

# HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

## What's Inside



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## News briefly

### Commissary Closure

The Schofield Barracks Commissary will be closed Sunday for Independence Day. Normal business hours will resume Monday. For more information, call 655-5066.

### Warrant Officer Branch Changeover Ceremony

Warrant officers will begin wearing their branch insignia during a ceremony at 2:30 p.m. July 9 at Sills Field on Schofield Barracks.

### Golden Knights Seek Volunteers

The U.S. Army Parachute Team, "Golden Knights" are currently accepting applications to attend their annual Assessment and Selection Program in September. A downloadable version of the application is available on the Golden Knights' Web site [www.armygoldenknights.com](http://www.armygoldenknights.com). To become a Golden Knight, applicants must have a minimum of 150 freefall parachute jumps, a flawless civilian and military record and volunteer to become Airborne qualified. Applications are being accepted until July 30, 2004, packets can be sent to the U.S. Army Parachute Team P.O. Box 70126, Fort Bragg, NC 28307. For more information, contact Golden Knight Administration Office at 396-4800.

### SAMC Induction Ceremony

The Sgt. Audie Murphy Club will have an induction ceremony at 6 p.m. July 12 at the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks.

### Deployment Town Hall Meeting

Soldiers who are deploying and their family members can have questions about the deployments answered at a Deployment Town Hall Meeting at 6:30 p.m. July 20 at Sgt. Smith Theater on Schofield Barracks.

### All-Army Sports Application deadline

The application deadline for the following All Army level sports are: Marathon (men and women) - July 16; Rugby (men) - July 16; Taekwondo (men and women) - July 17; and Soccer (men) - Aug. 12. Updated application forms (DA Form 4762-R, Jan 01) are available at all Army Hawaii fitness centers. Unit "Form Flow" may not have updated forms. Earlier editions of the DA 4762-R will not be accepted by DA Sports. A returned, obsolete DA 4762-R and subsequent resubmission of the correct form is not cause for extension of the deadline. Submit applications to the USAG-HI Sports Office (STOP 112), Kaala Rec Center, Bldg. 556, Schofield Barracks. For more information, call 655-9914/085.

# Iraq becomes sovereign nation

By John D. Banusiewicz  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — Sovereignty in Iraq passed from the Coalition Provisional Authority to the interim Iraqi government Monday morning, two days ahead of schedule.

In a 10-minute ceremony inside the heavily fortified "Green Zone" where coalition headquarters is located in Baghdad, CPA administrator Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III read a letter he had signed which dissolved the CPA.

"As recognized in U.N. Security Council Resolution 1546, the Coalition Provisional Authority will cease to exist on June 28, at which point the occupation will end and the Iraqi interim government will assume and exercise full sovereign authority on behalf of the Iraqi people. I welcome Iraq's steps to take its rightful place



Staff Sgt. D. Myles Cullen

**Ambassador L. Paul Bremer and Iraqi President Sheikh Ghazi Ajil al-Yawar shake hands while UK Special Representative David Richmond looks on during a ceremony celebrating the transfer of governmental authority to the Iraqi Interim Government.**

of equality and honor among the free nations of the world," Bremer read.

Bremer boarded a helicopter shortly after the ceremony and later left the country aboard a military C-130

Hercules transport plane.

U.S. Ambassador John D. Negroponte presented his credentials to senior Iraqi government officials Tuesday and was welcomed to Iraq as the U.S. ambassador.



Cpl. Robert A. Sturkie

**Soldiers from 2nd Bn., 5th Inf. Rgt., 25th ID (L) practice immediate action drills at Forward Operating Base Ripley, Afghanistan. The Bobcats of 2-5 are assigned to Task Force Linebacker and are working alongside the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit in central Afghanistan.**

# Bobcats join forces with Marines

By Capt. Eric Dent  
*22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit*

FORWARD OPERATING BASE RIPLEY, Afghanistan — Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment recently joined the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) in its continuing combat operations in central Afghanistan.

The 22nd MEU (SOC) is operating under the moniker Task Force Linebacker, and its mission is to disrupt Taliban and anti-coalition militia networks in southern and central Afghanistan. They have operated there for nearly three months, recently gaining notoriety for success in what is considered the traditional heartland of the Taliban.

Lt. Col. Terry L. Sellers, battalion commander of 2nd Bn., 5th Inf. Rgt., said his Soldiers are ready to join the fight.

"Our guys have been wanting a piece of the action," said Sellers, referring to the recent weeks of fighting in which the 22nd MEU (SOC), along with Afghan National Army and provincial Afghan Militia Forces, have killed or captured nearly 100 enemy fighters. "I think they'll do a good job for the 22nd MEU."

Sellers' battalion is part of the 25th Infantry Division (Light), which deployed from Hawaii and has worked extensively in the Ghazni province prior to joining the MEU. While in Ghazni, the battalion worked with the Provincial Reconstruction Team to help bring legitimacy to the coalition and central govern-

ment. The PRTs implement civil-military operations critical to rebuild the war-torn nation.

"We are excited about joining Linebacker and it's been an easy fit so far," said Sellers.

With the addition of the Army battalion, Task Force Linebacker has more combat power and will be able to operate deeper into regions where coalition forces have not had a substantial and lasting impact.

Task Force Linebacker, under the command of Marine Col. Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr., has operated extensively in Uruzgan and northern Kandahar Provinces since late April.

McKenzie welcomed the additional battalion stressing that while election efforts are growing

See "Bobcats" Page A-3

# Coalition, Iraq government leaders visit Kirkuk AB

Spc. Sean Kimmons  
*25th ID (L) Public Affairs*

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq — Six days before Iraq's Transfer of Sovereignty, an impressive cast of U.S. and Iraqi government dignitaries spoke here to Kirkuk Provincial Council members and 2nd Brigade Combat Team leaders.

U.S. Ambassador L. Paul Bremer and Iraqi Interim President Ghazi al-Yawar were among the top officials present June 22.

The focus of the meeting was to prepare and inspire Kirkuk council members for the Transfer of Sovereignty, which took place Monday and marked the beginning of Iraqi independence.

Kirkuk Governor Abdul Rahman Mustafa began the dignitary meeting on base with the opening remarks. When he was finished, President Ghazi stepped up to the podium and addressed almost 30 Kirkuk Provincial Council members.

"I am happy that my first activity

See "Kirkuk Air Base" Page A-3



Spc. Sean Kimmons

**A Kirkuk Provincial Council member listens to Iraqi Interim President Ghazi al-Yawar as he talks to other council members and 2nd Brigade Combat Team leaders June 22 on Kirkuk Air Base.**

## Schedule of Events

8 - 9 a.m.	Late Registration for 5K Fun Run/Packet pick-up
9 - 9:30 a.m.	5K Fun Run and registration for children's 1 mile Fun Run
10 a.m.	Children's 1 mile Fun Run
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	CAP Glider static display
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Crafts and new products bazaar and Hawaii Military Vehicle Preservation Association display
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Games and ride midway
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.	Food booths
11 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Hone Depot Kids Clinic (sign up under the large tent; held hourly)
8:30 p.m.	Fireworks



## Entertainment Schedule

### Oceanic Stage Entertainment

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. MC Tony  
11 a.m. Welcome  
11:30 a.m. Tani Lynn  
11:45 a.m. Jordan Segundo  
12 p.m. Kaala Boys  
1:30 p.m. Road to Fame  
2 p.m. Da Braddahs  
2:30 p.m. Lisa Foiles  
3 p.m. Opihi Pickers

### Main Stage Entertainment

4 p.m. Flag Retreat and 25th ID(L) Band mini concert  
4:30 p.m. Tino and the Rhythm Klub  
5:45 p.m. Sandi Patty  
6:30 p.m. 25th ID(L) Band mini concert  
6:55 p.m. Grand Prize drawing  
7 p.m. Sandi Patty  
7:45 p.m. 25th ID(L) Band "1812 Overture"  
8 p.m. "The Flags We Follow"



The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes letters and commentaries from readers. To submit call the editor at 655-4816 or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The deadline for articles is the Friday prior to the week of publication. Send all articles in Microsoft Word or text format.

# OPINION & COMMENTARY

## Gimlets prepare for Transfer of Authority

### Commentary

1st Sgt. Robert Jennings

Co. A, 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq – “Information angel” update – It seems that Spc. Woolwine is continuing his prosthesis rehabilitation ahead of schedule. This is something that does not surprise those of us that know the “machine.” He’s gaining weight and is well on his way on the road to recovery.

We have not received any updates on any of the other Soldiers so we assume they are continuing with their rehabilitations also. Keep it up boys, you all seem to come up in daily conversation here and you’re missed by all of us.

This week we have been out in force and it seems to have paid off. We all have seen the news and know what is happening all over the country as we get closer to June 30. This is the day the interim government takes control of the country. Here in Kirkuk we have implemented our plan to counter any insurgencies. We all pray that we can transition with the new Iraqi Government as smoothly as possible.

One plan we have implemented is training a special police force to assume security of the Kirkuk Government Building (City Hall). These officers were hand picked by their police chiefs to represent their communities. You could say it’s the who’s-who of the police force. It seems the trend lately is for these insurgents to take control of city Government Buildings and Police Stations. They feel if they own them then they own the city. Over the past month we have had a special international police training team working with these selected officers. I along with other leaders here feel this has been a major deterrent for the insurgent forces we hear about around the country.

We ended the week with what I think has been the most significant event to date. The small village of Amu Shabi held free elections with the help of police and coalition forces. They elected their new Mukhtar. The Mukhtar is kind of like the mayor of the village. He is responsible for the right and wrong of everyone there. It is usually an elder that everyone looks up to. Their prior Mukhtar was a huge Bathist Party supporter and fled just as Kirkuk was falling to the Coalition. Since then they have not had proper leadership in the community.

They decided to do this election a few weeks ago and we have been working hand-in-hand with them in support. They told me about the last election when Saddam won with 100 percent of the vote. A person would knock on the door and ask them if they wanted to vote for Saddam, yes



1st Sgt. Robert Jennings

**Soldiers try to get some sleep prior to an early morning mission.**

or no. Then they were handed a ballot and were guided to circle yes.

The citizen that won was definitely the people’s choice. Out of six candidates he received 40 percent of the vote. The best part of this election is that it was not government sponsored. This was decided on by the people, they elected who they wanted to represent them, and now they have someone they can turn to for representation in the city. As far as anyone here knows, this was the first election of its kind. This is a huge step and just goes to show how much this country really wants to change.

This week, meet Pfc. Scott Kramer, an assistant M240 Machine Gunner for 1st Platoon. He is from Petaluma, Calif., and has been in the Army for 15 months. He also pulls duties as a rifleman for 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon when no machine gun is needed.

Kramer said that he thought this was going to be way different than it has been.

“I thought we would be living in tents or on the ground like we train. I never thought we would be living in the houses in the city,” Kramer said. “I think we’ve come a long way and so have the Iraqi forces we have been working with. You can definitely see the improvement.”

Kramer said the dangerous missions are the most enjoyable part of the deployment.

“When we receive an order and start rehearsals right away, I always get that huge adrenaline rush just as we are about to get on top of our objective.”

Conversely, he said working all the time has been the hardest part of the deployment.

“It seems you’re always on call to move so it’s hard to get comfortable and get good uninterrupted sleep. I don’t want to seem like I’m complaining because I’m not. I know we have a job to do here and if there was a difficult moment that would be it.”

(Editor’s note: Jennings is the first sergeant for Co. A, 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt., is currently deployed to Iraq with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team.)

