

INSIDE

## Streamer awards GWOT heroism

ARMY NEWS SERVICE  
News Release

WASHINGTON – The Army will begin recognizing the heroic contributions of its units toward the global war on terror (GWOT), June 15, with the award of campaign participation credit to units that served and/or are serving in the theater of operations supporting the GWOT.

Three new streamers will be awarded to those units who qualify: one for service in Afghanistan, embroidered "Afghanistan;" one

for service in Iraq, embroidered "Iraq;" and one for service in other such geographic regions as Kuwait, Qatar or the Horn of Africa, embroidered "global war on terrorism."

This recognition will bring the total number of campaign streamers displayed on the Department of Army flag to 178.

"The award of campaign participation credit and the three new award streamers to those units who qualify, that have supported or are supporting GWOT, is a way to recognize the tremendous contributions those units have made," said Col. William John-

son, chief of the Army's Military Awards Branch.

This recognition is also the first time since the Kosovo Defense Campaign in 1999 that the Army has awarded campaign participation credit and streamers to eligible units.

More than 616 unit awards have been processed for GWOT to date, and 497 have been approved. To receive campaign credit, eligible units must submit applications.

For eligibility criteria and application instructions, visit the Military Awards Branch Web site, or call (703) 325-8700.

## Ft. Irwin logs 25th ID fatality

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
News Release

An Army Soldier died at approximately 9:34 a.m. May 11, when the five-ton truck he was in overturned on a road in a training

area at Fort Irwin, Calif. Pfc. Alexander E. Creighton, 23, of Romoland, Calif., was an infantryman with the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team's 1st



Creighton

Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.

Creighton joined the Army in June 2005 and was assigned to Schofield Barracks in November 2005.

Nine other Soldiers were injured in the accident and taken to Weed Army Hospital, where they were treated for minor injuries and released.

The accident is under investigation.

## Army offers incentives for officers

JOINT FORCES JOURNAL  
News Release

The Army is offering a series of new incentives to young officers to stem a rising exodus in the past two years of West Point and Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship graduates.

The number of lieutenants and captains leaving had dropped after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. But it has increased almost to pre-9/11 levels because of mounting concerns about repeat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to military analysts such as Bob Scales, a retired Army major general and former commandant of the Army War College.

The percentage of young West Point graduates leaving the Army rose from 6.5 percent in 2003 to 10.7 percent in fiscal 2005, which ended Sept. 30. That compares with 11.6 percent who left in 2000.

The number of scholarship ROTC graduates who left rose from 5.1 percent in 2003 to 9.3 percent in 2005. In 2000, 10.6 percent left.

Most of the young officers who leave exit as soon as their minimum commitment is up; a minority leave because of injuries or oth-

SEE INCENTIVES, A-11



## Red, white and Tattoo

Twilight Tattoo celebrates the colorful history of the armed forces

B-1



## Showcasing living history

Toasting 30 years, the Army Museum will bring history to life, Saturday

B-3



## Dunking for school dollars

94th AAMDC embraces Good Neighbor Joe goals

B-4

## This issue

Lightning Six	A-2
Deployment	A-3
News Briefs	A-9
Community	B-2
MWR Sports	B-6



Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, remove an "injured" comrade after a suicide bomb explosion in Jabal, Medina – the fictitious setting for 3rd Brigade's training at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.

## Soldiers 'train like they'll fight' at NTC

Story and Photos by  
SPC. MIKE ALBERTS  
3rd Brigade Public Affairs

FORT IRWIN, Calif. – Soldiers from 3rd Brigade regained control of Medina Jabal from anti-Iraqi forces. Now, an equally challenging task loomed – maintaining security and peace.

The 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regi-

ment, followed its successful battle for Jabal with the chore of securing the city and transitioning control to the local populace May 2.

Jabal is a small town in Medina, the fictitious setting for combat training exercises at the National Training Center here.

The day's training was geared to get Soldiers of B Co., 2-35th, comfortable with the duties they may experience when the

unit deploys to Iraq later this summer, said 2nd Lt. Matt A. McLeod, platoon leader, Bravo Co., 2-35th.

"Today we patrolled city streets and set up observation posts and vehicle control points [among other things]," said McLeod.

Those "other things" included responding to a suicide bombing in front of the

SEE NTC, A-6

## Insurance, emergency data deserve second look

DONNA KLAPAKIS  
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Forty percent of all Soldiers probably have one of the most important pieces of paperwork in their personnel files filled out inaccurately.

This form is the DD-93, the Record of Emergency Data Form, and the person speaking was a man who should know – Lt. Col. Bruce Jenkins, commander of the 556th Personnel Support Battalion (PSB).

In case of a Soldier's death, the DD-93 tells the Army the Soldier's next of kin, who he or

she wants the Army to inform, who receives any leftover pay and allowances, who receives the death gratuity, and who directs disposition of remains in case of death. It also tells who will receive a Soldier's pay in the event the Soldier becomes a prisoner of war or goes missing in action.

"If there is one thing I would like to make Soldiers aware of, it's that any day during normal duty hours, Soldiers can just come over to the 556th PSB and update their records. They don't have to wait for us to come to them. Anytime anything changes as far as addresses, phone numbers, or marital status, they



need to update," said Jenkins.

The rules were changed in 2005 to require all service members to designate who should be declared the "person authorized to direct

SEE DD-93, A-6

## Post exchange primes for June soft opening

Story and Photos by  
CHRISTA B. THOMAS  
Staff Writer

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Excitement and curiosity is building as the opening day for Schofield Barracks' new AAFES Post Exchange (PX) approaches.

On June 7, a major portion of the new post exchange project will open its doors for business.

"When the doors open at 9 a.m. June 7, 60 percent of phase one will be complete," said Susan Nunamaker, PX general manager. "We'll have sales, prize giveaways and live entertainment."

Despite weather and other environmental setbacks, construction

crews, exchange employees and post officials have worked hard to make the timely opening of phase one a reality.

"We're calling this 'Phase One – Let's get it started!'" Nunamaker laughed. "Because that's just it – it's not our 'grand opening,' but we are getting started."

Phase one is what can currently be seen at the construction location. The next phase of construction begins approximately two weeks following the June 7 opening.

Phase two begins with the demolition of Building 693, the current

SEE EXCHANGE, A-11



Construction crews and contractors ready the sidewalk and main entrance for completion of phase one. The south portico will serve as the main entrance for the June 7 opening.

## 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.

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

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

The Hawaii Army Weekly is printed by The Honolulu Advertiser, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Government, under exclusive written agreement with the U.S. Army, Hawaii.

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

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army, or The Honolulu Advertiser, of the firms, products or services advertised.

## HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

### Commander

Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon

### Public Affairs Officer

Troy Griffin

### Command Information Officer

Ed Aber-Song

edward.abersong@schofield.army.mil

### Managing Editor

Aiko Rose Brum

editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

### Assistant Editor

Jeremy S. Buddemeier

news@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

### Photojournalists

Donna Klapakis

community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

Christa B. Thomas

christa@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

### Layout

Leah Mayo

Advertising: 525-7654

Editorial Office: 655-4816/8728

Fax: 655-9290

### Address:

Public Affairs Office

Bldg. 580, Stop 215

Schofield Barracks, HI 96857

### Web site:

http://www.25id1.army.mil/haw.asp

## Lightning Six Sends

# High risk behavior threatens combat readiness

The 25th Infantry Division has lost three more Soldiers during the last two weeks. Another fellow Soldier remains in a coma.

As we grieve the loss of our fellow Soldiers, it is appropriate that we assess the cause of these deaths. We consistently conduct after-action reviews after training events, and we must do the same for these losses.

The causes of these and other deaths generally come down to two things: personal and leader accountability. In all cases, had individuals exercised the proper accountability for their actions, dead Soldiers would be alive today.

In some cases, fatalities have been caused by leader accountability. Leaders, especially first line leaders, have the greatest influence on their Soldiers. If leaders take their solemn duty to care for Soldiers in their units, enforce discipline, and build a mentality that we look out for each other, then accidental deaths and injuries will decrease.

Most of the facts and circumstances concerning the recent untimely and unfortunate deaths are different, with the exception that each Soldier was young and relatively inexperienced. This is also true for other Sol-

diers who have died needlessly or been seriously injured in accidents during the past months engaging in high-risk behaviors.

Acts of indiscipline that contributed to these and other deaths are speeding and alcohol or drug abuse.

But what can each of us do about this growing challenge to our welfare and combat readiness?

First and foremost, first-line leaders — those of you who see and lead Soldiers everyday — must become personally involved to change attitudes toward this type of behavior. Leaders must counsel, assess the threat and mentor their Soldiers.

This cannot work if leaders are participating in the same behavior. Unfortunately, there are too many leaders in our great division and U.S. Army, Hawaii, who are not leading by setting the proper example in this area.

Although not among the Army's values, discipline — doing what is right even when no one is watching — was lacking in these Soldiers and their friends.

Along with counseling and mentoring comes knowledge of the tools available through our installation resources. Our gar-

ison staff provide a variety of counseling services covering the full range of subjects such as alcohol and drug counseling, debt counseling, anger management, marital counseling, suicide prevention and treatment, to name but a few.

There is no organization in the corporate or business world that offers the wide range of services available to assist our Soldiers and family members.

Leaders must be familiar with these services and direct their Soldiers and families to these programs, as necessary.

If these senseless deaths do not convince you of the need for each of us to assess our attitudes toward risk management, review the violations of regulations and law contained in the biweekly "PMO Corner" (in the upcoming May 26 edition of the Hawaii Army Weekly) by Col. Jacqueline Cumbo, our MP Brigade commander. The Soldiers



Mixon

and family members cited in these statistics may have been fortunate in that they were simply ticketed and that their behavior did not lead to serious injury or death.

Each of us must commit ourselves to do everything we can to stop this senseless loss of life caused by high risk behaviors.

While each individual is responsible for his or her own behavior, at the end of the day, leaders must take charge and do everything necessary to

preserve our most valuable resource — our Soldiers.

Benjamin R. Mixon  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

## Admiral notes key role Asian-Pacific Americans play in defense

Story and Photo by

**RUDI WILLIAMS**

American Forces Press Service

HONOLULU — The vast Asian-Pacific region is enormously important to America's national security and the geo-political and economic importance of the region continues to grow, a top Pacific Command official said here last week.

Navy Rear Adm. William VanMeter Alford Jr., chief of staff of the U.S. Pacific Command, spoke during the Defense Department's Asian-Pacific American Heritage

Month luncheon and military awards ceremony, May 10. He said the region is extremely important to national security and represents 60 percent of the world's population, including the two countries with the world's largest population — China, with 1.3 billion people, and India.

"The democratic country with the largest population in the world isn't the U.S., it's India, with more than 1.1 billion people," Alford explained. "As you can see, America's interests in this region are vast and significant."

"We see Asian-Pacific Americans in our military leading the way to bridge cultural and communication barriers between the various countries in this region," the admiral said. "We see great Americans doing everything they can for our country as we prosecute the global war on terrorism. And, we see statesmen, scholars and future leaders developing before our eyes. Asian-Pacific Americans contribute immeasurably to the success of the U.S. Pacific Command and this region."

Alford said the American melting pot

benefits from the contributions of all its sons and daughters, and the nation honors the contributions of Asian-Pacific Americans and share in their sacrifices.

He said people with Asian-Pacific ancestry know that countries of their heritage span more than 50 percent of the earth's surface, and the region represents millions of square miles of ocean, billions of people, hundreds of religions and cultures, and more than 40 countries.

SEE ASIAN-PACIFIC, A-10



**2nd Louie** By Bob Rosenburgh

## Annual fund drive concludes

The 2006 Army Emergency Relief fund drive ended May 11, achieving 97 percent of the goal.

Although this year's fund drive is over, tax-deductible donations are welcome year round. Donations are accepted through payroll allotment, cash, or by credit card (via Web site only). For information, visit [www.aerhg.org](http://www.aerhg.org).



**\$282,172**

This year's goal was \$290,000. For more information on AER, contact Jackie Torres, AER coordinator, at 655-7132.



As of 5/17/06

## 51 days since last fatal accident

Soldiers, 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.

**BE SAFE. TROPIC LIGHTNING!**

## Voices of Lightning: How have the rising fuel costs affected your lifestyle?



"I ride my bike to work [instead of driving]."

Pfc. J.C. Bathke  
A Co.,  
Special Troops Bn.  
Communications



"... Try to do all my errands in one trip."

Rebecca Bibb  
Family Member



"... I'm looking to buy another car ... it's not going to be an SUV."

CW2 Cory Rudd  
C Troop, 6-17th  
CAV, Scout Pilot



"Every couple of fill-ups I put gas treatment in the tank; it makes the gas last longer."

Vanessa Erfurth  
Family Member



"I ride bikes [motorcycles], so it hasn't really affected me."

Sgt. John Koepke  
A Co., 325 BSB  
Fueller

# World Wide Web links deployed Soldiers, families

**PFC. DURWOOD BLACKMON**  
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs Office

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – There are several resources available to allow family members and loved ones to touch base with Soldiers who are deployed.

Soldiers must always be in a constant state of readiness. Staying in touch with family members can, at times, be challenging.

However, thanks to technology such as video teleconferencing (VTC) and the Internet, communication among family members is possible.

Although cell phones are a popular item, talking on the phone or using phone cards may not be all that easy when a Soldier is in a combat zone.

In most cases contracts for phone cards and phone access have been awarded to local vendors downrange. A Soldier may not be able to use just any telephone or phone card and will usually need to get settled in at their new location to determine what service local vendors have available.

In contrast, the Internet offer viable means of communication, when accessible.

With e-mail, as long as the Soldier has the access and availability while deployed, family members can keep in touch.

Soldiers who are at a base camp will probably have some access to e-mail and Web cams. However those who are not at a base camp will not have that much access, said Mel Kinoshita, mobilization and deployment specialist with Army Com-



A Soldier and his spouse use the video teleconferencing (VTC) equipment at Army Community Service (ACS) to communicate during deployment. ACS provides VTC capabilities as well as a computer lab with Web cameras, so family members can stay in touch.

munity Service.

