

INSIDE

Top personnel chief discusses issues

SGT. TYRONE C. MARSHALL JR.
Assistant Editor

HONOLULU—The Army's chief of personnel, Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck, took the time Feb. 17 to discuss Soldier issues affecting the force during a visit to Army Hawaii.

Hagenbeck provided insightful feedback on the changing state of the Army as it relates to the current transformation process.

He addressed a variety of issues ranging from Army restructuring



Hagenbeck

Soldiers in the 25th Infantry Division.

The chief began by discussing

and retention to pay and women serving in combat units. He diligently answered all the questions posed to him, which were compiled from

some of the upcoming ways the Army will restructure.

"We're going from a division-centric Army to brigade combat teams," he said, adding that military occupational specialties (MOSs) normally at division levels or higher will be sent to BCTs, which deploy to areas like Iraq and Afghanistan.

Switching topics, Hagenbeck briefly discussed the effects of the more modular Army on deployment schedules and the Stop

Loss/Stop Movement policies.

"The Stop Loss policy is all about building teams," he said. "It's like putting a football team together and now your wide receiver is going to leave in the fourth quarter."

He emphasized the intent is to build teams from the moment training for deployment begins, until the mission is complete.

Staying on the theme of deployment, Hagenbeck talked about the length of future deployments.

"In the foreseeable future, we're going to stick to twelve months," but, he added, "the model is out there. There's a potential in the out-years to go to shorter rotations."

The personnel chief also touched on retention.

"It is the highest it has been in recent memory," he said. "Records only go back about ten to fifteen years, but the

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Engineers raze and rebuild Afghanistan

Ninety projects, eight sites later, the 298th still kicks up dust

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Soldiers caught 'red-handed'

Members of the 540th continue to make their mark in the community

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Fists of fury strike!

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Pvt.2 Matthew C. Moeller | 3rd Brigade Public Affairs

'Hallelujah! It's over.'

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 14th Regiment, Engineers Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, call cadence as they finish the 8.15-mile 22nd annual Great Aloha Run. More than 4,800 service members participated in this year's run. See full story on page B-3

Army begins tests of unmanned Stryker convoys in diverse terrains

Story and Photo by **LARRY EDMOND**
Army News Service

FORT GORDON, Ga. — Engineers conducting show-and-tell with a 20-ton robot on the last day of two weeks of trials on Fort Gordon were cautiously optimistic.

Karl Murphy, a software engineer from Robotic Research, said there was a new principle of "Murphy's Law" at work on the test field, Feb. 10.

"One of my professors reminded us that we have 'sight-ons' present whenever an experiment is being viewed," Murphy said. "The

more sight-ons you have, the greater is the potential for something to go wrong."

Tongue in cheek, he continued explaining that sight-on fields increase with the rank and reach of individuals viewing a test. With national, regional and local media rolling cameras, the "sight-on" field was very high that Friday.

The demonstration at Fort Gordon was a part of a much larger program of tests being conducted by the Robotics Technology Integration Team from the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research and Development Engineer Center,



Crews drive the Stryker robotically through the Fort Gordon range, testing the unmanned vehicle making 68 turns on a 100-mile course.

General Dynamics Corporation and its sub-contractors.

Jeff Jaczkowski, TARDEC electrical engineer and manager for this Robotic Follower Advanced Technology Demonstrator project, explained what the testing was about and why Fort Gordon was chosen.

Pointing to the two Stryker Infantry Carrier vehicles idling behind him at their base camp on Range 37, Jaczkowski said these vehicles are part of a larger program set to bring vehicle elec-

SEE STRYKER, A-10

Stryker makes debut at Expo

General public takes a look 'under the hood'

Story and Photo by **SFC. DANIEL BEARL**
Staff Writer

HONOLULU — The Medical Evacuation Vehicle (MEV) recently delivered to the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team debuted before the general public at the Health and Fitness Expo at the Neal Blaisdell Center here last weekend.

The MEV spent three days on exhibition for the crowds at the expo, as part of the events surrounding the Great Aloha Run.

"The public doesn't know what it is," said Capt. Arnulfo Martinez, from 25th Infantry Division's G-3, explaining the purpose of the exhibit was public awareness of the Stryker's capabilities and features.

"We have this vehicle here to show it to the community before the whole brigade stands up," said Sgt. Ming Chiu, from the 65th Engineer Battalion. "We want to show how quiet it is and that it meets EPA [Environmental Protection Agency] standards."

Staff Sgt. Adrian D. Gonzalez, a medic with Company C, 2-25th Forward Support Battalion, was one of several Soldiers who accompanied the vehicle and helped showcase it to the public.

The MEV is a lot safer than previous evacuation vehicles, Gonzalez said. The vehicle is faster and more durable, he explained, and it has the same holding capacity.

Patrons of the expo were allowed to climb inside the MEV where Soldiers demonstrated how

SEE EXPO, A-3

We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army organizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and letters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, coordinate with the managing editor at 655-4816, or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The editorial deadline for articles and announcements is the Friday prior to Friday publications. Prior coordination is mandatory.

Articles must be text or Word files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital, high resolution, jpeg files with captions and bylines.

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VA seeks billions to improve GI Bill

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
News Release

\$80.6 billion budget breakdown

WASHINGTON – The Secretary of Veterans Affairs detailed the Administration's \$80.6 billion request, the largest dollar increase in discretionary funding for VA ever requested by a president, at an oversight hearing last Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Chairman Steve Buyer (R-Ind.) held a full committee oversight hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) budget request for the 2007 fiscal year.

"It is worth noting that the President has proposed substantial increases in the budgets of four agencies: the Departments of Defense, State, and Homeland Security - agencies focused on fighting the war on terror; and the Department of Veterans Affairs - an agency focused on caring for those who have borne the battle," said Buyer.

Chairman Buyer commended Secretary of Veterans Affairs R. James Nicholson for his leadership in examining and learning from the problems with VA's budgeting process that led to funding shortfalls in fiscal years 2005 and 2006, both since corrected by supplemental funds.

The Administration's FY07 budget request for the VA includes:

- \$36 billion for Medical Care; a 12.2 percent increase from 2006 (excluding supplementals and carry-over funding from FY06)
- \$42 billion in mandatory funding to support benefits programs: a 14.5 percent increase over the enacted level for 2006.
- \$3.2 billion in mental health services; \$339 million above the FY06 funding level.

"By improving the integrity of the process, this budget will more effectively meet the needs of this nation's 25 million veterans and their dependents," said Buyer. "The Secretary owns this budget," he said.

Buyer also praised the heroic response of VA employees to Hurricane Katrina, safely and quickly evacuating thousands of patients.

Buyer considers this budget a good first step, but acknowledged the committee has concerns with some items in the request. As it did last year, the Administration proposed that veterans who do not have service-connected disabilities, special disabilities such as

blindness, or lower incomes, pay a \$250 annual enrollment fee and higher drug co-pays. Congress did not support these fees and co-pay increases last year; in the current budget request, they account for approximately \$800 million in funding.

Further, Buyer said, "Given the Department's track record, the VA's projections of nearly \$3 billion in collections from third-party health care insurers appears overly optimistic." Buyer also noted potentially inadequate funding levels for VA's Inspector General, medical research and raised concerns about any reduction in staff needed to adjudicate claims.

Turning to the importance of helping veterans transition from the military and take full advantage of the educational opportunities, Buyer announced his support of initiatives to modernize the GI Bill.

"I welcome ideas and proposals such as one made by the Partnership for Veterans Education, led by retired U.S. Navy Vice Adm. Norb Ryan. The Montgomery GI Bill, as good as it is, does not reflect the realities facing today's service members, especially those in the Guard and Reserves. We must modernize the GI Bill," said Buyer.

Efforts to modernize the GI Bill would include enabling members of the Guard and Reserve to continue their education after they are discharged. In addition, increasing the flexibility of benefits would enable veterans to prepare for a wider variety of good jobs and careers.

Following Secretary Nicholson, testimony was received from representatives of veterans groups that develop the annual Independent Budget - AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Also testi-

fying were representatives of The American Legion and Vietnam Veterans of America. Some expressed concerns with fees and unrealistic projections for collections. Others discussed the potential opportunities offered by collaboration between VA and other entities, such as medical teaching universities. While these partnerships can enhance access to quality care, concern was expressed that veterans must have facilities and staff that are focused on the specific needs.

Closing the hearing, Buyer thanked the veterans' groups for their participation and told them that their input today and in next week's legislative hearings would be used as the committee develops its 2007 views and estimates for submission to the House Budget Committee.

"We have an obligation, established in law and in the very fabric of our faith as a nation, to compensate and care for those who bear the burdens of war and of military service, whether those scars are in body or mind. The work of this committee and our counterparts in the Senate must move us toward the fulfillment of that obligation," Buyer said.

LIGHTNING SPIRIT

Do you question orders from above?

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) J. ANDREW RIGGS
Deputy Community Chaplain, Schofield Barracks

An ancient story is oft told of a sentry standing at his post day after day with no apparent reason for his being there. One day, a passerby asked him why he was standing in that particular place.

"I don't know," the sentry replied. "I'm just following orders."

The passerby then went to the captain of the guard and asked him why the sentry was posted in that place.

"I don't know," the captain replied. "We're just following orders."

These responses prompted the captain of the guard to pose the question to higher authority.

"Why do we post a sentry at that particular spot?" he asked the king, who also didn't know.

So the king summoned his wise men and asked them the question, and an answer was forthcoming: One hundred years prior, Catherine the Great had planted a rosebush and had ordered a sentry placed there to protect it. The rosebush had been dead for 80 years, but a sentry was still standing guard.

For those of us in the military, we are taught from day one that we will obey the orders given to us by higher authorities. We even pledge to obey the orders of the officers over us when we take the oath of office just to join the Army and/or to re-enlist.

All who serve in the U.S. military must wear the uniform faithfully and dutifully. As well, all must obey the last order given until told to do otherwise. If we willingly refuse or neglect to follow orders, then we suffer the consequences.

If orders are not obeyed and carried out, especially on the front lines, people are injured or

killed, and the security of a unit and its mission are compromised - leading to further troubles. Faithfully and dutifully following orders of higher authority is part of who we are. It is automatic.

Each of us, whether military or civilian, have other orders or commands we are called to obey faithfully. Yet, too many times, we do not. These commands are those from God.

God calls us "children of God," and he freely gives us grace and love. We in return are to show our love to him by not only giving back to God, but also by giving all of creation that same love.

God says, "... love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another." (John 13:34). In the beginning of Genesis, God says, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth" (Genesis 1:26).

God entrusts us with the responsibility of caring for creation, as well as each other, and to loving him as we love ourselves.

Too many times, we ignore God's command thinking we know better. But why are we faithful to human commands and not God's?

Why can't we see God as the ultimate commander? Why aren't we afraid of or even concerned about the consequences of not doing as God commands?

Just as the sentries in the ancient tale automatically accomplished their duty without question, we should do the same as children of God. Let us remember who is the overall commander in charge and then willingly accomplish what we are commanded because we want to - out of love for God.

'Soldiers must be adaptive,' says Army's chief of staff

SGT. SARA WOOD
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The nature of the threat facing the U.S. military has changed drastically, and Soldiers need to grow and become more flexible to face that threat, the Army chief of staff said here Feb. 17.

In an interview with the Pentagon Channel, Army Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker said the Army now faces an asymmetrical threat, so Soldiers must be prepared to perform many different functions, ranging from high-end combat and untraditional warfare to stability operations and homeland defense.

"We now must cover a broader piece of the entire spectrum of operations, and because we have a force that is going to face challenges that will be dynamic and will move across the various challenges on the spectrum, we'll need people that are learning and adaptive," Schoomaker said.



