Exhibit S

Stenographic Transcript
Before the

COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES

UNITED STATES SENATE

HEARING TO RECEIVE TESTIMONY ON THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BUDGET POSTURE IN REVIEW OF
THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FOR FISCAL YEAR
2020 AND THE FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Thursday, March 14, 2019

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1   Senator Hirono: I'll get to the question.

2   Mr. Shanahan: All right.

3   Senator Hirono: -- as well as the impact of removing

4   that testing capacity from PMRF. So, briefly, could you

5   tell us how operationalizing the Aegis Ashore site in Kauai

6   would add to our ability to defend Hawaii from missile

7   threats, especially as the major missile threat to Hawaii

8   would be an ICBM, and the Aegis Ashore is not set up to

9   counter ICBMs?

10   Mr. Shanahan: My understanding of the request in the

11 MDR is that it's a study to assess taking the test assets

12 and operationalizing them. And, as you well point out, the

13 ground-based midcourse defense system that is resident in

14 Alaska defends Hawaii. I believe that the study will look

15 at what are other threats that may be posed to Hawaii, and

16 how there might be a layered defense. But, as you pointed

17 out, the test range there is vital capability and capacity

18 for developing our missile defense systems.

19   Senator Hirono: So, I want to make sure that my

20 concerns are in the record. For Secretary Shanahan and

21 General Dunford, 2 weeks ago before this committee, General

22 O'Shaughnessy, the North -- Northern Command Commander,

23 testified that the current situation at our southern border

24 is, to quote him, "not a military threat." Do you agree,

25 Secretary Shanahan, that the situation on the southern

1   border is not a military threat?

2   Mr. Shanahan: Senator, you're referring to General

3   O'Shaughnessy's testimony?

4   Senator Hirono: Yes.

5   Mr. Shanahan: Yeah. What I recall from his testimony

6   is, he said that it is not a military threat. He said

7   border security is national security.

8   Senator Hirono: I understand that. But, he said

9   specifically that the -- it's not a military threat. I'm

10 asking you whether you agree with him that --

11   Mr. Shanahan: I --

12   Senator Hirono: -- it's not a military threat.

13   Mr. Shanahan: I agree with him.

14   Senator Hirono: General Dunford?

15   General Dunford: I agree. It's a security challenge,

16 not a military threat.

17   Senator Hirono: So, you testified, Secretary -- Mr.

18 Secretary, that there are 6,000 troops currently deployed at

19 our southern border. Can you tell us how long they're going

20 to be there?

21   Mr. Shanahan: The -- I'd say 30 or 40 percent of them

22 will be departing in the next month or so when they complete

23 some of their work. And I believe we'll probably draw down

24 to between 3- and 4,000.

25   Senator Hirono: Is this something that the President

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