# PACIFIC 94th Army Air Missile Defense Command DEFENDER

★ FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE ★





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PUBLISHER: 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs Office, Building 1102, Suite 212, 25 E Street, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853. The Pacific Defender is a bi-annual authorized publication of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command. The views expressed herein are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Army. Unless otherwise stated, material in this magazine may be reprinted without permission; please credit the magazine and the author. The Pacific Defender digital magazine can be found online at http://issuu.com/PacificDefender.

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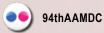
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### ★ Sea Dragon 6 ★



Aloha,

This year marks the ten-year anniversary since the reactivation of the 94th AAMDC Headquarters at Fort Shafter. The Sea Dragons have provided 10 years of IAMD Excellence in the Pacific. Our Soldiers, NCOs, officers and civilians continue to set the standard for Air and Missile Defense expertise in the United States Army.

In a recent interview, General Robinson stated, "If you have great presence, you will be able to build great partnerships."

The 94th AAMDC team maintains great presence, not only here in Hawaii, but across the entire Pacific region. Almost immediately upon the command's activation in 2005, we stood up 10th Missile Defense Detachment in Shariki, Japan while also overseeing the move of 1-1 ADA from Fort Bliss to Kadena Air Base on Okinawa.

Our presence in the Pacific only continued to expand. In 2013, the DOD decided to deploy a THAAD battery to Guam and the Sea Dragons were tasked with providing command and control for the battery. To meet this requirement Task Force Talon was activated. Most recently, we were charged with standing up a second radar unit in Kyogamisaki, Japan. The activation ceremony for the 14th Missile Defense Battery was held 22 Oct. 2014.

As you can see, the 94th mission and scope has greatly increased

over the past 10 years. The 94th AAMDC has grown from a small unit on Fort Shafter to a 250 person headquarters co-located with the Pacific Air Force, overseeing the integrated air and missile defense for the entire Pacific region.

The sixth edition of the Pacific Defender highlights the partnerships we have built with the local communities, other Army units, sister services, and our allies. The magazine also focuses on our theater force posture, which ensures we have the right IAMD forces in the right place at the right time, with the right capabilities, and are able to apply the right solution against air and missile threats.

The Pacific Defender allows us to look back and remember past achievements while highlighting how we will remain focused forward.

I am extremely proud of every Soldier, NCO, officer and civilian, both past and present, who has played a role in the 94th AAMDC's legacy of excellence. It is an honor to be associated with the 94th AAMDC and to be able to call myself Sea Dragon 6.

First Line of Defense - Focus Forward!

BG Eric L. Sanchez Sea Dragon 6





### **Sea Dragon 7**



Aloha, Konnichiwa, Annyeung Haseyo, Hafa Adai and Hello, October 16, 2015 marks the 10 year anniversary since the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command was reactivated in Hawaii. Our command continues to lead the charge in Integrated Ballistic Missile Defense operations and the Shift to the Pacific.

I would like to thank every Officer, Noncommissioned Officer, Soldier, Civilian, and Family member for all of your hard work. Our accomplishments as a command would not be possible without your dedication, resiliency, sacrifice, and loyalty. Your hard work does not go unnoticed and for that I applaud you! Thank you to all past Soldiers of the 94th Team for your teamwork which continues to ensure the success of the Command.

This edition of the Pacific Defender will focus on the celebration of our 10 year anniversary, Partnership, and IAMD Force Posture. Our command and subordinate commands across the Asia-Pacific continue to enhance and grow our relationships with our allies and partners through bilateral exercise and community outreach events.

This year the NCO Journal highlighted our command with an outstanding article about our Sea Dragon Noncommissioned Officers. The article showcased how our command continues to empower the NCOs with increased responsibility in the execution of its mission. I want to personally thank the NCO Journal for highlighting our command in their magazine.



I am impressed with the training and mission accomplishment that our Soldiers have achieved throughout the year, from our impact in exercise Pacific Sentry and Ulchi Freedom Guardian to the AMDPCS training that was provided to our Soldiers here in Hawaii. The Sea Dragons continue to excel in all areas and lead by example.

I'm sure you will enjoy reading the various exciting stories inside our sixth edition of "Pacific Defender" highlighting all of the Sea Dragon Soldiers in the 94th AAMDC, not only here in Hawaii, but throughout the Pacific Region.

I consider it a privilege to serve with the best Soldiers and leaders in our Army. Always remember TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves More!

Thank you for all that you do.

First Line of Defense!

CSM Finis A. Dodson Sea Dragon 7

#### \* IAMD FORCE POSTURE \*



### **Army Signaleers Keep 14th MDB Connected**

KYOGAMISAKI, Japan—Signal Soldiers from the 94th AAMDC, 78th Network Enterprise Center, and the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion enhanced the ability of the 14th Missile Defense Battery, 94th AAMDC to communicate with their higher headquarters and transmit accurate missile defense data to meet their regional and homeland defense missions.

The Soldiers successfully transitioned the communication capabilities of the Kyogamisaki Communications Site from the Pacific land war net (PLWN) into the transportable radar communication complex (TRCC), and hardened transportable terminal (HTT).

The fielding of the TRCC/HTT required communications equipment to be moved from the current satellite communications shelter into the TRCC/HTT complex. Personnel from the U.S. Army, Raytheon, Lockheed Martin, Missile Defense Agency, Missile Defense National Team-B, and local contractors have had a key role in helping set up the operations of the TRCC/HTT.

"The new SATCOM terminal and communications complex that was delivered and installed by the team of 94th AAMDC G6, 78th NEC, 307th Sig. Bn., Tobyhanna Army Depot, and the Missile Defense Agency provides a protected communications path for radar data critical to missile defense operations, not only to meet theater requirements, but used directly in the defense of CONUS

Signal Soldiers from the 94th AAMDC, 78th Network Enterprise Center, and the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion work on enhancing the ability of the 14th Missile Defense Battery, 94th AAMDC to communicate with their higher headquarters and transmit accurate missile defense data to meet their regional and homeland defense missions. (Courtesy Photo)

(continental United States), explains Maj. Fred M. Hollingsworth, KCS deployment lead. MDA.

"Not only does this complex provide communications for a missile defense mission, it is significantly enhancing the 14th MDB's network and voice capabilities. This includes the introduction of a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology new to US Army Japan that will spread to all of the Army units supported out of Camp Zama."

The 14th MDB provides the first line of defense against ballistic missile threats from belligerent actors in the Pacific region. As such, KCS must have redundancies in its communications suite to maintain continuous communication capabilities.

The 94th AAMDC communications directorate (G6) ensures there are alternate methods of communication available if the primary method fails. The 307th ESB provides satellite communications to KCS by working in teams and pulling 24 hour shifts to guarantee the site has continuous communications capabilities.

The remote location of KCS presented many challenges. Signal Soldiers from across the Pacific collectively invested numerous hours into the establishment of equipment and communications on site.

Chief Warrant Officer 1 Kevin Regan

was in charge of the 78th NEC efforts to provide communications support during the establishment of KCS. His Soldiers were instrumental in getting the campus communications established at KCS in preparation for the TRCC/HTT.

"KCS has been a very exciting network to setup from the ground up. It has had its challenges but it has also allowed us signaleers to develop new tactics, techniques and procedures in order to tie in a tactical level system with a strategic system with the support of our sister battalion 307th ESB. This ability will allow us to better support our customers around the Pacific region," said Regan, 78th NEC Automations Officer-in-Charge.

The signaleers of the Pacific will continue to improve communications at KCS to allow the Soldiers of the 14th MDB to remain the first line of defense in both regional and homeland ballistic missile defense.

Story by Chief Warrant Officer 2
Bryan G. Duncan, Automations OIC,
Communications Directorate (G6), 94th
AAMDC



### Air Defense Brigade tests 'support and report' of simulated missile fight

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea—Soldiers of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade conducted their second world-wide defense simulation exercise utilizing netted remote terminal battle labs August 9-14.

"The focus of the training was to conduct air-battle management and engagement operations while simultaneously training the brigade and battalion level staff functions," said Maj. Eric Soler, 35th ADA Bde. operations officer. "This exercise validated our proof of concept of incorporating [Continental U.S.]-based Patriot units into a realistic wartime scenario optimizing our readiness to defeat an air or missile threat."

More than 300 Soldiers took part in the Missile Defense Agency-generated air battle simulation.

Additionally, about 30 MDA personnel from War Games and Exercises Directorate, a part of the Directorate for Test, maintained and operated the air battle simulation designed to replicate realistic threats for air defense Soldiers to detect through the Patriot missile system.

Patriot missile system crews organically assigned to the brigade consolidated at Osan Air Base to share institutional knowledge between firing units and to build unit cohesion.

"This exercise provided us the opportunity to conduct a tactics review and to standardize engagement operations across the brigade," said 2nd Lt. Clinton Keeley, an air defense officer assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment headquartered more than 250 km south of the brigade.

Keeley said that line units often do not see operations at a higher echelon until they are promoted and fill that role themselves.



Second Lt. Clinton Keeley, an air defense officer assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, monitors a simulated air space picture utilizing netted remote terminal battle lab in the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade headquarters August 13, 2015. Keeley is a native of Madeira Beach, Florida.

"It provided my crew the opportunity to get a bigger picture of air and missile defense," said Keeley.

"It really provides the Soldiers with a better understanding of how each staff section supports and reports the missile fight," he said.

During the exercise, Soldiers from South Korea, Texas and Okinawa, Japan worked around-the-clock monitoring their designated air space and engaging simulated air and missile threats.

"I am extremely proud of the outcome of this exercise," said Col. Mark Holler, 35th ADA Bde. commander. "The Patriot crews were tested on their ability to defend their assigned assets against a significant threat and the staff streamlined operations to support that mission."

Holler said that he expects the brigade's world-wide defense simulation exercises to continue and only get more refined with time and practice.

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Heather A. Denby, 35th ADA Public Affairs

### \* IAMD FORCE POSTURE \*



# The Honorable Debra S. Wada Visits the 94th AAMDC

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii-The Honorable Debra S. Wada, the assistant secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), visits the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Headquarters during her trip to Hawaii, Aug. 19.

Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, commanding general, 94th AAMDC, along with other senior leaders within the command outlined the 94th AAMDC's mission and capabilities during a command brief to Wada.

"Our purpose today was to describe the strategic and operational efforts the 94th AAMDC is actively pursuing to increase the air and missile defense capabilities and capacity in the Pacific," shares Maj. Douglas Simmons, force management officer, 94th AAMDC.

Keeping senior Army leaders informed is vital to the mission and the future of the command.

"Guided by our command's campaign objectives, it is important to brief the senior leaders of the Army on how policy and strategy guidance is operationalized in the Pacific to support our national interests as well as how the 94th AAMDC is developing robust partnerships in the region," continues Simmons.

Wada also received a brief on the 94th AAMDC's Ready and Resiliency Team, which was established by the command as a one-stop shop to support the Army's top

priorities.

"It was critical that we highlighted the ready and resiliency lead programs such as SHARP, suicide prevention, MRT and EO during this brief," expresses Chaplain (Col.) Ken Revell, 94th AAMDC Chaplain. "The 94th AAMDC is not configured like a brigade or a division. So in an effort to meet Army priorities and find efficiencies, much of the heavy lifting for these programs is

Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, commanding general, 94th AAMDC, welcomes the Honorable Debra S. Wada, assistant secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) to the 94th AAMDC Headquarters during her visit to Hawaii. This is Wada's first trip to the Asia-Pacific since being appointed Oct. 2, 2014.

absorbed under collateral duties. I believe the wave of the future is for our command to have authorizations for full time civilian hires at these important positions."

Wada, who serves as the Army's point person for policy and performance oversight of human resources (military, civilian, and contractor), training readiness, mobilization, military health affairs, manpower management, expressed her gratitude for the briefing and viewed the command visit as a success.

"It's always an honor to have key leaders visit the headquarters because it allows the command to provide a better understanding of the overall integrated ballistic missile defense mission to protect the homeland," shares Sanchez.

This is Wada's first visit to the Asia-Pacific since her appointment Oct. 2, 2014. Upon completion of her visit to Hawaii, she will continue her orientation tour of the Pacific with a stop in Guam, where she will be able to meet with Task Force Talon and see firsthand some of the efforts that were discussed during her visit to the 94th AAMDC

Story and Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Jaquetta Gooden, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs

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The Honorable Debra S. Wada visits the 94th AAMDC Headquarters during the visit Wada received a command briefing from senior leadership within the command. This is Wada's first trip to the Asia-Pacific since being appointed on October 2, 2014.



KADENA AIR BASE, Japan—The 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command and the 623rd Air Control Flight agreed to the deployment of an air defense artillery fire coordination team from the 94th AAMDC to Kadena Air Base in order to build joint and bilateral relationships and conduct integrated air and missile defense.

The 94th AAMDC is the higher echelon unit to 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment. The 94th AAMDC ADAFCO sections are responsible for integrating 1-1 ADA's engagement operations with Okinawa's controlling authority. Historically, the ADAFCO section has operated from the 613th Air Operations Center on Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii.

The decision to forward deploy 94th AAMDC air defense artillery fire coordination officers to Okinawa was made by Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, commanding general, 94th AAMDC, in support of his command philosophy to 'Focus Forward.' The deployment to Okinawa, Japan allows the ADAFCO team to improve warfighter integration with 1-1 ADA, 623rd ACF, 18th Wing and the Japanese Air Self Defense Force.

"1-1 ADA has been cross-training its tactical directors as ADAFCOs to fill the gap and integrate with the 18th Wing," said Maj. Juene Rader, air defense coordination officer, 94th AAMDC (forward) element, Okinawa. "This was effective and helped integration but was also time consuming for the battalion. The way forward was to permanently deploy 94th AAMDC ADAFCOs to the 623rd ACF."

The 623rd ACF was established on March 1, 1943 as part of the United States Army Air Force. The unit has been providing air control and warning for U.S. and Japanese aircraft in the Ryukyu Islands and mainland Japan since 1945. It is distinguished as the longest serving unit on Okinawa, Japan.

