

1 MOANI KEALA AKAKA

25 MS. AKAKA: That's fine. 'Ano 'ai ke aloha. My
1 name is Moanikeala Akaka. I'm with the Aloha Aina
2 Education Center. I really didn't have any prepared
3 statement. However, over 20 years ago, the first suit that
4 was done related to the sonar and the whales came from
5 Hilo, came from this island, and so this has been going on
6 for a number of years, maybe 15, 20 years. And, you know,
7 I see that we keep going 'round and 'round about this whole
8 issue related to, you know, the sonar.

9 You know, it's not just the fact that it's not
10 known the kind of damage that the sonar can do to our
11 mammals and our sea life and the whales, the turtles, the
12 dolphins. You have beachings that have happened, that have
13 happened in areas where there has been sonar trials going
14 on, and there is a great deal of concern. You know, these
15 creatures have inhabited these oceans for millions of
16 years, and yet we end up intruding on their territory, and
17 with the sonar you end up hurting them.

18 There's a situation where whales, when they're
19 in the vicinity, they end up going up fast and end up
20 getting the bends. There's a great deal of concern, but
21 the U.S. Navy doesn't seem to be concerned about these
22 creatures that there aren't very many of them left. There
23 are only, you know, two countries in the world that -- you
24 know, and that is shameful -- that even hunt whales.

25 You know, there's a great deal of concern about
1 the more and more military industrial complex that's
2 evolving in our islands. You know, bad enough that we have
3 areas left over from the Second World War, say in Waikoloa,
4 where they say it will take -- at \$10 million a year, it
5 will take 60 years to remove the munitions that they have

6 left over at Waikoloa. It will take 60 years at \$10
7 million a year to remove these munitions.

8 We have over in Oahu, even off this coastline,
9 munitions that have been dumped since the Second World War.
10 You know, the U.S. Military seems to have no regard for the
11 trash, the lethal, toxic trash. Even on our shores we have
12 munitions that float up on one of our only white sand
13 beaches, Hapuna Beach, and, you know, there seems to be no
14 concern. Over in Waianae, you have debris, military debris
15 that's still there, leaking probably, leaking into the
16 ocean, getting into the fish life, and then we eat the
17 fish.

18 You know, it's -- you know, we're sick and tired
19 of being the dumping ground for America's military
20 industrial complex. They don't want you in Japan. They
21 don't want you in Guam. In Okinawa they say the Osprey
22 helicopters are too dangerous.

24 MS. AKAKA: You know, the U.S. Military --

2 MS. AKAKA: -- whether it be the Navy, the Army,
3 or the Marines, keep dumping on these islands.

6 MS. AKAKA: And we're sick and tired of this
7 kind of abuse. Mahalo.