## Old Glory deserves protection

### Commentary

Mario Mancuso

U.S. Army Reserve

Our plane landed on a secluded airfield, taxied briefly and slowly came to a halt in the night. When it was my turn to exit the aircraft, I hesitated, feeling anxious after spending many months overseas. Then suddenly, I saw an enormous American flag in the distance bathed in white light. Only then did my heart know that we were home.

For almost a year, I had the privilege of commanding American Soldiers in combat in Iraq. During the most difficult times, the flag reminded us of our mission’s purpose and gave us the strength to endure the war and our separation from loved ones. Though it is easy to forget in the comfort of our everyday lives back home, the flag can stir a love of country like no other symbol can.

I will never forget the sense of purpose I felt knowing there was a folded flag in the rucksack I carried from the moment I entered Iraq until the moment I came home. I will never forget the inspiration I drew from seeing the flag on the uniforms of young Soldiers of every race, every religion, and every part of America. And, I will never forget the dignity of the flag that hung solemnly at the memorial service we held for a National Guardsman – a husband, father and son – killed while serving his country in Najaf.

These are my personal stories, but they do not belong to me alone. They are part of a long, moving, and continuing narrative about our flag, and the special role it plays in our national life and in the lives of each citizen.

Throughout our history, and especially in times of war, national aspiration, and tragedy, the flag has reminded us that America belongs to each of us, and all of us to her. At home and abroad, the flag has been in the forefront of the struggle to protect our nation’s ideals and to extend their embrace.

When those courageous civil rights marchers in Selma wanted to remind

our country of its historic commitment to equal justice, they carried Old Glory. When those brave firemen wanted to reassure the nation that, despite our grief, America would endure, they raised the flag above the rubble of the World Trade Center. And when my immigrant parents fly a flag outside my childhood home in Queens, New York, they are saying “thank you” to America for letting them share in the American dream of freedom, hope and opportunity. Time and again – without fail – the flag has been there for the American people.

As the dearest symbol of our country’s history, independence, union and ideals, I believe the flag merits special honor and protection. This summer, the U.S. Senate will vote on a carefully written Flag Protection Amendment that would do just that. This vote is absolutely critical to the effort to secure the legal protection Old Glory needs and deserves, and which the overwhelming majority of the American people support. If the amendment passes-and it can, with your help-the amendment will go to each State for final approval.

Though some patriotic Americans raise important questions about the amendment, flag protection has a long and principled history in our country. Flag protection is strongly supported by over 200 years of legal tradition, the judgment of our Founding Fathers, and the view of numerous civil libertarians, constitutional scholars, and former and present members of the Supreme Court, including Justices Earl Warren, Harry Blackmun, and John Paul Stevens. Most important, it is just the right thing to do.

I will always be grateful for the privilege of serving our country in its time of need. Today, wherever you are, you can do the same. By calling your U.S. Senators and strongly urging them to vote for Senate Joint Resolution 4, the Flag Protection Amendment, you can add your voice to the millions of Americans who believe that the flag merits constitutional protection. The time is now.

(Editor’s note: Mancuso is an Army Reservist who commanded an Army Special Operations detachment in Iraq. For more information on protecting the flag go to [www.cfa-inc.org](http://www.cfa-inc.org) and [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).)

## Voices of Lightning

What does the 4th of July mean to you?



"It's a day to take pride. Every day guys are dying for our freedoms."

Staff Sgt.  
**Mohammed Z. Badal**  
84th Engineer Battalion  
Squad Leader



"It means you have freedom to do as you want and for all the people who fought for it and got us here."

**Theresa Cutchins**  
Family Member



"I'm proud of my dad for fighting for our freedom."

**Vanessa Lemasters**  
Family Member



"It means I'm proud to be an American."

**Brittany Mitchell**  
Family Member



"It means freedom. It means all the things we have done in the past to get where we are today."

**Pvt. 2 David A. Stanley**  
2nd Bn., 11th Field  
Artillery Rgt.  
Cannon Crew Member



"It's the day we got our independence from England."

**Bud Williams**  
Retired Navy

The Hawaii Army Weekly is an authorized newspaper and is published in the interest of the U.S. Army community in Hawaii.

All editorial content of the Hawaii Army Weekly is the responsibility of the U.S. Army, Hawaii Public Affairs Office, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii 96857. Contents of the Hawaii Army Weekly are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army.

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## HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

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The Hawaii Army Weekly is published weekly using the offset method of reproduction and has a printed circulation of 15,300.

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# 45th CSG (F) welcomes new commander

By Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen  
*Editor*

Col. Stanley Q. Tunstall Sr. replaced Col. Dave McKenna as the commander of the 45th Corps Support Group (Forward) during a change of command ceremony June 24 at Schofield Barracks.

McKenna commanded the 45th CSG (F) since June 2002. He will stay at Schofield Barracks as the commander of U.S. Army, Hawaii, where he assumed duties on May 15.

McKenna noted how every day during the past two years a Soldier from the 45th CSG (F) has been deployed in harm's way or in support of the nation's security cooperation programs.

"If you needed one phrase to capture the true essence of this organization over the past two years, it might be, 'they have been deployed there and they have done that,'" he said.

Concluding his remarks, McKenna paid tribute to Staff Sgt. Oscar Medina and Spc. Ramon Ojeda, Soldiers from the 84th Engineer Battalion who were killed in action May 1 while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lt. Gen. James Campbell, commander of U.S. Army Pacific, served as reviewing officer for the ceremony and said McKenna has stood out to him as a humble and a selfless servant.

"When the warning orders started to flow to the Army in the Pacific that would ultimately deploy the young warriors of this division to Iraq and Afghanistan, it was Dave McKenna who put aside his strong personal desires that we all share to be part of the deploying force," he said. "But instead, he mustered his team and he



Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen

**Outgoing commander Col. Dave McKenna, commander of troops Lt. Col. Patricia Matlock, and incoming commander Col. Stanley Tunstall inspect the troops during the 45th CSG(F) change of command ceremony June 24 at Schofield Barracks.**

gave them clear directions that mission number one would be to support the deploying Soldiers and their families and that would be non-negotiable. Without fanfare and working behind the scenes, he and his superb professionals within the group have done exactly

that." Although the group is saying farewell to a great leader, Campbell said Tunstall is bringing a lot with him as he assumes command.

"To the Soldiers and the civilians of the 45th Corps Support Group, Colonel Tunstall brings to you a true

mission focus, technical and tactical proficiency, and above all, a true love for Soldiers," Campbell said.

Tunstall, a native of Fayetteville, N.C., most recently served in the Pentagon in the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Technology

Security Policy and Counter Proliferation. He holds a bachelor's degree in zoology from the University of Georgia and master's degrees from the University of Southern California, Florida Institute of Technology and the Naval War College.

In his remarks, Tunstall thanked his wife, Claudine, with whom he celebrated his 24th wedding anniversary the previous day.

"This is not just a special day for me, it's special for my family because they have given a lot for me to be here today," he said.

## Iraq transfer

From A-1

the looters," Bremer said. "There was not a single policeman on duty in the entire city. Not in Baghdad, not in Basra, not anywhere in the country. We were producing 300 megawatts of electricity in the entire country. A lot has gotten better."

Iraq now has 100,000 police officers on duty across the country, Bremer said.

"There are not enough yet in Baghdad," he added. "Schools and clinics and hospitals have been reopened, though much has to be done to improve health care in Baghdad and in the country."

The now ex-administrator expressed optimism to the council members for Iraq's future.

"I am very confident that Iraq in fact will get through this process of political development and will wind up as a beacon for countries in the region as Iraq has so often been in its very long 5,000-year history," he said. "The reason I'm confident is because of people like you, people all over the country who are willing to take up the job and the responsibility for Iraq, because the most important thing that happens when sovereignty returns to the Iraqi government is responsibility returns to

the Iraqi people."

Bremer assured the Iraqi leaders that they won't have to go it alone. "We will still be here to help you," he said. "The multinational forces will still be here to help with security until the Iraqi forces are able on their own to deal with security. The American government will be here in the form of a very large American Embassy, which will help work with Iraqis to oversee the reconstruction projects which are now beginning already to make an impact on the Iraqi economy."

The United States will spend almost \$19 billion in Iraq over the next 15 to 18 months, Bremer said, much of it on rebuilding of old infrastructure like electricity, water and sewage systems.

Another transfer took place earlier, as all five Iraqi armed forces recruiting centers formally were placed under the Iraqi defense ministry. The ceremony was conducted on a 227-applicant recruiting day – a single-day high for June, officials said.

The transfer was largely a formality, officials added, as the recruiting efforts at the country's stations in Baghdad, Basrah, Mosul, Sulaymaniyah and Irbil have been almost entirely Iraqi-run for nearly two months.

and help the people of the Tarin Kowt bowl," said McKenzie. Tarin Kowt is the provincial capital of Oruzgan.

McKenzie also stressed that it will take continued aggressive efforts to keep the region safe.

That sounds good to Sellers, who said, "We have several great missions and look forward to executing

them to a high standard."

In addition to the 2nd Bn., 5th Inf. Rgt., Task Force Linebacker consists of the 22nd MEU (SOC)'s command element, Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 6th Marines, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 266 (Reinforced) and MEU Service Support Group 22.

## Kirkuk Air Base

From A-1

toward the Transfer of Sovereignty is a visit to Kirkuk and the province of Kirkuk," Ghazi said. "Kirkuk is a special place, especially here in Iraq."

Ghazi then went on to discuss the importance of Kirkuk's many ethnicities.

"Kirkuk is the destiny and faith of Iraq.



Spc. Sean Kimmons

**Iraqi Interim President Ghazi al-Yawar speaks to Kirkuk Provincial Council members and 2nd BCT leaders on Kirkuk Air Base June 22.**

If we can, and I'm sure we will, survive and live among each other in Kirkuk, all of Iraq will do the same," Ghazi said.

Following Ghazi, Bremer spoke to the crowd that also included 2nd BCT and Coalition Provincial Authority leaders, and local and international media.

"I've been in Iraq now more than a year and I have been to Kirkuk many times," Bremer said. "All of Iraq's people are here – Kurds, Arabs, Turkomen, Christians, and all of the others that make up Iraq's rich human [populace]."

Bremer again emphasized the importance for Kirkuk's populace to work as one, which he told directly to the multi-ethnic Kirkuk Provincial Council.

"Kirkuk ... as much as any other place in Iraq has vast potential. You, the people of Kirkuk, are its greatest asset," Bremer said. "You understand that you all need each other and that you all need Kirkuk."

Bremer also announced the establishment of the Kirkuk Foundation, which will have an initial endowment of \$100 million from the Iraqi budget. The foundation will help set the conditions for long-term peace and stability in the province of Kirkuk. It will also bring community and political leaders together to develop a common vision for the province, Bremer added.

Bremer concluded his remarks with hope for a successful new Iraq.

"I wish each of you – all of Kirkuk and all Iraqis – a future of hope, a future of freedom, peace and prosperity," Bremer said.

Bremer left Iraq Monday, after the transfer of political power to the interim government. He has been replaced by Ambassador John Negroponte, who will serve as the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq.

## Bobcats

From A-1

exponentially in Linebacker's area of operations, there is much work remaining in both the combat and the civil-military arenas.

"I believe conditions are ripe for [non-governmental organizations] to come in



Briefs

**Community Center Grand Openings** – All families in U.S. Army, Hawaii family housing are invited to the grand openings of 13 community centers for military families. The openings will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at your nearest community center. Come out and meet the people who will be taking care of your communities. Ask them questions, eat and have fun.

