# KITKA SUARD JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HIGKAM

MULTINATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS TAKES TO THE SKIES CHAPLAIN'S HISTORIC PROMOTION

- PACIFIC WARRIORZ BRINGS AIRMEN, SOLDIERS TOGETHER
- MEDICAL RESPONDERS TRAIN IN CALIFORNIA
- FIGHTER PILOT HITS 1,000 Hour Mark

# Inside kūkaʻilimoku

July 2021

## STAFF

**COMMANDER** Brig. Gen. Dann S. Carlson

PAO 2nd Lt. Deborah Kwan PA STAFF

Master Sgt. Mysti Bicoy Tech. Sgt. Tabitha Hurst Staff Sgt. Orlando Corpuz Staff Sgt. John Linzmeier Senior Airman Robert Cabuco Airman 1st Class Roann Gatdula

Published by 154th Wing Public Affairs Office 360 Mamala Bay Drive JBPHH, Hawai'i 96853 Phone: (808) 789-0419 Email: 154wg.pa@us.af.mil URL: www.154wg.ang.af.mil



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- Articles range from 200 to 2,000 words. All articles should be accompanied by multiple high-resolution
- · Include first names, last names and military ranks. Always verify spelling.
- Spell out acronyms, abbreviations and full unit design tions on first reference.

#### Photographs:

- Highest resolution possible: MB files, not KB.
- · No retouched photos, no special effects.
- · Include the photographer's name and rank, and a caption: what is happening in the photo, who is pictured and the date and location.

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# SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR HIANG AIRMEN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

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pfc2.hi.ng@zeiders.com



By Staff Sgt. John Linzmeier

A historic promotion ceremony was held on May 11, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, in celebration of the first Asian American and Pacific Islander female being promoted to the rank of colonel within the U.S. Air Force Chaplain Corps.

To coincide with Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month, Col. Leah Boling also became the first Asian American female to reach the senior rank within the Hawai'i Air National Guard.

Family members, colleagues and 154th Wing leadership gathered to show support for Col. Leah Boling's groundbreaking achievement, as hundreds of spectators observed the virtually streamed event.

"This achievement, to become the first Filipino-American female Chaplain to reach colonel in the entire Air Force Chaplain Corps, among other firsts, is nothing short of significant," announced Brig. Gen. Dann S. Carlson, presiding officer and 154th Wing commander. "We have all witness you excel in your position here as the Hawai'i Air National Guard chaplain, as well as your acting colonel position as the ANG assistant to the command chaplain for Air Mobility Command, and it's great to finally have the federal recognition to let you wear the rank you deserve."

As the Hawai'i ANG's on-call and full-time chaplain, Boling's career progression and success were paved upon by her ability to directly help other service members and their families as they navigate through turbulent times within their personal and professional lives.

Boling came to the U.S. as a 26-year old immigrant from the island of Mindanao in the Philippines. At the time, her aspirations and goals had little to do with a career in military service. However, she was always dedicated to her personal mission of spiritual growth and family values which eventually gave her an avenue to offer her passions to members of the military commu-

"In 2000, Chaplain Nagamine, the Wing Chaplain and my Sunday School teacher then, actively recruited me to join the Guard," said Boling. "I wasn't enthusiastic about the idea of joining the military, but I considered it. Then 9/11 happened. I saw the need and so my decision to pursue my application package became more real. Thus, in April 2002, I raised my hand to serve our country."

As a new member of the Chaplain Team, Boling said it felt as though she was going into uncharted territory, as no one else who fit her particular demographic had been in her position before. She was left with no choice but to find a way to overcome any biases that were at odds with her.

"To be honest with you, I was anxious when I reported for my first drill. I didn't know how the Airmen would receive me or if they would accept me at all. Me—an Asian-American female Chaplain."

Under feelings of pressure and adversity, Boling finally resolved to make a promise to herself as a way to silence the inner and outer criticisms. She decided to always show up, maintain control over her performance and stay true to her identity while serving the Airmen to the best of her abilities.

"In other words," she said, "I decided if they don't want to accept me or my service, then that's on them. I don't have to carry that burden. The only burden I allowed myself to carry is to ask myself 'did I do the best I could for the Airman?"

Before long, Boling's guiding principles earned her a reputation within the Hawai'i ANG. She became a frequently sought out confidant and credentialed counselor to countless Airman and family members within the military community.

Throughout her career, Boling found herself going beyond the traditional duties of providing interpersonal counseling for individual members. She became an active and highly valued participant in Hawai'i's State Partnership Program with the Philippine Air Force, where she served as an ambassador for cultural and career field expert exchanges with Airmen from her home

During crisis events, such as the ongoing pandemic, she helped found several initiatives for Airman; to include a community food storage facility where Airmen in-need can access free sustenance, and the 'Meet-a-Need' program, connecting individuals to free household services and items on a confidential basis.

Boling said she strived to be an approachable and caring wingman as she rose through the ranks, while developing leadership skills amongst command-level leaders.

During her promotion ceremony, Boling attributed much of her success to the non-stop love and support from her family, and a long list of mentors with first names such as Dann, James, Duke and the like -- an announcement that was followed by a brief, yet thought provoking silence.

"Did you notice all the mentors I mentioned are men?" She added. "That's right. That's my reality. That's my story. I hope my story will have an impact on someone else's story as well."

While Boling marked Hawai'i ANG history by becoming the first Asian-American to pin on a rank that has only been achieved by the top two percent of Air Force officers, her achievement set a precedent that would be followed shortly after.

A friend and colleague, also from the Asian American community, pinned on the rank colonel just two months later. Col. Regina Komine, an Airman with Korean and African American ancestry, assumed command of the 154th Mission Support Group in June.

In alignment with the chaplain's unique career in the HIANG, Boling was recently selected to be the ANG's next Chaplain Corps Director, making her the first woman and person of color to assume the top position.

"When I joined 19 years ago," said Boling, "I didn't set out to break glass ceilings. To be a groundbreaker. To be a trailblazer. Or any other idioms or metaphors you can think of. All I really wanted to do was serve the Airmen to the best of my abilities. I joined the Guard out of patriotism and a calling. It never even crossed my mind about being a first of anything."

Strong leaders such as Boling may have not always been focused on disrupting the status quo throughout the ranks, rather its sheer strength, diverse backgrounds and commitment to service which is ultimately causing a cultural shift for the betterment of the

Her efforts and that of so many other female and minority leaders are taking the U.S. Air Force to new heights and proving to the world that greatness is not a quality that originates from an individual's background; rather it comes from the hearts of those who are dedicated to helping others and making a lasting impact within their community.



Family members and leaders from the 154th Wing attend Col. Leah Boling's promotion ceremony May 11, at JBPH-H. Boling made HIANG history by becoming the first female Filipino to reach the rank of colonel, and the first female to reach the senior rank within the U.S. Air Force Chaplain Corps.

