 21 As part of the compromise, the Army 19:23:17 22 essentially gave up about 45,000 acres down here 19:23:21 23 because of its sensitivity as critical habitat. 19:23:28 24 A SPECTATOR: I have a quick question on 19:23:35 25 Alternative III. It looks like -- on this map here 19:23:37</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 all the way across the corridor. 19:20:22 2 And so what you've got essentially is a 19:20:24 3 valley of death. So it's not good for brigade-level 19:20:26 4 training so we don't train in there. 19:20:31 5 The area out here likewise gives us a 19:20:33 6 good place for logistics support areas out in the 19:20:39 7 west. This area in here is also good close terrain 19:20:43 8 for infantry, heavy vehicle kinds of training 19:20:48 9 operations. 19:20:53 10 So each place can be used as an 19:20:55 11 objective or as a support area. And the southern 19:20:58 12 portion can be used as a -- gives us a second maneuver 19:21:02 13 corridor that we don't have now. And you'll see 19:21:08 14 variations of all of those in the other alternatives. 19:21:12 15 This one -- quite honestly, the reason 19:21:16 16 that the Army doesn't like it and didn't like it when 19:21:19 17 it was proposed is because there's no real advantage 19:21:22 18 to training out here. It's very flat. 19:21:28 19 We never train on lakes because it's -- 19:21:30 20 because they break the crust, cause dust, plus they 19:21:34 21 get wet. So that would be automatically off limits. 19:21:38 22 And the operations need to go from here 19:21:41 23 to there. And the problem is there's no reason -- we 19:21:44 24 would never maneuver out here in this flat, open 19:21:49 25 ground. 19:21:53</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 includes the UTM 90 lands, but you said it didn't. It 19:23:39 2 was only the east. Oh. 19:23:44 3 MR. REISCHL: No. There are no UTM -- 19:23:49 4 A SPECTATOR: Okay. Well, this map is 19:23:56 5 wrong because it looks like it includes it on this map 19:23:57 6 here. And it's not -- it's a mistake on the map, 19:24:00 7 then? 19:24:06 8 MR. REISCHL: This alternative is not -- 19:24:08 9 okay. It stays as a no-use area in this alternative. 19:24:08 10 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 19:24:13 11 MR. REISCHL: Just the way it is now. 19:24:15 12 A SPECTATOR: With the older -- the EISs 19:24:18 13 back in '97 or '98, the preferred alternative, if I 19:24:21 14 remember correctly, was going into the five Wilderness 19:24:24 15 Study Areas over the east and then also using that 19:24:26 16 northernmost strip. 19:24:30 17 MR. REISCHL: Uh-huh. 19:24:31 18 A SPECTATOR: That's a real different 19:24:32 19 landscape from the landscape in the currently proposed 19:24:33 20 alternative. 19:24:36 21 MR. REISCHL: That alternative is no 19:24:36 22 longer under consideration. 19:24:37 23 A SPECTATOR: Can you explain why that's 19:24:42 24 the preferred alternative, then, and there's a very 19:24:43 25 different alternative now characteristically? 19:24:47</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 MR. REISCHL: I can't explain why it is. 19:24:49 2 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 19:24:51 3 MR. REISCHL: Honestly, my history was I 19:24:53 4 came to the project about '97. And the first question 19:24:57 5 I asked was, why are we doing that? Because we said 19:24:59 6 we aren't going to maneuver tanks out there. We 19:25:05 7 aren't going -- and so why are we asking for it? 19:25:08 8 So we came to believe it was a 19:25:11 9 nonstarter for an argument, both from a training 19:25:14 10 perspective and an environmental perspective. So we 19:25:17 11 just walked away from it. 19:25:20 12 And honestly, I can't tell you why, 19:25:26 13 except we came to our senses or lost 'em, whichever. 19:25:27 14 A SPECTATOR: Do you know the reason why 19:25:34 15 BLM preferred Alternative II versus -- or any other 19:25:43 16 critical habitat areas? 19:25:50 17 MR. REISCHL: Honestly, I don't know 19:25:54 18 why. But I know that it did not fit in the Army's 19:25:54 19 training model. So it was -- 19:25:57 20 In the EIS -- one of the things this 19:26:05 21 meeting is going to help us decide to do is decide 19:26:08 22 what alternatives we are going to keep. We have the 19:26:10 23 authority or opportunity to get rid of some of them, 19:26:13 24 and we have to make that decision later. And all of 19:26:17 25 the alternatives may not be kept. 19:26:21</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 Yes. Question. 19:28:10 2 A SPECTATOR: I'm curious about the 19:28:14 3 eastern portion there. You say there's no endangered 19:28:15 4 or listed species. Are there sensitive species or 19:28:17 5 species of federal concern? 19:28:21 6 MR. REISCHL: None that we know of at 19:28:23 7 this time. We know it's not tortoise critical 19:28:24 8 habitat. None that we know of. 19:28:31 9 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 19:28:35 10 MR. REISCHL: And if somebody knows, 19:28:36 11 we'd like to know. 19:28:38 12 It is a -- you probably know, that's the 19:28:43 13 South Avawatz Wilderness Study Area, but I don't 19:28:46 14 believe there are any endangered or threatened species 19:28:50 15 in it. None that we know of. 19:28:55 16 A SPECTATOR: Do you have to address 19:28:58 17 potential impacts because of tortoise habitat, not 19:28:59 18 necessarily critical habitat? 19:29:06 19 MR. REISCHL: Do we have to? Yes. And 19:29:11 20 we are. 19:29:12 21 Sir. 19:29:13 22 A SPECTATOR: Yeah. Hopefully, a brief 19:29:19 23 question. It says at the top of the brochure that 19:29:19 24 there are other alternatives. This shows five. 19:29:20 25 Presumably one of these, I think, by federal law is 19:29:24</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 Okay. That's III. 19:26:26 2 No. IV, like I said, was the Army's 19:26:29 3 alternative and wanted essentially multiple routes 19:26:32 4 into this area. It was negotiated away in the 19:26:38 5 negotiations with DOL. 19:26:44 6 And, again, this is -- this is similar 19:26:46 7 to the Option II, which is the BLM alternative. This 19:26:48 8 land here is not included in the land withdrawal 19:26:54 9 legislation. So if the Army were to try to go to this 19:27:02 10 area, we would have to get supplemental legislation 19:27:06 11 withdrawing that land. 19:27:12 12 So we are going to have to, again, 19:27:15 13 figure out how to deal with that. Either leave it, 19:27:18 14 take it out. 19:27:22 15 A SPECTATOR: Is it already public land 19:27:22 16 or is it private? 19:27:23 17 MR. REISCHL: There's a lot of public 19:27:28 18 land -- or, excuse me -- a lot of private land in 19:27:30 19 here. It's about 6,000 -- about 6,000 acres just in 19:27:34 20 this area. 19:27:41 21 In the original withdrawn portion, 19:27:44 22 there's about 12,000 acres in that. 19:27:46 23 The fifth alternative is to use critical 19:27:54 24 habitat -- only critical habitat that belongs to the 19:28:00 25 Army or areas with no critical habitat. 19:28:03</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 required to be no action. 19:29:28 2 MR. REISCHL: You got to wait. 19:29:30 3 A SPECTATOR: Okay. But I guess the 19:29:31 4 bottom-line question that I'm getting to is: Do you 19:29:33 5 have an alternative which shows Leach Lake? And I 19:29:35 6 will address it more later. But I just need a yes or 19:29:40 7 no. 19:29:42 8 MR. REISCHL: No. 19:29:43 9 A SPECTATOR: Thank you. 19:29:45 10 MR. REISCHL: And I can talk about why. 19:29:45 11 A SPECTATOR: I don't care. I don't 19:29:48 12 know how you want to handle this procedure. I guess 19:29:50 13 you're trying to wrap up this, and then we will go to 19:29:52 14 formal comments or something? 19:29:55 15 MR. REISCHL: Yes. 19:29:55 16 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 19:29:57 17 MR. REISCHL: I just really -- what 19:29:58 18 we're really trying to do -- no. It's a complicated 19:29:59 19 issue, and I apologize this is taking so long. But if 19:30:03 20 you understand, then you can really decide, you know, 19:30:06 21 what the real issues are. 19:30:10 22 Again, this alternative is Army -- 19:30:15 23 Army-owned critical habitat or non- -- or not critical 19:30:19 24 habitat. 19:30:24 25 The final alternative is no action. 19:30:26</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