**American Red Cross Medical Assistant Program** – The purpose of the program is to provide selected student volunteers with knowledge and hands on training to competently assist in medical office procedures and potentially compete successfully for employment. This is not a certification program. Applications will be released and accepted from through July 16. Applicants should have two letters of recommendation included with application. Applications will be available at the Red Cross Office located on the third floor of the Aloha Center, Bldg. 690 on Schofield Barracks. Applicant must be at least 18 years old; possess a valid military ID card and be entitled to Tri-Care Health Benefits; be willing to participate in all learning activities to include rotations through all clinic areas along with introduction to phlebotomy; have at least eight months remaining on the island at the beginning of the course; and successfully complete CPR for the professional rescuer. Training will begin in September and end in March. This program requires a significant amount of volunteer hours and a serious commitment to the staff and patients at the Schofield

Barracks Medical Clinic. For more information, call 655-4927.

**MLS Soccer Camp** – Hickam/Pearl Harbor American Youth Organization is sponsoring a summer soccer camp by Major League Soccer Camps from July 12-16 on Hickam Air Force Base. Registration is open to boys and girls ages 5-18. Session times and fees vary by age. Go to [www.aysoregion188.org](http://www.aysoregion188.org) for more details and to register on-line. For more information, call 834-5645 or e-mail [smithn013@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:smithn013@hawaii.rr.com).

**AYSO Fall Youth Soccer Registration** – American Youth Soccer Organization Hickam/Pearl Harbor Region 188 will hold the final registration for fall youth soccer on July 31 from 2-6 p.m. at the Hickam Air Force Base BXtra. Registration is open to boys and girls ages 4-18. Season runs August through early November. Registration fee is \$55. Proof of age required for first time registrants. Pre-register Online at [www.aysoregion188.org](http://www.aysoregion188.org). For more information, call 834-5979 or e-mail [registrar@aysoregion188.org](mailto:registrar@aysoregion188.org).

**FBI Recruitment** – Learn about careers in the Federal Bureau of Investigation by attending a career seminar from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. July 16 at the Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Support Center, Bldg. 193, Rom 205. To make reservations, call the center at 473-4222. For more information on future seminars, call Special Agent Kal Wong at 566-4488.

**Vacation Bible School** - Lava Lava Island - Where Jesus' Love Flows will be held July 19 - 23 from 9 a.m. to noon each day. Join us for a fun-filled week learning

Sears Portrait Studio customers thank troops with Scrapbooks project

To demonstrate the heartfelt appreciation that America's families have for U.S. troops stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan and other parts of the world, Sears Portrait Studio is creating hundreds of hometown scrapbooks featuring portraits of customers, families and friends. Scrapbooks will be distributed for Thanksgiving to troops in all branches serving overseas.

Free studio sessions and four free 3x5 portraits of one pose are being offered from July 17 through July 23 to consumers who want their portrait included in a scrapbook and specifically mention the "Thank Our Troops" scrapbook project. The offer is available at all of the more than 900 portrait studios in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

After July 23, every customer who makes a purchase through Aug. 15 also will receive four free 3x5 portraits of one pose by mentioning the "Thank Our Troops" scrapbook project. A studio locator is available at [www.searsportrait.com](http://www.searsportrait.com).

Customers can contribute one of their 3x5 portraits for the scrapbook and write a short message to appear alongside their portrait. Portraits of children, adults, families, or small groups of up to 12 people will be available by appointment and walk-in.

**Military Family Special** – As an additional "thank you" to troops and their families in the U.S., Sears Portrait Studio is offering free portrait sessions and 20 percent off all in-studio and online portrait purchases through Dec. 31 to customers who show their military ID at the portrait session.

about Jesus' love. There will be Bible studies, music, drama, crafts and snacks. Children 4 years - just finished 6th grade may participate in this week of activities. To register, come to the AMR Chapel anytime and fill out a registration form. The VBS registration table is on the downstairs lanai (there are signs leading the way) and has directions posted. For more information, call 833-8175. The Chapel is located at 1790 Bougainvillea Loop on Aliamanu Military Reservation. Teenage and adult volunteers are still needed at this time. There will be a Crew Leader Training July 14 from 1:30 - 4 p.m. at the chapel. We will provide child care during VBS for the volunteers' children. Children must be registered with the STACC Site Office. Call 833-5393 for more information.

**Apheresis Center Open** – The Schofield Barracks Apheresis Center, located in Bldg. 679, is open for collections. Apheresis (cell separation) is a specialized automated blood collection method. The center is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and appointments can be made by calling 433-8810/6195. Contact the Apheresis Center for more information, a demonstration or to schedule an appointment. The Tripler Army Medical Center Mobile Team visits the center on select Fridays to collect whole blood donations. Contact the center for dates and times.

**OCS Selection Board** – The September 2004 Department of the Army Officer Candidate School Board has been cancelled. The next HQDA OCS Selection Board is scheduled to convene the week of Jan. 24, 2005. Soldiers who wish to be considered by this selection board must submit their applications through command channels to Military Personnel Division, DA Boards Section, Trailer #14, Room 4, (located on Ayers Avenue) Schofield Barracks between Nov. 1 and 18. The Installation Structured Interview Panel will convene Dec. 6 to interview qualified applicants. Specific interview dates, times and location will be provided to individual applicants. Eligibility criteria and application procedures are outlined in AR 350-51. The education requirement to apply for OCS is a minimum of 90 semester hours and verified by the Education Center. For Soldiers who do not possess a baccalaureate degree, a Scholastic Aptitude Test (850 or higher) or American College Test (19 or higher) not older than 6 years is required. Soldiers without a secret security clearance must provide a memorandum signed by the Division Security Officer stating a secret security investigation has been received and initiated by Defense Security Service. If interested in applying for OCS, provide original and three copies of completed application packet to our office by Nov. 18. An OCS information packet can be picked up at Trailer #14, Room 4. For more information, call Nan Lucero at 655-4511 or Corinne Queja at 655-1845.

**Thrift Shop Closure** – The Hui O' Na Wahine Thrift

Shop on Schofield Barracks will be closed for cleaning during July. It will reopen Aug. 3 and will resume its Tuesday and Thursday schedule. The Thrift Shop is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and the first Saturday of the month. Consignments are accepted from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 624-3254.

**EFMP Summer Pool Parties** – Exceptional Family Member Program families from all services are invited to attend a free summer fun program designed to meet their special needs. Army Community Service EFMP will be hosting an afternoon of fun at the AMR pool from 1 to 5 p.m. July 16, and at Schofield Barracks pool from noon to 4 p.m. Aug. 14. Hot dogs, salads, ice cream, shaved ice, pinatas and much more will be available. EFMP enrollment and advanced registration is required. Reservations must be made through your service's EFMP coordinator by July 12 for the AMR party, and Aug. 9 for the Schofield Barracks party. Army EFMP families must call 655-2303 or 655-2324 for reservations. For more information, call the Army EFMP manager at 655-2303.

**OIF/OEF apparel and memorabilia** – AAFES-Schofield Barracks Main Exchange is now offering official OIF and OEF apparel and memorabilia of the 25th Infantry Division (Light). Selection includes T-shirts, hats, stickers, flags, pins, yellow ribbon car magnets, mouse pads, playing cards and more. Support our men and women of the 25th ID (LI) and Schofield Barracks and shop the Schofield Main Exchange. It is open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. For

Counsel outlines political limits for Army personnel

By Courtney Hickson  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – As the 2004 election draws closer, Soldiers and Army employees face restrictions on political activities different from those, which apply to the general public. Violating those restrictions could result in termination of employment or other penalties, officials said.

Federal and state employees fall under the guidelines of the Hatch Act and its amendments. Political restrictions for Soldiers are detailed in AR600-20.

"The statutory and regulatory guidance pertaining to the political activities of Soldiers and government employees is difficult to summarize in a short news article," said Maj. John Muehlheuser from the General Law Branch, Administrative Law Division, Office of The Judge Advocate General. He emphasized that all Soldiers and government employees should consult the statutes and regulations applicable to their specific situation before participating in political activities.

Legal restrictions are placed upon Department of Defense personnel because they are public servants. Also, there is a long-standing DoD policy that DoD personnel acting in their official capacity may not engage in activities that associate DoD with any partisan political campaign or election, candidate, cause or issue.

Among other restrictions, federal employees may not solicit or receive political contributions or engage in political activity while on duty in a government office, while wearing an official uniform or driving a government vehicle.

Additionally, many federal and state employees are not permitted to run in a partisan election. According to the Office of the Special Counsel Web site, the process for running for this type of election begins when the candidate begins to collect signatures, schedules fundraisers, files a nominating petition, makes an announcement to the press or puts a campaign committee together.

Under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-20, paragraph 5-3, a Soldier on active duty may not

participate in partisan political management, campaigns, or conventions, including the solicitation of votes or political contributions for a particular candidate or issue.

Muehlheuser said changes in the duty status of National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers change the rules applicable to their political activities. For example, Soldiers ordered to extended active duty must adhere to additional restrictions on political activities. Muehlheuser said requests for guidance on political activities issues have been more prevalent over the last year or two as a result of mobilizations to help fight the Global War on Terrorism.

"This office will prosecute Hatch Act violations in an even-handed and vigorous fashion," in a press release, Special Counsel Scott J. Bloch stated. "As we enter the 2004 national election cycle, it is important for federal employees to be well aware of the prohibitions on partisan candidacy, coercion of partisan support and political activity while on the job."

While the Hatch Act applies to federal employees, an employee's

conduct is also subject to the laws of the state and the regulations of the employing agency.

The Army Materiel Command Web site states while on active duty, a Soldier may do the following:

- Register, vote, and express a personal opinion on political candidates and issues as a private citizen, but not as a representative of the Armed Forces;
- Promote and encourage other Soldiers to exercise their voting franchise so long as it does not constitute an attempt to influence or interfere with the outcome of an election;
- Join a political club and attend its meetings when not in uniform;
- Serve as an election official if such service is not as a representative of a partisan political party, does not interfere with military duties, is performed while out of uniform, and has the approval of the installation commander;
- Sign a petition for specific legislative action or a petition to place a candidate's name on an official election ballot so long as the signing does not obligate the Soldier to

engage in partisan political activity and is done as a private citizen and not as a representative of the Armed Forces;

- Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing the Soldier's personal views on public issues or political candidates, if such action is not part of an organized letter-writing campaign or concerted solicitation of votes for or against a political party or partisan political cause or candidate;
- Make monetary contributions to a political organization, party or committee favoring a particular candidate or slate of candidates subject to statutory dollar limitations;
- Display a political sticker on the Soldier's private vehicle.

Government employees with questions regarding the propriety of prospective political activities, or concerns about possible violations, can contact the Hatch Act Hotline at the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, (800) 854-2824 or e-mail: [HATCHACT@OSC.GOV](mailto:HATCHACT@OSC.GOV) or [www.osc.gov](http://www.osc.gov). Members of the Army may also contact their installation legal office for assistance.



# Lightning Attack patrols Baghdad skies

By Capt. Brian Davis  
1st Bn., 25th Aviation Rgt.

CAMP COOKE, Iraq – The best feeling for a ground Soldier patrolling in Baghdad is the overhead cover provided by a team of OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopters.

"The Kiowa Warriors make us feel secure. We know we can count on them 24 hours a day to be there if we get into trouble" said Spc. Juan Castro, a M2 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle gunner from HHC, 2nd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment.

Daily in Baghdad, aviators from the 1st Battalion (Attack), 25th Aviation Regiment conduct 24-hour combat operations in support of ground units from the 1st Cavalry Division. Since deploying in January from Wheeler Army Airfield, aviators from Lightning Attack have flown more than 2,000 missions in support of coalition forces engaged with maintaining stability in the Baghdad area.

Initially, the battalion was attached to the 1st Armored Division and based at Baghdad International Airport. In March, the battalion moved to its current location of Camp Cooke, north of Baghdad. In April, it was attached to the 1st Cavalry Division from Fort Hood, Texas.