## **MILITARY** SPOUSES HOLD **WORKING GROUP** TO DISCUSS **FAMILY SUPPORT**



Photos by Staff Sgt. John Linzmeier

Behind every mission we set out to accomplish, there are always loved ones at home who are supporting us throughout the non-stop demands of military service.

On April 30, spouses of Air Force reservists, guardsmen and top DoD leaders assembled to address the adversities and opportunities that are unique to military spouses.

Over the course of the meeting, members expressed both unique and similar experiences, expanded their community networks and shared a series of resources and ideas with one another.

Because of the commitment of all military spouses, we are grateful to know that so many heartfelt conversations and collective efforts are ongoing to help perpetuate a culture of thriving families, fulfilling relationships and wholesome careers.



Military spouses of guard and reserve service members gather family resource pamphlets during a working group.



Spouses of quard and reserve service members spent their morning discussing military life and sharing experiences which helped them connect and improve their family unit at home.

# **NEW PHYSICAL** FITNESS TEST IS HERE

by Tech. Sqt. Tabitha Hurst

It's been close to a year and a comparison with the new score system half since the Air Force conducted this would earn him 85.7 points. fitness testing and for individuals it's probably been almost two-years since in 5-year increments, easing some participating in a test. You're probably of the stress of getting older and the really nervous to run, most people everchanging life situations. In the get anxious during their fitness test, above example if you are 35-years-old but there's some really great changes you would score 89.8. These may be that have been implemented that will small score changes to some people benefit you.

the sit-up components are now worth you may have. 20-points each and the run is still repetitions less.

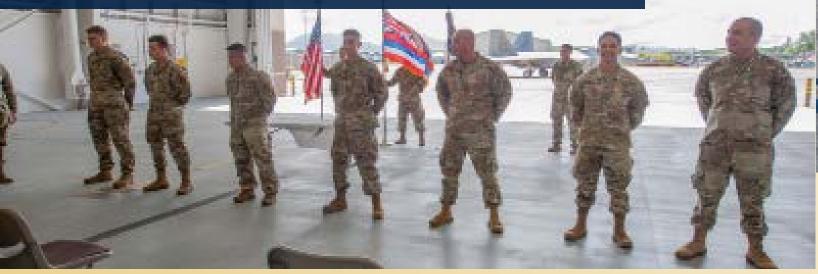
an 82.2 on the old fitness chart in with your fitness reach out for help.

Also, the test age brackets are now but to others this can mean passing You've maybe heard about them, your fitness test with a little more ease! they got rid of the waist measurement! For more information of the fitness test For some of you, you may be bummed visit <a href="https://www.afpc.af.mil/Career-">https://www.afpc.af.mil/Career-</a> that you just lost your "easy 20-points" Management/Fitness-Program/ and but let me assure you there are some checkout the new fitness charts to other great changes! The push-up and help ease some of the testing anxiety

Although the score charts may worth 60-points. Even though these have made your testing a little easier, strength components are worth more this is not the time to relax your they also made the minimum required personal fitness standards. We still have a 6-week fitness testing training For example, a 29-year-old male with program available to help you improve a 12-minute run, a 36.5-inch waist, 45 your test scores. Here at the 154th push-ups and 45-situps would score we're family and if you're struggling

To access more of Tech. Sqt. Hurst's workout plans, simply visit YouTube.com/user/HIAirGuard, select playlists and click on 'Quarantine Workout Plan.

## CAPITOL RESPONSE DEFENDERS RECOGNIZED FOR PEACEKEEPING EFFORTS



by Senior Airman Robert Cabuco

Seven 154th Security Forces Airmen were recognized for their exemplary efforts while conduction security operations in support of Capitol Police at the United States Capitol from March 12 to May 23.

Air Force Security Forces personnel are renowned for their far-reaching impacts in maintaining safety and security. Through their efforts, operations, military bases, and task forces are afforded the peace-of-mind and operational latitude needed to accomplish the mission.

For their meritorious actions which significantly contributed to the Team Hawai'i's mission objectives and enhanced the overall success of Task Force Capitol in Washington D.C., the following Airmen received Air Force and Army medals:

Senior Master Sqt. Ryan Schreiner Staff Sqt. Rodney Pedro Staff Sqt. Bryan Tenoso **Senior Airman Ken Anthony Cabreros** Airman 1st Class Jacob James Airman 1st Class Hunter Johnson Airman 1st Class Sheldon Goya

**Congratulations to these 154th Security Forces Airmen!** 









HIANG Quarterly Award Winners started off their May drill weekend with an incentive flight with members of the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron, getting an inside look of our flying ops from the unique perspective of a tanker aircrew.

**Congrats to all the award winners who ventured out into the blue on this special occasion!** 

Master Sqt. Tashalynn Willing, 154th Security Forces Squadron Capt. Allison Delos Santos, 154th Security Forces Squadron Tech. Sqt. Michael Higuchi, 298th Support Squadron Senior Airman Aaron Moriyama, 154th Operations Support Squadron Senior Airman Briana Topar, 154th Maintenance Operations Flight Staff Sqt. George Keko'olani, 154th Maintenance Operations Flight Capt. Bryce Yamamoto, 154th Medical Group

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Joleen Morse from the 204th Airlift Squadron, who is the National Guard Bureau's Senior NCO recipient of the Staff Sergeant Henry E. "Red" Erwin Outstanding Enlisted Aircrew Aviator for 2021!

As a high-performing loadmaster and leader in the airlift community, Morse has 'raised the bar' and mentored so many of her 'Pueo' wingmen and peers in our 'Ohana.

We are all proud and honored to serve alongside you and wish you luck as you compete at the Air Force level for this prestigious award!





## **AIRMAN LEADS TASK FORCE** THROUGH MOUNT KAALA **CONSERVATION PROJECT**

by Staff Sqt. John Linzmeier

Genesaret was in a bit of a 'rut' the first time she climbed Mount Kaala, the highest point on the island invasive grass that flourishes in swampy areas," said of Oahu. Harsh weather conditions struck the mountain from the East, making it unsafe for her and her friends to scale down the scenic ridgeline on the other side.

as usual, was exactly what she came out to experience and spending extra time at the marshy peak to gather her thoughts was hardly a setback for the crew of teenaged hiking enthusiasts.

Nearby, Genesaret spotted a group of people pulling heaps of grass from the earth and decided to inquire about their landscaping efforts.

"They were a volunteer group pulling this really Genesaret Balladares, who is now an Airman 1st Class in the 154th Security Forces Squadron. "We're like 'do you guys need help? We actually have some spare time Nature, proving to be mysterious and unpredictable cause we're not going to do this ridge hike.' They said yes and ended up teaching us all about the mountain and why preservation efforts like this are so important."