"The 623rd has a place in Okinawa's history and is also a vital piece to the future of Japanese bilateral IAMD integration," said Lt. Col. Daniel Biehl, commander, 623rd ACF. "As the senior C2 [command and control] element providing airspace management and weapons control, we are at the Naha Direction Center every week building relationships and continuity with the Japanese Air Self Defense Force. Having an ADAFCO from the 94th AAMDC

Army Capt. Richard Eriksson, air defense artillery fire coordination officer, 94th AAMDC, participates in the aviation training relocation 15-08 exercise with members of the 623rd Air Control Flight and Japanese Air Self Defense Forces at the Western Air Defense Control Group Direction Center on 19 Aug. The ATR 15-08 exercise is a bilateral training event designed to increase operational readiness and improve interoperability between the U.S. Air Force and JASDF. (JASDF Courtesy Photo)

permanently assigned is critical to that mission and is something I've advocated for since taking command."

"These interactions, daily missions, and 18th Wing exercises allow us to find gaps in resources and training and are essential in achieving success in IAMD, and also difficult to accomplish without having boots on the ground," said Capt. Jeffery Cashon, senior ADAFCO, 94th AAMDC.

The first 94th AAMDC team deployed in June and included Capt. Richard Eriksson, ADAFCO and Sgt. 1st Class Robert Walker, ADAFCO assistant, 94th AAMDC. The team had recently recertified as an ADAFCO team during their annual certification event, Virtual Flag 15-3, at Kirtland Air Force Base.

"It was important that the team we sent was trained and certified for the mission. We knew the deployment would require a lot from our team, so it was important that they were mission ready prior to leaving," said Maj. Chad Neibert, 613th AOC detachment deputy, 94th AAMDC.

The initial stage of the deployment is seen as a success by the team members and has increased their ability to perform their duties. The hard work of everyone involved should lead to positive effects in the future for the Pacific IAMD architecture.

"Deploying to Okinawa has not only helped us establish new relationships but also strengthened existing ones," said Walker. "The tyranny of 4,825 miles and five time zones diminishes collaboration with our subordinate unit. Deploying forward has had a positive impact all around and will continue to reap tremendous benefits going forward."

Story by Capt. Richard A. Eriksson, ADAFCO, 94th AAMDC





ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam—"Buen Binidu and Hafa Adai!" (translated into the native Chamorro, this means "welcome and greetings!") These were the opening remarks of Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown, commander, Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, as he addressed the general meeting of the Guam Chamber of Commerce Armed Forces Committee at the Outrigger Hotel in Tumon, Guam, Sept. 11.

The AFC is a subordinate group of the Chamber of Commerce that maintains and strengthens ties between the military and local businesses while looking out for the interests of each community. Military and community leaders from across the island of Guam attended the event.

Slown, a featured speaker, briefed committee members on the history, current status, and road ahead for the 200 member task force, which deployed in April 2013 to defend Guam from ballistic missile attack.

Slown reminded the audience of the important mission and continued relevance of the task force's presence on Guam, "... Our mission is just as important today and will be for the foreseeable future. The threat still exists."

Task Force Talon is striving to achieve permanent stationing on Guam, though the specific timeline of when permanency will occur remains undefined.

"[The] DoD is working with the Fish and Wildlife Service here in Guam along with the Federal Aviation Administration, the Guam State Historic Preservation Office, the Joint Guam Program Office, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Army Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown addresses members of the Guam Chamber of Commerce Armed Forces Committee at the Outrigger Hotel in Tumon, Guam, Sept. 11. Slown briefed committee members on the history, current status, and road ahead for the 200 member task force, which deployed in April, 2013 to defend Guam from ballistic missile attack.

Guam Protection Agency, and the Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans to ensure that THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) stationing will have no significant impact to the environment of Guam," explained Slown.

In working with federal and state agencies, there are several regulatory steps that must be addressed to achieve the objective of permanent stationing. One of the key mandates is that of the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. Part of NEPA compliance involves receiving community feedback through public information meetings. Two public information meetings were held on 25 and 27 June at the villages of Barrigada and Dededo, respectively.

Slown shared some of the comments received during the meetings, including the following remarks from a Guam citizen - "I personally believe that your [Task Force Talon's] ability to successfully defend Guam will be far better with Soldiers and their Families also permanently stationed on-island. As an indigenous Chamorro American and Guamanian, I would welcome these Soldiers and their Families as not just fellow Americans, but as community members and fellow Guamanians."

"The Task Force remains committed to supporting the Guam communities just as we have done since we arrived over two years ago," said Slown.

Slown further demonstrated the Task

Force's commitment to the community by informing the AFC of volunteer efforts undertaken by Soldiers on their off-duty time. He informed the audience that Soldiers have completed over 2500 volunteer hours at the Machanaonao Elementary School in Yigo. Task Force members also repainted parking lines and fences to ensure another local school in Dededo was prepared for the school year that is now underway.

Slown expressed, "The highlight for the Task Force was participating, for the first time, in the 71st Liberation Day Parade this past summer. Not only was the Task Force able to show our support and resolve to those that have come before us to make this island great but the support and cheers we heard along the parade route was truly inspiring."

Slown was honored to be invited to speak at the AFC event, stating, "To be recognized by this committee and the Guam Chamber of Commerce is an honor that shows the Task Force is respected by a community that truly enjoys having us here. The opportunity to speak on September 11th made the occasion that much more special."

Story and Photos by Maj. Joel C. Seppala, operations officer (S-3), Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC



Air missile defense crews from 1-1 ADA wear their CBRNE masks while participating in the air defense exercise portion of Ulchi Freedom Guardian at the 1-1 ADA reconfigurable table top trainer (RT3) lab. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Benjamin M. Bachman, training lab noncommissioned officer, 1-1 ADA)

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa, Japan - Patriot crews from the 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment participated in the 2015 Ulchi Freedom Guardian air defense exercise in August. The ADX portion of UFG brought together experience from the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, 35th ADA Brigade, 1-1 ADA, and the Missile Defense Agency.

The UFG exercise has been a yearly staple for U.S. and Republic of Korea forces since 1976 and is utilized to train combined command and control during a defense-oriented exercise designed to enhance Soldier readiness, protect the region and maintain stability on the Korean peninsula. Traditionally,

the involvement of the Okinawa-based 1-1 ADA has been limited. However, for the 2015 iteration of UFG, 1-1 ADA participated in the ADX portion which allowed for an unprecedented opportunity for the Snake Eyes' Soldiers to showcase their tactical and technical proficiency during UFG.

"This year's UFG really helped us exercise our reconfigurable table top trainer (RT3) systems. Our crews got to see more of a big picture by working with the units in Korea, and the MDA personnel helped us maximize our RT3 systems and communication equipment," explained Sgt. Benjamin Bachman, training lab noncommissioned officer, 1-1 ADA, when talking about the UFG ADX.

### **Snake Eyes Battalion Participates** in UFG Air **Defense Exercise**

Beginning several months prior, planners and leaders from the 35th ADA Bde, and 1-1 ADA discussed exercise details and concerns with a team from MDA. Together, the combined team designed and resourced an exercise whose scope spanned the Pacific.

Utilizing specialized training consoles and software, U.S. and ROK forces sharpened tactics and procedures in a joint and combined environment. One of the most interesting aspects of this year's event was the inclusion of an Air Defense Artillery Fire Control Officer (ADAFCO) team from the 94th AAMDC, which recently became a permanent fixture at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa. This new team was able to fully exercise the joint kill chain while providing valuable insights on Okinawa and Pacific region operations.

As the planners and leaders reflect on the success of this year's exercise, they look forward to next year's UFG with increased optimism.

Chief warrant officer 3 Paul White, standardization officer, 1-1 ADA, and the lead for this year's exercise, expressed excitement for the future, "This year we learned that the battle will look different with the ADAFCO on island. Next year, I'm really excited to see the expeditionary nature of our battalion's new focus."

Story by Capt. Thaddeus D. Morris, Fire Directions Center Officer, 1-1 ADA, 94th AAMDC

### \* IAMD FORCE POSTURE \*



# Sea Dragons Share IAMD Vision with AFP CGSC

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii-Officers attending the Armed Forces of the Philippines Command and General Staff College (AFP CGSC) were able to learn about the mission of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command during a visit to Fort Shafter, Hawaii, Sept. 1.

The 94th AAMDC staff met with the Filipino officers to discuss integrated air missile defense in the Pacific and provide an overview of how the 94th AAMDC supports U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Army Pacific and Pacific Air Force by providing joint and combined theater air and missile defense throughout the Asia-Pacific region. The brief included the roles of the 94th AAMDC commanding general, mission command, a break-down of regional air and missile defense assets, theater security cooperation, and the way ahead.

"The purpose [of the brief] was to facilitate discussion on IAMD with the Armed Forces of the Philippines [command and general staff college delegation] and 94th AAMDC in support of the significant interest from the Philippine Army in building air defense capabilities. We also took the opportunity to stress the

importance of the Philippines in the theater and to set conditions for a future trip to the Philippines by the CG [commanding general]," explains Capt. Cameron Smith, strategic plans (G5) planning officer, 94th AAMDC.

The Filipino officers were very appreciative of the brief and remained engaged throughout the talk, asking informed and straightforward questions on ballistic missile threats and the U.S. ability to counter the numerous threats in the Pacific region.

"We learned that the 94th is going to promote integrated air and missile defense with all of the stakeholders in the Asia Pacific and is including all of the friendly countries in their planning; including my country, the Philippines, which is a good thing to hear," shares Col. Cheston D. Valencerina, head of the academic center for the AFP CGSC.

Briefs to allied forces are important in strengthening relationships, informing our allies of available capabilities and reinforcing our commitment to military partnerships and theater security cooperation efforts.

"Briefs to large partner audiences are important, because they inform and build relationships with the future senior leaders

Col. Robert L. Lyons, 94th AAMDC Deputy Commander, answers questions from the Armed Forces of the Philippines Command and General Staff College students. The officers also received a command brief from key leaders in the 94th AAMDC that highlighted the command's mission on integrated ballistic missile defense in the Asia - Pacific region. (Army Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jaquetta Gooden, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs)

of our allied forces," continues Smith. "The Philippines Armed Forces gained insight into U.S. IAMD combined and joint operations and the 94th AAMDC was able to socialize the importance of relationships, exemplified by the CG's future visit to the Philippines which sets the course for the next several years of engagements."

The CGSC students will be able to share their new found knowledge on integrated air and missile defense with their leadership and other members of the Philippines Armed Forces upon their return to the schoolhouse.

Valencerina agrees with Smith and believes this briefing is a valuable tool which will not only help the students in their military career but will also have a positive impact for the defense of his country.

"This briefing on missile defense systems was really great," expresses Valencerina. "As you know we [the Philippines] are moving forward to acquire a missile defense system so that we have a credible missile defense.

"The students of the Command and General Staff College will benefit greatly from this briefing and they will eventually become the senior officers of our armed forces which will also benefit the Armed Forces of the Philippines."

As a treaty ally and strategically significant location bordering the South China Sea, the Armed Forces of the Philippines is crucial to long-term IAMD force posture, which is mutually beneficial to the United States and its Pacific region allies.

"The Philippines gains IAMD support and information to assist in their development of air defense capability from the 94th AAMDC. The 94th AAMDC gains crucial strategic access and strengthens the overall IAMD coalition," states Smith.

Story by Maj. Troy S. Frey, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs





ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam - For Soldiers defending the skies over Guam, those same skies recently became the enemy as Typhoon Dolphin pounded the island of Guam on May 15th with sustained 100 mph winds and gusts of up to 125 mph.

Guam is home to Task Force Talon which has been defending the island from missile attack for the past two years with the US Army's first forward deployed Terminal High Altitude Area Defense battery. The Task Force is composed of Soldiers from air defense, signal, and infantry units that came together as a team with their US Air Force counterparts to quickly evacuate critical equipment from the unit's location on Site Armadillo in Northwestern Guam.

The evacuation of mission critical equipment happened just hours before the typhoon struck. Task Force Talon Soldiers from Company B, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf. Division, who are deployed from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii provided convoy security. The convoy safely moved the equipment to storage locations maintained by the 36th Munitions and the 36th Maintenance Squadrons, 36th Maintenance Group, 36th Wing on Andersen Air Force Base.

"If not for the great support from the Air Force the successful evacuation of the mission critical equipment would not have been possible," said 1st Sgt. Cedric Covington, first sergeant for Battery D, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 11th ADA Brigade.

"We understand the important homeland defense mission that Task Force Talon executes and we try our best to support them anyway we can," said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Chandralean Lozada, the systems flight chief for the 36th Munitions Squadron.

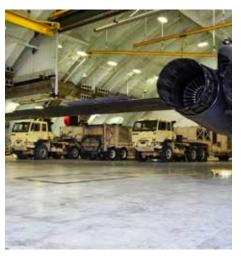
The evacuation of the equipment was fortuitous, as the eye wall of the typhoon passed near Site Armadillo causing extensive damage to non-mission critical infrastructure and the surrounding vegetation.

"We had some minor damage to Site Armadillo, but were able to maintain security of sensitive items and materials throughout the typhoon without injury to any Soldiers," said Capt. Dan Stinnett, commander, Co. B, 1-14th Inf. Regt., who led a small security force team, that secured the site during the typhoon.

Within hours after the typhoon passed, Task Force Talon Soldiers were back on site clearing debris and repairing damage from the typhoon. Once the site was cleared, Soldiers from Btry. D, 2nd ADA, who are deployed from Ft. Bliss, Texas quickly emplaced their THAAD equipment and resumed their defense of Guam mission.

"As bad as the typhoon was, it brought out the best in the Task Force's Soldiers," said Sgt. Maj. Joel Gutierrez, sergeant major, Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command. "The Soldiers worked extremely hard to clear the site of mission critical equipment and then quickly reestablished the site despite the damage from the typhoon."