"Our primary focus is conducting reconnaissance, security and close combat attacks to enable the 1st Cavalry Division to maintain a stable and secure environment in Baghdad for the transition to the Interim Iraqi Government," said Lt. Col. Michael Lundy, who took over as the battalion commander after his deployment to Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division.

A typical day starts well before takeoff time for the battalion's air crews. Withstanding the 110-degree heat, they start by reporting to the Tactical Operations Center where they receive a battle update on the current enemy threat and a friendly situation brief on what operations ground units are conducting in their areas. These briefings are very detailed and provide the air crews with the necessary enemy and friendly situational awareness to ensure they can accomplish their missions.

The aviators are well equipped to fly and survive on the battlefield. Prior to deployment the unit received Second Chance Body Armor, Individual Global Positioning Systems, and the latest generation Aviation Night Vision System Night Vision Goggles the Army has to offer.

"The 25th ID staff and agencies were aggressive in acquiring all of the items that we needed for Iraq. We were able to get the pilots and Soldiers all of the essential equipment they needed prior to deployment" said Capt. Brant Kananen, the battalion supply officer.

The pilots were also issued M-4 rifles, which replaced their M-16s. These lightweight and collapsible rifles fit easily into the cockpit and offer more protection if the aircraft is forced down in a hostile area.

"The M-4 and the Second Chance Body Armor provided me great confidence after my aircraft was forced down by



Chief Warrant Officer Chris Wilson

**As the sun rises over Baghdad, 1st Lt. Matt Sun and Chief Warrant Officer Pete Horton, both of 1st Bn. (Attack), 25th Aviation Rgt., conduct a mission in an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter.**



Chief Warrant Officer Pete Mansoor

**An OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter from 1st Bn. (Attack), 25th Aviation Rgt. patrols the outskirts of Baghdad.**

enemy machine gun fire in the middle of an area of heavy enemy activity," said Chief Warrant Officer Jason Ray. Ray and Chief Warrant Officer Cody Sharp were both wounded in action while conducting a mission to protect a small coalition patrol base on the outskirts of Baghdad that was in danger of being over run by anti-Iraqi forces in early April.

Although severely wounded, both crew members successfully landed their disabled aircraft and evaded enemy capture by successfully linking up with friendly forces on the ground. For their actions, Ray and Sharp have been recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Army's highest award for gallantry and heroism in aerial flight.

"This is just one example of many valorous missions conducted by the battalion's aviators over the previous months," Lundy said.

Usually after a quick meal the pilots are met by a crew chief who hands them a logbook to the aircraft, and pre-flight begins.

"Our line company crew chiefs and the aircraft maintainers from Company D are utterly amazing; they have done over a year's worth of

maintenance in a quarter of the time," said 1st Lt. Matt Sun, a Platoon Leader from Co. A, 1-25 Avn.

Due to the dedication and hard work of these outstanding Soldiers, the battalion has set new records on the number of hours flown, missions executed and aircraft readiness rates. The battalion has flown more than 9,700 hours during its first four months in country, nearly twice what was flown all of last year.

"Every day, 24 hours a day, I know I can count on our maintainers to make sure we have aircraft available to accomplish all of our assigned missions," said Capt. Heather Bellusci, commander of the battalion's Aviation Maintenance Company.

Because there are less aircraft than there were for OIF I, the battalion has had to maintain the highest OPTEMPO of any aviation unit since the start of the conflict.

Flying in Iraq is challenging, and pilots have to be proficient in all modes of flight. Most operations are conducted at "nap of the earth." Survivability of the aircraft is paramount to maintain stealth and gain good reconnaissance of the area.

"Back in Hawaii flying was

for training. In Iraq, it is the real deal. It only takes one bad guy to ruin your day, so we fly low and fast to avoid our exposure en route to the objective area," said Chief Warrant Officer Pete Mansoor, an aviator from HHC, 1-25 Avn.

On arrival to the objective area, the Air Mission Commander conducts a check in brief over the radio with the unit on the ground to gain situational awareness and any updates to their mission.

One recent mission was in support of a ground cavalry squadron from the 1st Cavalry Division. The "Regulators" of Co. A, 1-25 Avn., were conducting zone reconnaissance to locate and defeat enemy forces operating in the vicinity of Camp Cooke, a former Iraqi Military Base that is now home to the Soldiers of 1-25 Avn., as well as several other units.

Patrolling the skies around Camp Cooke, in conjunction with maintaining a close working relationship with ground maneuver units prevents the enemy from threatening the day-to-day operations of the base.

"Our cooperative relationship is phenomenal and unprecedented. It is the best air to ground relationship that I have ever known since being in the service," said Maj. Randall Wickman, S-3

for TF 2-7 Cavalry.

Throughout the remainder of the day and well into the night, the battalion conducted several combat operations in the Baghdad area. That night, the other two attack companies in the battalion also had full mission schedules.

The "Ghostriders" of Co. B, 1-25 Avn. conducted several complex operations in support of one of the ground maneuver brigade's reconnaissance troops as they conducted reconnaissance to locate enemy forces.

"This mission denies the enemy the ability to have sanctuary to plan and conduct attacks from," said Capt. Brian Watkins, commander of Co. B, 1-25 Avn. "The area we are conducting this mission in has been a hot bed of enemy activity and the battalion's OH-58D teams have been instrumental in disrupting enemy operations and not allowing them to influence many of the most important areas of the city."

The battalion's third attack company, the "Outlaws" of Co. C, 1-25 Avn., also conducted a critical mission, providing security in the vicinity of the international airport and surrounding areas.

The responsive and agile aviation operations they provide for the ground unit at the

airport as well as to the strategic air assets of the Air Force ensure that Baghdad International, as well as key logistical functions remain secure.

When the crews near the end of their mission day, their last stop is the forward arming refuel point. They are met by a small team of Soldiers who are attached to the battalion from the 25th Aviation Brigade's Headquarters Company. These Soldiers are known as the "three-five" platoon, and it's their job to load up the helicopters with all of the ammunition and fuel they can take, and they do it in a matter of minutes.

"It's like pulling into a full service gas station and getting some ammo while you are there," said Staff Sgt. Oliva, the III/V platoon sergeant. "We know the battalion counts on us 24 hours a day to quickly get the aircraft back into the fight."

Long hours of aircraft maintenance and multiple daily missions under extremely demanding and dangerous conditions characterize the typical days of Soldiers of the Attack battalion. The battalion's aviators and maintainers have achieved many feats thought impossible before the unit's deployment.



# Iraqi Security Forces in Kirkuk receive new vehicles

Spc. Sean Kimmons  
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

KIRKUK, Iraq – Shortly before the transition of sovereignty, the Coalition Provincial Authority and 2nd Brigade Combat Team donated 55 new vehicles to Iraqi Security Forces June 26 to improve security throughout the Kirkuk Province.

The sport utility vehicles and pick-up trucks will be used by Iraqi Police and Iraqi National Guard – previously known as Iraqi Civil Defense Corps – units during their daily missions within 2nd BCT’s area of operations.

A larger vehicle force means a bigger presence from Iraqi Security Forces in this area, which is needed as insurgent activities have flared up recently throughout Iraq.

“They allow the Iraqi Police to be more visible,” Capt. Quan Nguyen, the Iraqi Police liaison for 2nd BCT, said about the new vehicles. “To have them out and about will give Iraqi people a better sense of security and it will also deter criminals from acting up.”

The Iraqi National Guard will be more effective with the new vehicles as well, by being able to deploy to situations where they’re needed and patrolling for IEDs [Improvised Explosive Devices].

“We are going to be out there more [often] and we will need more transportation,” said Maj. Khalil Kamal, an officer with the 208th Iraqi National Guard. “Our patrols are going to be active and these vehicles will help [ease] the problems we had before.”

Gen. Anwar Hamed Amin, Iraqi National Guard chief of Kirkuk, said the new vehicles will “help us through our patrols, check points and transportation movements.”

Capt. Karl Hatala, the Iraqi National Guard liaison for 2nd BCT, said because of



Spc. Sean kimmons  
**Iraqi Police officers from Sulaymaniyah spray paint their emblem on one of their new vehicles June 26.**

their enhanced capabilities, the ING will help this area become safer for everyone.

The vehicles “will enable them to provide security along the routes between the cities and work toward making Iraq a safer place for themselves, their families and their neighbors,” Hatala said.

The Iraqi National Guard received 24 vehicles to secure areas outside city limits while the Iraqi Police obtained 31 to protect the cities.

“The Iraqi Police continues to work diligently to improve the safety and security for [Iraqi] citizens,” said Capt. Timothy Mungie, Iraqi Police liaison for Task Force 1-21 Infantry. “Patrols are conducted continuously as the police endeavor to stop those who would disrupt the peaceful way of life.

“These vehicles are a gift from the Coalition and will assist in that effort,” Mungie added.

Not only will the vehicles assist the Iraqi Security Forces, but also 2nd BCT Soldiers.

“They’re alleviating the stress of our Soldiers by putting more [Iraqi Security Forces] between us and the



Spc. Sean kimmons  
**Rewbar Abdulah Mahmud from the 208th Iraqi National Guard, provides security from the top of a building overlooking the new vehicles that were donated by the CPA and 2nd BCT June 26.**

Iraqi civilians,” Nguyen said.

Pfc. Josh Ivy, a signal support systems specialist with Headquarters and

Headquarters Company, 2nd BCT, resides on Kirkuk Air Base and believes the donations will assist the Iraqi Security Forces in defeating

insurgents.

“I think the new vehicles will give them the upper hand on insurgency, since they’ll be more mobile than

they used to be,” Ivy said.

“Now we can rely on the Iraqi Security Forces to ‘get our backs’ because of their added transportation.”

# Army announces modularization schedule

## 25th ID (L) scheduled to convert to the new modular force in 2006

By Joe Burlas  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Now that the 3rd Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart, Ga., has reset into the first modular combat force – growing from three brigade combat teams to four – the Army is readying to modularize other divisions that will be reconstituting after operations in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Speaking on background to members of the Pentagon press corps June 22, a senior Army official announced the schedule to convert the nine other divisions to modular brigade-plus sized units of action through fiscal year 2007.

The 101st Airborne Division, based at Fort Campbell, Ky., will convert this fiscal year.

In FY05, the 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colo., and the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y., will reset into a modular force.

In FY06, the 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, the 25th Infantry Division (Light), and the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., will convert.

Pending funding and approval by the Department of Defense, the Army plans to modularize the remaining three divisions – the 2nd Infantry Division, South Korea; First Infantry Division, Wurzburg, Germany; and the First Armored Division, Wiesbaden, Germany – in FY07.

Funding has already been secured for the first seven division conversions, including the 3rd Infantry Division, through the Army’s operation account and emergency supplemental bill passed by Congress.

The Army National Guard will also modularize its brigade combat teams into more robust units of action, starting with three brigades next year, the senior Army official said.

An additional six National Guard brigade conversions are planned each year FY06-10.

The FY07-10 National Guard modularization schedule is also pending DoD approval and appropriate funding.

The modularization will rely heavily on the Training and Doctrine Command as modularization will impact some 100,000 positions, many requiring Cold Soldiers in less needed Cold War formations like field artillery and air defense brigades to retrain for positions in more demand today.

That demand is for more infantrymen, military police, civil affairs specialists and truck drivers, the official said.

The official called the Army’s resetting and restructuring efforts the most massive change the Army has seen in 50 years, but will ultimately create an Army with a deeper pool of units to deploy for the global war on terror. That deeper pool could eventually mean shorter unit deployments – six or nine months rotations, he said.

This is about resetting the Army for continuous

operations, not contingency operations, the official said.

