

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

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World War II Soldier rests

After 62 years of searching, the family of a U.S. Army Soldier has laid to rest their patriarch. A-2



Talisman wrap

U.S. Army Pacific forces completed training in the biannual combined force Exercise Talisman Saber, held in Queensland, Australia, and at Fort Richardson, Alaska. The Army's newest brigade, 4-25 Airborne Brigade Combat Team, made its debut. A-3



Fourth of July

Military installations on Oahu celebrated Independence Day with a host of activities, including concerts, boxing, bands and plenty keiki activities. B-1



Fisher House

Tucked behind Tripler Army Medical Center, the Fisher House provides temporary shelter for service members and their families when they need a home away from home. The proximity to Tripler provides needed convenience. B-3

Mixon shares vision

Master Sgt. Terry Anderson
Public Affairs Office 25th ID (L) and
USARHAW

The Global War on Terrorism will last a long time and troops need to keep their wartime edge, says the new 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, commander. Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon took

command of the Tropic Lightning division at a change of command ceremony June 29. Mixon has an extensive background with experience in light infantry and Ranger operations. He has served with the 82nd Airborne Division, the 75th Ranger Regiment, the 101st Airborne Division, and the Southern European Task Force in Vicenza, Italy.

He comes from a military family, as his father, William, was the command sergeant major of the Infantry School at Ft. Benning, Ga.

Mixon and his wife, Rhonda, join the 25th ID (L) from the U.S. Southern Command, where he was the director of operations for two years.

Mixon sat down for an interview with the "Hawaii Army Report," a tel-

evision news program that airs on the Hawaii Army Cable Network TV-2 — daily at 8 a.m., and 12 and 5 p.m. — to outline his vision and goals for the division.

Hawaii Army Report: Sir, you have quite a varied background with many different experiences. How

See "Mixon," page A-5



Photos by Spc. Juan Jimenez; Digital Collage by Leah Mayo

Celebrating independence

The annual "4th of July Spectacular" was held on Sills Field, Schofield Barracks, Monday, and included performances by the 25th Infantry Division (Light) band and a fireworks show. For more on 4th of July celebrations throughout Oahu's military installations, see page B-1.

Leaders step up safety efforts on installations

Proper personal gear and motorcycle classes are required for all military bikers, on and off post

Spc. Cheryl Ransford
17th Public Affairs Detachment

WHEELER ARMY AIR FIELD — Every day many motorcyclists ride the streets of military bases wearing proper personal equipment such as helmets, gloves and reflective vests. But why do they wear these things? Is there a regulation or is it just personal choice to be safe?

The answer to this question is at the installation safety office here, where Staff Sgt. Gregory Davis has been running a weekly motorcycle safety course for both beginner and experienced riders for the past several months.

"Yes, PPE [proper personal equipment] is required for all motorcyclists," said Davis. "But wearing PPE isn't the only requirement for being able to ride a motorcycle on base."

One additional requirement ... is attendance in a Motorcycle Safety Foundation [MSF]-approved course such as the motorcycle safety courses conducted by the safety office.

These courses are free and mandatory for all Army personnel, to include family members, retirees and civilians who plan to ride their motorcycle on post. They are also available to service members from other branches.

In fact, no motorcyclist can receive post decals for their motorcycle without the evaluation card and the MSF card that are presented to qualified riders following the course, and an evaluation on their personal motorcycle, said Davis.

"If a motorcyclist owns more than one motorcycle, they must be evaluated on each one," he said. "Post decals will only be given for the motorcycles they have been evaluated on."

If you have never attended an MSF course, you must take the Basic Rider's Course, regardless of your motorcycle experience.

"A lot of riders have bad habits,"

See "Safety," page A-6

'Military Idol' opens competition at 34 Army posts

Tim Hipps
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — So you think you've got what it takes to be the next Carrie Underwood or Bo Bice? Perhaps you fancy yourself more along the lines of Fantasia or Ruben Studdard.

"Military Idol" will give Soldiers a chance to sing their songs like their American Idol predecessors on 34 Army installations around the world this summer.

Performers have until July 22 to apply for the competition based on the principles of FOX television's American Idol show.

Local Military Idol competitions will begin Aug. 1 and continue through Sept. 30. Finals week is set for Oct. 17 through 22 when local winners will compete at

ON THE WEB

Get more details at
<http://www.militaryidol.com>

Alexander Hall on Fort Gordon, Ga.

Could you be the first Military Idol?

Eligible contestants must be on active duty military status, assigned to the local hosting installation, including members of all branches of service assigned on the installation.

Active duty Soldiers not assigned to the installation where they will compete are also eligible, but they must provide their own transportation.

Only vocalists need apply. This contest has no place for musicians, comedians, dancers,

jugglers and the like.

What could you win?

The Army-wide winner will receive \$1,000. Each installation-level winner gets \$500 and temporary duty costs covered to compete in the Army-wide finals, along with \$500 in unit funds.

Second-place installation-level performers will receive \$250, and third-place installation-level performers will receive \$100.

The Pentagon Channel is scheduled to air a 90-minute live broadcast of the Military Idol finals.

What posts are participating?

Installations where Military Idol will be contested include Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Fort McCoy, Wis.; Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Fort Car-

son, Colo.; Fort Lewis, Wash.; Fort Myer, Fort Lee and Fort Eustis, Va.; Fort Sam Houston, Texas; Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Irwin, Calif.; Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Fort Jackson, S.C.; Fort Knox, Ky.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Gordon, Ga.; Fort Rucker, Ala.; Hohenfels, Wurzburg, Baumholder, Heidelberg, Weisbaden, Bamberg, Hanau, Ansbach and Darmstadt, Germany; Chievers, Belgium; Camp Casey, Camp Walker, Yongsan and Camp Humphreys, Korea; Fort Richardson, Alaska; and Camp Zama, Japan.

Competition dates complete rules and additional information is available at <http://www.militaryidol.com>.

(Editor's Note: Tim Hipps writes for the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center Public Affairs Office.)

Army combats rising divorce rate in ranks

Monica Barrera
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — An increase of divorces among active duty Soldiers has Army chaplains undertaking a number of programs to combat the rising trend and help Soldiers cope.

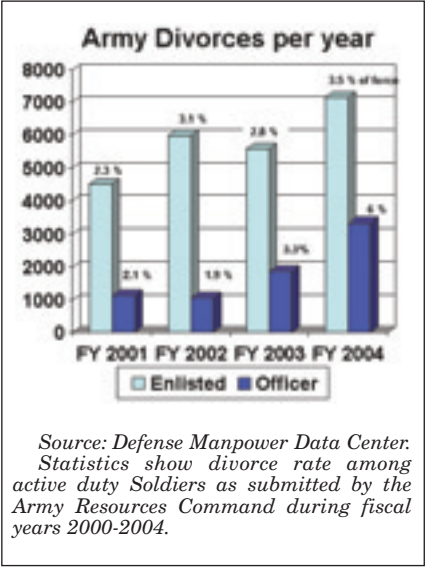
Divorces among officers tripled from fiscal year 2002 to 2004, according to statistics compiled by the Defense Manpower Data Center. After Operation Iraqi Freedom began, there was an increase of 3,024 divorces Army-wide.

“These statistics are a sign of a loss of a dream. People don’t get married to divorce,” said Army Chaplain (Col.) Glen Bloomstrom, director of the Ministry Initiatives Directorate for the Office of the Chief of Chaplains.

Active programs and services

Several programs now help Soldiers cope with life and parenting after divorce. Divorce Care Support groups and Divorce Parenting classes are mandatory for Soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas.

“We recognize [Soldiers] come because they are required,” said Lt. Col. David Scheider, director of the Family Life Chaplain Training Center at Fort Hood. “But it is difficult to get



time off on a duty day, so the requirement makes leaders willing to let them go.”

Also available is Army One Source which is

a toll-free nationwide number as well as a Web site that allows Soldiers to contact a consultant regarding life’s issues. Through this service, Soldiers and their families have access of up to six in-person counseling sessions at no cost to them.

Although deployment is an indicator of the stress on the force, both Bloomstrom and Scheider agreed that the problem is that many couples do not have the skills needed to make their marriage work. “Anytime there is a lot of stress, there is a higher opportunity for people to stray,” said Scheider.

Marital skills have been studied by researchers at the University of Denver. The study was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health through the Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program.

PREP is known for thorough empirical research. Through PREP findings, Army chaplains are educating Soldiers and their families with coping skills and the skills needed to make a marriage successful.

Chaplains have established several programs and services in the Army that are designed to help couples manage stresses associated with the military lifestyle. Bloomstrom said all of the programs focus

on three primary areas: awareness, attitudes, and skills.

