



## C-17 flights

[Too high a price](#)

Chauncey Wong Yuen makes some valid points in his letter in the March 1 issue of WHT. Obviously, there may be benefits to having an additional runway.

As he points out, the existing runway is sufficient for existing traffic, so the primary benefit would be in time of disaster. As he mentions, though, there is no guarantee the C-17s will be available to assist if needed. But wouldn't making Queen Kaahumanu Highway a six-lane freeway with overpasses and underpasses also provide benefits? Perhaps, but most of us don't want to see that happen, either.

Since there are miles of unused or abandoned runways elsewhere in the state, wouldn't it make more economic sense to lengthen, shorten or otherwise refurbish one of those existing facilities? That would serve the needs of the Air Force just as well and be much more cost effective. I would much rather see our tax dollars spent that way.

I was contemplating this last night when I felt rumbling from what I thought was an earthquake. The ground shook, the dishes rattled and the dog cowered. It was a false alarm however as I saw it was a C-17 making one of their 360 monthly flights. Others followed over the next few hours. They started that morning as I saw one on my way into town and I don't know if they continued all day or not.

I'm sorry, Mr. Yuen, but this disruption of our lives is a high price to pay. I live over three miles away from the airport and felt it. Imagine the uproar when over 1,000 new homes and possibly a university are built closer to the airport in Palamanui. You think people are concerned now?

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