Schoomaker

This new breed of Soldier, which Schoomaker dubbed the "pentathlete," will be skilled in his specific field but also be able to perform other functions, in case a need arises on the battlefield, he said.

"It's about having very athletic people in very athletic organizations - people that can play multiple positions, that aren't defined very narrowly by a specific military occupational specialty," he said.

Being an all-volunteer force that retains most of its people, the Army has a vested interest in developing its Soldiers to their highest capacity, Schoomaker said.

As Soldiers become more experienced at their craft, the force becomes more professional and ex-

pectations must be raised, he said.

"We can't act like we used to act and expect too little from the great talent we've got in our force," he said. "People will rise to the challenges that we place before them, and we expect that of our Soldiers - for them to be masters of their primary skills, to be very good at other skills, and to grow every day and adapt."

Soldiers are the centerpiece of the Army, and they need to realize that what they are involved in right now is very important and will have lasting effects, Schoomaker said.

The Army is undergoing its largest transformation in 50 years, he said, and it must endure through the growing pains to become a force that is more prepared to fight the long war on terror.

"It's an exciting time to be in the Army, and it is a time of extraordinary transformation," he said.

War Memorial project slowly inches upward

The 25th Infantry Division Association, a 56-year-old non-profit veterans organization, is the prime sponsor of the 25th Infantry Division War Memorial, adjacent Fernandez Hall at Schofield Barracks.

To date, the Association has raised more than \$80,000 of \$450,000 toward the cost of the memorial.

Contributions are accepted from the community at large at 25th Infantry Division Association, P.O. Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031-0007.



- \$450,000
- \$440,000
- \$420,000
- \$400,000
- \$380,000
- \$360,000
- \$340,000
- \$320,000
- \$300,000
- \$280,000
- \$260,000
- \$240,000
- \$220,000
- \$200,000
- \$180,000
- \$160,000
- \$140,000
- \$120,000
- \$100,000
- \$80,000

95 DAYS since last fatal accident

As your daily reminder to be safe, place a "red dot" on your wristwatch. Remember, a division training holiday will be awarded for the first 100 consecutive days with no accidental fatalities. A four day holiday/long weekend will be awarded for 200 consecutive days with no accidental fatalities.

Remember, be safe. Tropic Lightning!

Voices of Lightning: What should people know about the African-American culture?

(Editor's Note: Scan the history of African-Americans serving in the U.S. Army. See page B-1.)



"I don't really see color. I think we're all created equally."

Sgt. Willie West
HHC, 1-25th Aviation, Motor Transportation



"We're all in the same uniform serving the same cause."

Sgt. Navaja Rowe
Co. C, 1-27th Infantryman



"It's changed from our forefathers ... we just have to keep it going."

Sgt. Antoine Gore
Co. B, 37th FA Artilleryman



"We're not just locked in our own culture. ... African-Americans are just like other people."

Spc. David Bolden
500th MI Brig. Signals Analyst



"They've come a long way and are still continuing to progress."

Staff Sgt. Latrisha Granston
Co. A, Tripler AMC S-3, Operations and Training NCO



Japanese troops from the 21st Infantry Regiment, 9th Battalion, stand in formation and await the opening ceremony, Feb. 11.

American and Japanese Soldiers battle the cold of Japan's North Wind

Warriors exchange techniques in the winter wonderland

Story and Photo by
SGT. MAURICE SMITH
3rd Brigade Public Affairs

CAMP IWATE, Japan — As the snowflakes continued to fall and the weather dropped to freezing temperatures, hundreds of Soldiers from Schofield Barracks, as well as Japanese troops, gathered in formations side by side, proudly saluting one another the morning of Feb. 11, the official opening date of North Wind '06.

North Wind is a two-week, bilateral exercise that brings together U.S. and Japanese forces. This year, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, and troops from Japan's 21st Infantry Regiment, 9th Division, are participating.

"It is cold, winter time enemy combat," said Maj. Tetsuro Kagao, company commander, 21st Infantry. "North Wind is against cold weather."

"We will learn snowshoeing, combatives and counter-ambush training from the Japanese," explained Maj. Eric Schourek, executive officer for 2-35.

Known as the Cacti, the 2-35th will provide training on closed combat marksmanship, urban operations and war live fires, Schourek added.

Multiple salutes were exchanged at the opening ceremony between Soldiers of both nations and toward their respective flags. Once formations broke, Sol-

diers greeted one another with hearty handshakes.

Although there was a language barrier between many of the troops, this inconvenience didn't deter most.

"I am eager to learn from U.S. Soldiers because they have combat experience," said Master Sgt. Hisashi Hatakeyama, training sergeant, 9th Division.

Hatakeyama and his leaders are very familiar with the Cacti's past deployment to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. They know that 2-35th has a great deal of combat knowledge from OEF, and the Japanese forces are eager to learn and offer their own knowledge of wintry combat.

"We are the experts in winter training. We can teach you basic skiing and then how to combat in the winter," said Kagao.

The next two weeks will be followed by plenty of training and Moral, Welfare and Recreation events. The Soldiers from 2-35th will get a chance to tour some areas of Japan and to eat dinner in the homes of Japanese families.

"We also have an opportunity to conduct home visits with generous Japanese families, so we can better understand the Japanese culture," said Schourek.

"The Soldiers have already gotten accustomed to each other. They are proud speaking English. Also your [U.S.] Soldiers have never spoken Japanese before," said Kagao. "Because of this exercise, they have already communicated by way of heart to heart."

Expo: Faster, quieter MEV meets the public



Staff Sgt. Adrian D. Gonzalez, a medic team leader with 2-25th Forward Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, prepares a display of modern medical tools at the Neal Blaisdell Center, Feb. 17.

CONTINUED FROM A-1

litters carrying wounded could be fitted into the back. Civilians also saw the Stryker's state-of-the-art navigation system, which includes various situational awareness instruments and displays.

Getting the MEV to the convention center was a major challenge, said Martinez. The Stryker was transported by truck to the center at approximately 1 a.m., Feb. 16, to avoid traffic, he explained.

The morning of Feb. 17, the MEV made an appearance on KHON 2's morning news broadcast as the station previewed the expo.



The 9th Division band plays both United States and Japanese Army music selections during the opening ceremony of North Wind '06.

Cacti trade Hawaiian sun for snow

Story and Photos by
SGT. MAURICE SMITH
3rd Brigade Public Affairs

CAMP IWATE, Japan — On a Feb. 8 flight to Tokyo, I was awakened by the sound of airline snacks being ruffled in my ear. I was on aircraft in the wee morning hours with more than 100 3rd Brigade Soldiers from Company C, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment.

The Cacti, as they are known, were headed to a mission in Japan.

I tilted my seat forward and smiled at the flight attendant as I accepted some treats and asked for a soda. She gave me what I thought to be pretzels and soda, but I soon realized I was only half right. The cover of the bag read "Otsumami," some sort of Japanese cookie.

Curiosity satisfied, I casually shifted my neck to the left and gazed out of the small, oval-shaped window and saw something I'd never seen before — blankets of ice scattered across the Atlantic like a giant puzzle.

The duration of the ride was a little more than eight hours. The



East meets West — A soldier in Japan's 9th Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, greets a 25th ID Soldier at the opening ceremony.

weather was cold outside, but there was no snow. Cacti Soldiers were excited about seeing something new upon stepping off the plane into foreign soil.

The first sighting outside of the Narita airport was a huge Holiday Inn — but not new to Americans. As the Soldiers of Charlie Company secured their luggage of mostly ruck sacks and duffle bags, five buses awaited them for a 10-hour journey to Camp Iwata. However,

the Soldiers didn't mind being cooped up on busses for that long. The road trip provided a spectacular array of beautiful scenery.

The land was filled with mountains, a volcano and diverse architectural structures that some had only seen in movies. The downtown area of Tokyo stretched for miles, and it was flooded with cars and tall buildings extending into the sky.

Cameras flashed one after another as Soldiers took picture after picture. They joked with one another and traded foreign snacks, trying to guess what they were eating by taste alone.

By the time the Schofield Barracks Soldiers arrived at Camp Iwata, approximately 1:30 a.m., the trip had taken its toll. Just about everyone was worn out and asleep. All had awakened to piles of shoveled snow extending from the ground to their waists.

Luggage awaited Soldiers as they departed busses and moved into their new quarters. They arrived to rows of small, rectangular-shaped buildings filled with sleeping cots — one or two pot-shaped heaters fueled by gasoline stood duty to provide them heat.

The war-styled buildings, freezing temperatures and falling snowflakes snapped Soldiers back into reality. Their mission was before them. They arrived at Camp Iwata for joint training with Japanese Soldiers, the annual exercise called North Wind, in its sixth evolution.

Delta Company 'ambushes' Japanese soldiers

Soldiers from 2-35th teach and learn from Japanese troops during North Wind '06

Story and Photo by
SGT. MAURICE SMITH
3rd Brigade Public Affairs

CAMP IWATE, Japan — The call to combat can take a military down many different paths. Whether a fight involves engaging with ground forces or mounting an air attack, Soldiers never can be sure of what detours they will encounter on the battlefield.

Soldiers from Delta Company experienced this uncertainty as they demonstrated convoy reactions to an ambush with Japanese troops here, Feb. 10. The training was part of North Wind 2006, a two-week bilateral exercise where Japanese and U.S. armies teach one another combat techniques.

"The Japanese are, and have been for the last sixty years, more of a reactionary or defense-oriented army," said 1st Lt. Kourtawn Richardson, platoon leader, 2nd Infantry Battalion, 35th Regiment.

"As they take on greater offensive roles, due to the current operating environment, we're teaching them things that they are going to expect to encounter once they start going overseas and conducting missions on their own," he explained.

Convoy training lasted two days. Japanese Soldiers from the 21st Infantry Regiment, 9th Division, first learned tactics on chalkboards and then through demonstration.

During the ambush scenario, Japanese forces played both the enemy and convoy roles.



Japanese troops move "wounded" Soldiers after being attacked during their convoy training exercise at North Wind '06.

"It was the active concept of a vehicle being knocked out or disabled during a convoy operation," said Sgt. 1st Class James Wadsworth, platoon sergeant, D Company, 2-35th.

The ambush, which was triggered by both personnel and an explosive device, destroyed the lead vehicle. The Japanese Soldiers needed to react to sudden, direct fire using standard procedures. U.S. Soldiers evaluated their reactions.

According to Wadsworth, the Japanese troops took notes and quickly corrected deficiencies. They perfected their technique after but three scenarios.

"I was quite pleased with their ability to accept change and execute verbatim what we taught," said Wadsworth.

Thus far the two armies have trained each other on various combat techniques such as throwing hand grenades, reacting under direct fire and combatives.

"I think the last week or so of training is going to pretty much mirror, in some aspects, the things that we are going to be doing in Iraq, Afghanistan or wherever the global war on terror may take us," said Richardson. "Training forces to better protect themselves, or at least be in a better security posture, is just a staple of the United States Army, so we just try to do our part to make sure that is possible."

(Editor's Note: In addition to Delta Company, Soldiers from both Headquarters and Charlie companies are in Japan for North Wind '06.)

298th Engineers bring aloha to Afghans

Story and Photo by
SGT. 1ST CLASS STEPHEN LUM
117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Fifty-three Hawaii National Guard Soldiers from the 298th Engineer Detachment completed more than 90 projects in eight locations while deployed to Afghanistan this past year.

In the first month, the Hawaii engineers completed more than a dozen assignments on Kandahar Airfield (KAF) — without organic tools and equipment because the supplies were still on a military van making their way up through Pakistan.

“The vast knowledge and experience of the Soldiers [enabled] the 298th to know which selective tools and equipment to scrounge for,” said Staff Sgt. Julie-Ann Lo, full-time administration sergeant from Nanakuli, Hawaii. “Through much improvising and without sacrificing standards or safety, the unit was able to complete projects for the Vicenza, Italy-based 173rd Airborne Brigade [Combined Task Force Bayonet] units; [the] 864th out of Fort Lewis, Wash.; military police; [and] British and KAF base operations.”

