

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

Vol. 34 No. 21

Serving the U.S. Army community in Hawaii

May 27, 2005

What's Inside

Commentary A-2
News Briefs A-4
Army News A-12
MWR B-2
Sports B-10

Memorial Day Observances

The 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, will conduct a Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony at the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery on Monday at 11:30 a.m.

The uniform for this observance is Class B with awards and decorations, for military personnel, and aloha attire for spouses and civilians. Call Sgt. Maj. Class Stampley, G-3 Operations, at 655-8711 for more information.

Elsewhere, Mayor Mufi Hannemann will preside over Memorial Day services at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Punchbowl at 9 a.m., and Governor Linda Lingle will preside over services at the Memorial Plaza of the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe starting at 1 p.m.



2nd Brigade leadership changes

A-3

Honolulu Zoo

The Honolulu Zoo is the place to be June 4, beginning at 10 a.m., for Military Appreciation Day. USO-Hawaii, in cooperation with the City and County of Honolulu, the Honolulu Zoological Society and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, is inviting all military personnel and families with military ID cards to enter free.

The first 5,000 will receive a free picnic lunch; all can enjoy lots of music and keiki activities.



Sunset in the Park

B-1

AUSA Golf

The Association of the United States Army will host its AUSA Welcome Home Golf Tournament at Leilehua Golf Course, June 3 at 12 p.m.

For more details, contact Sgt. Maj. Baumgarten at 655-4700.

Joint training projected to increase

Story and Photo by
Sgt. Sean Kimmons
Editor

WHEELER ARMY AIR FIELD — As the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, takes on the enormous task of transformation in the coming years, the need for more joint training will prove to be vital.

Last week, Soldiers from Guam National Guard's Company B, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, conducted a joint air assault operation here, in preparation for their yearlong deployment to the Horn of Africa later this

month.

The operation incorporated the support of Kaneohe Bay Marines, who provided CH-53 Sea Stallion helicopters for rotary extraction and insertion during the training of the National Guardsmen. A Coast Guard C-130 was also involved to transport personnel who portrayed downed air crew members as part of the operation.

"That's what its all about — being able to integrate and synchronize joint force capabilities in support of a ground force commander," said Brig. Gen. John M. "Mick" Bednarek, the assistant division commander of Operations

for the 25th ID (L) and USARHAW.

Bednarek said that these types of operations, which include assistance from other military branches, will not only better prepare the Guam Soldiers for their overseas deployment but also Division and USAR-HAW Soldiers who will participate in future joint operations.

"The more we understand sister service capabilities and their limitations is important, so when we're out on the ground we're not seeing those types of things for the first time," Bednarek said. "That's why we are going to push for additional joint training opportunities here in the Pacific, to ensure that our

forces are trained and ready."

Bednarek said he is optimistic that the recent joint air assault operation will be the foundation in building a strong joint collaboration for future operations.

"One of our key challenges in the future as we go through the transformation to a modular formation here in the 25th Infantry Division will be the joint transportation to our collective training areas.

"So, the expectation and the goal of what we have done, recently, will become the norm for all of our brigade, battalion, company and

See "Training," page A-7

Survey examines schools

By U.S. Pacific command
Press Release

Military families of the approximately 15,000 children in Hawaii public schools who received a customer satisfaction survey via mail in late April must complete them by this Tuesday.

The results of this survey will be compared to the previous three years of results, in order to determine the impact of initiatives by the Joint Venture Education Forum, individual schools and the Hawaii Department of Education.

Strategic Research Group mailed the surveys to parents in the military who have children in Hawaii public schools, as well as to students in grades 5 through 12. All parents and students can also access the survey at www.websrg.com/hawaii/schools.

Education of military children is one of the top quality of service issues in the U.S. Pacific Command. In the past, the views of military families in Hawaii regarding the quality of Hawaii's public schools have varied considerably, but the previous years' surveys have shown marked improvements in the perceptions of Hawaii public schools.

"The thoughtful, accurate data you provide will help USPACOM and the Hawaii DOE measure progress on our established priorities," said Admiral William J. Fallon, commander, U.S. Pacific Command.

(Editor's Note: Call Dr. Allen Awaya at 477-2543 for more information.)