For family members without a computer, the post library learning resource lab and ACS have computer labs that provide high-speed Internet access.

Family members can access the Web and send e-mails with Internet-based pro-

grams by providing a valid military identification card to the lab manager.

Web cams are small cameras that plug into a computer and work in conjunction with chat programs and e-mail. Web cams allow user to see the person they are corresponding with. However, use of web

cams depend on what type of computer access and equipment the Soldier has available in theatre.

To combine all communications, video teleconferencing (VTC) is technology that allows family members and Soldiers to simultaneously view and speak to each

other.

Locations at Schofield that have this technology available are ACS, which has non-secured equipment, and the post conference room.

Although both locations provide the equipment, it is the responsibility of the deployed Soldiers' unit, not ACS, to schedule a time for a VTC meeting with family members.

The unit is responsible for scheduling and requesting VTC support from Morale, Welfare and Recreation, said Kinoshita.

During a deployment, Soldiers are constantly on the move, so scheduling a VTC largely depends upon the Soldier's availability.

Typically, the forward element will be able to provide more information about what types of communication will be available once troops are stationed at their forward operating base.

Once an overseas location has been positively identified having VTC capabilities, a Soldier's rear detachment can schedule the family members a time based upon the forward elements' Soldier listing and availability.

Since time is limited, all parties must be present at the exact moment to connect, despite differing time zones. Family readiness group leaders and rear detachment representatives can also work in conjunction for scheduling.

Through a combination of resources, ways to stay in touch with deployed Soldiers do exist. Using all resources available, families can send their best from home.

## Precautionary tale sheds light on AWOL aftermath

Fort Polk Soldier relays his misfortune of bad decisions

**SGT. KEVIN STABINSKY**  
Army News Service

FORT POLK, La. – Though he said he'd never use it, "Jay" carried an extra round in his helmet – a last resort to avoid capture in Iraq. But the minuscule weight of a single cartridge of 5.56mm ammo was nothing compared to the heavy thoughts he carried in his head.

Jay, a former Fort Polk Soldier, didn't want to be in Iraq. He longed to be with his wife as she prepared for the birth of their first child, and he found himself slowly drowning in thoughts of how to get home.

Jay's answer was the bullet jingling in his helmet. The round he vowed never to use found itself passing through his right foot.

"I tried to go through my chain of command to get home, but when that didn't work, I decided to do it my way", he said. Rather than a way to his wife and soon-to-be-born child, Jay's plan got him a ticket back to Fort Polk for medical evaluation and treatment. Already frustrated, he did what few would expect a Soldier with a bad foot to do – he ran.

### War increases number of AWOL Soldiers

Jay's actions aren't unique. The Pentagon

estimate nearly 5,500 military personnel have deserted the armed forces since Operation Iraqi Freedom began in 2003. Though there has been a decrease in recent years – 2,479 in 2004 from 3,681 in 2003, the problem has still grown exponentially. Since 1995, there has been an almost 300 percent increase in Soldiers absent without leave, or AWOL.

A 2003 study by the U.S. Army Research Institute for Behavioral and Social Science, titled "What We Know About AWOL and Desertion," shows war increases the number of desertions. War and the fear of death and injury are not the major reasons Soldiers go AWOL, however. The study revealed that 33 percent of Soldiers leave due to family problems, while 31 percent leave due to a failure to adapt to military life.

Capt. John Lybarger, a former company commander at Fort Polk, said he processed nearly 20 AWOL cases monthly and saw similar trends. Lybarger said family issues are the main cause for Soldiers going AWOL, with financial problems following closely behind.

"A lot of Soldiers find they can't live the lifestyle they want and end up deep debt," he said. "Rather than seeking help from their [chain of command], they try to run from their problems."

No matter the reason, being AWOL is a serious offense under the Uniform

**SEE AWOL, A-4**

## Guidelines set for sending mail to Soldiers

**PFC. DURWOOD BLACKMON**  
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs Office

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – When Soldiers leave on the upcoming deployment, family members will want to send items from home to show their support. To get anything tangible to a Soldier overseas, the U.S. Postal Service is typically the best option.

Soldiers are constantly on the move, sometimes making it difficult to main-



United States Postal Service Web site:  
<http://www.usps.com/supportingourtroops>.

tain current address information.

Although mailing information is often given during pre-deployment briefings, things can quickly change once a Soldier is in his or her area of operation.

Once a unit gets in theater, it will send information to the rear detachment commander to be distributed.

"However, family members need to be aware that the addresses can change, because the unit may move, said Mel Kinoshita, mobilization and deployment specialist with Army Community Service (ACS).

After obtaining a correct address for their Soldier, family members should research the potential costs of care packages or other shipments.

"Typically, the first care package should be rather small. That way the

### Know the postal regulations – tips for sending regular mail to Soldiers on deployment :

- Use the Soldier's full name (without rank), unit and APO address. Place an address card inside the package in case the outer shipping label is damaged.
- Host countries mostly prohibit the entry of alcoholic beverages of any kind, narcotics, munitions, pork and pork by-products, pornography, and material contrary to the Islamic religion.
- Some military units may have additional restrictions imposed by the theater commander, such as size and weight restrictions. The maximum length of a package in any category is 48 inches.
- Liquid-filled containers tend to break. Powdered items can open dur-

- ing transit causing concern over what substance it is. Pack those items in sealed plastic bags.
  - Use strong, sturdy boxes with lots of packing. Use packing materials such as popcorn or newspapers, to keep contents from moving.
  - The humidity in the desert tends to destroy tape's adhesive qualities, so do not use masking tape or light-duty transparent tape. Reinforced nylon tape works well.
  - All packages require a customs label. When listing the contents of all packages, be specific.
- Source: American Services Press Service*



family member can figure out the cost of sending the mail, said Kinoshita.

Care packages, letters and photographs are a great way to keep in touch with deployed Soldiers. However, there are some articles which must be restricted from being mailed to Soldiers serving in Iraq.

More information and other resources on rates, addressing, packaging, restrictions and shipping times for supporting troops, visit the U. S. Postal Service Web site.

# AWOL: Statistics show 300 percent increase

CONTINUED FROM A-3

Code of Military Justice, said Capt. Sean Mangan, Fort Polk's chief military justice prosecutor.

Under UCMJ, Article 86, a Soldier is considered AWOL if "without authority they fail to go to their appointed place of duty at time prescribed, goes from that place or absents himself or remains absent from his unit, organization or place of duty at which he is required to be at the time prescribed."

## From Soldier to fugitive

After 30 days, a Soldier is dropped from the rolls and classified as a deserter: Article 85. At this point, a federal warrant is issued and the AWOL Soldier's name is entered into the National Crime Information Center, a federal database that tracks outstanding warrants, Lybarger said.

While Soldiers may go AWOL for freedom, this database turns them into fugitives.

"It was really hard [being on the run], knowing any minute a cop might sneak up on you and haul you back in," Jay said.

A sense of freedom wasn't the only thing Jay lost. He missed his child's birth by a few days and his marriage dissolved.

Making a "fresh start" was also difficult, Jay said. Simple things – applying for a job, opening and maintaining a bank account, buying a car or home – were impossible. Like bread crumbs, the paperwork involved would create a trail leading directly to him.

"It was really hard [being on the run], knowing any minute a cop might sneak up on you and haul you back in."

Jay eventually found work on a fishing boat. For more than two years he slipped through the cracks. Then his luck ran out one night as he left the docks for home and was stopped by a police officer. Oddly enough, Jay wasn't stopped because of his unauthorized leave of absence.

"There had been a few recent robberies around the area, and the policeman said he thought I looked a little like the composite sketch of the subject they were looking for," Jay said. The subsequent investigation unearthed Jay's secret.

Jay was put into jail, awaiting transfer back to Fort Polk. Unlike his first trip to the installation, made as a hero ready to serve and defend his country, this journey was filled with shame and guilt. Those emotions were amplified by the scorn he said he could read in the faces of the Department of Defense policeman and Soldiers who handled his return.

## Getting caught, returning to duty

A majority of Soldiers who've gone AWOL return to their duty station on their own accord, Lybarger said.

"About 60 percent [of the Soldiers] I see turn

themselves in for some reason or another," he said. "They knew they were in trouble to begin with, took care of problems and are now back to take care of the Army."

Returning to the duty station on one's own volition can lessen the punishment a Soldier receives, Mangan said. However, as with all AWOL cases, that is left to the discretion of the Soldier's command, he said.

Length of time absent and reasons for absence are taken into account. Unauthorized absence from guard, watch, duty or with the intent to abandon a special type of duty, maneuvers or field exercises can hurt a Soldier's chance for rehabilitation and lead to a discharge, said Mangan.

About 75 percent of returning AWOL Soldiers are rehabilitated, Lybarger said.

"I've seen Soldiers go on to do great things," he said. "One [Soldier I know] came back and went on to excel at the Warrior Leaders Course and is on course to making a good noncommissioned officer."

Often, Soldiers can be rehabilitated because they aren't necessarily "bad," just young and immature, Lybarger said. Like Jay, who joined the Army fresh out of high school, Lybarger said most of the AWOL Soldiers he sees are privates, 18 to 23 years old, at their first duty stations.

According to Pentagon sources, of those separated from the service, 94 percent receive other than honorable discharges, losing veteran's benefits, college money, federal home loans and the ability to hold a government job.

Under Article 86 of UCMJ, Soldiers who go AWOL can be punished in a variety of ways including punitive discharges (bad conduct or dishonorable discharge), confinement, forfeiture of pay or a combination of all three.

But circumstances dictate the type of punishment a Soldier receives.

"Punishment boils down to the command's option and the Army policy to use only the necessary means to discipline a Soldier," Mangan said. "Commanders should consider circumstances and Soldiers' merit."

"You can't just have one standard; it all depends on the individual," Lybarger added, saying he looks at the impact an AWOL Soldier could have on fellow Soldiers.

"Sometimes these Soldiers are gone so long that they lose their [military attitude], so you have to ensure this doesn't rub off on others," he said.

If Jay could turn back time, going AWOL is something he said he'd change. "I regret every minute of it."

While the lessons he learned might be too late for Jay, who received a discharge other than honorable, he hopes his testimony will deter others from following his footsteps.

"Don't do it. Stick around and honor your commitment," he said.

*(Editor's Note: Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky writes for Fort Polk's Guardian.)*



Courtesy Photo

## Driving 2-27th Wolfhounds

In the initial phase of National Training Center exercises for the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, the Wolfhounds of 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, travel to strike deep against "insurgent forces that hold strong points throughout the brigade's area of operations."

# Specialist recalls experiences from first tour of duty to Iraq

## SPC. DANIEL BEARL

25th Infantry Division Public Affairs Office

Many Soldiers in the 25th Infantry Division are now preparing for the first deployment of their military careers.

When faced with so many unknowns, it may be helpful to turn to experienced Soldiers who have already spent time in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Spc. Derek T. Rolland, an assistant communication security clerk with A Company, Special Troops Battalion, spent five months in Afghanistan from November 2004 to March 2005.

Rolland went to Bagram, Afghanistan, with 125th Signal Battalion.

"I was nervous," Rolland said, "a little bit scared of the unknown. In my mind, I thought we were going to be living in tents and eating MREs (meals ready to eat) every day. But when I got over there it wasn't so bad."

One of the lessons Rolland learned was how important it is to save money while on deployment. Despite receiving a bonus while in Afghanistan, Rolland still faced financial difficulties.

"It was so easy," he said. "I was making so much money and I was always spending."

Another challenge was finding ways to stay occupied during downtime.

"You get bored pretty quickly once you get into your routine," Rolland said. "I'd go to work, [do] physical training and go to sleep."

But that doesn't mean he didn't enjoy his time on deployment.

"Would I go back to Bagram?" he asked. "Yes, yes I would. My noncommissioned officers made my time there good."

It's also important to stay connected with friends and family back home, Rolland said.

"Keep in contact with your family," Rolland said. "It's bad when your first sergeant calls you in and asks, 'Why haven't you been calling your mom?' And then you have to call right there in front of your first sergeant."

"A lot of people don't like to call or write home because every time they do, they get some bad news. I e-mailed. It was a lot easier. Even when I got bad news from home, I'd still write e-mails."

When the deployment is done, the transition back to garrison life can be a little awkward, Rolland said.

"Your first day back you could be in uniform and be like, 'Where's my weapon?'" he explained. "But then you realize you don't carry your weapon anymore."

As a last few pieces of advice Rolland added, "Expect the unexpected. There's going to be a lot of days where you're swamped with work and a lot of days where you're going to be sitting around doing nothing. If you're E-4 and below, study for the [E-5] board."



Rolland

# Iraqi colonel calls for U.S. cultural awareness of his country's people, culture

## JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – "When you first came here, you passed out chocolates to the children. Now you trust no one," said Staff Colonel Malik Muhammed Hussein al-Jaburi over a cup of chai in his 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, of the Iraqi 9th Division.

The colonel, speaking through an interpreter, asked for American Soldiers to understand his country's culture, and not always use the fist when dealing with Iraqis.

"Not everyone is a terrorist," he said.

The colonel knows. Americans arrested him in 2004 and held him for two days. "It

was a mistake," he said. "They could not differentiate between me and those who mean harm to us."

Many who have been taken are not terrorists, the colonel said, and some have been held much longer than just two days.

The colonel graduated from the Iraqi military academy in 1982. He served in armored units during the Iran-Iraq War and was wounded in 1983. He served in a staff job during Operation Desert Storm and in the regular Iraqi Army during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He's a professional military officer.

He took command of the battalion earlier this week and his battle space includes the area north of Camp Taji to-

ward the Tigris River. His unit is responsible for keeping open a main supply route out of Baghdad and safeguarding the water supply to Baghdad residents.

Some of what Americans are doing is out of ignorance, he acknowledged.

"They need to understand the people they are among," he said. "They need to learn even a few words of Arabic to help form relationships with the people."