The first month’s construction projects included setting up detainee holding cells; building a balcony with stairs, awning, rails and benches; repairing walls and trim for offices; building numerous desks and shelves; installing electrical conduits; and putting up concertina wire fences. Using borrowed equipment, the heavy equipment operators cut, graded, rolled and/or backfilled a motor pool, a camp ground, a mobility ramp and an entry control point.

In May, vertical sections of carpenters, electricians and plumbers were officially attached to Task Force (TF) Bayonet. The horizontal section remained with TF Pacemaker. In addition to KAF, missions started to move outside the wire, to small and barely built forward operating bases



Hawaii’s 298th Engineer Detachment guardsmen raise a wall for a POL (petroleum, oil and lubricant) barn in the Kandahar Airfield motor pool. The project is one of more than 90 the detachment has completed in eight locations in Afghanistan since 2005.

and incomplete road projects.

“Our crews are a blend of Soldiers who are journeymen trades’ workers in their civilian jobs, those who have their basic military specialty school training and eleven Inactive Ready Reserve augmentees,” said Sgt. Kirk K. Halemano, the Hawaii unit’s full-time training noncommissioned officer from Kalihi, Hawaii. “Job requirements lead to cross training and mentoring of carpentry, electrical and heavy equipment operation skills.”

The 298th sent the first of three vertical teams out and established operating and living quarters for the barren FOB Wolverine. Within two weeks, the team had assembled a shower and toilet stalls; a Tier-3 tactical operations center; a dining facility, a first aid, Morale and Welfare Recreation, and 24 Tier-1 tents, and a motor pool office with deck and shelves.

Despite encountering rocket attacks from

insurgents while performing their missions out at Wolverine, electricians set up generator power distribution and hooked up power, lighting and air conditioning units to all the newly constructed facilities.

Vertical teams sent to FOB Lagman and the Provincial Coordination Center in Kandahar City also successfully completed multiple projects at their locations.

“The trips to city were not without incident,” said Spc. Dane R. Cavan, an electrician from Kona, Hawaii. “On one convoy to Kandahar City, we ending up stopping to pull security ... because the convoy that left before was attacked by an IED [an improvised explosive device]. Fortunately, no one was injured seriously,” Cavan added, emphasizing, “Now that was intense.”

“Our engineers’ reputation brought repeated missions at FOB Lagman and PCC,” said Sgt. 1st Class Sonny Patoc, the 298th’s

first sergeant from Aiea, Hawaii. “While FOBs Sweeney, Aktar and Atghar each got two weeks of infrastructure upgrades. Through the 145-degree peak heat of the summer and the 20-degree lows of the winter, our engineers accomplished their requested missions and more.”

For more than seven months, the horizontal team supported the 864th Engineer’s Company “C” as lead operators. It assisted in the timely completion of Tarin Kowt and Sweeny roads.

“Hawaii’s experienced heavy equipment operators served as mentors to both Guard and active duty Soldiers,” said Staff Sgt. Leif E. Andersen, team leader from Haleiwa, Hawaii. “They did most of the cuts through the toughest and roughest mountainous terrain and much of the finishing work — driving 12- to 14-hour days — as long as there was sunlight.”

Yama Sakura unites both nations and U.S. military

MAJ. RICHARD A. STEBBINS
94th Army Air Missile Defense Command

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — War erupted here as the theater ballistic missile command got its first opportunity to work with their Japanese counterparts in an eight-day military exercise called Yama Sakura, which ended Feb. 3.

Soldiers from the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command took part in this annual joint bilateral computer simulated war-game to train military forces in the Pacific. The 94th worked with Air Force and Japanese Security Defense Forces personnel to provide ballistic missile support in a scenario designed to defend Japan.

Although the entire operation was conducted in Hawaii, Washington and Japan, the majority of the unit’s personnel involved in the exercise where located here in the Pacific Air and Space Operations Center, part of the Kenney Headquarters. Japanese air defenders and Air Force ballistic missile experts that functioned as one team were co-located at the Air Operations Center (AOC).

This was a dramatic step for the 94th AAMDC because it marked the first time it has worked with a bilateral partner; something its leaders expect to do more of in the future.

“It is a chance for us to get to know each other,” said Lt. Col. So Kanno, chief of the Japanese Security Defense Forces Air Defense Command.

Kanno and the other members of the Japanese Air Defense Command have worked with U.S. forces in the past and added that each time they learn new lessons.

Interoperability and mutual understanding are very important to build the coordination systems required for the two countries to be successful in future operations. The end goal is the ability to work together to defend their homeland.

While this was the first time working with another country, it is the second time the 94th AAMDC has worked with the Air Force in a major exercise. For ballistic missile defense, the co-location of Army and Air Force personnel inside the AOC is unique to the Pacific region.

Having a dedicated Army ballistic missile cell working closely with the Air Force not only makes sense, but is imperative for communicating quickly since the military is moving to more joint operations.

“We must be integrated as a military, not just an Air Force or Army,” said Brig. Gen. Gregory J. Ihde, vice commander of Kenney Headquarters and commander of the Pacific Air and Space Operations Center.

The 94th AAMDC was activated in October and is responsible for ballistic missile defense in the Pacific theater. It is the largest area of responsibility in the Department of Defense.

Entire family of seven deploys to Iraq and Afghanistan

SGT. BRENNAN KRAMER

864th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy), Task Force Pacemaker

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Mom to five sons and one daughter, Staff Sgt. Juue-Ann Lo of the 298th Engineer Detachment is currently deployed to the Middle East — along with all her children.

The Soldier mother joined the Hawaii National Guard 18 years ago with hopes of creating a better life for herself and her children. As the kids grew older, they came to realize that they, too, wanted the opportunity to serve their country.

All military personnel swear an oath to uphold the Constitution and protect the country. Their families, on the other hand, take the unwritten oath to live a life of frequent moving, lengthy separations and endless anxieties.

Military commitment requires a unique blend of patriotism, dedication, hard work and, most of all, flexibility. No other occupation in the civilian world expects its employees to be “mission ready” at all times.

It was never in Lo’s plan for her children to grow up and join the military. However, five out of the six children readily enlisted into the Army, knowing that the possibility of deployment was highly inevitable. They saw the military as an opportunity to get the head start they needed on their path into adult life.

“My children saw how the military took care of me while they were growing up. When five of them enlisted, I did what you might call a mother’s counseling session with them, ensuring they understood the entire commitment of being a Soldier,” Lo said.

It wasn’t long after Lo’s four sons and daughter joined the military that the call for deployment became all too real. One son was called to serve in Iraq, while the rest of the family was called to Afghanistan. With the ensuing separation in mind, the family came together for a huge family reunion in December 2004.



Courtesy Photo

Staff Sgt. Juue-Ann Lo (center) of the 298th Engineer Detachment, currently deployed in Afghanistan, is surrounded by her extended family, which includes her four sons who are deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Lo and her family are Pacific Islanders and strongly embrace their Hawaiian culture. Built upon the foundation of the ohana, the family, Hawaiian culture embraces the health of the community and all who share a common sense of aloha (love and compassion).

Hawaiians embrace the family as the basic unit of society, which is the best form of human expression. The Lo family, therefore, found it difficult to be apart during long deployments. However, they always keep in touch, communicating frequently through e-mails and their family Web site.

“My family is a real tight group. We keep in touch with each other as much as possible,” said Spc. Raymond Serrao, the 23-year-old son. “I even get to talk to my mother every once in awhile. It helps to hear her voice and know that she is alright.”

Serrao is currently deployed on his second tour to Iraq with the Aviation Troop 4/3 ACR.

“It’s nice having some family here; it makes it much easier to deal with deployment when family members are out here doing the same thing,” said Staff Sgt. Alton K. Serrao Jr., the 25-year-old son in Company F, 159th Aviation, currently deployed in Bagram, Afghanistan, while his mother is in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

“I am proud of my children as each of them took the challenge and committed themselves to serve their country. They have pride in what they do and love their country, just as much as I do,” Lo said.

Hawaiians define themselves by their relationships to each other, their ancestors and their land. Without these bonds of interconnectedness, they would be incomplete, said Lo. Therefore, family is the central value as it prevents the individual decline of society, she explained.

According to the mother, “You never know just how lucky we are to be Americans until you see what the other countries have or don’t have. We all serve because we want to serve, because we committed ourselves to serve.

“And we are lucky because we all have the opportunity to be a part of the preservation of the freedoms we enjoy as Americans.”

New DPW markers, signs commissioned to protect waters



A straw tube partially blocks a storm drain, preventing most of the runoff sediments from reaching local streams and bays. Sediment is classified as a pollutant by the State of Hawaii.

RUSSELL LEONG
Directorate of Public Works

HONOLULU – As part of the Army’s permit for public education and outreach, the Directorate of Public Work’s (DPW) Environmental Division will be installing new signs next to curb inlets.

These imprints into the fresh concrete reflect small changes that you will see in new family housing, new barracks and company operation facilities as you walk throughout Army installations.

For older areas of the post, shiny new plastic markers are being glued onto the concrete. Both markers read, “Dump No Waste, Flows to Ocean.” The fish is a cartoon version of the O’opu, or goby fish. Different species of O’opu live from the lower to upper stream reaches.

The hosing of debris, oils and sediment into storm drain systems causes them to eventually reach the streams. The State Department of Health has

identified Waikele, Kiiikii and Moanalua as impaired water bodies.

What can citizens do to help?

Review the facility Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and implement the recommended Best Management Practices. These may include placing drip pans beneath a leaking vehicle or construction equipment, providing secondary containment beneath drums and avoiding the washing of vehicles on pavement – instead use a working wash rack.

What does “Dump No Waste” mean?

It means please do not dump sediment, petroleum, oils, lubricants, pesticides and herbicides into drain inlets.

Why is this so important to the Army?

Primarily, the Army wants to be a good community neighbor, as well, the Army wants to avoid receiving a fine or Notice of Violation from the state.

The state Department of Transportation base yards were cited for oily water and sediment laden runoff entering storm drains. The state settled with the Environmental Protection Agency

for \$52 million over four years.

If the Army receives an NOV, it will divert DPW funds from necessary other essential repair and maintenance projects. It will also affect the way the Army does business by requiring more documentation and more inspections.

(Editor’s Note: For more information, contact Russell Leong at 656-2878, extension 1060.)



Clogged up storm drains could be a good thing

Sand bags, straw tubes and fabric rolls keep sediments at bay

RUSSELL LEONG
Directorate of Public Works

HONOLULU – With the recent explosion in construction around Hawaii’s Army installations, a heavy rain usually translates into flooded streets. However, clogged storm drains actually serve a purpose; they filter sediment from reaching local streams.

The Army’s storm water permit requires the Army to develop, implement and enforce construction site runoff control. Simply put, the Army must keep dirt out of storm drains.

Contactors control runoff from construction sites by placing filters in front of curb inlets to pond water. Filters such as sand bags, fabric rolls, straw rolls and mulch tubes are visible along installation roads. Each of these materials filters sediment-laden runoff.

Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Air Field are surrounded by two of the largest streams in Oahu: Kaukonahua and Waikele streams. These streams eventually discharge to Pearl Harbor, Kaiaka and Waialua bays.

Trapping the storm water at the inlet reduces the amount of sediment and nutrients that reach these impaired streams.

Sediment is classified as a pollutant by the State of Hawaii and removing or dislodging filters to permit the stormwater to enter the drains is a violation of the Clean Water Act.

Drivers are asked to use caution when proceeding through flooded areas on the installation.