In addition to moving artillery, military intelligence and other combat support and combat service support assets normally found at division or above

level down to units of action, modularization also beefs up the number of combat troops compared to most Cold War structured brigades.

“We have a plan and we’re moving out,” the offi-

cial said, referring to the Army Campaign Plan that has established strategic guidance, priorities and goals for transforming the Army into a more effective and efficient force in the global war of terrorism.



# K-9s enhance Bagram force protection efforts

By Staff Sgt. Monica R. Garreau  
17th Public Affairs Det.

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Man’s best friend is playing a new role in Operation Enduring Freedom. Several K-9s, or military working dogs, are serving in Afghanistan, adding to the force protection efforts of the military police charged with safeguarding Coalition assets.

The K-9s are trained to detect multiple types of explosives including det cord, C-4, TNT, potassium and sodium chlorate. These highly trained dogs, and their handlers, are tasked with checking for explosives on vehicles and personnel trying to enter Bagram Air Field.

“Anything coming through the gate is checked by the dogs,” said Staff Sgt. Orm Jenkins, kennel master and military working dog liaison for the 58th Military Police Company.

Using a series of commands, the handler and dog team thoroughly inspect each vehicle bringing supplies and services to Bagram and other parts of the country.

The dogs play a vital role in protecting the base by searching all of the supplies entering the base.

And the Military Police who man the gates appreciate the added force protection benefit with the dogs being on site.

“The dogs are really a great addition to what we’re doing out here,” said Pfc. Bertram Johnson, a military policeman attached to the 551st MP Company. “The trucks go through the X-ray machine, but there’s always that ‘what if,’ and the dogs take away that ‘what if.’”

That “what if” came into play during a recent vehicle inspection when Jenkins’ dog, Wilson, responded to the scent of explosives on a dump truck. Although the explosive ordinance detachment determined the dog must have picked up on explosive residue and there were no explosives on the vehicle, it was turned away from Bagram.

These measures prove that it is better to be safe than risk the lives of Coalition troops and the dogs are an important part of safeguarding these troops.



Staff Sgt. Monica R. Garreau

**Sgt. Grady Bentley, 58th MP Co. explosive dog handler, instructs Britt to search a cement truck for explosives prior to the truck entering Bagram Air Field June 16. The K-9s serve as an addition to the force protection efforts conducted daily by MPs. They are also trained to participate in combat patrols.**

Although the current mission is focused on force protection, the dogs are also trained to accompany Coalition troops on combat patrols. The dogs have sniffed out weapons caches and are a form of non-lethal force useful on the battlefield, said Jenkins. There is also one dog trained specifically to search for narcotics.

These animals are the best choice for all of these types of operations because of their sensitive noses, giving them a strong sense of smell.

“(Imagine if you were to) walk into a room and smell a pot of stew cooking,” Jenkins said. “Humans, just smell the stew. A dog smells each individual item cooking – the carrots, the onion, the salt and pepper.”

When searching for explosives or narcotics, the dogs are very mission-focused, paying close attention to the handler’s

instructions, sticking close to the intensive training they have received. But off-duty, they resemble any other dog, serving as their handler’s best friend.

“The rapport with all our handlers and dogs is real tight,” Jenkins said.

Being deployed has brought the handler and dog teams even closer, since the handlers live next to the kennels. Jenkins said handlers sometimes bring their dogs into their hooch to sleep at night, keeping the bond even closer.

Although the presence of the dogs will prove invaluable if an explosive is found being smuggled on to Bagram Air Field, they continue to serve as a deterrent to would-be terrorists.

“Just with them knowing we’re here and seeing the dogs here,” said Jenkins. “It’s one more obstacle that a terrorist has to overcome.”

# Task Force Thunder takes over ‘Stonewall’ mission in Afghanistan

By Spc. Daniel P. Kelly  
CJTF-76 Public Affairs Office

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Division Artillery replaced Combined Joint Task Force Stonewall during a Transfer of Authority ceremony here June 29.

Col. Gary H. Cheek, DIVARTY commander, assumed command CTF Thunder and an area of operations important to the War on Terror and reconstruction in Afghanistan. He said they are ready for the unprecedented mission.

“I can say without a shadow of a doubt that the Thunder Brigade is ready,” Cheek said. “We are committed to our mission. We’re thankful for the opportunity to serve our nation by helping

the Afghan people rebuild their country, secure it from insurgent threats and prevent it from terrorist threats upon their territory. We want to be part of the future of this wonderful nation.”

CTF Stonewall was established on March 28, 2004, and during its mission captured 34 anti-coalition members, destroyed 51 various weapons caches, completed 47 reconstruction projects worth \$900,000 and are currently working 185 reconstruction projects worth \$6.3 million, as well as 37 other projects worth \$40 million.

Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commander of the 25th ID (L) and Combined Joint Task Force 76, spoke at the ceremony, and said CTF Stonewall was responsible for bringing peace to the eastern side of the country.

“It is in the reconstruction arena, perhaps, that you have forged your greatest victories,” Olson said about CTF Stonewall. Olson said the Provincial Reconstruction Teams run by CTF Stonewall are the best in Afghanistan.

“The long-term effects of these PRTs are literally going to be felt for decades,” Olson said.

Olson addressed Soldiers of CTF Thunder, and said the road ahead is a tough one.

“Over the course of the next months, there are going to be decisions made and changes undertaken that will be historic in proportions,” he said.

With CTF Stonewall’s motto, “The road to success is always under construction,” CTF Thunder will continue to improve life for the people of Afghanistan.

# Golden Dragons reenlist prior to Najaf mission



Spc. Sean Kimmons

**Twenty-one Task Force 1-14 Infantry Soldiers reenlist June 18 before leaving Kirkuk Air Base for their second Najaf mission. All the Golden Dragons received the Selective Reenlistment Bonus, in which they can each earn up to a \$1,000 tax-free bonus. TF 1-14 INF has completed a tactical movement to Najaf and began a relief in place with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment.**



# Former Wolfhound receives Distinguished Service Cross

By Courtney Hickson  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – It took more than 38 years but retired 1st Sgt. Claude Quick received his Distinguished Service Cross.

Quick served in the Vietnam War and on May 19, 1966, he was a medic attached to the 2nd Battalion, 27th Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, when his company came across Viet Cong forces in the Bo Loi Woods. The “Wolfhounds” encountered heavy fire from automatic weapons.

Quick rushed through the thick forest to provide aid and medical attention to his fellow Soldiers. As he worked in the jungle, he was injured, yet remained to help save the lives of others. At the time of the attack Quick was a Specialist Five.

“Specialist Quick, although wounded himself, turned his attentions elsewhere, moving on to other injured Soldiers, giving aid and encouragement, and directing the evacuation of the wounded,” the award stated.

After the battle, Quick was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with “V” device to recognize his actions under fire. The Distinguished Service Cross request for Quick was lost after it was forwarded to the division commander.

In a small ceremony held at the Pentagon on June 7, Quick was honored by Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Reginald Brown, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Review Boards Karl



Jerome Howard

**Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs pins the Distinguished Service Cross to retired 1st Sgt. Claude Quick Jr., in a ceremony held at the Pentagon on June 7.**

Schneider and Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth Preston.

Additionally Quick was in town for a reunion with his company and many of his fellow Wolfhounds were in attendance and staff members from the office of Sen. Judd Gregg, Quick’s senator. The senator played a role in getting Quick awarded the medal.

“The Army needs to recognize the heroism of its Soldiers,” Schneider said.

Schneider said when the request to correct Quick’s military records were submitted so he would receive the medal it included statements from fellow Soldiers who had served with him on that fateful day, with a letter from retired Gen. Fred Weyand, who at the time of

the attack was the commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division.

Schneider also said the award had extra meaning because it was given to a medic.

“Medics take a great deal of pride in their work,” he said. “The fact that a medic accomplished something this major is something to the medical department.”

## DoD expands Anthrax, Smallpox vaccinations

By Gerry J. Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – More U.S. service members – including those serving in South Korea – will be vaccinated against smallpox and anthrax, the Defense Department’s senior medical adviser said today.

The availability of additional smallpox and anthrax vaccine will enable the vaccination of all service members assigned to U.S. Central Command, and many serving in U.S. Pacific Command, including troops assigned on the Korean Peninsula, Dr. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, told reporters at a Pentagon news conference.

Winkenwerder said he couldn’t provide numbers of troops affected by the policy change, other than saying “tens of thousands” would be vaccinated. The policy change, he pointed out, wasn’t precipitated by a definite increase of threat to troops.

“There is no substantial change to the threat situation,” Winkenwerder asserted, noting the increased availability of both vaccines “will provide an additional layer of protection” for service members.

However, Army Brig. Gen. David Rodriguez, a Joint Staff spokesman who accompanied the doctor at the briefing, reminded reporters that Director of Central Intelligence George Tenet had noted earlier this year that al Qaeda is interested in acquiring bio-weapons like smallpox and anthrax.

Central Command troops deployed to the Afghanistan and Iraq theaters of operation had been vaccinated against smallpox and anthrax, Winkenwerder noted. Now, he said, “all personnel in Central Command” will receive both vaccinations.

Troops serving in selected areas of PACOM, including South Korea, Winkenwerder reported, also will receive the anthrax and smallpox vaccines.

Responding to a reporter’s question whether North Korea has a bio-weapons capability, Rodriguez responded by saying it’s relatively not difficult to develop anthrax weapons.

Medical studies, Winkenwerder said, have shown that administration of the vaccines poses little threat to service members’ health. Since June 2002, he noted, the Defense Department has vaccinated more than 750,000 troops against anthrax.

That number, he said, increases to an aggregate of more than a million if vaccinations administered since 1998 are factored in. Since December 2002, he said, more than 625,000 troops received smallpox vaccinations.