They also need to treat Iraqis with the dignity and respect that all people deserve, he said. "Do not insult our sheikhs," he said. "That is something that will spread and all members of the tribe will know of it."

The colonel acknowledged that no com-

parable position to a sheikh exists in the United States. So that means Americans need to learn the status of sheikhs, and

**"We Iraqis are centered on family, then on the tribe and then on the country"**

*Staff Colonel Malik Muhammed Hussein al-Jaburi  
Iraqi 9th Division*

their importance in this very complex culture before they arrive here, he said.

"We Iraqis are centered first on family, then on the tribe and then on

the country," he said.

Friendships, he said, cut across all religious and sectarian lines. He pointed to a fellow colonel who will soon be a battalion commander in the 9th Division's newly formed 3rd Brigade.

"He and I are brothers," he said. "We went to the military academy together. I am from Tikrit and he is from Karbala. I am Sunni and he is Shia, but he is my brother."

Americans must stop being so heavy-handed in dealing with Iraqis.

"Sometimes troops shoot when there is no threat and no need," he said. "All this does is drive Iraqis to the terrorists. More candy, fewer bullets [are needed]."

# DD-93: Accurate emergency data vital

CONTINUED FROM A-1

disposition” of remains in case of death.

But sometimes a Soldier has married, his or her parents or spouse have moved, or just changed a phone number. In any of these cases, if a Soldier hasn't updated the DD-93, it is very difficult for the Army to reach the next of kin if the Soldier dies.

“In the case of the death of a Soldier, we don't want some unauthorized person to be the one to let the next of kin know,” said Jenkins. “Every second, every minute, every hour that passes, the chance of that happening gets that much greater.

“But we will not compromise accuracy for speed.

“Many times, it's the senior officers and senior NCOs who are the worst offenders at keeping their forms updated. And bad news travels much faster if it's a sergeant major who has been killed,” he added.

Closely related to the DD-93, and just as important, is the Serviceman's Group Life Insurance beneficiary designation form (SGLV), Jenkins said.

“In some cases Soldiers are married, but have a girlfriend, a friend, or even their dog listed as beneficiaries on their SGLV,” Jenkins said.

Other Soldiers are shortsighted; they figure they will have more money to spend if they don't spend the few dollars for life insurance, he added.

As of two weeks ago, all Soldiers must also write down the primary language of the next of kin. If a Soldier's wife speaks Chinese as her first language, for example, that should be noted so the casualty assistance office can make arrangements to have an interpreter on hand to assist.

In the case of the death of a Soldier assigned to Schofield Barracks, the record goes from the PSB to the casualty assistance office here. From there the information goes to the Department of the Army (DA) human resource center in the Washington, D.C., area. From there, the information goes out to the casualty area command office closest to the next of kin's home.

No matter where a Soldier is assigned or dies, if the Soldier's next of kin is at Fort Bragg, for example, the casualty assistance office at Fort Bragg will assign a notification team. If the next of kin is here, the information still must go to DA first.

Jenkins stressed that the 556th PSB takes every opportunity to ensure that the forms are updated.

When a Soldier first brings in his personnel record to any new unit, the directorate of human resources first takes it. They then pass it to a detachment of the PSB. The detachment commander gets the documents and makes sure they are accurate, up to date, and signed. If anything is missing or unsigned, the detachment notifies the Soldier's chain of command.

The 556th PSB also contacts units and schedules times to update all members' personnel records if they are more than six months out of date.

Also, anytime units are scheduled for deployment, everything is reviewed at the units' deployment briefings.

All of these precautions still do not and will never ensure that a Soldier's record is up to date. The only sure safeguard is for Soldiers to go update their records every time something in their personal lives change.

# NTC: 2-35th Infantry preps for likely Iraq scenarios at Fort Irwin

CONTINUED FROM A-1

mayor's office and handling casualty evacuation. Soldiers also used rosters to assess the risk of people trying to enter the city.

They made sure those who entered the city were friendly and detained and questioned suspected insurgents.

Finally, leadership met with local officials to attempt to coordinate a peaceful handover.

At the end of the day, all concerned agreed it was invaluable training.

“We are working in the heat, in full battle gear. We are also dealing with an enemy who is aware of our tactics,” said McLeod. “Furthermore, this is the first time we have worked together as a platoon. So, this will give my Soldiers a lot of confidence as we head to Iraq,” he said.

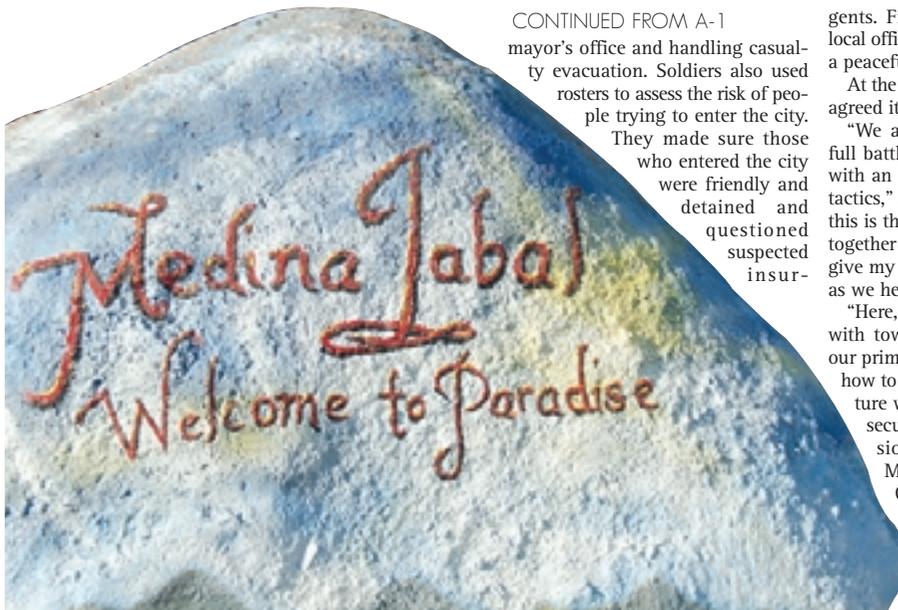
“Here, we get a chance to interact with townspeople who don't speak our primary language. We also learn how to be respectful of another culture while providing 100-percent security to accomplish our mission,” explained Staff Sgt. Mathew Green, squad leader, B Co., 2-35, and a veteran of Afghanistan.

“We also just got an influx of new Soldiers who haven't had the chance to hone their skills to the point where they are ready for war,” said Green. “I would not feel comfortable working with these Soldiers without training like this.”

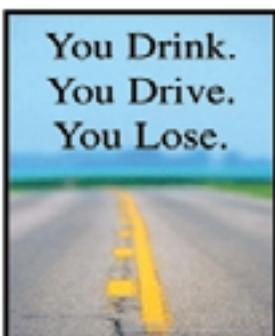
As for the new Soldiers, they all agreed that the day in the intense desert sun was good for them.

“It gives you the opportunity to train a little more and get hands-on experience doing your job, which makes me feel more comfortable,” said Pvt. Carl Phieon, B Co., 2-35. “I like how it has already made our unit closer,” he said.

Pvt. Nigel Childs, also a new addition to B Company, agreed. “We get to know our leaders a bit more, learn what they are capable of. It really is helping to bring the platoon closer.”



Left — A large stone in Jabal's main square welcomes visitors, including 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment Soldiers during security operations at the National Training Center.



# 3rd BSTB spearheads reconstruction at NTC

Forward engineers combine high- and low-tech construction

Story and Photo by  
**SFC. MIKE ALBERTS**  
3rd Brigade Public Affairs Office

FORT IRWIN, Calif. – The battles are over and peace has been restored. Now the task of helping rebuild a region and the confidence of its people remains.

Soldiers of 3rd Brigade's Special Troops Battalion and its attached engineering elements commenced a comprehensive reconstruction effort and held the first "bidders' conference" in Medina Jabal, May 10. Medina is the fictitious regional setting for combat training exercises at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.

"The bidders' conference brings together area contractors in one location where they can see what [public works] contracts are open for bidding and present their credentials regarding their technical capabilities to build projects, as well as their financial ability to carry those projects to completion," said Lt. Col. Bryan P. Truesdell, battalion commander, 3rd BSTB.

Truesdell explained that rebuilding the towns and region of Medina is a cooperative process – just as it is in Iraq. U.S. funds are made available for certain public works construction projects that address the basic needs of the community. The actual building of those projects is performed by local contractors whose progress is managed and monitored by the U.S.

"It is vitally important to assist [the local population] to achieve the quality of life that they feel they need," said Truesdell. "It is also absolutely critical that they build these projects. They are vested in the projects and are less likely to abandon them. [The towns] have similar needs and only by participating and cooperating will those needs be met."

The Forward Engineer Support Team (FEST) is tasked with identifying those needs at the NTC. FEST is part of the Army Corps of Engineers and, for training purposes, has been attached to 3rd BSTB. The four-person team headed by Capt. Julie Balten typically supports real world natural disasters. At NTC, FEST is simulating the

resident engineering office in the Gulf region district where the brigade may be located when it deploys this summer.

"For each town in the area of operation (AO), we have prepared contracts for a water well and distribution system, a sewer system, an electrical grid system and schools," said Capt. Julie Balten, Japan Engineer District, Pacific Ocean Division. "We are addressing the basic needs of the towns first, and then are addressing other needs like a mosque and clinic," said Balten.

Balten and her staff prepared 30 contracts for seven towns in the area.

"The first step in the rebuilding process is to identify the needs of the various towns. We then devel-

"It is vitally important to assist [the local population] to achieve the quality of life that they feel they need."

*Lt. Col. Bryan P. Truesdell*  
*Battalion Commander,*  
*3rd BSTB*

op scopes of work, draft contracts and then hold a bidders' conference. Next, we receive bids, accept the most capable contractors [at an acceptable cost] and manage the projects," she continued.

Although seemingly straightforward, the difficulty in designing and engineering the projects cannot be overstated.

"It's tough integrating high-tech design capabilities into a low-tech environment," said John Richards, architect, FEST. His colleagues agreed.

"We had difficulty designing projects for this developing country because we didn't really know what construction materials are available, what the skill level is of the local population or what their building capabilities are," explained Pat Naher, civil engineer, FEST. "There is no value in designing something if you can't have it built on site," said Naher.

Despite the challenges, the entire battalion agreed their effort to spearhead reconstruction was critical to the war effort.

"Our efforts will increase stability in this region geometrically," said Lt. Col. Truesdell. "By stabilizing this region, our national interests world-wide and at home are served."



Capt. Julie Balten, Japan Engineer District, Pacific Ocean Division, sorts through construction contracts with local contractors who expressed interest in bidding to reconstruct Medina Jabal during the first "bidders' conference" at Medina Jabal, the fictitious region for training exercises at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California.

## 84th Engineers demo combat lifesaving skills

Story and Photo by  
**1ST LT. YOVANA M. CARDENAS**  
Assistant S-4, 84th Engineer  
Combat Battalion (Heavy)

CAMP ANACONDA, Iraq – The medic team belonging to administration and logistics platoon, Headquarters and Service Company, used a timeout from daily missions to teach an extensive four-day combat lifesaver course to support the battalion commander's goal to have all personnel trained and certified.

Fifteen "Sidewinder" and "Bulldog" Soldiers were able to complete the course.

Soldiers learned how to perform general first aid tasks: how to evaluate a casualty; control bleeding of extremities; treat a fracture, open chest, abdominal wounds and shock; and call for a medical evacuation.

Soldiers received three days of classroom instruction on various steps a medic must take in order to treat buddies on the battlefield. The third day, they learned how to properly apply an intravenous infusion, or IV.

Day four, "testing day," consisted of two phases of testing how much the Soldier had learned: Phase I by written exam and Phase II by hands-on evaluation. The instructors created scenarios that required the Soldiers to apply what they had learned. Props such as plastic, fake wounds and red dyes to simulate blood lent realism.

In the typical scenario, a Soldier received a combat lifesaver bag from a medic, which had been filled with the equipment he would need to treat a wounded buddy. The Soldier inspected his bag to ensure everything he needed was present and not expired. Then, he put on his protective armor and helmet, and headed to the battlefield for his wounded buddy.

Soldiers initiated first aid while under fire and dragged their buddies off the battlefield to a secure area. They had to execute these steps under the added stress of actors yelling at them to hurry up and help their buddies. The real medics evaluated all aspects to ensure tasks were completed – from making sure patients were breathing, to treating wounds, inserting an IV, and calling for medical evacuation.

Tasks examined by the medics are all critical techniques Soldiers should know in order to aid their comrades in a combat zone.



As instructors evaluate nearby, Pfc. Christopher Crawford (right foreground) applies an IV on Pfc. William Corum during combat lifesaver training.

# NCO's 'ammo dogs' specialize in bringing firepower

Story and Photos by  
**PFC. DURWOOD BLACKMON**  
 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Realistically, it's not plausible to train Soldiers for battle, supply them with survival equipment and hand them a fully capable weapon without a single bullet to deliver to the enemy's doorstep.

No matter how big or small, almost every weapon created for Army use requires two major components; a Soldier to fire the weapon and the round that finishes the job.

However, there is a third component that is rarely seen lurking in the wings of every range, training exercise and battlefield. One particular group of Soldiers who silently do their job with true grit, integrity and deliver a loud bang in the process.

Without these individuals, all weapons would be silent, leaving engaged Soldiers with only harsh language and rocks to cast at the enemy.

Ammunition personnel, or "ammo dogs," play a vital role in ensuring the safety, proper handling, and accountability of every bullet, mortar, and flare used in battle.

These specialists have the daunting task of keeping Soldiers supplied with ammunition, explosives and anything else they may need to succeed at their mission.

For one noncommissioned officer, this is no small task and he takes pride in the challenge and the mission of providing troops with the capability to win.