Army Spc. Paul Latimer (left) from Battery D, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment and Sgt. Jarius Bruce (middle) and Spc. Brandon Fuller (right), both from the 307th Signal Battalion emplace communications equipment after the passing of Typhoon Dolphin. The strong storms that strike Guam can be destructive, but it will never break the confidence Task Force Talon Soldiers have in their training and the support from the joint community on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. (U.S. Army photo by Maj. Jonathan Stafford, executive officer, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC)



Terminal High Altitude Area Defense equipment parked next to a B1B Lancer bomber in preparation for the arrival of Typhoon Dolphin on Andersen AFB, Guam. The strong storms that strike Guam can be destructive, but it will never break the confidence Task Force Talon Soldiers have in their training and the support from the joint community on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Rorique Vernon, 36th Maintenance Squadron, 36th Maintenance

As destructive as Typhoon Dolphin was, it helped to build strong bonds between US Army and Air Force personnel on Guam.

"The support from Team Andersen was tremendous," said Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown, commander, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC. "It is an honor to work with the many great professionals that make up the joint community here on Guam."

Typhoon season has not even officially started on Guam, but this is the second typhoon that Task Force Talon has had to endure in the past two months. The strong storms that strike Guam can be destructive, but it will never break the confidence Task Force Talon Soldiers have in their training and the support from the joint community on Andersen AFB.

Story by Maj. Jonathan C. Stafford, executive officer, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC

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### \* IAMD FORCE POSTURE \*



HONOLULU - Service members and civilian personnel from around the Asia-Pacific region gathered in Honolulu, Hawaii, for the 2015 Land Power in the Pacific Symposium and Exposition, May 19-21.

The professional development forum, hosted by the Association of the United States Army Institute of Land Warfare, seeks to enhance the capabilities of our land forces by strengthening relationships with our joint allies and partners through exhibit displays and panel discussions that focus on the critical role of land forces in the Pacific.

Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander, U.S. Army Pacific Command, made a few remarks on the opportunities the conference provides.

"What an exciting opportunity this is to have people come from great distances for the same purpose, to spend some time learning from one another on how land forces can and are making a difference in the Indo-Asia Pacific," said Brooks. "I am excited for this years' LANPAC. We continue to grow in scope, we also continue to grow in relevance, and I am convinced this conference will become the premiere land-centric professional development event in the region as time goes on."

The forum consisted of several multinational discussion panels allowing military leaders, industry personnel, academia, and various agencies in and around the Indo-Asia-Pacific region to share unique views, experiences, and capabilities through dialogue.

U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez (right), commanding general of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, U.S. Army Pacific, introduces the panel discussion on integrated air and missile defense May 21, 2015, during the third annual Land Power in the Pacific Symposium and Exhibition held in Honolulu, Hawaii. Sanchez is at the three-day conference which is a professional development forum sponsored by the Association of the United States Army Institute of Land Warfare. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs)

Brig. Gen Eric L. Sanchez, commander, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, served as the chair for the "Air and Missile Defense Forum" panel discussion. Members on the panel included military leaders from the United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Pacific Air Forces, and the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; and industry leaders from Boeing Company and Northrup Grumman.

The panel discussion focused on IAMD in a Multilateral Environment in the Asia-Pacific region.

"The Asia-Pacific region is home to the most capable air and missile threat set of any region in the world; capability, complexity and capacity present a formidable challenge for our IAMD formations in the theater," explained Sanchez.

"The continuing development of air and missile threat technologies by potential adversaries, designed specifically to defeat U.S. system proficiencies is even more problematic. These enhanced capabilities are driving increased emphasis on requirements for persistent ground-based IAMD and early warning throughout the region and increased emphasis on a multi-service and multi-nation approach to IAMD."

Panel member Brig. Gen L. Neil Thurgood, program executive officer for the Program Executive Office Missiles and Space, shared his views on the future of development products in regards to IAMD.

"Looking into future development from a material stand point, I ask myself how do we build a piece of equipment that is projected against a threat that is unknown, unpredictable, and that is always changing," shared Thurgood.

"I think the starting point to being more adaptable and agile, is to build equipment that is number one modular and number two componentized," explained Thurgood.

During the panel discussion, Sanchez showcased a command video to the attendees that highlighted the capabilities of the 94th AAMDC and the role of IAMD in the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility.

LANPAC is a world-class international event that allows units like the 94th AAMDC to share their initiatives and capabilities while also highlighting the role of land forces in the Indo-Asia Pacific Theater and their contributions to the Joint Force in peacetime and war.

This year marks the third year that AUSA has hosted LANPAC in Hawaii.

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Jaquetta Gooden, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs





Lt. Gen. Bernard Champoux, commanding general of Eighth Army, passes the guidon of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade to Col. Mark Holler, the brigade's incoming commander, during the unit's change of command ceremony on Osan Air Base, June 24. The passing of the guidon is a traditional ceremony honoring the service of the outgoing commander, Col. Thomas Nguyen, and entrusting the incoming commander with charge of the unit. (Photos by Pvt. Yoseup Kim, KATUSA, 6-52 ADA Unit Public Affairs Representative)

### **Dragon Brigade Changes Command**

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea – Col. Thomas Nguyen relinquished command of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade Dragons to Col. Mark Holler during a change of command ceremony here, June 24.

As the only forward-stationed air defense brigade in the Army, the unit plays a key role in defending critical U.S. and ROK assets, deterring hostile aggression, and promoting stability in the region.

Nguyen assumed command of the Dragon Brigade in July of 2013, overseeing all air and missile defense operations on the Korean Peninsula, and immediately dedicated his efforts to ensuring training, equipment, and Soldier readiness were the unit's top priorities.

"Col. Nguyen's tenure as commander of the Dragon Brigade has been marked by unwavering commitment to their mission," said Lt. Gen Bernard Champoux, commanding general of the Eighth Army. "This unit has maintained the highest operational rhythm of any air defense unit in the Army and [Nguyen] has delivered remarkable performance time and time again."

The changing of command was completed, following the traditions and rich heritage of the U.S. Army, by a ceremony known as the "passing of the colors." Historically, a unit's colors, also known as its guidon, served as a rallying point for troops

and symbolized the strength and character of the unit.

The 35th ADA Brigade guidon passed from Command Sgt. Maj. Jose Villarreal, the senior enlisted advisor to the brigade commander, to Nguyen, symbolizing his loyalty to the outgoing commander. Nguyen then handed the guidon to Champoux, representing his relinquishment of command to a higher authority. Champoux then passed the colors to Holler, symbolizing the transfer of responsibility to the incoming commander.

Holler comes to Korea from Fort Bliss, Texas where he served as the assistant chief of staff, G3 of the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command.

Holler, a native of Jacksonville, Florida and recent Distinguished Graduate from the U.S. Army War College, expressed his gratitude for the privilege of leading the brigade.

"It is a proud and humbling experience to serve with the premier air defense unit in the Army," said Holler. "I am truly blessed to be among you and serve as your commander."

The passing of colors concluded when Holler handed the colors back to Villarreal, representing the concept that, although commanders change, the unit's colors remain with the dedicated Soldiers of the unit, Soldiers that Nguyen said he was honored to have led.

"Our officers, noncommissioned officers, and Soldiers have met every one of our goals



Sgt. Anthony Nunez assigned to 2-1 Air Defense Artillery at Camp Carroll, winner of the brigade's best warrior competition, presents Jill Nguyen, wife of outgoing 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade commander Col. Thomas Nguyen, with a bouquet of roses during the unit's change of command ceremony on Osan Air Base, June 24. The bouquet serves as a token of appreciation for Mrs. Nguyen's dedication and service over the last two years to the Soldiers and family members of the unit.

and have never let me down," said Nguyen in his farewell remarks. "They have been the most professional and dedicated Soldiers I have ever witnessed."

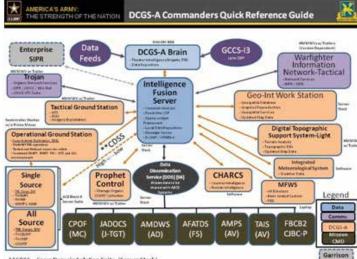
Col. Nguyen's next assignment takes him to Huntsville, Alabama where he takes over as the chief of staff at the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

Story by Spc. Kendrix Lima, 6-52 ADA Unit Public Affairs Representative

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DCGS-A—Supporting Air Force and Army Interoperability





The hardware and quick reference guide on the integration capabilities of the Distributed Common Ground Systems - Army.

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii -Recently the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command
(AAMDC), U.S. Army Pacific, successfully accomplished a
major milestone when they began utilizing the Distributed
Common Ground System -- Army (DCGS-A) on an Air Force
network.

This effort is the first time DCGS-A has been accessed for day to day operations on an Air Force network and it is a significant achievement to increase joint collaboration.

"Interoperability and shared intelligence is nothing new to military analysts, but the ability we now have to utilize DCGS-A here at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam will help us support the mission," explained Col. Bruce Stephens, 94th AAMDC G2.

"Ultimately achieving this milestone will allow the 94th AAMDC to provide commanders in the Pacific Command area of responsibility with timely, accurate and actionable intelligence, specifically focused on threat patterns and activities before they happen," he added.

The 94th AAMDC works closely with its Joint and combined Theater Air and Missile Defense partners to meet operational requirements and support the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific area of responsibility. The 5th Battlefield Coordination Detachment is focused on acting as a liaison between the Theater Joint Forces Land Component Commander and the Army Forces Commanders. Both of these organizations now have the ability to utilize DCGS-A on an Air Force network for their daily intelligence requirements.

The 5th BCD and 94th AAMDC will be able to access the Intelligence Fusion Server (IFS) so they can obtain, collaborate and share intelligence information between themselves and the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade (MI BDE) Fusion Brain at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. The 500th MI BDE Fusion Brain provides access to data sources, hosts intelligence reports and provides analysts support for full spectrum operations.

The capability DCGS-A provides to military intelligence analysts via the Air Force network enables intelligence collection, analysis, and exploitation. Units will now also have access to the multi-functional workstation within DCGS-A so they can utilize the analytical tools they need.

"Recently United States Army Pacific (USARPAC) and Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) federated all Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) threat tracking, analysis and assessments to the 94th AAMDC G2 team as the central repository for all things that are BMD threat related. This newly assigned responsibility made bringing our DCGS-A capability into an operational status a priority for senior leaders at PACOM, USARPAC and PACAF," Stevens said.

The 94th AAMDC was previously located on Fort Shafter where they didn't have access to use their military intelligence system due to classification issues in their location. In December 2014, they relocated to Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam which created yet another challenge to obtain access to an Army system on an Air Force installation.

Representatives from the 94th AAMDC, Air Force counterparts, and sustainment support representatives participated in multiple coordination meetings to ensure all Information Assurance requirements were met and policies were aligned. These discussions helped the Air Force counterparts understand why DCGS-A is vital to the 94th AAMDC's mission and why it needed to be active on their network

As of early June, 2015, replication between the 500th MI BDE Fusion Brain and the 94th AAMDC DCGS-A IFS was able to push almost 15 million records and/or messages through their IFS.

Also, recently DCGS-A was added to the Air Operations Center-Weapon System baseline. This additional approval is significant because when the 94th AAMDC is tasked to deploy, they will be automatically allowed to connect their DCGS-A systems.

The Army and the Air Force working together to bring DCGS-A successfully onto an Air Force network will further support shared intelligence collaboration. During the current environment of decreasing budgets and increasing responsibilities and missions, this milestone may provide a benchmark for future joint alignment efforts within the Department of Defense.

Story by Tanya Fitzgerald, Hawaii Senior Site Lead, 404th Army Field Support Brigade





JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii–Soldiers with 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, conducted an air and missile defense planning control system training exercise, July 13 to 24, 2015, at Shafter Flats, Hawaii.

The air and missile defense planning control systems (AMDPCS) is a system that facilitates gathering of air defense feeds from alternate locations, consolidating the information in a tactical operation center for a commander and his staff to have visual and informational situational awareness in order to make the most appropriate operational decisions.

"This was an opportunity for us to train air defense Soldiers to set up and integrate this system in case we have to deploy the system forward at any point," said Staff Sgt. Mark Giauque, an early warning battle systems operator with the 94th AAMDC.

The training exercise which lasted approximately two weeks included the physical setup of the system, the integration and updating of mission command system and fielding new system software that is still in the testing phase.

"We developed exercise training objectives that would facilitate validating the system, help our crews maintain proficiency and exercise our battle drills with the staff so we are prepared to deploy if the need be," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Heather Ritter, the command control systems integrator with 94th AAMDC.

"During the exercise, we trained air defense Soldiers on the proper setup of the systems, on the different systems we have and how to integrate them, on proper troubling shooting procedures, and we updated the software in the defense systems," continued Giauque.

"This was also an opportunity for our [air defense] Soldiers to gain from each other additional helpful information on various aspects of their jobs," said Giauque.

"This was a great learning opportunity for all air defense Soldiers in the 94th AAMDC," said Staff Sgt. Ian Duffy, an air defense battle management systems operator with 94th AAMDC. "We are fortunate to have many Soldiers sharing their vast knowledge base with each other, not only junior Soldiers but also for us more experienced air defense Soldiers too, which is important for continuity.

(ABOVE) Mr. Elton Grimes, a system engineer with Northrop Grumman Corporation Information Systems, discusses new software with Soldiers. (BELOW) Staff Sgt. Joseph Jefferson, a data systems integrator, with the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, teaches a class to information technology specialist Soldiers with 94th AAMDC, July 23, 2015, during the air and missile defense planning and control systems training exercise at Shafter Flats, Hawaii.



A highlight of the exercise was air defense Soldiers having an opportunity to provide valuable feedback on developing software that will be utilized with in their field in the future.

"We were able to share what we liked or disliked about the future software," shared Duffy. "The feedback from Soldiers is important for these future upgrades to work effectively for Soldiers working in this field."

"We were able to generate feedback on how we would use the software, and how to improve and how to sustain it," said Ritter.

"It is a great opportunity to be part of helping develop a product that works well for operators and provides more capabilities with less cost which illustrates the evolution of Army technology and operating systems."

Story and photos by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs

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KADENA AIR BASE, Japan – U.S. Army Lt. Col. Benjamin R. Ogden (right), the outgoing commander of 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, passes the battalion colors to Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez (center), the commanding general of 94th AAMDC, during a change of command ceremony, June 19, 2015, at Torrii Station, Okinawa, Japan. The tradition of "passing the colors" symbolizes the passing of command from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander.

