

PACIFIC DEFENDER

94th Army Air Missile
Defense Command



FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE



**US PATRIOT UNIT
DEPLOYS TO
SOUTH KOREA**



U.S. ARMY

PACIFIC

**Sea Dragons Go Ballistic
at Balikatan '16**



PACIFIC DEFENDER

94th Army Air Missile
Defense Command



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On The Cover: Soldiers from 1-1 ADA render honors during the 1-1 ADA Change of Command Ceremony at Torrii Station, Okinawa Japan (Photo-illustration by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs)



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94th Army Air Missile Defense Command

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★ Sea Dragon 6 ★



Aloha,

The past 24 months of command have been highly productive, as we improved our integrated air and missile defense during an increasing OPTEMPO across all our mission areas to include: real-world operations, theater security cooperation operations (TSC), AN/TPY-2 radar and THAAD permanent stationing, and exercise planning and execution. The Sea Dragon Team codified a comprehensive strategy in the newly developed 94th AAMDC Campaign Plan, which serves as a road map on our way ahead for IAMD in the Pacific. Our Country and our Allies are safer because of what the Sea Dragon Team has achieved.

The themes for the seventh edition of the Pacific Defender are Operational Innovation and Homeland Defense. With the recent provocations in the Pacific region, these topics and our job as Air Defenders has never been more relevant!

During the North Korean provocations, 1-1 ADA worked tirelessly to maintain their directed alert state to protect defended assets. The Snake Eyes Battalion also validated their sustainable readiness model while simultaneously conducting the Deep Maintenance program, "Clean to Green", which ensures all equipment maintains operational readiness.

Task Force Talon's Defense of Guam, a U.S. territory, best demonstrates our Homeland Defense mission. Task Force Talon is scheduled to transition to a permanent duty station. The 10th and 14th Missile Defense Batteries, located in Japan, as well as their sensor managers in Hawaii also play a vital role in Homeland Defense. These Soldiers work 24/7 to provide early warning and detection of ballistic missile launches and disseminate the information through the IAMD architecture, which greatly enhances Homeland Defense. All of our forward-based units are truly the 'First Line of Defense'.

The Sea Dragons are at the forefront of Operational Innovation. The 94th has strengthened our operational AMD partnerships with non-traditional air defense partners, such as Australia and the Philippines. We are looking to acquire the Dismounted Patriot Information Coordination Central (DPICC), which will assist 1-1 ADA in their mission. We have facilitated equipment fielding and modernization efforts through subject matter expert (SME) exchanges and multilateral tabletop exercises (MTTX). Utilizing a MTTX, we were able to validate the capabilities of the Pacific IAMD Center (PIC) and demonstrate the benefits it provides. The Sea Dragon Team has been able to standardize the Joint Theater Air and Missile Defense (JTAMD) planning and approval processes, which gained more decision time for our Air Defenders on the ground.

The spring 2016 edition of the Pacific Defender focuses on how we have increased our overall AMD capabilities in the Pacific region through innovative engagements and practices. Our important Homeland Defense mission is highlighted by allowing our forward units to share their actions, which contribute to the safety of our Great Nation.

I truly appreciate every Soldier, Civilian, Contractor and our Families that have supported the 94th mission across the Pacific. I will always cherish my time with the 94th AAMDC. The past two years have been the best of my military career. On behalf of Teresa and myself - I want to say "Mahalo" to everyone for allowing us to be a part of the Sea Dragon Ohana.

First Line of Defense - Focus Forward!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric L. Sanchez".

BG Eric L. Sanchez
Sea Dragon 6





Sea Dragon 7



Aloha, Konnichiwa, Annyeung Haseyo, Hafa Adai and Hello,

Sea Dragon Team I am saying “Aloha” for the last time. As my tenure ends, I think back to how humbled and privileged I felt when I took over as the 94th AAMDC CSM – I am honored to have served with each and every one of you.

This edition of the Pacific Defender focuses on Homeland Defense and Operational Innovation. Both areas are part of our daily mission and our Soldiers continue to prove they are the best our Nation has to offer.

I remain impressed with everything that our Team has accomplished over the last several months. We have been on high alert during 2016 due to the missile launches and nuclear tests in the Pacific region. However, we have still maintained our mission readiness during exercises such as Key Resolve and Keen Edge. Our Soldiers participated in Balikatan for the first time, mentoring soldiers in the Philippine army and the 94th AAMDC hosted the Worldwide 2016 AAMDC Intelligence Symposium. The Sea Dragons continue to innovate in all areas of ballistic missile defense and set the standard for Air Defense Artillery in the Army.

The Pacific Defender highlights the actions of the great Soldiers that I will dearly miss.

I would like to thank every Officer, NCO, Soldier, civilian, contractor and Family member of the Sea Dragon Ohana for your continued unending support and your unwavering dedication to excellence. My time at the 94th AAMDC has been filled with thousands of frequent flyer miles and a mountain of perfected group selfies but as I move forward in my military career I depart with an overwhelming sense of pride having had the privilege to call myself Sea Dragon 7.

I know that everyone will do their part to ensure the continued success and excellence of the Sea Dragon Team as CSM Foley takes over, show him what a world –class ADA unit looks like and remember there is no substitute for safety, standards, and discipline.

As we bid you farewell, Amanda, Kieara, and I want to take this opportunity to express our thanks to our Sea Dragon Ohana. You will all be missed.

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



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Even though the 94th AAMDC is participating in Balikatan for the first time, it will not be the first time some of the Soldiers are visiting the Philippines.

Maj. Robert Deleon, intelligence (G2) operations officer, 94th AAMDC, is from Legazpi City, Bicol, Philippines and his assistant instructor, Staff Sgt. Paul Buio, intelligence (G2) analyst, 94th AAMDC, is from Makati, Philippines.

The 94th AAMDC mobile training team consisted of Deleon; Capt. Jefferey Cashon, operations (G3) air defense artillery fire control officer (ADAFCO); Chief Warrant Officer 4 Garry Rocker, operations (G3) ADAFCO; Chief Warrant Officer 3 Heather Sheltrown, communications (G6) command and control systems integrator; and Bu. The MTT provided instruction in air defense and air intelligence preparation of the battlespace, basic air defense operations, and air defense data links.

with them on how to properly select a good defense site while ensuring communications and interoperability are achievable.”

“Since this is the first battery within the Philippine army for air defense, we tried to forge a partnership and brotherhood with them to show that despite the different country’s uniforms we wear, we are all artillerymen and we are all brothers fighting for the common good,” said Sheltrown.

“We are very fortunate to have received the air defense training from the best of the 94th AAMDC,” said Philippine army Capt. Jeffrey Ferrer, commander, 1st ADA Battery, Philippine army Artillery Regiment. “My soldiers and I look forward to sustained and continuous training in the months and years to come.”

The Sea Dragons enjoyed the camaraderie with the students and immersed themselves in the Filipino culture. They participated in physical training, lived in the barracks and shared meals with their

Philippine army counterparts.

On April 11, an unexpected opportunity became available to the 94th AAMDC MTT when the Philippine presidential security group (PSG) requested the basic air defense operations training. The PSG is equivalent to the U.S. Secret Service and one of their mission requirements is to provide basic air defense for the Malacanang Palace (Philippine White House) building, grounds and facilities.

At the end of the exercise, the 94th AAMDC MTT met with Col. Erwin De Asis, commander, Philippine army Artillery Regiment, to provide an out brief. He expressed his gratitude for the training that was provided to his soldiers and presented the 94th Balikatan MTT with a plaque and certificate honoring and thanking the 94th AAMDC.

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Soldiers from Battery D, 1-43 ADA unload an AN/MPQ-65 Patriot radar set from a C-17 cargo plane at Osan Air Base, Feb. 8, as part of a rotational deployment. The rapid deployment of a Patriot to the ROK demonstrates the readiness and extensive capabilities of U.S. forces as well as its commitment to maintain stability and security on the peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Travis J. Edwards, 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

US Patriot unit deploys to South Korea

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea – A Patriot battery based at Fort Bliss, Texas deployed to the Republic of Korea as part of an exercise to demonstrate U.S. commitment to readiness in defense of the Korean Peninsula.

Soldiers from Battery D, 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment assigned to the 11th ADA Brigade arrived Feb. 8 with equipment to support the ballistic missile defense exercise.