Building families

The Building Strong and Ready Families program “was the first marriage education program that was systemically and systematically implemented in the Army,” said Bloomstrom, who has been involved with the program since its origin in 1999. BSRF was first established at Hawaii’s 25th Infantry Division Artillery.

BSRF is not marriage counseling, said Bloomstrom. It is marriage education. As stated in the 2002 Executive Summary interim report of BSRF, “While the Army has developed and deployed numerous programs to treat and respond to family and couple issues, the strengths in the underlying design of BSRF lie in a focus on prevention rather than reactive, crisis management.”

Retreats for couples in BSRF are called Strong Bonds retreats. This year, there are

See “Divorce,” page A-8

Lightning Spirit Faith is but three things

Knowledge, truth, action define faith

Chaplain (Capt.) Thomas J. Faichney
1-27th Infantry, 2nd Brigade

What is faith? What does it mean to be a person of faith? Usually, it indicates that you follow certain beliefs and standards with some type of religious practice going along with it, but perhaps not.

Faith may be a general hope in a higher power somewhere up there guiding history.

Your faith may be a confession or a book that goes along with your faith. Or, perhaps your faith is in science.

I also think some see faith as a spiritual muscle that, if exercised enough, can cause the future to go their way.

From the Christian perspective, faith is composed of three things. First, faith indicates knowledge. In order to believe something, you must at least know what it is you are trusting in. Knowledge is part of faith.

There must be information of the object that you have faith in. Faith is not blind, but rather it is informed.

The knowledge of who God is, what he has done, has been revealed in Scripture, nature and our own hearts (*Romans 1:16-32*). So, there is a substance to faith. There is stuff that is known.

However, faith is more than knowing facts, like who

was the King of Judah during the Babylonian exile or where is Jerusalem. Many people can tell you who Jesus is and what Easter is all about, but knowing such information does not equal faith.

The next step towards Christian faith is being convinced of the truthfulness of what the Bible says. Do you believe that the tomb is empty, or is Jesus’ body still there — maybe you are not even sure if it made it there?

Do you believe that he was perfect in all he thought and did, or was he a deceiver sneaking off to have his own family after escaping crucifixion?

Fact or fiction, who decides which is which? Do we? Can I choose my own history or my own reality? I am afraid not.

Those who seek to rewrite history have no more authority than those who try to will the winning lottery ticket into existence. That will only work in fantasy, as anyone who has undergone any type of trauma can tell you.

Faith moves closer when we become certain of the truth of the historical testimony of the Bible (*2 Peter 1:16*).

What does it mean if we know that Jesus’ grave is empty? Knowing this bit of information and becoming convinced of its accuracy will get you as far as the devil in terms of moving up the faith ladder.

The evil one knows the gospel, but he detests it and

works against it (*James 2:19*). In order to have faith it must move our hearts to active trust.

Faith is lived out through action. It is one thing to say that you know a car is safe and reliable. It is entirely another thing to hop in it and drive it from Dallas to Detroit in February.

The degree to which we are assured of what we know about God is the degree to which we can trust him and do what he calls us to do. Faith is not our ability to get God to do what we want him to do, or the spiritual muscle we flex to change the outcome of events to our liking.

Faith is the ability to trust the living God by doing what is right in difficult circumstances because we know that he is in control and that he can be trusted.

Hebrews 11 is the hall of faith. There we read the stories of men and women of faith. Some of them triumphed on earth; some of them were horribly persecuted. All of them were commended for their faith, for their ability to trust God.

They knew that ultimately their reward was secured not by their personal victory, here and now, but because of Christ’s victory for them.

As a Christian, if you are not sure about your faith, I have a simple suggestion: Ask God. Go directly to the source and ask him to help you know, believe and trust him and his Word.

World War II Soldier properly identified

Public Affairs Office
25th ID (L) and USARHAW
Press Release

HONOLULU — After 62 years, Pvt. John Jedrzejek was finally laid to rest — with the correct spelling of his name on his tombstone — in a ceremony at the National Cemetery of the Pacific here July 1.

Jedrzejek, who was assigned to Company I, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, was killed in action Jan. 18, 1943, while participating in combat operations in Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands.

At the conclusion of World War II, he was buried here, since Jedrzejek’s widow, who was living in Poland at that time, could not be reached.

Jedrzejek’s family never really knew the exact location of his burial site, but in 1985 they were able to find out that he was buried somewhere in Hawaii. The reason behind the delay was the Army’s misspelling of the name.

It was Jedrzejek’s grandson, Adam Augustynski, who found the precise burial site of his grandfather.

Augustynski was a college intern working for a U.S. Senator in Washington, D.C. One day at work, he was introduced to the Secretary of Veterans



Spc. Juan Jimenez
Lt. Col. Michael Browder presents the U.S. flag and Jedrzejek’s awards to his family members.

Affairs, who told him, “If you ever need anything, son, let me know.”

About a month later, Augustynski recalled that his family never knew the exact location of where his grandfather was buried. He then gave the VA Secretary a call and told him his story.

“He said he would find him and he found him,” Augustynski said. “It turned out that after having some of the fine people of

the cemetery look around, that my grandfather’s name had been misspelled, and because of that, we were able to get the grave-stone changed and put the Purple Heart on there.”

The U.S. flag and Jedrzejek’s medals were given to his daughter, Genowefa.

Jedrezejek earned the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge, among other awards.

Voices of Lightning: “What do you miss most about childhood summer vacations?”



“...Not having to work. That was the best part.”

Capt. Willie Jumper
Co. D, 125th MI
Executive Officer



“...Being carefree and having no responsibility.”

Sgt. Steven Loiurio
125th Sig Bn.
Network Switching Systems Operator



“...Time to myself.”

Master Sgt. Kenneth MacCartney
HHT, 3rd Bn., 4th Cav. Rgt.
Transportation NCO



“...Sleeping in every day.”

Sgt. Buddy Robinson
25th Field Artillery Det.
Radar Operator



“...Being able to have fun for several days at a time - roadtrips.”

Spc. Daniel Yasurek
25th Transportation
Truck Driver

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Alaska’s Airborne covers the Pacific

U.S. Army Pacific’s Exercise Talisman Saber ‘05 wraps in Australia and Alaska

Brian Lepley
Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Alaska

FORT RICHARDSON, Alaska — The U.S. Army’s transformation to 48 brigades includes only one new airborne unit: the 4th Brigade, 25th Infantry Division’s Airborne Brigade Combat Team, activating here Thursday.

Its stationing in the Pacific region, home to America’s most important trading partners, is no coincidence.

The 4-25’s first battalion, Task Force 1-501 Airborne, is returning this week from Exercise Talisman Saber ‘05. The biannual combined force exercise in Australia involves more than 17,000 Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Special Forces from both nations and lasts four weeks.

The 1-501 Geronimos demonstrated their quick strike ability, jumping into Kopyang drop zone June 20, less than 20 hours after taking off from Alaska in a U.S. Air Force C-17 aircraft.

“U.S. Army airborne Soldiers flying nonstop from Alaska, and parachuting at night into operations with Australian Soldiers, unveils a new capability for U.S. Pacific Command,” said Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III, U.S. Army, Pacific commander. “The U.S. Army is fielding a new Airborne Brigade Combat Team in Alaska, providing substantial initial entry and contingency response options.”

The Australians, who do not jump at night, were impressed by the 1-501’s operation.

“They were unanimously amazed at our ability to go from Alaska to Australia without stopping and drop into an airfield and take it, especial-

ly at night,” said Maj. Craig Whiteside, task force training officer. “They felt there would be a tremendous amount of casualties; they had the equivalent of the 4077th MASH out there. We had one guy sprain a leg.”

After the airfield seizure, the 1-501 paratroopers and the 3rd Royal Australian Regiment reported to Shoalwater Bay Training Area, in Queensland, Australia, for a week of simulated battle with the Talisman Saber ‘05 forces.

“Working with the U.S. forces has been a great experience. They do some things differently so we have had to get used to that,” said Royal Australian Army signaller Allister Scott, 1st Combat Support Brigade. “It has been an eye opener for Australians and U.S. forces alike as we learned a lot from one another.”

“That was good international relations. We learned a lot from them, they learned a lot from us,” said Sgt. John Bailey, Battery B, TF 1-501. “It’s good to get out of the U.S. and see how other nations train.”

The 3rd RAR, Australia’s largest airborne unit, “fell in love with our

anti-tank unit, Delta Company,” said Whiteside. The unit uses Humvees to mount three different support fire weapons: TOW missiles, MK-19 grenade launchers, and .50 caliber machine guns.

“The Australians used these heavy weapons so much they basically kept Delta Company on their side throughout the exercise,” Whiteside said. “They’re very interested in getting that capability for their forces.”

While the rest of the 1-501 returned home to Fort Richardson, several task force Soldiers stayed in Australia to continue cross training and attend jungle training school.

