Council on Environmental quality, the Army has prepared the ROD in association with the completion of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the disposal and Reuse of Fort Chaffee, Arkansas. The approved 1995 base closure and realignment actions required by the Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101–510), and subsequent actions in compliance with this law, mandated the closure of Fort Chaffee. It is DoD policy to dispose of property no longer needed by DoD. Consequently, as a result of the mandated closure of Fort Chaffee, the Army is disposing of excess property at Fort Chaffee.

The ROD establishes the Army's decision to proceed with the disposal of excess properties/facilities in accordance with the Army's preferred alternative (encumbered disposal) described in the FEIS.

ADDRESSES: Requests for a copy of the FEIS or ROD may be addressed to Mr. Jim Ellis, Little Rock District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CESWL–ET–WP, PO Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jim Ellis at (501) 324–5033 or by fax at (501) 324–5605.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FEIS analyzed three disposal alternatives: (1) The no action alternative, which entails maintaining the property in caretaker status after closure: (2) the encumbered disposal alternative, which entails transferring the property to future owners with Army-imposed limitations, or encumbrances, on the future use of the property; and (3) the unencumbered disposal alternative, which entails transferring the property to future owners with fewer or no Army-imposed restrictions on the future use of the property. The preferred action identified in the FEIS is encumbered disposal of excess property at Fort Chaffee. Based upon the analysis contained in the FEIS, encumbrances and deed restrictions associated with the Army's disposal actions for Fort Chaffee will mitigation measures.

Planning for the reuse of the property to be disposed of is a secondary action resulting from closure. The local community has established the Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority (FCRA) to produce a reuse development plan for the surplus property. The impacts of reuse are evaluated in terms of land use intensities. This reuse analysis is based upon implementing one of three reuse alternatives, all of which are based upon the FCRA reuse plan. The Army has not selected one of these three reuse alternatives as the preferred action. Selection of the preferred reuse plan is a decision that will be made by the FCRA.

Dated: May 18, 2000.

Raymond J. Patz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) OASA(I&E).

[FR Doc. 00–12935 Filed 5–22–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–08–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the National Park Seminary Historic District, Forest Glen Annex, Walter Reed Army Medical Center

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army proposes to report the National Park Seminary Historic District (NPSHD), in its entirety, as excess property to the General Services Administration (GSA), in accordance with Army Regulation 405–90 and federal property law. The NPSHD is part of the Forest Glen Annex of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) in Montgomery County, Maryland, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Army's proposed action will begin the screening and disposal process, by providing notice to the GSA that the NPSHD is excess to the Army's needs. Under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act and accompanying regulations, GSA is responsible for the disposal of excess federal property. The EA for the NPSHD identifies analyzes the potential impacts of four alternatives: (1) Excessing the NPSHD; (2) excessing NPSHD with additional parcels of land; (3) no action; or (4) moth-balling the historic buildings. The Army's preferred alternative for implementing the proposed action is Alternative 2.

DATES: Public comments on the EA and FNSI must be submitted by June 22, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Address comments to Ms. Beverly Chidel, Acting Public Affairs Officer, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20307–5001 or via email at beverly.chidel@na.amedd.army.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Beverly Chidel, Acting Public Affairs Officer, at (202) 782–7177.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Little or no direct adverse impacts on the natural and human environment are anticipated as a result of the Army's proposed excessing action. The Army will retain control of the property and will continue to provide current levels of security and maintenance until a new owner is found. Indirect adverse impacts on air quality, noise, surface water, soil erosion, biological resources, land use, and traffic would result from the eventual reuse of the property by the new (non-Army) owner, which can be avoided or minimized by using best management practices and complying with state and local laws and regulations. The Army is committed to remedying environmental contamination, associated with the Army's past ownership or use of the NPSHD property, as necessary to protect human health and the environment. On the basis of currently available information, no remedial action is expected to be necessary for hazardous substances or wastes, as defined by 42 U.S.C. 9601(14). Indirect adverse effects on historic properties are expected. Consultation with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is ongoing. The GSA, Army, SHPO, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, as well as any other consulting parties identified by GSA, will work to achieve an appropriate agreement to address potential adverse effects on the historic district. Further evaluation of impacts will be provided in National Environmental Policy Act documentation that will be prepared by GSA for their action of disposal.

On the basis of the environmental impact analyses found in the EA, which was incorporated into a FNSI, it has been determined that implementing the Army's proposed action of reporting the NPSHD to GSA as excess property will not have significant individual or cumulative impacts on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required and will not be prepared.

Individuals who want to review the EA and FNSI may obtain a copy and provide comments during this 30-day period, by writing to Ms. Beverly Chidel at the address listed above. Copies of the EA will also be available for public review at the Silver Spring Branch Library (8901 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD). The EA also may be viewed on the Internet at www.wramc.amed.army.mil/departments/dpw.

Dated: May 18, 2000.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) OASA (I&E).