The rapid deployment of operational assets validates the integration of capabilities the U.S. can deliver to the peninsula. The deployment marked the first time that a U.S. based Patriot unit has integrated its personnel and equipment to augment current ballistic missile defense forces on the Korean Peninsula.

In a statement, U.S. Forces Korea said the mission is a sign of the commitment to working with South Korea to develop the Alliance's comprehensive set of capabilities aimed at detecting, disrupting, and destroying North Korean missile threats.

Despite the long flight, the deployed Soldiers immediately began preparing their equipment to quickly ensure their

unit became fully operational within the peninsula's air and missile defense architecture.

"This deployment of [U.S.] based Patriot forces onto the Korean Peninsula highlights our ability to rapidly project additional Patriot BMD capability in order to deter and defend against the North Korean theater ballistic missile threat," said 35th ADA Brigade commander, Col. Mark Holler.

Battery D, 1-43 ADA will continue to train with elements of the 35th ADA Brigade during upcoming battalion and brigade-level exercises before returning home.

"I am extremely proud of the Soldiers who made this mission so successful. This mission was truly a team effort between the 35th ADA Brigade, the 11th ADA Brigade and our Air Force partners," said Holler. "Through our joint efforts, we have taken ballistic missile defense readiness on the Korean Peninsula to new heights, which is a testament of our ironclad commitment to the defense of the Republic of Korea."

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Story by Capt. William L. Leasure, 35th ADA Public Affairs



Command Sgt. Maj. Finnis Dodson, 94th AAMDC and Command Sgt. Maj. Eric McCray, 35th ADA Brigade, inspect equipment onboard a C-17 cargo plane at Osan Air Base, South Korea, Feb. 8. (U.S. Army photo by Capt. William L. Leasure, 35th ADA Public Affairs)



Specialist Tyler Hoffman right, patriot missile operator, and Spc. Deiontay Dawson, network systems operator-maintainer, both with Battery D, 1-43 ADA connect power cables to the AN/MPQ-65 radar set during the emplacement phase of their ballistic missile defense exercise, Feb. 8 on Osan Air Base, South Korea. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Kelly S. Carlton, 35th ADA Public Affairs)

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea – “We have a volley!” was a common phrase heard on Osan Air Base this month, but it had nothing to do with the sport of volleyball. Instead, it was the phrase used to announce the launch of a simulated tactical ballistic missile (TBM) by Soldiers from the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command. The 94th AAMDC located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii deployed a robust contingent of personnel to the Republic of Korea to take part in Key Resolve 2016. Key Resolve is a major annual command post exercise that highlights the commitment of the U.S. and ROK militaries to the defense of the ROK and maintaining regional stability.

The 94th AAMDC personnel also known as the “Sea Dragons” operate the Combined Air & Missile Defense Operations

“The CAMDOCC gives the U.S. and our ROK allies the best command and control capability to coordinate air and missile defense coverage across the peninsula,” said Lt. Col. Frederick Ramirez, the director of the 94th AAMDC’s Mission Command Element-Korea (MCE-K).

“Air and missile defense operations are very complex, which is why conducting regular exercises with our American allies is so important,” said Major Jeong-Soo Seo, an operations officer for the ROK air force’s Air Defense and Missile

Command.

For this year's Key Resolve exercise, the CAMDOCC was also augmented with National Guardsmen from the 263rd AAMDC from Anderson, South Carolina. For many of the 263rd AAMDC personnel this was their first deployment to South Korea.

“Key Resolve was a fantastic opportunity for our unit to train on our core skills while simultaneously learning more about AMD on the Korean peninsula from our ROK allies,” said Lt. Col. Dominick Martine, an operations officer that led the 263rd AAMDC contingent that deployed to South Korea.

The lessons learned from Key Resolve will be used to improve integration and combined plans between the two nations' air defense units to ensure that South Korea is properly protected from air and missile attacks by belligerent nations.

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Professionals from across the intelligence community take a group photo at the 2016 Worldwide AAMDC Intelligence Symposium.



94th AAMDC hosts 2016 Worldwide AAMDC Intelligence Symposium

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – The 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command hosted the 2016 Worldwide AAMDC Intelligence Symposium at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, April 18-21.

Intelligence officers from all of the AAMDCs – 94th AAMDC, 10th AAMDC, 32nd AAMDC and 263rd AAMDC – as well as, key partners in the intelligence community who provide intelligence support to the ballistic missile defense mission attended.

The intent of the intelligence symposium is to improve Army and joint intelligence support to the warfighter.

“We are hosting this event in order to achieve some very specific objectives in order to assist all of our Army air and missile defense command intelligence elements in their uniquely challenging task of providing intelligence support to ‘Left of Launch’ ballistic missile defense,” explained Col. Bruce Stephens, assistant chief of staff, intelligence (G2), 94th AAMDC from

Williams, S.C.

“I’ve always felt ...we are not driving operations by informing our commanders and operators that a missile has launched,” continued Stephens. “Our [the intelligence community] value is to be able to identify and locate targets far enough in advance to prevent launches.”

Master Sgt. Patrick James, senior intelligence (G2) sergeant, 94th AAMDC from Brooklyn, N.Y., helped plan the conference and understands the significance of the event.

“The intel symposium was important because it brought the entire intelligence community together that work within the air defense community,” said James. “In so doing, we were able to understand the problems that each intelligence directorate encounter within the Army missile defense structure. We then were able to showcase how we deal with problems and share experiences to help us combat present and future similar air defense issues.”

Keynote speakers included Maj. Gen. Mark C. Dillon, vice-commander, Pacific Air Forces; Maj. Gen. Gregory C. Bilton, deputy-commanding general (operations), U.S. Army Pacific; and Senior Executive Service (SES) Mr. Thomas E. Webber, director, programs and technology center, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command / Army Forces Strategic Command.

The four-day seminar also featured an intelligence overview of global air and missile defense and intelligence briefs by the Pacific Air Forces intelligence (A2), director of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR); U.S. Army Pacific intelligence (G2); and each of the AAMDCs. Other organizations, which presented topics,

included the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, the 500th and 501st Military Intelligence Brigades, the Defense Special Missile and Aerospace Center, the National Air and Space Intelligence Center, the National Ground Intelligence Center, and the National Reconnaissance Office.

The symposium also incorporated events outside of the classroom setting including an icebreaker at a local restaurant over-looking the ocean, a tour of a Navy Aegis Cruiser, and an opportunity to participate in the 94th AAMDC Sea Dragon Cup Golf Scramble.

“The USS Hopper tour, I have never had the chance to be on a Navy Aegis Cruiser,” explained Spc. Edward Riverarivera, intelligence (G2) security manager, 94th AAMDC from Toa Baja, Puerto Rico, when asked which topic he found the most interesting. “Being given a tour of the USS Hopper, gave me the opportunity to learn how other military branches (Navy) approach [theater ballistic missile] TBM situations.”

The symposium provided a much-needed forum for improving standardization, maturation, and synergy of intelligence practices and coordination across the air and missile defense force.

“We were able to bring in several different intelligence entities to share data on the national level intelligence efforts and capabilities dedicated to the BMD mission,” explained Stephens. “Additionally, engagement with Department of the Army sourcing elements such as the [Training Doctrine Capabilities Manager for Sensor Processing] TCM, the [Program Manager for the Distributed Common Ground System – Army] PM DCGS-A, Foundry, and [Human Resources Command] HRC will lead to a codified plan for training intelligence analysts in this unique mission set.”

“This was a very good experience and I hope that it [the Intel symposium] will rotate throughout the air defense community,” said James.

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



Air Force Col. Thomas W. Dobbs, Pacific Air Forces intelligence (A-2), director of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR); briefs the PACAF command relationships and the importance of joint intelligence integration to the attendees at the 2016 Worldwide AAMDC Intelligence Symposium.

Training the BMD Force: A White Cell Perspective

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – A siren sounds and red lights flash as a loudspeaker blares, “Exercise! Exercise! Exercise! A TBM (theater ballistic missile) launch has been detected!”

The training audience receive their call-to-arms as shared early warning (SEW) system operators scramble to their consoles. Their mission is to discriminate the incoming tactical ballistic missiles allowing missile defense forces to begin engagement procedures and enable the combined and joint forces to provide lifesaving seconds of notification to the community in which the missiles are projected to impact. The ability of the professional missile defense community to provide superior protection during a real-world conflict relies heavily on these constructed simulation-training events.