“The opportunity to train our U.S. team with Australian commanders and Soldiers, as part of Talisman Saber, is a real operational plus,” said Brown.



Right — Pfc. Justin Drake of 4th Bde., 25th ID’s Task Force 1-501 Airborne, in Alaska, stands guard during a simulated attack in Exercise Talisman Sabre ‘05 in Queensland, Australia.



Photos by Cpl. Bernard Pearson

Above — Soldiers of the 4th Bde., 25th ID, Task Force 1-501 Airborne, in U.S. Army Alaska, attack during a night raid June 24 in Exercise Talisman Sabre ‘05 in Queensland, Australia.

Left — Talisman Saber’s primary aim is to conduct collective training and exercise interoperability between Australian and U.S. forces.



Air Force 1st Lt. Josephine Blas

A Soldier from Co. A, 294th Inf. Rgt. (L), pulls security while others drill a well in Africa.

Guamanians return from Africa

Guam Guard conducts mission at Horn of Africa

Capt. Juanita Chang
Public Affairs Office,
25th ID (L) and USARHAW

Africa? Guam? Why are you reading about Africa or Guam in a paper designed for Army personnel in Hawaii?

Hawaii is a vital mobilization station for National Guard and Reserve units supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Approximately 150 Soldiers from Company A, 294th Infantry Regiment (Light), Guam Army National Guard, returned to Hawaii June 28 after serving a year with Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA).

The Soldiers were tasked to provide force protection for units throughout the CJTF’s area of responsibility.

Providing security to units performing medical and veterinarian civic programs and civil

affairs and engineering missions was only one part of the Guam and Indiana National Guard’s mission. The Soldiers’ mission was also to assist with personnel rescues and to conduct military-to-military training with African soldiers.

The CJTF-HOA’s mission is to detect, disrupt and defeat transnational terrorist groups operating in the region; deny safe havens, external support and material assistance for terrorist activity; counter the reemergence of transnational terrorism in the region through civil-military operations and support of nongovernmental organization operations; and enhance the long-term stability of the region.

The CJTF-HOA oversees counterterrorism operations in the Horn of Africa for U.S. Central Command as part of the Global War on Terrorism, as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The CJTF-HOA region encompasses the total airspace and land areas of Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti,

Yemen and Ethiopia, and the coastal waters of the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean.

Djibouti provides key access and infrastructure to the coalition engaged in counterterrorism operations across the Horn of Africa region.

The CJTF-HOA headquarters is at Camp Lemonier near Djibouti City and consists of approximately 1,400 U.S. forces and coalition partners and civilians.

The core CJTF-HOA headquarters was formed from elements of the 2nd Marine Division in October 2002.

The headquarters sailed from Morehead City, N.C., on Nov. 13, 2002, aboard the USS Mount Whitney joining forces already at Camp Lemonier in Djibouti to form what is the current organization of CJTF-HOA. (Camp Lemonier is a former French Foreign Legion Post owned by the Djiboutian government.)

Prior to their deployment, the Soldiers trained in Hawaii for seven weeks as part of their mobilization process.

News Briefs

Welcome Reception — The Ladies of the Hui O’ Na Wahine invite the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, community to their Welcome Reception for Mrs. Benjamin R. Mixon, Monday (July 11) at 6:30 p.m. at the Nehelani Club, Schofield Barracks.

The cost is \$12 and dress is aloha attire. R.S.V.P. to Kristen Flynn at 624-8199 or or to Kelly Albert at 624-7455, today. Or, e-mail dkflynn@earthlink.net or kelly.salbert@us.army.mil, today.

Kolekole Road — Kolekole is open from 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., seven days a week, to active duty and retired military regardless of branch of service, and military family members, DoD civilians and contract employees possessing a valid common access card.

Personal vehicles and motorcycles will be allowed admittance in a nonofficial capacity and must be under the two-ton limit. No bicycles, mopeds, scooters, joggers or pedestrians will be allowed. Call 474-4339 for more details.

Hurricane Panel — Join the Pacific Regional Visitor’s Center “Partnering in the Pacific” panel discussion “Hurricanes in the Central Pacific,” to learn about cooperative efforts between local, state and federal agencies to protect residents and visitors from hurricanes with programs for preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

This panel will meet Tuesday from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Pacific Regional Visitor Center, the second floor of Battery Randolph. Validated parking will be available.

The Central Pacific hurricane season runs June 1 to Nov. 30. For more details, call Michael Wong at 438-8866.

Power Outage — Dick Pacific Construction has scheduled a power outage on Saturday, July 16, from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. in Schofield Barrack Family Housing units, at the AAFES Shopette and Gas Station (Building 1167),

and at selected military facilities. For more details, contact Roxanne Birch at 624-2003 or Lindy Kunishima at 624-4108.

The power outage is needed to remove overhead electrical lines.

McNair Gate — McNair Gate, Schofield Barracks, will be closed from July 28 to 30 from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. in order to revise the traffic pattern in the McNair Gate area.

Leadership Changes

- The 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, community is invited to attend change of command ceremonies taking place in July.
- Each will be preceded by an awards ceremony, 15 minutes prior to the change of command, and all will be held at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks, unless noted otherwise.
- Today, 10 a.m.,
Pohakuloa Training Command
Lt. Col. Fred S. Clarke
will relinquish command
to Lt. Col. Kimberly A. Rapacz
at the PTA Headquarters Building.
- Monday, 10 a.m.,
Command Sgt. Maj.
Franklin G. Ashe will be honored in a
Flying V ceremony.
- Tuesday, 10 a.m.,
125th Finance Battalion
Lt. Col. Domenico Rossi
will relinquish command to
Lt. Col. Roosevelt Corpening.
- Wednesday, 10 a.m.,
Brig. Gen. Francis J. Wiercinski,
incoming assistant division
commander (support) will be
honored in a Flying V ceremony.
- Thursday, 10 a.m.,
84th Combat Engineer Battalion
Lt. Col. Jeffrey Eckstein
will relinquish command to
Lt. Col. Richard Toy.

Mixon

From A-1

have those experiences prepared you to become a division commander?

Maj. Gen. Mixon: Most of my experience is at the division or lower level so I fully understand the requirements for training for war. I also have a great appreciation for what it means to take care of Soldiers and their families.

My philosophy is to ensure that this division is prepared to fight in the Global War on Terrorism, and to do so in a joint interagency, and also a combined effort — while at the same time, taking care of those families that may be left behind in the event that we deploy.

HAR: Sir, you're taking over the division at quite a challenging time in the division's history. What are your goals while you're commanding the 25th Infantry Division?

Mixon: These are extremely dynamic and challenging times for the division. We're going to transform like no other division has transformed.

We're going to transform our two Infantry brigades: one to a Stryker brigade and one to a light infantry brigade combat team. We're going to transform the division headquarters, and at the same time the Garrison is going to transform into a flagship installation.

These are very, very dynamic times. The challenge here is very important that we keep our Soldiers and their families informed as to what's changing, and to manage that change with as little disruption as possible.

HAR: What other challenges do you see ahead for our Army and our division?

Mixon: For the division, it's clear, we've got to maintain our wartime focus. It is true, we are transforming, we all know that, but we are still at war fighting in the Global War on Terrorism, which will last a long time.

So, we must maintain our focus

while we transform, and at the same time, make sure that our families are well taken care of.

HAR: Sir, you mentioned the word transformation. Family members, and even some Soldiers, don't really know what transformation is, but they know it is a time of change and of challenge.

What would you like to say to Soldiers and their families about getting through this challenging time?

Mixon: I'd like our Soldiers and their families to think of it this way: We have change in our families, we have change in our organizations and that's what transformation is.

This change will make our Army a better and more effective fighting force, while at the same time, improving the quality of life for our Soldiers and their families. For example, on Schofield Barracks, new housing is going to be built on the old golf course. That's transformation. That's change.

So, while we are changing the force structure of the Army, at the same time, we are changing the way we support Soldiers and their families.



Spc. Juan Jimenez

Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon and his wife, Rhonda.

HAR: Sir, you just left the United States Southern Command, a joint command. Do you see more joint training, more joint operations in the future of the 25th Infantry Division?

Mixon: Absolutely. We will need to be experts at joint operations in the United States Army. That's part of the reason we are changing.

We're changing our organizations so that we're more expeditionary, in other words, that we can deploy faster. We're changing our division headquarters structure so that we can be more "joint" in our ability to command and control forces on the ground.

So, joint is the name of the game, and joint is what we're going to be experts at.

HAR: Sir, deployments are a fact

of life in today's Army. What is your guidance to subordinate leaders on ensuring that Soldiers and families are taken care of during deployments?

Mixon: My guidance to subordinate leaders is that family readiness groups are absolutely essential to the success of our deployments. This is command business.

