FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

1. Name of Action. Proposed construction of alterations and additions for buildings 95, 96, and 97 at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) at Glyncos, Georgia.

2. Description. This proposed action has been developed for FLETC to renovate (primarily interior) existing dormitories (building 95 and 96), and associated boiler house (building 97); and to construct a new Recreational/Community Building within the existing footprint for buildings 95, 96, and 97. The existing footprint of building 95 and 96 (57,480 square feet) would not change; however, the existing footprint (3500 square feet) for building 97 would be reduced, after the obsolete cooling tower area is removed.

3. Alternatives. Due to the limited scope and the nature of the proposed building alterations and additions, there were no practicable alternatives other than the No Action alternative.

4. Anticipated Environmental Impacts. The proposed action would not impact any Federally listed (endangered, threatened, or species of management concern) species. There are no wetlands or flood plains on the project sites. There are no known cultural resources or historic properties located within the project area that have been listed or are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, the proposed action would have no impact on cultural resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Properties.

5. Finding of No Significant Impact. The enclosed Environmental Assessment was prepared and evaluated pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (Public Law 91-190, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). I have concluded that the proposed building modifications do not constitute a "major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment" when considered individually or cumulative in the context of the referenced act including both direct and indirect impacts. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

6. Public Comment. Copies of this Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact has been distributed to all agencies, organizations, and individuals who have expressed interest in the project. In addition, a news release announcing these documents was issued. There were no comments received that were averse to this proposed action.
7. **Point of Contact.** Comments and inquiries for further information about this EA and FONSI should be directed to Mr. David Walker (Environmental issues) or Julie Morgan (Cultural Resource issues), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (PD-E), P.O. Box 889, Savannah, Georgia 31402-0889, phone (912) 652-5793.

Reviewed and Approved by:

[Signature]

Mr. Michael R. Hanneld, Deputy Associate Director
Federal Law Enforcement Training Center

*December 2002*

Date
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

CONSTRUCTION OF ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO BUILDINGS 95, 96, AND 97

DECEMBER 2000

Prepared by:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Savannah District
APPENDIX A - Figures
APPENDIX B - News Release
APPENDIX C - Threatened and Endangered Species
APPENDIX D - Coordination Letters
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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Reviewed and Approved by:

Mr. Michael R. Hanneld, Deputy Associate Director
Federal Law Enforcement Training Center

[Signature]

Date
CONSTRUCTION OF ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO BUILDINGS 95, 96, & 97

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) at Glynco, Georgia is the nation’s leading organization for interagency training of Federal law enforcement personnel. Its mission is to provide high quality, cost-effective training to the Federal Government’s law enforcement officers and agents. Currently, 74 Federal agencies participate in training at the FLETC. This Environmental Assessment (EA) follows the guidelines and regulations established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and the standards and procedures for implementing those regulations as described on the Department of Treasury Directive of 1990 (Treasury Directive 75-02, Department of Treasury Environmental Quality Program). This EA describes those environmental impacts that would result from implementation of the proposed action.

2.0 PURPOSE AND NEED

2.1 LOCATION

FLETC is located in Glynn County in southeast Georgia (see site map below). The Center is proposing building alterations/additions on their facility. The locations of the buildings proposed for modification are shown on figures 1 and 2 in Appendix A.

2.2 DESCRIPTION AND NEED OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

This proposed action has been developed for FLETC to renovate existing dormitories (building 95 and 96), associated boiler house (building 97); and to construct a new Recreational/Community Building. The existing footprint of building 95 and 96 (57,480 square feet) would not change; however, the existing footprint (3500 square feet) for building 97 would be reduced, after the obsolete cooling tower area is removed. The new Recreational/Community Building would be approximately 6,624 square feet. With the addition of a new common recreational area, new sleeping space shall be added on the first floor of each subject dormitory. Buildings 95 and 96 have a total of 206 sleeping rooms, but after renovation this would increase to 292 sleeping rooms. To support these existing facilities, the new recreational facility would be sited at the end of building 96, near building 46. This new recreational center is a site adapt and would be similar to existing recreational buildings on FLETC that support existing dormitories 270, 275, 277, and 71 (under construction).