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan – U.S. Army Lt. Col. Benjamin R. Ogden, the outgoing commander, relinquishes command of 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, to Lt. Col. Scott M. Dellinger, the incoming commander, during a change of command ceremony June 19, 2015, at Torrii Station, Okinawa, Japan.

During his farewell address, Odgen took a moment to discuss the battalion's successes.

"There is very little that these Snake Eyes Soldiers can't do," said Ogden. "They achieved superiority on Okinawa and throughout the Pacific...by directly integrating joint and bilateral operations as a battalion. These Soldiers always deliver, giving our senior leaders in the Pacific a flexible, ready and reliable force to bring to bear when needed."

"People would often ask me how I could face the stress of such a strategic mission, the criticality of theater-level training exercises or the uncertainty of a transforming Army," shared Ogden. "My answer to them was simple. I had approximately 625 American Soldiers beside me to execute every complex and unimaginable task. Individually they all have different stories, but collectively, they have the same shared purpose—to serve and defend."

Odgen, who will be transitioning to the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, had words of advice for the Soldiers in formation.

"Stay razor sharp in your proficiency, and never forget your guiding principles because your character is your legacy."

The "Snake Eyes" Soldiers of 1-1 ADA are charged with providing strategic air and missile defense of the United States Pacific Command commander's critical assets in Okinawa.

During Odgen's tenure as commander, the battalion was the first Army unit to participate in the joint exercise, Valiant Shield.

Lt. Col. Scott M. Dellinger, the incoming commander, assumes command after serving as the U.S. Northern Command Ballistic



KADENA AIR BASE, Japan – U.S. Army Lt. Col. Scott M. Dellinger, the incoming commander of 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, accepts the battalion colors from Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, the commanding general of 94th AAMDC, during a change of command ceremony, June 19, 2015, at Torrii Station, Okinawa, Japan. The tradition of "passing the colors" symbolizes the passing of command from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander.

Missile Defense Division Current Operations Branch Chief at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado where he was responsible for managing all ground based midcourse defense communications, sensors and weapons.

Story and photos by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs





JOINT BASE PEAR HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii-Six Soldiers participated in the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command's Sea Dragon Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year Competition 2015, May 4 to 8, 2015.

The week long competition tested the participants on various Level I and Level II Basic Soldiers skills such as medical tasks, night/day land navigation, team building, and M16 rifle qualification range.

"The Sea Dragon Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year Competition is an event held amongst the Soldiers and junior NCOs of the 94th AAMDC," said Sergeant Maj. Mario Guerrero, an operations sergeant major with 94th AAMDC. "It includes physical training, land navigation, a board appearance and a number of many other Solder tasks. The participants compete against each other to become the best of the best. The Top NCO and Soldier are then nominated by the command sergeant major to represent the 94th AAMDC during the week long U. S. Army Pacific Best Warrior Competition held June 8 to 12."

"This competition feeds directly into the USARPAC Best Warrior Competition," shares Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Kordish, the operations platoon sergeant with 94th AAMDC and assistant planner for the competition. "This helps instill the confidence they need to apply everything they know, from physical appearance and training to different Soldier tasks and having them compete against their peers prepares them to compete representing the 94th AAMDC."

The final, and for some the most difficult, portion of the competition for the participants was a traditional question and answer board.

"The board was the most difficult element because I had not been to one yet and attending a board with all the sergeants major was pretty intimidating," said Pfc. Brandon Besser, a battle systems operator with 94th AAMDC from Redding, Calif. "For my first board, I can say I wasn't that nervous and it was a good confidence builder for my next boards that are to come."

"The board is always hard to prepare for because there is always

U.S. Army Spc. Stanley Fields, a military intelligence analyst with 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, executes a push up, May 4, 2015, during the Army Physical Fitness Test, an element of the Sea Dragon Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year Competition 2015 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. The Sea Dragon NCO and Soldier of the Year Competition was a week-long event in which participants competed for the nomination to represent the 94th AAMDC in the U.S. Army Pacific Best Warrior Competition in June.

so much you could study on; so many different topics that can be covered," shared Sgt. Robert Kibler, a sensor manager with 14th Missile Defense Battery, 94th AAMDC.

Upon completion of the competition, Kibler and Besser were nominated by Command Sgt. Maj. Finis A. Dodson, the command sergeant major of the 94th AAMDC, to continue on to represent the 94th AAMDC during USARPAC's Best Warrior Competition.

"For Soldiers that are interested in competing, I would tell them to go for it because it is worth it," said Kibler. "Even if you don't win, it will help make you a better Soldier and leader. The more you push yourself to compete you are going to learn new things, you are going to see harder tasks that you don't get a chance to accomplish on a daily basis. So a competition like this will provide an opportunity to help you make sure you are at your best."

Leaders within the unit also view this competition a continuation of U.S. Army tradition for future generations of Soldiers.

"Each year, as more and more of the members of the Armed Forces exit the military due to various reasons, each time, we lose valuable skill knowledge and tradition," said Kordish. "Creating competitions like this keeps the military moving forward while allowing them to learn about why they are doing it. Next year, those same participants can speak about the competition and motivate people to want to participate and win rather than not compete."

Story and photo by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC **Public Affairs** 



### FOCUS FORWARD ★ LOOKING BACK



### FOCUS FORWARD, LOOKING BACK:

# 10 Years of IAMD Excellence

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii—With each passing year, Soldiers share the tales of missions past, where they have been and the events they have witnessed. Few have had the opportunity to convey moments of history where they were part of the spark and then again part of the fighting mission. For many Sea Dragons focusing forward on the future, means looking back over the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command's last 10 years.

"I was in the Philippines when my branch manager called and asked me to help set up the 94th AAMDC, a need based on air and missile activity going on in the theater area of operations," said Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, the current commanding general of 94th AAMDC.

"I was working at 1st Battalion, 62nd Air Defense Artillery, 25th Infantry Division," shared Master Sgt. John Culver, with 94th AAMDC. "At the time 1-62nd was inactivating so I called my branch manager to find out where I was going. He said that

there was this opportunity because I was an [Air Defense C41 Tactical Operations Center Enhanced Operator Maintainer]. They were standing up an AAMDC at Fort Shafter. I decided if it allowed me to stay in Hawaii that I would do it.

"At the request of the first sergeant and commander at the time, I selected 16 additional [Air Defense C41 Tactical Operations Center Enhanced Operator Maintainers] from the battalion that were willing to go there and then I reported to Fort Shafter."

After the inactivation of the 94th Air Defense Artillery Brigade in Germany, the Army officially activated the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command on October 16, 2005 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, under Headquarters, United States Army Pacific, to provide air and missile defense support under the Pacific Command.

The ceremony marked the activation of the third Army Air and Missile Defense Command in the U.S. Army, two in the active component and one in the reserve component.

"The unit was reactivated in Hawaii as an AAMDC, as a one star headquarters," said Sanchez. "When we first stood up the entire headquarters moved into Building 334 at Fort Shafter, while the headquarters building was being renovated. If I remember correctly, it was condemned at the time so there was a lot of renovations that were needed."

"We were relocated right across from the PX [Post Exchange] but for the first six months it was assembling office furniture and finding out what to do," said Culver. "We didn't know what an AAMDC did."

The Soldiers soon discovered that the planning aspect was only a portion of the new task.

"It was a big learning curve," explained Culver. "Being in a tactical environment my entire career and then coming to the strategic level was like getting your masters in air defense because now I was no longer worried about the placement of launchers, I was worried about the entire concept plan for the Pacific. It was really upper-level planning that I had never been around before."

The Soldiers may have assumed that during the activation of the unit, their main concerns would be where their office or desk would be but the operational tempo proved that their new assignment would not be that simple.

"In this instance there were a number of exercises that they wanted us to participate in as soon as we hit the ground," clarified Sanchez. "Additionally, around this time, the decision was made to put an AN/TPY 2 [Army Navy/Transportable Radar Surveillance—Model 2] radar in Shariki, Japan, a mission that was given to the 94th AAMDC almost immediately upon activation. Also around the same time, the 1-1 ADA [1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment] was making its move from Fort Bliss to Okinawa."

The activation of the 10th Missile Defense Detachment in 2006 at the Shariki Communication Site in Shariki, Japan was the first new military installation to open in Japan since the end of WWII.

In February 2006, the Army notified 1-1 ADA Bn. of a deployment to Okinawa, Japan, to provide air defense for key assets in the Pacific region and on Nov. 30, 2006, the 1-1 Air Defense Artillery Regiment was stationed at Kadena Air Base. Their assigned mission is to conduct air and missile defense operations to neutralize various aerial threats in order



to protect critical United States Pacific Command assets on Okinawa.

As time passed and the 94th AAMDC solidified its presence in the Asia Pacific, it grew in size and reputation.

At the time of the activation, it was estimated that 187 Soldiers would be able to staff the command. Today the 94th AAMDC has over 250 Soldiers assigned to the headquarters.

"It went from going to exercises in Korea and Japan and people saying '94th what?' to people coming to us as the experts in missile defense in the Pacific," said Culver. "Now it is 'we have a question about BMD [ballistic missile defense]' or 'where are we going to put these assets?' and the response is 'go ask 94th AAMDC.' They know who we are now. They know we are the experts."

The responsibilities of the 94th AAMDC commander include serving as the Deputy Area Air Defense Commander (DAADC), the Senior Air Defense Commander (SADC) and the Theater Army Air and Missile Defense Coordinator (TAAMDC) for joint and combined operations.

As the DAADC, the 94th AAMDC commanding general is the primary advisor for the Pacific Air Force and the 7th Air Force in support of the Area Air Defense Plan (AADP) and facilitates coordination, communication, and operations with all IAMD forces within the Pacific Region.

In his role as the SADC, he provides mission command to all forward deployed Army AMD forces and supports the USARPAC commander by providing IAMD oversight.

When acting as the TAAMDC, the 94th AAMDC commander coordinates AAMD in support of the USARPAC commander and the land component.

As the need for ballistic missile defense continued to expand in the Asia Pacific, the 94th AAMDC continued to evolve to meet those demands.

On April 4, 2013, the Department of Defense made the decision to deploy a terminal high altitude area defense (THAAD) battery to Anderson Air Force Base in the United States Territory of Guam. The 94th AAMDC was tasked with the command and control of the battery. This led to the creation of Task Force Talon, the first ever command and control headquarters for a forward deployed THAAD battery.

Also in 2013, as a result of, then Pacific Air Force Commander, Gen. Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle's vision for an Integrated Air and Missile Defense Center of Excellence, the decision was made to relocate the 94th AAMDC headquarters to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

As members of the 94th AAMDC staff began constructing the plan for the headquarters move, they also began implementing plans to deploy a second AN/TPY 2 radar.

The second AN/TPY 2 radar site would make its home in Kyogamisaki, Japan.

"I was at Fort Bragg, finishing my two years as the first sergeant for HHB, 1-7 ADA [Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery Regiment], when I got a call from Maj. Albright, who had been my boss when I was at the 94th AAMDC," described Culver. "He told me that he was going out to the Kyogamisaki Communication Site to stand up this new radar site and asked me if I wanted to be a part of it."

"Of course I said yes," said Culver. "It is something that I really wanted to be a part of in my career. I was there for the

activation of the 94th, I was there for Shariki and of course I wanted to be there for the stand up of KCS, knowing how it completes the picture for ballistic missile defense in the Pacific."

In preparation for the deployment of the radar, the 14th Missile Defense Battery, in conjunction with their Japan Air Self Defense Force partners, hosted delegations from the Kyoto Prefecture where the delegations were provided with a site tour, mission brief and community relations brief.

The activation ceremony for the 14th MDB took place on Oct. 22, 2014, in Kyogamisaki, signaling the beginning of the 94th AAMDC's newest radar installation.

"I didn't really know how quickly in one year it [the site] would get built up," Culver shared. "I had seen the plans but when you look at the plans you think there is no way they can complete all that in a year."

"It went from a grass field to what it is today, which everything is built except the barracks, in nine months. It was just amazing. At one point, there were so many cranes moving around the field that we didn't even go on site. It was just too dangerous for us because we didn't know what pieces were moving where."

While the cranes were moving the various pieces of the KCS radar site into place, the Soldiers assigned to the 94th AAMDC Headquarters began the move from Fort Shafter to their new home in the Pacific Air Force Headquarters at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

"Our move is a physical demonstration of our partnership with the Pacific Air Force," said Lt. Col. Gina Thomas, the deputy communications officer, 94th AAMDC. "We exercise that partnership every day. By us being physically in their headquarters building that demonstrates our commitment to air defense, air superiority in the Pacific, and to maintain the shaping operation piece."

"Every [staff] section played a vital part in the relocation of the command. All the working groups lead by operations; the updates to the deputy commanding officer and the chief of staff; the members of the NCO [noncommissioned officers] corps and their Soldiers which executed this mission, they were the key to a flawless relocation," said Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Tomlinson, logistics sergeant major, 94th AAMDC.

Many Soldiers, officers and civilians have contributed to the success of the 94th AAMDC over the last 10 years. As the unit's 10-year anniversary approaches, it comes easy to hark back to the memories of remodeling abandoned structures and building upon empty grass fields.

"This is a very memorable time for the 94th AAMDC," said Sanchez. "The Soldiers, NCOs and officers, both past and present, who have worked hard within our ranks, should be very proud of what has been accomplished. I am. They took great care in expanding and refining the task we began 10 years ago. It is through the hard work and the determination of these Sea Dragons that we have been able to provide 10 years of IAMD excellence in the Pacific while remaining combat ready and 'Focused Forward."

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Story by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs





1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment Snake Eyes Battalion

The 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, also known as the Snake Eyes Battalion, is located at Kadena Air Force Base on the island of Okinawa, Japan. The battalion conducts air and missile defense operations to neutralize various aerial threats in order to protect critical United States Pacific Command assets on Okinawa.

The unit was constituted June 1, 1821, in the Regular Army as the 1st Regiment of Artillery and organized from existing units with its Headquarters at Fort Independence, Massachusetts. The Snake Eyes Battalion deployed February to May 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Alpha and Bravo Batteries deployed to the Kingdom of Bahrain, while the rest of the battalion deployed to Kuwait.