"Dealing with ammo can be dangerous," said Staff Sgt. Gabriel M. Waite, noncommissioned officer in charge of the class five ammunition section in A Co., 225 Brigade Support Battalion. "It's a challenge to keep things running smooth, to stay on top of things, but that's what I like most about my job. It's an important job with an important mission and we will be successful."

Waite has been at A Co. for over two years, and with the 25th Infantry Division since September 2001. He has deployed to Bosnia and Kirkuk, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

Waite isn't the kind of NCO who likes to stand clear of the action. Training his Soldiers based upon his experiences is the way he likes to conduct things.

"If I tell a Soldier to do something, then I have already done it or will do it. I like to get down and dirty with the Soldiers. That's the way I am," said Waite.

Although this hard-nosed NCO may like to jump in the action, he still understands that giving his Soldiers responsibility better prepares them to excel at their jobs.

"It's important to give junior



Above — Moving and transferring ammunition is a detailed procedure. After securing a crate of hand grenade simulators, Staff Sgt. Gabriel M. Waite (foreground) assists a Soldier with covering a box with a tarp to keep out moisture.

Right — Waite separates ammunition boxes so each round can be accounted for. A strict check-and-balance procedure ensures nothing is left to chance.

enlisted Soldiers responsibility. It helps them understand the dangers of dealing with ammunition. Passing on my knowledge is important. If something happens to me, or our other NCO, it's necessary to have qualified replacements right there," said Waite.

Waite understands that dealing with explosives, rockets and bullets is tricky business. His logic for training comes firsthand from down-range experiences and a few

close calls.

"While in Iraq our ammo point got hit by a mortar round. All the cap munitions blew up. Another NCO and I were in there when it happened. We were only 300 to 400 meters away when the first shot went up in the air like a bottle rocket. After the incident we still had to have accountability. It's serious business and it's a challenge," said Waite.

Dealing with explosives and



hazardous materials is dangerous business. According to Waite, every safety precaution, from fire extinguishers down to the last lug nut on a tire rim, must be properly secured and inspected for safety.

There are a lot of safety issues working with ammo. Almost everyone in Waite's unit is qualified to transport ammunition on state highways and on post. That

kind of safety training is very important, especially when dealing with dangerous materials such as the white phosphorous found in mortars and howitzers, Waite said.

Ammunition specialists deal with a variety of firepower. Everything from blasting caps, C4, fuses, rockets, javelins, smoke flairs, 5.56mm, 40mm, and .50 caliber bullets are all the ammo dogs' responsibilities. Once the transformation of the Stryker Brigade is complete, they will also provide support for the howitzers as well.

During ranges, training exercises and once downrange it will be up to Waite and his crew to take care of the munitions. This makes for a challenge as they have a great deal of responsibility with a limited number of Soldiers.

"One thing I would like to see is our section at full strength. If we had the number of people we are authorized, we could set aside planning for teams to go do the work and create more of a balance in the unit on tasking out jobs. Right now we are only at about half strength," said Waite.

Due to low numbers in manpower, it is not uncommon for Waite's team to utilize recruited help. As beneficial and appreciated as the assistance is, it also creates a whole new mission in itself.

"The biggest thing is PTA [Pohakula Training Area] rotations. We have to send our section, but our section is not big enough to support the mission. We often get supplemented with Soldiers from

transportation platoon and fuelers to assist us."

Waite continued, "As much as we need the help, we also have to spot-train them and do our job at the same time. We work on little sleep with low manpower and a big mission. But we will be successful."

Despite the setbacks, Waite's team always completes its missions. By drawing from each other's strengths, the unit pulls together and gets the job done.

"Ammo dogs are a breed of their own. The morale is pretty good in the section and we keep things interesting. It often takes all our resources to support one battalion. Because of our workload we have to do business just the way we like it — quick, fast, and in a hurry. Our section has a lot of character," said Waite.

After a hard day at any range or training exercise, smoke will clear the air and the echoing of shots will cease. However, for Waite and his dedicated team of ammunition specialists, their work will have just begun.

Although small in numbers, Waite's team stands tall in teamwork and the Army values. From accountability to safety checks, the ammo dogs of A Co., 225 BSB stand ready to supply the next wave of Soldiers with the right amount of firepower and dedication to get the job done.

"We have a big job to do and there are not many of us to do it. We consider ourselves the silent warriors and are proud of what we do. We will be successful, always complete our missions and definitely up to the challenge," said Waite.

# Chaplains extend helping hands to Soldiers

TAMC's SAFAC fund helps Soldiers in times of need

Story and Photo by  
**MARK JACKSON**

Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs Office

HONOLULU — "I want to thank everyone at Tripler hospital for caring for me, and thank my fellow Soldiers for never leaving a fallen comrade," said Pvt. Julius E. Riggins, a Schofield Barracks Soldier.

Riggins received a check from Col. Paul P. Buck, chief of chaplains, Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC), Monday. He is the first of many who will benefit from Tripler's Soldier and Family Assistance Fund, and he said he will use the money to purchase a roundtrip ticket to visit his family in Long Beach, Calif.

"Support from their family is often the medicine they need for a speedy recovery," said Rosalind Sims, social work care manager at TAMC.

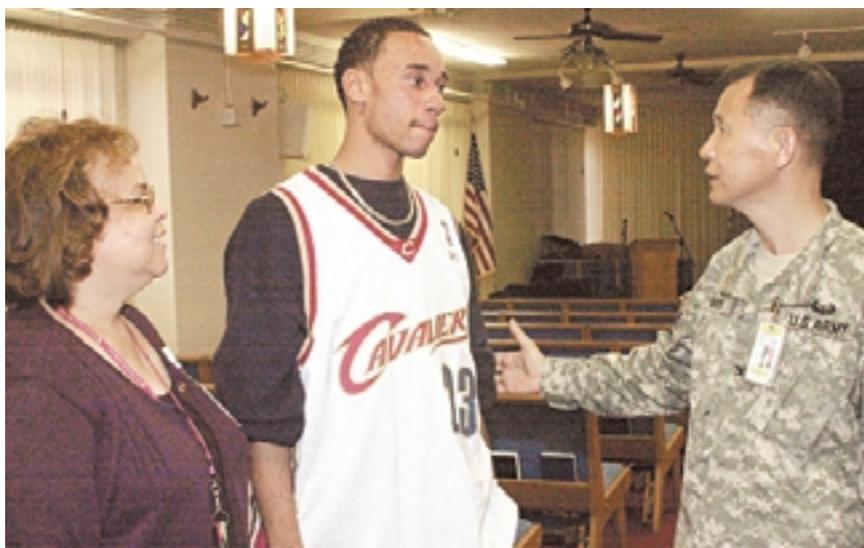
Tripler's social work services work closely with the chaplain's office to quickly identify Soldiers who need immediate financial assistance.

"We are always pleased to be able to help Soldiers during their time of need," said Buck. "This money was collected from various chapels and ministries around the world specifically for this purpose."

Buck also pointed out that timely assistance is the key to making this program effective.

The fund is an extension of the Army Wounded Warrior program, and it was extended to include Soldiers who are injured while training in preparation to support the global war on terror.

"There are other Soldiers [working with the help of social work services] who have already submitted applications for assistance. We are reviewing those applications, and we will work hard to see that these Soldiers and their families receive the support they need," said Buck.



Tripler's social work services care manager, Rosalind Sims, looks on as Col. Paul P. Buck (right), chief of chaplains, Tripler Army Medical Center, explains the Soldier and Family Assistance Fund program to Schofield Barracks Soldier Pvt. Julius E. Riggins, May 15, in the hospital's chapel.

## News Briefs

Send military news announcements to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com).

**Education Town Hall** — The community is invited to an Education Town Hall May 23, starting at 6 p.m., at Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks. Pat Hamamoto, State of Hawaii superintendent of schools and Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon will give updates on educational topics, followed by a question and answer session.

**Road Closure** — Waianae Avenue (north side of the grassed median) between Sudut Street and General's Loop on Schofield Barracks will be closed on May 22-23, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The road closure is required to install a new water line connection to Quad "C." For more information, call 655-1305.

**Borrowed Library Materials** — Deploying soldiers are asked to return all borrowed materials to the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks before departure. For information or questions, call 655-8002.

**Division Prayer Breakfast** — The 25th Infantry Division will hold a Prayer Breakfast, Wednesday May 24, 6:30 to 8 a.m. at Nehelani Conference Center. The guest speaker is Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon. Contact unit representatives for ticket information.

**Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** — The Schofield Barracks' celebration will take place May 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sills Field. The Polynesian Cultural Center and a variety of other Pacific Island groups will provide entertainment.

Fort Shafter will host an observance in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, May 18, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the 9th Regional Readiness Command (RRC) Assembly Hall, Building 1554, Fort Shafter Flats. Mufi Hannemann, Mayor of City and County of Honolulu is the guest speaker.

For more information, call 438-1600, extension 3218.

**Deployment Expos** — Deployment Expos will be held at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks, to prepare Soldiers and families for deployment. All Soldiers, spouses and significant others are invited to attend this day of training.

•June 5 and 26: 3rd Infantry Bde. Combat Team.

•June 12: Combat Aviation Bde. Nehelani will open to Soldiers from 8-9 a.m. Briefings and Army Community Service-led classes will be held from 9-11:30 a.m.

**Schofield PXtra** — In order to complete Phase I construction of the new Schofield Shopping Center, the PXtra will close May 30.

**Tax Center** — Schofield Barracks location, Building 648, will be open weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. to May 25.

**U.S. Army Information Operations Proponent** — USAIOP will conduct an information

briefing and recruiting visit May 25, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and May 26, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Schofield Barracks Army Education Center, Building 560, Room 206. USAIOP is seeking highly motivated officers primarily in year groups 1997-2004 for the Army's fastest growing functional area. Walk-ins are welcome. For an appointment or additional information, contact David Pendleton at [Henry.David.Pendleton@us.army.mil](mailto:Henry.David.Pendleton@us.army.mil) or call 913-684-5320 (DSN 552).

**Oahu South Town Hall** — The next Oahu Base Support Battalion will hold a townhall meeting for the Oahu South Community on Wednesday, June 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel. The meeting is a pro-active forum designed to assemble directors and agency chiefs to provide information to residents on matters pertaining to the Fort Shafter Community. For more information, call 438-6147.

**Case-lot Sale** — The Schofield Barracks Commissary will have a case-lot sale in the commissary parking lot May 27-28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Items may be paid for at cash registers outside or at designated registers inside the store only. Cash, checks, or credit cards only are accepted as payment for case-lot items, no debit or EBT cards.

**Memorial Day Remembrance** — The 25th Infantry Division and United States Army, Hawaii will conduct a Memorial Day Remembrance at 11:30 a.m., May 29, at Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery to honor fallen comrades who died in the service of their country. The guest speaker will be Col. Howard J. Killian, commander, United States Army Garrison, Hawaii.

**CLEP** — College level preparatory exams are now available free to active duty, Reserve and National Guard, and \$75 for others. Family members of Reserve, National Guard, and Coast Guard may take the tests free, but must pay a \$20 admin fee. Tests are given three times a day on the following schedule:

- Hickam Air Force Base, Mondays and Wednesdays,
- Pearl Harbor, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and
- Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Fridays.

For more information, call Hickam, 422-1032; Pearl Harbor, 422-0079; or MCBH, 254-4133.

**U.S. Army Birthday Ball** — Celebrate the Army's 231st Birthday at the Hilton Hawaiian Village June 3, from 6 p.m. to midnight. The cost is \$55 per person. Ticket information is available through units.

**Commissary Closures** — The Schofield Barracks commissary will close at 2 p.m. Monday, June 19 and re-open for regular business Thursday, June 22 at 9 a.m.

**The Military Channel** — "The Military Channel" presents "Anatomy of a Stryker" Saturday, May 20, at 8 p.m.

**The Military Channel** — The Military Channel presents "Arlington National Cemetery" with Senator John McCain, Monday, May 29, 8 p.m. Arlington National Cemetery has emerged as a beacon of honor for the American spirit.

# Eleven receive Asian-Pacific American Council award

**RUDI WILLIAMS**  
American Forces Press Service

HONOLULU – More than 250 people from across the mainland, South Korea, Japan, Hawaii and the Pacific islands watched as 11 service members were lauded during a Defense Department luncheon and awards ceremony here honoring Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month.

Service members from each service, including the Coast Guard, Army and Air National Guards, and the reserves, were awarded the Federal Asian-Pacific American Council's Military Meritorious Service Award, May 10.

The award recognizes service men and women who distinguish themselves in the war on terrorism; whose activities best support the ideas of duty, honor, country; or

## Awardees

Marine Master Gunnery Sgt. Esekia L. Motu  
Navy Cmdr. Ariel C. Nagales  
Navy Lt. Mercedes Lau  
Army Lt. Col. George Ishikata  
Air Force Maj. Connie O.Y. Wong  
Coast Guard Capt. Jeffery S. Lee  
Army Reserve Maj. Timothy Charles Stutler  
Army Maj. America Planas  
Air Force Reserve Senior Airman Lyn C. Yin  
Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Trawick  
Marine Lance Cpl. Ellis I. Lee

who best epitomize the core values and the citizen-warrior attributes of their respective military service, officials said.

The award also acknowledges their contributions to the advancement of Asian and Pacific Americans and the promotion of equal opportunity in

the federal workforce and the Asian-Pacific American community.

The DoD luncheon and award ceremony's keynote speaker, David S. C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, presented the awards to the military recipients.

# Asian-Pacific: PACOM celebrates

CONTINUED FROM A-1

Noting that the Pacific region has vast diversity among the countries, cultures, languages and religions, Alford said, "Twenty-five percent of the world's trade and 50 percent of the world's oil production passes through this region. Today, 35 percent of U.S. trade is with countries in this region."

By contrast, Alford said, U.S. trade with the European Union is only 19 percent, 20 percent with Canada, and 18 percent with Latin America. "Asian-Pacific nations account for about 34 percent of the gross world product, while the U.S. accounts for 21 percent," he noted.

He noted that Indonesia, the country with the world's largest Muslim population, is within the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility.