SPC. Carlos Guzman | 2-11th Field Artillery Regiment

(From left to right) Commanding General Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon ties the green streamer for safety excellence onto the guidon of the 2-11th FA's Headquarters and Service Battery, as Lt. Col. Stephen Myers, 2-11th battalion commander; Billy Chestnut of the Installation Safety Office; and Capt. Roger Miran-

CG rewards 'On Time' safety

CAPT. BRADLEY S. RUDDER

Adjutant, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Though the “On Time” Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, took the commanding general on a four-mile run here Feb. 3, the CG did not visit the battalion to simply participate in physical training.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon’s mission was to both motivate each Soldier and extend recognition for the unit’s safety excellence.

The commanding general ran alongside formations of each battery and called cadence. After the run, he tied the commanders green streamer for “Safety Excellence” onto the guidon of each of the batteries in the battalion.

The battalion’s efforts to get each of its units this award were spearheaded by Charlie Battery Executive Officer 1st Lt. James Brogan. The batteries take pride in providing a safe environment for their Soldiers and families, according to Brogan.

“Safety is an integral part of all we do, from battalion collective training down to section operations,” explained Lt. Col. Stephen Myers, commander, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery. “Soldiers are our most important asset; we cannot afford to lose them to accidents.”

The Green Streamer Program is administered by the Schofield Barracks Installation Safety Office, or ISO. In order to qualify, each unit must be inspected by the ISO and receive a score of 90 percent or

higher.

During the course of inspections, all aspects of a unit’s safety program are evaluated: from checking to see if the commander has completed the Commander’s Safety Course down to making sure that proper procedures for reporting and investigating accidents are followed.

The program requires annual reinspections to ensure safety standards are maintained.

The On Time Battalion maintains its focus with an aggressive hands-on safety program that includes quarterly safety “stand down” days. As well, the battalion schedules periodic Motorcycle Safety Rodeos and Water/Ocean Safety demonstrations at Barber’s Point, courtesy of the local Coast Guard detachment, and City and County of Honolulu lifeguards.

The Family Readiness Group is also involved in the battalion safety program. It hosts quarterly “Red Dot” family safety articles in the On Time newsletter. The FRG provides families useful home safety tips and suggestions to remain safe while enjoying all that Hawaii has to offer.

In his remarks to the Soldiers of the 2-11th after he had presented the green streamers, Mixon stressed his commitment to each Soldier and family’s safety. Every leader in the 25th Infantry Division, he emphasized, carries that commitment, and the Green Streamer Program is just one way to recognize their collective commitment to safety.

‘Kukalepa’ honors ancient warriors

PVT.2 MATTHEW C. MOELLER

17th Public Affairs Detachment

FORT DERUSSY – A kukalepa, or a memorial to commemorate the fallen warriors of native Hawaiian conflicts, was held at the U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii on Feb. 17.

The elaborate memorial marked the opening of “Kau Wela,” which means “hot season,” by dressing five larger-than-life hand-carved wooden figures.

Dressing the figures, which ranged from eight to 10 feet tall, symbolizes the reappearance of the supreme Hawaiian deity, Kunuiakea, in the summer months, said Bud P. Cook, director of education at Ka Maluhia learning center in Hilo.

Participants awoke the figures using chants and offered gifts to the figures to welcome them into the world.

“The ancient Hawaiians were really pragmatic,” said Cook. “To them these were not just tikis, these were living ancestors.”

The museum is also located on the site where Hawaiian King Kamehameha landed on Oahu during his conquest to unify the islands.

“This is a great place,” said Paul Kekuewa, a representative from the Royal order of Kamehameha and participant in the memorial. “You can really get into the mean-



Bob Goodwin | Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies

Each eight to 10-foot tall *ohia* wood carving or “Na Lehua Helelei” is a “scattered lehua blossom,” an ancient Hawaiian term symbolizing fallen warriors. They symbolize the supreme Hawaiian deity Kunuiakea, believed to awaken and usher in the summer season.

Department of Defense employees, military members and their families can visit the museum from Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free for both the museum and the memorial.

ing [of the memorial] with all the history surrounding you.”

The figures will remain clothed until the November winter celebration of Makahiki, which marks the beginning of the cold season.

The memorial was lead by Cook after Rocky K. Jensen, the original artist of the figures, had to cancel due to a family emergency.

A hula troop also was scheduled to perform but had to cancel when several dancers suddenly fell ill.

Although the day didn’t go as planned, there was still plenty to do and see. The museum offers an inside look into Hawaii’s role in military actions from World War I to the Vietnam Conflict.

The U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii is located at Fort DeRussy Beach Park in Waikiki.

Issues: Hagenbeck talks teamwork

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numbers are extraordinary.”

Hagenbeck also discussed the topic of women serving in combat units in today’s Army.

“Women do serve, obviously. With the fight in Iraq and Afghanistan, you could say there are no rear areas,” he added. “But we try to be careful about where their actual assignments are in

terms of units. Congress legislated that females would not be inside our BCTs.”

Hagenbeck also elaborated on weight standards in the Army, Army combat uniforms (ACUs), differences in pay raises for 2007, and age restrictions during his interview.

True to form, the chief focused on personnel-based issues – the Army’s new referral incentive pro-

gram – during his closing remarks.

“We have an excess of six thousand noncommissioned officers [NCOs] that are recruiters,” he said, reasoning that if the new program excels, NCOs in the Recruiting Command could be returned to formations out in the force.

In closing, he emphasized “the recruiter of choice is the Soldier in the 25th Infantry Division” who can best tell the Army story.

Soldiers establish lifelong ties with YMCA

Story and Photo by
PFC. BRYANNA POULIN
Staff Writer

WAIALUA — Many Soldiers view the 540th Quartermaster as a place to get patches sewn on uniforms free of charge. However, 540th Soldiers have begun to break this mold through a community outreach program at the YMCA, Camp H.R. Erdman in Waialua.

"Whereas most battalions sponsor the local schools and everything around Schofield, I wanted to branch out into the community," Capt. Stephanie Barton said.

Under her direction, the 540th has painted fences and remodeled soccer and football fields. They have even begun to build a skateboard park.

The park was no small undertaking. It was designed by professional skateboarder Orlando Baker, who has skated with icon Tony Hawk.

"Orlando has been a huge influence on the skateboard park," Barton said. "With his ideas and time, the park is going to be a great opportunity for the community."

Local businesses donated all the supplies and 540th provided the labor.

"There has been lots of work that could not have gotten finished as fast without the help of Capt. Barton and the Soldiers," said Mark Patrick, YMCA, Camp Erdman facility director.

For the Soldiers, volunteering not only has provided the opportunity to enjoy the island's tropical weather but also has given them a sense of accomplishment.



Soldiers from the 540th Quartermaster dig trenches for the new sprinkler system of a soccer field at the Waialua YMCA.

"It's fun to help the kids and to get out and do something different," said Spc. Patricia Cabiales of 540th QM.

Nestled between the Waianae Mountains and pristine beaches of Mokuleia, YMCA Camp H.R. Erdman has provided

support and guidance to youth through year-round outdoor programs and challenging activities since 1926.

Camp programs focus on character and skill development, and life skills, to help kids prepare for their future, Patrick said.

Barton mentioned the 540th intends to interact more with children and demonstrate facets of Army life such as drill ceremonies and physical training.

"It's about being a good neighbor to the community," she said.

News Briefs

Send military news briefs to news@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

February

Black History Month — The Fort Shafter community will observe Black History Month today, Feb. 24, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Assembly Hall of 9th Regional Readiness Command, Building 1554, Fort Shafter Flats.

The event will feature guest speaker Dr. Elisa Joy White and provide food and entertainment.

Call 438-1600, extension 3218, for more information.

Employer Award Nomination — Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve announces the opening of the 2006 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award nomination season.

National Guardsmen, Reservists and family members are eligible to nominate their employers for this prestigious national award from the Department of Defense.

The nomination season will close Feb. 28. Visit www.esgr.mil to nominate your employer.

Preretirement Orientation — A semiannual preretirement orien-

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News Briefs

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tation is scheduled Feb. 28 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks Post Conference Room, Building 584.

This orientation is for Soldiers with 18 or more years of active service and their spouses. Military retirement benefits and privileges will be discussed, and representatives from federal and state agencies and military staff offices will be available to answer individual questions.

For more information, call the Schofield Barracks Retirement Services Office at 655-1585/1514.

March

Blood Drives — Beginning in March, the 25th Infantry Division and U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii will conduct bimonthly blood drives at the Kaala Recreation Center, Building 556, Room 101.

These drives will be conducted bimonthly in order to support the continual need of blood products in the Central Command theater of operations supporting the war on terror.

Physician Assistants — Interested in becoming a physician assistant? PAs are important members of the military health care team, and you can join their ranks.

Applicants must be enlisted, commissioned or warrant officers with a minimum of three years active federal service by Aug. 31 of the academic year.

Send applications to the program manager no later than March 1. Call 1-800-223-3735, extension 60386, e-mail ipap@usarec.army.mil or visit www.armypa.info.

Patient Safety Week — An open house on patient safety will take place in the military health care system at two locations sponsored by Tripler Army Medical Center. Maj. Gen. Gale S. Pollock, Tripler's commanding general, will speak on March 6 at the Cobra



Photos by Sgt. Tyrone C. Marshall Jr. | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Right — Sgt. Jomel Factor slowly maneuvers an Army Navy Transportable Tactical Communication 60A into the cargo hold of a C-17A Globemaster III Saturday as Air Force Master Sgt. Dennis Moore ground guides the vehicle. The AN/TTC 60A, along with the Army Navy Tactical Satellite Configuration 169A, are being test-loaded at Hickam Air Force Base as part of the 25th Infantry Division's predeployment preparations.



'Heads up!'

Left — Sgt. Kenneth Hausmann eases an Army Navy Tactical Satellite Configuration 169A into the cargo hold of a C-17A Globemaster III as Air Force Master Sgt. Dennis Moore carefully guides him in.

Den, Schofield Barracks Health Clinic (Building 686) at 4 p.m. and Tripler's Kyser Auditorium, 1st floor, Oceanside, at 6 p.m.

For more information, call 433-6864.

SAEDA-OPSEC Briefing — A Subversion and Espionage Directed Against the Army (SAEDA) Operational Security (OPSEC) briefing will be held at Tripler, March 6 at 7:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Kyser Auditorium.

For more information, contact Hawaii Resident Office personnel at 438-1872 or 306-8050 (24-hour duty phone), or e-mail james.l.cummins@us.army.mil.

FBI Recruitment — Are you interested in a career as an FBI Special Agent? Learn about the FBI by attending an FBI career presentation March 9 at Schofield Barracks, Building 690 (Aloha Center), 3rd floor conference room,

from 10 to 11 a.m.

For confirmation, call 655-1028. For information on future monthly presentations at Schofield Barracks and other military bases, contact Special Agent Kal Wong at 566-4488.

Vet Clinic Closure — Military veterinary clinics, including Fort Shafter, Hickam Air Force Base, Schofield Barracks and Kaneohe Bay veterinary clinics, will be closed on March 15.

Pet owners should ensure that a veterinarian is available for their pets should an emergency occur. Call 433-1972 for more information.

PX Parking Lot Closure — The Schofield Barracks Post Exchange front parking lot will be closed through early March.

The PX, PXtra and Home Center will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and help will be available

for toting large purchases.

For more details, contact Susan Nonamaker at 622-1773.

Ongoing

Commander's Referral Program — Commanders and first sergeants can approve up to \$1,000 of basic living expenses from the Army Emergency Relief.

The AER office, however, provides essential training that commanders and first sergeants must complete to use the program. Classes run every fourth Wednesday of the month from 9 to 9:30 a.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2091, Schofield Barracks.

Call 655-4ACS to register. For more, call 655-7132 or e-mail TorresJM@schofield.army.mil.