Commanders must be involved in family readiness groups. They must select personnel for rear detachment commanders that know their business and that are able to take care of families in conjunction with the family readiness groups.

This is the key to having good rear detachment operations while troops are deployed.

HAR: Sir, retention is also an important issue in today's Army. In these exciting times, how do we keep our best and brightest troops in uniform?

Mixon: My theme that I come to the Division with is that we need to make sure we are well trained, while at the same time, taking care of families. That is the key to retaining good Soldiers.

I believe that if Soldiers have confidence in their units, they can go to war and they can win, and the families know that they will be taken care of while their Soldier is deployed. We will keep those Soldiers and their families in our units.

HAR: Families are an integral part of the Army team, sir. What message would you like to send to families in the 25th Infantry Division and U.S. Army, Hawaii?

Mixon: The message to our families is to be patient. Know that the road to change sometimes has a few bumps in it.

We will manage that change to make sure it has as little disruption as possible. But rest assured that our Army is going to do its very best to see that our families are taken care of.

HAR: Is there anything else you'd like to add, sir?

Mixon: In closing, what I'd like to say to Soldiers and family members is that it's truly an honor for my wife, Rhonda, and me to be selected to come to the 25th Infantry Division, and we're very proud to be here.

We look forward to working with all the members of this community.



Photos by Sgt. Sean Kimmons

'First In, Last Out' battalion makes final cut

Capt. Kevin A. McQueary
65th Engineer Battalion

The first change of command for the new 25th Infantry Division (Light) Commanding General Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon was one of

historical significance: a final entry into the division's storied history concerning the 65th Engineer Battalion.

June 30 marked the final change of command for the unit in its present form as Lt. Col. Andrew

V. Jasaitis passed the guidon to incoming commander Lt. Col. Bryan P. Truesdell.

A steady tropical breeze took the edge off the late morning sun as the Sappers of the 65th Engineer Battalion formed up on Sills

Field, Schofield Barracks, for their final significant event as a unit preceding the division's transformation.

Following the traditional passing of the guidon, Assistant Division Commander (Operations),

25th ID (L) Brig. Gen. "Mick" Bednarek opened with remarks extolling the accomplishments of the "heart of combat engineering operations in the Pacific.

See "65th Engineers," page A-6

Safety

From A-1

said Sgt. Curry Eversole, 25th Transportation Company retention noncommissioned officer. “This course helps to get rid of them and makes us better riders. I have been riding for fifteen years, and still I was able to learn a lot while going through the course.”

Once you have received an MSF card, it never expires, but motorcyclists still need to be evaluated on their motorcycle at each duty station they take their motorcycle to.

“Every motorcycle is different and has different capabilities,” said Davis. “So, even if someone has been riding for years, they should go through the course to make sure they know how to handle the bike they are riding at this time.”

To ensure all riders know the policies and proper riding

techniques, the Basic Riders Course consists of one day in the classroom and two days at the motorcycle safety range at Wheeler Gulch.

“Every time a Soldier gets into an accident, on or off base, our office has to do an investigation to make sure all policies have been adhered to,” Davis said. “During that investigation, we check the stopping time, based on the skid marks, to ensure the Soldier wasn’t speeding.

“Another thing that we check during the investigation is whether or not the Soldier had on all proper protective equipment, which includes a Department of Transportation or Snell-approved helmet, gloves, sturdy pants such as jeans, long sleeves, shoes that cover the ankles and a reflective vest,” said Davis.

“While there are several different types of helmets available, only full face or three-quarter helmets are approved by DOT. If the three-

quarter helmet is worn, protective goggles must be worn as well since there isn’t a face shield.”

While all of this sounds like a great deal to wear and do in order to ride a motorcycle, these things can save a Soldier’s life in an accident.

“If the Soldier is missing even one thing such as the reflective vest — on or off post, the Army will not cover medical bills, and in case of death in the accident, life insurance will be voided,” said Davis.

Anyone who wants to attend the course must file a request form through the Installation Safety Office on Wheeler Army Air Field.

“The Basic Riders Course is held every Monday through Wednesday, and the Experienced Riders Course every Friday,” said Davis. “If riders would like to take both courses, they must wait six months after taking the Basic Riders Course to go through the Experienced Riders Course.”

65th Engineers

From A-5

“They have done what others have not done,” Bednarek explained. “They have done what others cannot do.

“Regardless of mission, when the call goes out,” he continued, “these Lightning Sappers are always there. They always perform above the standard, as is the Engineer way of the 65th.”

In emphasis of that point, Bednarek mentioned not only the omnipresent support provided by Sappers throughout the division during the deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, but also that immediately following return from the war fighting, a team sent by the 65th Engineers came in first place at the inaugural Best Sapper Competition held at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., against the most

elite Engineer teams in the Army.

Jasaitis also spoke with great respect for the troops under his command and recounted their accomplishments during his tenure. He noted their efforts in the Global War on Terrorism and their continued stewardship in the community as demonstrated by their relationships with Solomon Elementary School, Helemano Plantation and the Palama Settlement.

“This has been the highlight of my career, of my life,” Jasaitis said. “What these Sappers have accomplished in the Global War on Terrorism is amazing.

“This battalion-sized element was spread thin across two major theaters of operations, yet in every instance, made a significant impact in the success of anti-terror

and reconstruction operations despite remarkable hardships,” Jasaitis continued. “It has truly been an honor to be a part of this great organization.”

Truesdell was straight and to the point about the event.

“I couldn’t think of a better battalion to take over,” he emphasized. “There is no unit I’d rather join under these demanding times.”

During the division’s transformation this August, the 65th Engineer Battalion will deactivate and become an entirely new entity called the Brigade Special Troops Battalion for the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team. It will lose one Engineer company to the Stryker Brigade, but gain a Signal Company, a Military Intelligence Company, and a Military Police Platoon.

2-11 FA stresses ‘know’ motorcycles

Story and Photo by
Spc. Cheryl Ransford
17th Public Affairs Detachment

Some units such as 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, are conducting Safety Days to put emphasis on the importance of Soldiers remaining safe at all times.

“Each time we conduct a Safety Day we are going to focus on a different aspect of safety,” said Lt. Col. Stephen Myers, 2-11th FA Rgt. commander. “For this quarter, we selected motorcycle safety because many Soldiers are coming back from the deployments and buying motorcycles that they don’t have the experience to ride.”

That lack of experience is what is causing so many Soldiers who made it through the combat zone to come home and lose their lives on the highways, he said.

“If Soldiers want to ride a motorcycle, they should research it, take the safety course and know what they’re getting into,” said Myers. “Knowing how to properly ride a bike and knowing the capabilities of the bike you are riding can keep you safe on the road.”

The activities at the Safety Day event started with sounds of awe from the Soldiers as Capt. Tripp Baldwin, 2-11th FA physician assistant, drove his Harley “Fatboy” into the battalion formation.

Baldwin then spoke to Soldiers about the different types of injuries they could occur during a motorcycle accident, to include things he has seen at the clinic or Tripler Army Medical Center.

From there, the Soldiers broke down into platoons and started going through the stations set up for the day.

See “Motorcycle,” page A-8



Capt. Tripp Baldwin, physician assistant with HHS, 2-11th FA, briefs Soldiers about the various injuries that can occur if safety precautions are disregarded.

DEPLOYED FORCES

Dustoffs hasten to the rescue

Story and Photo by
Spc. Jason R. Krawczyk
20th Public Affairs Detachment

JALALABAD PRT, Afghanistan — With service members spread throughout Afghanistan conducting combat operations, it's essential that medical evacuation assets are positioned to most effectively support operations. That is why Dustoff has moved a helicopter and crew to the Jalalabad Provincial Reconstruction Team.

A crew made up of pilots and medical personnel from 68th Medical Company Air Ambulance from Alaska and Hawaii, 159th Medical Company Air Ambulance and the 45th Medical Company, both from Germany arrived at Jalalabad PRT in May.

“Dustoff’s goal is to preposition assets as forward as possible to make sure the patient can get to care in the first critical hour,” said Warrant Officer James Neal, a pilot with Dustoff.

“The care a patient receives in the first hour after the injury occurs is a major factor in whether that patient lives or dies,” said Staff Sgt. James Carwell, a flight medic with Dustoff. “That first hour of care is the most critical. Getting a patient to a forward surgical



A medical evacuation aircraft hovers over the Jalalabad Provential Reconstruction Team.

team in an hour improves their chances of survival greatly.”

The closer Dustoff helicopters and crews are to where they need to be the quicker their response time will be.

But, getting Dustoff to the site is half the battle. Once on site, they start their real jobs — saving lives.

“Sometimes we do stuff as simple as moving a patient from one place to another. Other times, we find ourselves under fire, hoisting an injured patient from a combat zone,” said Carwell. “Every mission is unique and has its challenges.”