> Of all the tidbits of information Balladares absorbed from the team of environmentalists, Balladares was most taken aback from learning about an unfamiliar-looking pink flower that was blooming all around her, known as a Koli'i. She always knew that the Hawaiian Islands were

renowned to be the endangered species capitol of the U.S., but seeing one of these threatened specimens up close made the matter more personal than ever.

"There was something special about seeing that endemic flower for the first time, watching it blossom, and knowing that it only exists here and how I was possibly the only one in the world who was appreciating it at that exact moment. It made me feel that I needed to protect it and make sure it continues to flourish."

This experience was back in 2014 and it ignited a lifelong passion for conservation which pervaded throughout her academic studies, volunteer work, hobbies and personal mission to give back to the 'Aina,' meaning land in the Hawaiian language.

These passions earned Balladares a reputation of being an earthy sort of person; the type who could talk for hours about tiny insects, gardening and her endless collection of native plant photos.

Six years later, as a member of the Hawai'i Air National Guard, Balladares was called upon to serve the State of Hawai'i in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. She and dozens of other Airmen from the 154th SFS formed a civil support unit called Task Force Reserve to augment domestic operations throughout Hawai'i.

Her lifestyle flipped upside-down overnight, with most of her waking hours working alongside the Air National Guard's most battle-hardened and most frequently deployed outfit of defenders. Being one of the most junior members in the unit, one of the few females and certainly the smallest in the group, she was determined to establish her role and connect with the team which was to become her second family.



Airman 1st Class Genesaret Balladares, 154th Security Forces Squadron member, observes a Koli'i flower as it blossoms June 8, on Mount Kaala. Balladares first discovered the endemic Hawaiian plant in 2014 and it inspired become an active participant with local conservation projects ever since. She recently organized the largest volunteer event with the Army Natural Resource Program.



Airman 1st Class Genesaret Balladares, 154th Security Forces Squadron member, leads a team of volunteers during a conservation project event June 8, on Mount Kaala, Hawaii. Balladares set up a collaboration between her unit and the Army Natural Resource Program, Oahu, during a project to protect native species.





Volunteers from the 154th Security Forces Squadron transport gravel in an effort to preserve natural habitats June 8, on Mount Kaala, Hawai'i. The Airmen were inspired by one of their most junior members to support the project, led by the Army Natural Resource Program, Oahu.

However, it didn't take long for Balladares to learn that her peers were vastly more interested in talking about other things such as the latest superhero flick, rather than her precious plant discoveries. With an ample amount of self-restraint, she managed to redirect her excitement for nature within the social sphere and focused on things that would be much more relatable.

Throughout the calmest and harshest portions of the pandemic, Task Force Reserve continued civil support on a tireless basis and the members who comprised it, volunteer. invariably, became closer than ever.

network of environmental professionals throughout her island-based deployment and kept an eye out for opportunities to help the environment. In the Spring is crazy, she's talking about her plant stuff again." of 2021, she received word that the Army Natural Resources Program, Oahu, was seeking help to move several tons of gravel near Mount Kaala. The goal of the program is to effectively balance the requirements of the Army's training mission with its natural resource responsibilities.

Now, a more self-assured member of her organization, Balladares said she saw this as a perfect opportunity to solicit the muscle from her security forces family to a cause that would aid the wildlife on a mountain that was sacred to her. The prospect of briefing her unit about the initiative was an unsettling idea, knowing that it might not be well received. But after seeking out and receiving command support, it was clear that at least a few members would step up to

"I was thinking that nobody would be interested," Balladares remained in touch with her outer she said. "They don't understand why I'm so passionate about it. I lost sleep over this and was worried that people would think to themselves 'oh my gosh, this girl

> With all eyes on her during her initial briefing, Balladares' pitch didn't go as she had anticipated. It was an overwhelming success with 90 percent of Airmen committing to the volunteer project.

> "It was clear that she was very emotional about this project and it showed us how much passion she

has for this," said Capt. Allison Delos Santos, 154th SFS operations officer. "It's something that she feels strongly about; all the way down to sharing the scientific names of the plants and animals, their Hawaiian names, their features and what they looked like. So, we could all see how much time and effort she has put into making sure seemed to be an elusive barrier between Balladares and this is successful and she made us want to be a part of it."

Weeks later, after much planning and coordination between all parties, Balladares and her contingent of nearly 30 volunteers gathered outside of Schofield Barracks on June 8, to synchronize with ANRP personnel. The team huddled to receive a comprehensive briefing from program managers, learning about how their efforts will be helping biologists to preserve natural habitats of at-risk species and how they can do so while respecting environmental sensitivities.

Not only was the volunteer force the largest group to ever contribute to the ANRP, but Kim Welch, ANRP outreach and volunteer specialist also said they were able to complete enough labor that would account for five to six separate outings.



Airman 1st Class Genesaret Balladares, 154th Security Forces Squadron member, leads a team of volunteers during a conservation project event June 8, on Mount Kaala.

On perhaps, a more surprising note, Balladares said she was overjoyed to see how everyone was actively engaged with the initiative and asking nonstop questions about the native and invasive wildlife.

While being outspoken about her passions once her peers, volunteers were so excited that they lined up just to have their turn at viewing some of the critters and fauna which she illuminated.

"Looking back," said Balladares, "I couldn't be happier with how the day turned out. To have their support and permission to lead them; it's been very empowering. Whatever insecurities I had with the group before going up the mountain, they all went away. I'm just glad everyone had a great time, worked hard and ended up making a difference."

# ASIAN AMERICAN, PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE CELEBRATED

Pacific Islander heritage month, a sortie of F-22 Raptors, a KC-135 Stratotanker and C-17 Globemaster, operated by all- AAPI flight crew flew on May 25, to honor AAPI contributions to the military.

As a Total Force Integration event, Airmen from the worked together to execute the sortie. In addition to the all-AAPI flight crews, the majority of the maintenance and support personnel involved in the sortie are also

In celebration of the end of Asian American and AAPIs. The Hawai'i Air National Guard is made up of many cultures and represent every race at all levels, with a majority being AAPI. This all-AAPI sortie showcases that the strength of our modern Air Force is in its diverse airmen.

Although AAPIs represent just 3% of all uniformed Hawai'i Air National Guard and active duty Air Force military service members, AAPIs have fought and served the United States since the War of 1812. AAPIs served on both sides of the Civil War, Philippine-American War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam







Photos by Staff Sgt. Orlando Corpuz

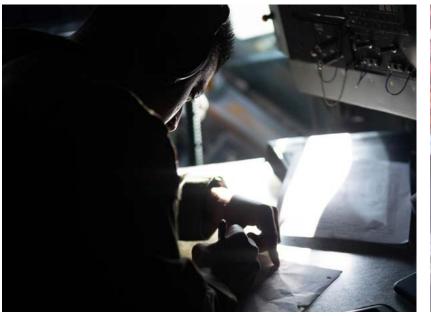
War, Persian Gulf War, and in recent times, the War on President George H.W. Bush signed a bill to extend the Terrorism.