In these fast-paced and stressful rehearsals, there is a group of service members, hidden in the shadow of the exercise community, who are intimately familiar with the enemy’s playbook. They are integrated air and missile defense (IAMD) professionals with simulation and exercise control cell expertise that are specialists at simultaneously utilizing multiple platforms to replicate the lifecycle of TBM operations, from launch through intercept.

Figure 1 depicts how and when specific missile simulations replicate the entire lifecycle of a TBM from the point of launch to the results reported by the White Cell. The TBM lifecycle begins with a missile launch, replicated on the left side of the figure, using air warfare simulation (AWSIM), the single sim framework interface unit (SIU) and the missile defense space-warning tool (MDST). At the point of launch, simulated satellite data produced by the MDST replicate heat signatures; thus, allowing SEW system operators to provide the point of origin (PoO) and predicted point of impact (PoI) through the theater event system (TES) down to a conglomerate of user-level C4I systems via the global command and control system (GCCS). Shortly thereafter, simulated operational and tactical level radars (Aegis AN/SPY-1, U.S. Marine Corps AN/TPS-59, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD), Patriot, etc.) start producing tactical data link (TDL) messages that classify the missile and begin to provide engagement quality data for the missile defenders. Once these sensors have detected the missile, the velocity, altitude, and predicted PoI, air defense artillery fire control officers (ADAFCOs) can identify the area(s) at risk and begin to determine the best shooter for the incoming TBM.

The ADAFCOs working in airspace operations centers (AOC) begin to de-conflict the airspace and work simultaneously with sister services and coalition partners to determine which sensor and interceptor platform will be able to engage the missile. This critical information must be determined prior to the intercept commit window, at the apogee of the TBM flight path. As the TBM re-enters the atmosphere, interceptor platforms (i.e. Aegis, THAAD, and Patriot) are identified by the ADAFCOs and are given authority to engage the hostile TBM at the intercept attempt window. Providing multiple opportunities for a successful engagement is crucial as each interceptor platform performs best

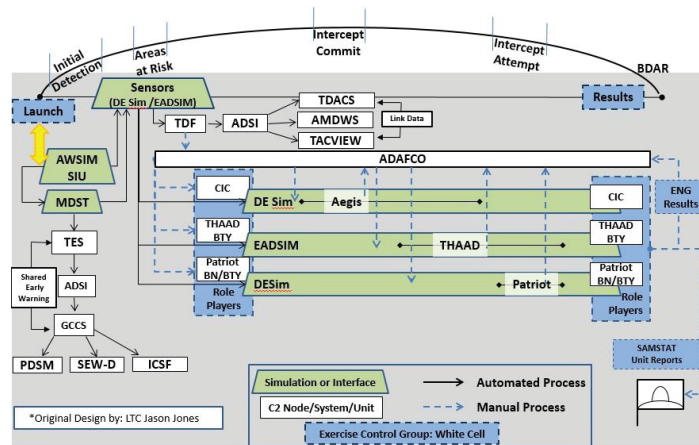


Figure 1: The Simulated TBM Lifecycle (Illustration by Lt. Col. Jason Jones, former 94th AAMDC G3 Simulations Operations Officer)

at different ranges and altitudes; this methodology is known as “defense in depth” or “multi-layered defense”. These engagements are replicated with TDL messages producing interceptor fly-outs and high-fidelity modeling results, by either discrete element simulation (DESIM) for Aegis and Patriot or the extended air defense simulation (EADSIM) for THAAD, which are visible to the training audience on their common operational picture (COP).

During computer assisted exercises (CAX), the role players within the exercise control group (White Cell) serve as IAMD headquarters elements and provide the next higher IAMD headquarters within the training audience with their respective engagement reports, results from the simulation(s), missile inventories (SAMSTAT), and battle damage assessments (BDA) to their personnel/equipment. The training audience utilizes the reports to analyze their current defense design and inventories in an effort to provide the combined/joint forces commander with the desired level of protection to the assigned critical assets. It is the job of the Army air and missile defense command (AAMDC) to continually assess the defense design of these critical assets through the combined / joint theater air and missile defense (C/JTAMD) process. The C/JTAMD boards chaired by the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense commander, serving as the deputy area air defense commander (DAADC), are then used to plan defense designs, change methods of fire for interceptors, adjust defended asset priority levels, and provide guidance to the area air defense commander (AADC) and the joint forces commander (JFC) for strategic plans. Thus, the missile defense White Cell provides tactical to operational level AMD training to the role players with every TBM launched during the simulation.

The quiet professional controllers who orchestrate this symphony of chaos during exercises are training the force in a simulated battle that always bears real-world implications. So, the next time you are in the middle of shift change or conducting your battle update brief to the commanding general and the red lights go off indicating a TBM launch – just remember, it is better to sweat in peace than to bleed in war!

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Story by Staff Sgt. R. Wesley Scott, 94th AAMDC G3 Simulations Operations NCOIC and Lt. Col. Timothy D. Rustad, 94th AAMDC G3 Simulations Operations Officer





Sea Dragons sharpen Bilateral AMD skills during Keen Edge 16

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – The 613th Air Operations Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam can be a noisy place as U.S. service members pass information and orders to each other. Recently the sounds of “Hai!” could also be heard in the AOC as Soldiers and members of the Japan Air Self Defense Force (JASDF) took part in Keen Edge 2016, Jan. 21-28.

“Keen Edge is the premier biennial exercise for the U.S. and Japan and is an important venue to increase bilateral planning and coordination between our two nations’ air and missile defense personnel,” said Lt. Col. Taku “Mars” Iyama, the Pacific Air Force JASDF liaison officer.

The exercise involved U.S. and Japanese

The joint forward team members for Keen Edge 16 pose for a team picture, Jan. 28, 2016, inside a hangar at Yokota AB, Japan. BACK ROW: from left to right are, Sgt. 1st Class Michael Jones, Navy Lt. Kyle Wagner, Maj. Carlos Rockhead, Sgt. Andra Watson, Marine Corps 1st Lt. Patrick Lauer and Gunnery Sgt. Bryan Mott. FRONT ROW: Capt. Emily Schaefer, Staff Sgt. Ian Duffy, Maj. Matt Chambless, Staff Sgt. Randolph Scott, Master Sgt. Victor Perches, Sgt. 1st Class Missael Garcia, Col. Douglas Waddingham, Capt. Sandra Wilson, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Christopher Staffa, Maj. Shannon Aseron and Maj. Juene Rader. (Courtesy Photo)

personnel at the 613th AOC at JBPHH as well as at Yokota Air Base in Japan. The Sea Dragons from the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command had personnel on duty 24 hours-a-day supporting the computer simulation driven exercise at both locations.

“The forward team at Yokota AB was critical for bilaterally coordinating air and missile defense operations with the 5th U.S. Air Force and the Japanese Air Defense Command,” said Maj. Juene Rader, who served as a 94th AAMDC LNO in Japan during the exercise.

Equally as important as advancing cooperation with the JASDF was exercising the joint air and missile defense capabilities within the 613th AOC. Sea Dragon personnel worked with their Air Force, Marine and Naval counterparts in the AOC to plan and execute air and missile defense operations in support of the exercise.

“Keen Edge is a unique exercise that allows us to work important air and missile defense issues with both our Japanese allies and our joint partners in the AOC,” said Maj. Joel Bourne, a

U.S. Air Force planner in the 613th Air Operations Center.

Some of the key issues focused on during the exercise were ballistic missile defense, non-combatant evacuation operations, force protection and air space management planning.

“The exercise was a great opportunity to work with our counterparts and learn more about how their missile defense capabilities are integrated with our naval assets for the defense of Japan mission,” said Lt. Cmdr. Daniel Bond, a U.S. Navy planner in the 613th Air Operations Center.

Lessons learned from Keen Edge 16 will be used to improve future battle plans and standard operating procedures between the United States and Japan.

★ ★

*Story by Maj. Jonathan C. Stafford, 94th
AAMDC G3 Chief of Operations*

Avengers and Patriots partner for Air Defense exercise

OSAN AIRBASE, South Korea – Soldiers assigned to Battery E, 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment deployed with their assigned air defense systems across the Korean Peninsula to support 6-52 ADA's recent battalion field training exercise, Feb. 8-19, 2016.

Typically, when a battery deploys to support a battalion exercise, it's business as usual but this deployment is unique. Echo Battery, 6-52 ADA is not your typical air defense unit.