Once the patient is onboard, Dustoff has many tools to help them save lives. “We have 16 drugs onboard, chest tubes, oxygen and much more,” said Carwell.

Dustoff finds itself mostly handling Afghan children and teens. “The majority of our calls are for Afghan kids who have stepped on landmines or teenagers operating machinery,” said Neal.

Dustoff plans to keep expanding the deployment of its assets around Afghanistan. Currently they have crews in Jalalabad PRT, Salerno, Kandahar and Bagram Airfield.

IMA names top Soldiers

Installation Management Agency
Pacific Region News Release

FORT SHAFTER — Staff Sgt. Ricky Gourdine, U.S. Army, Japan, and Cpl. Salvatore Delarosa, U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, earned Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and Soldier of the Year honors, respectively, in competition conducted here by the Installation Management Agency.

Both Soldiers were honored in an award ceremon, and both received the Army Commendation Medal and a variety of gifts, including a \$1,000 check from the Pacific Region Morale Welfare and Recreation.

The Soldiers were interviewed by a panel of command sergeants major on many subjects to include various Army regulations,



Gourdine



Delerosa

military history and chain of command prior to winners being selected.

Gourdine is the Operations and Training Noncommissioned Officer at U.S. Army, Japan’s Camp Zama.

Delarosa is a driver for the USO Liaison, 25th Replacement Detachment, at Schofield Barracks.

Tripler, Schofield earn gold seals

Briana Kaya
Public Affairs Office, Tripler Army Medical Center

HONOLULU — Tripler Army Medical Center and the Schofield Barracks Health Clinic have achieved accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). Each demonstrated full compliance with the highest national standards for safety and quality care.

To maintain accreditation, Tripler and Schofield staffs underwent a voluntary on-site evaluation in

December 2004. Their performance was measured by the most rigorous standards in the health care industry.

According to the JCAHO’s team of professionals, which consisted of administrators, physicians and nurses, Tripler met all National Patient Safety Goals and was in full compliance with all National Quality Improvement Goals.

“Above all, the national standards are intended to stimulate continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in an organization’s performance and the outcomes of care,”

said Kurt Patton, the executive director of the Hospital Accreditation Program. “The community should be proud that Tripler Army Medical Center is focusing on the most challenging goal to continuously raise quality and safety to higher levels.”

JCAHO, a not-for-profit organization, is the world leader in evaluating quality and safety care in more than 17,000 health care facilities.

ON THE WEB

To compare hospitals here, visit www.jcaho.org at “Quality Check.”

Divorce

From A-2

about 600 retreats scheduled Army-wide, each with 20 to 50 couples attending. For Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers, there are weekend retreats. Active component Soldiers have one-day events and overnight retreats. All U.S. states and territories have an event scheduled. Soldiers and their spouses

can contact their State Family Program Office to find out what is being offered in that state. Chaplains and chaplain assistants are also available to assist Soldiers wanting to talk. “They have a relationship usually with that unit,” Bloomstrom said of battalion and brigade chaplains.

“There is a real benefit having them involved, as opposed to someone you don’t know.” Scheider mentioned that Soldiers also trust the unit chaplains because of the confidential communication. **Divorce statistics** There has been a doubling of total Army divorces from

the 2000 fiscal year to the 2004 fiscal year – an increase of nearly 5,000 divorces over this period. A year before September 11, total active duty Army divorces were at 5,658 among 255,353 marriages. Divorces rose a year later to 7,049 from 248,180 marriages. Still, these statistics can be misleading.

Bloomstrom explains that if it is a dual military couple, the divorce counts twice. He also said the statistics do not take into account if these Soldiers are married and divorcing for a second time. He points out that normally, couples face a 50-50 chance of their marriage surviving. Couples in their second marriage face a 60-70

percent chance of their marriage ending in divorce. Bloomstrom said that the Army needs to focus on its well-being. “We recruit a Soldier, and retain a family,” he said. “We need to listen to the other part of the fighting force which is the family that stays home and supports the Soldiers.”

Motorcycle

From A-6

into platoons and started going through the stations set up for the day. At one station, Soldiers received a brief on proper personal equipment [PPE], to include what is not authorized according to post policy. One major point of one brief was the type of vests Soldiers are authorized to wear on post. “There are many vests on the market for riders to wear,” said 1st Sgt. Richard Miles, Battery B, 2-11th FA. “However, for the vest to qualify as PPE, it must have two reflective strips in the front and back that are horizontal and vertical, which means the Harley Davidson vests that only have vertical reflective strips are not authorized.” When the Soldiers got to Davis’ station, they learned about after-market parts for motorcycles and received evaluations of their own bikes. “If you were to walk into a motorcycle store, you would see a lot of things that can be added to a motorcycle to make it look unique such as undertails and blinkers,” said Davis. “But not all of them are authorized by AR 385-55 or post policy. “For instance, all motorcycles must have a license plate to be authorized on post. But some of the undertails that can be purchased don’t have a place to mount one,” he said. “Also blinkers must be nine inches from center line on either side in the back, and four inches from center line on the front. Not all blinkers that are for sale meet those requirements. “Before [buying] an after-market part [for] your bike, make sure it complies with post policy and Army regulation,” he added. At another station that was led by military police, Soldiers saw how speed is detected, regardless of the direction the person is traveling. “Most people think speed can only be detected if the vehicle is moving toward the radar,” said Spc. Clayton Kaneakalau, 13th Military Police Detachment, traffic/accident investigator. “But the truth is, the radar can detect speed in either direction. Also, some radars can detect speed while moving, so just because the officer isn’t stopped doesn’t mean they aren’t checking speeds of the vehicles on the road.” “Even though I don’t ride a motorcycle, it is important for everyone to know how to be safe around them,” said Sgt. Justin May, Headquarters and Headquarters Support, 2nd Bn., 11th FA Rgt., senior radar operator. “Focusing on safety in this way teaches people to pay more attention to motorcycles on the road. It’s important to know there are other people on the road and how to be safe at all times.” Whether you ride a motorcycle or drive a car, being safe is everyone’s responsibility, said Baldwin.



Sgt. Sean Kimmons
Public Affairs Office, 25th ID (L) & USARHAW

Every year on the fourth day of July, Americans join together to pay tribute to its nation’s great history.

For many Americans, especially military service members, the Fourth of July means more than just a day off from work.

Many can’t help but feel a sense of pride when patriotic songs are played over loud speakers during Independence Day celebrations.

Impressive fireworks displays, among other ceremonial honors, emerge to celebrate throughout every corner of this unified country.

The island of Oahu was no different.

On Schofield Barracks, a “4th of July

Spectacular” was held, featuring a Global War on Terrorism ceremony, music from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Band and other local entertainers, plus games, rides and food. The day culminated with fireworks.

At Kaneohe Bay, Marines held “BayFest,” a four-day extravaganza with abundant mainstream musical entertainment. The rock group Lynyrd Skynyrd performed; so di Papa Roach, Montgomery Gentry and Brad Paisley. BayFest, as well, provided four nights of fireworks by the world-renown Grucci Brothers.

In addition to those military Fourth of July celebrations, Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base held events that featured fun and entertainment for the whole family. Fireworks also capped off their nights.



Spc. Juan Jimenez



Spc. Juan Jimenez

The fans go wild as the rock band Papa Roach sing its famous song “Last Resort” at BayFest, held at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.



Noralynne Mullen

Above — Soldiers stand proudly as they hold their unit colors and hear of great accomplishments in OIF II and OEF at the Fourth of July celebration at Schofield.

Left — The Society of Creative Anachronism, which recreates medieval times, provides demonstrations at Schofield Barracks. Sir Marco and Lord Thorfin fight for control.



(Above) U.S. Navy Photo by PH2 (AW/SW) Justin P. Nesbitt

Above — Construction Master Chief Bruce Barr of the 30th Naval Construction Regiment Hawaii gives his son a helping push on the rock wall during festivities at Pearl Harbor.

Right — Jerry, a member of the Papa Roach band, electrifies crowds with his guitar at the Marine Corps’ BayFest in Kaneohe Bay.



Spc. Juan Jimenez



Spc. Juan Jimenez

Above — Children enjoy themselves by petting the animals during the Fourth of July festival at Schofield Barracks.

Below — Banana boaters enjoy the Independence Day sunshine on the waters of Hickam Beach.



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Sarah Kinsmo



JULY

8 / Today

Summer Camp — Meet new people, go on field trips and have fun. The Schofield Teen Center is sponsoring a Middle School Teen Summer Camp and applicants are now being accepted.

Today is the last day to register at Resource and Referral. Cost is \$25 per week. Call 655-0451 for more information.

9 / Saturday

Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament — Get ready to duel at the Tropics. Registration will get underway at 1 p.m. for this tournament, and the duel starts at 2 p.m.