Vehicle Registration — Personnel with registered vehicles on any

25th ID and USARHAW installations that are departing (for example to PCS, ETS, civilian transfer or retirement), or personnel who have transferred vehicle ownership to another person or disposed of the registered vehicle, must report to the Provost Marshall Vehicle Registration Office to terminate registration. All DD Form 2220 (decals) issued must be returned.

In addition, the following documents are required if applicable: bill of sale, shipping document, transportation worksheet, power of attorney, "Notice of Transfer" from Satellite City Hall, donated, salvage yard, or insurance receipt.

For more information, call 655-8940.

Memorial Bricks — The 25th Infantry Division Association is offering supporters the opportunity to become a permanent part of the Schofield

Memorial Monument.

Engraved brick pavers are available in 4x8 inches, with up to three lines of type, for \$100 — or 8x8 inches, up to six lines of type, for \$250.

Orders received before May 31 will be installed in time for rededication in September. For more information, visit www.25thida.com to download an order form.

Purple Heart — The Military Order of the Purple Heart, Hawaii chapter, is extending a one-year free enrollment in the local MOPH chapter to all Purple Heart award recipients from Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Interested Purple Heart recipients can call 988-2820 for more details.

IO Officers Wanted — Information Operations, functional area 30, is seeking year group 1997-2002 officers for IO opportunities in brigade, division, corps and joint positions.

Officers, in year groups 1998-2001 can request career field designation online at www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/opfamdd/cfd_Upcoming_boards.htm. Call 703-325-5791 or e-mail gregory.mogavero@us.army.mil for more details.

Other officers can request redesignation to information operations through the HRC Information Operations career management officer.

Fort Leavenworth points of contact at the U.S. Army Information Operations Proponent are Lt. Col. Ken Krumm at 913-684-5318 or David Pendleton at 913-684-5320.

FRALS — Family Readiness administrative liaisons will be assisting family readiness groups in the creation of Web sites and virtual FRGs through the new web site, www.armyfrg.org.

The Family Readiness Program has created an instructional class, "The World of FRGs Online," to educate FRG leaders about the online capabilities available to them.

Contact the FRAL team at 655-2734 or the family readiness trainer at 655-2736 for more information.

Tripler honors fallen comrade

Story and Photo by
MARK JACKSON

Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs Office

HONOLULU — A remembrance ceremony was held Feb. 7 to honor a former Tripler Army Medical Center staff member who died in Iraq last year.

Col. Joseph Pina, M.D., chief of Department of Medicine at Tripler Army Medical Center, dedicated a plaque and poster to Master Sgt. Thomas Wallsmith.

Wallsmith died Oct. 26, 2005, when an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated near his vehicle in Rustamiyah, Iraq. He was 38 years old.

“Master Sgt. Wallsmith exemplified the true spirit of a ‘can-do’ attitude,” said Pina. “Whenever you asked him to do something, he always figured out a way to do it.”

While stationed at Tripler, Wallsmith worked for Pina.

At the time of his death, Wallsmith was serving as Senior Health Care Noncommissioned Officer in the 3rd Forward Support Battalion, Division Support Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, out of Fort Stewart, Ga.

It is important to take time to remember those who have a profound impact on our lives as they pass through, said Pina.

A myriad of people from around



Dr. (Col.) Joseph Pina, chief of Tripler's Department of Medicine, unveils the plaque in Tripler's Respiratory Care Department that was dedicated to the memory of Master Sgt. Thomas Wallsmith. Wallsmith died Oct. 26, 2005, while serving in Iraq.

the world testified to Wallsmith's outstanding character by leaving messages on a website dedicated to fallen heroes: (www.fallenheroes-memorial.com/oif/profiles/wallsmiththomasa.html).

“I was given the gift of being on your team here in Iraq for the past 11 months. You always made me laugh,” wrote Chief Warrant Officer David Peaphon, of Camp Taji, Iraq. “You left a lasting impression on me, and I will never forget you. The last time I saw you, you were smiling and that will always be engrained in my memory. Thank you



Wallsmith

for your friendship, mentorship and true professionalism.”

Wallsmith is survived by his wife and two children.

Pina recognized Sgt. 1st Class Keith Canty, Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, Respiratory Care Section at Tripler, for his hard work and diligence in making the dedication ceremony happen.



Kris Timken | Getty Images

Three sisters, ranging from 3 to 8 years old, sit together, smiling, modeling then hiding healthy teeth.

Dentists bring smiles to keiki

PVT.2 CARLEE ROSS
Staff Writer

TRICARE Dental Program

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — As National Children's Dental Health Month, February provides parents with a chance to brush up on healthy dental practices for their children.

Now a month-long celebration, the American Dental Health Association held the first observance of Children's Dental Health Day on Feb. 8, 1949.

Events are held around the nation and include: coloring and essay contests, health fairs, free dental screenings, classroom presentations and dental office tours.

The best way to maintain good oral hygiene for children is to be aware of children's dentistry fundamentals and know when to start using them.

Children should visit a pediatric dentist by their first birthday, said Dr. Derek Tom, from the Aiea Pediatric Dental Center.

A dental visit early in the child's life provides a better chance of preventing dental problems like baby bottle tooth decay, he said.

- Children ages 4 and older are automatically enrolled in the Tricare Dental Program (TDP) and United Concordia;
- Children ages 1 – 3 may be voluntarily enrolled
- For questions regarding the Tricare Dental Program, contact your dentist, a health benefits advisor or visit www.ucci.com or www.ada.org.

In order to prevent tooth decay from bottle feeding or nursing, parents should wean their children off the bottle and encourage them to drink from a cup as their first birthday approaches, said Tom.

For older children, toothpastes that contain fluoride are best. Children under the age of two however, should not use fluoridated toothpaste because this can put them at risk of developing enamel fluorosis. Enamel fluorosis is a defect in tooth enamel caused by an excess of fluoride during the early years of tooth development.

Parents brushing their children's teeth should start with a small toothbrush with soft bristles and use a small amount of

toothpaste, explained Tammy Davenport, former dental assistant and consultant for www.about.com. The back teeth need the most attention, as they are the most prone to decay. Children may need assistance or supervision until around six or seven years old, she added.

When children's back teeth come in parents should talk to their doctors about applying dental sealants. Dental sealant is a clear protective coating, which is applied to the biting surfaces on the back teeth.

“Children with healthy teeth chew food easily, learn to speak clearly and smile with confidence,” Tom said. “Start your child early for a lifetime of good dental habits.”

Healthy hearts shouldn't miss a beat

Story and Photo by
PVT.2 MATTHEW MOELLER
17th Public Affairs Detachment

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The heart is on everyone's minds for the month of February — not just because of Valentine's Day — but also because it's American Heart Month.

The heart's greatest threat is not from lost love, but from cardiovascular disease. Simple steps such as exercise and a good diet will help combat these diseases.

Diabetes, heart attack, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and stroke are all examples of cardiovascular disease. Each year they account for more than 30 percent of deaths nationwide, according to the American Heart Association.

"That's why a healthy heart is so important," said Bruce A. Irvine, a sports specialist with the Schofield

Barracks, Wheeler Army Air Field and the Helemano Military Housing Reservation intramural sports office. "Regular exercise and a good diet will help decrease the risk of suffering cardiovascular disease."

The heart is a very strong muscle, and like any muscle it gets stronger with regular exercise.

"Soldiers should exercise at least three times a week, in addition to their normal Army unit physical training," said Sgt. 1st Class Tonja S. Brewer, noncommissioned officer in charge of cardiovascular services at Tripler Army Medical Center.

Soldiers may be reluctant to do additional physical training, but any low to moderate activity will be beneficial to their heart. At least 30 minutes per day of moderate housework, gardening or walking through a park will help Soldiers decrease their chances of heart disease.

Regular physical training will not only help keep Soldiers' hearts healthy, but can also increase physical strength, counter weight gain and help lower cholesterol and blood pressure, Irvine said.

Soldiers here have many options available for exercise outside their regular unit P.T.

The Health and Fitness Center (Building 582) recognizes the importance of maintaining a healthy heart. The center offers exercise rooms, weight rooms and more than 25 fitness classes each week ranging from cardio kickboxing to step classes. A machine that measures Soldiers' body mass index is also available.

Daily classes and use of the body mass index machine cost \$3 each.

Exercise is not the only way to achieve a healthier heart, a good diet is also important.

"Foods, such as fatty meats, coconut oil, milk or cheeses, can lead to higher cholesterol," Brewer said. "Limiting these will help Soldiers lower cholesterol."

Soldiers have a wide variety of healthier food options from which to choose. Foods prepared in vegetable oil, leaner meats, fish or soy can help lower cholesterol.

Soldiers need a lean and mean heart to meet the demands of an ever-changing Army. Not only in February, but also throughout the year, Soldiers must maintain a well-balanced diet, and get plenty of exercise and rest to keep their hearts beating with efficiency.

Spc. Samuel E. Burchette, a military police officer with the 1101st Garrison Support Unit, Detachment 21, comes to the sport and fitness center to burn calories and keep his heart healthy.



Bonus: Unmanned Stryker trains to follow and eventually lead convoys

CONTINUED FROM A-1

tronics-vetronics technology integration and robotic systems to the force.

The system in testing at Fort Gordon is the robotic follower program. This program seeks to develop robots that can conduct convoy operations. One of the vehicles is called the CAT, short for crew integration and automation test bed. It serves as the manned leader vehicle.

The other vehicle serves as an unmanned follower in a convoy.

"We have done a circuit of testing that started in 2003," Jaczkowski said. "We have done a number of different environments, including Fort Bliss, Texas, that has a primarily sand/desert environment. We did Fort Knox, Kentucky, where there is more cross-country terrain. There was Fort Indiantown Gap and Letterkenny Army Depot in Pennsylvania.

"We are down here at Fort Gordon for the environment in the forested-type setting. We are focusing on road and long-haul convoy missions."

Jaczowski said Fort Gordon provides an ideal setting with a 10-kilometer loop

that has a three-kilometer stretch of dirt road and the rest is paved. The long stretches of isolated roads allow the teams to put their test vehicles through a series of high-speed tests.

"Yesterday we ran a one hundred mile test where the lead vehicle was being driven manually and the robot was following," Jaczkowski said. "We did this successfully where the average speed was about twenty-two miles per hour. You may think that twenty-two miles per hour is not that fast when operational convoys are going sixty to seventy miles per hour. But you have to take into account that we did sixty-eight right turns.

"You don't take right turns at fifty miles per hour, especially with a twenty-ton robot."

On straight stretches, the vehicles routinely speed along at more than 40 mph, Jaczkowski said.

Pointing to the bristling array of sensors on the vehicles, Jaczkowski said these vehicles incorporate second-generation lidar-laser radar, forward-looking infrared sensors, and advanced computers to han-

dle autonomous navigation.

For the autonomous follower, engineers are going beyond Global Positioning Systems to link terrain data from the lead vehicle back to the follower vehicle to augment data the follower vehicle gathers from on-board sensors.

"We have a major emphasis to create systems that can operate without GPS. We know that electronic interference can easily jam GPS in a battle zone.

"The idea is to pass electronic bread crumbs from the manned lead vehicle back to the autonomous follower vehicle, and provide high-level proofing of the follower's path so the follower avoids areas that might impede or confuse its autonomous navigation system, while requiring only a minimum of human intervention and control from the lead vehicle," Jaczkowski said.

Jaczowski is quick to point out that the testing that he is conducting is not about the relatively new Stryker vehicle.

"The Stryker is a fielded system, but the robotic convoy technology sensors that we have on these units are what we

are putting through the research and development stage."

The demonstration conducted before the media Feb. 10 showed how adept the robot is in making decisions. The lead vehicle was manually driven along the road through an area where a gate was set, with the robot vehicle following about 100 meters behind.