US Representatives Norm Mineta and Frank Horton, and US Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, all Army veterans, introduced bills in Congress to call on the president, Jimmy Carter, to establish the first 10 days in May Asian/Pacific Heritage Week in 1977. share.

celebration to a full month in 1990.

As this mission came to a successful closure, we are reminded of the many diverse cultures that make up our 'ohana and we recognize how every ethnic background has so much to offer this incredible community we







Photos by Senior Airman Robert Cabuco

# MAJOR'S CAREER MILESTONE ON HISTORIC HIANG MISSION

by Master Sgt. Mysti Bicoy

Maj. Curtis Yoshimoto, 199th Fighter Squadron F-22 Raptor pilot, flew his 1,000th hour in a Raptor at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, May 25. This career milestone comes after 9 years of flying the F-22, and twenty-four years of being a guardsman.

On this day, the Hawai'i Air National Guard and PACAF highlighted a specific event to recognize our member's that serve with Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage in our organization. An all-Asian Pacific Islander flight crew, combined with operations and maintainers, assembled to employ a C-17 Globemaster III, KC-135 Stratotanker and F-22 Raptor; at the same time it was also this day that Yoshimoto reached a career and personal milestone, his 1000th-hour flying the F-22 Raptor. Yoshimoto

didn't always want to be a pilot. He explains that once he enlisted into the organization, he saw the operation in a different perspective. "I had some great mentors early on in my career that I will always be thankful for," said Yoshimoto. He spent half of his career as an enlisted in-flight refueler, also known as a boom operator, all the while seeking his education to further his goal to become a pilot.

An F-22 is equipped to fly at mach 2.0 speed, twice the speed of sound or 20 miles per minute. So how long does it take a fighter pilot to reach 1,000 hours of flight time? "There are many variables to consider when assessing how long it will take to reach this milestone, such as location and mission" says Lt. Col. Paul Lopez, a fellow F-22 fighter pilot from the



active duty's 19th FS. "This is a significant milestone, and growing up in this environment, there's not that many of us around. I remember looking at them as a testament to their training, experience, longevity and skill."

Although this day is special for Yoshimoto as he becomes the 117th F-22 Fighter Pilot in the nation to reach this career milestone, he also reflects on the importance of his upbringing, "I'm proud of being born and raised in Hawai'i, the people are so diverse, rich in culture and 'ohana," said Yoshimoto. "My ohana and organization are instrumental in every accomplishment I have. I have great experiences and memories and look forward to making many more."



Maj. Curtis Yoshimoto, 199th Fighter Squadron F-22 pilot clocks his 1,000 hour of flying the Raptor May 25, at JBPH-H.



Maj. Curtis Yoshimoto, 199th Fighters Squadron F-22 pilot, is joined by his family in celebration of his 1,000th hour of flying the Raptor May 25, at JBPH-H.





Hawai'i and California Air National Guard Airmen completed a week-long series of search-and-rescue training missions May 21, at Moffett Federal Airfield, Calif.

The training entailed coordinated airdrops of rescue during peacetime and war. packages into the Santa Cruz Water Drop Zone, conducted by an aircrew from the 204th Airlift Squadron and Guardian Angel rescue teams from the 131st Rescue Squadron. In support of NASA's Commercial Crew Program, training scenarios were held to validate contingency landing.

"This has been an extremely beneficial experience from a single fuselage. for us all," said Capt. Evan Kurosu, 204th AS exercise planner. "This mission is so dynamic, which requires a high level of experience. It pushes us to be flexible and can only be accomplished by working closely with the Human Space Flight Support Operations and the PJ community."

Prior to each transit from earth to orbit and back, C-17 Globemaster IIs are fully equipped with pararescue teams, rescue craft and life-support equipment. Aircraft are postured out of Joint-Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawai'i, and Joint Base Charleston, SC, ready to aid space travelers if the capsule lands outside of the that was held at nighttime. planned landing sites.

Guardian Angel teams, such as that of the participating 131st RS, require an intense two-year training program and are equipped with heightened recovery skill sets that can be applied in extreme and austere conditions

Combining rescue capabilities with a C-17 is a new development in the airlift community, making ongoing training a critical component of mission readiness for all personnel involved. In contrast with smaller and more conventional rescue aircraft, such as HH-60 and their ability to provide rescue support in the event of a HC-130 class airframes, the C-17 can travel farther, faster and is capable of deploying all rescue elements

> Mission participants were challenged to adjust their operations to a wide range of environmental conditions and logistical factors such as wind, lighting, water conditions, geographic displacement and communication signals, which often push rescuers to come up with alternative approaches at any point during the mission.

> To offer contrasting scenarios to the rescue repertoire, participants located and attended to the staged victim who was 'stranded' aboard a mock-space capsule during the initial rescue event, followed by a similar operation

In the event of a real-world search-and-rescue mission, aviators would use telemetry systems and radio communication devices to reach the splashed-downed capsule and would apply a set of search patterns to make visual contact with the astronaut crew.

While participants of the exercise had a clear agenda to practice their rescue competencies, mission planners are always looking for ways to accomplish additional training requirements along the way.

The C-17 aircrew scheduled and flew a unique lowlevel sortie on a Military Training Route located near Travis Air Force Base, Calif., to qualify aviators with evasive maneuvers which are applicable for their wartime skillset. In addition, Guardian Angel pararescuemen also obtained land-based High Altitude Low Opening or HALO training required for their jumpmaster upgrade curriculum.

Since the first manned-CCP flights started last year, all launches to-and-from orbit went according to plan, leaving standby rescue crews on the ground at their respective takeoff installations, while primary recovery teams ensured crews were brought back safely.



A Guardian Angel pararescueman from the 131st Rescue Squadron stages a mock-space capsule during an airdrop-training scenario May 20, at Santa Cruz Water Drop Zone, Calif. Photo by Staff Sqt. Stefany Leyva.



Guardian Angel pararescuemen from the 131st Rescue Squadron parachute descend into the ocean May 20, at Santa Cruz Water Drop Zone, Calif. Photo by Staff Sgt. Stefany Leyva.

## **Hawaiian Raptors train** with French Air Force

by Staff Sgt. Orlando Corpuz

F-22 Raptors from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam completed international air-combat training July 5, with several training sorties focusing on interoperability between U.S. and French Air Force combat aircraft.

From June 27 to July 5, three French Air Force Rafales, two A400M Atlas, one A330 Phenix, and approximately 170 French Air and Space Force (FASF) personnel made Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawai'i, their temporary roost. The exercise was part of Exercise Wakea a PACAF and French co-led demonstration of the U.S. and French Air Force's partnership and commitment in the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility.

Part of Wakea involved Hawai'i

ANG F-22 Raptors training with FASF aircraft to enhance aircombat expertise and increase the interoperability between the two countries' aircraft.

