



Halawa Coalition

c/o 1570 Frear St., #7
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Ph. (808) 545-2540

Sept. 30, 1992

MALAMA HALAWA

(Preserve Halawa)

Dear Friends:

Our struggle to save the precious complex of burial grounds, historic and sacred places in North Halawa Valley, O'ahu, continues. We are faced with an incredible array of political power, money, and an insidious conspiracy to distort the truth about the H-3 freeway's impact upon the Hawaiian people. Our goal to achieve the healing of Halawa Valley will be a hard one to reach.

But with the help and support of people like you, who have marched alongside us to worship or pay respects in the valley -- or who have journeyed with us in spirit -- **we can and WILL make a difference...we WILL save Halawa Valley!**

Here are the basic issues:

1. **Deliberate misinterpretation of religious/cultural sites affected by H-3:** The State of Hawai'i, through its agencies -- Dept. of Transportation, Dept. of Land & Natural Resources/State Historic Preservation Office, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs -- has deliberated distorted and concealed information relating to the destruction the highway project has and will do to ancient Hawaiian sacred and cultural resources in the highway's right-of-way. Bishop Museum, hired by the DOT's consultant to facilitate the highway's construction, has issued numerous contradictory reports regarding the significance and use of archaeological sites in the H-3 corridor. OHA assisted in this breach of trust by permitting (a) destruction of the Luluku archaeological complex, (b) destruction of Kukuio Kane Heiau, and (c) pending destruction of the religious complex in Halawa Valley.

2. **Denial of native Hawaiian rights to worship in Halawa Valley.** This includes the arrests and evictions of Hawaiians and their supporters on August 30, 1992, for conducting religious ceremonies which the State claims prevented construction work to proceed.

3. **Failure of the State Dept. of Transportation and the State Historic Preservation Office to abide by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966** which requires a process that determines **in advance** the exact locations and significance of historic sites that could be affected by the highway project.

4. **Questionable public benefit for the use of Halawa Valley to route this highway project** and possible violations of the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the State Conservation District Use Permit by permitting run-off, stream obstructions, destruction of native habitat for the rare O'ahu Creeper, and other adverse environmental impacts.

5. **Sen. Daniel Inouye's support for destruction of Hawaiian sacred sites:** the senior U.S. senator from Hawai'i, Inouye has been chief sponsor for the project since its inception in 1963. He engineered the project's exemption from major federal environmental laws in 1986, which allowed the project to proceed.

He is a powerful figure in Washington, sitting on the Senate Appropriations Committee, which

*Mālama o pā 'oe
Be careful lest the result
be disastrous to you.
A warning not to break a kapu.*

Inouye, continued

includes the sub-committee on funding for the Justice Department. He also chairs the sub-committee on Native Americans, but he continues to deny his own constituents -- native Hawaiians -- equal protection under the law. He is the highest-ranking member of the **Conspiracy of Silence**.

6. H-3 is the most expensive federal highway in the nation's history

-- costing \$100 million per mile. Sen. Inouye and the State of Hawai'i want to spend additional millions purchasing the entire Halawa Valley as a public park. Building the highway through Halawa, however, will destroy most of the archaeological complex, thus buying the valley would be a waste of tax dollars!

7. The State is promoting the third of its "realignment" lies, insisting it will save two sites in Halawa -- when instead, the DOT will be destroying the integrity of those and the remaining huge complex of sacred temples which extend through the valley. The same tricky "disinformation" approach was used when H-3 destroyed the Luluku complex and Kukuio Kane Heiau (temple) in Kane'ohe. This is not culturally acceptable!

Since the illegal taking of the Hawaiian kingdom from Queen Liliuokalani in 1893, Hawaiians have been an oppressed people, robbed of their nation, their lands, their natural resources, their religion, their culture and their identity.

As Hawai'i approaches the 100th anniversary of that "Day of Infamy", we focus on Halawa Valley as our Rebirth of Sovereignty for the Hawaiian people. Preservation of the sacred sites and cultural resources of Halawa Valley will symbolize all that we have struggled for to regain our sense of pride in being Hawaiian.

Here's how you can help:

- **Contributions** can be sent to: Hawaii's Thousand Friends ("Malama Halawa" Fund)
305 Hahani St., Ste. 282
Kailua, Hawai'i 96734
- **Help with sign-holding and other activities.** To volunteer, please call John or Edwina at ph. 671-5268.
- **Alert news media** in your area to this national tragedy (please let us know if you require any further information or are successful in obtaining media coverage - ph. (808) 545-2540 and ask for Mahealani)
- **Write letters to the President's Advisory Council for Historic Preservation, to Secretary of Transportation Andrew Card, and to Sen. Dan Inouye -- all of whom are in Washington, D.C.,** to tell them of your support for preservation of the entire complex in Halawa Valley.

We appreciate all your kokua (help). Malama pono (do what is right)...

Aloha from the Halawa Coalition