Cost is \$6 and includes merchandise. Prizes will be awarded, and all ages are welcome. Call 655-0002 for more details.

Tropic Lightning Museum — The museum on Schofield Barracks will be closed today and will reopen on Tuesday. For more details, call Ms. Hee at 655-0438.

11 / Monday

Steak Night at Reggie's — Enjoy a sizzling steak cooked on the grill with a tossed salad, baked potato, rolls and vegetables. Dinner is served from 5 – 8 p.m.

Cost is only \$11.95 for adults. Call 655-4466 for information.

Kinderpop Kindergarten — This transition class for preschoolers and kindergarteners includes getting-along activities, story time, learning and singing songs, nursery rhymes, letter and number writing, tracing, counting and much more.

The class is open to children entering kindergarten in the year 2005 – 2006. This readiness class will be held

July 11 – 15 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Cost is \$65, and space is limited. Registration is first-come, first served, so call 655-5314 to get a spot.

12 / Tuesday

Preschool Story Time — Give your child an opportunity to love books; participate in our ongoing story time program by attending the next session being held today at the Fort Shafter Library.

Sessions will also be held tomorrow at the Sgt Yano Library and on Thursday at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Library.

Start time for all sessions is 10 a.m. Call your nearest facility for more information.



Let's Go Fly a Kite — Participate in a kite-making workshop conducted by High Performance Kites from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the Tropics, and create your own kite design.

Cost is \$1.50 for all supplies. Register by calling 655-8522.

Bungie the Clown — Don't miss Bungie the Clown at your nearest library. Bungie will visit the Fort Shafter Library today, Sgt. Yano Library on Wednesday and Aliamanu library on Thursday.

All appearances begin at 3 p.m. Call your nearest library for information.

13 / Wednesday

Cosmic Bowling — Experience bowling with a twist. Lights are dimmed, upbeat music is turned on and the room becomes illuminated in glowing lights.

Programs are held tonight and every Wednesday at Wheeler Bowl. Cost is \$1.50

per game and \$1 for shoe rental. Call 656-1745 for more information.

14 / Thursday

Bike Festival — Get a bike check-up and test your skills in riding at the Tropics. Enjoy bike contests, door prizes and tips on bike riding in Hawaii.

The program begins at 2 p.m. Sign-up today by calling 655-8522.

Youth Paint Bisque Party

— Select an item to paint and the finished product is yours. This party begins at 3 p.m. at the Tropics. Cost is \$15. Call 655-8522.

16 / Saturday

Latin Night at Tropics — Relax and dance the night away to the rhythm of Latin Music at the Tropics. This event begins at 8 p.m. Call 655-8522 for more details.

Parent's Night Out — Parents are invited to enjoy a night out; however, children must be registered with the Resource and Referral Office to participate.

Fees for Parent's Night Out are based upon pay grade, and reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline to register is July 13. Call 655-8313 for details.

21 / Thursday

Yo-Yo Workshop — Learn the latest yo-yo techniques from top experts in Hawaii. This workshop will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Tropics.

Cost is \$5.50 and includes a yo-yo to keep and take home. Preregistration is recommended. Call 655-8522 for details.

22 / Friday

Fondue and Wine at Reggie's — Savor a diverse fondue menu with friends tonight from 5 to 8 p.m. The selection includes a variety of fruits, breads, cheeses and chocolate.

Orders are accompanied by wine. Cost is \$19.95 for a party of four; however, each

additional person is \$5. Call 655-4466 for more information.

Military Idol — This contest is open to active duty service members looking to become a star. The multi-week singing competition combines aspects of the TV show "American Idol" with the talents of our military members.

The individual selected to be the top "Idol" here at Schofield Barracks will advance to the national Army-wide competition. Performances begin on Aug. 12.

Applications are available at the Tropics and are due July 22. Call 655-8522 for more details.

25 / Monday

Seafood Bucket for Two — Seafood lovers can dig into a variety of seafood including shrimp, crabs, clams and mussels, complete with selected side dishes and a pitcher of beverage at Reggie's.

Stop by between 5 and 8 p.m. and enjoy this delicious dinner for two for only \$19.95.

ONGOING

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers — Want to get involved in the community and don't know how? Join BOSS on one of its many volunteer outings.

BOSS works with many groups within the community such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Honolulu, Bowl Games of Hawaii, and the PGA.

Volunteers are always needed and welcome; call 655-8169 for more information.

Tropic Lightning — Enjoy a fast and hot lunch buffet, Mondays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Reggie's. Cost is \$8.95 per person. Call 655-4466 for more details.

Tropics and Starbucks — Visit the Ono Isle at the Tropics and enjoy hot and cold Starbucks specialties

such as lattes, cappuccinos, mochas, hot chocolate and much more. The Ono Isle continues to serve delicious pastries, desserts and smoothies.

Visit the Tropics in Building 589 on Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0002 for more information.

Pau Hana Friday — Enjoy cool refreshments and the chef's choice \$2 pupu platter every Friday beginning at 4:30 p.m. at Mulligans, Hale Ikena, on Fort Shafter. Call 438-1974 for more information.

Wraps at the Tropics — Enjoy one of the many varieties of sandwich wraps offered via Macgregor's Market at the Tropics. Selections include blackened chicken, spicy chicken, crispy chicken and tender chicken wraps.

Each item comes with a side dish, and prices range from \$4.95 to \$5.95. Call 655-0002 for more information.

Dollar Days at Wheeler Bowl — Play for \$1 a game and \$1 shoe rental, Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Wheeler Army Air Field bowling alley. For more information, call 656-1745.

Vehicle Safety Inspections — Bring your car to the MWR Auto Craft Center from the first of the month to the fifteenth and receive \$2 off the normal price of a vehicle inspection. Non-tinted windows cost \$10 and tinted windows, \$15.

Call Fort Shafter at 438-9402 or Schofield Barracks at 655-9368 for more details.

MWR Pet Kennel — The MWR Boarding Kennel located at the Halawa State Quarantine site in Halawa is an outdoor facility open to cats and dogs only.

The cost to board a dog is \$14, the second family dog in the same kennel, \$10. Cats are \$10 per day, the second family cat in the same kennel, \$5.

Call 368-3456 for more information or reservations.

at the Fort Shafter ACS. Participants will include the Naval Exchange Human Resources, CTA Staffing, Altress Staffing, and Child and Youth Services.

These organizations will be taking applications and interviewing for current positions, so dress accordingly and bring your resume. For more information, call 438-9285 or 655-2400.

Bodog Salute — Bodog.net will include the celebrity "Thank You to the Troops" charity event for U.S. military stationed in Hawaii, July 21 – 24 at the world-famous Waikiki Shell.

Entitled "Bodog Salutes Our Troops: A Tribute to American Heroes," this event will include celebrities, musicians, comedians, professional athletes and troops interacting in various activities including a prize-filled poker tournament, family picnic and softball game.

All proceeds will benefit the military Fisher House Foundation.



Exploring the Reef by Day — Spend a morning discovering sea slugs, collector crabs, spaghetti worms and other animals the low tide may reveal, July 21 from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Explore shoreline, reef flats and tide pool habitats with Waikiki Aquarium naturalists. Minimum age is 5 years, and youngsters must be accompanied by an adult. Preregistration is required; adults cost \$10, children, \$8.



Morning

6:00	Sign On
6:30	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 6
6:35	Coqui Frog Invasion in Hawaii
6:55	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 3
7:00	Bulletin Board
7:30	What's Down the Drain
7:38	White Face
7:53	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 3
8:00	Hawaii Army Report
8:36	Army News Watch
9:00	Pentagon Channel
10:00	White Face
10:20	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 6
10:26	Bulletin Board
11:00	Coqui Frog Invasion in Hawaii
11:21	Jake Shimabukuro
11:34	Maui
12:00	Hawaii Army Report
12:33	Pentagon Channel

Afternoon

2:00	After the Storm
2:23	Bulletin Board
2:53	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 6
3:00	Shamu: The Sea Turtle Story
3:33	Coqui Frog Invasion in Hawaii
3:57	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 2
4:00	Pentagon Channel

Evening

6:00	Hawaii Army Report
6:30	What's Down the Drain
6:38	Community Focus
6:53	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 6
7:00	NFL: Turf Talk
7:53	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 6
8:00	What's Down the Drain
8:09	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 4
8:14	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 5
8:24	Coqui Frog Invasion in Hawaii
8:50	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 6
8:56	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 1
9:03	White Face
9:32	Bulletin Board
10:03	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 5
10:11	NFL: Throwbacks
11:01	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 6
11:06	White Face
11:20	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 5
11:27	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 4
11:32	Coqui Frog Invasion in Hawaii
11:52	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 3

Overnight

Pentagon Channel

Community Calendar

JULY

8 / Today

Waikiki Aquarium — For the past nine years, the rice corals in the Waikiki Aquarium's Edge of the Reef exhibit have spawned two to four days after the new moon in June and July.