In February 2006, the battalion was deployed to Okinawa, Japan and on November 30, 2006, the 1-1 Air Defense Artillery Regiment was permanently restationed to its current location at Kadena Air Base.



Task Force Talon, Musadan Manglers

Task Force Talon is located in the United States Territory of Guam at Anderson Air Force Base. On April 4, 2013, the unit became the first ever command and control headquarters for a forward deployed Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) battery.

The mission of the task force is to provide a persistent ballistic missile deterrent in order to defend U.S. citizens, U.S. troops, allied forces, population centers, and critical infrastructure on Guam from regional ballistic missile threats. The Musadan Manglers stand ready to defend Guam, the Pacific Region and the U.S. homeland against any and all theater ballistic missile threats.



10th Missile Defense Detachment, Samurai Detachment

The 10th Missile Defense Detachment is located at the Shariki Communication Site in Shariki, Japan and was established in 2006 as the first AN/TPY-2 Radar Installation in Japan. This marked the first new military installation to open in Japan since the end of WWII.

The 10th MDD mission is to detect and track theater ballistic missiles and disseminate the missile defense data to joint and allied units. Data collected and shared provides early warning and detection of hostile missile launches as part of the United States Pacific Command missile early warning architecture and greatly enhances the defense of USPACOM assets and the continental United States.



14th Missile Defense Battery, Hayabusa Battery

The 14th Missile Defense Battery is located at the Kyogamisaki Communications Site in Kyogamisaki, Japan. The unit activation ceremony was held on 22 October 2014 and signaled the beginning of the Army's newest AN/TPY-2 Radar installation.

The 14th MDB mission is to detect and track theater ballistic missiles and disseminate the missile defense data to joint and allied units. Data collected and shared provides early warning and detection of hostile missile launches as part of the United States Pacific Command missile early warning architecture and greatly enhances the defense of USPACOM assets and the continental United States. As the second AN/TPY-2 radar in Japan, the KCS radar will provide enhanced discrimination of TBMs and decoys from regional ballistic missile threats.

# 94th AAMDC G4 Lays the Foundation for Success



JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii- On any given day, tasks ranging from property accountability and maintenance to budget execution and contracting finds its way across the desks of the Soldiers and civilians of the logistics section (G4), 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command. Being in the Pacific theater brings its own unique challenges and circumstances such as the multiple military and civilian agencies that the logistics personnel must work with on a day to day basis.

Maj. Shawn Yonkin, Sgt. 1st Class Owen Milne and Sgt. 1st Class Nardello Keith, represented the 94th AAMDC Logistics Section at the forward command post in Osan, Korea during Ulchi Freedom Guardian. They had the challenge of building relationships quickly in order to ensure the Sea Dragon's overall success during UFG.

"Communication and relationship-building are the keys to success when dealing with partners. With partners in various physical locations and time zones establishing personal relationships prior to operations and building common understanding are essential to success," said Yonkin. "The G4 personnel assigned to the FCP (forward command post) worked closely with the Republic of Korea Air Force air defense team, both the logistics cells and tactical cells, to ensure we had a nested and comprehensive area air defense plan that maximized the use of a combined force air defense package capability."

The G4 section also had to build relationships with other Army units and their joint brethren during the exercise.

"We worked closely with the US Air Force movement team, both directly and thru the 3rd Battlefield Coordination Detachment to track inbound interceptor movement and coordinate ICW with the 35th ADA(air defense artillery) [Brigade] S4 to arrange ground movement to firing locations," said Keith.

Yonkin added, "We also worked with the Military Sealift Deployment and Distribution Command, the 8th Army munitions team, the 8th Army mobility team, the 19th Expeditionary Support Command, and the ROK Defense Department personnel."

Capt. Benjamin Clapp, contracting officer, 94th AAMDC, faces his own set of challenges for the command. He deals with the building, writing, reviewing and sourcing of multiple contracts for the various sites that make up the 94th AAMDC footprint in the Pacific.

"On average I talk to representatives from four to five different

units/agencies spanning from the East Coast of the United States to Japan," said Clapp.

Contracts are the most effective way to ensure our personnel and equipment are being properly cared for due to many of the remote locations in which we operate.

"On any given day I communicate with sections of Space and Missile Defense Command to ask questions about engineering drawings and discuss performance work statements (PWS) change recommendations. In the afternoon I may talk to the 374th Contracting Squadron out of Yokota, Japan about implementing contracts and inquiring about statuses of contracts that are being sourced for our units in Japan."

Being in Hawaii makes travel to most locations a costly and difficult task. This frequently places the 94th AAMDC in the middle both literally and figuratively.

Clapp explains, "Since we are located in Hawaii and in the middle time zone between the US East Coast and Japan, I often feel like the middle man. Many times I have to relay information between time zones."

The Soldiers and civilians in the logistics section of the 94th AAMDC have many duties and work tirelessly 'behind the scenes' to deliver stellar support time and time again.

"The role logistics plays in any operation is the foundation for success. Log planners will continue to plug into operations efforts to provide input and coverage to the logistics needs of the 94th ensuring the mission of the unit is never slowed or inhibited by logistics requirements," explains Milne.

The 94th AAMDC logistics section will continue to 'lay the foundation' in the Pacific allowing the Sea Dragons to remain the First Line of Defense!

Story by Major Keith E. Pruett, Deputy Logistics Officer (G4), 94th AAMDC

### \* PARTNERSHIP \*



# U.S. and ROK Patriot crews seal the gaps in combined air defense

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea – Air defenders from Republic of Korea Air Force's 199th Air Defense Artillery Battalion and U.S. Army 2nd Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment joined forces for a week-long exercise linking U.S. and ROK air defense systems July 13-16 at Jungwon Air Base.

This is the second time the two countries have conducted this type of exercise.

"The sister battalion to 2-1 ADA, 6th Battalion, 52nd Air and Missile Defense Regiment conducted a combined interoperability exercise last June with the ROKAF 177th Air Defense Artillery Battalion where they were able to successfully transfer digital data between Patriot missile systems for the first time," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Ronald Brotherton, 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade air defense artillery fire control officer.

"During this iteration, we expanded upon that concept by increasing the distance between the two systems and linking our communications equipment," Brotherton said. "We had many objectives for this exercise but the bottom line is that we set out to validate the software and hardware configurations between the U.S. and ROK Patriot systems."

During the exercise, both ADA commanders were able to combine their shared mission of defending South Korea against an air or missile threat.

"We talked about the composition of our organizations and the multitude of ways that we can work together in air defense," said Lt. Col. Tony Dedmond, 2-1 ADA commander. "We achieved every objective established prior to the exercise."

"It was a good combined effort," he said.

Soldiers of 2-1 ADA observed ROKAF 199th ADA airmen conduct march-order emplacement, then the two units went head-to-head to see which unit could conduct the fastest missile reload drill.

"The [missile reload] concept was the same, but our equipment is slightly different," said Staff Sgt. Anthony Heaps, launcher section



(LEFT) Soldiers of 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade and Republic of Korea airmen from 199th Air Defense Artillery Battalion commemorate a week-long, combined interoperability exercise with a group photo July 15, 2015 at Jungwon Air Base, South Korea. Both units employ Patriot missile systems as their primary air defense system.

(ABOVE) Chief Warrant Officer 3 Ronald Brotherton, 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade air defense artillery fire control officer, evaluates training objectives during a combined interoperability exercise July 15, 2015 at Jungwon Air Base, South Korea. This is the second CIX held between U.S. and Republic of Korea Patriot missile units.

chief for Charlie Battery, 2-1 ADA. "It was a great opportunity to train with each other."

"The ROKAF airmen were really impressed with our system, its efficiency and our teamwork," he said.

Teamwork galvanized the bond between the two country's air defenders during the exercise, according to Brotherton.

"It was amazing to see our Soldiers and the ROK airmen work together," said Brotherton.

"When the exercise began, there was an obvious uncertainty between the two," he said. "But during the exercise, there were many challenges that required both country's air defenders to work together in order to succeed and by the end of the day, they were giving each other high-fives and joking like old friends," he said.

The exercise culminated with a tactical seminar on best practices of U.S. and ROK air defense followed by a competitive game of soccer.

The 199th ADA commander said there was a perfect balance of building relationships through friendly competitions and building knowledge through shared air defense expertise.

"This exercise was a historic first," said ROKAF Lt. Col. Jin Gi Kwon, 199th ADA commander. "U.S. and ROK Patriot Battalions exchanged digital data remotely utilizing communication relay systems."

"This proof of principle demonstrates our ability to be interoperable in a configuration replicating how we would fight alongside our allies using the Patriot system in a contingency operation," he said.

The ROKAF began upgrading its Patriot missile systems this month with full implementation of their equipment expected by 2020.

Brotherton said that with the upgrades and combined interoperability of Patriot missile systems, the U.S. and ROK forces will be able to reduce the number of missiles fired and increase engagement accuracy of potential threats.

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Heather A. Denby , 35th ADA Public Affairs



JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Edward C. Morris, the ordnance regimental command sergeant major, recognizes Spc. Nathan Hopf, a wheeled vehicle mechanic with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, and native of Torrance, Calif., for his dedication to excellence in his field, July 21, 2015, during a visit at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

# Sea Dragons provide feedback to ordnance CSM during visit

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Edward C. Morris, the ordnance regimental command sergeant major, and Sgt. Maj. Gene E. Canada, the ordnance chief enlisted career manager in the personnel development office, met with the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command ordnance Soldiers, July 21, 2015, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

"I am here to listen to any issues and concerns that you, as ordnance Soldiers, are experiencing, in order to do my part to help make improvements," said Morris, when interacting with the Soldiers.

The visit was an opportunity for those within the ordnance military occupational specialty to provide direct and personal feedback to the senior enlisted leadership within their field.

"We were able to discuss real issues that we are facing in our field," said Spc. Nathan Hopf, a wheeled vehicle mechanic with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 94th AAMDC and native of Torrance, Calif. "We discussed everything from how hard it can be to get parts, lack of equipment and the lack of man-power which makes it difficult to accomplish the mission."

"This was an opportunity for Soldiers in the ordnance career field to have a voice," continued Hopf.

During the visit Soldiers also discussed opportunities for personal development and career progression.

"It was helpful to hear about the various tools that are available to us to be able to progress as a Soldier in this field," shared Hopf. "A big discussion point was mentorship, having experienced Soldiers share their knowledge with the junior Soldiers is something I have been grateful to have provided to me from my leaders here."

Many Soldiers appreciated the visit because it highlighted the importance that all Soldiers play in completing the mission.

"Visits that include senior leadership addressing Soldiers and

personally fielding their questions is really beneficial for low density MOSs, especially with the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, because it demonstrates that commanders care about all our Soldiers equally, not just air defenders," said Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Tomlinson, the 94th AAMDC Logistics Sergeant Major.

"Many times it feels like maintenance Soldiers are forgotten about or we completely operate in the background," said Hopf. "Being able to talk to Command Sgt. Maj. Morris and Sgt. Maj. Canada really made me feel appreciated. Their visit definitely reinforced the importance and relevance of our jobs."

Story and photo by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs



### \* PARTNERSHIP \*



ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — "Praise the Lord and pass the...biscuits!" That was the spirit of the fourteen Soldiers from Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, as they met at the Top of the Rock Club on Andersen Air Force Base, Aug. 27, for the first Task Force Talon prayer breakfast since the unit's arrival on Guam in April 2013.

U.S. Air Force Chaplain (Maj.) Hyral "Buddy" Walker, 36th Wing Deputy Chaplain, was the guest speaker. The keynote topic discussed was prayer. Walker's animated, energetic presentation style educated the Soldiers on some of the various types, styles, techniques, and occasions for prayer.

Walker discussed the various reasons for prayer such as worship, confession, asking for forgiveness, giving thanks for blessings or thanksgiving, to ask for things for ourselves or supplication, and praying for the needs of others or petition. With this myriad of prayers available, one can find himself or herself truly "praying without ceasing" as Saint Paul advises in the book of Thessalonians in the New Testament of the Holy Bible.

In a single day, for example, a Soldier can find himself praying in supplication that he will make it to morning formation on time praying in thanksgiving that he was able to join the ranks just before the first sergeant walked out the door - and then praising God as the first sergeant announces that the physical fitness test scheduled for that morning has been rescheduled for next month.

According to Walker, prayers can be as simple as the offer of petition for Soldiers attending a prayer breakfast. A prayer can also be complex or eloquent such as an invocation given at a national prayer event. Prayers may be uttered routinely around a dinner table or when asking for renewed health for someone that might have fallen ill. Prayers can be spoken anytime whether kneeling, standing, running, or driving. They can be raised up holding a rosary or a rifle.

Walker reminded the audience, "Sometimes, the best kind of prayer is that which is just like talking to your best friend."

Prayer breakfasts are an important part of Soldier resiliency. These types of events are an enduring tradition throughout the U.S. armed forces and within the larger U.S. government structure.

The 94th AAMDC senior enlisted religious affairs adviser, Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Seppala, shares: "Prayer breakfasts address

(ABOVE) Soldiers from Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, who are forward-deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, listen to guest speaker. U.S Air Force Chaplain (Maj.) Buddy Walker, 36th Wing Deputy Chaplain, during a prayer breakfast Aug. 27, 2015. Prayer breakfasts are an important part of Soldier resiliency. (BELOW) Army Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown, commander, Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, presents a commander's coin to the guest speaker, U.S. Air Force Chaplain (Maj.) Buddy Walker.



the spiritual fitness component of the Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness (CSF2) model. The spiritual component is the unseen force that compels a Soldier to keep moving forward even through the worst situations."

When describing the value of prayer breakfasts to Soldiers, Seppala states, "Prayer breakfasts nurture the development of a Soldier's spirit through fellowship with other Soldiers in a nonthreatening environment."

Though this was the first Task Force Talon prayer breakfast, it will not be the last.

Task Force Talon commander, Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown, noted, "The task force is working to build a strong unit ministry program that will include additional prayer breakfasts, single Soldier and Family retreats, and other spiritual programs over the next year. This event was the first of many to help build CSF2."

Story and photos by Maj. Joel Seppala, Operations Officer, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC





JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii—Leaders and Soldiers from the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command held a prayer breakfast in remembrance of 9/11 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, 10 September.