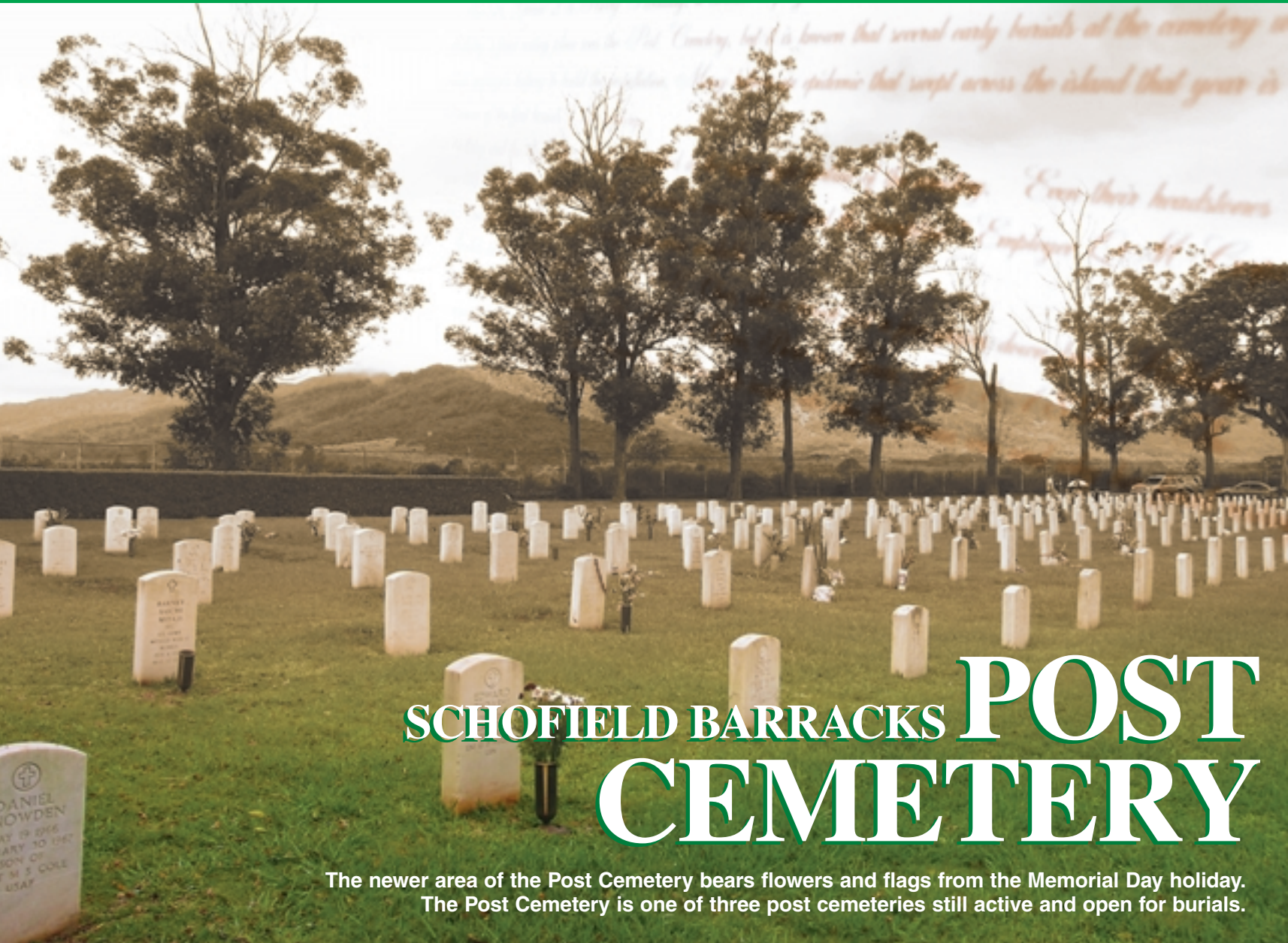
ArmyOnline

www.25idl.army.mil

25th Infantry Division (Light)  
and United States Army, Hawaii







# SCHOFIELD BARRACKS POST CEMETERY

The newer area of the Post Cemetery bears flowers and flags from the Memorial Day holiday. The Post Cemetery is one of three post cemeteries still active and open for burials.



Has intriguing past

Story and Photos By Joy Boisselle  
Staff Writer

Some lived long full lives, others died serving their country in far away places, still others never had the chance to even grow young, some were prisoners of war, others committed capital crimes, and some are unidentified. These people all reside together now at the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery located off Lyman Road.

Established in 1912, the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery is not a national cemetery like Arlington National Cemetery or Hawaii's own National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. It does not draw the tourists by the bus-load or the standing room only crowds on special holidays like Memorial Day.

Nonetheless, it is one of 11 remaining Post Cemeteries nationwide, and one of three still active and open for burials.

Throughout the World Wars and into the Vietnam and Korean Wars, the post cemetery served as the final resting place for infants, children, Soldiers, spouses, and civilians.

When the National Memorial Cemetery in Hawaii opened in 1948, many families moved their loved ones to the larger, more ceremonial burial place. Today, the National Cemetery of the Pacific is closed for all but cremated remains or same grave burials, and because of this, burials at the post cemetery are increasing.

The post cemetery historical records other than burials are sketchy at best. One man still able to fill in the gaps is Leslie Stewart, Jr., the chief of Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations for the Pacific and has been in government service for 37 years.

"My feelings for my country and Soldiers goes way back," Stewart said, "I served two tours in Vietnam and retired as an E-9. I did numerous search and recovery operations in New Guinea and the Philippines. Every burial to me is a special burial. I meet the next of kin and help with the identification process and I feel their feelings."

According to Stewart, the first recorded burial took place on July 21, 1912. Buried that day in Plot 1, Row A, Grave 2 is Harry Holliday, a civilian employee. There is no recorded information as to why Holliday's final resting place was the post cemetery, but it



The Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery entrance is marked by two original pillars dating from 1912.

is known that several early burials at the cemetery were civilian employees helping to build the installation. Many believe an epidemic that swept across the island that year is the source of the first burials in the cemetery.

Holliday and the other early residents are located in the upper right portion of the cemetery. Even their headstones give little information about their lives. In Holliday's case, his name and the inscription "Employee QM Corps," for Quartermaster Corps is the only information available.

Another hidden story is that of Mrs. P.K. Choo, who is buried just a few graves down from Holliday. Her headstone inscription reads, "Mrs. P. K. Choo, Born in Korea, Dec 1, 1890." The remainder of the inscription is in Korean and provides little insight into who the woman was and why her final resting place is in the post cemetery.

The official internment book of the cemetery is an unusual historical document that sheds little light on the stories behind the many buried there. The handwritten entries in the leather-bound ledger provide the deceased's name, military information, occupation if known, when interred, and location in the cemetery.

Before World War II, 10-20 burials took place each year with the overwhelming number of burials being those of children and infants of service members stationed across the island. According to Stewart and the official internment records, infants and children still make up the majority of burials in the cemetery.

In the right rear of the cemetery lie seven solitary headstones with identical inscriptions: "In this gravesite lie fetal remains buried between [date] and [date]." Between 1956 and 1988, 2,390 fetal remains were buried in the seven mass graves. One of the graves holds 570 remains.

"Years ago, Tripler Hospital gave families the option of leaving the burial of the fetal remains up to the military. Most of the babies were 22 weeks or less when they died. If the family agreed, the infants would be held until a mass burial could take place. I have the death certificate and the exact location of every child buried in this way at the cemetery," explained Stewart.

During WWII, Schofield Barracks was the home of the Central Identification Lab. Many disinterred skeletal remains from other countries and locations came to the lab for positive identifica-

tion. If identified, the remains were reburied in the cemetery or shipped to next of kin.

Although no definitive records exist, some of these remains could be those of the 19 unknowns buried in the cemetery. The unknowns lie in nine gravesites behind a row of shrubs in the left rear of the cemetery. Buried alongside the unknowns are the remains of four Italian Prisoners of War who died while in captivity on Sand Island.

A few notorious dead are in the cemetery as well. Seven American Soldiers executed by the Army between 1942 and 1947 for the commission of capital crimes are buried behind an L-shaped hedge on the cemetery's left side. The hedge serves to separate those Soldiers from the rest of the cemetery residents. The gravesites face away from the flagpole symbolically demonstrating the dishonor their actions brought upon the nation.

The cemetery itself is commonplace. No large monuments break the flat landscape, only the rows and rows of familiar white military headstones mixed with 22 towering Norfolk Pines providing sparse cover. Two stately pillars mark the entrance to the cemetery.

A flagpole stands in the middle of the grounds flanked by two ornamental cannons and artillery shells. Other than these ornamentations, there is little to mark the cemetery as the final resting place of military veterans, family members, and retirees.

Today's burials at the Post Cemetery are primarily veterans, retirees, and dependent spouses. While the saying "dead men tell no tales" may be true, at the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery, there are more than just a few stories behind the headstones.

(Editor's Note: The cemetery is more than 6 acres and when completely filled will hold 2000 departed souls. There are 950 plots available and at the current rate of 25 burials per year, the cemetery will fill sometime around its 100-year anniversary in 2012.)

In a secluded area of the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery are seven American Soldiers executed for capital crimes from 1942 to 1947. In a gesture symbolizing disgrace, they are buried facing away from the American flag.



Joy Boisselle

The first person buried at the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery was Harry Holliday, a civilian employee. He was buried on July 21, 1912.



Private Garlon Mickles was executed on April 22, 1947, and buried at the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery on April 24, 1947. He asked that his mother be told that he died like a man.





**4th of July 5K and Fun Run Registration** – Enter into the Annual 4th of July Runs. Entry forms are available at all Army fitness centers and can also be downloaded Online at [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com). Participants for races can hand in forms and fees to the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center or the Fort Shafter Information, Ticketing and Reservation's office. Cost on race day, beginning at 7 a.m., will be \$25 with T-shirt \$12 without T-shirt. Children's 1-mile fun run registration is free. All fun run finishers will receive a ribbon. For more information call Vera Ross, 655-8789.

**Blue Star Card Special on 4th of July Tickets** – MWR Blue Star Card holders can purchase game and ride tickets for the 4th of July event at 50 percent off the regular rate until July 3. On the 4th of July, the regular priced tickets will apply. Discounted tickets will be available at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks and the Information, Ticketing and Reservation's office on Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter. Tickets are only valid for the July 4 event. Call 655-0002 for more information.

**3D Fireworks Glasses on Sale** – Tropics, Schofield Barracks is selling 3D fireworks glasses for \$1. The glasses have specially treated lenses that will enhance the fireworks viewing. Multi-starbursts of three-dimensional rainbows will race at those wearing the glasses. Quantities are limited. Call 655-0002 for information.

**R&R Deployment Specials** – Soldiers returning from Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom will receive 50 percent off regular cottage rates at Piliilau Army Recreation Center in Waianae or 30 percent off all room categories, dining and entertainment events of your choice at the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki. For Piliilau reservations call 696-6783 to make reservations today. Eligible Soldiers must have a copy of their leave orders. For Hale Koa

reservations call 955-0555 or visit [www.halekoa.com](http://www.halekoa.com). Eligible personnel must mention at time of reservations that they will be using the R&R or Leave Program.

**Spouse's Night Out** – This free adults-only program at Army Community Service on Schofield Barracks is designed to get spouses out of the house every Thursday night from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. to have some fun. On July 8, participate in Beginning Hula Lessons, How Living Healthy Habits Can Ease Your Reunion (1 of 4), Natural Health and Wellness, Women and Investing, Learn to Use a Web Camera and Quilting. On July 15 participate in Beginners Sewing, How Living Healthy Habits Can Ease Your Reunion (2 of 4), Deployment Support Group for FRG Leaders with Dr. Faran, Natural Health and Wellness, Learn to Use a Web Camera, and Quilting. MWR Blue Star Card holders will receive free child care from 6 - 9 p.m. by reservation only at Peterson Child Care Center on Schofield Barracks. Call 655-3929 by noon of the Tuesday before each Thursday event for child care reservations. Child care reservations can be made two weeks in advance. Pre-registration for classes is required, call 655-2736.

**Summer Reading Program** – The Sgt. Yano Library on Schofield Barracks, the Fort Shafter Library and Aliamanu Library have a fun filled Summer Reading Program for July. Don't miss Barnyard Animals at the Fort Shafter Library on July 6, Sgt. Yano Library on July 7 and Aliamanu Library on July 8, at 3 p.m. And Balloon Monsoon will be at the Fort Shafter Library on July 13, Sgt. Yano Library on July 14 and Aliamanu on July 15. For information call the nearest library.

**Free School Supply Kits** – In support of deployed personnel, 2004 Ready to Learn will support military dependents 4 years old through 12th grade in receiving free school supply kits, valued at \$25 each. Family income will not be

considered for military families with a deployed parent. Families can log on to [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com/schoolkits.htm](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com/schoolkits.htm) to fill out a family application form. Families are requested to ensure all information is provided. Forms which are not completed can not be used and the family will not receive their kit(s). Deadline for entry is July 7. Call 655-2414 or log onto the above site for more information.

**Upcoming Craft Classes** – The following classes are being offered: Youth Art at Fort Shafter on July 10 and 24 from 10 a.m. - noon and Mosaic Glass at Fort Shafter beginning July 10, four Saturday sessions, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m cost is \$30. Participate in Photo Fun - take a Polaroid picture of your child and frame it with whimsical decorations on July 14, 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center, cost is \$12 per child. The Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Centers have several other classes available. For information call 438-1071 or 655-4202

**Tennis Lessons** – Participate in tennis lessons every Wednesday evening at the Schofield Barracks Tennis Complex. From 7 - 8 p.m. beginners and intermediate level players ages 6 - 14. The cost is \$10 per session. From 8 - 9 p.m. beginners and intermediate teenagers and adults. Cost is \$12 per session. Classes are ongoing. Private lessons are available by appointment. Call 284-7986 for information.