"Indonesia is a country striving to cement democratic rule, a country made up of more than a thousand islands, a country which when compared to the U.S. mainland would span all the way between the east and west coasts."

Alford went on to point out that Japanese Americans served exceptional well in World War II.



Alford

"We recognize not only the 442nd Regimental Combat Team or the 100th Infantry, but also the lesser known Nisei soldiers who were America's secret weapon. The soldiers of the military intelligence service were credited with saving countless American lives by their ability to intercept and interpret imperial Japanese army messages.

"Today, we receive daily media accounts from Iraq and Afghanistan crediting America's sons and daughters from Hawaii, Guam, America Samoa, the Philippines, the Pacific Islands, East Asia, California and Alaska among others who fight in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom," the admiral noted.

"These heroes are spreading the spirit of 'aloha and kindness to the Iraqi and Afghan people as they rebuild their countries and welcome a chance to be free," Alford said.

He said this year's theme for Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, "Dreams and Challenges for the Asian-Pacific American," is appropriate "as we look toward our country's future and work to help other countries around the world overcome their challenges to achieve their dreams."

Noting that the nation's diversity makes it stronger, Alford said, "Our shared ideas, hopes and dreams bond us as a people. We must remember that the struggle for freedom is ever present and ongoing."



Photo Courtesy HBO

Medical personnel work on a patient in a scene from HBO's documentary film "Baghdad ER."

# HBO documentary to examine combat hospitals

**STEVEN DONALD SMITH**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The new HBO documentary film "Baghdad ER" is much more than just a series of gruesome images flickering across a screen. It is a poignant testament to the sacrifice of American troops and the dedication of military medical personnel.

Filmmakers Jon Alpert and Matthew O'Neill received eight weeks of unfettered access to the Army's 86th Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad during the spring and summer of 2005. The result is a compelling film that examines the daily rigors faced by doctors, nurses, medics and chaplains as they treat wounded troops.

The film includes frontline rescue footage of the 54th Medical Company Air Ambulance Team, as well as Soldiers patrolling

the streets of Baghdad.

Army Col. Casper P. Jones III, commander of the 86th Combat Support Hospital, told American Forces Press Service that the film captures the reality of what goes on at the hospital.

"I think it's an accurate depiction of the medical facility. I think it gives a real-life view of what it's like in a trauma center in a combat zone,"

he said. "I think it shows the physicians, nurses and technicians, and our chaplain involved in compassionate caring and world-class health care."

Sheila Nevins, head of HBO's documentary film division, said the film has no political agenda, and is simply meant to celebrate the heroism and bravery in uniform.

"That might sound very cliché and trite, but for whatever it's worth, I'm humbled by their

courage," she said at a screening of the movie at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History here May 15th.

The main mission of the combat support hospital is to stabilize wounded troops in order to transfer them out of Iraq to receive further treatment, Jones said. He called the unit's primary mission "resuscitative care."

"Our job is to save life, limb and eyesight, to stabilize and move the patients," he explained.

The colonel said the survival rate for wounded U.S. troops is the highest in history. "I hope when people view the film, they come away with a definite sense of confidence that the medical care we provide to our wounded warriors is the best in the world," he said.

Baghdad ER will air on HBO Sunday at 8 p.m. It contains graphic images and adult language.

## COMMENTARY



Skylights illuminate the atrium as painters apply final touches to the entrance of the new store. Once the project is complete in spring 2007, the new PX will have triple the space of the current store, seven food concepts and more concessions, including The UPS Store and a portrait studio.

## Exchange: Doors to open with prizes, entertainment

CONTINUED FROM A-1

main post exchange. The land underneath the current store is where the remaining 40 percent of the PX construction project will be completed, Nunamaker explained.

One of the biggest challenges to this transition will be getting the main store cleared of merchandise. As phase one opening day approaches, customers may notice a "thinning" of product availability. As some merchandise sells, the restocking will occur in the new store. Only the basic items – socks, underwear, diapers, etc. – will be restocked in the old store.

With the exception of fine jewelry and cosmetics, the new store will have all new fixtures, signing and displays. Nunamaker said the PX staff wants to start clean, so customers should look for information on upcoming moving sales.

"For phase one, the merchandise from the main store and the PXtra will be consolidated under one roof. Once the project is complete in 2007, all of [small appliances and home fashions] will move over, too," Nunamaker stat-



Hundreds of new fashion "four-ways" have been built and will hold an expanded fashion selection. With the exception of fine jewelry and cosmetics, all new fixtures will be used in phase one.

ed. "Right now, if you're setting up a home, you'd have to make three different stops all your necessities. This consolidation will be good for us and our customers."

Nunamaker stressed that customers should keep in mind that what they see June 7 is just 60 percent of what's "in

store" for them.

"At the opening of phase one, all our concessions [and free-standing kiosks] will be in place, but we will not have a food court or nearly half of our selling space," she said. "We'll be a bit compressed until phase two opens, but we will restock

faster until then."

Later this year, the far end of the parking lot (closest to the commissary) will be resurfaced so the stalls and aisles follow the same pattern. Once the new PX facility is complete, there will be 600 parking stalls.

The \$30 million project was funded through PX dividends. "No tax dollars were used for this facility. Our customers should know that only through their shopping AAFES is this project possible. Two thirds of our profits go to MWR, the remaining third goes to capitalization," Nunamaker declared. "And that is how we are able to have this new store."

At 170,000 square feet, the new PX will be triple the area of the current retail operation offering a much broader selection of merchandise.

"We'll offer more brands and more products once the store is complete. For instance, where we once had 30 fashion racks, we'll now have 50," Nunamaker said. "We'll be a first class exchange and the only one on island that is truly an indoor mall."

## Incentives: DA hopes to up officer retention

CONTINUED FROM A-1

er reasons.

The Army says the number of officers choosing to stay is adequate for now, but officials are taking steps to make sure the Army has enough officers for a service branch that is expanding 30,000 troops while fighting prolonged wars.

"We're not going to wait for the loss rates to go up. We need to find ways to retain our best and brightest," said Col. Mark Patterson, manager of officer policy for the Army. Among the new incentives:

The Army will offer free graduate school soon to an additional 200 young officers now serving, and to 600 future officers beginning in 2010 if they agree to stay past their initial hitch. The Army now pays for about 500 officers to attend graduate school each year.

Some young officers will be able to choose where they will be assigned and what job they will have if they agree to remain three years beyond their first commitment. Currently, prospective Army officers can request what job they want and where they will be assigned, but there are no guarantees they will get their first choice.

The Army will ask Congress to approve cash bonuses for officers who stay past their initial stint. The program would be similar to retention bonuses now offered to enlisted troops in hard-to-fill jobs.

The Army is cutting the time it takes to get promoted to captain and major. Promotion to captain will drop from 42 to 38 months; for major from just less than 11 years to 10 years.

The Marine Corps has not experienced similar officer losses but will monitor the situation, said Capt. Teresa Ovalle, a Marine Corps spokeswoman.

Scales, the former Army War College commandant, said the initiatives are well timed for young officers, who face repeated trips to

combat zones.

"The real issue here is the third tour," Scales said. He predicts an increased loss of young officers as the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan stretch on.

Patterson said the new initiatives

"We're not going to wait for the loss rates to go up. We need to find ways to retain our best and brightest"

*Col. Mark Patterson  
Manager, Officer Policy  
for the Army*

were developed from surveying West Point cadets and college students headed into the Army under the ROTC program. When asked which were likely to persuade them to stay longer, they said graduate school, choice of job and choice of where to live.

The Army is also suffering a severe shortfall in new recruits, but that is being offset in part by better-than-average retention rates in those who've already enlisted.

The potential officer shortage is also caused by an expansion of combat units that requires more lieutenants, captains and majors. In addition, the Army cut the size of incoming officer classes in the 1990s as part of the post-Cold War downsizing. Mid-career officers from those classes are not sufficient to fill the vacancies the Army has at the rank of major.

During the downsizing years, the Army brought in about 2,000 fewer officers than it now needs as senior captains and majors, Patterson said. It hopes to raise its retention rates to make up for the shortfall.

The Army also hopes to recruit up to 300 young officers set to leave the Air Force because of downsizing in that service, Patterson said.

# PAU HANA



## TWILIGHT *Tattoo*

The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps from Washington, D.C., plays the last performance of its 2006 Hawaii tour at the Twilight Tattoo Saturday. The Corps played at schools, hospitals, and various military functions while on Oahu.

Combined military and local bands play free concert for 2,000 attendees as *Tattoo* marks twilight in Waikiki

Story and Photos by  
**DONNA KLAPAKIS**  
Staff Writer

FORT DERUSSY – It was no battle of the bands in Waikiki Saturday; instead the harmony was sweeter for having all four services present.

The 25th Infantry Division hosted the 10th annual Twilight Tattoo at Kuroda parade ground on Fort DeRussy.

The master of ceremonies for the evening, Staff Sgt. Michael McClaran, operations non-commissioned officer for the Tropic Lightning Band, gave some history of the 25th ID Band.

He then explained the meaning of the bugle calls "Retreat" and "To the Color" to the mixed civilian and military crowd who had gathered, after which the songs were played as the flag in front of the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies was lowered.

He then explained the history of the Tattoo ceremony. The origin of the word "tattoo" is "tap-toe," a Dutch term that means "turn off the taps." When it was time to return home for the evening, a drummer would go around to taverns and sound a cadence to let the Soldiers there know that it was time to go back to the barracks for the evening. Soldiers from taverns followed the drummer. By the time they reached the barracks, quite a procession would be following.

Eventually, the drummer was replaced or joined by a piper, and the evening ritual became a formal military function. Throughout Europe, Australia, and America, tattoos have become a military tradition. The most famous is in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Master Sgt. Glen Patton, the head drum major for the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, said it was an honor for the band to be here and part of the events taking place for military appreciation month.

"It's awesome when citizens show up and make the troops feel appreciated," he said.

In order of performance, Air Forces Band of the Pacific, The 25th Infantry Division Tropic Lightning Band, the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, Marine Forces Pacific Band, Celtic Pipes and Drums of Hawaii, and Pacific Fleet Band all played solo performances and then joined on the field at the end for an ensemble per-

formance.

Chief Master Sgt. Dan Ciuffo, the director of the Pacific Air Forces Band, is the only enlisted bandleader for the Air Force. He considered the Tattoo to be a good thing for inter-service cooperation.

"It's great to share with the other military services and to meet with our other colleagues," he said.

Lt. Col. Stephen Moniz and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Graves, of the Oahu Base Support Battalion gave full credit for pulling the overall program together to Clarence Wilhelm, director of OBSB-South. He has put together every Twilight Tattoo since the beginning, Moniz said.



An Army color guard bears in the flags of the United States, Hawaii, and the U.S. Army during the Twilight Tattoo held at Fort DeRussy Saturday.

Although they have a standing operating procedure, it has to be updated and improved each year, Moniz added.

Graves, who at 6 foot 8 inches tall, holds the distinction of being the tallest sergeant major in the Army, said, "This is a military event that totally involves the civilian community. That's why it's held here in Waikiki."

"Hawaii is unique in that it is one of the few places that you have all four services bands. For the concert at the Hawaii Theatre, May 20, the Coast Guard will also fly some of their band out from Washington," McClaren said.

Spc. Jontebius Johnson, a trombone player from Tuskegee, Alabama, said Saturday was his first Tattoo.

"I'm looking forward to it. This is a really exciting moment for military bands, period," he said.

Daniel Quinn, the director and pipe major for the Celtic Pipes and Drums of Hawaii, said his band is the official band of both the Honolulu Police and Fire Departments and plays in every military function they can.

"We have played in all 10 tattoos," he said.

Quinn noted that the Celtic Band's tartan is that of Scotland's Black Watch.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Gregory S. Balvanz, the commander of the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, was complimentary about the quality of Hawaii's annual Twilight Tattoo.

"This show has been going on for 10 years now," he said. "It's on the cusp making a mark in the international tattoo community."

A spectator at the event, retired Air Force Maj. Gen. H. Robert Hall, whose last military assignment was commanding general of the California Air National Guard, said he and his wife come to Hawaii every year in May especially so they can see the Twilight Tattoo.

"Every year it gets better, and every year there are more people," he said after the performance.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jesse O. Pascua, commander of the 25th Infantry Division Tropic Lightning Band, prepares to take the field to lead the combined bands in *Highland Cathedral*.



## Discounts, specials continue for Hawaii Military Appreciation Month

Compiled by

**CHARLIE OTA AND JOY BOISSELLE**

Several popular tourist destinations and the Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter Information, Ticketing and Registration offices are offering special discounts in honor of Military Appreciation Month. For more information, call 438-1985 (Fort Shafter) or 655-9971 (Schofield Barracks).

Offers are valid through May 31 for the Ali'I Kai catamaran dinner cruise, Magic of Polynesia show, Polynesian Cultural Center, Atlantis Submarine, Atlantis Cruises, Sea Life Park Hawaii and Germaine's Luau. Discounts are also available at the USS Missouri Memorial at Ford Island, Waimea Falls Park and Sea Life Park.

Military personnel (active, reserve, guard and retired) and their family members, may inquire at their base ticket offices for these and other specials.

The chamber of commerce extends a hearty mahalo to all businesses and sponsors that make Hawaii Military Appreciation Month possible.

**May 20, Combined Military Band Concert** – Join Hawaii's top military musicians in a rare concert featuring Broadway musicals, marches,

classics, and pops on May 20, 7 p.m. at the Hawaii Theatre. This free public concert will pay tribute to Hawaii's Korean War veterans. The U.S. Army hosts the concert. Tickets are available through the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii at 545-4300.

**May 22, Outrigger Hotels and the USO** – Outrigger Hotels and the USO will host a USO-style canteen party at City Hall from 6-9 p.m. on May 22. This event closes Military Appreciation Week with music, entertainment, and fun the old-fashioned way pioneered by the USO.