The subject renovation and new construction work includes a electrical demolition and installation, plumbing and HVAC design, roof design, boiler replacement, cooling tower removal, interior design, landscaping, and architectural design. The renovation of the existing dormitories includes
the demolition of non-load bearing room walls with the removal of all windows, doors, bathroom fixtures, electrical wiring and piping (HVAC and domestic water sewer) down to the buildings main structure. The new construction shall include a new recreation/community area with a clothes washing/drying area, poolroom area, female and male bathrooms and general office/distribution area. Site improvements include storm water drainage. The existing paved area adjacent to the proposed site will remain unchanged. The existing building flat roofs will be renovated to a sloped, standing seam galvanized steel roofing and the exterior finish will consist of a combination of the exterior insulation finish system (EIFS) and split faced concrete masonry blocks.

The building modifications in the proposed action involve primarily interior alterations and renovations with no change in the existing building footprints. The only new construction for this project will be a recreation building that is within the footprint of the existing buildings. The required asbestos and lead-based paint surveys and abatement will be completed by the contractor for all building renovation work in the proposed action. The actions described above would all be part of a single design package.

3.0 ALTERNATIVES

Due to the limited scope of the proposed action and the subsequent impacts, the No Action Alternative was the only alternative considered.

3.1 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Inclusion of the No-Action Alternative is prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations as the benchmark against which Federal actions are evaluated. Under the no action alternative, the proposed building additions and alterations would not occur at FLETC. Under this alternative, current and future facility needs and requirements would not be met and the existing facilities would be substandard or outdated. Also, any ACM and LBP that is present in the existing buildings would remain a potential hazard.

4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

4.1 PHYSICAL SETTING

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) is located in Glynn County in southeast Georgia, 3 miles north of Brunswick, Georgia. The climate is mild with hot humid summers and abundant yearly rainfall. Brief frost and freeze events occur in winter. Snowfall is rare, occurring on average less than once per year.

The topography on all of the project sites are relatively flat with little or no slope with elevations ranging from 14 to 20 feet above mean sea level (USGS 1956).

During the 1997 assessment for the construction of building 93 (located 600 feet north of building 95), groundwater was encountered approximately 3 feet below the surface during geo-technical testing (USACE 1997). The drainage ditch located along the south edge of the site is deep enough
Environmental Assessment
Building Additions/Alterations

(3-4 feet) to intercept groundwater and contained standing water during the site visit on May 1, 1997 (USACE 1997).

4.2 Biological Features

The proposed site for the building modifications is a completed developed and paved area within the existing footprint of buildings 95, 96, and 97. The surrounding area is sparsely vegetated except for grassed lawns and minor landscaping.

The nearest jurisdictional wetland area to the project vicinity is located 600 feet northeast of the site of the building 95. This area is identified as Wetland #5 (figure 2, Appendix A) in the FLETC Facility Wide Wetland Delineation (USACE 1996). The site is not located within floodplains (FEMA 1980).

A list of protected species for Glynn County is enclosed in Appendix C. The project site does not contain habitat suitable for any listed species. The project site contains no habitat identified as critical habitat for an endangered species.

4.3 Hazardous Materials

Any required Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP) abatement for building modifications would be completed by the contractor for all three buildings in the proposed action.

A 1989 site survey conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE 1989) on the former Glynco Naval Air Station did not identify any hazardous waste or ordnance on the FLETC facility.

A geo-technical exploration (AT&E 1997) of the site for the building 93 (600 feet north of building 95) did not identify any contamination, landfill debris, or any other evidence of potential contamination in this area.

4.4 Cultural Resources

No archaeological survey has been conducted in this area. A records check indicated there are no recorded archeological sites located on FLETC nor are there any buildings or structures listed in the National Register of Historic Places. A historic buildings inventory was conducted in 1998 (Messick 1999) that recommended two historic districts as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. None of the buildings in this undertaking are listed as eligible for the National Register as part of a district or as individual elements. The two historic districts do not bound, nor are they visible from, the proposed area of construction.