[FR Doc. 00–12972 Filed 5–22–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–08–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Record of Decision for the Disposal and Reuse of Naval Air Station Agana, Guam

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy (Navy), pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C) (1994), and the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality that implement NEPA procedures, 40 C.F.R. Parts 1500–1508, hereby announces its decision to dispose of Naval Air Station (NAS) Agana, which is located in the United States Territory of Guam. Guam is the southernmost island of the Mariana archipelago in the western Pacific Ocean.

Navy analyzed the impacts of the disposal and reuse of NAS Agana in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required by NEPA. The EIS analyzed four reuse alternatives and identified the NAS Agana Base Reuse Master Plan (Reuse Plan), approved by the Government of Guam on July 8, 1997, and described in the EIS as the Airport/Business/Industry Alternative, as the Preferred Alternative.

The Preferred Alternative proposed to use NAS Agana for commercial aviation; for industrial and commercial activities; to develop parks and recreational areas; and to build and expand roads and highways. The Government of Guam is the local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) for NAS Agana. Department of Defense Rule on Revitalizing Base Closure Communities and Community Assistance (DOD) Rule), 32 C.F.R. § 176.20(a).

Navy intends to dispose of NAS Agana in a manner that is consistent with the Reuse Plan. Navy has determined that the mixed land use proposed for NAS Agana will meet the goals of achieving local economic redevelopment and creating new jobs while limiting adverse environmental impacts and ensuring land uses that are compatible with adjacent property. This Record Of Decision does not mandate a specific mix of land uses. Rather, it leaves selection of the particular means to achieve the proposed redevelopment to the acquiring entities and the local zoning authority.

Background

Under the authority of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (DBCRA), Public Law 101–510, 10 U.S.C. § 2687 note (1994), the 1993 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended the closure of Naval Air Station Agana. The Commission also recommended that navy retain the Air Station officers housing to support Navy personnel stationed at Andersen Air Force Base in the northern part of Guam. These recommendations were approved by President Clinton and accepted by the One Hundred Third Congress in 1993. Naval Air Station Agana closed on March 31, 1995.

Prior to closure of the Air Station, the A. B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority (GIAA) operated the Guam International Airport at NAS Agana through a joint use agreement with Navy. Under this agreement, Guam's International Airport Authority, which owns and operates a passenger terminal and maintenance area adjacent to NAS Agana, used the Naval Air Station runways and taxiways and relied upon Navy's air traffic controllers for civilian air operations. After NAS Agana closed, GIAA assumed responsibility for all air operations and began using Navy's maintenance hangars through a lease with Navy. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) currently provides air traffic control services.

The 1995 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission modified the 1993 Commission's recommendation by directing Navy to close the officers housing at NAS Agana. The 1995 Commission's recommendation was approved by President Clinton and accepted by the One Hundred Fourth Congress in 1995.

Naval Air Station Agana is located in the central part of Guam, about three miles northeast of the Village of Agana, which has been renamed Hagatna. The area around the base is also known as Tiyan. The Air Station covers an area of about 1,824 acres of Navy property, and Navy controls an additional 208 acres near the Air Station by way of easements for air operations and drainage. Navy plans to transfer its interests in these easements to GIAA. Disposal and reuse of the officers housing, covering 93 acres, were treated in a separate environmental analysis and document.

Naval Air Station Agana is oriented along a northeast-southwest axis and has a generally triangular shape. The base is bounded on the north by a steep bluff and Route 10A; on the east and southeast by Route 16; and on the south by the intersection of Routes 16, 10, and 8; on the southwest by Route 8; and on the west and northwest by Route 1 and Agana Bay.

The Village of Tamuning, the Airport Authority's passenger terminal and maintenance area, and the Harmon industrial area are located north of the base property. The Village of Dededo is located northeast of the Air Station. Barrigada Heights and facilities associated with the United States Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Guam are located, respectively, east and southeast of the Air Station. The Village of Barrigada is located south of the Air Station; and the villages of Mongmong, Toto, and Maite are located southwest of the base.

During the Federal screening process, two Federal agencies requested interagency transfers of base closure property at NAS Agana. These were the National Weather Service of the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Federal Aviation Administration.

On July 23, 1998, Navy transferred three acres just south of the runways to the National Weather Service, which is building a weather forecasting facility on the site. Navy will transfer the control tower and base operations building (Building 17–75) and a transmitter building (Building 16–3231) and two non-contiguous parcels covering about three acres in this part of the base to the Federal Aviation Administration for air traffic control activities. The remaining 1,725 acres of Navy property at NAS Agana are surplus to the needs of the Federal Government.

This Record of Decision addresses the disposal and reuse of those parts of NAS Agana that are surplus to the needs of the Federal Government. The Air Station contains two parallel runways in a northeast-southwest alignment: a 10,000-foot primary runway (Runway 06L–24R) and an 8,000-foot secondary runway (Runway 06R–24L). Navy plans to transfer its interests in the air operations easements and the drainage easements to GIAA. The base contains about 592 buildings and structures that were used for aviation operations, training, housing, administrative and support activities. The surplus property's undeveloped areas on the western side of the base contain wetlands and, on the eastern side of the base, a forest with limestone soil. There is an archaeological site eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places in a developed area south of the airfield.