Soldiers were able to fill their stomachs on a nicely planned breakfast while enjoying inspirational music and words of encouragement before the guest speaker, Command Sgt. Maj. Bryant C. Lambert, command sergeant major, US Army Pacific, gave his remarks.

"It is my pleasure to be here with you today to commemorate a day that will forever live in our memories. For all Americans the phrase 9/11 invokes a special meaning, 9/11 is a day that changed the world as we knew it... forever. Just as December 7, 1941 [Pearl Harbor Day] defined that generation, the events of September 11, 2001 have changed who we are and how we live," shares Lambert.

Lambert went on to explain how the effects of that tragic day changed our way of life forever.

"On that day our way of life was attacked, a way of life that embraces freedom and democracy, a way of life that rewards hard work and perseverance, a way of life that encourages selflessness and generosity.

Soldiers from the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command stand for a group photo at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, 10 Sept. after the completion of the 94th AAMDC prayer breakfast to remember the events of 9/11. Command Sgt. Maj. Bryan C. Lambert, command sergeant major, United States Army Pacific, was the guest speaker for the 94th AAMDC Prayer Breakfast where he offered some inspirational words about the "Sacrifices of 9/11" to the Sea Dragon Team. (U.S. Army photo by Maj. Troy S. Frey, 94th AAAMDC Public Affairs)

"We will never forget the images of the planes flying into the World Trade Center, or the smoke rising from the Pentagon on that day. That day awakened us, people just like you and I that are gathered here today, people that came to work every day to serve our nation, playing vital roles to help keep our country safe, those individuals were taken from us, because of the cruel events that took place on that heart-breaking day. We will never forget that ultimate sacrifice, and the sacrifice of the families, and memories of the lives lost that day," continues Lambert.

Lambert's remarks really hit home with Spc. DeAndre Ward, local land network manager, 94th AAMDC.

"Hearing Command Sgt. Maj. Lambert's remarks really made you think how far we have come as a country since 9/11, and the sacrifices of the brave men and women that lost their lives that day. It really makes me proud to be a Soldier, knowing that I am doing my part to help defend our country," shares Ward.

The prayer breakfast concluded with a special presentation to Lambert for

his inspiring remarks, and a benediction given by Chaplain (Col.) Kenneth Revell, chaplain, 94th AAMDC.

Lambert ended his remarks by encouraging everyone in attendance to reflect back on 9/11 as we all honored those who paid the ultimate sacrifice on that day.

"As Soldiers we will continue to do our job each and every day, so today we stand up and pay tribute to the memories of the ones we lost that day, with our service and our charity," shares Lambert.

"That day holds unique significance to our military, that day began more than a decade of war overseas, in both Afghanistan and Iraq ... along with many other operations across the globe ...from the sacrifices of many that were affected by the events of that day we were able to preserve our way of life and eliminate the terrorist threat."

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Jaquetta Z. Gooden, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs

### \* PARTNERSHIP \*



(Left to Right) Marine Cpl. Brian Bessey, Cpl. Alexander Corallo and Lance Cpl. Jonahkiyos Bonilla, all engineers in Combat Logistics Battalion-3, conduct maintenance on their heavy equipment 17 April, 2015 at Site Armadillo, Guam. The CLB-3 Marines removed 11.5 acres of debris, which they used to build a berm to improve the security of Site Armadillo, while the newly cleared area provides additional building space for future projects. (Courtesy Photo)

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam - For the past month the sounds of heavy equipment and the cries of "oo-rah!" from US Marines has been a constant presence on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. These sounds ended on 29 April when the engineers of Combat Logistics Battalion-3 from Marine Corps Base Hawaii completed their site improvement project for Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, the US Army's first forward deployed terminal high altitude area defense unit.

Task Force Talon first deployed to Guam in 2013 to protect the US territory from ballistic missile threats. Since arriving in Guam, the task force has steadily made progress improving the area on Andersen AFB's Northwest Field called Site Armadillo. In the past the task force relied on private contractors and Army and Air Force engineers to complete site improvement projects. The completion of the latest project is the first one completed by U.S. Marine Corps engineers for the task force.

"It was great to be able to be able to lead a squad of Marines to do this heavy equipment project and be part of such an important homeland defense mission," said Staff Sgt. Delsean Barrow the noncommissioned officer who led the Marine Corps mission to Guam.

Over the course of one month, the CLB-3 Marines removed 11.5 acres of debris that was piled up from when the site was originally cleared two years ago. They used the debris to build a berm that has

improved the security of sensitive assets on Site Armadillo while providing additional building space for future projects.

"I see this as a win-win for both the Marines and the Army because we got to train on our core engineer tasks while completing an important site improvement project for the task force," said Sgt. Vincent Rhoads.

At the conclusion of the project the six Marines, who spent a month working on Site Armadillo, were recognized with Army Certificates of Achievement and Task Force Talon coins during an awards ceremony. The ceremony was attended by members of Task Force Talon, the commander of CLB-3, Lt. Col. Patrick Tucker, and CLB-3 Sergeant Major, Sgt. Maj. James Vealey.

"We appreciate the hard work the Marines provided for the task force for the past month and look forward to cooperation with CLB-3 on future projects," said Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown, Task Force Talon Commander, 94th AAMDC.

The completion of the site improvement project is part of a master building plan to improve the THAAD location in Guam which the Joint community, to include now the U.S. Marines, have played a key role in moving forward.

Story by: Maj. Jonathan C. Stafford, Executive Officer, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC





### **Sea Dragon Recognized for 25 Years of Civilian Service**

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii – Mrs. Athel Jaictin, a budget analyst with the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, was recognized for 25 years of civilian service to the government, July 8, 2015, during a ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Jaictin, born and raised in the Philippines, moved to the United States in 1985 with her husband who had joined the Air Force.

During her career, Jaictin worked as a civilian for the several organizations in Hawaii.

"I first started working for the Navy Exchange as an accounting tech," said Jaictin.

"Athel worked at the Navy Exchange before it was the Navy Exchange that most of you know today," said Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, commanding general of the 94th AAMDC.

After working at the Navy Exchange, Jaictin later worked for Defense Finance and Accounting Services, and Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific.

As a budget analyst, Jaictin worked for 25th Infantry Division and Mission Support Element Hawaii.

"A year and a half ago, Athel became part of our Sea Dragon family and I couldn't have been more proud to have her," said Sanchez.

Jaictin's recognition of civilian service is a reflection of her impact while working for the government.



Mrs. Athel Jaictin, a budget analyst with the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, was recognized by Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, the commanding general of the 94th AAMDC, for 25 years of civilian service to the government, July 8, 2015, during a ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

"I can always rely on Athel to ensure we are in compliance with all financial regulations," said Lt. Col. Scott. Stephenson, the 94th AAMDC assistant chief of staff- logistics. "She is a quiet professional that gets things done behind the scenes ensuring our units get their funds. It has been a real pleasure working with Athel."

Story and photos by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs

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### \* PARTNERSHIP \*



Sgt. Claudia Desantiago is awarded an impact Army Commendation Medal for being selected as the USARPAC Logistics Hero. The award presentation was executed via VTC during the USARPAC Monthly Sustainment Readiness Review by the 8th Theater Sustainment Command Deputy Commander Col. Phillip Mead. (Courtesy Photo)

# Sea Dragon Receives USARPAC Log Hero Award

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii- Sgt. Claudia Desantiago was awarded the U.S. Army Pacific Logistics Hero Award for the excellence she exhibited as a unit supply sergeant on July 29 at Anderson Air Force Base, Guam.

Sgt. Desantiago was recognized for her outstanding performance in standing up an operational supply room during the deployment of her unit, Battery D, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC, to Guam.

"Sgt. Desantiago is an outstanding noncommissioned officer that has been critical to accomplishing many complex logistics duties for Task Force Talon, she is the second Task Force Talon Soldier to win this prestigious award in the past four months," expresses Maj. Jonathan Stafford, executive officer, Task Force Talon.

Sgt. Desantiago was also presented with an Army Commendation Medal for being selected as the USARPAC Logistics Hero of the Month, by Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown, commander, Task Force Talon.

"Sgt. Desantiago is an excellent example of what a great noncommissioned officer looks like," explains Slown.

"She set the example for how a supply room is operated, and it was important to me that we highlighted her efforts by not only submitting her name for the USARPAC award, but also from the command as well."

Sgt. Desantiago believes she was just doing her job and

was surprised to find out she was going to be awarded the USARPAC Log Hero award.

"I was very surprised to learn that I was selected as the USARPAC Logistics Hero, because I wasn't even aware that my unit had put me in for it," shares Desantiago.

"It's always a good feeling when you are recognized for the work that you do, however, I feel like it's my job not only as an NCO but as a Soldier to ensure that my unit maintains its readiness from the logistics perspective."

The USARPAC Logistics Hero Award is given out to outstanding logistics personnel who display great knowledge, work ethic, and mission success in the logistics area of operations.

"This was a great opportunity to showcase the work of our outstanding logistics personnel ... Without the logistics personnel, we would not be able to perform the mission successfully," explains Slown.

Sgt. Desantiago, along with other Soldiers from Btry D, 2 ADA, are currently attached to Task Force Talon while on a year deployment to Guam.

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Jaquetta Gooden, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs







(LEFT) Soldiers and officers from 1-1 ADA participate in the Itoman City's Summer Festival Haarii, or dragon boat races, on Sunday, Aug. 16. The seventh annual festival was a celebration of summer and a fun way for citizens to enjoy the nice August weather of Okinawa. (RIGHT) The Snake Eyes command group team (pictured) was one of 3 teams from 1-1 ADA that participated in the Itoman City's Summer Festival Haarii, or dragon boat races, on Sunday, Aug. 16. The command group time of 2:00 was the fastest time of the day for the battalion. (U.S. Army photos by 1st Lt. Amanda M. Arthur, personnel officer (S1), 1-1 ADA)

### 1-1 ADA Soldiers Participate in Itoman City Summer Festival Haarii Dragon Boat Races training

ITOMAN PORT, Okinawa, Japan—The Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment participated in the Itoman City's Summer Festival Haarii, or dragon boat races, on Sunday, Aug. 16. The seventh annual festival was a celebration of summer and a fun way for citizens to enjoy the nice August weather of Okinawa.

The festival consisted of a plethora of food stalls, with samples of tempura shark, fried squid, and BBQ swordfish topping the list of the most enticing. Game booths were set up in which attendees could attempt to throw a loop around the nose of a swordfish, or children could scoop up pet goldfish. But the highlight of the day was the Haarii dragon boat races taking place in the waters of Itoman Port.

Three dragon boats bobbed in the waters of the East China Sea, their brilliant colors flashing in the scattered sunshine. Teams of ten filled the boats and were supplied one Japanese steersman. The most successful dragon boat teams row in perfect synchronization with speed and precision, following the cadence of the "drummer". The drummer is like the heart of the dragon, dictating the speed and rhythm of the oar strokes.

"My favorite part of the festival was competing against our Japanese Ground Self Defense Force (JGSDF) sister unit in the dragon boat race, and seeing the Soldiers' determination to come in first or definitely not last," said Capt. Cortdz Tuato'o, commander, Battery B, 1-1 ADA, of Pago Pago, American Samoa.

The JGSDF 15th Anti-Aircraft Regt. coordinated the event for both units. The 15th Regt. and the Snakes Eyes Bn. are sister units that share cooperation and coordination with one another.

"It is very important to participate in events like this to

build on bilateral friendships amongst nations and to share professional and personal experiences," said Tuato'o.

The Soldiers of 1-1 ADA supported the event in full force, with over 80 Soldiers participating in the actual race and even more in attendance to support and cheer. Overall, eight teams competed for the unit.

In a nail-biting race, the Snake Eyes command group boat rowed the fastest time of the day for the battalion, beating the 15th Regt. command team boat by less than one second. The command group time of 2:00 may not have been as fast as some of the professional teams, but it was cause for cheering and celebration amongst the crowd.

The slowest Snake Eyes team to complete the race was the operations team, who sunk their boat and was given a score of "no time". Even so, the Soldiers in the boat said it was well worth their time.

"Our sections truly had a great time at the event. Even though our boat sunk, we will do better next time," said Capt. Alex Poggioli, assistant operations officer (S3), 1-1 ADA from Newburgh, New York.

The Itoman City Summer Festival Haarii races are an annual occurrence. All participants from 1-1 ADA hope to race again next year and finish with even faster times.

Story by 1st Lt. Amanda M. Arthur, personnel officer (S1), 1-1 ADA and 1st Lt. Cameron S. Rahimian, launcher platoon leader, Battery D, 1-1 ADA, 94th AAMDC





JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM. Hawaii—The Adiutant General's Corps Soldiers of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command had the opportunity to participate in the first ever island-wide AG Week, May 11 - 15.

The 94th AAMDC AG Soldiers were able to completely immerse themselves in their chosen branch at the event hosted by the Adjutant General's Corps Regimental Association, Aloha Chapter, which includes AG Soldiers from the United States Army Pacific Command, the 25th Infantry Division, the 311th Signal Cmd, and the 8th Theater Sustainment Cmd.

The week kicked off with a basketball tournament featuring the AG Soldiers from all the commands across the island. The Sea Dragon's team, comprised of Spc. Ronney Magee, personnel awards clerk; Spc. Taraneh Lipscomb, personnel clerk; and Sgt. Niesha Haywood, human resources noncommissioned officer, personnel section (G1), 94th AAMDC; competed valiantly in the round robin event, finishing in second place.

Despite the tough loss to the 25th Inf. Div. team, Magee said, "It was nice to be able to spend time with fellow battle buddies in the AG Corps and it was a great opportunity to build unit cohesion outside of the office."

The next event was a historical tour of the island that highlighted the AG Corps' participation during World War II. The

tour made stops at the military museum at Schofield Barracks, the USS Arizona and USS Missouri, and the 94th AAMDC Headquarters at Joint Base Pearl-Harbor Hickam.

"It was eye-opening to see how rich the history of the military is in Hawaii," said Pfc. Dimetre Briggs, human resources specialist, command group, 94th AAMDC. "We visited a lot of places that I had never even heard of before."