The Soldiers of Echo Battery employ the Avenger missile system and Sentinel radar, a short-range air defense system designed to detect and intercept low-altitude enemy aircraft.

While the rest of 6-52 ADA utilizes the Patriot missile system in the course of their ballistic missile defense mission at Osan and Suwon Air Bases, Echo Battery is headquartered at Camp Casey and attached to 210th Fires Brigade.

The 6-52 ADA battalion operations officer, Maj. Emerito Tiotuico, helped coordinate this multi-layered air defense training exercise.

"The Avenger and Sentinel integration provided an opportunity to train as a composite battalion, delivering both high and low altitude air and missile defense of critical assets," said Tiotuico.

"Our goal for the exercise is to provide a common operating picture by integrating the Sentinel sensor into the battalion's network and establishing a command and control process to counter low altitude threats."

Upon arriving at Osan Air Base, the Soldiers of Echo Battery found themselves training on a bluff overlooking the airfield. Many of the Soldiers had never trained on their wartime mission before.

"This was the first time we have been able to dedicate two solid weeks to training on our mission," said 2nd Lt. Jonathan Day, platoon leader, Btry. E, 6-52 ADA. "While our platoon has grown more cohesive during this exercise, we have also been able to simulate the defense of critical assets at



Pfc. Eli Schaap hands off a M134 Stinger missile to Pvt. Imaris Suarez during a readiness drill at Osan Air Base, Feb. 16, 2016. Both Soldiers are air defense battle management system operators assigned to Battery E, 6-52 ADA.

multiple locations."

With their Avenger missile system and Sentinel radars emplaced, Soldiers trained under the watchful eyes of their noncommissioned officers.

"This field training exercise actually gets our Soldiers into a full hands-on training scenario and they are seeing all systems in operation ... plus connecting with other military occupational specialties," said Sgt. Elijah Walker, a radio operator/maintainer. "We are short range air defenders connecting with Patriot operators and getting a lot of good cross training which is something we don't really get in advanced individual training."

During training, the turret of an Avenger missile system swiveled as Soldiers offered encouragement and shared knowledge many of them had only recently learned at AIT.

"This is the first time in my career I have ever conducted training like this," said Pfc. Eli Schaap, an air and missile defense crewmember from Holland, Michigan. "I'm really getting a chance [during] these two weeks to see how Patriot fills the gap in air defense between the Avenger system [and the the higher altitude missile defense

systems]."

As the Avenger postured to engage enemy aircraft, the Sentinel radar system scanned the surrounding air space for the telltale signs of aircraft called "tracks".

"This training exercise has been intense," said Pvt. Drake Horton, an air defense battle management system operator from Germantown, Maryland. "I've learned how to turn "tracks" into enemy or friendly aircraft and, although the training has been tough, it has really prepared me for my wartime mission."

The Soldiers' readiness was facilitated by their leadership's commitment to preparation.

"We conducted deep maintenance on our equipment leading up to this exercise," said Day. "We focused on getting the crew drills right from missile and machine gun reloads, to leader development sessions run by experienced NCOs. Our Soldiers came prepared to execute this mission."

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Story and photo by Capt. William L. Leasure, 35th ADA Public Affairs





94th AG Soldiers train on HR Weapon Systems

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – The vastness of the Pacific region causes a “tyranny of distance” which plagues the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command and creates unique challenges for the personnel (G1) section to overcome. In order to meet those challenges and maintain a high level of personnel support and care for the geographically dispersed Soldiers, the G1 section has begun a concerted effort to be proficient with their weapon systems – their Human Resources (HR) weapon systems.

This innovation begins by ensuring that every Adjutant General’s Corps (AG) Soldier in the 94th AAMDC has attended the Human Resources University – five days of classes on the capabilities, limitations, and learning how to be better operators on the various HR systems. Every AG Soldier at the 94th AAMDC has the opportunity to learn about every single HR system at their disposal and gets a chance to practice maneuvering within these systems. While five days is a long time to have a Soldier out of the office, the G1 leadership feels it

is in the best interest of the Soldier and the unit to take this time to develop true human resource professionals.

“These classes taught me how to do my job better and more efficiently,” said Pfc. Dimetre Briggs, awards clerk, personnel (G1) section, 94th AAMDC. “They also forced us to think about training plans we need to implement so that we keep our skills sharp.”

The effort is furthered by having the AG Soldiers in the unit cross train on multiple HR weapon systems. Just as Infantry Soldiers might cross train on the M16 assault rifle and the M249 squad automatic weapon to ensure proficiency on multiple weapon systems, AG Soldiers must also be proficient on multiple HR weapon systems.

The Soldier who has shown mastery of the electronic military personnel office (eMILPO) must now move to uploading evaluations in the evaluation entry system (EES) or searching for Soldier requisitions in the enlisted distribution and assignment system (eDAS).

“As the unit awards clerk, I became very good at processing DA [Form] 638s

Spc. Emmanuel Mirandadejesus (left), human resources clerk, personnel (G1) section; Spc. Neftali Torres (center), administrative clerk, communications (G6) section; and Pfc. Dimetre Briggs (right), human resources clerk, personnel (G1) section, 94th AAMDC, listen to a class on the Army total officer personnel management information system (TOMPIS) program during the Human Resources University at the mission training complex on Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, Feb. 23, 2016. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Armando R. Limon, 3rd BCT, 25th ID Public Affairs)

(recommendation for award) and uploading them into the interactive personnel electronic records management system (iPERMS). Now I will be taking over as the strength management clerk and have to pull DEROS (Date Eligible for Return from Overseas) rosters from the Datastore system and inbound Soldier information from webEDAS,” said Spc. Ronney Magee, strength management clerk, personnel (G1) section, 94th AAMDC. “I know it will be difficult at first, but after some practice, I will be proficient with even more systems.”

With a solid foundation of knowledge established through the HR University and a continued opportunity to train on all HR weapon systems, the difficulties posed by the 94th AAMDC’s geographically dispersed units will be no match for the proficiency of the AG Soldiers in the G1.

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Story by 1st Lt. Gabrielle Tally, 94th AAMDC G1 Personnel Officer



SMC and Spiral Development

Staff Sgt. Troy Drew, current operations operator, 14th MDB, and his civilian counterpart from the Missile Defense Agency, monitor the forward-based sensors from the PAOC on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. (Courtesy Photo)

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR HICKAM, Hawaii – As tensions continue to escalate on the Korean peninsula, the Soldiers of the 10th and 14th Missile Defense Batteries, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, crewing the sensor management cell (SMC) in the Pacific Air Operations Center (PAOC) remain vigilant in their daily efforts. These Soldiers are in charge of operating the Army Navy/Transportable Radar Surveillance—Model 2 or AN/TPY-2 (Forward Based Mode) radars in Shariki and Kyogamisaki, Japan. During the last few months, the 24/7 cell has played a vital role fulfilling both the 94th AAMDC's strategic and regional ballistic missile defense (BMD) missions as North Korea executed multiple ballistic missile launches.

Another important role of the sensor managers is working with the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) and Johns Hopkins University in the development of future capabilities for the radars, as well as the command and control battle management and communications (C2BMC) system.

The highly complex technology is in a perpetual state of spiral development, which provides the current warfighters with predictive input points for future proficiencies.

Recently, two sensor manager crews had the opportunity to play key roles during Ground Test Integrated-06 (GTI-06) Part 2, which was conducted at the Missile Defense Integration and Operations Center (MDIOC) in Colorado Springs, Colo.

For three weeks in January and February, Sgt. 1st Class Taufuaina Hoskins and Sgt. William Weise, 10th MDB, and Staff Sgt. Joseph Courtney, 14th MDB validated the tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) during Part 2A of the event. Then in March, Sgt. 1st Class Rita Luera and Sgt. Kenneth Noles, 10th MDB, and Staff Sgt. Duane Rutherford, 14th MDB followed suit by participating in Part 2B at the MDIOC. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Bilal Baniball, sensor manager cell operations officer-in-charge, 14th MDB accompanied both crews to Colorado and oversaw multiple runs for record utilizing the future C2BMC software.

"Allowing our crews to take an active role in the spiral development process is integral to our overall mission success," said Baniball. "Our sensor managers are truly the subject matter experts when it comes to the AN/TPY-2 performance while in forward-based mode. There are only five of these radars performing this mission in

the world and I have the utmost confidence in each and every one of our crews."

