



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument
1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building # 176
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818



IN REPLY REFER TO:

July 10, 2015

Ms. Valerie Van der Veer
Final Draft Ewa Plains Project C130203.00
Ewa Mooring Mast Field Battlefield Delineation
& National Register Nomination

Dear Ms. Van der Veer

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this draft battlefield nomination of Ewa Mooring Mast Field. First, I would like to extend my professional congratulations to all who worked on this thorough and informative document. I 'am very familiar with the Ewa's history and was pleased to learn more about the battlefield that was unknown to me.

In my review I would like to comment on few items that caught my eye. Concerning your bibliography, I found that it was well documented and was sound historiography. However, one very important source that should be listed is... Cressman, Robert J., and Wenger, J. Michael. **Steady Nerves and Stout Hearts. The *Enterprise* (CV-6) Air Group and Pearl Harbor 7 December 1941.** Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, Missoula, Montana 1989.

On another subject was the archeological investigation of Ewa Field. Certainly ethnographic consideration is needed to understand the development of Hawaiian native habitation and broader examination the contested ground through battlefield archeology. This evidence thus far is compelling but further in depth examination could yield value that is yet to be discovered.

Regarding the defensive complex of the Ewa plain, I believe that a further research of the military sites at Camp Malokole, Battery Barrette, West Loch Naval Magazine and Fort Weaver would emphasize the intricacy of the defenses and its function in west Oahu in 1941. Thus, the role of Ewa Mooring Mast Field would have shaper context as historic site and battlefield.

Lastly, the broader implication of the battlefield at Ewa Mooring Mast Field is the tangible loss of American and Japanese military personnel, on the ground and in the air. Often forgotten but well noted in this document are the civilians that were killed and wounded. This place is sacred ground to the United States Marines that died there, to the Japanese aviators that perished and the civilian residents of Ewa plantation. Remembering our solemn commitment to their memory is the promise that is fulfilled at battlegrounds that are preserved and enshrined by our nation.

This document in my view fulfills the professional standards necessary to give full consideration for its nomination as National Registered battlefield. I strongly endorse this documented study.

Daniel A. Martinez, Chief Historian
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