After the lead vehicle passed, the engineers were planning to pull a cord releasing a gate to block the path. The follower vehicle should be able to detect the gate and plot a path around it before continuing, Jaczkowski said.

True to Murphy's Law and the sight-on rule, the cord attached to the spring release broke as engineer Karl Murphy tugged it to release the gate. Undaunted, Murphy reached down and tripped the release. The gate swung into the path of the following robot.

With only a few seconds to assess, the robot slowed, and veered around the gate. It then continued on its path, following the lead vehicle.

It was a slight glitch and only served to

more graphically demonstrate how perceptive the robot is, Jaczkowski said.

In the future, Jaczkowski speculates the current efforts will lead to manned and unmanned convoys.

"There are two avenues that the Army is pursuing. The near-term objective is to automate the function of driving in a convoy vehicle."

Soldiers will remain in the vehicles for now, but by placing a vehicle on autopilot, the driver will be able to perform other duties or rest.

The long-term objective is to create dedicated unmanned ground vehicles.

In the tests being conducted on Fort Gordon, the lead vehicle develops a path along a route that it transmits to the follower vehicle that can follow the path immediately or weeks later.

He said the payoff will be in saving lives from such routine missions as resupplying forces in environments like Iraq where roadside bombs wreak havoc.

(Editor's Note: Larry Edmond serves as a staff writer for the Fort Gordon Signal newspaper.)

PAU HANA

www.25id.army.mil/haw.asp

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2006

A brief chronicle of Black History Month

PFC. KYNDAL HERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

Americans have officially acknowledged black history annually since 1926, first as "Negro History Week" and later as "Black History Month."

Although African-Americans have been in America at least as far back as colonial times, not until the 20th century did they gain a respectable presence in history books.

February marks the beginning of Black History Month.

Much of the credit for the recognition of Black History Month can be provided to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who was determined to bring black history into the mainstream public arena. He devoted his life to making the world see the Negro as a participant rather than a "lay figure" in history.

Woodson, who was said to always act on his ambitions, decided to take the challenge of writing black Americans into

the nation's history. In 1915, he established what is now the association for the study of Afro-American life of history.

Eleven years later in 1926, he launched Negro History Week as an initiative to bring national attention to the contributions of black people throughout American history.

Woodson chose the second week of February for Negro History Week because it marked the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the Black American population, Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln.

Over time, Negro History Week evolved into the Black History Month celebration that Americans currently recognize — a four-week observance of African-American history.

Now, from Jackie Robinson to Tiger Woods, from Harriett Tubman to Barack Obama, Black History Month pays tribute to inspirational African-Americans from the past, their culture, and those who continue to shape the future of the United States.

Military annals log numerous Black triumphs

The American Revolution

Thousands of black Soldiers from all 13 colonies, both slaves and free, fought in the Continental Army during America's war for independence from Great Britain. Many also served in the state militias.

Blacks served in every major battle of the war, mostly in integrated units. A notable exception was America's first black unit, the 1st Rhode Island Regiment. The Regiment defeated three assaults by the British during the battle for Rhode Island in 1778 and later participated in the victory of Yorktown in 1781.

The Civil War

When federal troops invaded the southern states, thousands of black slaves flocked to the union camps for freedom and a chance to fight for the Union. Many of these men were unofficially allowed to enlist in the Union Army.

After president Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863, black Soldiers were officially allowed to participate in the war. They distinguished themselves in battle on numerous occasions.

World War I

In 1917, the United States was engaged in its first global war. Despite knowing that freedom to serve the country did not in itself translate into the freedom to participate fully in American society, thousands of African-Americans answered the call to duty through their service in the Army.

The Army operated under a policy of racial segregation and African-Americans were commonly relegated to the services of supply as laborers. There were, however, active African-American combat units that made impressive contributions.

World War II

The Army enlisted most of the nation's black military personnel — according to some estimates, three fourths of all blacks in the military. Worth noting, however, freedom to serve the country did not mean freedom to participate fully.

Most blacks served in segregated combat support units in the Army. The all-black 92nd Division and the 761st Tank Battalion were among the few exceptional divisions to participate in full combat during World War II.

More than 12,000 decorations and citations were awarded to the 92nd, and the 761st received the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism.



Korean War

New Opportunities began to merge for black Soldiers serving in the Korean War. In October 1951, the all-black 24th Infantry Regiment, a unit established in 1869, was disbanded. This action eliminated the last lingering formal practice of segregation in the Army.

African-Americans served in all combat service elements and major combat operations of the Korean War, including in the advance by United Nations forces to the Chinese border.

The Vietnam War

From a legal standpoint, the 1960s marked a transformation from discrimination with the passing of the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act. The 1960s also marked the full engagement of all races for the United States in the Vietnam War.

(Editor's Note: Information compiled by Pfc. Kyndal Hernandez, staff writer, from the U.S. Army Web site, www.army.mil and www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/aaffsfl.htm.)



Above — The Army still segregated blacks and whites during World War II. This fact did not keep African-Americans from their call to duty.

Left — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. strived for black rights through the use of peaceful protest. His ideologies are still used today.

Top — African-American men challenged the common perception that they could not achieve success in their lives by joining and fighting in the United States Navy, as well as the other services.

Right — A handful of blacks gained recognition as the famed Tuskegee Airmen. However, it had been believed that African-Americans were incapable of learning to fly an airplane. This particular band of airmen proved the notion was hogwash.

MWR Briefs

Serving America's Army in Hawaii

FEBRUARY

24 / Today

Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet – Taste a traditional Hawaiian feast from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hale Ikena on Fort Shafter, or 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks. Cost is \$9.95 per person. Call the Hale Ikena at 438-1974 or the Nehelani at 655-4466 for lunch buffet reservations or information.

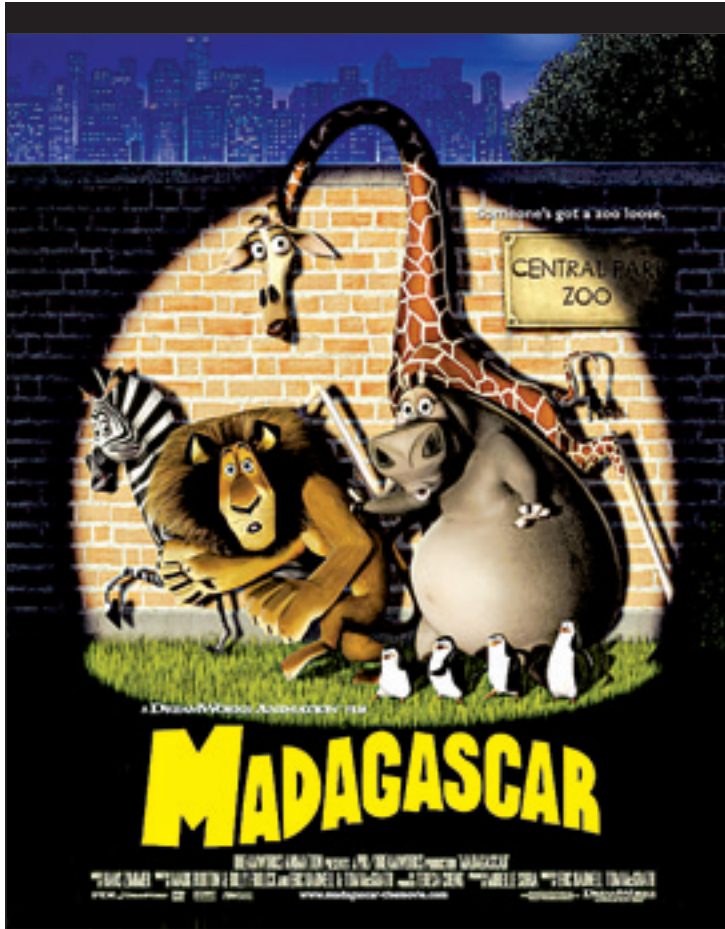
AMR Teen Center Trip – Teens, come have fun with your friends at the Kunia Box Car Track. The group will depart from the AMR Teen Center, Feb. 24 at 2:30 p.m. and return at 6:30 p.m. The admission cost is \$5 and teens should bring extra spending money. Teens must bring helmets and wear long pants and covered shoes. Permission and waiver forms are required. For more information, call 833-0920

Seafood Bucket for Two – It's back! Seafood lovers can dig into a variety of seafood, including shrimp, crab, clams and mussels at Reggie's, from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$24.95 for two and includes the seafood bucket and a pitcher of your favorite beverage. For reservations or more information, call 655-4466.

CATS – Get your tickets today for the award-winning Broadway musical, "CATS." Performances will be held at Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter, Feb. 24 and 25, and March 3, 4, 10, and 11. Tickets are going quickly and are available at the box office, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., or online at <http://www.squareone.org/ACT/tickets.html>. For more information, call 438-4480.

25 / Saturday

AMR Teen Center Trip – Teens are invited to participate in a whale count spon-



Courtesy Poster Photo

'Sunset on the Beach'

Sunset on the Beach salutes the Honolulu Zoo, this weekend, at Queen's Beach in Waikiki. Look for Sunset's 30-foot screen right on the beach at Kalakaua-Kapahulu intersection. Saturday, be treated to a special sneak peek of Disney's "The Wild," which premieres in theaters, April 14. Following the short clip is the feature movie, "Madagascar," a family favorite. Sunday, the heart-warming tale of the power of the American spirit comes alive in "Cinderella Man." As with all Sunset on the Beach programs, food booths open at 3:30 p.m., pre-movie entertainment begins at 4:30 p.m., and movies follow at 6:30 p.m. For parking information, visit <http://www.waikikiimprovement.com>.

sored by the Hawaii Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary. The group will depart from the AMR Teen Center at 8 a.m. and return at 3 p.m. Teens should bring money for lunch. A permission form is required and there are limited slots available. For more

information, call 833-0920.

Parents Night Out – Leave your kids with Child and Youth Services on Parents Night Out, Feb. 25, at Peterson CDC, and then enjoy a nice night out on the town.

your credit score. Class is held on Wednesday, March 1 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. ACS, Building 2091, Schofield Barracks and Thursday, March 2, from 1 to 2 p.m. at ACS, Building 330, Fort Shafter. Call 655-4443 to register at Schofield Barracks, and 438-9285 or 438-9286 to register at Fort Shafter.

For further information, call Georgianna McAnany, Financial Readiness program manager, at 655-1714 or email Georgianna.McAnany@schofield.army.mil.

Career, College, and Job Fair – Leeward Partnership for School-to-Work, University of Hawaii-West Oahu, and Leeward Community College will be sponsoring a Career, College and Job Fair, March 1 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Leeward Community College Campus. The event is open to the public and admission and parking are free. More than 40 companies and organizations are expected to participate. For additional information, contact 455-0140.

2 / Thursday

Military Council of Catholic Women (MCCW) – The MCCW has weekly Bible study at the AMR Chapel on Thursdays. The group will meet for Mass at 9 a.m. followed by fellowship and Bible study from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The spring Bible study is just beginning. Free child care is provided for children registered with Child Youth Services or the STACC site. For more information, call the AMR Chapel at 839-4319.

3 / Friday

Employment Orientation – Take the first step to find the job you want by learning how to prepare for the job search process. Workshops are held on Friday, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Schofield Barracks ACS, Bldg 2091. Topics will include government and private sector opportunities, reference materials and how to use them, and job listings available at the ACS employment resource area. Call 655-4227 to register.

4 / Saturday

Tropic Lightning Museum – The Tropic Lightning Museum, Schofield Barracks, will feature "The Proud and the Damned," March 4. Matinees begin at 1 p.m.

7 / Tuesday

Money Management – Come and learn the basic tools for financial success. Learn how to develop a spending plan, reduce expenses, and make your paycheck work for you. Classes are held on the first Tuesday

Children enrolled in Parents Night Out must be registered with the Resource and Referral Office no later than noon, Feb. 22. Reservations are first-come, first-served at the Resource and Referral Office. Call 655-8313 for more information.