4.5 Traffic Circulation

Due to security concerns, all non-commercial traffic entering and exiting FLETC is restricted to one gate only (Behrend 2000). In emergency evacuations, additional side gates may be opened to
facilitate evacuations (Jones 2000). Currently, there are no significant circulation problems on the Center.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

5.1 PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL FEATURES

Protected species would not be affected by the proposed action since the site contains no listed species or critical habitat. There are no jurisdictional wetlands (USACE 1996) or floodplains (FEMA 1980) on the project sites. Wetland area 5, which is located 600 feet northeast of the proposed construction site, would not be affected by this action. Therefore, the proposed action would have no impact on these resources.

Since the proposed action is within the existing footprint, no change is expected in stormwater runoff. However, the proposed action would be conducted in compliance with the Master Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for FLETC (QST 1999).

5.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Buildings 95 and 96 were part of the Navy's plan to replace many WWII buildings on the Glynco Naval Air Station (NAS). Construction of the buildings was started in 1972 at a cost of $2.4 million and completed in 1976. The buildings were intended to house 206 bachelor officers, but they were never used as such because the Glynco NAS closed prior to project completion. FLETC has been using them as dorms since the late 1970s.

No archeological investigations were performed for this undertaking. All proposed construction will take place within the existing buildings footprint. It is highly probable that any archeological sites that had existed in the area were destroyed in the 1970s during the construction of the buildings.

The proposed undertaking will have no effect on historic properties as none are present in the area.

5.3 TRAFFIC CIRCULATION

The occupation of each of the existing dormitories (buildings 95 & 96), would increase from 206 sleeping rooms to 292. The relatively small increase in occupation of these buildings is anticipated to have no significant impacts to circulation in this area, since there are no current circulation problems. In emergency evacuations, additional side gates may be opened to facilitate evacuations (Jones 2000). Therefore, any slight increase in traffic that may result from this proposed action is not expected to have an adverse effect on emergency evacuations on the facility or to general circulation on the facility.

5.4 UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE EFFECTS

Since the project is within the existing footprint, no unavoidable adverse impacts have been identified.
5.5 IRREREVIABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

Since the project is within the existing footprint of buildings 95, 96, and 97, no irretrievable commitment of resources have been identified.

5.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

No significant cumulative impacts associated with the proposed action and other foreseeable actions have been identified.

5.7 MITIGATION MEASURES

Since the project is within the existing footprint and there were no foreseeable environmental impacts, mitigation measures were not necessary.

6.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

A copy of the draft EA has been sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Brunswick Office, requesting their concurrence with our determination of no impacts to Endangered Species. Our evaluation of potential impacts to protected species was based on a list of such species that was developed by the Brunswick Office. USFWS concurrence was received by our office on October 23, 2000 (Appendix D). Therefore, consultation with this office for this project has been completed.

A copy of the draft EA was sent (Appendix D) to the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer to obtain their concurrence with our determination of no impacts to historic properties or cultural resources from the proposed construction. Our evaluation of potential impacts to historic properties was based on the 1998 survey of historic structures on the FLETC property (Messick 1999). Review and approval by the SHPO is required to ensure this project’s compliance with Section 106 the National Historic Preservation Act, including the recently revised regulations contained in 36 CFR part 800. SHPO concurrence for this project was received by letter dated December 1, 2000 (Appendix D). Therefore, consultation with this office for this project has been completed.

The draft EA has also been made available to the general public for comment. A notice (Appendix B) was published in the Brunswick News announcing the availability of the document. The document was placed in the Brunswick public library for review by any interested individuals. There were no comments received during the comment period that were averse to this proposed action.

Construction permits and other state/county permits that need to be obtained prior to construction are the responsibility of FLETC and/or its contractors.
7.0 REFERENCES:


Behrend, Dave, Assistant Chief of Security and Investigative Services (SIF), FLETC, Personal communication regarding the security of entrance/exit gates at FLETC facility, April 20, 2000.