The tour was followed by an 'esprit de corps' run with all members of the AG community sporting bright blue shirts inscribed with the phrase 'Kupale a Lawelawe', the Hawaiian translation of the AG Corps' motto, 'Defend and Serve.'

"This was an excellent team building event through physical fitness. It was great to see such a large formation of motivated AG Soldiers," said Master Sgt. Cassandra McCoy, noncommissioned officer in charge, personnel section (G1), 94th AAMDC.

The culminating event of this inaugural week was the AG Ball at the Sheraton Waikiki. Five Soldiers from the 94th AAMDC were formally recognized during the ball for their contributions to the AG community.

"It was an awesome feeling!" said Sgt. Kindra Smith, human resources NCO, personnel section (G1), 94th AAMDC and recipient of the Colonel Robert L. Manning Achievement Medal, which is awarded to individuals who promote the objectives of

The Adjutant General Corps' Officers and Soldiers of the 94th AAMDC smile for a group photo after a fun and successful AG Ball.

the AG Corps and have made significant contributions to the AG community. "I was not expecting it at all. Receiving my first AG award definitely made it a night to remember."

The guest speaker was Mr. Mufi Hannemann, the 12th mayor of Honolulu, a graduate of Harvard University and Fulbright Scholar. Hannemann delivered a clever speech on his 'Mufi's Maxims.'

"The speech was very interesting," said Sgt. Nadine Gonzalez, personnel clerk, personnel section (G1), 94th AAMDC and recipient of the Colonel Robert L. Manning Achievement Medal. "Despite never having served in the military, he covered leadership in so many different aspects."

The most memorable part of the speech for Gonzalez was when Hannemann discussed the sewage spillage incident of 2006.

"Like many Soldiers are forced to do, he had to make a split-second decision to take care of the problem and deal with the consequences," she explained.

Story and photo by 2nd Lt. Gabrielle M. Tally, personnel section (G1), 94th AAMDC





JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii—Seventeen Soldiers with 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, U.S. Army Pacific, participated in a field day, May 15, 2015, as part of the 94th AAMDC's partnership in education with the Linapuni Elementary School at Honolulu, Hawaii.

"On our annual field day, we work to incorporate physical activity in a fun way, making school fun for the students and generally promoting a healthy lifestyle," said Cindy Sunahara, the principal of Linapuni Elementary School. "The military members volunteer to help us put on the events and they play an important role in generating the enthusiasm, making it a fun and good thing while also serving as role models."

The elementary school, located in a lower income housing area, uses the field day event to encourage attendance and teach important health and fitness life lessons.

"About 90 percent of our kids are from the surrounding housing," shares Sunahara. "They are very disadvantaged kids. One of the issues we face here at Linapuni is attendance and one of the causes of that is health issues, so it is very important that the kids learn that physical fitness is a good thing, a fun thing."

During this field day event, the Sea Dragons engaged in physical activities and fitness inspired games.

"We took part in Linapuni Elementary School's field day, an activity and fitness based day that we do with grades, prekindergarten through 1st Grade," said Spc. Stanley Fields, an intelligence analyst with the 94th AAMDC and the unit's liaison with the school. "We had all kinds of activities from basketball and football throws to jumping ropes, to hula hoops, and even dance exercise classes."

"At the end and before we left, we took a few minutes to show the kids how we conduct physical training in the Army," shared Sgt. 1st Class Jessica Hamilton, the sensor manager noncommissioned officer in charge with 14th Missile Defense Battery, 94th AAMDC. "We demonstrated several exercises and then invited the kids to come do them in formation with us. It was very motivating to see them so enthusiastic and happy to be doing it with us."

For most of the Soldiers, the enthusiastic smiles of the school children were the best part of volunteering for the event.

"My favorite part of the day was interacting with the kids, watching them run and play," said Spc. Darvell Nunnally, a

(LEFT) U.S. Army Sgt. Nadine Gonzalez and Spc. Christina Williams, with 94th AAMDC, lead an exercise dance class about shapes, May 15, 2015, during field day at Linapuni Elementary School at Honolulu, Hawaii. The field day, an annual event, is an activity and fitness based day to help teach important fitness life lessons in a fun and innovative way. (BELOW) Soldiers from the 94th AAMDC participate in the Linapuni Elementary School Field Day.

food service specialist with 94th AAMDC. "All of them were very happy to see us. When we are here, they are all waving at us, so proud of the Army and what we do. I definitely appreciate that."

"The best part is definitely the kids' enthusiasm," said Fields. "They all had big, bright smiles on their faces and they seemed like they all were having a lot of fun. They were definitely the real MVPs of this whole field day."

The Sea Dragons not only found fulfillment in the happiness of the children but also in the overall significance of their presence at Linapuni.

"When we are here it gives the kids an opportunity to see what the Army does besides what they see on TV," said Nunnally. "It also gives the kids an opportunity to interact with us; many of the kids don't get the opportunity to interact like this



with adults at home. Their reactions, themselves, show the world that this partnership is a great thing for the kids."

"These Soldiers actually serve as mentors, as like a parental figure, because unfortunately many of our children's parents are unavailable," said Sunahara. "We do a lot of parent/child type activities here and a lot of times parents just aren't there. So when we bring in the military, everyone blends in. It makes an absence less noticeable and the kids have a great time. It is just amazing."

Still many Sea Dragons believe that the time spent at Linapuni is about more than just volunteering, it is about Ohana.

"This partnership is important because the 94th AAMDC is part of this community and so is Linapuni," shared Fields. "That makes Linapuni family, our ohana. Just because they don't wear the uniform, doesn't make them less like family to us. That is why it is important to give back to our community and this is a way that we can do that."

Story and photos by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs





## U.S./ROK Troop Partnership takes Flight through Combined Air Defense

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea-Air defenders of Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment "Guardians" were provided a unique opportunity in Gunsan July 9.

Five Soldiers and one Korean Augmentee to the U.S. took a 20-minute drive from their headquarters at Kunsan Air Base to visit the Republic of Korea Air Force's 517th ADA (Hawk) Btry.

With more than 150 ROK airmen assigned, the 517th ADA Battery's mission is to defend the Kunsan marina from enemy aircraft. They accomplish this mission by utilizing their primary weapon: the surface-to-air Hawk missile system.

The Hawk missile system was initially deployed by the U.S. Army in 1959 but was replaced by the Patriot missile system in 1994.

Task Force 2-1 ADA deployed to Iraq in 1991 with Hawk and Patriot capabilities.

One Soldier noted the likeness of the two systems during his visit with the ROK Hawk unit.

"The Patriot and Hawk systems both employ surface-to-air missiles to engage an air threat," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jennifer Willis, Patriot missile system maintainer. "They have similar components and are operated using a nearly universal air defense language."

Airmen of the 517th Btry. and Soldiers of Btry. A discussed the system capabilities and their common tactics, techniques and procedures with handling them.

"Interoperability is a key component to the joint and combined air defense employed in South Korea," said 2nd Lt. Ethan Augustine, fire control platoon leader. "While our systems may not necessarily be linked together; we are ultimately supporting the same mission in defending this country."

The 517th ADA Btry. Commander, ROK Maj. Kihyun Kim said this visit marks the first U.S. Army visit to their tactical site.

"It was a pleasure meeting with the U.S. Army Soldiers," he said. "Even though our nations are different, we are the same in

(TOP) ROK Air Force Maj. Kihyun Kim, commander of 517th ADA Btry, at Gunsan provides insight on the Hawk missile system used by his airmen to the Soldiers of Btry. A, 2-1 ADA July 9, 2015. The Soldiers of 2-1 ADA used the Hawk system before it was replaced by the U.S. Army's Patriot missile system used today. (Courtesy Photo) (Bottom) ROK Air Force Maj. Kihyun Kim, commander of 517th ADA Btry., briefs the Soldiers of Btry. A, 2-1 ADA on ROKAF air defense July 9, 2015. The 517th ADA Btry. is comprised of more than 150 airmen. (Courtesy Photo)



air defense."

"I sincerely hope that we are able to foster this friendship for the betterment of future operations and the strengthening of the Alliance," he said.

Story by Staff Sgt. Heather A. Denby, 35th ADA Public Affairs





# Task Force Talon Soldiers honor Veterans during Guam Liberation Day Parade

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam - For most Americans July 21 is just another day in the middle of summer, but for Americans on the US territory of Guam it is the island-wide holiday called "Liberation Day". This holiday is held in recognition of the day that the Battle of Guam began, 71 years ago, to free the island from the oppressive Imperial Japanese occupation during World War II.

This year's holiday held extra meaning for the Soldiers of Task Force Talon, 94th Army air and Missile Defense Command, since it was the first time the unit participated in Liberation Day activities since deploying to Guam over two years ago.

Task Force Talon is the US Army unit that is tasked with defending the skies over Guam from any ballistic missile attack with the first forward deployed Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile defense system. Due to the task force's community outreach efforts it was invited to march in the island's annual Liberation Day Parade.

"It was a real honor to be part of such an event with such tradition and meaning to the people here on Guam," said Capt. Daniel Lessard, commander, Company C, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf. Division, whose unit is in charge of site security for the task force.

Soldiers from the task force proudly marched through Guam's capital city of Hagatna while being cheered by the thousands of people who lined the street to watch the parade.

"The enthusiasm showed by the people of Guam as we marched along the parade route was tremendous," said Capt. Sheiloh Carlos, commander, Battery D, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regt., 11th ADA Bde.

For one TF Talon Soldier, marching in the parade took on a more personal significance.

"As a kid growing up on Guam I used to watch this parade," said Master Sgt. Ronald Quinata, TF Talon Operations Sergeant

Task Force Talon command team, Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown (center left) and Sgt. Maj. Joel Gutierrez (center right) lead the unit as they march through Guam's capital city of Hagatna during the 2015 Guam Liberation Day Parade. This was the first time TF Talon participated in Liberation Day activities since deploying to Guam over two years ago. (Photo by 1st Lt. Andrew Schumaker, Assistant Operations Officer, TF Talon, 94th AAMDC)

Major. "Which has made marching in it now as a member of Task Force Talon something I will never forget."

Quinata is a native Chamorro and is also the Soldier who organized the task force's participation in the parade.

The parade also had special historical significance for the air defense artillery Soldiers in TF Talon, who are the first active duty air defenders to deploy to Guam since members of the US Army's 7th Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Bn. landed on Agat Beach during the Battle of Guam in 1944.

"It is a great feeling to know that we are continuing the mission of defending the skies over Guam started by air defenders 71 years ago," said TF Talon Commander, Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown. "Marching in the Liberation Day Parade gives us an opportunity to honor their service along with all the other veterans who fought in the Battle of Guam."

The parade ended at the Governor's Complex, completing the task force's first ever march in the Guam Liberation Day Parade. Based on the positive feedback from the Soldiers and the cheers from the crowd, TF Talon looks forward to being part of this annual Guam tradition for many more years to come.

Story by Maj. Jonathan C. Stafford, executive officer, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC



### Sea Dragons Pay Homage to the Spirit of Aloha





(LEFT) Brian Woo, the foreign policy advisor to the Commander of the United States Pacific Air Forces, spoke to attendees about historic struggles and achievements of Asian American/Pacific Islanders, May 11, 2015, during the Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Observance ceremony at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. The Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Observance ceremony was hosted by 94th AAMDC. (RIGHT) Members of the Hawaii Hula Company perform a traditional hula dance for attendees, May 11, 2015, during the Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Observance ceremony at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii—The 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, U.S Army Pacific, hosted an Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Observance ceremony, May 11, 2015, at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

With the theme, Many Cultures, One Voice: Promote Equality and Inclusion, attendees from throughout USARPAC were treated to a culmination of the Asian-Pacific Islander culture via ethnic food, traditional hula dance and an inspirational account of the affects of equal opportunity for those of an Asian American Pacific Islander heritage from the guest speaker of the event.

"On the third 54-mile march on March 21, 1965, Martin Luther King Jr., John Lewis, and other civil rights leaders, wore Hawaiian flower leis," explains Brian Woo, the event's guest speaker and the foreign policy advisor to the commander of the United States Pacific Air Forces.

"Yes, in the back drop of racial hatred, violence and even death, King and his lieutenants accepted the leis; which symbolize the spirit of Aloha, the Hawaiian word meaning compassion, peace and love.

"The Rev. Abraham Akaka sent the white leis to be worn by King and his fellow marchers," continued Woo. "For Dr. King, this was a meaningful gesture of Hawaii's solidarity and support for the civil rights movement and the people of Hawaii; the Asian and Pacific Islanders, who brought the leis, stayed on to march with him.

"Still as a young boy in the 1960s, watching the news on the family's black and white TV, I was utterly shocked by the events on the mainland but I was also deeply inspired by Dr. King's words on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial - 'I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character," shares Woo.

Woo a native of Honolulu, Hawaii, shared memories of discrimination when local children were denied education

opportunities and described the motivations of equal opportunity pioneers who pushed the boundaries, helping clear a path for future Americans such as himself.

"We have solidarity for what Dr. King stands for because we are no strangers to discrimination," stated Woo.

Before becoming the PACAF foreign policy advisor, Woo was a lead member of the United Nations team of counterterrorism experts evaluating implementation of Security Council Resolution 1373, a U.N. resolution that condemned the terrorist attacks on 9/11 and laid out a global plan to combat terrorism. After retiring in 2005, Woo served as the senior advisor to the mayor of Honolulu for international, military and homeland security affairs.

During his extensive Foreign Service career, Woo also was the head of the action against terrorism unit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. He served as the director of State Department Counterterrorism-Policy, Programs, and Public Diplomacy and as U.S. Consul General to Chengdu, China.

This event was not only an opportunity to enjoy cultural dances and cuisine but it was also an important pause to recognize and pay homage to those of the Asian American Pacific Islander heritage and their achievements.

"This observance is important because it identifies the impact the Asian Pacific Islanders have had on the United States both in the past and present," said Master Sgt. Raymond Peredo, the force management noncommissioned officer-in-charge with 94th AAMDC. "It also identifies that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are just as important as everyone else who calls the United States home."

