

from 0930–1200 and from 1300–1500. The Task Force will meet at SAIC, 4001 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 500, Arlington, VA. The Task Force will review the impact quarantining may have on DoD planning and operations by preventing the flow of personnel and material to areas of concern, eroding relationships with host countries, and impacting our forces through anxieties about family members.

The mission of the Defense Science Board is to advise the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics on scientific and technical matters as they affect the perceived needs of the Department of Defense. At this meeting, the Defense Science Board Task Force will review and evaluate the Department's ability to provide information to integrate public health needs, on behalf of national security. Specifically, the Task Force will review: Existing doctrine and processes by which quarantine policy is generated; required cooperation with non-DoD agencies and non-U.S. government entities, including other countries; the capacity of local commanders to rapidly survey disease status, and establish need, ways and means for quarantine in relation to their assigned missions; methods, technologies and doctrine to allow safe transport of personnel through quarantine areas, and restriction of movement where needed; sample scenarios; coordination and allocation of DoD and non DoD resources to combat SARS; identification and tracking of individuals potentially exposed to SARS; and features of the SARS guidance which may be applicable to future infectious disease outbreaks.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: CDR David Waugh, USN, Defense Science Board, 3140 Defense Pentagon, Room 3D865, Washington, DC 20301–3140, via e-mail at david.waugh@osd.mil, or via phone at (703) 695–4158.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting must contact CDR Waugh no later than September 5, 2003, for further information about admission as seating is limited. Additionally, those who wish to make oral comments or deliver written comments should also request to be scheduled, and submit a written text of the comments by September 5, 2003, to allow time for distribution to Task Force members prior to the meeting. Individual oral comments will be limited to five minutes, with the total oral comment period not exceeding 30 minutes.

Dated: July 23, 2003.

Patricia Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 03–19450 Filed 7–30–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–08–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Transformation of the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment (ACR) and Installation Mission Support, Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) and Fork Polk, LA, and Long-Term Military Training Use of Kisatchie National Forest Lands

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DOD; Forest Service, USDA; Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army, the USDA Forest Service, and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announce the availability of the DEIS for the Transformation of the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment and Installation Mission Support, Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) and Fort Polk, Louisiana, and Long-Term Military Training Use of Kisatchie National Forest Lands. The DEIS evaluates environmental impacts associated with the Army's proposal for implementation force transformation and mission capability enhancements at the installation and at England Industrial Airpark, along with long-term military training use of Kisatchie National Forest lands. The Army's proposed action involves fielding of new vehicles and equipment; construction and improvement of firing ranges, roads, stream crossings, and support facilities; land use agreements and leases; training and deployment of Army troops; and continued environmental stewardship. In addition, the DEIS considers a Forest Service proposal to thin approximately 21,500 acres of upland pine stands on the Vernon Unit, Calcasieu Ranger District of the Kisatchie National Forest to improve habitat conditions for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. The FAA proposes to approve

amendment of the Alexandria International Airport Layout Plan as influenced by proposed Army projects and activities at England Industrial Airpark.

DATES: The comment period for the DEIS will end 45 days after publication of the NOA in the **Federal Register** by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ADDRESSES: Written comments or requests for copies of the DEIS may be submitted to: Dan Nance, Fort Polk Public Affairs Office, 7073 Radio Road, Fort Polk, LA 71459–5342; phone: (337) 531–7203; fax: (337) 531–6041; e-mail: eis@polk.army.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the DEIS may be directed to: Stacy Basham-Wagner, Joint Agency Liaison, Attention: AFZX–PW–E (Basham-Wagner), 1799 23rd Street, Fort Polk, LA 71459; telephone (337) 531–7458, fax: (337) 531–2627.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: In support of Army initiatives to meet evolving security requirements, the Army has designated the 2d ACR to transform as an element of the Interim Force to the 2d Cavalry Regiment, a medium-weight force that will be strategically responsive and more rapidly deployable by air. In addition to transformation of the 2d ACR, other Interim Force units stationed at other Army installations would participate in exercises at JRTC and Fort Polk on a rotational basis. To these ends, the Army proposes to implement force transformation and installation mission support activities at the JRTC and Fort Polk with respect to home station training (maneuver and gunnery exercises for Army units assigned to Fort Polk), rotational unit exercises, and facilities construction. The Army also proposes renewal of a Special Use Permit agreement with the Forest Service for continued use of Kisatchie National Forest lands to support military training. The areas of the Kisatchie National Forest proposed for Army use are known as the Intensive Use Area and Limited Use Area of the Vernon Unit, Calcasieu Ranger District and the Special Limited Use Area (also known as Horse's Head) of the Kisatchie Ranger District.

Proposals for installation mission support involve 20 construction projects that would occur on Army lands, national forest lands, and at England Industrial Airpark in Alexandria, Louisiana. The projects include 13 facilities in the Fort Polk cantonment area, digitization and expansion of the Multi-Purpose Range Complex on Fort Polk's main post, road construction/