Jones, James M.. Senior Environmental Protection Specialist, FLETC. Personal communication, March 30, 2000; electronic mail, September 22, 2000.


QST Environmental, Master Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for FLETC, September 1996; revised January 1999.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Planning Division, Savannah District, Defense Environmental Restoration Program – Inventory Project Report for the former Glynco Naval Air Station, December 1989.

USACE Planning Division, Savannah District, Facility Wide Wetland Delineation, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Glynco, Georgia, December 5, 1996.

USACE, Planning Division, Savannah District, EA for Construction of Administration Building 93, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Glynco, Georgia, December 5, 1997.


APPENDIX A

FLETC MAPS AND FIGURES
APPENDIX B

NEWS RELEASE
PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

Georgia, Glynn County

Personally appeared before the undersigned attesting authority, W.R. Maulden, General Manager of The Brunswick News, a daily newspaper published in aforesaid county, who on oath says that the attached legal notice was published in said newspaper on October 26, 2000.

W.R. Maulden

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of October, 2000.

Sandra K. Oldaker
Notary Public


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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces on behalf of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) the availability of an Environmental Assessment for proposed alterations to 3 buildings located in Glynn County, GA. The Environmental Assessment is available at the Glynn County Public Library (208 Gloucester Street, Brunswick, Georgia) from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. For more information contact Mr. James Jones, FLETC Senior Environmental Specialist, at 912-267-3322.
APPENDIX C

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

GLYNN COUNTY, GEORGIA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Federal Status</th>
<th>State Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mammals</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Balaena glacialis</em></td>
<td>Right whale</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Megaptera novaeangliae</em></td>
<td>Humpback whale</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Myotis austroriparius</em></td>
<td>Southeastern bat</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Trichechus manatus</em></td>
<td>West Indian manatee</td>
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<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Birds</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Aimophila aestivalis</em></td>
<td>Bachman’s sparrow</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Charadrius melodus</em></td>
<td>Piping plover</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Charadrius wilsonia</em></td>
<td>Wilson’s plover</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Dendroica kirtlandii</em></td>
<td>Kirtland’s warbler</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Falco sparverius paules</em></td>
<td>Southeastern American kestrel</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Haliaeetus l. leucocephalus</em></td>
<td>Southern bald eagle</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Haematopus palliatus</em></td>
<td>American oystercatcher</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mycteria americana</em></td>
<td>Wood stork</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
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<td><em>Picoides borealis</em></td>
<td>Red-cockaded woodpecker</td>
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<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Sturna antillarum</em></td>
<td>Least tern</td>
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<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Sturna nilotica</em></td>
<td>Gull-billed tern</td>
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<td>T</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Vermivora bachmani</em></td>
<td>Bachman’s warbler</td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reptiles</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Caretta caretta</em></td>
<td>Loggerhead sea turtle</td>
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<td><em>Chelonia mydas</em></td>
<td>Green sea turtle</td>
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<td><em>Dermochelys coriacea</em></td>
<td>Leatherback sea turtle</td>
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<td><em>Drymarchon corais couperi</em></td>
<td>Eastern indigo snake</td>
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<td><em>Eretmochelys imbricata</em></td>
<td>Hawkbill sea turtle</td>
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<td><em>Gopherus polyphemus</em></td>
<td>Gopher tortoise</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>T</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Lepidochelys kempi</em></td>
<td>Kemp’s ridley sea turtle</td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Ophisaurus compressus</em></td>
<td>Island glass lizard</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amphibians</strong></td>
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<td><em>Rana areolata aestivalis</em></td>
<td>Florida gopher frog</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Rana capito capito</em></td>
<td>Carolina gopher frog</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>SC</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fish/Shellfish</strong></td>
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<td><em>Acipenser brevirostrum</em></td>
<td>Shortnose sturgeon</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Elliptio spinosa</em></td>
<td>Altamaha spiny mussel</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Plants</strong></td>
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<td><em>Litsea aestivalis</em></td>
<td>Pondspice</td>
<td>SC</td>
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<td><em>Plantago sparsiflora</em></td>
<td>Pineland Plantain</td>
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<td><em>Sageretia minutaflora</em></td>
<td>Climbing buckthorn</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Tillandsia recurvata</em></td>
<td>Ball-moss</td>
<td>N</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