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Story and photos by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs



# Task Force Talon Hosts First Annual SHARP Awareness Week on Guam



ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam - "Not here, not now, not ever!" were the words said by Task Force Talon personnel as they signed a pledge photo board to show their commitment to ending sexual assault and harassment in the military. Task Force Talon hosted the first annual sexual harassment/assault response prevention awareness week on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

The SHARP awareness week began on Monday April 27 with a 5k SHARP awareness run on Andersen AFB. The run drew over 300 Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, and Sailors who received a SHARP awareness briefing from the task force commander, Lt. Col. Jefferey Slown, before beginning the run.

"This was an event focused on helping to raise awareness on the importance of SHARP and how we need to make sure that we do not allow it to happen in the task force or on Andersen AFB," said Slown.

At key points of the run Task Force Talon Soldiers held signs showing various SHARP related statistics to the runners to emphasize how much more work needs to be done to end sexual assault in the military. At the finish line SHARP related items and information was distributed to the runners by the task force's run organizer, 1st Lt. Brett Holtzman.

"This was a great event to help organize because of the support we received from the joint community here on Andersen AFB, who are likewise committed to ending sexual assault in the military," said Holtzman.

Other events during the week included a week long cycle of SHARP, equal opportunity, and suicide prevention training provided by trainers from the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command in Hawaii.

"An incident of sexual assault or harassment can really divide a unit and that is why it is important that we change the culture in the military to where this behavior is not tolerated," said Master Sgt. Anthony Wyatt, the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Runners from the Army, Navy, Air Force, & Marine Corps begin the SHARP Awareness Week 5k Run. The event was part of the first annual sexual harassment/assault response prevention awareness week which was held April 27 – May 1, 2015 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. (Courtesy Photo)

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator.

The Task Force also executed its SHARP Soldier of the Quarter Board which was won by Spc. Brittany Collins from Battery D., 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 11th ADA Brigade.

"The SHARP Soldier of the Quarter Board was a great opportunity for me and the other Soldiers to reinforce the standards and values needed to establish a climate that does not condone sexual assault or harassment in the military," said Collins.

The week concluded with an award ceremony that recognized the SHARP Soldier of the Quarter, the winner of the SHARP t-shirt contest, and the top 5k runners. The award ceremony also included a presentation from Dr. Julie Ulloa-Heath who operates the local charity, Victim Advocates Reaching Out (VARO), which provides safe places for victims of domestic violence to stay. Task Force Talon Soldiers donated a multitude of items to the VARO charity, which the representatives will be able to use to help victims of domestic violence.

"The task force is honored to reach out to an organization within the community that is fighting the same fight we are," said Capt. Amanda Rowse, operations officer, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC, who was the lead organizer for the SHARP Awareness Week.

The task force concluded the week by signing a pledge photo board that will be posted in the Task Force Headquarters as a reminder of how SHARP awareness cannot be just a week-long focus, but instead something that has to become part of Army culture to create the change needed to end sexual assault in the military.

Story by Maj. Jonathan C. Stafford, Executive Officer, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC



# Questions that Keep Leaders Up at Night: The Balance of Mission and People



The growing challenge in all organizations, across the board, is how to do more with less. Springing from this question cascades an avalanche of other soul-searching dilemmas such as: finding efficiencies, eliminating deficiencies, inspiring trust, enhancing communication, creating transparency and infusing people with vision and incentivizing a culture to move forward in times of great testing. This is the art and science of leadership.

On one hand, we are asking, "How do you 'right-size' and meet the directives of higher command?"

On the other hand, we need to know the answers to questions such as, "How do we optimize the human domain despite the turbulence and growing pains embedded in organizations?"

Getting people to survive is one thing but getting them to thrive involves a whole new framework of thought and maturity of the highest order. I think Stephen Covey, author of the book, The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, had it exactly right when he said, "The way we see the problem is the problem."

We can see life events as obstacles or opportunities, stumbling blocks or stepping stones, pains or pathways, loads or roads, cow manure or fertilizer. The human domain must be elevated in the struggle. Adaptable leaders leading adaptable organizations must equip their people not just to go through stuff but to "grow through stuff." Elevating the human domain in the middle of the struggle can potentially motivate people to put their best foot forward. If you only have one foot, you do all in your power to make that foot count. United States Army Amputees fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan understand this lesson all too clearly.

Finding that band of excellence within the struggle demands that we not only look at our battle operating systems but that we look at our human operating systems. Programs like SHARP, suicide prevention, master resiliency programs, EO training, Strong Bonds and spiritual support opportunities all play a critical role in the organizational health of a unit during the ebb and flow of life.

For years I struggled with the slogan, "Mission First, People Always."

In my mind, I wasn't comfortable with talk about both of those realities in the same breath. As time progressed, I gained a better

appreciation for this slogan because it speaks of two aspirations that all leaders must strive to attain in his or her organization. Reconciling these two seemingly opposing objectives is vital to getting the mission right.

With regards to our Armed Forces, America counts on our military to get the mission right – every time, all the time, and without exception. The second aspiration, which is really part and parcel of the first aspiration, is getting the people right.

In an effort to get the mission right (Mission First) and the people right (People Always) in organizations moving at the speed of light, while managing limited resources -Commanders must ask themselves three questions:

### Question #1: Is my organizational ladder leaning against the right wall?

This is a question of Vision. I have a hunch that people either live out of need or they live out of vision. If this is true, then people who live out of vision grounded in reality will always be more successful, regardless of the obstacles.

But it is more than a question of vision, it is a question of values. A values-based organization says people are important and therefore they matter and if they don't matter we must make them matter.

Colin Powell had it exactly right when he said, "The day the Soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help them or concluded that you do not care. Either case is a failure of leadership."

It is also a question of priorities. At the end of the day you cannot have your cake and eat it too. Vision, values, and priorities must be aligned. The azimuth must be right. If the azimuth is not right, nothing else matters.

#### Question #2: Is my organization bleeding in the right places?

Are we pouring our blood, sweat, and tears into the right issues? Or are we wasting time, wasting people, and wasting resources. Making our efforts count, making people matter, and making the most of tough situations is fundamental to living large. The loss of my beloved wife in August 2014 taught me this.

Stephen Covey stated, "no one dies thinking, 'I wish I spent more time at the office."

#### Question #3: Is my organization draining the right swamps?

Tough problems and tough situations don't get better on their own. Systems don't solve problems - people do. Swamps have to be faced, confronted, resolved or dissolved. When "go to" systems are not user-friendly then tremendous energy and time is wasted. If we are going to do the mission and take care of the people then we have to drain the swamps.

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By Chaplain (Col.) Ken Revell, 94th AAMDC Command Chaplain





We honor you and salute your service. May we always remember that serving one's country is the ultimate expression of love for family, friends and neighbors.

First line of Defense! One Team! \(\lambda rmy\) Strong!



Sgt. 1st Class Robin L. Parker, 94th AAMDC Operations Sergeant, G-3 Arrived to the 94th AAMDC on 13 November 2012. Served over 20 years in the U.S. Army

### **SEA DRAGON HIGHLIGHTS:**

### David M. Casmus The Heart and Soul of the **Sea Dragons**

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii - David M. Casmus has been the Honorary Colonel for the 94th Air Defense Artillery Regiment since the reactivation of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command 10 years ago on Oct. 16, 2005, at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

Casmus has a distinguished military career and served in the United States Army for over 24 years, retiring in January, 2001. However, he does not hide his affinity towards the Sea Dragons and the legacy that he has been a part of.

"I have served in this regiment at the battalion level, operations officer and executive officer, and at the brigade level, operations officer and commander," shares Casmus. "I have very deep affection for this regiment, it's not that I don't love the other units/regiments I served with and commanded, but you know there is only one number one, and that designation goes to the 94th ADA Regt."

The 94th ADA Regt. has a long history and Casmus has been an integral part of that history. He has seen the 94th change from a "pure Nike Hercules ADA Group", to a composite brigade of Patriot, Hawk, and Chaparral-Vulcan-Stinger battalions, then reorganized into a pure Patriot brigade, and currently the 94th AAMDC.

"The common thread from the beginning through all these changes was excellence!" states Casmus. "I am convinced that there is something special about wearing the unit patch with the red Sea Dragon holding a sword on the bottom and two yellow arrows on the top that just makes everyone associated with the 94th ADA Regt. accomplish all their missions with excellence always foremost in their mind."

Casmus was the commander of the 94th ADA Bde. when it was inactivated on Aug. 15, 1998 in Germany and he participated in the activation ceremony of the 94th AAMDC. He shares his feelings associated with each event.

"Well other than losing a Soldier or Family member, the saddest day of my career was the day I stood on the parade field in Darmstadt, Germany and cased the colors of the 94th ADA Bde., and then watched 'my' battalions leave the field under the flag of the 69th ADA Bde.

"When Brig. Gen. John Seward, the first commander of the 94th AAMDC, invited me to be present, and say a few words at the activation ceremony seven years later, I probably could have flown to Hawaii without the airplane; I was so delighted and excited," expresses Casmus.

Being the Honorary Colonel of the 94th ADA Regt. has allowed Casmus to maintain his allegiance to the Sea Dragons. He is grateful for the opportunity and can barely contain his enthusiasm when speaking about the honor.



David M. Casmus steps down as the Honorary Colonel of the 94th ADA

"I owe a great debt of gratitude to John Seward for inviting me to the activation ceremony and to be able to witness the uncasing of the red Sea Dragon and yellow arrows. It was during that activation ceremony that he asked me to serve as the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment. Trust me I was honored and humbled to accept his offer to serve the regiment and her Soldiers again.

"I was equally humbled by all the commanders who followed in his footsteps and kept me on the job. You may not know this, but the honorary colonel serves at the discretion of the commanding general. As each new CG came into command they all asked me to stay on and serve. Gosh, was I the luckiest retired colonel in the world or what? That's almost better than winning the lottery!"

All good things must come to an end. This past June, Casmus tendered his resignation to Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, commander, 94th AAMDC.

Casmus states, "The reason was simple – timing. I was truly honored to be the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment these past 10 years, but you know what, the 94th AAMDC has its own legacy of great leaders that can ably serve in this capacity ... I would hate to deny another great leader the opportunity to experience what I have experienced."

"Col. Casmus is the heart and soul of the Sea Dragons and will truly be missed," says Sanchez. "He has meant so much to the 94th. He has a wealth of knowledge about the unit and works tirelessly behind the scenes to help us in any way he can."

"What I will miss most about not being the Honorary Colonel of the 94th ADA Regt. is the opportunity to interact with the Soldiers and leaders," reflects Casmus. "I have been assured that the welcome lamp will remain lit for me in the 94th AAMDC, so the onus is now on me to stay connected."

Casmus shares some sage advice from one of his mentors and the reason he will always be a Sea Dragon at heart.

"Excellence is the mantra of this organization. My mentor and role model when I was on active duty was one of the greatest ADA generals of all time, Maj. Gen. Donald R. Infante. He was a great teacher and leader. He always told me, 'Good units do some things well, and great units do everything well!' I can assure you the 94th AAMDC is a great unit by any standard of measurement!"

Story by Maj. Troy S. Frey, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs



### Q & A with Retired Col. David M. Casmus



## How and why did you become the honorary colonel of the 94th ADA regiment?

I owe a great debt of gratitude to John Seward for inviting me to the activation ceremony and to be able witness the uncasing of the red Sea Dragon and yellow arrows. It was during that activation ceremony that he asked me to serve as the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment. Trust me I was honored and humbled to accept his offer to serve the regiment and her Soldiers again. I was equally humbled by all the commanders who followed in his footsteps who kept me on the job. You may not know this, but the honorary colonel serves at the pleasure of the commanding general. As each new CG came into command they all asked me to stay on and serve. Gosh, was I the luckiest retired colonel in the world or what? That's almost better than winning the lottery! You ask why the 94th—I have served in this regiment at battalion level (S3 & XO) and at brigade level (S3 and commander). I have very deep affection for this regiment, it's not that I don't love the other units/regiments I served and commanded, but you know there is only one number one, and that designation goes to the 94th Air Defense Artillery Regiment.

### What is unique/special about the 94th AAMDC organization?

What makes the 94th Air Defense Regiment special, whether it was an ADA brigade or an AAMDC, has always been the great Soldiers and leaders who served in the regiment, and their ability to adapt to any mission and excel. I am old enough to remember the 94th ADA Regiment as a pure Nike Hercules ADA "Group." I served in the 94th ADA Brigade as a major when it was responsible for the Southern Rear Combat Zone in Germany as part of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), and at that time it was a composite brigade of Patriot, Hawk, and Chaparral-Vulcan-Stinger Battalions. It later reorganized into a pure Patriot Brigade, and the common thread from the beginning through all these changes was EXCELLENCE! I can't recall a NATO TACEVAL (tactical evaluation) that wasn't "One-Over-One" (1/1), the best score possible. Those great results didn't come easy, and it took the entire brigade from private to battalion and brigade commander to make that grade. From the day the 94th AAMDC was activated, I have had the great pleasure of seeing that same kind of drive and desire to excel in all things the 94th AAMDC does. My heartiest congratulations to the 94th AAMDC commanders, command sergeants major, every single Soldier and leader past and present for keeping that legacy alive. You all have earned my utmost respect and admiration.

### Is there anything you would like to tell the current Sea Dragons?

The only thing I would like to add is my profound thanks to the Soldiers and leaders of the 94th AAMDC for their superb performance, selfless service, and for continuing the legacy of excellence that has always been the trademark of the 94th Air Defense Artillery Regiment. You are not only doing the heavy lifting in all the air & missile defense missions for the combatant commander in the Pacific theater, but you are a treasured asset of our great Nation too. My personal thanks to everyone for the many courtesies and kindnesses you have always extended to my wife, Suki, and to me. We both loved every minute of our time with the men and women who serve and wear the Sea Dragon patch.

"I was truly honored to be the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment these past 10 years. The 94th AAMDC has its own legacy of great leaders that can ably serve in this capacity. I would hate to deny another great leader the opportunity to experience what I have experienced, and to give back to the 94th ADA Regiment. Besides we all know change is a good thing, and fresh ideas and approaches is what makes the 94th AAMDC great. What I will miss most about not being the Honorary Colonel of the 94th ADA Regiment is the opportunity to interact with the Soldiers and leaders."

- David M. Casmus