Coming home



Photos by Sgt. Stephanie L. Carl

FORD ISLAND — Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, and Division Support Command, unload more than 700 pieces of equipment from the decks of the Merchant Vessel Cape Hudson. The vessel docked next to the USS Utah Memorial at Ford Island, May 18, after sailing from Kuwait where equipment was loaded. Soldiers with the 25th Infantry Division (Light) used the equipment when serving in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom the past year.

Army lends support to combat Nanakuli brush fires

By Sgt. Sean Kimmons
Editor

When the Nanakuli wildfire approached Puu Palikea near the Waianae Mountain ridgeline more than two weeks ago, natural resource biologists from the Directorate of Public Works went out to the area to protect endangered tree snails and plant species.

The Army biologists hiked into the Puu Palikea, which is part of the Honouliuli Preserve, to assist the Nature Conservancy clear vegetation in order to reduce fuel loads around sensitive habitats.

Fortunately, due to the efforts from firefighters, the wildfire stopped about 1,500 meters away from the preserve that is home to nearly 70 rare and endangered plant and animal species.

The wildfire was reportedly extinguished on May 17 and destroyed 2,500 acres since it initially began on May 11.

As a result of the wildfire's flare up over its first night between Nanakuli and Lualualei, "the Army contracted a helicopter and crew to



Eugene Tanner, Courtesy of the Honolulu Advertiser

Firefighters from the Honolulu Fire Department battle a brush fire in Waianae May 14. The fire came close to homes near the intersection of Leihoku and Hokuukali Street.

perform airborne water drops around the sensitive area," said Michelle Mansker, the natural resource manager for DPW.

The primary mission of the contracted helicopter was to shield Puu Palikea from the

destruction of the wildfire, but after its surrounding area was contained the helicopter helped drop water in other affected areas.

Army funds helped pay for the helicopter, since the Nature Conservancy and the Army manage the snails and plants at this site as part of mitigation measures meant to reduce the effects of military training at Makua Military Reservation, Mansker said.

"These populations are integral to the ultimate goal of reaching stabilization for these species," Mansker said. "Stabilization is a term used in the Makua Implementation Plan, a comprehensive natural resource management plan developed for MMR species."

Stabilization also entails managing all outside threats to the populations such as feral pigs, goats and sheep; non-native plants; non-native mammals and invertebrates; threats to the populations caused by loss of genetic diversity by the decrease in the numbers of plants in the wild; and overall ecosystem health issues, Mansker added.

See "Fire," page A-7

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

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

OPINION & COMMENTARY

Rumsfeld regards military service as a 'noble calling'

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense



Rumsfeld

each of you and your families for your service to our country.

When my father passed away some 30 years ago, I found a letter in his papers that he had received from then Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal — who later became the first secretary of defense.

Secretary Forrestal apparently sent this letter to all those who served to arrive after they had returned to civilian life. Noting the historic achievements made by the U.S. military, he wrote: "You have served in the greatest Navy in the world.

"... It crushed two enemy fleets at once, receiving their surrenders only four months apart. It brought our land-based air power within bombing range of the enemy and set our ground armies on the beachheads of final victory.

"... For your part in these achievements you deserve to be proud as long as you live. The nation you served at a time of crisis will remember you with gratitude."

That letter to my father now hangs on my office wall in the Pentagon. It is a reminder to me of our country's fighting spirit. And I see that same spirit in the actions of the men and women in uniform every day.

It is that spirit that we honor on this holiday: the selfless duty and devotion passed down from generations who served before, and the courage of those who sacrificed their lives in service to our country.

Our country is proud of every member of our armed forces — volunteers all — and we are deeply grateful to those who have sacrificed for the cause of liberty.

I am pleased to join millions of Americans in honoring the brave men and women in uniform — those who serve today, those who have fallen in battle and those veterans who proudly served in the past.

My father volunteered to serve in the Navy after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Millions enlisted to battle against the tide of tyranny then threatening the world. And I was privileged to serve in the Navy some 50 years ago.

Now, more than 50 years later, I count my time in uniform as a most important period in my life. Thousands, if not millions, of others who have served undoubtedly feel the same way.