The GTI-06 is a major event for the MDA as it further incorporates the AN/TPY-2 (FBM) and C2BMC system along with the Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS), Aegis BMD SPY-1 radar, and the sea-based X-band (SBX) radar to investigate U.S. Northern Command strategic scenarios and responses against intercontinental ballistic missile threats launched against the U.S. Homeland.

The crews' trips also served to bolster the relationship between the sensor management cell in Hawaii and the sensor managers currently stationed at the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense (JFCC IMD). The SMCs were able to provide a shared understanding of the current TTPs and future changes, which will directly affect regional and strategic coverage after the installation of the upcoming version of the Operational Mission Profile (OMP)—CXP 1.2.3.0.

The sensor management cell also recently hosted two key MDA personnel, which will help shape future capabilities from inside the PAOC. The Warfighter Support Director for C2BMC, Air Force Lt. Col. Joel Freyhagen, and the lead systems engineer for the C2BMC office and C2BMC evaluations, Mr. Warren MacDonald, spent several days at the PAOC in March conducting site surveys and briefing SMC personnel on the status of C2BMC Spiral 8.2, which will be fielded in the near future.

The Spiral 8.2 upgrade is highly anticipated, as it should expand on the Spiral 6.4 capabilities with the addition of boost phase precision cueing, engagement assessment and recommendations, and the implementation of the common X-band interface, which is the next step toward integrated sensor management.

"Getting 8.2 is a real game changer for us," said Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Sims, sensor manager cell noncommissioned officer-in-charge, 14th MDB. "We fully anticipate a seamless transition to the new software which will greatly enhance our current multi-mission capabilities as well as provide tertiary opportunities in the future."

★★

Story by Sgt. 1st Class James A. Fessler, 94th AAMDC G3 Air Operations Center NCOIC





TF Talon Welcomes Bravo-2 to Defense of Guam Mission

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam – U.S. Army Battery D, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, Task Force Talon, a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) unit, passed the Defense of Guam mission to Battery B, 2nd ADA Regt., Feb. 5, 2016, during a relief in place ceremony at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

“Even though Delta-2 is not the first unit to deploy to Guam, there were plenty of firsts that this tremendous unit accomplished over the last year that truly enhanced our deterrence capability and will ensure that Bravo-2 and all following units are ready to neutralize ballistic missiles,” said Lt. Col. Jeffery Slown, commander, Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command.

The Delta “Dragons” were the first unit to certify a fourth THAAD crew, execute a THAAD interceptors movement - the largest to date, and successfully complete over 40 operational readiness exercises all while maintaining 24-hour coverage to the island.

Lt. Col. Jeffery Slown, commander, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC, addresses Batteries Delta and Bravo, 2nd ADA Regt., Feb. 5, 2016, during a relief in place ceremony at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Joshua Smoot, 36th Wing Public Affairs)

“Establishing a presence within and contributing to the local community was an important part of our mission,” said Capt. Sheiloh Carlos, commander, Btry. D, 2nd ADA Regt. “The Soldiers of Delta Battery spent countless hours interacting with the local community and supporting programs such as the partners in education program, prayer breakfasts, the Special Olympics, and the local United Soldiers’ Organization.”

As Bravo Battery assumes the Defense of Guam mission there is little question they are ready.

Slown has full faith and confidence in the ability of these air defenders to execute this mission.

“They completed a grueling three month train up which included gunnery tables and Air Battle Management certification resulting in [them being] one of the best trained units to arrive on the island to date,” said Slown. “Having expertly passed their

final test, the Defense of Guam mission assumption validation evaluation, they were passed the responsibility for the Defense of Guam mission and stand ready to defend the people of Guam and strategic assets based on the island.”

Task Force Talon has provided continuous ballistic missile defense to the island of Guam since April 19, 2013 when the secretary of defense ordered the first operational deployment of a THAAD battery to deter North Korean aggression.

The THAAD batteries rotate from Fort Bliss, Texas to Guam on a one-year tour. Bravo Battery is the fourth unit to support this homeland defense mission.

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Story by Maj. Shawn Yonkin, Executive Officer, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC

Bravo Bulldogs, 1-1 ADA Take a Bite out of the 18th Wing MRE

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa, Japan
 – Known as the “Hub of Pacific Air Power”, the 18th Wing stationed on Okinawa’s Kadena Air Base is the Air Force’s largest combat wing. The 18,000 military and civilians on Kadena make up a world-class combat ready team with numerous missions and functions, which all rely on each other to fulfill a complex and vital role in the region.

On the morning of Tuesday, April 5, 2015, sirens across base alerted all members of “Team Kadena” that an exercise had begun. The mission readiness exercise focused on stressing base processes, command and control, logistics, and communications. Simulated strikes across the base occurred throughout the day, forcing military leaders to adapt, in an effort to validate Team Kadena’s capability to maintain operations under stressful combat conditions.

As the only Army ground-based air defense (Patriot) assigned to the airbase, the 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command was called upon during the exercise to provide air and missile defense. Bravo Battery, 1-1 ADA prepared a site near the 18th Wing Headquarters.

The missile defense battery deployed a small reconnaissance, selection, and occupation of position (RSOP) team to the site; the team was responsible for the layout and preparation for all follow-on equipment. The Patriot equipment includes launchers, a radar, power generators, communications, and command and control elements.

As the RSOP team finalized their preparations, the main body of the fire unit staged and executed movement across Kadena Air Base. Within the hour, the systems were emplaced, powered, initialized, and ready to provide air and missile defense.

“Every opportunity to demonstrate and train interoperability is so important,” remarked Capt. Thaddeus Morris of Fayetteville Arkansas, commander, Battery



Soldiers from Battery B, 1-1 ADA, 94th AAMDC emplace stakes to support the communications antenna for the Patriot launcher site in front of the 18th Combat Wing headquarters on Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan, during a mission readiness exercise, April 5, 2015. The mission readiness exercise focused on stressing base processes, command and control, logistics, and communications.

B, 1-1 ADA, 94th AAMDC. "As Air Defenders, that understanding should be at the heart of how we view our mission"

Throughout the day and late into the evening, the battery simulated engagements of ballistic and cruise missile threats. At the same time, the battalion's liaison officer, Capt. Blake Sandstrom, operated from the 18th Wing command post, integrating and reporting information and concerns up and down the joint chain.

The Soldiers and leaders of Battery B saw the exercise as a unique opportunity to train and execute their drills in an operational context. The battery's participation built confidence in crewmembers' abilities to conduct mobility and emplacement drills, establish communications, and maintain operations in a no-notice and variable environment.

“I hope that the battery Soldiers gained a better context for our mission from this exercise and the Wing gained trust and confidence in our weapon system,” said Morris.



Battery B, 1-1 ADA, 94th AAMDC, emplaces a Patriot launcher in front of the 18th Combat Wing headquarters on Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan, during a mission readiness exercise, April 5, 2015. The mission readiness exercise focused on stressing base processes, command and control, logistics, and communications.

*Story and Photos by 2nd Lt. Joseph Brown,
Fire Control Platoon Leader, Battery B, 1-1
ADA, 94th AAMDC*



14th MDB Continues Strategic Mission with new Commander

KYOGAMISAKI COMMUNICATION SITE, Japan – Army Maj. Jason E. Albright, the outgoing commander, relinquished command of the 14th Missile Defense Battery, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command to Maj. Sara E. Cardenas, the incoming commander, during a change of command ceremony on October 23, 2015, at Kyogamisaki Sub Base, Kyogamisaki, Japan.

The one-year anniversary ceremony began with Albright addressing the attendees, including the following distinguished guests: Mayor Yasushi Nakayama, mayor of Kyotango City; Shojiro Takenaka, the director general of Kinki-Chubu Defense Bureau; and Brig. Gen. Eric Sanchez, 94th AAMDC commander. There were also several leaders from the Japanese Self Defense Forces, U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, the Kyotango Police, the Kyotango Fire Department, the Kinki Chubu Defense Bureau, as well as, several local citizens from the Sodeshi and Mineyama communities.

Albright narrated a slideshow that highlighted the many achievements and community events that the 14th MDB accomplished over their first year. He specifically highlighted the Sodeshi beach cleaning, Kyotango drivers training, fire exercises with the Kyotango Fire Department, the Easter event in Mineyama, the Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation trip to hike Mt. Fuji, and the community Fall Festival.