"Wakea provided our F-22 pilots with a unique opportunity to integrate and train with allied partners," said Lt. Col. Anthony Davis, 154th Operations Group deputy commander. "Our location in the Pacific doesn't lend itself to routinely training with French forces, so it will likely prove to be invaluable to future operations and interoperability."

This was the first time the FASF's primary fighter aircraft had graced the Hawaiian airspace. The deployment was part of France's effort to reaffirm its place as a stabilizing



(left) A French Air and Space Force F3-R Rafale takes-off at Honolulu International Airport, June 29.

(below) Brig. Gen. Dann S. Carlson, 154th Wing commander, Hawai'i Air National Guard and Lt. Gen. Vincent Cousin, commander, Air Defence and Operations Command - French Air and Space Force, observe an A400M Atlas take-off at Honolulu International Airport, June 29.





presence in the Pacific.

France's air force and navy began using the Rafales in 2001. The highly versatile twin-engine fighters can be used to execute a multitude of mission sets; from alert and air-defense, ground support, and reconnaissance. And as the Hawaiian Raptors and Rafales demonstrated, are able to 'play nicely' in the realm of fighter synchronization.

While air-combat synchronization was one of the primary focuses during Wakea, on-the-ground subject matter experts from both nations exchanged best practices regarding flight ops, training, maintenance, and medical operations. "It really was a well-rounded effort," Anthony

said. "It's safe to say we learned a lot from them and they learned a lot from us. Both maintenance and ops benefited from this experience."

Wakea was a perfect illustration of French cooperation with American Armed Forces, showcasing the quality of the existing relationships as the U.S. continues to accelerate synchronization with allies.

As fighter operations rely on aerial refueling to sustain sortie time, key Hawai'i ANG personnel were invited to fly in a A330 Phenix to observe how the FASF execute aerial refueling.

Brig. Gen. Dann S. Carlson, 154th Wing commander and Raptor pilot, hosted a contingent of high ranking FASF officials for a tour of Raptor

ops and maintenance - part of a myriad of French interactions with the various U.S. military service components leadership personnel based here in Hawai'i.

According to a U.S. Navy news release, Adm. Samuel Paparo, U.S. Pacific Fleet commander, met with two top French military officials visiting Hawai'i to discuss the French military's posture in the region.

"It was definitely an eye-opening experience for everyone involved," Anthony said. "If we're able to continue periodically training with the French, we'll likely look back at this past week as the successful start of it all." A HAWAI'I AIR NATIONAL GUARD F-22 RAPTOR FLIES IN FORMATION WITH A FRENCH AIR AND SPACE FORCE F3-R RAFALE JUNE 30, NEAR OAHU, HAWAI'I. FASF AIRCRAFT, MAINTENANCE, AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL TRAVELED TO HAWAI'I FOR EXERCISE WAKEA AS PART OF THE BILATERAL COOPERATION IN THE PACIFIC BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE. DURING WAKEA, HAWAI'I ANG F-22 RAPTORS TRAINED WITH FASF AIRCRAFT TO ENHANCE AIR-COMBAT EXPERTISE AND INTEROPERABILITY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES' AIRCRAFT.



# HAWAIIAN RAPTORS FLY WITH WEDGETAIL FOR PACIFIC EDGE-21



F-22 Raptor pilots from the Hawai'i Air National Guard's 199th Fighter Squadron (left and right) join a Royal Australian Air Force surveillance officer (center), from No. 2 Squadron, April 20, at JBPH-H.

By Staff Sgt. John Linzmeier

Total Force Airmen from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam completed a multi-faceted, air-combat exercise April 22, flying more than one-hundred sorties alongside partners from the Royal Australian Air Force and other U.S.-based units.

The exercise, Pacific Edge 21, was hosted over three weeks to provide cost-effective and realistic training, tailored to equip multi-national warfighters with skills to fly, fight and win against advanced threats throughout the Indo-Pacific Region.

Mission planners from the Hawai'i Air National Guard's 199th Fighter Squadron and the active-duty 19th FS branded the new exercise Pacific Edge, representing the central convergence of partners who traveled from Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., and RAAF Base Williamtown, Australia.

"Training with coalition partners like the RAAF creates a realistic training environment we rarely get to experience," said Capt. Robert Pupilis, Pacific Edge project officer. "The Indo-Pacific Command's Area of Responsibility is massive and complex, and it is undeniably necessary for us to be familiar with and ready to fight alongside our coalition partners. Having the RAAF in our Squadron studying threats, mission planning, and debriefing as a team created that realistic environment and fostered a coalition team mentality."



A Royal Australian Air Force E-7A Wedgetail, operated by No. 2 Squadron based at RAAF Base Williamtown, Australia, flies in formation with Hawai'i Air National Guard F-22 Raptors April 21, 2021, near Oahu, Hawai'i. The command-and-control aircraft, traveled to Hawai'i to participate in exercise Pacific Edge 21 and provide airborne early warning support to airborne participants. The exercise was held to enhance air-combat proficiencies through the integration of allied units and further the interoperability between the two countries' aircraft.

Hawai'i Air National Guard F-22 Raptors launched back-to-back sorties while integrating their stealth capabilities with the RAAF's Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft, called the E-7A Wedgetail. The platform is operated by an aircrew from the RAAF's No. 2 Squadron, which uses a powerful radar to monitor the battlespace and relay the information to allied partners in real-time.

According to Pupilis, Pacific Edge project officer, the exercise was distinguished by its narrow scope of integration, allowing aviators to enhance the most fundamental aspects of bilateral warfare. In contrast, larger exercises, such as Red Flag, entail more significant movements and a broader set of training objectives.

"[In larger exercises] a lot of lessons

learned can get overshadowed by the sheer size of the fight, said Pupilis. "During Pacific Edge, we were able to focus specifically on F-22 and E-7 integration to develop, finetune, and test our tactics against advanced threats to bring forward to future exercises."

As the stealth-capable Raptors engaged in combat scenarios with their RAAF 'mates' from No. 2 Squadron, F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 442nd Training and Evaluation Squadron joined the fight while assuming an adversarial role, called 'red air' in the fighter community.

The presence of 'hostile' F-16s enabled the Hawaiian Raptors to practice a wider range of combat encounters that could be faced in a real-world conflict. Raptor pilots responded to sequences in which they would protect a high-value airborne asset from an

observed threat and other scenarios which involved direct air-to-air engagements from offensive and defensive postures.

Daily sorties were also sustained by the delivery of in-air refueling, provided by Hawai'i Air National Guard KC-135 Stratotankers from the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron. Reliable access to fuel is a mission-essential component of air combat operations, as fighter aircraft depend on tanker gas to maximize their reach and flight time.

While the exercise's endgame was to validate the ability to quickly combine the airpower of multi-national flying assets into a cohesive fighting force, much of the bilateral growth was achieved through weeks of faceto-face exchanges and the mutual sharing of best practices.