Page 54

1 These -- at the present time these are the only 19:30:37
 2 alternatives that are being considered. Other ones in 19:30:40
 3 the '97 DEIS, the 337,000 acres, those ones are in the 19:30:43
 4 no longer considered option. 19:30:50
 5 Points of contact: I would also tell 19:31:00
 6 you we have -- I think we have a pretty good Web site. 19:31:03
 7 We try and put everything on there. And we will 19:31:06
 8 continue to put things on. If there is a document 19:31:09
 9 that you want that you don't see that you think should 19:31:12
 10 be on the Web site, send us a note. And if we can 19:31:16
 11 find it and it's relevant, we can get it on there, we 19:31:21
 12 will put it on. 19:31:24
 13 A SPECTATOR: Legislation. 19:31:25
 14 MR. REISCHL: As soon as we get a copy 19:31:27
 15 of it. We have -- the 2000 legislation is on there. 19:31:28
 16 But the 2002, as soon as we get a final copy of it, it 19:31:34
 17 will go on there. 19:31:39
 18 Questions? I think we've dealt with 19:31:43
 19 most of them. 19:31:45
 20 But did you want to talk about Leach 19:31:47
 21 Lake? 19:31:48
 22 A SPECTATOR: Me? 19:31:50
 23 MR. REISCHL: The reason Leach Lake is 19:31:51
 24 not on there is it does not support the Army's 19:31:53
 25 training process as we see it in the future. 19:31:56

Page 55

1 Leach Lake -- there are two avenues into 19:32:02
 2 Leach Lake. There is one right there and one right 19:32:05
 3 there. It does not support the maneuver of a brigade 19:32:09
 4 in there. 19:32:12
 5 If you look -- if you take a topo map 19:32:15
 6 and look at it, because of the mountain ranges and 19:32:17
 7 things like that, there's only one maneuverable area 19:32:20
 8 in Leach Lake, and it's right there. The rest of it 19:32:23
 9 is very narrow. 19:32:28
 10 And, again, an Army operation has to go 19:32:29
 11 from here to there. There is no there in Leach Lake. 19:32:32
 12 That's No. 1. 19:32:37
 13 No. 2 is it is an active bombing range 19:32:39
 14 that is a critical part of the training rotation right 19:32:43
 15 now, and it will be. 19:32:48
 16 The inventory of active bombing ranges 19:32:50
 17 throughout the world is shrinking. This one, there's 19:32:54
 18 no reason to close it. And it is a major range being 19:32:58
 19 used by the Air Force from Nellis, Fallon drops there 19:33:03
 20 and also the Navy from Lemoore is beginning to use 19:33:03
 21 that area. So it gets used even outside of the 19:33:10
 22 rotation because it's an asset that the DOD needs. 19:33:14
 23 Third issue: To clear it, estimates are 19:33:20
 24 in essence -- in excess of \$250 million to do that. 19:33:24
 25 And it's not cost-effective to do that in terms of its 19:33:29

Page 56

1 training -- its payback for training. Its best use is 19:33:34
 2 what we use it for now. 19:33:40
 3 Sir. 19:33:42
 4 A SPECTATOR: Is the economic analysis 19:33:45
 5 behind that claim going to be included in the EIS? 19:33:46
 6 Because I would really appreciate seeing that. 19:33:51
 7 MS. WERTENBERGER: The cost is not the 19:33:56
 8 issue. The issue is it doesn't work for the purpose 19:33:57
 9 of the action. And if we never used it for anything, 19:34:00
 10 you would be -- 19:34:05
 11 MR. REISCHL: If we don't view that it's 19:34:06
 12 a viable training corridor, and it won't be, that's 19:34:08
 13 the best -- the chief reason. Because if we cleared 19:34:16
 14 it, it's not a good place to train. It is more 19:34:18
 15 valuable for training in what it is doing right now, 19:34:21
 16 which is a place to drop bombs and shoot MOS rockets 19:34:24
 17 and attack helicopters and things like that. 19:34:29
 18 We have to do all of those things. If 19:34:32
 19 we didn't have Leach Lake, we wouldn't have anyplace 19:34:35
 20 to do it. 19:34:37
 21 A SPECTATOR: So you're suggesting it's 19:34:39
 22 not been considered in the past? 19:34:43
 23 MR. REISCHL: It has been considered. 19:34:43
 24 We considered it in a development of the alternatives, 19:34:45
 25 and we crossed it off the list. 19:34:47

Page 57

1 A SPECTATOR: So it has been considered? 19:34:54
 2 MR. REISCHL: Yes. 19:34:58
 3 MS. WERTENBERGER: It's been considered 19:34:58
 4 because it's been brought up in scoping meetings, but 19:34:59
 5 it's not been a consideration for the Army because 19:35:02
 6 it's been used all the time. 19:35:05
 7 MR. REISCHL: And it's not in any 19:35:07
 8 alternative. 19:35:08
 9 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 19:35:09
 10 A SPECTATOR: Does that mean it's not 19:35:11
 11 appropriate for live-fire exercises? 19:35:13
 12 MR. REISCHL: It is appropriate. We do 19:35:18
 13 do live fire up there and intend to continue. 19:35:18
 14 Right now it's not used for ground 19:35:21
 15 direct live fire. In other words, flat-trajectory 19:35:26
 16 weapons off of ground systems like tanks. 19:35:30
 17 A SPECTATOR: That's what I was 19:35:34
 18 referring to. 19:35:35
 19 MR. REISCHL: What we use it for is the 19:35:36
 20 Air Force drops bombs in there and shoots rockets. 19:35:37
 21 The artillery fires dud-producing 19:35:43
 22 munitions, these improved conventional munitions, in 19:35:46
 23 there. And we use attack helicopters to shoot live 19:35:51
 24 ordnance into those. And that's the only place that 19:35:54
 25 we have. 19:35:58

