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Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1849 C St., NW (2280)
Washington, DC 20240-0001

I support the nomination of Ewa Battlefield to the National Historic Register. I was the Airports Engineer prior to becoming the Airports Administrator of the Hawaii State Department of Transportation. At the start of my career in 1962, the Federal Aviation Administration recommended the establishment of a general aviation airport to relieve congestion at Honolulu International Airport. I was assigned the task to find a reliever airport. Barbers Point Naval Air Station was one of the alternative sites studied which included the Ewa Marine Corps Air Station.

Land in Ewa was purchased in the 1930s by the Navy and a mooring mast for dirigibles was built, although a dirigible never flew to Hawaii. Additional land was acquired and the original 1,500 foot long runway was expanded to accommodate the new Ewa Marine Corps Air Station. In November 1941 the Navy began work on a separate airfield west of Ewa MCAS for what would become Barbers Point NAS. After the attack on December 7, 1941, the Navy concentrated their efforts to complete Ewa MCAS. It served as a training base through World War II and the Korean conflict. In 1952 the Marines closed Ewa and moved across the island to Kaneohe Bay.

In September 1997 the Base Realignment and Closure Act transferred Barbers Point Naval Air Station to the State of Hawaii and the long sought reliever airport was created and renamed Kalaeloa Airport. The historic buildings of the base are being preserved for the important role they played in military aviation from World War II through the Cold War.

I urge your favorable action to accept the nomination of Ewa Battlefield to the National Historic Register.

Sincerely yours,



Owen Miyamoto