"Working with the Hawaiian Raptors has been eye-opening," said RAAF Flying Officer Angus Ozimec, No. 2 Squadron surveillance control officer. "It's been an excellent opportunity to see how we can integrate with the fifth-generation platform and become stronger as a team – this has also provided valuable experience we can apply when working with our F-35As back in Australia."

Seventeen Raptor pilots joined RAAF aircrew inside the Wedgetail throughout the exercise to learn exactly what the crew of surveillance control officers and systems officers bring to the fight and how to make the most of their sophisticated monitoring capabilities by interacting directly with the onboard aircraft captain and mission commander.



Hawai'i Air National Guard F-22 Raptors taxi down the flight line April 20, 2021, at JBPH-H during exercise Pacific Edge.



An airfield management Airman from the 154th Operations Support Squadron uses her radio April 20, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawai'i, as a Royal Australian Air Force E-7A Wedgetail taxis down the flight line.



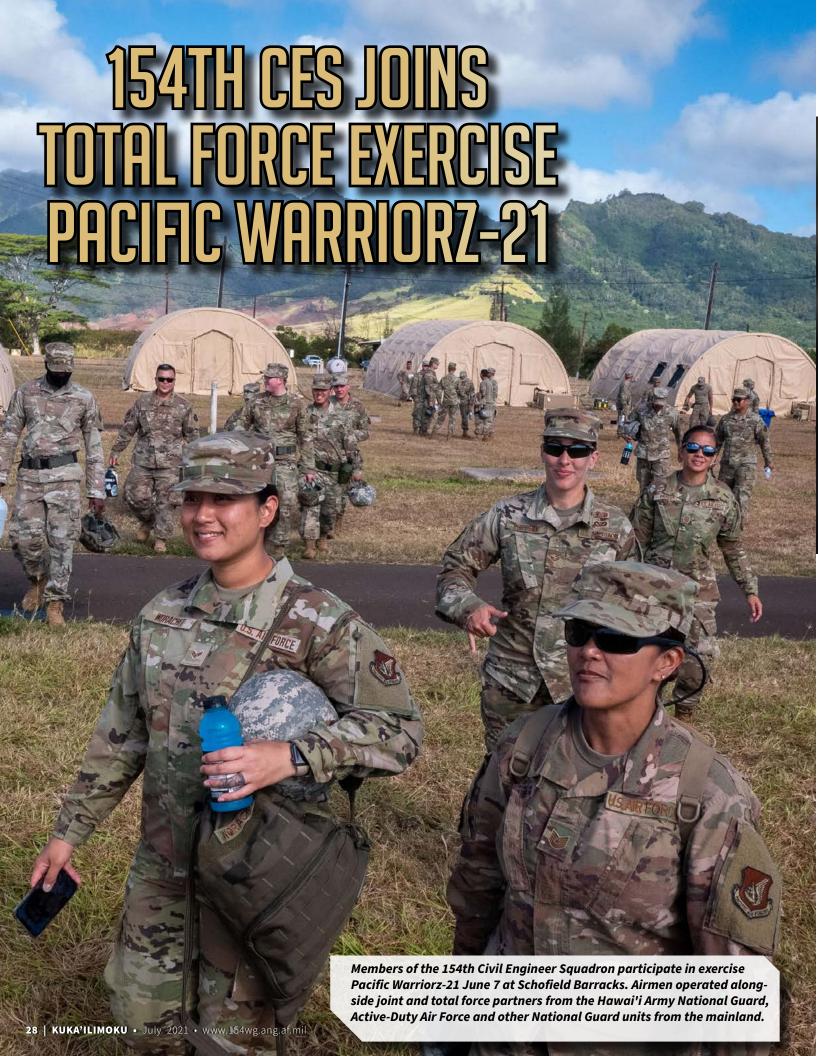


A Royal Australian Air Force Airman from No. 2 Squadron operates a radio April 20, 2021, at Honolulu International Airport.

During the Wedgetail ride alongs, Pupilis said that having a Raptor pilot present and listening to the fight helped provide opportunities for real-time feedback and shed light as to what is happening inside the F-22 cockpit during air-to-air engagements.

After months of planning and three weeks of execution, Pacific Edge closed out with several invaluable takeaways, including upgrade qualification training for members on all parties and detailed reports and experiences that will ensure USAF and RAAF partners are ready to fly together whenever duty calls.

"This exercise absolutely increased my confidence in our interoperability and integration tactics with the RAAF and the E-7," said Pupilis. "Not only with the platforms but in the warfighters and professionals involved. The Hawaiian Raptors hope to continue working with No. 2 Squadron in the future with our local exercises and larger events on the mainland."





By Staff Sgt. John Linzmeier

Airmen from the 154th Civil Engineer Squadron are ready to build up a base from scratch, after completing a field training exercise from June 5th to 8th at Schofield Barracks.

Exercise Pacific Warriorz provided four days of training for the Hawai'i Air National Guard Airmen who operated alongside joint and total force partners from the Hawai'i Army National Guard, Active-Duty Air Force and other National Guard units from the mainland.

"We are essentially in a deployed environment," said Airman 1st Class Jozef Young, 154th CES emergency manager, "so in order to keep this setup running, as soon as we get here, we put up all of our tents. It's important to get that done your first day here so we do have shelter to sleep under the first night. Then we quickly get everything else set up; from our latrine areas to our dining facility areas as well."

Civil engineer Airmen specialize in a variety of career fields, involving Emergency

managers, Structural experts and HVAC technicians. But for the events of Pacific Warrior, everyone had the opportunity to step out of their lane of expertise and practice new sets of competencies.

"We are 100 percent expected to go out of our way to integrate with the rest of the squadron to make sure we're all pitching in," said Young. "We're all in it together and we're all here to make it happen."

For the events of Pacific Warriorz, everyone had the opportunity to step outside of their lane of expertise to practice new sets of competencies. Just like any other deployed environment, partners from the active-duty, guard and reserve U.S. Air Force components worked together as a cohesive force.

Pacific Warrior also presented valuable opportunities to practice aeromedical evacuations procedures alongside soldier counterparts from the Hawai'i Army National Guard's Medivac unit, Detachment 3, 3-126

"So today we're going to be going out and partnering with the Army National Guard demonstrating and practicing hot loading," said 1st Lt. Cheyne Taum, 154th CES general engineer. "So they're going to run the helicopter up, with the blades turning, and we're going to be able to load litters into the aircraft as though if we need to medivac someone."

"Then going into the afternoon, we have a firefighter; he's equipped for the tasking. going to be teaching us self-aid and buddy care, 'cause he has that knowledge base, he's seen the things we haven't seen, dealing with physically intensive, son

these situations. "we're also going to be doing individual troop movements, and dismount procedures for convoys."

To top off each segment of training activities, freshly cooked meals were made available to maintain and replenish energy and morale throughout the exercise. The Hawai'i Air National Guard's service team's Disaster Relief Mobile Kitchen Trailer was well equipped for the tasking.