**May 22, Battleship Missouri** – The USS Missouri Memorial Association offers the military a 50 percent discount on admission to the Battleship Missouri May 22. Tickets are sold at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum.

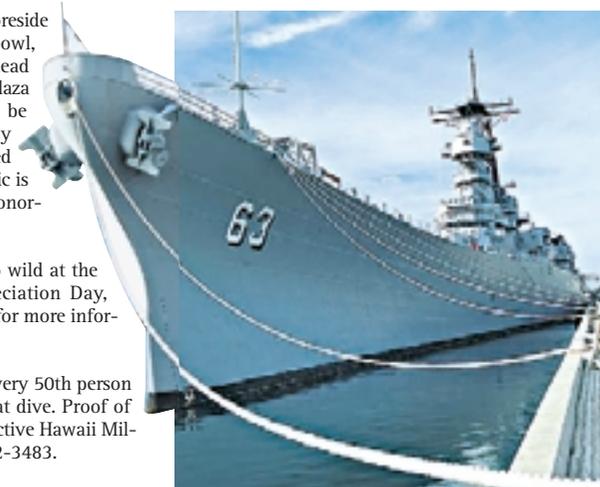
**May 29, Memorial Day** – Hawaii Military Appreciation Month will close May 29 with Memorial Day observances at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl starting at 9 a.m. and at the Hawaii Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe at 1 p.m.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann will preside over the observances at Punchbowl, and Governor Linda Lingle will lead the observances at the Memorial Plaza in Kaneohe. The gravesites will be adorned with lei gathered by Hawaii's schoolchildren and placed by Boy and Girl Scouts. The public is invited to attend these services honoring our veterans.

**June 3, Honolulu Zoo** – Go wild at the Honolulu Zoo's Military Appreciation Day, June 3. Call the zoo at 971-7171 for more information.

**May 1-31, Dive Hawaii** – Every 50th person to register will receive a free boat dive. Proof of service is required and must be active Hawaii Military member or spouse. Call 922-3483.

*(Editor's note: Charlie Ota is the Vice President for Military Affairs for the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, and Joy Boisselle is a staff writer for the Hawaii Army Weekly.)*



The USS Battleship Missouri is docked at Ford Island. It is near the USS Arizona Memorial and adjacent to the USS Bowfin Museum in Pearl Harbor.



## May 19 / Friday

**Steak Night** — Enjoy a sizzling steak cooked on the grill at Reggie's. Dinner will be served from 5 to 8 p.m.  
Cost is \$11.95 for top sirloin steak and \$14.95 for porterhouse steak. Children's pricing is available. For additional information, call 655-4466.

**Hollywood Teen Social** — Middle and high school teens are invited to dress in their finest for the Schofield Teen Center Hollywood Mixer, May 19, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. The evening will include contests for best-dressed couple, best celebrity look-alike, best Hollywood couple, hottest shoes, and best male hat.  
The cost is \$3 for members, \$4 for military ID holders, and \$5 for civilians. Teens can get their pictures taken with their dates for \$2, and special food and beverages will be sold at an extra cost. Cocktail attire, including collared shirt for boys, is required and the dress code will be enforced. For more information, call 655-0451.

**Damn Yankees** — Come enjoy the Broadway musical classic "Damn Yankees" at Richardson Theater, Fort Shafter tonight and again May 20, 26 and 27. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the box office, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., or online at <http://www.square-one.org/ACT/tickets.html>. For more information, call 438-4480.

## 20 / Saturday

**Living History Day** — Come to the Fort DeRussy museum May 20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for Living History Day, in commemoration of Armed Forces Day. The event will include static exhibits of military memorabilia, restored military vehicles, re-enactors in period uniforms and hand-on-displays of military artifacts. For more information, call 438-2821.

## 23 / Tuesday

**Education Town Hall** — The community is invited to an Education Town Hall at the Sgt. Smith Theater, Tuesday, May 23, starting at 6 p.m.

**BOSS Commissary Awareness** — Single Soldiers are invited to Commissary Awareness Day at the Schofield Barracks Commissary May 23, 6:30 a.m. Activities include a dunking booth, eating contest, and shopping cart relay races. Prizes include



Bonnie Griffith | Army Hawaii Family Housing

Madden 2006 and NCAA 2006 for PS2 and XBOX, commissary gift certificates, Kona coffee gift certificates and more. For more information, call 655-8169.

## 24 / Wednesday

**Teen Video Challenge** — Teens are invited to come to Tropics and test their video game skills, May 24, 3 p.m. Cost is \$1 and prizes will be awarded. For more information, call 655-8522.

## 25 / Thursday

**Blue Star Card Remembrance Tour** — Blue Star cardholders are invited to the Pacific Fleet Remembrance Barge Tour May 25 at 5 p.m. The tour includes the USS Arizona Memorial, Boathouse Museum, Ford Island Tour, and information on the Pearl Harbor attack. Transportation from Schofield Barracks and Aliamanu Military Reservation and free childcare are provided. The sign-up deadline is May 19, and space is limited. For more information, call 655-0112.

## 26 / Friday

**Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet** — Taste a traditional Hawaiian-style feast today 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.

**Teen Social** — Join friends for an evening of fun at the AMR 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.

## 27 / Saturday

**Parents Night Out** — Leave your kids

with Child and Youth Services (CYS) at the Peterson Child Development Center on Parents Night Out, Saturday, and then enjoy a nice night out on the town, after than noon May 26. Reservations are first-come, first-served. For more information, call 655-8313.

## June 2 / Friday

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

## 12 / Monday

**Vacation Bible School** — Children from 4 years old through the sixth grade are invited to participate in Schofield Barracks' Vacation Bible School (nondenominational), to be held at the main post chapel June 12-16 from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 655-6645 or 655-4461, for more information.

**80 Volunteers Needed** — Schofield Barracks Vacation Bible School (above) is looking for volunteers, adults or youth who have finished at least 7th grade. Call 655-6645 or 655-4461.

## 22 / Thursday

**High School Leadership Program** — SKIES Unlimited in partnership with Army Community Services and Army Family Team Building, is introducing a new leadership program for high school students. Classes on leadership, listening skills, college applications and scholarships, problem solving, teamwork, and teen employment will be offered throughout the year.  
Teens will also have the opportunity to

## 'Ummm, pizza!'

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Children at Hale Kula Elementary School feast on pizza May 10 as winners of a recent poster contest publicizing Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Army Hawaii Family Housing sponsored the contest and rewarded 11 classes.

Fifth grader David Battle (at inset) won first place, so his poster will be featured in 2007 campaigns. All keiki received a grab bag with prizes.

perform community and Army volunteer work, including at the annual Hawaii Army Family Action Planning Conference. The program begins June 22 at Schofield Barracks. For more information or to apply, call 655-9818 or email [sandy.sailsbury@hawaii.army.mil](mailto:sandy.sailsbury@hawaii.army.mil).

## Ongoing

**ITR Military Appreciation Discounts** — Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter Information, Ticketing and Registration offices are offering special discounts in honor of Military Appreciation Month. Specials are being offered for Ali'i Kai Catamaran Dinner Cruise, the Magic of Polynesia Show, Polynesian Cultural Center, Atlantis Submarine, Atlantis Cruises, Sea Life Park Hawaii and Germaine's Luau. Offers are valid until May 31. For more information, call 438-1985 (Fort Shafter) or 655-9971 (Schofield Barracks).

**Paperback Book Kits** — The Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, will issue paperback book kits to deploying units. For more information, call 655-9143.

**Borrowed Library Materials** — Deploying soldiers are asked to return all borrowed materials to the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks prior to departure. For information or questions, call 655-8002.

**SKIES Unlimited Volunteer Opportunities** — Do you have a special skill or talent and enjoy teaching children? Join the Child & Youth Services family as a child/youth instructor. Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration & Skills (SKIES) is looking for qualified, caring volunteer instructors for the School of Arts, School of Sports, School of Academics, and the School of Life Skills.

If you have a hobby or skill or are interested in learning more about volunteering, please call 655-5525.

## HACN TV2 Schedule

5:00	Army Emergency Relief
5:01	Lightning Rumble 4
5:05	Safety message CG rown
6:00	Sign on Tape
6:24	Army Emergency Relief
6:26	Lightning Rumble 4
6:30	Bulletin Board
7:00	Safety message CG Brown
7:05	Army Emergency Relief
7:06	I Give My Heart to You
7:11	Pentagon Channel
8:00	Safety message CG Brown
8:04	Hawaii Army Report
8:33	Army Emergency Relief
8:34	Lightning Rumble 4
8:38	Bulletin Board
9:08	CG Mixon Deployment Message
9:13	I Give My Heart to You
9:19	Pentagon Channel
10:00	Army Emergency Relief
10:01	Lightning Rumble 4
10:06	Pentagon Channel
11:00	Safety message CG Brown
11:05	Army Emergency Relief
11:06	Lightning Rumble 4
11:10	CG Mixon Deployment Message
11:15	Pentagon Channel
12:00	Safety message CG Brown
12:04	Hawaii Army Report
12:33	Lightning Rumble 4
12:37	CG Mixon Deployment Message
12:42	Bulletin Board
1:12	Army Emergency Relief
1:13	Pentagon Channel
2:00	CG Mixon Deployment Message
2:05	Lightning Rumble 4
3:00	Safety message CG Brown
3:04	Lightning Rumble 4
3:09	Army Emergency Relief
3:10	Pentagon Channel
4:00	Safety message CG Brown
4:04	Army Emergency Relief
4:05	Lightning Rumble 4
4:10	Bulletin Board
4:40	I Give My Heart to You
4:45	Pentagon Channel
5:00	Safety message CG Brown
5:04	Army Emergency Relief
5:06	Lightning Rumble 4
5:10	Pentagon Channel
6:00	Safety message CG Brown
6:04	Hawaii Army Report
6:33	Lightning Rumble 4
6:37	Community Focus
6:43	I Give My Heart to You
6:48	Deployment Message CG
6:53	Honor to Serve
7:01	Army Emergency Relief
7:02	Bulletin Board
7:32	Lightning Rumble 4
7:37	Pentagon Channel
8:00	Safety message CG Brown
8:04	Army Emergency Relief
8:06	Bulletin Board
8:36	CG Mixon Deployment Message
8:40	Lightning Rumble 4
8:45	Pentagon Channel
9:00	Safety message CG Brown
9:04	Army Emergency Relief
9:06	Bulletin Board
9:36	CG Mixon Deployment Message
9:41	Lightning Rumble 4
9:45	Pentagon Channel
10:00	Safety message CG Brown
10:04	Army Emergency Relief
10:06	Bulletin Board
10:36	CG Mixon Deployment Message
10:41	Lightning Rumble 4
10:45	Pentagon Channel
11:00	Safety message CG Brown
11:04	Deployment message CG Mixon
11:10	Bulletin Board
11:40	Lightning Rumble 4
11:44	Army Emergency Relief
11:45	I Give My Heart to You
12:00	Safety message CG Brown
12:04	I Give My Heart to You
12:10	Deployment message CG Mixon
12:15	Lightning Rumble 4
12:20	Bulletin Board

Overnight  
Pentagon Channel

Because of hardware failure Tv2 Programming may be interrupted during daily scheduled programming and replaced with Pentagon Channel and/or Bulletin Board.

## Community Calendar

Send calendar announcements to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com)

## May 19 / Friday

**Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month** — Celebration will take place May 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sills Field. The Polynesian Cultural Center and a variety of other Pacific Island groups will provide entertainment.

**AFTB Instructor Course** — Army Family team Building is offering an evening Instructor Course May 22 through 25, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Schofield Barracks Army Community Service Building, Classroom 2. An orientation will be held May 17 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Child Care will not be provided for this session. Call 655-4227 for more information.

## 20 / Saturday

**"Sunset on the Beach"** — "Sunset on the Beach" is back with two great shows, May 20 and 21 on Queen's Surf Beach (across from the Honolulu Zoo). The Saturday movie is "What a Girl Wants" with stars Amanda Bynes, Colin Firth, Kelly Preston, Jonathan Pryce. Sunday, movie goers will be treated to "Yours, Mine and Ours" starring Dennis Quaid and Rene Russo.  
Food booths open at 4 p.m. Live entertainment starts at 5 p.m., and the movies will screen after sunset, approximately 7:15 p.m.

**Wahiawa Pineapple Festival** — Support Schofield Barracks' "outside the gate" neighbors at the 3rd Annual Wahiawa Pineapple Festival, May 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wahiawa District Park. Spotlighting the rich history of pineapple in Hawaii, the event

features a parade, pineapple-themed dishes, free narrated trolley tours of the Wahiawa area, keiki games and activities and live musical entertainment. Call 621-5663 for more information.

**Cooking Classes** — Shanghai Bistro in Discovery Bay continues its popular one-a-month series of Chinese fusion cooking classes with Chef Chih-Chieh Chang. Upcoming classes are Saturday, May 20 and Saturday, July 1.

Cooking classes begin at 10 a.m. at the restaurant, 1778 Ala Moana. Registration is \$35 per person, including the all-you-can-eat brunch with everything from dim sum to Peking duck, with advanced reservations required.

Call 955-8668 to sign up. Validated parking is available in the Discovery Bay Garage (enter from rear of building).

## 25 / Thursday

**50th State Fair** — Come check out the midway for four consecutive weekends at the Aloha Stadium parking lot. There will be lots of food, games, rides, and booths. The hours of operation are Fridays, 6 p.m.-midnight and Saturday and Sunday noon to midnight. The fair runs May 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29; June 2, 3, and 4; June 8, 9, 10, and 11; and June 16, 17 and 18. Tickets are \$3 general, \$2 children 4-11 and free for children under 3. Call 682-5767 for more information.

## 26 / Friday

**Waikiki Shell** — Don't miss Hootie and the Blowfish at the Waikiki Shell, 2805 Monsarrat Ave., Friday, May 26, at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets or online at <http://www.ticketmaster.com/section>.