Mayor Nakayama spoke about the positive impact that the 14th MDB had on the community and took the opportunity to

thank Maj. Albright for his efforts.

“I am extremely grateful for all of your earnest efforts to ensure the safety and security of the Kyotango community for one year as the first commander in an unfamiliar place,” expressed Nakayama.

Takenaka followed by highlighting Albright’s contribution to improving the relationship with the local community.

“I would like to express my respect and deepest appreciation for your contribution to building trusting relationships with the local community and fostering U.S. and Japan mutual friendships,” shared Takenaka.

Following the one-year anniversary ceremony, Sanchez initiated the change of command ceremony by speaking about Albright’s achievements as a commander.

“During his tenure as the commander, the Kyogamisaki Communications site has gone from a grass field to a functioning radar site. He has been responsible for everything you see here today,” said Sanchez. “He deployed here back in September 2014; he was here to receive the radar in October and under his leadership, the radar was declared operational by the end of December.”

During his farewell address, Albright took a moment to reflect on his time in command with the 14th MDB.

“It has been exciting to lead the activation of a new Army unit, build a new garrison, operationalize one of five X-band radars in the world, volunteer to support the local community, exchange American culture with the local community and be accepted

Leaders from the local communities, military organizations and public services join the incoming and outgoing commanders of the 14th MDB for a group photo at the 14th MDB change of command ceremony.



Maj. Jason Albright, outgoing commander, 14th MDB, accepts his end of tour award from Brig. Gen. Eric Sanchez, commander, 94th AAMDC.

into the community as one of your own.”

Maj. Jason Albright’s follow-on assignment will be to the strategic plans section (G5), 32nd AAMDC (forward), in Al Udeid Airbase, Qatar. He finished his speech by thanking the special guests, community leaders, his family, and most importantly, the Soldiers of the 14th MDB.

“To the Soldier of 14th MDB, you look outstanding,” said Albright. “This year has been the most rewarding time of my 17 years in the Army. I am blessed to have been selected for such an important assignment.”

Cardenas followed Albright and assured the community and those who attended - KCS will continue to strengthen the established bonds and relationships.

Cardenas addressed her new Soldiers before ending the ceremony and giving the guests a tour of the Kyogamisaki Communications site.

“Most importantly, Soldiers of the 14th Missile Defense Battery, you truly look great. Your accomplishments this last year are unmatched,” said Cardenas. “I look forward to, and am honored to serve with you, as we continue to execute our strategic mission in support of the defense of Japan and the United States Homeland.”

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Story and photos by Capt. David Bruno, Security Officer, 14th MDB, 94th AAMDC



TFT and Joint Teammates make THAAD missile movement history

Task Force Talon Soldiers along with their joint and interagency teammates, pose prior to moving Terminal High Altitude Area Defense interceptors to the Andersen Air Force Base flight line for retrograde to a facility on the U.S. mainland. (U.S. Army photo by Capt. Amanda Rowse, Task Force Talon, 94th AAMDC)

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam – As members of Task Force Talon, the Guam-based Terminal High Altitude Area Defense-centric unit tasked to defend Guam against ballistic missile attacks, along with their joint and interagency teammates watched the great C-17 cargo plane disappear into the clouds above Andersen Air Force Base, Guam Nov. 5, 2015, they knew they had done something special, even historic.

According to Mr. Donnie Puett, logistics management specialist, THAAD Project Office, the team had just completed “the largest shipment of missiles to and from a deployed location at one time in THAAD history.” The purpose of the operation was to replace the entire stock of Task Force THAAD interceptors to maintain operational readiness.

There were only two months between receipt of the tasking during the first week in September and mission completion in early November. In between those dates was an intense, compressed period of planning, logistics preparation and training.

Task Force Talon, comprised of around 200 Soldiers, is one-third the size of a traditional air defense Patriot battalion but the quality of personnel in the Task Force

and their readiness to accept the mission is unequaled according to Lt. Col. Jefferey A. Slown, commander, Task Force Talon, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command.

“Regardless of the mission, the whole Task Force is resilient enough to accomplish any task given them,” said Slown. “As I always tell visitors [to the TF], ‘what we don’t have in quantity, we make up for in quality and this interceptor operation was one example of that.’”

No matter the mission, the Task Force Soldiers maintain a fearless “can-do” attitude. However, as with other tasks, there would be no “can-do” without the support of joint partners and key enablers.

“The most positive aspect of this movement was the willingness of Air Force, Navy and Civilian contractors to aid us in completing the mission,” said Master Sgt. Ronald Quinata, Task Force operations sergeant major.

“This was truly a joint operation from beginning to end,” agreed Maj. Jonathan Stafford, Task Force Talon executive officer. “The Task Force could not have accomplished such a logistically demanding task without the great support from the US Air Force’s 36th Wing, the Missile Defense Agency, the Anniston Army Depot and the Army Aviation & Missile Command.

“All personnel had to work long and often overnight hours to execute the mission using heavy equipment to transport, download and upload numerous strategically important THAAD interceptors.”

As with any operation the Army participates in, those most valuable to mission accomplishment are the Soldiers who execute tasks to meet the commander’s intent. In this instance, Soldiers from Battery D, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment (THAAD) and Company D, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf. Division, who comprise the security force, displayed fortitude, an innovative spirit and dedicated professionalism throughout the conduct of the interceptor exchange.

“After each iteration of interceptor movement, Soldiers looked forward to the after action review,” recalled Capt. Sheiloh Carlos, commander, D/2 (THAAD). “They utilized the assessment process to refine their techniques and procedures and they were able to observe the improvements that they had suggested during the next round of interceptor shipment. The ability to create change was a huge motivational booster for the Soldiers.”

Capt. Carlos has some advice for those tasked to conduct a new or different operation.

“Seek out every source of knowledge, collect and organize information, and create an easily understandable method for accomplishing the mission. When information is scarce or unavailable, do not be afraid to innovate.” He continued, “As long as the experimentation with new and untried methods makes sense and is conducted safely, progress can be made.”

Task Force leaders captured numerous lessons learned during the operation that will help other units with preparing for missions in the future.

Carlos also noted that passing along lessons learned is important, “Share the knowledge gained after an operation with as many people that need to know as possible. Keeping knowledge, especially new knowledge, to oneself may allow an individual to be the ‘go-to guy,’ but it hurts the team in the end.”

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





Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defenders of the Year recognized

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – Ten individuals, representing the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and civilian entities, were recognized as Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defenders of the Year for integrated air and missile defense excellence, Sept. 26, 2015, by the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance during a ceremony at Waikiki, Hawaii.

“It is terrific to see such a strong show of support for the missile defense community professionals,” said Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr., commander, U.S. Pacific Command. “We get to recognize members of each service who represent the best in leadership in our efforts and our ability, who have demonstrated their commitment to excellence within the missile defense community.”

The individuals were nominated by their peers and commanding officers for the award to recognize their roles in defending our home front, armed forces and allied forces. They represent the best in leadership and personal effort, demonstrating their commitment to excellence in their critical roles as part of air and missile defense.

“It was such an honor to be recognized with this award,” said Staff Sgt. Robert Field, a Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defender of the Year recipient and a sensor control advisor with 14th Missile Defense Battery, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command. “It is great to be recognized for our efforts in our field.”

The other Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defenders of the Year for the Army include Staff Sgt. Joe Chacon, an assistant operations noncommissioned officer, and Sgt. Thomas O'Neal IV, a sensor manager, both with 10th Missile Defense Battery, 94th AAMDC.

The Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defenders of the Year for the Air Force are Maj. David Pennington, Jr., the chief strategy guidance team, strategy division, 613th Air Operations Center and Tech. Sgt. Travis Hutts, the space and early warning winner.

The Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defenders of the Year for

Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defender of the Year recipients for the Army: Staff Sgt. Joe Chacon (center left), an assistant operations NCO, and Sgt. Thomas O'Neal (IV center right), a sensor manager, both with 10th MDB, and Staff Sgt. Robert Field (center), a sensor control advisor with 14th MDB, 94th AAMDC take a photo with Brig. Gen. Eric Sanchez (right), commander, 94th AAMDC and Riki Ellison (left), MDAA chairman and founder.



The 10 individuals, representing the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and civilian entities, pose for a group photo following being recognized as Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defenders of the Year for integrated air and missile defense excellence.

the Navy include Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Descovich; Cmdr. Jonathan Lipps, the Achievement in the Pacific winner; and Fire Control man First Class Angela La'Vant, the Aegis Ashore winner.