While the days of Pacific Warrior proved to be long and physically intensive, some of the deployment accommodations turned out to be well above par for several of the participants.

"People would definitely be surprised to know what we offer to our Airmen in a Deployed environment," said Taum. "It's definitely a treat for me. I don't have A/C at home, so coming out to the field to an A/C room is definitely a treat. The water pressure here is a lot better than it is at home, so also another treat. I'm getting three well-rounded meals all the way through, for all four days, so I'm definitely thankful for that."



Members of the 154th Civil Engineer Squadron practice patrol maneuvers June 7 at Schofield Barracks.



Members of the 154th Civil Engineer Squadron practice a 'hot-loading' as an aeromedical evacuation training event June 7 at Wheeler Army Airfield.



The 154th Force Support Squadrons Disaster Response Mobile Kitchen Trailer Services Team provided freshly cooked meals to HIANG participants of Pacific Warriorz-21.



Members of the 154th Civil Engineer Squadron assemble June 7 at Schofield Barracks.

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## 154TH MEDICAL GROUP'S DET 1 CONTINUES DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING IN CALIFORNIA

By Staff Sqt. Orlando Corpu:



Medical specialists from the 154th Medical Group Detachment 1, took their expertise on the road to participate in a California disaster response exercise April 14-17.

Held in Concord, Calif., primarily on the grounds of a U.S. Navy military installation, exercise Sentinel Response tested the skills of the medical team reacting to a simulated radiological explosion in which mass casualties were sustained.

The three-day exercise stress-tested the coordination efforts between California State, Bay Area County, and National Guard elements responding to scenarios in which a wide array of responses was required. Exercise participants were required to respond to everything from hazmat containment, rescue operations, and medical response and treatment.

In a year in which COVID-19 either hampered or shut-down many of the routine training exercises, Sentinel Response represented a 'getting-back-to-business' of sorts to the mission sets and capabilities Detachment 1 was originally been designed for.

"From a training standpoint, the pandemic threw our normal training ops and routines for a loop," said Lt. Col. James Faumuina, 154th Medical Group Detachment 1 commander. "The pandemic didn't allow for many of the didactics and field training events we would have normally been participating in a normal year. Add to that, many of our Airmen were involved with our state's COVID-19 response efforts. So what you really had was a situation where it was challenging to train for our normal mission, and that's what Sentinel Response gave us."

The exercise was executed as parts of the nation were slowly easing back on some of the pandemic mitigation efforts that had become routine for many. Still, COVID-19 was on the minds of exercise planners and participants and strict pandemic guidelines were followed.

"Safety was first and foremost," said Faumuina. "We're not completely out of the pandemic shadow so many of those pandemic mitigation efforts were still followed. Many times our unit was in generally outdoor areas. And for those scenarios which required a little tighter physical response, masks were still the norm."

The navy facility in which the exercise was conducted at, with its large areas and variety and number of structures afforded exercise planners to concoct challenging yet realistic scenarios. Vehicle collision rescue, hazmat threat reaction, confined space rescue, breach and stabilization, decontamination, and medical treatment were some of the challenges first responders were faced with.

Integration was a priority for the Airmen as the military element of the

exercise not only involved counterparts from the California Air National Guard's 144th Medical Detachment 1, but a heavy presence of California Army National Guardsmen.

"In large and complex dom-ops disaster response, you are going to have a multitude of personnel coming together from a multitude of organizations and jurisdictions and you're going to have to merge that effort very quickly," Faumuina said. "The military effort such our unit and our counterparts from the 144th can come in and supplement that civilian response, either with a plus-up in effort or to contribute our capabilities that may not necessarily be available to incident command."

According to Faumuina, integration or lack-there-of can make or break disaster response.

"That complexity is going to require an organized and coordinated effort," Faumuina said. "You'll see civilian incident command coordinating the efforts of county, state, and federal response outfits all coming together. Integration will be key, and I'm not just talking integration amongst the military element, we're talking integration up and down the chain of response. That integration is not easy and that's why exercises such as these are important."

While the main body of Detachment 1 was training in California, an eight hour drive away, a team of Hawai'i ANG medical experts were completing annual required certification and training in Nevada.

"This really was a comprehensive effort by our medical Airmen," Faumuina said. "Many of our team members were able to stretch out those response muscles in the field, and a segment of our folks were able to finish didactics and retain their certifications."









Hawai'i National Guard Airmen and Soldiers combined their medical for the first time to execute medical evacuation operations April 11 at Kalaeloa. The joint partners practices search and rescue procedures in response to Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Explosive scenarios.



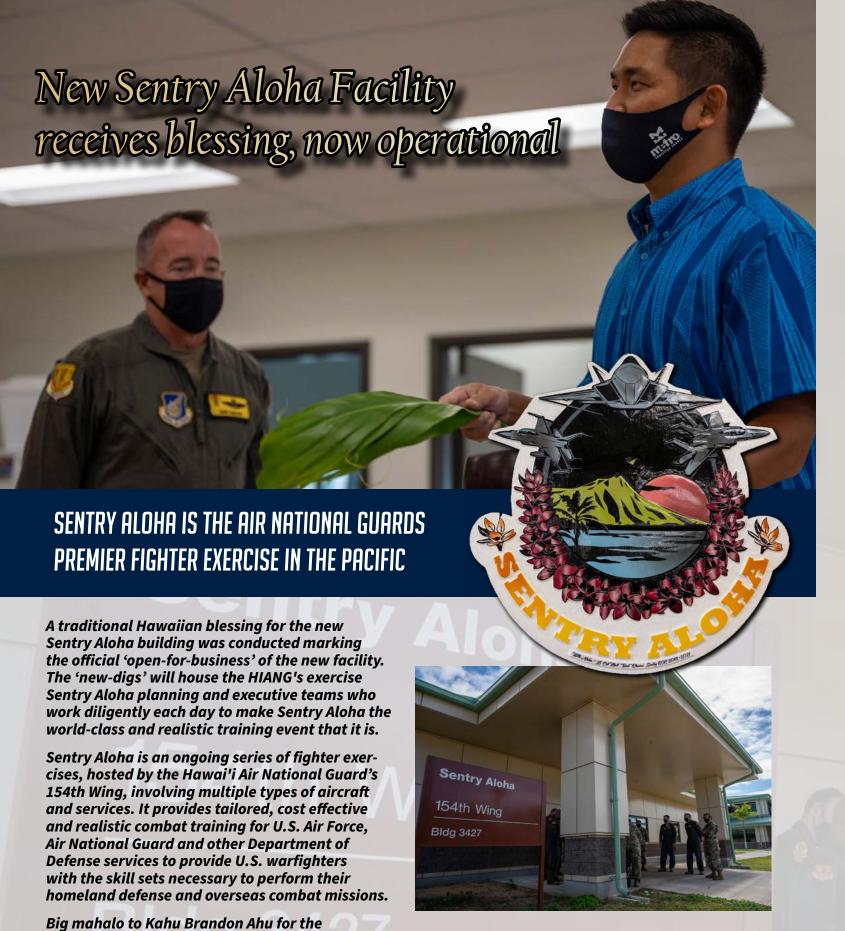




The 29th Brigade Support Battalion, Charlie Company and the 154th Medical Group, Detachment 1, joined medical expertise to culminate the first Hawai'i National Guard Joint Medical Training Exercise on April 11, at Kalaeloa, Hawai'i. The exercise combines two units that are both based in Hawai'i, the HIANG's Detachment 1, which is a Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Explosives (CBRNE) response unit for natural disasters; and the HIARNG's Charlie Med whose core competency is medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) using ambulances and helicopters.