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 We no longer at Fort Irwin shoot 19:35:59 2 dud-producing munitions anywhere on main post because 19:36:02 3 we consider that it's all a maneuver space. So we 19:36:05 4 shoot only inert kinds of munitions or munitions that 19:36:10 5 have virtually a hundred percent probability of going 19:36:13 6 off. 19:36:16 7 A SPECTATOR: I have a question. Is 19:36:22 8 there any plans for any foreign military training at 19:36:22 9 this base? 19:36:25 10 MR. REISCHL: We used to do -- we used 19:36:26 11 to have people who trained a company of Australian 19:36:29 12 infantry or things like that. That program was 19:36:35 13 basically stopped about two years ago because there is 19:36:37 14 no room in the rotational schedule to bring allied 19:36:41 15 armies out. So we no longer do it. 19:36:47 16 And I don't know of any -- I don't know 19:36:53 17 of any plans to do it in the future. 19:36:55 18 The issue is that Fort Irwin is about 19:36:57 19 maxed in its capacity to accept units coming in. And 19:36:59 20 our goal is to get every battalion commander, company 19:37:04 21 commander, brigade commander at least one training 19:37:09 22 rotation during their command period. To do that, 19:37:12 23 precludes us from having other countries come in and 19:37:15 24 use the area. 19:37:20 25 They also can't afford it. 19:37:23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 a supplement, but it's also a complete redraft. So 19:39:01 2 you're going to see a brand-new EIS. But it's called 19:39:05 3 a supplement for that reason so we don't waste all the 19:39:08 4 work that was done before and all the public comment. 19:39:11 5 A SPECTATOR: I was wondering what your 19:39:15 6 plan of action is when the Fish & Wildlife Service 19:39:17 7 issues its jeopardy opinion. 19:39:21 8 MR. REISCHL: Our plan is to have as 19:39:25 9 good -- such a great BA that they don't do that. 19:39:25 10 A SPECTATOR: Okay. I mean that's 19:39:32 11 what -- 19:39:32 12 MR. REISCHL: I don't know what else I 19:39:32 13 can tell you. We believe -- we believe that we can 19:39:32 14 come up with mitigation and compensation to account 19:39:36 15 for the issues that people will associate with the 19:39:41 16 area. 19:39:47 17 A SPECTATOR: But it will be dropped if 19:39:51 18 the biological opinion is jeopardy? 19:39:53 19 MR. REISCHL: I can't tell you that. We 19:39:56 20 have been, you know, working on it for 16 years. I 19:40:01 21 don't know why -- I mean why -- 19:40:03 22 A SPECTATOR: Just in terms of taking 19:40:07 23 into account new biological data on continued declines 19:40:08 24 of the desert tortoise, for example. 19:40:13 25 MR. REISCHL: And there's also 19:40:16</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 A SPECTATOR: You were saying earlier 19:37:28 2 that this is a supplemental EIS building on the draft 19:37:28 3 EIS, but also several years have gone by. And as you 19:37:32 4 were discussing earlier, the preferred alternative at 19:37:35 5 that time was different. And for me, just raising a 19:37:37 6 question of how you make the distinction between what 19:37:41 7 prompts a full EIS versus when you're just willing to 19:37:43 8 do a supplemental EIS. 19:37:47 9 MR. REISCHL: Everything in the EIS when 19:37:50 10 it is put will be current. It is a full EIS. I mean 19:37:53 11 there are no parts -- we are just using -- if -- for 19:38:02 12 example, the environmental baseline study for 19:38:07 13 hazardous materials, we are using the one from the '97 19:38:10 14 draft EIS. And we are updating it to make it current. 19:38:15 15 Honestly, most of it will be changed or 19:38:25 16 updated. But some of the things that were in it will 19:38:27 17 just be carried forward. So it will be a totally 19:38:29 18 current document when you see it. 19:38:33 19 MS. WERTENBERGER: It's being called a 19:38:43 20 supplement because we already have a project. And to 19:38:44 21 start over again with a brand-new document, that means 19:38:48 22 all the public commenting and all the scoping that 19:38:51 23 happened before were basically gone. 19:38:54 24 We want to be able to incorporate all of 19:38:56 25 the stuff from the very beginning so we're calling it 19:38:58</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 biological data that says there's a lot more things 19:40:17 2 than we thought there were. 19:40:20 3 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 19:40:24 4 A SPECTATOR: You're finding a lot more 19:40:25 5 tortoises than you thought there were? 19:40:26 6 MR. REISCHL: Excuse me? 7 A SPECTATOR: You're finding a lot more 19:40:29 8 tortoises than you thought there were? 19:40:30 9 MR. REISCHL: Actually, we're finding a 19:40:31 10 lot fewer than you said there were earlier. 19:40:33 11 A SPECTATOR: I didn't say that. 19:40:39 12 MR. REISCHL: No. I'm pulling your leg. 19:40:40 13 I'm pulling your leg. 19:40:42 14 Honestly, we haven't been given a pass 19:40:45 15 on NEPA, and we'll have to deal with that, honestly. 19:40:47 16 And I don't know, you know, what the issue is -- you 19:40:49 17 know, what the issues are going to be. 19:40:51 18 You know, we're working on mitigation 19:40:56 19 and compensation measures that perhaps take care of 19:40:58 20 the issues that we're going to generate by training on 19:41:04 21 the land. 19:41:08 22 You know, a lot of people always say, 19:41:10 23 well, you're going to kill every tortoise below the 19:41:11 24 9-0. That's not true. There's lots of tortoises 19:41:14 25 above the 9-0. We see them every day. And, you know, 19:41:21</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 we'll have to deal with that in the process. 19:41:23 2 We know that -- we know that milk vetch 19:41:26 3 is an issue. It used to be about 800 of them. We now 19:41:29 4 think there's thousands more than that. So we would 19:41:34 5 like to come up with a mitigation plan that allows us 19:41:40 6 to train where we need to train and protect where we 19:41:42 7 need to protect. But that's why we're doing the 19:41:46 8 process. 19:41:49 9 You know, we're not assuming a jeopardy 19:41:49 10 opinion. We're hoping we don't get one. We're 19:41:52 11 planning that we don't need one. But, you know, we'll 19:41:56 12 have to figure out how to deal with it if we get one. 19:42:01 13 We know it's the name of the game. 19:42:05 14 A SPECTATOR: Are you considering 19:42:09 15 off-site mitigation, or is it entirely... (Inaudible 19:42:11 16 from the audience.) 19:42:14 17 MR. REISCHL: Both. We are considering 19:42:17 18 both. 19:42:18 19 A SPECTATOR: Will there be as part of 19:42:22 20 the documentation some sort of analysis of the impact 19:42:23 21 of whichever alternatives upon the West Mojave 19:42:28 22 Multispecies Plan? 19:42:31 23 MS. WERTENBERGER: It's considered as -- 19:42:35 24 it's in the cumulative impact section. 19:42:39 25 A SPECTATOR: But you're not going to do 19:42:45</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 A SPECTATOR: Well, possible other 19:43:57 2 damage that wasn't considered in this initial phase 19:43:58 3 that could come up down the road. 19:43:59 4 MR. REISCHL: I would assume if that's 19:44:03 5 required, that will happen. It's kind of a hard 19:44:05 6 question to answer because I don't know. We think 19:44:11 7 we've looked 25 years down the road. And, you know, 19:44:15 8 what we know now is what we know. 19:44:19 9 A SPECTATOR: Anytime we field any new 19:44:25 10 system or equipment, we have to go through NEPA and 19:44:29 11 evaluate its impact. So anytime there's a new weapon 19:44:33 12 or a new way of fighting, we would have to address it 19:44:38 13 under National Environmental Policy Act. And we do 19:44:40 14 that. 19:44:44 15 MR. REISCHL: I'm way over. I apologize 19:44:50 16 for that. One more question. 19:44:51 17 Yes, ma'am. 19:44:54 18 A SPECTATOR: Will the content of the 19:44:55 19 scoping meetings be on your Web site? 19:44:57 20 MR. REISCHL: Marcia, are we going to do 19:45:02 21 that? 19:45:03 22 We will probably publish the scoping 19:45:06 23 report, and the actual transcripts and comments will 19:45:07 24 be available by request. 19:45:11 25 A SPECTATOR: Very good. 19:45:15</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 it alternative by alternative? 19:42:47 2 MS. WERTENBERGER: Yeah. As far as 19:42:50 3 cumulative impact section, you mean? What do you 19:42:51 4 mean? 19:42:54 5 A SPECTATOR: Well, each -- you have -- 19:42:55 6 we have six alternatives. Each one including no 19:42:57 7 impact, there will be a difference upon -- you know, 19:43:00 8 the impact upon the West Mojave plan would be 19:43:04 9 potentially six generalizing different impacts on the 19:43:06 10 West Mojave. 19:43:09 11 So will there be a statement in each of 19:43:10 12 the options? -- an analysis, rather. 19:43:12 13 MS. WERTENBERGER: No, not planned right 19:43:15 14 now. We're not analyzing the impact to something that 19:43:17 15 doesn't exist yet. 19:43:21 16 A SPECTATOR: Okay. We're just trying 19:43:23 17 to see what the parameters are before we comment. 19:43:24 18 A SPECTATOR: One more. If something 19:43:30 19 changes 25 years out -- this is only planned for 25 19:43:32 20 years -- like lasers suddenly become the tool of 19:43:36 21 choice and we're now shooting lasers all over the 19:43:40 22 ranges, is there going to be reopening or relooking at 19:43:43 23 what's already been approved as possible other 19:43:47 24 mitigation effects? 19:43:50 25 MR. REISCHL: In terms of -- 19:43:52</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 MR. REISCHL: There's hundreds of pages 19:45:19 2 of comments. So putting it on the Web site is 19:45:22 3 probably not practical. But we will generate a 19:45:23 4 scoping report, which is a roll-up of everything 19:45:26 5 that -- all of the issues that have come out of this. 19:45:31 6 A SPECTATOR: How come more information 19:45:41 7 wasn't -- more detail wasn't done on the mitigation? 19:45:42 8 And how come you didn't put a specific area where you 19:45:45 9 were going to do mitigation? It wasn't going to be 19:45:49 10 Alternative I, II or III. 19:45:57 11 MR. REISCHL: Whatever the mitigation is 19:45:59 12 going to be has not been determined. 19:46:00 13 Proposed mitigation will be in the 19:46:03 14 biological assessment. And then that is the subject 19:46:05 15 of the Section 7 consultation that follows. 19:46:07 16 In other words, we don't know what the 19:46:11 17 mitigation is. Therefore, we can't -- we really can't 19:46:13 18 say what we're going to do because we don't know what 19:46:16 19 it is. 19:46:19 20 A SPECTATOR: Your mitigation also could 19:46:24 21 tell us on the large amount of land, would all the 19:46:26 22 mitigation land go through them? Would you buy it 19:46:30 23 from one particular company? 19:46:33 24 MR. REISCHL: I can't tell you that. I 19:46:35 25 don't know. We will -- again, we will determine it as 19:46:37</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p> <p>1 a result of the BA. And the proposal for mitigation 19:46:39 2 will be in the draft EIS in detail. 19:46:43 3 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 19:46:48 4 MR. REISCHL: And for comment. And it, 19:46:49 5 of course, doesn't become final until the EIS becomes 19:46:51 6 final. 19:46:55 7 A SPECTATOR: Okay. 19:46:56 8 MR. REISCHL: Okay. Apologize for this 19:46:59 9 going long. 19:47:00 10 What I would like to do is take about a 19:47:02 11 five-minute break. Again, go over the ground rules. 19:47:03 12 If you would like to speak, please fill out a speaker 19:47:08 13 form. It's in the back. Or if you would like to give 19:47:10 14 a written comment, there are comment forms in the 19:47:16 15 back. Both of those will be entered into the official 19:47:18 16 record. So either one. 19:47:22 17 And we will -- I know that this has gone 19:47:25 18 long. We will be here until everybody has a chance to 19:47:29 19 speak. 19:47:30 20 Thank you. 19:47:32 21 (Whereupon, those present took a brief 22 recess and returned, after which the following 23 occurred:) 24 MR. REISCHL: I would like to emphasize 20:04:08 25 three minutes if you can. We will be here until 20:04:19</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 68</p> <p>1 organizations that are concerned about the permanent 20:06:00 2 environmental losses that will result from the 20:06:02 3 expansion of Fort Irwin. 20:06:04 4 It is a difficult time to talk about our 20:06:07 5 military needs. We want to protect our country and 20:06:07 6 our freedoms, but we also want to protect what makes 20:06:10 7 our country great, our wildlands, open spaces, 20:06:13 8 wildlife and plant life. 20:06:16 9 I was in DC working on this issue on 20:06:18 10 September 11th. I felt tongue-tied with grief about 20:06:21 11 what had happened, fear for what it augured and 20:06:23 12 confusion about how to continue a frank discussion on 20:06:26 13 Fort Irwin. 20:06:30 14 Over time what September 11th did make 20:06:32 15 clear to me is that we do need to make difficult and 20:06:37 16 deliberate choices about how best to protect our 20:06:38 17 country. 20:06:41 18 It has highlighted the debate over what 20:06:42 19 our future military needs truly are. It underscores 20:06:43 20 the environmental community's question about 20:06:47 21 Fort Irwin. 20:06:51 22 Do we really need to expand this Rhode 20:06:51 23 Island size-base and sacrifice the more than 20:06:54 24 approximately 1 1/2 million acres used for training in 20:06:55 25 the California desert and in so doing lose the 20:06:59</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 67</p> <p>1 everybody's done speaking. 20:04:22 2 Mr. Ray Marler is going to control the 20:04:31 3 speaker list. 20:04:31 4 Ray, you're on. 20:04:36 5 PUBLIC COMMENTS. 