The Pacific Theater Air and Missile Defender of the Year for the Marines is Maj. Jason Lambert, the future operations officer with Marine Air Control Group 18.

Ed Stikeleather, the Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Organization liaison to U.S. Pacific Command is the Civilian Missile Defense Career Achievement winner.

The Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate the American public about missile defense issues. The organization was founded in 2002 by Riki Ellison to generate public support for the continued testing, development and deployment of missile defense systems.

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



JASDF are Vital to 10th MDB Mission Accomplishment

SHARIKI COMMUNICATIONS SITE, Japan – Most have never heard of Shariki, Japan, to include the people of Japan. It is a small town located off the west coast in the Aomori Prefecture, a Prefecture in northern Japan famous for its apples and its harsh winters. Located in this small town is the Shariki Sub-base, home to three Japanese Air Self Defense (JASDF) units, and the Shariki Communications site (SCS), a small US Army radar site operated by the 10th Missile Defense Battery, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command and contractors executing the critical mission of regional and homeland defense.

Over the last ten years, the SCS has provided early warning against possible hostile missile attacks against the U.S. and its allies in the Pacific region. The accomplishment of this mission is only possible with the support of the local community, particularly the JASDF units co-located in Shariki. The relationship between the SCS and JASDF has been vital to the successful execution of the early warning mission, helping to develop relationships between the site and leaders from the local government and community.

Since October 2015, the site has been going through a transition, increasing the number of Soldiers assigned to Shariki and taking more of a direct role in executing its strategic mission.

As the site makes this transition, the relationship with the JASDF has also grown through numerous bi-lateral events such as conducting Leadership Professional Development (LPD) classes for the Soldiers and JASDF Airman, teaching each other about their respective roles in providing missile defense to include giving tours and briefings on their various systems. Other events that have built on the relationship between the US and Japanese forces have included the first bi-lateral sports day in

Soldiers assigned to the 10th MDB receive a systems and mission brief from the Japanese Air Self Defense Force Patriot operators assigned to the Shariki Sub-base. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Larry Yeboah, 10th MDB, 94th AAMDC)



Soldiers and contractors from the Shariki Communications Site share Thanksgiving dinner with members of the Japanese Air Self Defense Force assigned to the Shariki Sub-base. (U.S. Army photo by Maj. James Compton, commander, 10th MDB, 94th AAMDC)

Shariki, sharing Thanksgiving dinner together, and the battery's new Soldiers being allowed to stay in the JASDF barracks while waiting for the completion of additional housing.

As the communications site continues the execution of its critical early warning mission, both the US and JASDF are continually developing more ways to build on its relationship, both with bi-lateral training as well as team-building events. While the SCS executes its mission of regional and homeland defense, it is the relationship with the Japanese Air Self Defense Forces stationed in Shariki that facilitates the accomplishment of that mission.

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Story by Maj. James Compton, Commander, 10th MDB, 94th AAMDC



SEA DRAGON HIGHLIGHT: Preparation truly key to success

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii – Lub dub....lub dub.....lub dub...Sitting stoically in the chair, she could hear her own heart beating in her ears and feel heat radiating from her cheeks. The conclusion of the competition was just on the horizon. This was the final event. She was almost done. Letting out a cleansing breath, she began.

“Good Morning sergeant major and fellow members of the board, I am Spc. Zuleima Garcia.”

U.S. Army Spc. Zuleima Garcia, a native of Oakdale, Calif. and an air defense enhanced early warning system operator, with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, was awarded the title 94th AAMDC Soldier of the Year 2016, during a ceremony, April 28, 2016, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii.

The 94th AAMDC Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year Competition is an event in which Soldiers and junior NCOs of the 94th AAMDC compete to demonstrate their military proficiencies that creates an example of excellence and sets them above their peers.

“I was eager to participate in this competition because I wanted to set an example for my subordinates,” explained Garcia. “I wanted to show others that just because I am ADA doesn’t mean that I can’t do everything that Soldiers in the rest of the Army are doing.”

Stationed in Okinawa, Garcia had to travel to Hawaii and began the competition in a position that many may have considered a disadvantage.

“We knew that there would be the additional element of fatigue from travel that might affect her performance in the competition that is why preparation was so important,” said Sgt. Richard Wyce, Garcia’s sponsor during the competition and a utilities equipment repair NCO with 1-1 ADA.

With no specifics on what events the competition would incorporate, Garcia began diligently preparing.

“We created a schedule where we covered different military subjects daily,” said Wyce. “We created our own [physical training] schedule that would enhance her physical strength and endurance, keeping her PT score at 300, and that would help improve her speed and endurance during the ruck march. In the mornings following PT, we would conduct study sessions and in the afternoons we would practice the physical, hands-on portion of each event like warrior task and battle drills or things of that nature.”

The four-day competition officially included individual competition graded elements such as an Army physical fitness test, drill and ceremony, night/day land navigation, M4 rifle qualification, weapons familiarization, a written test, a narrative essay, and a traditional question-and-answer board appearance.



Spc Zuleima Garcia, an air defense enhanced early warning system operator with HHB, 1-1 ADA was awarded the title - 94th AAMDC Soldier of the Year 2016, by Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez (left), commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Finis A. Dodson (right), the command sergeant major of the 94th AAMDC, during a ceremony, April 28, 2016, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii.

Even with preparation, Garcia found herself pushing through the competition and being completely exhausted.

“My husband is also a Soldier and competed last year for U.S. Army Japan,” said Garcia. “He warned me that this was going to be rough. It was exhausting and all kinds of thoughts would go through my head. I will have to go back home and tell him that he was right.”

“I was contemplating my career on the 12-mile ruck march,” chuckles Garcia. “He was right. It wasn’t a walk-in-the-park, it was rough. It was challenging.”

Though Garcia’s spouse had competed in a similar competition in Japan last year, this event had been planned with specific modifications to ensure the bodies and minds of the competitors would be taxed.

“This year we raised the intensity to purposefully meet Command Sgt. Maj. [Bryant] Lambert’s overall intent for the competition,” said Master Sgt. Benjamin Kahalehoe, the operations passive defense cell noncommissioned officer-in-charge. “We compounded the events of the competition within a shorter period of time which created a more stressful week, challenging the competitors both mentally and physically.”

Garcia truly demonstrated the accuracy of the statement: preparation is the key to success.

“I feel really proud of myself,” shares Garcia. “It definitely makes me feel like all the hard work I have done was totally worth it.”

“Succeeding is really about using all the tools provided to you to the best of your ability and working hard.”

U.S. Army Sgt. Stanley Fields, a native of Atlanta, Georgia and an intelligence analyst with HHB, 94th AAMDC, was also rewarded for his example of excellence during the ceremony. He was awarded the title of 94th AAMDC Noncommissioned Officer of the Year 2016.

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



Soldiers, Civilians and Family members of the 94th AAMDC show their solidarity against sexual assault and harassment at the end of the sexual assault awareness and prevention month (SAAPM) proclamation signing ceremony April 1, at the Hickam Beach on Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th AAMDC Public Affairs)

The Sea Dragon command has made a conscious effort to promote the awareness of SHARP every day by coming up with

“There are three success take-aways from an event like this – it is educational, it promotes team-building, and it promotes healthy competition,” said Campbell. “It supports SHARP by making teams answer questions on the Army’s SHARP program ... all the [scavenger hunt] points are SHARP-related questions. Team building is promoted by bringing Soldiers and senior officers together so they learn to interact and work towards a common goal. The competition is good clean fun and allows Soldiers to bring their Family to a fun event, as well as a learning experience.”

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



The 94th AAMDC hosted an ASIST T4T five-day workshop at Schofield Barracks, 4-8 April. Soldiers from 1-1 ADA; 14th MDB; Task Force Talon; 94th AAMDC HHB; USARPAC HQ; 25th ID; 8th TSC; and 18th MC take a photo with (Front L to R) Col. Douglas Waddingham, chief of staff; Chaplain (Col.) Ken Revell, command chaplain; and Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Seppala, senior religious affairs NCOIC, 94th AAMDC. (Courtesy photo)

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR – HICKAM, Hawaii- The 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command's ready and resilient team (RT2) hosted an applied suicide intervention skills training for trainers (ASIST T4T) five-day workshop at Schofield Barracks, 4-8 April.

