



Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Traffic Delays at Tripler

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii—Over the next three days, the Army and other Federal and state agencies are conducting Exercise Patriot 2008, an anti-terrorism exercise testing response procedures in the event of a terrorist incident on Hawaii’s military installations.

Most of the exercise events are simulated with very minimal public impact. This includes anti-terrorist measures at the gates accessing military reservations. However, on Monday morning, Tripler Army Medical Center gates mistakenly invoked more stringent measures which caused traffic delays during the morning rush hour.

“This was a result of human error and not planned as part of the exercise, and that was why the local community was not informed prior,” said Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii. “We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience to drivers on H-1 and connecting roadways, and we regret any disruptions to morning commuters.”

During the remainder of the exercise, gate operations will be under normal access measures, with an exception today between 6:15 p.m. and 11 p.m. for traffic entering Schofield Barracks through Lyman Gate; traffic entering Wheeler Army Airfield through Kawamura Gate; and traffic entering Fort Shafter through Buckner Gate.

“These exercises are vital to the security of our installations and surrounding areas, and we greatly appreciate your understanding and patience,” Margotta said.