20:04:36 6 MR. MARLER: Thank you, ladies and 20:04:36 7 gentlemen, for giving up your valuable time to provide 20:04:40 8 the comments so we can get on with this project. 20:04:40 9 All the scoping meetings because -- be 20:04:49 10 able -- be able to determine the correct mitigation 20:04:54 11 and how to handle the project. 20:04:59 12 Like Tim said, we're going to get 20:05:03 13 forward with the public comments. I would like to 20:05:06 14 keep it to 3 minutes. If we have additional time -- 20:05:09 15 we're here until 9:00 -- you can come back to the 20:05:13 16 podium and add additional comments. 20:05:16 17 Helen Wagenvoord. 20:05:20 18 MS. WAGENVOORD: And I'm sorry. I 20:05:44 19 mis- -- I didn't hear what you were saying earlier. 20:05:45 20 Do you need an address? 20:05:50 21 MR. MARLER: Three minutes. 20:05:52 22 MS. WAGENVOORD: All right. Let's start 20:05:53 23 now. 20:05:54 24 My name is Helen Wagenvoord, and I have 20:05:54 25 worked on behalf of a coalition of public interest 20:05:58</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 69</p> <p>1 irreplaceable and spectacular wildlands of Superior 20:07:03 2 Valley and Avawatz Mountains. 20:07:07 3 Clearly, the purpose and need for this 20:07:09 4 expansion needs to be clearly articulated and 20:07:10 5 illustrated in the upcoming EIS along with an updated 20:07:13 6 and independently reviewed Land Use Requirement Study. 20:07:17 7 You have heard our concerns again and 20:07:20 8 again. This expansion is going to destroy desert 20:07:23 9 tortoise in a population that has already suffered 20:07:26 10 from disturbing and persisting declines. 20:07:28 11 The EIS needs to thoroughly evaluate the 20:07:32 12 impacts of the desert tortoise, our state reptile, and 20:07:38 13 evaluate the destruction that will occur from the 20:07:38 14 expansion, combined with increased development and 20:07:40 15 recreation in the region, as well as losses from 20:07:42 16 disease. 20:07:45 17 The Lane Mountain milk vetch was listed 20:07:45 18 as endangered in 1997. While perhaps not as publicly 20:07:48 19 charismatic as the desert tortoise, it is still an 20:07:53 20 important part of the intricate and unique biological 20:07:56 21 community in the West Mojave. 20:07:59 22 The EIS needs to thoroughly analyze the 20:08:00 23 impact of tanks wiping out significant numbers of 20:08:03 24 these plants, study its interrelationship with its 20:08:05 25 host plant community and justify how the loss of 20:08:08</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 70</p> <p>1 perhaps more than half of its population can be 20:08:10 2 withstood without driving this plant towards 20:08:13 3 extinction. 20:08:17 4 The expansion will destroy the 20:08:17 5 wilderness values of two Wilderness Study Areas, 20:08:19 6 including the approximately 28,000-acre South Avawatz 20:08:21 7 Mountains Wilderness Study Area. 20:08:27 8 This largely undisturbed wildland offers 20:08:27 9 views of both the Soda and Avawatz Mountains and 20:08:30 10 harbors desert bighorn sheep, part of the Old Spanish 20:08:33 11 Emigrant Trail and Shoshone artifacts. 20:08:34 12 The expansion will also engulf 20:08:39 13 approximately 15,000 acres of the 108,000-acre Avawatz 20:08:41 14 Mountains Wilderness Study Area, which contains 20:08:44 15 bighorn sheep habitat and traditional Shoshone 20:08:45 16 artifacts. 17 This EIS must justify the need for these 20:08:47 18 areas and identify how the loss of these cultural and 20:08:50 19 natural values could ever be offset. 20:08:54 20 We want protection for our country and 20:08:58 21 our biological heritage. We do not think the proposed 20:09:00 22 expansion accomplishes either of these goals, and we 20:09:04 23 look forward to an EIS that thoroughly tackles these 20:09:06 24 questions. 20:09:10 25 Thank you. 20:09:10</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 72</p> <p>1 fewer tortoises than were expected. 20:10:27 2 Four, the critical habitat data for the 20:10:31 3 Lane Mountain milk vetch, including that in the 20:10:33 4 supplemental EIS once it's designated. 20:10:36 5 And, finally, we also ask you to 20:10:40 6 consider new data on the Bendire's Thrashers. Only 20:10:42 7 three birds were found during this breeding season 20:10:47 8 survey by BLM surveys, three birds in the West Mojave, 20:10:50 9 and two of them were found on the edge of the proposed 20:10:52 10 expansion area. So this is a sensitive species that 20:10:56 11 needs our consideration. 20:10:59 12 While I do not question the need for 20:11:01 13 training, I do urge you to consider the other options 20:11:03 14 available for this, including better coordination of 20:11:05 15 the existing Department of Defense lands, such as 20:11:07 16 Twentynine Palms that exist in the West Mojave, and I 20:11:11 17 believe they total about 1.4 million acres already. 20:11:15 18 There are many different aspects to the 20:11:21 19 concept of protecting America. One of those aspects 20:11:24 20 is protecting the plants and animals that are part of 20:11:26 21 America too. 20:11:28 22 The proposed expansion of Fort Irwin is 20:11:30 23 possibly going to drive the Lane Mountain milk vetch 20:11:33 24 to extinction and quite possibly extricate the desert 20:11:35 25 tortoise from this area. 20:11:40</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 71</p> <p>1 MR. MARLER: Monica Bond. 20:09:15 2 MS. BOND: Thank you for the opportunity 20:09:22 3 to comment. 20:09:23 4 My name is Monica Bond. I'm a biologist 20:09:25 5 with the nonprofit Center for Biological Diversity. 20:09:28 6 I would like to express my concern that 20:09:31 7 the proposed expansion cannot ensure no jeopardy to 20:09:33 8 the continued existence of the desert tortoise and the 20:09:37 9 Lane Mountain milk vetch as required by federal law. 20:09:39 10 As such the Center for Biological 20:09:42 11 Diversity opposes any expansion of the Fort Irwin 20:09:47 12 National Training Center into some of the best desert 20:09:49 13 tortoise habitat and some of the only habitat for the 20:09:52 14 Lane Mountain milk vetch. 20:09:54 15 At the very least, what scientists and 20:09:55 16 conservationists would like to see is consideration of 20:09:59 17 the latest scientific data in the supplemental EIS. 20:10:01 18 These data include five general points. 20:10:05 19 One, the latest USGS survey data showing 20:10:07 20 continued declines of the desert tortoise. 20:10:11 21 Two, the April 1999 report from the Blue 20:10:14 22 Ribbon Panel, indicating that the status of the desert 20:10:15 23 tortoise is endangered, rather than threatened. 20:10:21 24 Three, the latest data from the spring 20:10:21 25 2001 Line Transact Surveys, showing that there are far 20:10:23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 73</p> <p>1 All the available scientific data show 20:11:40 2 that this expansion will jeopardize the continued 20:11:43 3 existence of these organisms, as well as threaten a 20:11:47 4 suite of other sensitive species that I feel are not 20:11:50 5 being considered here. 20:11:53 6 This is as clear a violation of the 20:11:54 7 Endangered Species Act as I've ever seen. The 20:11:56 8 Endangered Species Act is a law used in the world, a 20:11:59 9 commitment to protect our land and the other species 20:12:00 10 that share it with us. This law makes me proud to be 20:12:03 11 an American. 20:12:06 12 It would be a tragedy indeed if we 20:12:08 13 violate the laws of the land and accept extinction of 20:12:09 14 our natural heritage when other options have not been 20:12:12 15 thoroughly examined. 20:12:16 16 Thank you very much. 20:12:17 17 MR. MARLER: Jim Ricker. 20:12:22 18 MR. RICKER: Hi. My name is James 20:12:31 19 Ricker. I'm a member of a bunch of do-good 20:12:34 20 organizations, but I'm speaking as a citizen today. 20:12:36 21 And speaking as an environmentalist, but 20:12:40 22 I'm not going to talk about plants or animals. I'm 20:12:42 23 going to talk about people. 20:12:45 24 I feel that the proposal and the EIS 20:12:47 25 should address the socioeconomic impacts and the 20:12:51</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 74</p> <p>1 environmental justice impacts of a proposed expansion. 20:12:54 2 That would be pollution and the loss of recreation 20:12:59 3 space, the loss of ecotourism opportunities and 20:13:03 4 economic opportunities. 20:13:09 5 And to people that live around the Base, 20:13:11 6 in Barstow, in Shoshone -- and these people who are 20:13:16 7 not necessarily a powerful political base, therefore, 20:13:18 8 our federal government in its wisdom has decided to 20:13:27 9 give them some environmental justice. 20:13:30 10 I feel that the DEIS should address 20:13:33 11 this. It should also address the comparative -- as a 20:13:38 12 real alternative, the effects of combat simulation on 20:13:42 13 this issue as a real alternative. That means costs, 20:13:47 14 environmental effects, restoration, mitigation. 20:13:53 15 The public should know how much it's 20:13:57 16 going to spend on mitigation and restoration and how 20:14:00 17 much it's going to lose and how much these relative 20:14:03 18 things are so that we can make a real decision in 20:14:06 19 this. 20:14:10 20 I think that we should have a real, 20:14:11 21 full, independent treatment of economic, environmental 20:14:14 22 and military sustainability on this issue. 20:14:18 23 I feel that after 12 years or 25 years, 20:14:22 24 which is two figures I heard bandied about here, we 20:14:25 25 still don't know what are going to be the effects 20:14:31</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 76</p> <p>1 the desert, in carrying out your mission, the result 20:16:07 2 of your mission is that it utterly does destroy the 20:16:11 3 entire desert, all the plants and animals and the air 20:16:15 4 quality, in its path. 20:16:18 5 And we've been around -- the Desert 20:16:19 6 Protective Council has been around since your National 20:16:23 7 Training Center was called Camp Irwin. And we have 20:16:26 8 been around during all the 16 years that you are 20:16:29 9 trying to expand. And we've watched the missions of 20:16:30 10 the other military bases expand in the California 20:16:35 11 desert. And we think that with all the land that all 20:16:37 12 of you agencies have, that it's enough to accomplish 20:16:39 13 all your missions if you're really creative about it. 20:16:45 14 You do mention in your comments the 20:16:49 15 sharing of missions and the sharing of training on 20:16:52 16 your lands. We'd like you to seriously consider doing 20:16:55 17 this with Twentynine Palms, using their facilities for 20:17:00 18 training, instead of taking more of the beautiful 20:17:06 19 desert. 20:17:11 20 We -- if we lose this desert and if we 20:17:13 21 lose the tortoise, there's no going back, you know. 20:17:16 22 And with all the changes and the evolution of your 20:17:18 23 mission and the evolution of technology that I know 20:17:22 24 you have been working with, there doesn't seem to be 20:17:26 25 any really good reason to take more land to do this. 20:17:30</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 75</p> <p>1 economic, environmentally, of this proposal to the 20:14:34 2 people of the United States. 20:14:40 3 Thanks. 20:14:41 4 MR. MARLER: Terry Weiner. 20:14:47 5 MS. WEINER: Hi. My name is Terry 20:15:01 6 Weiner, and I am here tonight to represent the Desert 20:15:05 7 Protective Council. 20:15:10 8 I understand a colleague of mine was 20:15:10 9 here this afternoon. He may have told you we're a 20:15:12 10 48-year-old membership organization with people, 20:15:14 11 members all around the country, about 350 of us. And 20:15:18 12 our mission is to educate people about the desert 20:15:22 13 ecosystems so they can go out and enjoy the desert 20:15:25 14 with the wonder and awe and respect that we think the 20:15:30 15 desert deserves. 20:15:34 16 We do agree with you that the Fort Irwin 20:15:36 17 area is a national -- unique national resource. We 20:15:39 18 just look at it, its resource qualities, in a 20:15:43 19 different way. 20:15:47 20 And our mission is to protect the 20:15:47 21 desert. And so it would seem that our mission pretty 20:15:51 22 much conflicts with your mission. 20:15:55 23 So the problem is how to support your 20:15:58 24 mission without undermining our own. Even though you 20:16:01 25 don't -- your mission isn't to specifically destroy 20:16:05</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 77</p> <p>1 And as far as the compensation that's 20:17:38 2 mentioned in the legislation, \$75 million, that's a 20:17:40 3 ridiculous figure which should be thrown right out. 20:17:44 4 The one item I have been thinking about 20:17:50 5 lately is the air pollution factor of the people and 20:17:52 6 the plants and animals around Barstow. We've seen 20:17:55 7 video of what it looks like in the air when the tanks 20:17:58 8 are running. And I don't know how anything can 20:18:01 9 survive. 20:18:06 10 And if you're going to expand the area 20:18:07 11 that you're going to pulverize, then we want a full 20:18:08 12 analysis of the air pollution it impacts. Not just 20:18:13 13 the Barstow area, but the entire desert basin, all the 20:18:16 14 way to Nevada probably. 20:18:20 15 And I'm concerned about the 20:18:26 16 quality-of-life issues that need to be addressed, as 20:18:26 17 well, for the people in Shoshone and the people in 20:18:30 18 Barstow and Baker. They tell us that their quality of 20:18:35 19 life isn't going to improve with the expansion of 20:18:39 20 Fort Irwin, and I think you need to address that. 20:18:43 21 Thanks for the time tonight. 20:18:44 22 MR. MARLER: Peter Kiriakos. I hope I 20:18:52 23 didn't butcher that name. 20:18:54 24 MR. KIRIAKOS: Yes, I'm Peter Kiriakos 20:19:00 25 with the Sierra Club, specifically the San Geronio 20:19:04</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