## 27 / Saturday

**Drug Education for Youth** — DEFY, a self esteem-building program that provides kids with the tools they need to resist drugs, gangs, and alcohol, needs youth, junior and adult mentors. The deadline to be a part of this rewarding program is May 27 for mentors and junior mentors, ages 13- 18, and June 24 for youth, ages 9-12.  
For more information, e-mail [defy\\_nsga\\_](mailto:defy_nsga_)

[hawaii@yahoo.com](mailto:hawaii@yahoo.com) or call 655-3579, 655-3538 or 655-3391.

**Case-lot Sale** — The Schofield Barracks Commissary will have a case-lot sale in the commissary parking lot May 27-28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Items may be paid for at cash registers outside or at designated registers inside the store only. Cash, checks, or credit cards only are accepted as payment for case-lot items -- No debit or EBT cards.

**"Sunset on the Beach"** — "Sunset on the Beach" is back with two more great shows, May 27 and 28 on Queen's Surf Beach (across from the Honolulu Zoo). Saturday brings "Beyond the Break" (filmed in Makaha) with entertainment provided by ukulele artist Jake Shimabukuro. Sunday's movie will be "King Kong." Food booths open at 4 p.m. Live entertainment starts at 5 p.m., and the movies will screen after sunset, approximately 7:15 p.m.

## 28 / Sunday

**Aloha Stadium** — For the second year in a row, the Aloha Stadium Swap Meet will hold its "Aloha Show and Shine Car Show" on May 28, alongside the regular Swap Meet. The car show will feature over 100 cars, to include, classic cars, stock cars, choppers, fat boy bikes, funny cars, 4 x 4's, and low riders. Call 486-6704 for more information.

## 30 / Tuesday

**ThanksUSA Scholarships** — "ThanksUSA", a nonprofit organization, invites all children and spouses of military personnel to apply for one of nearly 1,000 scholarships of up to \$5,000 each for college, vocational and technical schools. Apply by May 30 to qualify. To learn more about the scholarship and/or to download the application, go to: <http://www.thanksusa.org/>. For more information, call 1-877-THX-USAS (1-877-849-8727) or send an e-mail to: [shintz@scholarshipamerica.org](mailto:shintz@scholarshipamerica.org).

**Ballet Hawaii** — Jim Hutchison, whose dance credits range from the "Pajama Game" to the movie version of "Hello, Dolly" with Barbra Streisand and whose directing proj-

ects include "Damn Yankees" invites aspiring tap dancers to his special six-week session at Ballet Hawaii. Hutchison will teach 12 lessons for beginning and intermediate students May 30 through July 7. The course is offered at Ballet Hawaii's studios on the second floor of the Dole Cannery and costs \$85.

For registration and information, call Hutchison at 941-9719.

## June 6 / Wednesday

**Employment Workshop** — Interested in obtaining Federal employment? Learn about job vacancy announcements, writing federal and electronic resumes, tracking applications and more. The workshop will be held Thursday, June 8 at Schofield Barracks ACS. Call 655-4227, to register.

The workshop will be held Wednesday, June 14 at Fort Shafter ACS from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. To register, call 438-9285.

## 10 / Saturday

**Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park** — Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park celebrates summer with the Kulcha Klash Music Festival and Da' FlowRider Summer Series Contest on Thursday, June 10 from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. More than 15 bands and 20 DJs will rock the house and other events include a half-pipe skate competition and FlowRider contest.

Pre-sale tickets for the event are \$18, tickets at the door are \$25. For more information or to register for the 2nd Annual FlowRider Summer Series contest, email [info@DaFlowRider.com](mailto:info@DaFlowRider.com) or call 674-WAVE, extension. 102.

## Ongoing

**Community Calendar Briefs** — If you have announcements of events you'd like to post in the *Hawaii Army Weekly*, e-mail the information to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com) at least two weeks in advance of your event or activity.

## This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater



**ATL (PG-13)**  
Friday, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, 7 p.m.



**Slither (R)**  
Saturday, 7 p.m.  
Thursday, 7 p.m.



**Basic Instinct 2 (R)**  
Sunday, 7 p.m.

The theater is closed Monday & Tuesday.

# Waikiki museum preserves history of Army in Hawaii

Story and Photos by  
**DONNA KLAPAKIS**  
Staff Writer

FORT DERUSSY — The former first line of coastal defense for Hawaii is now a museum.

The U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii at Fort DeRussy is on the site of a Taft-era artillery battery that was called Battery Randolph. It was established in 1911 with two 14-inch disappearing rifles, said Dorian Travers, museum specialist.

Travers said Battery Randolph was scheduled for destruction in 1970, but the construction was so strong that the wrecking ball did not destroy it. The building suffered damage, but it would not fall. Then the company that was scheduled to do the work went bankrupt. However, both disappearing rifles were cut up for scrap.

According to the museum notes, Oahu had another battery, Battery Dudley, which mounted 6-inch rifles, also on "disappearing" carriages. While the architecture of the two batteries was similar, Dudley's construction was not as strong. Battery Dudley fell to the wrecker's ball in 1970.

Battery Randolph was saved to become the Army Museum.

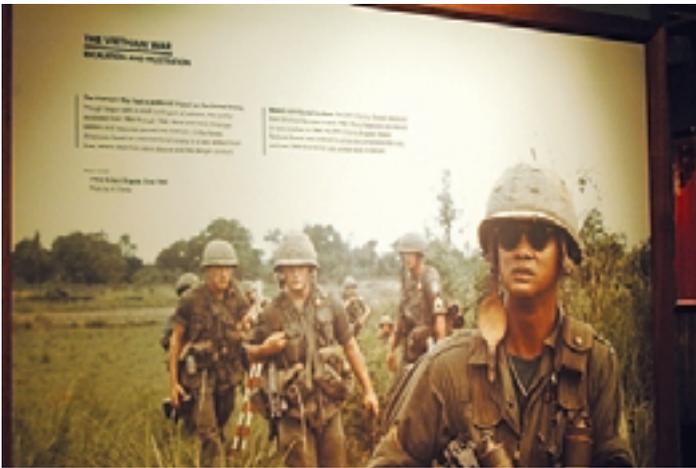
The museum was opened in 1976, and the site was listed on the historical register in 1984.

"The Army takes its history very seriously," said Travers. "The Center for Military History owns all the artifacts, approves the story lines, and funds the museum."

"There are 67 museums in the Army museum system," he said. "Other services don't have museum systems like ours."

Most of the exhibits are from donations of artifacts, but a nonprofit group, the Hawaii Army Museum Society, also helps out with purchases, Travers said.

Periods of time currently covered in exhibits are from first western contact in Hawaii through the Vietnam War. The museum is laid out in chronological order, with throwing stones as the first exhibit, and a canteen from Vietnam as the last, on



Above — Built in 1967, this AH-1G Cobra helicopter, sits atop the diamond-head side of the U.S. Army Museum in Waikiki. This type of helicopter saw extensive combat in Vietnam, and for 20 years afterwards in other operations around the world.

Left — The 25th Infantry Division along with Hawaii's National Guard and Army Reserves were active in the Vietnam War.

the ground floor.

An exhibit dedicated to Gen. Eric Shinseki, which is currently housed in the museum's temporary exhibit, will soon be moved to permanent part of the museum, said Travers.

The Hall of Heroes, with all Medal of Honor and Distinguished Service Cross and equivalent recipients from all services, who are or were from Hawaii, occupies

## Living History Day

Army Museum  
Fort DeRussy  
Saturday, May 20  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
For more information  
call 438-2821.

The museum will celebrate Armed Forces Day with static exhibits of military memorabilia, restored military vehicles, re-enactors in period uniforms, and hands-on displays of military artifacts.

Re-enactors will share the history behind vintage displays. The Celtic Pipes and Drums of Hawaii and the Tropic Lightning Band from the 25th Infantry Division will also perform.

Arrangements have been made for showing the classic war films "Tora, Tora, Tora," "From Here To Eternity" and "Midway."

the second floor of the museum.

Outdoors on the second floor are two 7-inch Naval guns that were originally mounted on the battleship USS New Hampshire in 1908, and an AH-1G Cobra attack helicopter.

If a group of 10 or more people gives advanced notice that they want a guided tour, Travers said, he will conduct a tour. "We don't advertise, but it's available," he said.

The museum will host its annual Living History Day featuring re-enactments from the Civil War to the present, May 20. "Few people realize that Americans walked around in these uniforms," Travers said.

Travers was the resident expert on the Falls of Clyde and Hanauma Bay museums, at which he worked before going to the Army Museum in 1995, he said. But with more than 10 years experience, "I'm the new guy here," he added.

# 94th AAMDC partners with Linapuni to raise funds

General dances 'Posiva,' while Soldiers dunk for elementary school dollars

Story and Photos by  
**AIKO BRUM**  
Managing Editor

KALIHI — "Dream big!" was the message City and County of Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann left with kids and grown-ups attending the Spring Fair at Linapuni Elementary School, May 12.

The mayor had joined Brig. Gen. John E. Seward, commander, 94th Army Air Missile Defense Command; District Court Judge Faauuga Tootoo, a Kalihi-native (like the mayor); and Soldiers from the 94th AAMDC — Linapuni's military partner in education — to support the school's annual fundraiser with manpower.

Dancing, ring toss and "fishing" games were among plentiful activities beckoning preschool through second graders throughout the half-day event on the school's grounds. A white elephant sale enticed adults to peruse and purchase bargain items on display in the cafeteria, and entertainment by Polynesian Cultural Center performers added to the excitement. However, judging by long lines, the 94th dunk tank was possibly the overall keiki favorite.

"It's cold the first time," said volunteer Sgt. 1st Class John Culver of 94th G-3 training, shivering. "You want to hold on, but you can't because you get stuck," he explained after taking his fair share of dunks.

"Our family readiness group paid for the rental," said Sgt 1st Class Russ Matteo, chaplain assistant for the 94th and military coordinator. "The Fort Shafter Thrift Shop was key in giving donations to the school for the white elephant sale."

Soldiers of the 94th have maintained an adopt-a-school partnership with Linapuni since January 2006. It allows them to mentor, read, assist with homework, provide labor, and supply classroom materials.

"Every Thursday we work with the A+ program [an after-school program that provides tutoring assistance, help for math club members, and enrichment activities], and we work with kids who need help," Matteo said. "These kids are cooperative and really seem to enjoy



Brig. Gen. John E. Seward, commander, 94th AAMDC, revels in the Samoan *fa'atau-pati*, or slap dance, as Fiti Sefo, a community-parent volunteer at Linapuni Elementary joins in on the dance with her own steps.



Above — Sgt. Moises Salgado of the 94th's G-3 plans and exercises, emerges from his dunking with a smile.

Left — Sgt. 1st Class Russ Matteo, 94th chaplain assistant and adopt-a-school liaison, anticipates his customer's aim.

having us here, which makes it that much more enjoyable."

Principal Helen Wong said she is most appreciative of the time investment Seward allows for the partnership.

She continued, "It has been a great advantage for us; the children benefit from seeing [Soldiers] around the campus, like Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

"The general has been very, very gracious in allowing them to come out ...

and bring in donations like school supplies, games and computers, but most valuable is the time they share with us," Wong emphasized.

The Parent Teacher Organization, with substantial help from teachers and staff, planned and coordinated the Spring Fair. Parent community network coordinator Jean Esteban arranged support with the 94th.

Esteban said Soldiers regularly assist as speakers at Career Day presentations and as individual givers to the "Tutu" outreach closet, an outreach community closet for families in need of food supplies and clothing, in addition to their Thursday volunteerism.

"Besides Soldiers, we don't get many volunteers, just staff and teachers," Esteban explained, adding that the 94th AAMDC has donated about \$4,000 in school supplies, computers and textbooks for classrooms since January, through the Joint Venture in Education Forum.

Regarding their partnership, Seward simply said, "Anything, for the kids."

Before organizers wrapped up festivities, the mayor, general and judge joined staff and students for several dances on the school's grounds. In keeping with Samoan tradition, onlookers left the shelter of their shade trees to drop many dollars in donations at the feet of the dancers, a Samoan fundraising custom called "Posiva."

At last tally, more than \$4,000 was raised from the food fair, game booths, white elephant sale and dances.

A beaming Seward, who donned traditional Samoan dress for his dance steps, said, "It's all in good fun."

Before he departed, Hannemann challenged students to "get as much education as possible, so you can grow up and help the city and nation."

He asked children to revere "the men and women who protect us," and then concluded, "Be proud of who you are ... who knows, some day you may grow up and take my place."



# Leaving no child behind

## Act gives parents more options, increases states' accountability

**DR. JULIA MYERS**  
*Contributing Writer*

While you've surely heard the words "No Child Left Behind," have you found yourself wondering just what these words mean?

The No Child Left Behind Act, signed into law in 2002, has expanded the federal role in education and set requirements in place that affect every public school in America.

The act authorizes a number of federal programs aimed at improving primary and secondary schools within the United States. It incorporates the following principles and strategies proposed by President Bush in his 2000 presidential campaign: increased accountability for states, school districts, and schools; more

### COMMENTARY

flexibility to state and local educational agencies in the use of federal education funds; the use of proven educational methods; and greater choice for parents.

Increased accountability means that states must have a plan for how they will ensure all students, including those who are disadvantaged, achieve academic proficiency. It also includes reporting annual progress toward this goal to parents and communities, and providing supplemental services to students and/or taking corrective actions if adequate progress is not made.

With more flexibility, states and districts are given greater room for choice with regard to programs, pro-

fessional development strategies, and the use of funds. This allows districts to best meet their individual needs for raising student achievement.

NCLB also emphasizes the use of proven educational methods – meaning programs and practices that have been proven, through scientific research, to be effective for improving student learning and achievement.

Finally, NCLB provides greater choice for parents, including the option to choose another public school for a child if that child's school needs improvement or is unsafe. Additionally, the laws require states and districts to provide information to enable families to make informed educational choices.

### What NCLB does for parents, children

NCLB has considerable implications for a child's education. Foremost, it aims to improve teaching and learning through the focus on teacher quality, educational programs and practices that work, and early childhood education.