Join the Aquarium as it celebrates the rite of reef renewal, today from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Preregistration is required; cost is \$16.

Also, spend the night with sharks Saturday from 7 p.m. until Sunday at 8 a.m. Participants will design and build their own shark model to compete in the early morning "shark Olympics." Minimum age is 5 years, and youngsters must be accompanied by an adult.

Evening refreshments and continental breakfast are included. Preregistration is required; cost is \$35/adult, \$30/child.

Aloha Tower Marketplace — The Creative Dance Academy, a group from Australia that performs tap, jazz and modern dance, will be on hand at the Center Atrium of Aloha Tower from 11:30 p.m. to noon today.



Sunday, catch Shadiya and the Dancers of the Middle East when they perform the hypnotic moves of authentic Egyptian and Middle Eastern folk belly dancing.

These performances are scheduled the second Sunday of every month from 12:30 to 1 p.m. at the Center Atrium. For more information, call 566-2337, or visit www.alohatower.com for ongoing events.

9 / Saturday

Aloha Festival — Hawaii and Japanese halau are coming together Saturday through Monday for the 4th Annual Hula Ho'olauna Aloha Festival 2005.

This special weekend celebrating the rich culture and history of hula will feature a dance exhibition by Japanese and local halau at the Ala Moana Shopping Center, center stage, on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and a dance competition among many visiting Japanese halau at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel, Coconut Grove, on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The public is welcome to attend both events, but seating for the dance competition is limited to participating halau members and their family and friends.

For more information, visit www.jalpakhulafesta.com or call 347-2012.

McKinley Book Sale — The 58th Annual Friends of the Library of Hawaii Book Sale will be held July 9 – 16 at McKinley High School. More than 100,000 books will be offered for sale in every category and for every age group.

Shop the book sale on July 9 – 15 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.,

and July 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the McKinley High School Cafeteria. To volunteer, call 536-4174.



10 / Sunday

The Wave — All are invited to attend the "Crave the Wave," an exciting worship service that meets each Sunday at 10 a.m. at the Fort Shafter dining facility. Come fellowship and enjoy some coffee or soda.

For more details, call 438-1816.

12 / Tuesday

Protestant Women of the Chapel — The Schofield Barracks PWOC welcomes all military wives to its weekly Bible study and time of fellowship. A seven-week summer session called "Women of Faith" is currently underway at 9 a.m. in Room D-9 of the main post chapel.

This fellowship is an opportunity to make new friends and participate in book and scrapbook clubs. Free, prearranged child care and a supervised home school room are provided. For more information, contact Effie at 624-8251.

Free Computer Training — Army Community Service offers free introductory word processing computer training for spouses seeking employment. Training is conducted on five consecutive Tuesdays from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Spaces are limited, so don't delay in calling 655-2400 to register.

13 / Wednesday

Networking and Salary Negotiation Workshop — If you have ever wondered how people get great salaries, come and get information on networking basics, principles of salary negotiation and your market value, Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

To register for this workshop, call 438-9285.

14 / Thursday

Interviewing for Success — Does your stomach knot up when you think about going to an interview? If so, learn some hints and basic interviewing skills to be the best candidate for your next job.

This interview workshop will be held Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Army Community Services, Building 2091, Schofield Barracks. For reservations call ACS at 655-2400.

18 / Monday

Vacation Bible School — The Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel is now accepting applications for its Serengeti Trek Vacation Bible School, which will get underway the week of July 18 through 22.

VBS will be scheduled from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Children who are 4 years old by July 1 through students who have just completed sixth grade can attend.

For more information, call 833-8175 or 839-4319.

21 / Thursday

Job Fair — The Fort Shafter Army Community Service will host a mini Job Fair, July 21 from 3 to 6 p.m.

Fisher House gives shelter to Tripler patients, families

Sgt. Stephanie L. Carl
17th Public Affairs Detachment

HONOLULU — Overlooking Waikiki and Pearl Harbor, Tripler Army Medical Center outpatients and their families find shelter in the two identical sprawling homes known as Fisher Houses I and II.

Fisher House is a nationwide nonprofit organization

To volunteer with the Fisher House or to make a donation, contact Avi Porter at 433-1291, extension 28.

designed to provide a temporary home for hospital outpatients still receiving treatment, and the family members of those patients. Fourteen Fisher Houses are dedicated to military hospitals, specifically for use by service members, veterans and retirees, as well as their families.

Most residents find themselves at Fisher House with little or no warning, and many don't even know it exists until they arrive at Tripler.

"My husband was on business in Japan when he contracted a virus," said Susan Spano, whose husband, retired Air Force Lt. Col. Donald, is currently receiv-

ing treatment at Tripler. "He spent a week in a hospital in Tokyo before they transported him here."

Spano said just the proximity to Tripler makes Fisher House a tremendous help. And financially, staying at the house really eases the family's mind.

"My first thoughts were about taking care of my husband," said Spano. "I wasn't even thinking about cost."

But Spano knew staying in a hotel would be a huge financial burden. Instead, she is staying at Fisher House for \$10 per day. The cost varies depending on a family's current financial situation.

The house also provides a sense of well-being for families.

Spc. Michael Guerrero, 793rd Engineer Battalion, Guam National Guard, was flown to Hawaii for treatment after being injured in a mortar attack in Iraq. He and his wife, Tara, have been staying at Fisher House for nearly a month.

"Being able to be with him takes a lot of weight off my shoulders," said Tara. "I'm able to see firsthand what

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Wolfhound returns after 50 years

1st Lt. Neal Armstrong
2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

On June 17, the Wolfhounds of the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, hosted retired Col. Bud Sydnor, a former Wolfhound mortar platoon leader and assistant S-3 officer. Sydnor brought his entire family to Schofield Barracks to celebrate his 50th wedding anniversary with the Soldiers he held deepest memories of his time in the service.

Sydnor and his wife, Jean, were married in Soldiers Chapel in 1955. They wanted to see the small chapel again, to take pictures with family and reminisce on their early married years here at Schofield Barracks.

In addition to visiting the chapel, the Sydnors toured D-Quad, where Wolfhounds treated them to a display of some of the various weapons systems in today's light infantry battalion, weapons ranging from the M4 rifle, up to 81mm mortar systems.

Family members took the opportunity to get some hands-on experience with the weapons systems. Grandson Jake put on body armor — the advanced combat helmet and the modular lightweight load carrying equipment vest — to get a feel of the weight a Soldier carries into combat.

Once demonstrations were complete, family members continued on to the North Shore, while the retired colonel enjoyed chow with Soldiers in the dining facility. As they ate, the senior Soldier talked to the unit's newest generation of Wolfhonds, discussing various aspects of his career, including how he helped to plan and execute one of the most famous raids in history.

More than just a Wolfhound, Sydnor was also the ground forces commander



Capt. Ryan Piotrowski

Wolfhounds update retired Col. Bud Sydnor (center) about equipment now used in the battalion. Sydnor served with Wolfhounds in '55 and recently returned to share his 50th wedding anniversary with the unit.

of the famed Son Tay Raid during the Vietnam War. The mission of this raid was to rescue American POWs from the North Vietnamese Army. Although it failed, the raid did show the NVA that Americans were willing to go to any lengths to rescue their comrades, Sydnor said.

"We did not accomplish our mission, but many of my friends who were POWs at the time tell me that following the raid their living conditions improved," Sydnor recalled.

After lunch, Sydnor visited 2-27's battalion headquarters and received a briefing from Maj. Dan Wilson, the battalion executive officer, on the unit's recent operations in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Sydnor said he was especially amazed at how a light infantry battalion is able to operate and control an area of operations that equals the size of Vermont.

Following the briefing, Sydnor visited Fernandez Hall, the 25th Infantry Division (Light) War Memorial, and the Tropic Lightning Museum. At division headquarters, he paid his respect to fallen comrades. When conversation resumed, he compared the division headquarters of today with yesteryear.

Before the day of remembrances ended, Sydnor requested one last stop. He wanted to check in on Wolfhound living conditions as a promise to a former commander of Company M, 27th Infantry, a unit that used to reside where Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-27, now stands.

The most notable difference Sydnor observed were individual rooms. Fifty years ago, they were all open bays.

"I learned how to be a Soldier in the Wolfhounds," said the nostalgic former Wolfhound. A veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars, Sydnor is also a member of the Ranger Hall of Fame.

Tripler

From B-3

they have him doing and what the doctors are saying.”

Tara is also able to find comfort in the other families who are staying at the house.

“We all take care of each other,” said Lita Gonzalez, who is receiving outpatient care at Tripler. “This is our second family.”