E – Endangered  T – Threatened  R – Rare  N – None  SC - Species Management Concern
Source: The information in this table was updated by FWS in Feb 2000.
APPENDIX D

COORDINATION LETTERS
Planning Division

W. Ray Luce, Ph.D.
Chief
Historic Preservation Division
Georgia Department of
Natural Resources
500 The Healy Building
57 Forsyth Street, NW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Dr. Luce:

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Glynn County, Georgia, is proposing to renovate and construct an addition to buildings 95 and 96. A water tank, Building 97, will be demolished. None of the buildings nor the structure is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Per 36 CFR Part 800.5, the effects of the undertaking have been assessed. This undertaking will have no effect on historic properties, as none are located within the proposed project area.

Per 36 CFR 800.8, please review the enclosed environmental assessment that was prepared for this project. Sections 4.4 and 5.2 discuss the existing cultural resources and the effects the project may have upon them, respectively. We have also a topographic map of the area of potential effect and a map showing the project location and the historic districts at FLETC. We ask that you send your concurrence with the determination of no effect or any other comments to Savannah District within 30 calendar days of receipt of this letter.

A project synopsis will be published in the local Brunswick, Georgia, newspaper, and the environmental assessment will be placed in the Glynn County Library for public review and comment.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to
Ms. Julie Morgan, Environmental Resources Branch, at (912) 652-5492.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
David A. Coleman
Chief, Environmental Resources Branch

Enclosure
Environmental Resources Branch

Greg Masson, Ph.D.
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Brunswick Field Office
4270 Norwich Street
Brunswick, Georgia 31520-2523

Dear Dr. Masson:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the construction of modifications to buildings 95, 96, and 97 at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynn County, Georgia.

The proposal is discussed in detail in the enclosed draft EA and FONSI. In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, I have evaluated the potential impacts of the construction of this facility on any threatened and endangered species occurring on the site. These construction projects are primarily renovations within the existing footprint.

Because of the limitations of available habitat for most listed species and the lack of evidence of red-cockaded woodpecker activity near the project sites, we have concluded that there would be no impact to listed species from the proposed action.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, I request you review this document and provide any comments that you may have within 30 days.
If you have any questions concerning this proposed action, please contact Mr. David Walker, (912) 652-5397.

Sincerely,

David A. Coleman
Chief, Environmental Resources Branch

Enclosure
Environmental Resources Branch

Greg Masson, Ph.D.
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Brunswick Field Office
4270 Norwich Street
Brunswick, Georgia 31520-2523

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MEMORANDUM

TO:    David A. Coleman
       Chief, Environmental Resources Branch
       Department of the Army

FROM:  Serena G. Bellew
       Environmental Review Coordinator
       Historic Preservation Division

RE:    Finding of "No Historic Properties Affected"

       FLETC: Alter Three Buildings (95, 96, and 97)

       Glynn County, Georgia

       HP001030-004

DATE:  December 1, 2000

The Historic Preservation Division has reviewed the information received concerning the above-mentioned project. Our comments are offered to assist federal agencies and project applicants in complying with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Based on the information submitted, HPD has determined that no historic properties or archaeological resources which are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this undertaking. Please note that historic and/or archaeological resources may be located within the project's area of potential effect (APE), however, at this time it has been determined that they will not be impacted by the above-referenced project. Furthermore, any changes to this project as proposed will require further review by our office for compliance with the Section 106 process.

If we may be of further assistance contact me at (404) 651-6624. Please refer to the project number assigned above in any future correspondence regarding this project.

SGB:abl

cc:    Catherine Hankey, Coastal Georgia RDC