Page 78

1 Chapter, which covers Riverside and San Bernardino 20:19:07
 2 County. And, of course, the National Training Center 20:19:11
 3 is totally encompassed in that. 20:19:12
 4 Other background, probably for six years 20:19:16
 5 I and four other people here have been working on the 20:19:19
 6 West Mojave Plan, just for background. 20:19:21
 7 Although it has been mentioned, this is 20:19:25
 8 not the forum for that, the platform, I need to 20:19:27
 9 clearly state that my organization -- their formal 20:19:30
 10 position is opposition to the expansion, but I will 20:19:34
 11 move on from that. 20:19:38
 12 Understanding what we're supposed to be 20:19:43
 13 doing here, these are supposed to be, to my 20:19:43
 14 understanding, suggestions for what we would like to 20:19:45
 15 see in the environmental document. So I will try to 20:19:47
 16 go down that path. 20:19:49
 17 One other issue of background. The 20:19:51
 18 proposed expansion from the perspective of the West 20:19:54
 19 Mojave Plan, it would have such severe impact on the 20:20:00
 20 desert tortoise that it would put the West Mojave Plan 20:20:02
 21 potentially at threat of success. So I just need to 20:20:07
 22 reflect that. 20:20:10
 23 Most specifically the most -- the 20:20:10
 24 greatest request that I would like to make -- and it's 20:20:15
 25 a formal request -- is that you add an additional 20:20:16

Page 79

1 alternative. Number it VII or whatever the numbering 20:20:19
 2 scheme goes. 20:20:23
 3 The clear context of that, even though 20:20:25
 4 it's been indicated verbally, is that that's not 20:20:30
 5 desirable or acceptable. But what I'm asking for is 20:20:32
 6 that's an additional option address the use of Leach 20:20:38
 7 Lake and that we have documentation that would show 20:20:43
 8 that option, whether you choose to select that or not. 20:20:45
 9 There are many other options you've 20:20:49
 10 already indicated you don't want, but address the 20:20:50
 11 issue of using Leach Lake. 20:20:53
 12 We face a time of limited resources 20:20:56
 13 across the board: Military, the government and so on, 20:20:58
 14 the federal budgets. 20:21:02
 15 Functionally, what I see with Leach 20:21:06
 16 Lake -- in fact, you have a range which goes nearly 20:21:08
 17 the whole width of the base. And, in fact, it is -- 20:21:10
 18 it does have flatland to maneuver and it does have the 20:21:16
 19 cover of which was mentioned and it's separate from 20:21:19
 20 the other areas. 20:21:23
 21 But, again, I would like to see this 20:21:25
 22 alternative in there with potentially two subsets. 20:21:28
 23 One would be moving the bombing function outside as 20:21:31
 24 one subset. The other one would be shifting the 20:21:34
 25 bombing activity from -- well, if the Army bombs two 20:21:37