26 / Sunday

Library Closure – The Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, will be closed Feb. 26 for carpet cleaning. The library will resume regular hours on Feb. 27. For more information, call 655-8002.

MARCH

3 / Friday

Mongolian Barbecue – Select your favorites from a large variety of meats and vegetables and Reggie's staff will grill them to your liking. Come March 3 from 5 to 8 p.m. for Mongolian barbecue, cooked outside in front of Nehelani with seating in air-conditioned Reggie's. Cost is 65 cents per ounce, and reservations are recommended. For more information, call 655-4466.

Teen Social – Join friends for an evening of fun at the Schofield Barracks Teen Center from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Listen to music and dance, play games or participate in contests. Admission is \$3 for members and \$4 for nonmembers.

4 / Saturday

Latin Night – Enjoy an evening of Latin music and dancing at the Tropics. Latin night is the first Saturday of every month, 8 p.m. to midnight and is open to ages 18 and over. A \$2 cover charge applies at the door. For more information, call 655-5697.

Parents Night Out – Leave your kids with Child and Youth Services on Parents Night Out, March 4, at Peterson CDC, and then enjoy a nice night out on the town. Children enrolled in Parents Night Out must be registered with the Resource and Referral Office no later than noon, March 1. Reservations are first-come, first-served at the Resource and Referral Office. Call 655-8313 for more information.

6 / Monday

Lifeguard Class – Richardson Pool is hosting a lifeguard class, March 6 through 17, 6 to 9 p.m. The cost of the class is

SEE MWR BRIEFS, B-4

of the month from 1 to 2 p.m. at ACS, Building 330, Fort Shafter. Call 438-9285 to register.

For further information, call Georgianna McAnany, Financial Readiness program manager, at 655-1714 or email Georgianna.McAnany@schofield.army.mil.

8 / Wednesday

Hawaii Army Family Action Plan – Make a difference in the military community. Sign up to be a volunteer at the 2006 Hawaii Army Family Action Plan Conference to be held March 8 and 9 at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. Free childcare will be provided for pre-training and the conference.

Delegates, facilitators and other interested volunteers should contact ACS. For more information, call Robin Sherrod at 655-4368.

9 / Thursday

KMC Spring Fling Savings – Kilauea Military Camp is offering spring fling savings for a limited time only, when you book between now and March 9 for reservations between April 1 and May 25.

Visitors will receive four nights of lodging for the price of three, so increase your savings with an additional 50 percent off per person when you book a KMC tour. For more information about KMC camp, tours and rates, visit www.kmc-volcano.com.

11 / Saturday

American Red Cross – The American Red Cross Schofield Barracks Service Center will be offering an Adult, Child, and Infant CPR plus First Aid class on March 11 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$40 and includes the book. Call 655-4927 to register.

Tropic Lightning Museum – The Tropic Lightning Museum, Schofield Barracks, will feature "Hell in Normandy," March 11. Matinees begin at 1 p.m.

14 / Tuesday

Waikiki Aquarium – Do fish snooze? Do lobsters sleep? Tour the Waikiki Aquarium at night with a flashlight and find out during the "Aquarium After Dark" program. Over 2,500 organisms are on exhibit representing more than 420 species of aquatic animals and plants. Children must be 5 years old to attend and must be accompanied by an

SEE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, B-3

HACN TV2 Schedule

| | |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| 6:00 | Sign on |
| 6:25 | Bulletin Board |
| 7:00 | Pentagon Channel |
| 8:00 | Hawaii Army Report |
| 8:24 | Bulletin Board |
| 9:00 | Community Focus |
| 10:00 | Bulletin Board |
| 10:30 | Pentagon Channel |
| 12:00 | Hawaii Army Report |
| 12:25 | Bulletin Board |
| 12:54 | Community Focus |
| 1:10 | Pentagon Channel |
| 2:00 | White Face |
| 2:15 | Pentagon Channel |
| 3:00 | Shamu-The Bird Story |
| 3:30 | Pentagon Channel |
| 4:00 | Oahu |
| 4:10 | Pentagon Channel |
| 5:00 | Hawaii-Hidden Beauty |
| 5:20 | Pentagon Channel |
| 6:00 | Hawaii Army Report |
| 6:24 | Honor to Serve |
| 6:32 | Community Focus |
| 6:46 | Bulletin Board |
| 7:16 | Pentagon Channel |
| 8:00 | NFL-Turf Talk '95 |
| 8:53 | Volunteers |
| 8:55 | Pentagon Channel |
| 10:00 | Bulletin Board |
| 10:30 | Pentagon Channel |
| 11:00 | Coqui Frog Invasion in Hawaii |
| 11:21 | Oakland Army Base |
| 11:50 | Bulletin Board |

Overnight
Pentagon Channel

(Because of hardware failure, TV2 programming may be interrupted during daily scheduled programming and replaced with the Pentagon Channel and/or the Bulletin Board.)

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater



Casanova
(R)
Today, 7 p.m.



Grandma's Boy
(PG-13)
Saturday, 7 p.m.



Hoodwinked
(PG)
Sunday, 2 p.m.

The theater is closed Monday to Thursday.

Community Calendar

Send community announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

February

24 / Today

Annual Volunteer Awards – Annual volunteer award nominations are due to Army volunteer coordinator (AVC) today. The annual volunteer recognition will be held Friday, April 28, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Bowen Park. For more information, contact Cathie Henderson at 655-1703 or e-mail at hendersonca@schofield.army.mil.

Families and Schools Together (FAST) – FAST is an award-winning model program that brings families together and helps create long lasting family bonds. Wheeler Middle School is hosting a FAST program, targeted for families with 6th graders. The ten-session program will take place on Wednesdays, for approximately two hours, beginning after spring break. Meals will be included. Registration is ongoing and forms are available at the school office.

Interested families should sign up no later than Friday, Feb. 24. For more information, call Stefanie Sondgeroth or Mary Rice, at 622-6525.

25 / Saturday

Tropic Lightning Museum – The Tropic Lightning Museum, Schofield Barracks, will feature "The Mark of the Hawk," Feb. 25. Matinees begin at 1 p.m.

Rodeo – Looking for hard-riding, fast-paced rodeo action? Gallop over to the Kualoa Ranch Arena Saturday, Feb. 25. Sponsored by the Hawaii Women's Rodeo Association, the event is free to spectators and features Hawaii's best horses and riders: men, women and children. Competition begins at 10 a.m. and includes barrel racing, pole bending and other timed events.

26 / Sunday

Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism – The community is invited to a Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism meeting, Feb. 26, 1 p.m. at the Community Chapel, Schofield Barracks, Building 791. For more information, call 306-6530 or 423-1830.

28 / Tuesday

Hawaii Army Family Action Plan – Make a difference in the community; send in your Hawaii Army Family Action Plan issues by Feb. 28. Issues sheets are available at ACS and most MWR activities, or submit issues online at www.mwrarmyhawaii.com. For more information, call Robin Sherrod at 655-4368.

Hui O'Wahine – The Fort Shafter Hui O'Wahine serving Fort Shafter, Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) and Camp Smith, is offering continuing education scholarships and charitable endowments to the community. Deadline for submission is Feb. 28 and awards will be presented in May.

Applications are available at the Fort Shafter thrift shop and library, TAMC library, AMR library, Fort Shafter and Aliamanu Military Reservation youth centers, Radford or Moanalua high schools, or by calling committee chairperson, Marilyn Murphy at 834-6168.

March

1 / Wednesday

MOAA \$1000 Scholarships – The Military Officer Association of America will award 25 \$1000 grants for the 2006-07 school year. Applicants must be a dependent child of an active duty or drilling Reserve/National Guard member, officer or enlisted, of the Armed Forces, United States, Public Health Service, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Specific applicant requirements must be met to apply.

Deadline for online entry is noon Eastern Standard Time March 1. Go to www.moaa.org, select "Services" then "Educational Assistance" and then "Scholarships and Grants." For additional questions not answered on the website, contact: edassist@moaa.org.

Money Management – Come and learn the basic tools for financial success. Learn how to develop a spending plan, reduce expenses, and make your paycheck work for you. Classes are held every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. to noon at ACS, Building 2091, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-4443 to register. For further information, call Georgianna McAnany, Financial Readiness program manager, at 655-1714 or email Georgianna.McAnany@schofield.army.mil.

Credit Management – Learn how to use your credit wisely and how to improve

Soldiers take the Great Aloha Run in stride

Story and Photos by
PVT.2 MATTHEW C. MOELLER
17th Public Affairs Detachment

HONOLULU — More than 4,100 Soldiers from Army installations in Hawaii took part in the 22nd Annual Hawaiian Telcom Great Aloha Run Feb. 20 in downtown Honolulu.

The run, which hosted more than 22,000 participants, raised well over \$200,000 for health and human service organizations and community groups throughout Hawaii, said Moani Wright-Van Alst, media advisor for the Aloha Run.

"The run really keeps in the spirit of aloha," said Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond L. Arnold, Headquarters Company, 25th Infantry Division, and the 2005 Army Hawaii 10-miler team captain. "People come out; they meet new people and support a great activity that helps really good causes."

Soldiers formed up at the Federal Building in downtown Honolulu and marched to the start point at the Aloha Tower, participants raced along the 8.15-mile course in formation, ending at Aloha Stadium in Pearl City.

The majority of the 4,800 service members ran in a formation led by Brig. Gen. John M. "Mick" Bednarek, 25th ID assistant division commander of operations.

"It was a tough last two miles, said Christopher J. Kirk, a Soldier with Golf Company, 58th Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade. "I had to carry the guidon, and I was just so worn out by then."

Soldiers called cadence to keep their



Above — More than 4,100 Soldiers participated in the 22nd annual Hawaiian Telcom Great Aloha Run. The event raised more than \$200,000 for health and human service organizations and community groups throughout Hawaii.

Left — Brig. Gen. John M. "Mick" Bednarek, 25th Infantry Division assistant division commander of operations, and Command Sgt. Maj. Jerry L. Taylor, 25th ID command sergeant major, lead the division formation during Monday's race.

spirits up, and cheering crowds and local high school bands along the course motivated them.

"It was awesome how the community came out and supported us the way they did," said Capt. Elias Ybarra, 45th Sustainment Brigade.

Soldiers were greeted with an eruption of applause after crossing the finish line in Aloha Stadium. Then

after the race they received water bottles, bananas, sweet bread and a Great Aloha Run finisher T-shirt.

The top military male finisher was Hawaii Army National Guard member and last year's winner Chris Larson with a time of 46 minutes and 24 seconds.

The first female military racer was the Navy's Cristy Prichard, who was also the 2005 winner. She crossed at 53:53.

The overall male finisher was Ryan Padilla of Boulder, Colo, with a time of 43:17, and the overall female finisher was Marie-Louise Bransen of Honolulu with a time of 50:09.

Army, Hawaii, received this year's award for most participation, reclaiming the title after losing last year to the Marine Corps. The Corps placed 500 participants this year, the Navy 100-plus.

Since 1985 the Great Aloha Run has raised more than \$6.5 million. It's Hawaii's largest participatory fund-raiser.

Community Calendar

From B-2

adult. Costs are \$10 for adults, \$7 for children; aquarium members pay less. Tours are available March 14 and 30. For more information, call 923-9741 or visit online at www.waquarium.org.

15 / Wednesday

Volunteer Advisory Council Meeting — The Volunteer Advisory Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 15 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks Main Post Chapel, Room D-9. The council consists of the Army volunteer coordinator, senior command spouses, military agency representa-

tives and unit representatives. Contact the AVC, Cathie Henderson at 655-4227 for more information.