According to Living Works Education, the suicide intervention training company which designed ASIST, the ASIST T4T workshop helps participants begin learning how to effectively present the two-day ASIST workshop and bring life-saving intervention skills to their own organizations and communities.

"At the 94th we only had three personnel certified to conduct the normal ASIST training - with two of the trainers set to leave this summer, we were forced to make a decision. We could either let the program [end] in the 94th or create a sustainable pool of trainers that will ensure the program continues on," explained Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Seppala, the 94th AAMDC senior religious affairs noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "We chose the latter and will continue to ensure that members of the 94th are prepared to intervene during a suicidal situation."

Participants included 94th AAMDC Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment; 14th Missile Defense Battery; Task Force Talon; 94th AAMDC Headquarters and Headquarters Battery; as well as Soldiers from U.S. Army Pacific headquarters; 25th Infantry Division; 8th Theater Sustainment Command; and 18th Medical Command.

The ASIST T4T course teaches new trainers to present the material through a combination of – lecturing, facilitating discussion, Socratic questioning and role-playing. This teaching style increases audience participation and helps participants to better retain the skills and information that they learn during the workshop.

"I think the most innovative aspect was that it breaks down different methods of teaching and makes sure to disperse them throughout the training," said 1st Lt. Gabrielle Talley, personnel officer, 94th AAMDC personnel section (G1). "For example, they only have two long lecture blocks that are broken up by several mini lessons, videos, practice scenarios, and group projects."

Upon completion of the T4T course attendees are considered provisional trainers. In order to become registered trainers they must present a minimum of three ASIST workshops within a year and show that they have mastered all of the content. It takes a minimum of two trainers and not more than four to present an ASIST workshop. After this, they must teach at least one workshop per year to maintain registered status.

"The next step is to get the new trainers some experience,"

said Seppala, who attended the training in 2009 while stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas. "As an experienced ASIST trainer, I will be either co-training or observing their first workshops to help them ... my intent is to have a roster of trainers that can conduct ASIST on a rotational basis. This will allow more opportunities for Soldiers to receive this training and allow the new trainers to progress in the trainer hierarchy."

The 94th AAMDC commander, Brig. Gen. Eric L. Sanchez, has made the readiness and resiliency of the Sea Dragon Soldiers a top priority throughout his tenure. Sanchez tasked the 94th AAMDC R2T to ensure that all 94th AAMDC Soldiers are ASIST trained. The R2T believed opening up the training to other commands would benefit the entire Army community.

"ASIST goes far beyond suicide intervention; it is a leadership development course. Attendees learn valuable interpersonal communication skills and conflict management," shared Seppala. "Furthermore, attendees can use the skills taught in ASIST in their personal lives as well as their professional lives."

"The truth is that everyone is at risk for suicide. The skills learned at ASIST may help you save the lives of Soldiers, Family members, even your buddy from high school that you haven't talked to in twenty years."

"I hope to take the training with me to my next unit and spread this awesome training to every duty station I go to," said Tally. "And if the need arises, I will definitely be prepared to use these skills to help someone at risk."

The 94th AAMDC is committed to ensuring that the Sea Dragon Soldiers, Civilians and Family members receive the best training available and have the tools to remain resilient in any situation and help others to do the same.

"Suicide infiltrates communities - be it the Army or a family," stated Tally. "This training teaches you that suicide affects so many people, but if we work together, we can help people who are considering suicide as an option."

"When it comes to resiliency of Soldiers and Family members we must be all in," shared Chaplain (Col.) Ken Revell, 94th AAMDC command chaplain. "There are no short cuts to taking care of the human domain."

More information about ASIST training can be found on the following websites:

<http://www.army.mil/article/142033/ASIST/>
<https://www.livingworks.net/programs/asist/>

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



Finding Spiritual Power in the Crush, Rush and Fuss of Life

Norman Vincent Peale once remarked, “This is the age of the half-read page, the quick hash and mad dash, the bright night with nerves tight, the plane hop with the brief stop, the lamp tan in a short span, the brain strain and the heart pain, the catnaps til the spring snaps. And the fun’s done!”

Without question, Peale’s words compellingly capture the rush, crush and fuss of life that is so characteristic of our day and age. While various methods have been employed to offset the reckless pace at which many of us live, nothing can be more important than setting spiritual priorities.

I find the words of the Old Testament Prophet Isaiah to be of tremendous encouragement for others and myself who are constantly assaulted by this deluge of pressure, urgencies, and emergencies of life.

Isaiah says, “The Lord is the Everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the Earth. He will not grow weary and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even the youths grow tired and the young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:28-31)

I draw courage from three truths outlined in this passage:

First, God is never exhausted. The Lord’s strength is positively endless. He cannot be worn down, or victimized by the crush, rush and fuss of life. Therefore, He who is beyond stress can help us with our stressors.

It is not surprising that some seven hundred years later Saint Peter, who was one of the writers of the New Testament, instructs believers carrying heavy rucksacks to “Cast all your anxiety on the Lord, for He cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:7)

Second, the Lord is never perplexed. When it comes to having a commanding knowledge of a situation, the Almighty cannot be perplexed, surprised, or startled.

“His understanding no one can fathom!”

This means you can be a genius with the highest IQ on record or have 20 Ph.D.’s and you would still never be as smart as God is. He is in a category all by Himself. The sooner we come to grips with this fact, the better off we are going to be.

Humanity, over the centuries, has tried to either explain God, deny God, fight God, or play God. The sooner we get about the business of allowing God to be God, the sooner we can begin trusting in the Lord for wisdom in solving complex problems. Saint James challenges all of us, “If any lack wisdom, let him ask God.” (James 1:5)

Third, God is the giver of strength to all who dare to put their hope in Him. The Hebrew word for “renew strength” is of great importance in this Scripture. It literally means to “exchange strength.”

When a piece of a Soldier’s equipment becomes unserviceable through the normal wear and tear, he or she can exchange it for a serviceable piece of equipment.

This same truth applies to the person who is bankrupt of strength

and comes to the Lord for new strength. In essence, we shall exchange our failing strength for His unfailing strength. With the Lord’s strength, we will soar on wings of eagles. We will run and not be weary. We shall walk and not faint.

As we make room for God in our daily lives, we will have His unfailing power to triumph even in the daily grind.



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



The 94th AAMDC Bid *Farewell to Retirees*

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! Focus Forward!



Col. Carlos J. Betancourt, 94th AAMDC Assistant Chief of Staff, Operations (G3), stands with his lovely wife Anett, at his retirement ceremony on the USS Missouri. Arrived to the 94th AAMDC on 11 July 2013. Served over 28 years in the U.S. Army



Col. Stephen C. Wren, 94th AAMDC Assistant Chief of Staff, Communications (G6), poses with his beautiful wife, Lorena, at his retirement ceremony on the USS Missouri. Arrived to the 94th AAMDC on 23 July 2012. Served 28 years in the U.S. Army



Maj. Thomas A. Kurtz, 94th AAMDC Planning Officer, Strategic Plans (G5), shares some words of wisdom after receiving his retirement award. Arrived to the 94th AAMDC on 31 Aug. 2013. Served over 22 years in the U.S. Army



Master Sgt. Jason Bonds, 94th AAMDC Intelligence (G2) Sergeant Major, pictured with his lovely wife, Brenna, at his retirement ceremony on the USS Missouri. Arrived to the 94th AAMDC on 27 Feb. 2014. Served over 20 years in the U.S. Army



Master Sgt. Reginald Creech, 94th AAMDC Senior Human Resources (G1) Sergeant, pictured with his lovely wife, Rona, and his beautiful daughter, Courtney, at his retirement ceremony on the USS Missouri. Arrived to the 94th AAMDC on 19 July 2011. Served over 29 years in the U.S. Army



FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE! FOCUS FORWARD



10th Missile Defense Battery
Samurai Battery
Shariki, Japan



14th Missile Defense Battery
Hayabusa Battery
Kyogamisaki, Japan



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



94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Headquarters
Sea Dragons
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam



Task Force Talon
Musadan Manglers
Guam



94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) for the Pacific Command (PACOM) Theater

SHAPE

Enhancing our Phase 0 capability in the PACOM AOR through the Theater Security Campaign Plan.

POSTURE

Ensuring readiness of forward deployed Army AMD Forces.

READY

Enabling participation in multiple theater level exercises with our joint, combined and coalition partners.