Page 80

1 from the two or three services, and actually having in 20:21:42
 2 a different area -- maybe take one of your maneuver 20:21:46
 3 areas and propose having a greatly reduced bombing 20:21:49
 4 range. 20:21:53
 5 In part the logic and just looking at 20:21:54
 6 the military situation is the fact that both in the 20:21:57
 7 Gulf War and the Afghanistan War and looking at the 20:21:59
 8 military capabilities and air capabilities now, in 20:22:02
 9 fact, the bombing is quite precision. And that's 20:22:05
 10 basically the way we operate. 20:22:08
 11 So, in fact, you could operate with a 20:22:10
 12 much smaller range. In Afghanistan, as well as the 20:22:13
 13 Gulf War, you know, we have had bombing in close 20:22:17
 14 proximity to the troops in great precision. So I 20:22:20
 15 think that could be worked. 20:22:24
 16 So again, although there's clear 20:22:25
 17 indication it doesn't work, I think you need to be 20:22:27
 18 open to new paradigms, being efficient. And whether 20:22:34
 19 the Army likes it or not, the environmental community 20:22:34
 20 and Sierra Club would like to see that option 20:22:36
 21 included. 20:22:39
 22 The two other things I would like to see 20:22:39
 23 in the documentation are analysis of the impact upon 20:22:41
 24 the West Mojave Plan and specifically in each of 20:22:46
 25 however many alternatives, whether it's six or seven, 20:22:50

Page 81

1 that you do something to address the impact on the 20:22:53
 2 species involved in the West Mojave Plan. 20:22:57
 3 And the final comment, then, would be, 20:23:01
 4 as several other people have mentioned, that you would 20:23:03
 5 include in the documentation considerations of 20:23:05
 6 increased use of the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps. 20:23:11
 7 base. 20:23:16
 8 And specifically, you know, some 20:23:16
 9 background for this besides efficiency is the fact 20:23:19
 10 that, you know, if you're moving towards new types of 20:23:22
 11 armored vehicles, there may be some suitability there. 20:23:25
 12 But whether you choose that or not, we'd 20:23:30
 13 like to see you at least address that in writing as 20:23:32
 14 part of the documentation. And that's it. 20:23:34
 15 Thanks. 20:23:37
 16 MR. MARLER: Carol Wiley. 20:23:41
 17 MS. WILEY: My name is Carol Wiley. I'm 20:23:50
 18 with the Mojave group of the Sierra Club, and our 20:23:51
 19 members live in the Mojave Desert. 20:23:56
 20 First, I want to thank you for having 20:23:59
 21 the additional scoping meetings because this concerns 20:24:00
 22 more than just people in the desert. People from all 20:24:05
 23 over are concerned about this desert. So thank you 20:24:06
 24 for the additional hearings. 20:24:09
 25 I can appreciate your desire for more 20:24:12