17 / Friday

Aloha Tower Marketplace — Have a wee bit o' fun at Hawaii's only waterfront block party; the Aloha Tower Marketplace's St. Patrick's Day Celebration Block Party, Friday, March 17. Irish wannabee's will enjoy free live entertainment, giveaways, party beads and great restaurant specials. The fun is scheduled throughout the marketplace from 5 to 9 p.m. and admission is free. Look for elusive leprechauns during the evening to sing you an Irish song.

18 / Saturday

Hawaii Theatre Collectibles Sale — The

Hawaii Theatre will host a "Hawaii's Treasures and Collectibles" sale on Saturday, March 18 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the theater located at 1130 Bethel Street.

Admission to the event is \$5 per person and tickets are available at the Hawaii Theatre box office. Call 528-0506 or go online to www.hawaiitheatre.com for more information.

24 / Friday

Hui O Na Wahine Scholarships — The Schofield Barracks Hui O Na Wahine all-ranks spouses club is accepting applications for merit scholarships from now until March 24.

Applications are available at Sgt. Yano library, the Hui thrift shop, the Schofield Barracks ACS Building, the Leilehua High School counselor's office, Hui O Na

Wahine luncheons and spouse information meetings.

For more information, contact Roberta Cole, scholarship chair, at bertnstoner@yahoo.com

25 / Saturday

Rodeo — Looking for hard-riding, fast-paced rodeo action? Gallop over to the Diamond J Arena in Waianae Saturday, March 25. Sponsored by the Hawaii Women's Rodeo Association, the event is free to spectators and features Hawaii's best horses and men, women and children riders. Competition begins at 10 a.m. and includes barrel racing, pole bending and other timed events.

26 / Sunday

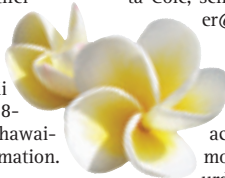
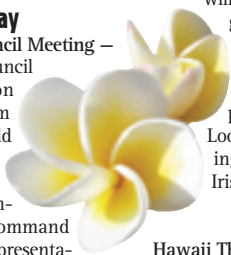
10k Volksmarch — The Menehune Marchers is sponsoring a 10K volksmarch

(walk) beginning at 8 a.m. on March 26 at Kaena Point (Mokuleia). Marchers will meet at Camp Erdman YMCA. The cost is free unless IVV credit is desired, then marchers must pay a \$3 fee. Call Barbara at 247-5059 or Carol at 626-3575 for more information.

28 / Tuesday

Parents Workshop — The ACS Family Advocacy Program offers a new parents' workshop designed to prepare new parents for first time delivery and parenthood. Classes are offered in five-week blocks on Tuesday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. and the next class starts on March 28.

The class is for both moms and dads, if possible, and couples should register as mom approaches the end of the third pregnancy trimester. Sessions are free, but participants must be registered in advance. Call ACS at 655-4ACS to register.





Staff Sgt. Kimberly Green | 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command

Ticklin' the twine

Donald Caffee #24, power forward for the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Dragons, lays one in as members of U.S. Army, Pacific, stand by. The 94th AAMDC defeated USARPAC, 53-33.



FEBRUARY

19/ Sunday

"5 Game, No Tap" Tournament – Individuals are invited to participate in the "5 Game, No Tap" Tournament at the Schofield Bowling Center. Check-in is at 1 p.m. and the cost is \$20. Call 655-0573 for more information.

21/ Tuesday

Youth Baseball/Softball – Feb. 21 is the last day to register for

Hawaii Youth Sports baseball and softball. Registration is at AMR, Fort Shafter, Schofield Barracks, Helemano Military Reservation (HMR) and Wheeler Army Air Field Youth Centers.

First-time participants must sign up with the CYS Registration Office before they can register. For baseball and softball, the Hawaii Youth Sports League is open to youth born in 1987 to 2000.

Cost is \$55 for baseball or softball and \$45 for T-Ball and Coach-Pitch. For more information, contact your area sports director.

27/ Monday

Basketball Court Closure – The HMR Basketball Courts will be closed for resurfacing Feb. 27 to March 6.

MWR Briefs

From B-2

\$125, which includes books. The class includes CPR for the professional rescuer and first aid. For more information or to sign up, call 655-9698.

"Damn Yankees" Auditions – Army Community Theater, Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter will hold auditions for its production of "Damn Yankees" on March 6, 7 and 8 at 7 p.m. The show runs May 11-27 with all performances at 7:30 p.m.

For audition information, call ACT at 438-4480.

10/ Friday

Creative Writing Contest – Put your most life-changing experience into words in the "Army Libraries and Leisure Activities Creative Writing Contest." Entry forms are available at all Army libraries and Leisure Activities. Deadline to enter is March 10, and winners

will be selected on April 5.

Three prizes will be awarded: first place, \$150; second place, \$100 and third place, \$50. For more information, call 655-0111.

11/ Saturday

Bishop Museum Science Festival – Come have a day of fun at the Bishop Museum, March 11 during the "Mad about Science" Festival. The festival will include hands on science activities, shows, and an opportunity to meet scientists. Cost is \$3 and transportation is available from Schofield Barracks for an additional \$3. Transportation will leave Schofield at 1 p.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. Deadline to sign up is March 3 and seating is limited. For more information, call 655-0112.

Yu-Gi-Oh – Get ready to duel at the Tropics. Registration for the Yu-Gi-Oh tournament begins at noon and matches will start at 1 p.m. Cost is \$6 and includes a pack of the latest Yu-Gi-Oh cards. Prizes will be

ONGOING

Hatha Yoga – Relish the traditional approach to yoga that aids relaxation, strengthening and lengthening muscles. Techniques can be modified based upon an individual's skill level.

Sessions will be held Wednesday at 5 p.m. and Saturdays at 8 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center. Call 655-8007 for more details.

Trampoline and Gymnastics Classes – SKIES Unlimited is partnering with Hawaii Academy to offer a military discount for trampoline and gymnastics programs. Hawaii Academy offers many programs including parent-tot and preschool classes; an essential skills program; flexibility, fitness and gymnastics programs; special education pro-

grams, and trampoline and power tumbling programs. Discount cards can be picked up at the Child and Youth Services registration offices. For more information, call 655-5525.

Cosmic Bowling – Experience bowling with a twist. Lights are dimmed, upbeat music is turned on and the room becomes illuminated in glowing lights. Cosmic Bowling runs every Wednesday at Wheeler Bowl.

Cost is \$1.50 per game and \$1 for shoe rental. Call 656-1745 for more information.

Scuba Club – Join the Scuba Club for only \$7 a month and get free air fills and a 10 percent discount on all your scuba equipment rentals. Tank rentals come with "unlimited air" during the rental period. For more information, call 655-0143.

awarded, and all ages are welcome. Call 655-8522 for more details.

ONGOING

Hawaii MusicWorks Studio Classes – SKIES Unlimited is partnering with Hawaii MusicWorks Studio to offer a military discount program for music and voice lessons. Hawaii MusicWorks offers both classical study and pop study.

Classes include "Intro to Piano and Composition," "Intro to Guitar and Ukulele," "Intro to Voice," "Intro to Percussion" and "Rock School." Discount cards can be picked up at Child and Youth Services registration offices. For more information, call 655-5525.

Storage Shed Rentals – 8-foot by 6-foot sheds are available for rental at \$40 per month at

Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter. For more information, call 655-9368 (Schofield Auto Craft Center) or 438-9402 (Fort Shafter Auto Craft Center).

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 also serves delicious pastries, desserts and smoothies.

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

Waianae Beach Live Entertainment – Unwind over the weekend at Waianae Beach Club with live entertainment, every Saturday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. and Sunday from 6 to 10 p.m. The Waianae Beach Club is located at Piliilau Army Recreation Center. Call 696-4778 for more information.

GAR's Fitness Expo showcases lifestyles, wellness

Soldiers set up exhibits and provide crowds some hands-on demonstrations

SGT. TYRONE C. MARSHALL JR.
Assistant Editor

HONOLULU— The 22nd Annual Great Aloha Run Health, Fitness and Sports Exposition returned to the Neal S. Blaisdell Center and Exhibition Hall Friday through Sunday to educate residents on the benefits of living healthy.

The Fitness Expo, sponsored by Hawaii Telecom, featured a variety of organizations related to health, relaxation and taking care of the body. Exhibitors created a marketplace of healthy living exhibits for patrons.

Companies such as Herbalife International, 24-Hour Fitness, Take Shape For Life, and Hawaiian Health Ohana displayed products and services that dealt with nutrition, fitness and well-being.

Other vendors such as Asics, Cool Shades, Fashion Spree, New Balance Hawaii, Rhythm Touch, and Fit for Sports brought products that promoted not just health and fitness, but fashion as well.

Visitors also took opportunities to enjoy healthy foods, beverages, beauty products and even recreational activities such as Fly Hi Thrills.

The crowd was delighted by additional activities such as Fit for Life's nine-station obstacle course where volunteers competed. Between each competition, staff assisted patrons with exercises and tips for keeping fit.

The Army participated in the exhibition as well, providing a Stryker vehicle for public viewing, an area for 25th Infantry Division Soldiers to demonstrate combat techniques, a weapons and gear layout for hands-on experience, and a recruiting station.

Soldiers attending the event took advantage of the various opportunities to improve themselves.

"I think it's a great way to kick off the Great Aloha Run and bring the community together in an environment that promotes physical fitness," said 2nd Lt. Pedro Martinez, a scout platoon leader with 2nd Brigade's 5-14th Cavalry Regiment.



Above — Staff Sgt. Jean Morris shows patrons some of the Army's weapons systems and their functions as he allows the crowd to have some hands-on experience Saturday during the Fitness Expo in Honolulu.

Right — Students from the Japan International Karate-Ki Center demonstrate their speed and agility during exercises for onlookers at the Fitness Expo.



"There's a good variety [of products] here," said Pfc. Jason Leinweber, from Company A, 1-21st Infantry, who not only attended the expo, but also com-

peted in Fit for Life's obstacle course.

The Army's portion of the expo was a hit with many patrons.

"It's a lot of fun and something I nev-

er get to do normally," said Melissa Kawana, a local resident, referring to handling the military weapons and gear.

Linda Kawana, Melissa's mother, en-

joyed looking at the equipment, the hands-on portion, and just talking to Soldiers. She brought her daughters to the expo and even allowed her youngest, Jessica, to compete in the Keiki Run, a race for children 12 years and younger.

"I think it's a great thing for everyone because fitness is always important," Linda Kawana said.

Her daughter Melissa agreed, describing the expo as fun and thoroughly enjoying the Army's section.

The exhibitors themselves also enjoyed being a part of the expo.

"Today's expo is incredible," said Kathy Young, an independent distributor for Herbalife. "The number one thing I like about it is seeing everyone come out concerned about their health and wellness because that's what I represent."

Young, who has worked with Herbalife for four years, said she enjoyed working one-on-one with people and seeing them get excited about getting healthy.

"I know I can make an impact in their lives," she said.

Young isn't simply an employee but the "face" of the company as she is featured on the cover of the company's sales brochures — having lost 37 pounds.

"I'm honored that they chose my picture because there are 40 million customers who are satisfied through Herbalife and they chose me," Young said. "It's a benefit to the local people in Hawaii because it makes it real for them."

As the fitness expo wound to a close, the event's promoter, general manager and director for Pacific Expo, Tara C. Thompson, described the fitness expo's intent.

"It's a way to see what's out there that's new in sports, health, vitamins and wellness. You should walk away with new ideas for how to live better, longer and healthier," Thompson said.

Having helped coordinate the fitness expo the past 22 years, Thompson also took the opportunity to thank the military for their presence at the exhibition.

"We appreciate having the military here with their equipment because everybody loves it," she revealed. "Every time I walk by there, people are all over [the equipment]. It makes it very interesting ... to see what [the Army] actually use[s]."