Additionally, as part of the accountability process, children in every state are required by law to test in reading and math every year in grades 3-8 and at least once in high school. The results from these tests provide parents with knowledge about their child's progress as well as important information on the performance of their child's school.

Finally, it provides children and parents a lifeline from low-performing schools. If a child's school is low-performing and fails to make improvements, parents have

### About the writer

Julia Myers is an educational consultant and adjunct professor for Chaminade University. She holds a master's of arts in mathematics, a doctorate in curriculum and instruction, 16 years of teaching experience at every level from middle school to post-graduate and extensive experience with teacher professional development. Myers lives with her husband and four children at Schofield Barracks.



options to ensure that their child receives high-quality education, including transferring from one public school to another, or receiving supplemental educational services, such as free tutoring, after-school programs or remedial classes.

To learn more about No Child Left Behind, visit <http://www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml>. A large amount of information about the act, as well as links to various federal, state and local resources are available at this website. For particulars on No Child Left Behind in the state of Hawaii, visit <http://doe.k12.hi.us/nclb/index.htm>.

### No child left behind

When I think of the phrase, "No Child Left Behind" I think of children I've seen throughout the years that have slipped through the proverbial educational cracks.

I remember the kids who, after years of slowly falling more and more behind, finally dropped out of school. And, I remember teachers who seemed to expect and encourage excellence out of some students and, sadly, mediocrity out of others.

### Handy terms for understanding NCLB

The following terms are fundamental to understanding the policies of No Child Left Behind. Their definitions were taken from the website for No Child Left Behind (<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/overview/intro/parents/parentfacts.html>).

- Title I – This component of NCLB supports programs in schools and school districts to improve the learning of children from low-income families. The U.S. Department of Education provides Title I funds to states to give to school districts based on the number of children from low-income families in each district.
- State Assessments – Tests developed by each state that children will take every year in grades 3-8 and at least once in high school. Using these tests, states will be able to compare schools to each other and know which ones need extra help to improve.
- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) – The term used to explain that a school has met state reading and math goals. A school district's report card will let you know whether or not a school has made AYP.
- School in Need of Improvement – A school receiving Title I funds that has not met state reading and math goals (AYP) for at least two years. If a school is labeled a "school in need of improvement," it receives extra help to improve and children have the option to transfer to another public school, including a public charter school. Also, children may be eligible to receive free tutoring and extra help with schoolwork.
- Supplemental Educational Services (SES) – The tutoring and extra help with schoolwork in subjects such as reading and math that children from low-income families may be eligible to receive. This help is provided free of charge and generally takes place outside the regular school day, such as after school or during the summer.
- Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) – A teacher who proves that he or she knows the subjects he or she is teaching, has a college degree, and is state-certified. NCLB requires that each core academic subject is taught by a Highly Qualified Teacher.

As with all programs of political origin, No Child Left Behind is the subject of controversy. However, if one simply considers the words "No Child Left Behind," the meaning is undoubtedly hopeful, if not an ideal aspiration for our educational system.



## May

### 19 / Friday

**Hawaii Championship Wrestling Main Event** — Hawaii Championship Wrestling presents Samoa Joe of Total Nonstop Action Wrestling fame at the Tropics, May 19. Doors open at 6 p.m. and matches start at 7 p.m.

The cost is \$10 for ages 12 and up, \$5 for ages 11 and under, and free for children ages 5 and under. Call 655-5697 for more information.

### 20 / Saturday

**Junior Olympic Skills Competition** — Presented by Army Child and Youth Services Youth Sports, Junior Olympics skills is a free program for boys and girls ages 8 to 12. Each participant has the opportunity to showcase their skills in basketball, soccer, rapid rally tennis, and track and field. Sign ups on site at Tripler Army Medical Center Track and Softball Field, May 20, 9 am to noon for soccer, tennis, track and field and 10 a.m. to noon for basketball. For more information, call 839-2675 or 836-1923.

**Hawaii Weightlifting Competition** — USA Team Hawaii Weightlifting is at the Tropics, May 20, beginning at 1 p.m. The competition is free. Call 655-5697 for more information.

### 21 / 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.

### 23 / Tuesday

**Youth Soccer** — Get ready to

score with the Hawaii Youth Sports Soccer League. May 23 is the last day to register and registration is at CYS Registration, Building 556, Schofield Barracks or at Aliamanu Military Reservation, Building 1782.

The league is open to youth born from 2001 to 1990. Fees are \$40 per person and a physical exam is required. The soccer season will run from July 29 through Sept. 16.

For more information, call 836-1923 (AMR), 438-9336 (Fort Shafter), 655-6465 (Schofield Barracks) or 655-0883 (Wheeler/Helemano Military Reservation).

### 27 / Saturday

**Hawaii Championship Wrestling** — Come watch Hawaii Championship Wrestling at the Tropics, May 27. Doors open at 6 p.m. and matches start at 7 p.m.

The cost is \$5 for ages 12 and up, \$3 for ages 11 and under and free for children ages 5 and under. Call 655-5697 for more information.

## June

### 12 / Monday

**Summer Junior Golf Program** — Registration is ongoing for the 2006 Summer Junior Golf program to be held June 12 through July 24. The program is open to all active duty military and retired military family members and civilian family members with a golf association membership. Junior golfers must be 7 years old by June 12 and may not be older than 17 by July 24. Separate sessions for beginner, intermediate, and advanced players will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays. For more information, call 655-4653.

### 28 / Wednesday

**Summer Soccer Clinic** — Youths born between 1990 and 2001 are invited to register for the Summer Soccer Clinic, conducted by Hawaii Pacific University soccer coach Mark Kane. The cost is \$12 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is open now through June

14 at your nearest Army youth center. The clinic will be held at AMR Field, June 28 from 4 to 6 p.m. and at Watts Field, Schofield Barracks, June 29, 4 to 6 p.m.

For more information contact call 836-1923 (AMR), 438-9336 (Fort Shafter), 655-6465 (Schofield Barracks), or 655-0883 (Helemano Military Reservation).

## Ongoing

**Karate Classes** — Hawaii Okinawa Karate Do Shodukan classes are offered at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center Thursdays from 6 to 7:45 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 to 2:45 p.m.

Karate helps develop character, confidence, health and self-discipline, which are all admirable qualities.

Contact instructor Joseph Bunch at 488-4495 for additional information.

**SKIES Movement Center** — Do you have a love for the performing arts? If so, classes that feature creativity, cooperation, confidence, and self-expression are available at the SKIES movement center.

Classes include street dance, introduction to dance, hula and ukulele. Look for ballet and junior hip hop in January.

All classes cost \$33 per month or \$99 per semester. For additional information, call 655-5525.

**Mizuno Club Fitting** — Make an appointment with PGA professional Lou Merkle to schedule custom fitting of golf clubs or individual lessons to improve your game. Call 438-9587 to make an appointment or obtain more information.

**Scuba Classes** — Scuba class provides individuals with an opportunity to earn their PADI certification during two weekends for only \$175.

Instruction is held on Saturday and Sunday at various locations depending on class content and skills being taught.

Call 655-0143 for more information.



# VA helps veterans fight obesity, diabetes

ARMY NEWS SERVICE  
News Release

FORT MONROE, Va. — The Secretary of Veterans Affairs recently announced the launch of a national campaign to help veterans and their families tailor their diets and exercise programs toward a healthy lifestyle.

"Good nutrition and physical activity can help millions of Americans preserve the independence that would be threatened by diabetes and being overweight," said the Honorable R. James Nicholson. "We want everyone to know that they can act now, before it is too late, and VA has the tools to help."

The new health care assessment is part of a campaign called MOVE (Managing Obesity/Overweight for Veterans Everywhere), which is part of the HealthierUS [sic] Veterans program sponsored by the Departments of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Health and Human Services (HHS) to reduce obesity and diabetes, a disease often associated with being overweight.

The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that 70 percent of its patients are overweight, compared to 64 percent of the U.S. population overall. Diabetes also affects a greater percentage of veter-

ans in VA's health care than the general U.S. population.

Patients enrolled in VA's health care program can complete an interactive online questionnaire about their health status, nutrition and exercise. Users then receive a custom report with health information and instructions for follow up with the staff of a VA medical center.

"Our prescription for America's veterans is simple," said Dr. Jonathan B. Perlin, VA's under secretary for health. "We want them to eat healthy, be active and get fit for life. Their service in uniform

On The WEB

<http://www.move.va.gov/>

taught veterans what it takes to achieve a high level of fitness. We're helping them stay that way."

People not enrolled in VA's health care program can also log onto the MOVE Web site and answer the questions for an individualized report giving suggestions for changes in eating and exercise habits.

Nicholson said VA medical centers nationwide are starting an aggressive effort to counsel and follow up with patients who express interest in managing their weight.

# Study targets prevention of low back pain

**ELAINE WILSON**  
Army News Service

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas – The Army, in partnership with the University of Florida, is preparing to launch a study in August aimed at the prevention of low back pain, a medical condition that affects more than 150,000 active-duty Soldiers annually.

With a goal of 4,800 participants, the study will be one of the largest of its kind ever conducted, study investigators said.

“Low back pain is an epidemic problem in the Army and society as a whole,” said Air Force Maj. John Childs, co-principal investigator for the study and assistant professor and director of research in the U.S. Army-Baylor University Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy at the Army Medical Department Center and School.

“We need to decrease costs, not just monetary costs for health care, but the cost of lost man hours, decreased readiness and disability,” he said.

## Sit-up debate

For the study, investigators will test a theory that core stabilization exercises, such as those used in Pilates, are an effective low back pain preventive. In the process, they hope to solve an ongoing debate over the effectiveness and safety of traditional exercises.

“Traditional Army training consists of push-ups and sit-ups; however, there have been many debates arguing that sit-ups are not the best exercise,” Childs said.

Anatomically, sit-ups strengthen the stomach but not the side or back, said Maj. Deydre Teyhen, study investigator

and assistant professor in the U.S. Army-Baylor University Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy. On the other hand, core stabilization exercises not only strengthen the abdominals, but also the trunk and lower back.

“Evidence suggests people who have back pain and do core stabilization exercises have less back pain down the road,” Childs said.

## Soldier contribution

To take a shot at solving the sit-up vs. core stabilization debate, the Army will solicit volunteer Soldiers, all advanced individual training students from the 232nd Medical Battalion at Fort Sam Houston, for the four-year study.

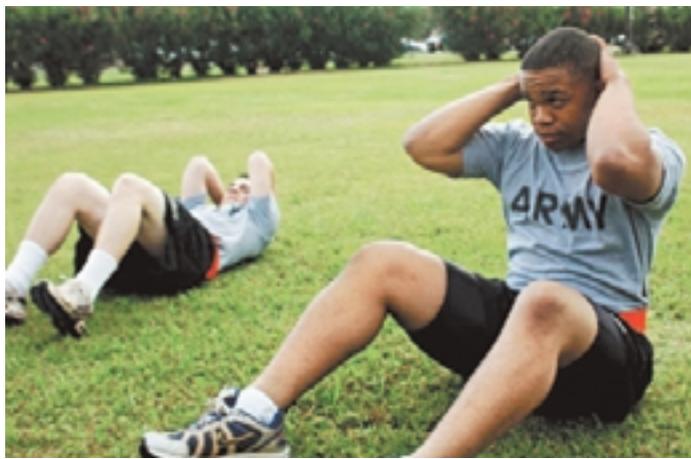
“It’s a perfect population,” Childs said. “Most AIT Soldiers are young and never had back pain. Being military, they will be easier to follow-up with once they leave here.”

Half of the Soldiers will continue doing traditional physical training exercises, while the other half will PT with core stabilization exercises. To keep disruption at a minimum, only five minutes of PT time will be affected.

## Thoughts on pain

In conjunction with the physical study, investigators also will launch a psychological study that will examine the study participants’ beliefs about pain.

“The way people cope with pain, their beliefs about pain, can actually prolong it,” said Dr. Steven George, assistant professor of physical therapy at the University of Florida.



Pfc. Kyndal Hernandez | 25th ID Public Affairs

Pvt 2. John Bell does sit ups during morning physical training session on Sills Field.

George uses back injury patients as an example.

“If you take two people, both with equal back injuries, the person with the pessimistic thoughts, such as fear of pain and re-injury, will most likely report more pain than the person with a positive outlook,” he said.

“In some ways, we’ve overmedicated back pain,” said Childs. “However, only 10 percent of back pain leads to surgery; otherwise, it usually resolves on its own.”

To test the power of positive vs. negative thinking, the psychological component of the study will run parallel to the physical. Soldiers will get the facts about

back pain and their belief systems will be measured through a series of questionnaires.

The psychological study will split the Soldiers, already split into two groups for purposes of exercise, into a total of four groups of 1,200 Soldiers each.

The first group will combine core stabilization exercises with the psychological education program, the second will do the core stabilization exercises without the education, the third will do the traditional exercises with education, and the fourth will do traditional exercises without education.

Teyhen will also conduct physical exams on 10 percent of the participants, using ultrasound to view trunk muscles.

“Part of the study is to determine how trunk muscles are related to low back pain,” she said.

While the other components of the study focus on prevention, Teyhen’s portion looks at the underlying cause of back pain since “90 percent of the time, we don’t know what causes back pain,” she said.

## Final outcome

The study will last the duration of the Soldiers’ schooling, which is about 12 weeks. Follow-up will continue until participant hits a two-year mark. Follow-up consists of logging onto a Web site to answer a series of questionnaires.

The study will wrap up in about four years, at which time the investigators are hoping to solve the PT puzzle and provide military leaders with some concrete results about low back pain prevention.

“Our goal is to reduce back pain,” Childs said. “We believe there is a potential that core stabilization will help prevent future low back pain. If traditional sit-ups prove harmless, than at least we can end the debates.”

At the same time, “We also hope to determine how best to conduct training in the Department of Defense and minimize risk of injury,” he said.

*(Editor’s Note: Elaine Wilson writes for the Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office.)*