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 82</p> <p>1 land. I've had the opportunity to tour your facility 20:24:16 2 and see how you do things, and it's very impressive. 20:24:18 3 However, you're doing a good job. And 20:24:23 4 we kind of would like to see you do it on the land 20:24:27 5 that you have now. It's a sizeable piece of land. 20:24:29 6 We feel that our -- our area feels like 20:24:33 7 the cost of the environment is just too great to 20:24:37 8 expand where you want to expand. 20:24:41 9 Our concerns are with the destruction of 20:24:45 10 thousands and thousands of acres of potential 20:24:50 11 wilderness, mainly in the Avawatz/Southern Avawatz 20:24:54 12 Wilderness Study Areas, homes of lots of wildlife, 20:24:58 13 bighorn sheep, Mojave ground squirrel and other 20:25:02 14 wildlife plants. 20:25:06 15 We also are concerned about the Superior 20:25:08 16 Valley expansion area. It's an irreplaceable refuge 20:25:12 17 for unique plants and animals, including the desert 20:25:16 18 tortoise and Lane Mountain milk vetch. 20:25:23 19 Another one of our great concerns is 20:25:25 20 opening up the southern strip, which is -- which is 20:25:27 21 already in the training center area, but has been 20:25:31 22 previously closed because of your acknowledgment of 20:25:34 23 the desert tortoise habitat there. It's one of the 20:25:42 24 few healthy and thriving tortoise populations in the 20:25:42 25 Mojave Desert and, therefore, very important to the 20:25:46</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 84</p> <p>1 Avawatz and the south end of the Avawatz as 20:27:21 2 wilderness? If so, perhaps the wilderness gains, but, 20:27:23 3 unfortunately, it's not that simple. It threatened 20:27:27 4 desert tortoise, and the Lane Mountain milk vetch lose 20:27:29 5 and the desert loses. 20:27:32 6 Additionally, the National Training 20:27:35 7 Center is already one of the highest particulate 20:27:36 8 polluter generators in the country. The environmental 20:27:41 9 working group produced a report in 1997 that had 20:27:41 10 Fort Irwin at the top of the list, guys. 20:27:45 11 Regional air quality will only 20:27:47 12 deteriorate with expansion. And because of the 20:27:49 13 severity of the environmental impacts that result from 20:27:52 14 this expansion, the legally required environmental 20:27:53 15 mitigation is likely to cost hundreds of millions of 20:27:57 16 dollars. Much, much more than the 75 million 20:28:00 17 authorized for both mitigation and compensation. So I 20:28:02 18 hope you look at those figures again. 20:28:05 19 Thank you. 20:28:07 20 MR. MARLER: Barbara Tidball. 20:28:13 21 MS. TIDBALL: This is my second, third 20:28:19 22 over the years. I keep coming back every few years, 20:28:24 23 and there's new faces up here. And there's sometimes 20:28:27 24 new faces out here. But I look back over my notes, 20:28:30 25 and I can almost quote everything you said tonight was 20:28:34</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 83</p> <p>1 survival of the desert tortoise. 20:25:50 2 We also feel the plan needs to have more 20:25:53 3 specific -- a very specific plan for mitigation for 20:25:55 4 this loss of critical habitat for endangered species. 20:25:59 5 Also, we are concerned about the loss of 20:26:09 6 recreation. Some of the surrounding areas are 20:26:11 7 important to people for hiking and exploring, rock 20:26:16 8 collecting and such. And a lot of the people -- a lot 20:26:21 9 of public -- privately owned lands are there also. So 20:26:24 10 that's our concerns from the people in the Mojave. 20:26:29 11 Thank you. 20:26:32 12 MR. MARLER: Terry Wold. 20:26:36 13 MS. WOLD: Good evening. My name is 20:26:42 14 Terry Wold. I am a regional conservation 20:26:45 15 representative for the Wilderness Society, as well as 20:26:47 16 the secretary of Clean Air Now. 20:26:50 17 In the passage of the California 20:26:54 18 Protection Act of 1994, the Army stopped the 20:26:56 19 designation of wilderness of all or part of five 20:26:59 20 areas. The southern part of Owls Head Wilderness 20:27:02 21 inside Death Valley National Park, Avawatz Wilderness, 20:27:06 22 the west part of the Kingston Range Wilderness, South 20:27:08 23 Avawatz Wilderness, and the Soda Mountain Wilderness. 20:27:13 24 If the Army expands as proposed, will it 20:27:16 25 designate the above WSAs with the exception of South 20:27:19</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 85</p> <p>1 said in 1997 also. And it was probably said before 20:28:36 2 then in 1993 and so on and so forth. 20:28:40 3 This seems to be an ongoing issue that 20:28:45 4 doesn't want to go away. 20:28:46 5 I'm Barbara Tidball. I'm representing 20:28:47 6 myself tonight, although I belong to just about 20:28:49 7 everything. 20:28:52 8 Avawatz Mountain, the first time I 20:28:55 9 looked at Fort Irwin, other than driving by quickly on 20:28:57 10 the road, it's a fabulous place to climb. Have you 20:29:00 11 been there? 20:29:02 12 I recommend you go there. You might not 20:29:03 13 be sitting there recommending this today if you did. 20:29:07 14 It's really a very interesting place. It's a nice 20:29:10 15 climb. 20:29:13 16 I took my dad a few years ago out into 20:29:15 17 the desert to just go on a little hike to Chuckawalla. 20:29:17 18 It's off of the 10. And he's staunch, you know, 20:29:22 19 flying the plane and going nowhere and walking up. 20:29:24 20 And then he's driving along with us in 20:29:28 21 the truck, and he goes, is that really a road? Oh my 20:29:30 22 God. You're going to drive over that. 20:29:33 23 He saw the desert the first time. He's 20:29:35 24 since climbed Old Dad Mountain with us. He's been up 20:29:38 25 Turtles. He has been up a few others. He loves the 20:29:41</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 86</p> <p>1 desert, and he found out why I like to see it 20:29:45 2 protected. 20:29:48 3 I think you need to go there. I think 20:29:48 4 you need to see it. There's a little bit more than 20:29:50 5 all this wonderful rhetoric. 20:29:52 6 I commend the Army for its diligence 20:29:55 7 over the years, its persistence in pursuit of 20:29:56 8 Fort Irwin's goal to expand. 20:30:01 9 But I'm also dismayed at the persistence 20:30:04 10 of the Army. I'm a government employee myself. I 20:30:08 11 work as an architectural engineering project manager. 20:30:11 12 And I know what it's like to get assigned a project 20:30:16 13 and then have it disappear because the wrong person 20:30:19 14 approved it or didn't approve it. 20:30:21 15 That damn thing comes back anywhere from 20:30:23 16 5 years to 10 years to 15 years to 20 years later. 20:30:26 17 The government has inexhaustible file cabinets. It 20:30:29 18 has people who are on the payroll for a long time. It 20:30:33 19 has a very, very good memory. You and the tortoises 20:30:37 20 should get along real well. 20:30:40 21 But you also have repeatedly been told 20:30:42 22 we don't like this project. 20:30:47 23 As I said earlier, a lot of the 20:30:50 24 criticism that you're going to come up with again and 20:30:52 25 again -- I can quote the notes from 1997 and before. 20:30:56</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 88</p> <p>1 But I think it needs to be readdressed. 20:32:11 2 You fight wars together. I don't see why you can't 20:32:12 3 train together. 20:32:15 4 Twentynine Palms: I think you need to 20:32:16 5 look at that one. You fight wars together again. You 20:32:19 6 ought to be able to train together. 20:32:22 7 You talk about needing proper land to 20:32:24 8 train. You know, I haven't seen anybody fight a war 20:32:27 9 in a Wilderness Area yet. You're fighting wars in 20:32:31 10 towns, villages, along roads, in highways. You're 20:32:34 11 flying airplanes in... 20:32:38 12 Wilderness Study Areas need to be 20:32:41 13 sacrificed so you can be in similar areas? It's not 20:32:45 14 going to happen. You need to justify that a lot 20:32:46 15 better. 20:32:49 16 Tanks: Tanks are being phased out. By 20:32:51 17 your own time line, you're telling me 2012 to 2020 or 20:32:54 18 2019. Well, you're not going to be doing this in 20:33:00 19 2005. That means you could be using this for maybe 20:33:03 20 seven years? That's justification? You need to show 20:33:06 21 that. 20:33:08 22 The tortoise has been endangered. It's 20:33:09 23 on the decline; 80 to 90 percent, they're saying, 20:33:11 24 since 1990. How are you going to justify any further 20:33:13 25 impacts on that? 20:33:18</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 87</p> <p>1 Guys, we're wasting our times. We're repeating 20:30:59 2 ourselves constantly. Get the message. Listen to the 20:31:02 3 message this time. 20:31:07 4 You've got a compromise from Congress. 20:31:07 5 It said, okay. You can have the land. It's all 20:31:10 6 yours. You can hold this land. But, by the way, you 20:31:12 7 have to do a proper EIS, and if anything's in 20:31:18 8 jeopardy, you can't use it after all. 20:31:20 9 I think you really got a backhanded 20:31:24 10 deal, guys. And I think you're wasting a lot of our 20:31:25 11 taxpayer money pursuing this right now. 20:31:27 12 Fort Irwin, you waited a long time. In 20:31:33 13 1985 you asked for 331,000 acres. Today it's 110-. 20:31:36 14 Let's wait a few more years. Another third drop. 20:31:40 15 Boom, you're looking pretty good. It keeps going on 20:31:42 16 and on. 20:31:46 17 Basic issues that remain. You obviously 20:31:46 18 have got EIS -- supplemental EISs and everything else 20:31:48 19 to start working with. You've got a wealth of 20:31:53 20 information. And I do hope you use the old because 20:31:54 21 you will just waste more money generating new. 20:31:57 22 Please address sharing space with China 20:32:00 23 Lake. I know in 1993 you said that wasn't compatible. 20:32:03 24 Let's see that again in the new report if that's what 20:32:06 25 they're going to say. 20:32:11</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 89</p> <p>1 And, finally, I do think the EIS is 20:33:20 2 going to have to show how you're going to do 20:33:22 3 mitigation because half of the arguments are centered 20:33:23 4 around proposed mitigations, anything from relocations 20:33:26 5 to et cetera. That's got to be in the EIS because 20:33:29 6 without it, you're missing the meat of what you're 20:33:33 7 doing. 20:33:37 8 Thanks for the opportunity. I hope I 20:33:38 9 don't see you again in two to three years. 20:33:40 10 MR. MARLER: Stan Sniff. 20:33:45 11 MR. SNIFF: Thanks for letting me have 20:33:50 12 the opportunity to make a statement for the record. 20:33:53 13 And I append a number of comments in the course of the 20:33:57 14 briefing that I would like to cover, and then I will 20:34:00 15 clean them up and submit something written for the 20:34:03 16 record. 20:34:06 17 My name is Stan Sniff. I'm a peace 20:34:07 18 officer by profession. And am a chief deputy with the 20:34:09 19 Riverside County Sheriff's Department where I recently 20:34:13 20 commanded the training division. And in some cases we 20:34:16 21 try to replicate some of the same concepts that I 20:34:19 22 learned quite some time ago at the National Training 20:34:22 23 Center. 20:34:26 24 I have a little bit of a unique 20:34:26 25 perspective because I have been a citizen soldier 20:34:28</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p> <p>1 since the days I left active duty. I have had the 20:34:31 2 opportunity to train for well over a decade at the 20:34:33 3 National Training Center before it was a National 20:34:35 4 Training Center. 20:34:38 5 I'm also probably unique in that I've 20:34:39 6 also had the opportunity to train at Twentynine Palms 20:34:41 7 at the Marine Corps base. So I have a perspective on 20:34:44 8 that, as well. 20:34:48 9 I am the vice president of the Retired 20:34:49 10 Military Officers in Riverside, which represents about 20:34:51 11 800 officers that are retired from all branches of the 20:34:53 12 armed forces. 20:34:55 13 And we obviously have an interest in 20:34:57 14 national defense issues and particularly training 20:35:00 15 issues. I, for one, am absolutely supportive, 20:35:02 16 unabashedly so, of the expansion of the National 20:35:06 17 Training Center. 20:35:10 18 When I trained out there in the '80s, it 20:35:10 19 was already too small for the units that we operated 20:35:13 20 at that time, including even the weapons systems at 20:35:16 21 that time. Arguments were ongoing as far as expanding 20:35:18 22 the area to make it even more realistic. 20:35:21 23 I think the Army has done a very poor 20:35:24 24 job in explaining the critical role of the National 20:35:27 25 Training Center, even though it's relatively close by 20:35:31</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p> <p>1 the United States Army, Don Star and a bunch of 20:36:39 2 others, as they refocused on fighting the Soviet 20:36:42 3 threat at that time. 20:36:45 4 A book was published that many people 20:36:45 5 are probably not aware of, but it was required reading 20:36:47 6 in all military circles, called "First Battles." 20:36:51 7 And one of the things they saw in the 20:36:54 8 1973 Yom Kippur War when the first types of field 20:36:56 9 munitions were fielded was that we lost on both sides 20:37:01 10 well over 4,000 tanks in a little less than two weeks, 20:37:04 11 which basically was our entire inventory numberwise in 20:37:07 12 Europe in the United States Army. And it sent shock 20:37:12 13 waves that they needed to end up doing a better job. 20:37:14 14 The tenet out of "First Battles" was the 20:37:18 15 United States Army historically in its 225, 226 years 20:37:19 16 has traditionally lost its first battle. And it lost 20:37:23 17 its first battle in terms of many, many lives and 20:37:27 18 leaders that had to learn the hard way. 20:37:29 19 So the training revolution that was born 20:37:31 20 in 1981 at the National Training Center was designed 20:37:33 21 to replicate everything leadershipwise and 20:37:35 22 technicallywise on the weapons systems and employment 20:37:40 23 of those things in real time and space. And it was 20:37:41 24 really critical. 20:37:46 25 A lot of smart folks revolutionized the 20:37:46</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p> <p>1 in Southern California, and I think it's a little 20:35:32 2 known secret. 20:35:35 3 Most of the other training centers, 20:35:37 4 including Twentynine Palms, the Joint Readiness 20:35:39 5 Training Center at Fort Polk, the Hohenfels training 20:35:43 6 area, which is a combat maneuver training area for 20:35:47 7 Europe, have all been following replication of the 20:35:50 8 success that's occurred at the National Training 20:35:53 9 Center. 20:35:55 10 It's a premier training center in the 20:35:56 11 world. And many of us that have been graduates of it, 20:35:58 12 even though we cycled off in civilian life, are proud 20:36:01 13 of the opportunities that's been learned as both 20:36:04 14 leaders and technical skills. 20:36:07 15 And, of course, it's probably not well 20:36:08 16 known that much of the success out of the Gulf War 20:36:10 17 that we enjoyed was as a direct result of the ten 20:36:19 18 years of constant training and replicating combat at 20:36:19 19 the National Training Center. 20:36:22 20 I also don't think it's well known that 20:36:22 21 the Army went through a major revolution, training 20:36:24 22 revolution, after the Vietnam War when it was 20:36:27 23 demoralized, a lot of strife went rampant in it and 20:36:31 24 very poor training. 20:36:34 25 Some very smart people came to power in 20:36:35</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 93</p> <p>1 way that the Army got lessons learned and got those 20:37:49 2 skill sets embedded that led to the Gulf War. 20:37:52 3 As I mentioned, we in the civilian 20:37:56 4 sector are 20 years behind. But even in the law 20:37:58 5 enforcement circles, we're also learning the value, 20:38:01 6 instead of learning on the backs of the public, that 20:38:04 7 we need to replicate with simulators, replicate and 20:38:06 8 actually use lasers and use real opportunities to 20:38:09 9 train in a training environment where they can 20:38:11 10 continue to do things until they get it done right and 20:38:13 11 then put them out on the street. 20:38:17 12 Smaller scale, but the same basic 20:38:17 13 concept that many of us led a long time ago. 20:38:20 14 A lot of discussion that war is over and 20:38:23 15 everything is going to be precision or video. And 20:38:24 16 there's a lot of us in the military community that 20:38:26 17 still end up seeing that thing debated by the 20:38:29 18 professionals back and forth. 20:38:31 19 Clearly, we need a place that we can end 20:38:33 20 up saving lives to rehearse. There's no question that 20:38:35 21 Iraq had a lot of very good equipment, a lot of very 20:38:42 22 good equipment, and probably some excellent soldiers. 20:38:42 23 But it collapsed because it had poor training and poor 20:38:44 24 coordination of those assets, and we had a very 20:38:47 25 lopsided -- they simply were not ready for modern 20:38:50</p>