The unique concept of training simulates the link to the continuum of care by utilizing techniques for conducting an organic MEDEVAC. The MEDEVAC asset provides movement of patients on a dedicated ground ambulance while medical staff provide care en route to the medical facility. "We haven't really done that before, and I've been doing this for over 20 years," said Lt. Col. Faumuina, Det. 1 commander. "It's the first time we're getting a chance to work together and actually combine our two core capabilities and see what we come up with. Based on what I can see, it's been working pretty well."

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Operational leaders from the 154th Wing participate in a blessing ceremony officiated by a Hawaiian Kahu.



Brig. Gen Dann S. Carlson, 154th Wing commander, participates in a blessing ceremony in recognition of the newly operational Sentry Aloha Facility.

Hawaiian blessing.

# RENOWNED SPEAKER, DAN CLARK INSPIRES AIRMEN TO REACH GOALS

Photos by Staff Sgt. John Linzmeier



Dan Clark receives a tour of the Hawaiian Raptor Operations Facilities as aviators and Clark exchanged aspects of their career-field expertise.



Mr. Dan Clark, a highperformance business coach and author, offered a motivational seminar to HIANG members April 22, at JBPH-H. Clark devoted his career toward helping others discover the passions, define core values and develop leadership skills.

The visit included a teleconference with virtual and live participants, followed by face-to-face engagements to discuss how individuals can take their everyday performance to new heights and reconnect with their inner purpose.

The visit also entailed a tour of the Hawaiian Raptor Operations Facilities, as Mr. Clark and Airmen exchanged aspects of their career-field expertise.

Members participated in thought-provoking discussions and shared their perspectives on diversity, inclusion, family values and more.

It brought us much pleasure to learn from our distinguished visitor who shares so many core values with our 'Ohana and we're grateful to have opportunities like this to improve our winning mindsets!

## HIANG GROUP LEADERS ASSUME COMMAND





Brig Gen. Dann S. Carlson, 154th Wing commander, passes the guidon to Col. Kenneth Fink, as he accepts command of the 154th Medical Group June 6, at JBPH-H.





Brig Gen. Dann S. Carlson, 154th Wing commander, passes the command guidon to Col. Michael Rawlins, as he accepts command of the 154th Maintenance Group June 5, at JBPH-H. Photo by Master Sgt. Mysti Bicoy.

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By Maj. Michael Cashman, 154th Wing Legal Office **Deputy Staff Judge Advocate** 

A Power of Attorney (POA) is legal document used by its grantor (that's you) to appoint someone else (often referred to as an "Attorney in Fact") to act on your behalf on the matters you specify, during the time period you designate. A common use of a POA for military members is the use of a POA when you need someone to ship or receive your household goods. A POA can be used to provide someone else permission to do this if you are unable to be there to do it vourself.

Beyond that limited, but commonly used instance, a POA has many other uses and should be part of every airman's estate plan. This article seeks to explain POAs, and how adding one to your estate plan may be useful.

When you think about how a POA might be useful for you, it's helpful to answer the following questions:

When will I need it?

What will I need it for?

For how long will I need it?

#### When Will I Need A POA?

In responding to the first question, likely you are going to need a POA at some point in your life. If you live long enough you may become incapacitated and will need someone appointed to do your banking, pay bills, and handle other business for you. These types of POAs are referred to as "Durable." Durable



The 154th Wing Legal Office offers free services, to HIANG beneficiaries, to include Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorneys and more.

For more information or to set up an appointment, call (808) 789-0416

in the sense that they continue to be valid after you become incapacitated due to injury or illness. If you have a POA but it is not designated as Durable, then guess what? Upon your incapacity it becomes invalid. So for many, having the wrong kind of POA can cause problems.

Also, it's a common misperception among married couples that their spouse has legal authority to speak on their behalf. Even in the case of jointly held property, you may need a POA. If you don't have a Durable POA, and you are unable to act on your own behalf — either because you are away or involved in a sudden accident or illness that causes you to be temporarily or permanently lose your capacity to manage your own affairs — then what? Well, then your spouse will have to engage in a sometimes slow, expensive, public, and onerous legal proceed to have a courtappointed guardian to speak on your behalf.

neighborhood SJA office and review your existing POAs if you already have one, or talk about what you need in a new one, if you don't. Your POA is free while you are on drill status, but we would not be able to represent you or your spouse in court if you don't have one and need to file for guardianship.

#### What Will I Need A POA For?

In some cases the need for a POA to manage your affairs is obvious. For example, say you have a rental property solely in your name and you are being deployed for a year. You want your spouse, or some other individual, to be able to speak on your behalf with respect to this property while you are away. In cases like this, the need is pretty obvious.

In other cases, it is less obvious and requires some foresight. Consider all your assets. Are they all jointly held? If so, do you know if the joint tenant or account holder

can make decisions on your behalf as to that particular asset in your absence? Do you know when you will be encountering an unexpected injury or illness? Ah...trick question. If you are like most people, you can't state with certainty the answer to any of these questions, much less all three.

A simple solution is to just visit your SJA office and have a discussion about your property and tailor a POA that fits your needs. Whether that be for a specific, one-time need, or for a more general future

### For How Long Will I Need A POA?

In some instances you may only need a POA for a limited time period. For example, you may be going on a deployment and seek to have a POA in place that terminates upon your return. POAs can be limited by date, or other conditions. POAs can also be revoked by the principal, or any designated person, at any time.

In other instances, you may not need a Or, you could visit your friendly POA at the moment, but would like to have it just in case. For these type of needs, you can use a springing, durable POA. That's what it sounds like. It lays dormant until you become incapacitated, then springs into action to allow a designated individual to assist when needed.

> So maybe you are thinking, "Well, I don't need a POA at the moment, but I will just wait until the moment before I become incapacitated and then have one done then." Riiiight. Now say that again out loud.

#### Conclusion

This article was not designed to provide legal advice, but merely as a primer of the topic. For more information, please contact the 154th Wing Legal Office and set up an appointment, or if you have many members of your unit with questions, contact your chain of command and ask our office to provide a more comprehensive brief during your next commander's call.