**Auto Craft Early Bird Special** – From the 1st to the 15th of every month receive a safety inspection for only \$10. Vehicles with tinted windows will cost \$15. Call your nearest Auto Craft Center for more information. Fort Shafter, 438-9402 or Schofield Barracks, 655-9368.

**Tee Time Policy Change** – For a limited time, the call in for tee time policy has changed. Weekdays and weekends at Nagorski Golf Course and weekdays only at Kalakaua Golf Course are as follows. Priority A and B can call in

seven days in advance beginning at 10 a.m., priority C and D can call in seven days in advance beginning at 12 p.m. and friends of MWR can call in five days in advance. Call Nagorski at 438-9587 or Kalakaua Golf Course at 655-9833 for information.

**Reggie's 4th of July Special** – Reggie's, on Schofield Barracks, will be open special hours on the 4th of July from 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. The daily special is BBQ ribs and baked beans or BBQ chicken halves with buttered corn cobbetts, coleslaw and mashed potatoes for \$7.40. Reggie's is open to all military, Reservists, guard members, DoD civilians and friends of MWR. Call 656-0113 for information on how to become a Friend of MWR. Call 655-4466 for Reggie's information.

**Tropics July Specials** – Buy any breakfast sandwich or burrito and get potato rounds for an extra \$.50. Buy two slices of pepperoni or cheese pizza with a soda for \$5 or one slice of pepperoni or cheese pizza for \$2. Or choose the taco salad for \$5. Call 655-0002.

**Teen Employment Workshop** – Teens will learn how to apply and interview for employment and how to write a resume without employment experience. Classes will be held on July 7, 10:30 a.m. - noon at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks. To register call 655-0002. Or go to the Aliamanu Teen Center on July 21 from 10:30 a.m. – noon. To register call 833-0920. Youth must be current CYS members.

**Flag Football Clinic** – Gain an understanding of flag football and skilled players can work on their techniques before the start of the season at the next clinic. Clinic is open to youth born in the year 1988-1998. Register from July 13 - August 10 at the nearest Army Youth Center. The cost is \$12 and includes a T-shirt. The clinic date is August 28, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bennett Youth Center Field on Schofield Barracks. Call Aliamanu 833-5393, Schofield Barracks 655-6465 or Fort Shafter 438-9336.

**Exceptional Family**

**Member Information** – Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Support Group for parents and children is held every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Aliamanu Chapel and the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. at Army Community Service on Schofield Barracks. EFMP Family Summer Pool Parties are scheduled for July 16, 1 - 5 p.m. at Aliamanu Pool and August 14, 12 - 4 p.m. at Schofield Barracks pool. EFMP Enrollment is required and reservations are mandatory by calling 655-2303. Free American Sign Language Classes are also offered on Monday and Wednesday until July 26. Call 655-2303 for more information about any of the EFMP programs or classes.

**Play and Win: Golf for Food and Fun** – Get a team together every Tuesday from 2 - 4 p.m. and come on out for a round of golf at Nagorski Golf Course on Fort Shafter. Receive a 9-hole green fee, foursome platter of pupus, pitcher of beverage, and entry into the lucky door prize for \$15 per person. Answer the "Golf Question of the Week" correctly and win a Nike Door Prize. Get a hole in one and win a "Golf Digest's 2004 Club of the Year" from Nike. Call 438-1974 for more information.

**Junior Bowling and Golf Summer Programs** – Schofield Barracks Bowling Center is offering a junior bowling program open to ages 5 to 21 beginning at 8:30 a.m. every Saturday through July. Cost is \$5 a week and includes three games and show rental. Call 655-0541 for information. Fort Shafter is offering a junior bowling program every Saturday beginning at 8:30 a.m. all year long. For more information call 438-6733. Kalakaua Golf Course on Schofield Barracks is offering a junior golf program for ages 7 to 17 beginning June 14 - July 21. Lessons are every Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. for beginners, 11 a.m. for intermediate and 1:30 p.m. for advanced players. Cost is \$65, Blue Star Cardholders receive 50 percent off. Call the Kalakaua Golf Course



**SGT SMITH THEATER**

TODAY	<b>Van Helsing</b> 7 p.m. (PG-13)
SATURDAY JULY 3rd	<b>New York Minute</b> 2 p.m. (PG)
SATURDAY JULY 3rd	<b>Van Helsing</b> 7 p.m. (PG-13)
SUNDAY JULY 4th	<b>New York Minute</b> 2 p.m. (PG)
SUNDAY JULY 4th	<b>Mean Girls</b> 7 p.m. (PG-13)
MONDAY JULY 5th	CLOSED
TUESDAY JULY 6th	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY JULY 7th	CLOSED
THURSDAY JULY 8th	CLOSED
<b>HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER</b>	
TODAY	<b>Troy</b> 7 p.m. (R)
SATURDAY JULY 3rd	<b>Troy</b> 7 p.m. (R)
SUNDAY JULY 4th	CLOSED
MONDAY JULY 5th	CLOSED
TUESDAY JULY 6th	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY JULY 7th	<b>Godsend</b> 7 p.m. (PG-13)
THURSDAY JULY 08th	<b>Break'in all the Rules</b> 7 p.m. (PG-13)

# 32K R&R troops to get reimbursed for onward leave travel

By Joe Burlas  
*Army News Service*

WASHINGTON – Thousands of troops who participated in the early phases of Central Command's Rest and Recuperation Program last year may soon see some extra money in their wallets. About 32,000 Soldiers who arrived at the Baltimore-Washington International Airport or the Frankfurt Airport, in Germany, on daily military contract flights between Sept. 26 and Dec. 18 now qualify for reimbursement of out-of-pocket travel airline costs to and from their R&R leave addresses. When the first R&R military contract flight departed Kuwait City Sept. 25, about 250 Soldiers traveled free of charge either to Frankfurt or BWI. However, they were responsible to pay for "onward travel" costs to and from their leave addresses. With the urging of Congress, the Department of Defense approved implementing instructions to cover onward travel costs for R&R Soldiers in early December with an effective date of Dec. 19. Wording of the implementing instructions did not allow retroactive onward travel reimbursements for Soldiers who traveled on R&R prior to Dec. 19. A change to those instructions to pay back additional travel costs of the early R&R Soldiers was approved in mid-June. Of the \$55 million Congress allotted CENTCOM to use for onward travel, about \$14 million has funded commercial airline tickets paid directly to the

travel ticketing office for connecting flights or paid directly to R&R Soldiers who provided the proper documentation for their travel costs.

Lt. Col. Bobbie Sanders, deputy chief for G1's R&R Task Force, told reporters in a June 29 Pentagon briefing that officials estimate R&R reimbursements for the missed group of Soldiers will cost \$13-19 million.

The Army knows the names of each of the 32,000 Soldiers eligible for the R&R travel reimbursement, Sanders said.

Soldiers eligible for reimbursement should file a claim through their servicing finance office. Eligible discharged Soldiers should file a claim directly through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, via e-mail, [dfas-inr&rleave@dfas.mil](mailto:dfas-inr&rleave@dfas.mil), or regular mail, DFAS-IN, Contingency Travel Operations, Department 3900, ATTN: R&R Leave, 8899 East 56th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46249-3900.

Travel claim documentation should include:

- A completed Department of Defense Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher.
- A copy of leave documentation (Department of the Army Form 31 or R&R leave order) containing a fund cite.
- A copy of the airline ticket, ticket receipt or airline travel itinerary that shows the Soldier – not an Army fund cite – paid for the ticket.

Soldiers who no longer have copies of their airline ticket or ticket receipt are encouraged to contact the airlines from which they bought their onward travel connect-

ing flight tickets.

Soldiers who have lost copies and are unable to get other copies of required documentation can submit a lost documentation statement with their travel voucher. That statement must contain the eligible Soldier's name, social security number, leave dates, the name of the onward travel airline used, final destination airport name and the cost of the ticket.

For more information on the CENTCOM R&R Program, visit [www.armyg1.army.mil/well-being/rrleave/index.htm](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/well-being/rrleave/index.htm).



# Dash N’ Grab finalists bring home the bacon

By Joy Boisselle  
Staff writer

Fun and exciting are not the words most shoppers use when describing trips to the commissary. However, the second quarterly Dash N’ Grab held June 24 at the Schofield Barracks Commissary proved fun and exciting for everyone involved.

Dash N’ Grab is loosely modeled after television’s “Supermarket Sweep” and features three participants answering questions to determine how much time they will earn to dash through the commissary and grab as many items as they can in the time allotted. Three finalists’ names were drawn from nearly 5,000 entries at the June 15 Town Hall meeting.

The finalists were Capt. Kevin Dunham, 3rd Brigade, Sgt. Star Oliver, 725th Main Support Battalion, and family member, Lowielyn Winters, whose husband Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Winters is deployed with 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment. The three finalists raked in over \$2,000 worth of groceries in six minutes, doubling last quarter’s figures.

The finalists came ready to run bringing family members and friends to push carts and to help answer the questions posed by the emcee, Jack Wiers, chief of MWR Marketing, Directorate of Community Activities.

The first question posed was to determine which finalist would have a one-minute run through the store. The second question determined the three-minute and two-minute runners. Questions are not easy as the participants found out. One question asked by Weirs was “how many items are on the salad bar at Reggie’s?”

Winning the three-minute spree was Lowielyn Winters. Her strategy was simple.

“My son’s birthday is coming up and I am planning a big party. I concentrated on the meats and household cleaners. I needed this shopping spree,” she said with a smile.

Winters, with the help of friend, Kelly Wilson, was able to fill two carts with \$762.78 of party sup-



Ruben Moreno

**Under the scrutiny of a HACN-TV 2 crew, Lowielyn Winters and her running mate, Kelly Wilson, load a cart with meats during the 2nd quarter Dash N’ Grab June 24 at the Schofield Barracks Commissary.**

plies. Spying the ribs and shrimp in the basket, Weir asked, “What time does the party begin?”

The two-minute dasher was Kevin Dunham who brought along his wife, Davina. Dunham hauled in \$434.90 of groceries.

“This was a lot of fun,” he said, “I thought we would be able to go a little faster.”

The shortest time slot of one-minute went to Sgt. Star Oliver and her cart-pushing spouse, Oneil Oliver. Amazingly, Oliver managed to strike it rich with the morning’s largest take of \$816.84.

“We don’t know how we did it,” Star said. “Since we only had a minute, we concentrated on things helpful to our household.”

She admitted to scoping out prices and planning her attack long before the event took place.

“I went down the aisles and checked prices on the things I normally pass on,” she said.

Oliver’s cart held an array of meats, personal hygiene and baby items.

Dash N’ Grab is open to all

active duty Soldiers and their families. The next event, pending sponsorship, is scheduled for September. Entry forms and drop boxes are located at the Schofield Barracks Commissary, Army Community Service, and the Tropics. Blue Star Card holders are automatically entered to win. For more information, call 438-0117.



# Richardson Pool set to reopen Sunday

By Joy Boisselle  
Staff writer

Finally, the lazy days of summer will be replaced by the happy sounds and energetic swimming of military families as they flock to Richardson Pool on Schofield Barracks, which is scheduled to reopen on Independence Day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Joel Bonfiglio, the pool project manager for Alan Shintani, Inc., said they were asked to have the pool area open for families by the 4th of July and it will be done.

With the pump house remaining as the only major construction project still uncompleted, last week the pool was filled with water and tested for operation.