NTC Scoping Meeting #2 PM

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 94</p> <p>1 combat. 20:38:53 2 We've learned that we have to ramp up 20:38:54 3 well before. You don't have time where the balloon 20:38:57 4 goes to train those young men and women and save 20:39:00 5 lives. If they haven't invested years and years of 20:39:03 6 having modern realistic training, they're not going to 20:39:06 7 be ready, and we put a lot of them at risk. 20:39:10 8 In the interest of saving lives, we need 20:39:13 9 a place where we can replicate war, a place to grow 20:39:14 10 leaders, fire live ammunition and maneuver a real time 20:39:17 11 and space relationships. 20:39:22 12 With a smaller Army -- and I don't think 20:39:24 13 much of the public understands. The United States 20:39:25 14 Army on active duty is smaller right now than before 20:39:26 15 the start of the Korean War. 20:39:29 16 And I think what's critical to 20:39:31 17 understand is that training, in all of its context in 20:39:32 18 making training more and more realistic and giving 20:39:38 19 opportunities for folks to learn and grow, is even 20:39:39 20 more critical before those first battles of the future 20:39:42 21 end up being fought. 20:39:44 22 Our weapons systems, even from the time 20:39:46 23 I was out in the National Training Center, are more 20:39:48 24 sophisticated. And the ability to accurately practice 20:39:52 25 and maneuver on the ground in real time and space is 20:39:54</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 96</p> <p>1 representing the 10,000 members of the Native Plant 20:41:07 2 Society. And I would like to thank the Army for your 20:41:11 3 additional scoping meetings tonight. 20:41:14 4 CNPS would like to see -- that's 20:41:18 5 California Native Plant Society acronym. CNPS would 20:41:23 6 like to see the Army explore and select a preferred 20:41:25 7 alternative that avoids the endemic, federally listed 20:41:28 8 endangered Lane Mountain milk vetch. 20:41:33 9 This plant has a limited range and is 20:41:36 10 known only from a 14-mile-in-diameter area on the 20:41:39 11 planet. And, unfortunately, under Alternative I, 20:41:43 12 that -- a substantial part of that plant's range is 20:41:49 13 going to be impacted by the western expansion into the 20:41:55 14 Superior Valley. 20:41:59 15 We don't really think that enough is 20:42:01 16 known about the plant. I know that we've found out 20:42:04 17 more information about the numbers of plants involved. 20:42:06 18 But, otherwise, we don't know a lot about the ecology 20:42:09 19 and biology of the species, including seedling 20:42:12 20 establishment, what pollinators it needs, what -- how 20:42:15 21 frequently viable fruit is produced, what the seed 20:42:19 22 bank looks like and how long it persists, to really be 20:42:23 23 able to assess the impacts that a substantial -- or to 20:42:27 24 assess the substantial impacts that this -- that 20:42:32 25 proposal to the west would have on the plants. 20:42:37</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 95</p> <p>1 absolutely critical. 20:39:56 2 Fort Irwin needs that ability to 20:40:01 3 modernize, to expand and keep pace with what the 20:40:02 4 future ends up holding. 20:40:04 5 A lot of interest in patriotism today. 20:40:06 6 But the proper preparation is what many of us have 20:40:09 7 seen have been the success cornerstone for the 20:40:12 8 military. 20:40:16 9 The NTC clearly met the training 20:40:17 10 challenge of yesterday. It's easy to become very 20:40:19 11 complacent. Our national history is checkered with 20:40:23 12 complacency, where after a mobilization, we downsize 20:40:27 13 in peace dividend, and then we end up paying the 20:40:29 14 price. 20:40:33 15 And I hope we learned the lesson. Many 20:40:33 16 of us had great concerns about national consciousness 20:40:35 17 not understanding how preparation's critical. And I 20:40:39 18 think my concern and what should be jointly our 20:40:42 19 concern needs to be on the countless lives of young 20:40:44 20 men and women that will be lost due to our not meeting 20:40:47 21 the challenges of tomorrow's battlefield. 20:40:51 22 Thank you. 20:40:52 23 MR. MARLER: Ileene Anderson. 20:40:55 24 MS. ANDERSON: Hi. I'm Ileene Anderson 20:41:00 25 with the California Native Plant Society. I'm 20:41:03</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 97</p> <p>1 So we urge avoidance. 20:42:39 2 Additionally, we also urge avoidance of 20:42:43 3 another Central Mojave endemic species called the 20:42:46 4 Desert Cymopterus, and that's c-y-m-o-p-t-e-r-u-s. 20:42:51 5 And that species has a larger range than the Lane 20:42:59 6 Mountain milk vetch, but recently it was discovered to 20:43:03 7 occur in the Superior Valley and within the footprint 20:43:06 8 of Alternative I. And essentially that would 20:43:13 9 eliminate the northeastern range of this, again, very 20:43:15 10 localized species. 20:43:23 11 We also request that vegetation maps are 20:43:26 12 developed for all of the alternatives. We believe 20:43:30 13 that impacts can't be adequately assessed if you don't 20:43:34 14 actually know what you're impacting. 20:43:40 15 So we think with the vegetation maps of 20:43:41 16 the different alternatives, it will provide the 20:43:45 17 acreages of the different plant communities that are 20:43:47 18 going to be impacted under each alternative scenario. 20:43:51 19 We also recognize and applaud the Army, 20:43:56 20 that they used our taxpayer money for adding to the 20:44:00 21 greater knowledge of plant distributions in the West 20:44:02 22 Mojave through your study. So we do appreciate that. 20:44:06 23 And, lastly, we'd love to see the report 20:44:09 24 on the Lane Mountain milk vetch posted on the Web site 20:44:12 25 along with maps. 20:44:15</p>

1 So thanks very much. 20:44:17
2 MR. MARLER: Ladies and gentlemen, we do 20:44:22
3 have 15 more minutes. 20:44:25
4 Any additional comments? 20:44:26
5 MR. KIRIAKOS: My name is Peter 20:44:41
6 Kiriakos, and this time I'm speaking as a citizen and 20:44:47
7 not representing any organization. 20:44:47
8 The comment that I would like to make is 20:44:49
9 somewhat tongue-in-cheek. But basically it's to the 20:44:51
10 effect I would like to see the Army readdress its 20:44:58
11 policy relative to eventual elimination of the tank 20:45:02
12 force. 20:45:05
13 And the tongue-in-cheek component is 20:45:06
14 that we only do that if, in fact, we can get Russia, 20:45:09
15 China, Iraq and Syria to agree to eliminate their 20:45:14
16 tanks at the same time. I will stop there. 20:45:19
17 Thanks. 20:45:20
18 MR. MARLER: Any other comments? 20:45:31
19 We're going to be here for another 15 20:45:37
20 minutes. Any questions, we will be more than happy to 20:45:37
21 answer them. 20:45:39
22 (Whereupon, the above Public Meeting was
23 concluded.)
24
25

1 I certify the foregoing to be a
2 true transcript from my notes.
3
4 E-signature: K.R. Evans
5
6 _____
7 CSR RMR CRR
8
9 CERTIFICATION
10 I, Reagan Evans, a Certified Shorthand
11 Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified
12 Realtime Reporter do hereby certify that the foregoing
13 testimony was duly taken and reduced to writing before
14 me at the place and time therein mentioned. I further
15 certify that I am neither related to any of the
16 parties by blood or marriage, nor do I have any
17 interest in the outcome of the above matter.
18 In witness whereof this 20th day of
19 January, 2002.
20
21 E-signature: K.R. Evans
22
23
24
25