Residents share laughter, tears and responsibility — helping each other open doors and load the dishwasher, but offering a shoulder to cry on when the day has been especially stressful.

Tripler Fisher House Director Avila Porter also finds fulfillment in the people at Fisher House. Porter spends her days tracking incoming and outgoing residents, ensuring all their needs are met.

“Every time I get a new family in, my family grows,” she said. “I’m learning about different cultures and traditions. And as sad as I am when they leave, I’m grateful for meeting all of the people I have.”

But Porter does have one hope for the house.

“We really need more volunteers,” she said. “And we

also accept donations of any kind. Everything inside Fisher House comes from donations.”

From the furniture to the food, Fisher House relies on the kindness of others. In the past, volunteers have even offered their time to cook meals for residents, using the spacious kitchen to give the residents a break from cafeteria and fast food. Unfortunately, the number of volunteers donating their time has dropped to two.

“We used to have people who would come in on a Saturday morning and cook breakfast for all the residents,” said Porter. “Now we only have two volunteers, and usually they’ll come pick up the residents and take them to the commissary, so they can go shopping.”

These little things mean a great deal to residents, many who have no transportation while they are at Fisher House. And they also mean loads to other family members who are worrying from afar.

“The way that we are taken care of here is a good solace for our families back home,” said Spano. “I’m just so grateful, and I know when we can contribute back to the Fisher House we will.”

Travel discounts available to Australia

Tim Hipps
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Military travelers can now purchase vacations to Australia for about the same cost as a getaway to Europe by visiting <http://www.offdutytravel.com>. Authorized Morale, Welfare and Recreation patrons can go to the Off Duty Travel Web site and click on “Joint Services Travel Specials” to begin a step-by-step process for building itineraries to a vacation Down Under.

After preparing their itinerary, patrons can visit a supporting Information, Ticket and Reservation office or Information, Tickets and Tours office to finalize booking, confirm arrangements and pay for their vacation.

“We’re estimating these packages will be 10 to 30 percent less expensive than anything else they’re going to be able to find,” said Dan Yount, chief of Army Leisure Travel Services at the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center.

MWR patrons can purchase eight-day trips from Los Angeles to Sydney, including lodging at three- or four-star hotels with some tours, starting as low as \$1,300.

Deals can be even more affordable for Soldiers on Rest and Recuperation



Photo Courtesy of Tourism Australia

Built for speed and strength, the kangaroo is an Australian icon and easily recognized as one of the country’s national symbols.

leave from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

“If someone is on R&R leave out of either Iraq or Afghanistan, the government will fly them any place that is shown as their destination on their leave orders,” Yount explained. “So when they’re planning their R&R leave, and enter Sydney, Australia, as the leave destination, the Transportation Office will arrange transportation to Sydney.”

The Australian packages are a combined Army, Navy and Marine

Corps ITR/ITT program available to active duty, members of the Reserve component, retired military, family members and Department of Defense civilians.

“Any authorized MWR patron [who] can provide proof of DoD affiliation is eligible,” Yount said. “This kind of a product hasn’t been available on a lot of military bases since 1999 ... and it’s never been available at a price this low.”

Honolulu, New York and Los Angeles are embarkation points.



JULY

8 / Today
Muscle Moves — This class is designed to tone your muscles using a variety of equipment, including bands, dumbbells, exercise balls and more.

Classes are offered every Friday at the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center at 11:45 a.m. Call 655-8007 for details.

9 / Saturday
Scuba Classes — Scuba provides individuals with an opportunity to earn their PADI certification over two weekends for \$175.

Instruction is held on Saturdays and Sundays at various locations depending on class content and skills being taught. Call 655-0143 for more information.

11 / Monday
Step Classes — There are a variety of step classes offered at the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center; including the dynamic multistep class being held today at 8:30 a.m., the step and ab class, and the step and pump class.

Classes are available to fit any individual's exercise regimen and goals, and they are held from Monday through Saturday. Call 655-8007 for more information.

12 / Tuesday
Flag Football Clinic — Registration begins today for flag football. Beginners

can learn about the sport and skilled players can work on their techniques. Skills and techniques covered include blocking, stance, receiving, flag grabbing and more. Clinic dates are Aug. 24 at the Alia-manu Military Reservation Field and Aug. 26 at the Bennett Youth Center Field located on Schofield Barracks.

Cost is \$12 and includes a T-shirt. Contact your local Army Youth Sports Office for more information.

Cheerleading and Flag Football — The cheerleading and flag football programs are open to youth born between 1989 and 2000. The season will run from Sept. 24 to Nov. 12, and registration begins today.

Cost for cheerleading is \$60 per person or \$20 if you already have a uniform. Flag football is \$45 per person. Call your nearest Youth Sports Office for more details.

Cardio Kickboxing — Classes are held regularly on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. at the Fort Shafter Gym.

Cost is \$2 per class or you can buy a 12-class punch card for \$11. Call 438-1152 for more information.

13 / Wednesday
Hatha Yoga — This traditional approach to yoga aids in relaxation and strengthening and lengthening muscles. Techniques can be modified based upon an individual's skill level.

Sessions will be held July 13 at 5 p.m. and July 16 at 8 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks Heath and Fitness Center. Call 655-8007 for more details.

Intramural Softball Standings							
Unit	Wins	Losses	Pct.	Unit	Wins	Losses	Pct.
East Division				Co. C, 1st Bn., 27th Inf.	3	5	0.375
407th MI	6	0	1.000	Btry. B, 3rd Bn., 7th FA	2	5	0.286
HHC, 25th ID (L)	5	1	0.833	Co. A, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.	1	6	0.143
58th MP	2	3	0.400	South Division			
JAG	2	3	0.400	Co. A, 125th Sig.	5	0	1.000
40th QM	2	4	0.333	Co. C, 25th Avn.	4	1	0.800
HHC, 2nd Bde.	0	6	0.000	Trp. A, 3rd Sqdn., 4th CAV	3	2	0.600
West Division				Co. D, 1st Bn., 25th Avn.	2	3	0.400
Co. B, 65th Eng.	5	1	0.833	Btry. C, 2nd Bn., 11th FA	1	4	0.200
Co. C, 725th MSB	5	1	0.833	HHC, 125th Sig.	0	5	0.000
Co. B, 225th FSB	4	2	0.667	Women's Division			
HQ & A, 725th MSB	2	4	0.333	58th MP	4	0	1.000
556th PSB	2	4	0.333	TAMC	3	1	0.750
HHC, 84th Eng.	0	6	0.000	3rd Bn., 7th FA	2	1	0.667
North Division				71st Chem.	1	3	0.250
HHC, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.	7	0	1.000	205th MI	0	4	0.000
Co. A, 1st Bn., 27th Inf.	4	2	0.667	225th FSB	0	4	0.000
Co. B, 1st Bn., 27th Inf.	4	3	0.571	<i>(Standings are current as of July 1.)</i>			



JULY

9 / Saturday
Annual School/Sports Physical Day — The Schofield Barracks Family Practice Clinic will hold its annual School Physical Day tomorrow.

If you have children who are new to Hawaii or are changing schools this year, this is a very important day for you.

To schedule an appointment, call 433-2778, extension 141. Appointments are for Tri-West Prime members.

For the appointment, be sure to bring your Tri-West cards, shot records, military ID cards and medical records, along with any forms your school may want filled out. Call 433-8153 for more details.

5K Banana Man Race — Jamba Juice will go bananas with Hawaii's wackiest race on July 9 at 7 a.m. You can participate in the 5th Annual 5K Banana Man Chase at Ala Moana Park (near McCoy Pavilion), to benefit Muscular Dystrophy Hawaii.

Race participants can run, walk, or stroll their way through the 3.1-mile (5k) course. The first three men and the first three women in each division to cross the fin-

ish line win a year's worth of Jamba Juice smoothies. In addition, five lucky winners that raise \$50 or more will be randomly selected to win a year's worth of smoothies.

After the race, there will be many more "a-peeling" things to enjoy, including Innovative Magic by Kaulana, music by DJ Cool E and balloon sculpting by Balloon Monsoon.

Pick up an application at any Jamba Juice location or download one at www.jamba-hawaii.com.

AYSO — The American Youth Soccer Organization for Hickam and Pearl Harbor Region 188 will sponsor a summer soccer camp July 18 on Hickam Air Force Base.

Boys and girls ages 4 to 18 are welcome to attend; no experience is necessary.

For more information and online registration, visit the AYSO Web site at www.aysoregion188.org, send e-mail to Camps@aysoregion188.org or call 834-6629.

ONGOING

Local Sports Calendar Briefs — Do you have sports announcements of upcoming events or activities you'd like to post in the Hawaii Army Weekly?

If so, e-mail your information to editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com at least two weeks in advance of your event or activity.