The overhaul began in October 2003 and expectations were that the project would be completed by April. The original contract focused on replacing the pool lights, revamping the pool's draining system, installing pool gutters, reinforcing expansion joints on the pool's bottom, and adding new non-skid decking.

However, the construction suffered several setbacks including 28 bad weather days, a concrete strike, and environmental hazard delays, to name just a few.

"Mother Nature was not very good to us, but now we are progressing very quickly," said Michelle Leslie, Administrative Officer, Alan Shantani, Inc.

Construction will contin-



Alan Shintani, Inc.

Filled with 1.25 million gallons of water, Richardson Pool on Schofield Barracks nears its July 4 reopening.

ue on the uncompleted projects around the pool area probably through August Leslie said.

Families have waited for months and news of the impending opening was met with delight by children and parents alike.

Momi Smith, Richardson Pool Supervisor, said she expects crowds will be large when the pool reopens, aver-

aging nearly 750 visitors daily and doubling that figure on the weekends.

Beginning Monday, Smith said it would be business as usual. Pool hours are from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. for active duty physical training only, and from 10 a.m to 6 p.m for open swimming.

The cost to use the pool is minimal. Active duty Soldiers swim free while

family members pay \$1 a visit, \$12 for a monthly individual pool pass or \$20 for a monthly family pool pass. Retirees and Department of Army civilians pay \$2 a visit and guests pay \$3. Additionally, swim lesson registration for Levels 1-7 starts July 5 at the pool office.

Richardson Pool was originally built in 1944 and

named for Lt. Gen. Robert Richardson Jr., commanding general of U.S. Army Forces, Middle Pacific. His belief was that every Soldier should be a swimmer and he wanted a first-class facility to further that goal.

The first-class facility produced first-class athletes and during the 50s, the 25th Infantry Division had a world ranking swimming

and diving team both on the military and national levels. Richardson also believed that the facility would one day attract Olympic Games organizers. In 1972, that goal was realized as the U.S. Olympic Diving Team used Richardson Pool to train for the 1972 games held in Munich, Germany.

The pool is the largest freshwater pool in the Pacific area and one of the largest in the world. It holds 1.25 million gallons of water and is 103 meters by 25 meters wide, also known as a double Olympic-size pool.

During the latest construction effort, Bonfiglio and crew had to locate and repair several leaks, which were responsible for the daily loss of hundreds of gallons of water.

"This pool was built over a gravel bed which probably accounts for its longevity and is probably what saved it from ruin with the leaks that were ongoing," Bonfiglio said. "Considering the pool's age, it is in very good shape."

Today, with the pool opening two days away, a new generation of competitive and recreational swimmers wait to make use of one of the best swimming facilities in the Army. Thanks to Lt. Gen. Richardson, the 59-year-old Richardson Pool is still training first-class Soldiers and providing recreation for their family members.

For more information about swimming programs, contact Momi Smith at 655-1128.

## New Tropics Teen and Youth Program offers summer excitement



Joy Boisselle

Kiana Rowland (left) and her sister, Briana are two for two as they warm up prior to the start of the Summer Youth and Teen Basketball Shoot-out June 17 at the Tropics.

By Joy Boisselle  
Staff writer

It's summer and your teen has just stated for the 100th time, "I'm bored." Instead of screaming in frustration, you calmly describe the new teen and youth program at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks, which features activities, games, and competition to stimulate even the most difficult teen.

Officially kicking off this month, the program will cover a wide variety of events for all ages and interests. Margie Millett, Tropics Teen and Youth Coordinator, said, "This is a family recreation center and I will be planning projects not to replace the Post Teen Center, but to give kids an extra avenue and additional outlet in the coming months."

In June, two events sponsored by the program included the Summer Youth Pool Tournament and the Summer Youth Basketball Shoot-out. Teens competed for Tropics gift certificates. "We will be expanding our prizes as we grow and we will try to offer tournament specific prizes, like a pool cue for a pool tournament," explained Millett.

One benefit for teens and younger children is that registration at Child and Youth Services or the Teen Center is not required to participate in most of the Tropics programs. However, registration is required to participate in classes such as the Employment Workshop for Teens on July 7 or Driver's Training. Additionally,

children registered with CYS may enjoy lower prices while participating in certain events.

For most activities, teens need only sign-in at the front desk to take part in events being offered through the Tropics Teen program. "Our programs will offer opportunities for teens in a safe and totally different atmosphere than other facilities," said Millett.

At the recent Basketball shoot-out held June 17, participant Kiana Rowland, daughter of Chief Warrant Officer 3 Lee and Kim Rowland, said, "I think this is a lot of fun. The Tropics is a cool place to hang out."

Millett's "office" is located at the entrance to the Tropics. "I welcome input from teens and family members. I want them to get involved and I want to meet everyone's needs," Millett said, "I know from feedback already that teens want their own activities away from younger kids."

The month of July promises many avenues of escape for bored teens and youth. First up is the "Summer Youth and Teen Pizza" to be held July 6 and July 20 beginning at 5 p.m. The cost is \$5 and includes pizza and drinks as well as great prizes.

Another event that should be a teen-pleaser is the July 8 "Beach Party at the Tropics" from 5 to 9 p.m. In addition to food, games, and prizes, partygoers will get wet.

Finally, if group activities aren't your teen's style, the Tropics offers a computer lab, outdoor volleyball and basketball areas, games, the AT and T Theater, and many other activities for hard-to-please teens.

### Youth and Teen events at the Schofield Barracks Tropics

Youth and Teens must sign-in at the front desk.

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>July 6 and July 20</b> | Summer Youth and Teen Pizza, 5 p.m. Cost: \$5 for pizza and drinks. Win great prizes. |
| <b>July 7</b>             | Employment Workshop for Teens - 10:30 a.m.  |
| <b>July 8</b>             | Beach Party at the Tropics: 5 - 9 p.m. Food, games, prizes, fun, plan on getting wet. |

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>July 10</b> | Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament, 11 a.m. Cost: \$5 each participant receives Yu-Gi-Oh merchandise. Tournament conducted by Toyriffic. |
| <b>July 19</b> | Kite Making and Workshop, 10-12 noon, Cost: \$1.50 for supplies. Workshop conducted by High Performance Kites.            |
| <b>July 21</b> | Yo-Yo Making and Workshop, 10-12 noon, Cost: \$3.50 for supplies. Workshop conducted by High Performance Kites.           |
| <b>July 30</b> | Back to School Dance for grades 6- 8, \$3 for CYS members, \$4 for non-members.   |



# Healthcare changes on the way for TRICARE-eligible patients

By Navy Capt. Kevin Berry, M.D.  
Tripler Army Medical Center

There are a lot of changes happening to our healthcare system right now that began Thursday. First and foremost, our current healthcare civilian partner in TRICARE – HealthNet Federal Services – is being replaced by a new organization – TriWest Healthcare Alliance.

(Editor’s note: Beneficiaries not enrolled in TRICARE Prime should contact their civilian provider. For assistance in finding a PCM or learning about your TRICARE benefits, call TriWest at 1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378) or visit your local TRICARE Service Center.)

What’s this going to mean for TRI-CARE Prime patients - you and me and our families?

- Changes in the way our healthcare may look to us, and changes in the way we access that care. We have new phone numbers for services that include:

*TRICARE Information:*  
1-888-874-9378

*TRICARE Retail Pharmacy:*  
1-866-DOC-TRRx (866-363-879)

*TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy:*  
1-866-DOD-TMOP (866-363-8667)

- Changes in the doctors we can go to in the TRICARE Civilian Network. Not all of the doctors from the HealthNet Federal Services Network have signed up with the TriWest Network. Currently, this may affect close to 200 people who are being seen by a Civilian Primary Care Manager. These people will be individually contacted through the mail to look at their options. If people want to check on their status, please call 1-888-874-9378.
- Changes in how we get our prescriptions filled and where, and what kind of brand name drugs we get. These are important numbers for people to have. They’re also included on the

back of new TRICARE cards.  
*TRICARE Retail Pharmacy:*  
1-866-DOC-TRRx (866-363-879)

*TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy:*  
1-866-DOD-TMOP (866-363-8667)

- Changes in who can be enrolled in some clinics. For example, there may be changes in who enrolls at which clinics. Patients who need more information should call 1-888-874-9378 or the Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator (BCAC) at the clinic you are interested in.

*Tripler Army Medical Center* 433-3422

*Schofield Barracks Health Clinics* 433-8485

*Navy* 473-2444 extension 509

*Air Force* 448-6124

*Coast Guard* 541-2409 or 433-3422

*Marine Corps* 473-2444 extension 509

For program issues, please call the Multi Service Market Management Office at 433-6846.

- Changes in the way we can get healthcare when we’re not in Hawai’i.

In an emergency, dial 911 or go to the nearest medical facility.

To obtain a provider when out of area care is needed, contact TriWest at 1-888-TriWest (874-9378) for an initial authorization for non-emergency care. For authorization for follow-up non-emergency care when out of the area, please call the Hawaii Referral Management Center at 1-800-322-8262. The center is open weekdays, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Hawaii Standard Time (HST). Please leave a message if no one is available to take your call and we will contact you.

And that’s just the beginning. Change can be good or bad. What definitely happens with change, usually involves some bumps in the road as we get used to those changes and doing business a different way. That’s where we need your help. We need to hear from you when you experience those bumps – or problems or concerns – so we can fix what is not working, and educate people about what is working so others understand how to deal with the changes.

The party line is the method of delivery for our healthcare has changed but the benefit hasn’t. But it might not look that way to you, and that’s why I want you to be prepared for these changes.

The reason the contract is changing is to control government costs and improve customer service to you – the reason our military healthcare system exists. My concern is that as we change, at the beginning, it may cause perceptions that customer service is suffering and I wanted to be upfront about all of this.

We currently have more than 92,000 people enrolled in our TRICARE Prime Healthcare System.

That translates to 1.2 million outpatient visits at military and civilian TRI-CARE clinics a year all together. That’s a whole lot of healthcare being provided, and there’s bound to be concerns and problems as we transition.

How can you help us? By calling or stopping by the TRICARE TriWest Service Center on Tripler’s first floor Oceanside or calling 1-888-TriWest (874-9378) and letting us know what’s working and what’s not. For program issues, please call the Multi Service Market Management Office at 433-6846.

At Tripler, Managed Care TRICARE Operations phone is 433-3422. Staff will be available weekdays, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

At the other clinics, contact your Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator (BCAC):

*Schofield Barracks Health Clinics* 433-8485

*Navy* 473-2444 extension 509

*Air Force* 448-6124

*Coast Guard* 541-2409 or 433-3422

*Marine Corps* 473-2444 extension 509

And there is another change I need to tell you about. When you call the new TRICARE TriWest toll-free number (1-888-874-9378), chances are you won’t be speaking to someone in Hawai’i. They may be in Arizona, so they might not have specific local answers.

We need to know about that too, and whether it’s causing problems for you and your families to get the information you need to make informed decisions about your healthcare.

As I wrote earlier, change can be good or bad. I believe the worse thing about change is when you are not told about it so you can’t adjust and be prepared. We don’t want that to happen.

Please work with us to make this transition as painless as possible. Thank you for taking the time to read this and educating yourself about the potential issues we are all facing.

And, please let us know how we can do a better job of providing healthcare for you and your family. Our Interactive Customer Evaluation is always available online at <http://ice.disa.mil>.

For more information, please go to the following websites:  
[www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil)  
[www.triwest.com](http://www.triwest.com)  
[www.tricareonline.com](http://www.tricareonline.com)

(Editor’s note: Berry is Deputy Commander for Clinical Services for Tripler Army Medical Center and the Pacific Regional Medical Command.)