Military service has always been one of our country's most noble callings. America has long been the defender of liberty — the country that has stepped forward to defend those who could not defend themselves. This was true from our country's early days at Lexington and Concord, where the earliest citizen Soldiers defended their farms and homes, their new country and the cause of freedom.

In the years that followed, the U.S. armed forces have become freedom's champion — at Gettysburg, in the forest of the Argonne, on the beaches of Normandy and Iwo Jima, in the air during the Berlin blockade, and today in places like Kabul and Baghdad.

This new war we face has required our military to adapt its thinking, and challenged us to prepare in new ways. Yet, whatever the mission, whatever the challenge that lies before us, each of you who are serving our country are confronting it with grit and courage. I thank

The legislature must do all that's possible to support troops here

By Representative Ken Ito
(District 48, Kaneohe)

As a U.S. Air Force veteran, and also as the chair of the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee in the State House of Representatives, it's my mission to make sure that the Legislature does everything possible to support our troops.

We are all beneficiaries of their courageous and dedicated service, and the State bears a special responsibility to help them and their families, as well as to honor their memory.

Earlier this year, the State House and Senate unveiled a Military Appreciation Package of bills, all of which were introduced to address the many challenges facing our military personnel, particularly the disruption to their lives during deployment. The Legislature

passed six bills, five resolutions, over \$2.2 million in programs and services over the next two years, and over \$26 million in capital improvement funds to build or improve facilities.

The highlight of the 2005 Military Appreciation Package is the establishment of the Hawaii Medal of Honor, which will serve as the symbol of our deepest appreciation and gratitude for the men and women who sacrificed their lives while courageously defending our country.

So many of our Hawaii military personnel have demonstrated incredible acts of bravery to protect and defend America. The Governor signed the bill into law as Act 21. Eighty-five service members with Hawaii ties have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2003 and

See "Medal of Honor," page A-7

On behalf of a grateful nation...

We will never forget our 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, Soldiers who lost their lives fighting the Global War on Terrorism:

- Pfc. John D. Amos; Valparaiso, Ind.; Co. C, 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt.; April 4, 2004
- Pfc. Lionel Ayro; Jeanerette, La.; 73rd Eng. Co.; Dec. 21, 2004
- Sgt. Maj. Barbaralien Banks; Harvey, La.; HHB, DIVARTY; April 6, 2005
- 1st Sgt. Michael J. Bordelon; Morgan City, La.; 1-24th Inf. Rgt.; May 10, 2005
- Chief Warrant Officer 3 William I. Brennan; Bethlehem, Conn.; 1st Bn, 25th Avn. Rgt.; Oct. 16, 2004
- Spc. Jonathan Castro; Corona, Calif.; 73rd Eng. Co.; Dec. 21, 2004
- Sgt. Anthony J. Davis Jr.; Long Beach, Calif.; 1-24th Inf. Rgt.; April 23, 2005
- Spc. Isaac E. Diaz; Rio Hondo, Texas; Co. B, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf. Rgt.; Dec. 1, 2004
- Spc. Thomas K. Doerflinger; Silver Spring, Md.; 1st Bn., 24th Inf. Rgt.; Nov. 11, 2004
- 1st Lt. William A. Edens; Columbia, Mo.; 1-5th Inf. Rgt.; April 28, 2005
- Spc. Kyle Ka Eo Fernandez; Waipahu, Hawaii; Co. C, 2nd Bn., 5th Inf. Rgt.; Oct. 15, 2004
- Cpl. Jacob R. Fleischer; St. Louis, Mo.; Co. C, 2nd Bn, 5th Inf. Rgt.; Nov. 24, 2004
- Pfc. Jose Ricardo Flores-Mejia; Santa Clarita, Calif.; 25th Trans, 524 CSB, 45th CSG; Nov. 16, 2004
- Sgt. Dale E. Fracker Jr.; Apple Valley, Calif.; Co. C, 2nd Bn, 5th Inf. Rgt.; Nov. 24, 2004
- Cpl. David M. Fraise; New Orleans, La.; Co. A, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt.; June 7, 2004
- Sgt. Daniel Lee Galvan; Moore, Okla.; 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Rgt.; Aug. 12, 2004
- Spc. Clinton R. Gertson; Houston, Texas; 1-24th Inf. Rgt.; Feb. 19, 2005
- Cpl. Billy Gomez; Perris, Calif.; HHC, 2nd Bn, 27th Inf. Rgt.; Oct. 27, 2004
- Staff Sgt. Donald D. Griffith Jr.; Mechanicsville, Iowa; 2-14th Cav. Rgt.; Mar. 11, 2005
- Chief Warrant Officer 2 Travis W. Grogan; Moore, Okla.; C Troop 3-4 Cav. Rgt.; Nov. 30, 2004
- Sgt. Frank B. Hernandez; Phoenix, Ariz.; 2nd Sqn, 14th Cav. Rgt.; Feb. 17, 2005
- Spc. Joseph F. Herndon II; Derby, Kansas; 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt.; July 29, 2004
- Staff Sgt. Brian S. Hobbs; Mesa, Ariz.; HHC, 2nd Bn., 5th Inf. Rgt.; Oct. 15, 2004
- 1st Lt. Nainoa K. Hoe; Kailua, Hawaii; Co. C, 3-21st Inf. Rgt.; Jan. 22, 2005
- Capt. William W. Jacobsen Jr.; Charlotte, N.C.; 1st Bn, 24th Inf. Rgt.; Dec. 21, 2004
- Capt. Christopher B. Johnson; Excelsior Springs, Mo.; 1st Bn, 25th Avn. Rgt.; Oct. 16, 2004
- Staff Sgt. Robert S. Johnson; Castro Valley, Calif.; 1st Bn, 24th Inf. Rgt.; Dec. 21, 2004
- Master Sgt. Brian A. Mack; Phoenix, Ariz.; 3-21st Inf. Rgt.; Jan. 13, 2005
- Spc. David P. Mahlenbrock; Maple Shade, N.J.; Co. B, 65th Eng. Bn.; Dec. 3, 2004
- Master Sgt. Edwin A. Matoscolon; Puerto Rico' HHB, DIVARTY; April 6, 2005
- Spc. Daniel James McConnell; Duluth, Minn.; Co. C, 1st Bn, 27th Inf. Rgt.; Nov. 16, 2004
- Lt. Col. Michael J. McMahon; Conn.; HHT, 3rd Sqn, 4th Cav. Rgt.; Nov. 30, 2004
- Staff Sgt. Julian S. Melo; Brooklyn, N.Y.; 1st Bn, 5th Inf. Rgt.; Dec. 21, 2004
- Spc. Harley D. Miller; Spokane, Wash.; B Troop 3-4 Cav. Rgt.; Nov. 30, 2004
- Sgt. David A. Mitts; Hammond, Ore.; Co. A, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt.; Dec. 4, 2004
- Maj. Horst G. Moore; San Antonio, Texas; 1st Bn., 24th Inf. Rgt.; Nov. 9, 2004
- Sgt. Eric W. Morris; Sparks, Nev.; 1-5th Inf. Rgt.; April 28, 2005
- Sgt. Benjamin C. Morton; Wright, Kan.; 1-24th Inf. Rgt.; May 22, 2005
- Staff Sgt. Todd E. Nunes; Chapel Hills, Tenn.; 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt.; April 4, 2004
- Spc. Ramon C. Ojeda; Ramona, Calif.; 84th Eng. Bn.; May 1, 2004
- Sgt. Adam J. Plumondore; Gresham, Ore.; 1-24th Inf. Rgt.; Feb. 16, 2005
- Sgt. Kenneth Levi Ridgley; Olney, Ill.; 3-21st Inf. Rgt.; Mar. 30, 2005
- Pfc. Oscar Sanchez; Modesto, Calif.; 1st Bn, 24th Inf. Rgt.; Dec. 29, 2004
- Sgt. Stephen R. Sherman; Neptune, N.J.; 1-5th Inf. Rgt.; Feb. 3, 2005
- Staff Sgt. Juan M. Solorio; Dallas, Texas; 3-21st Inf. Rgt.; Mar. 4, 2005
- Pfc. Ernest Sutphin; Parkersburg, W.Va.; 2nd Bn., 11th FA Rgt.; March 18, 2004
- Sgt. Nathan P. Swindell; Bronx, N.Y.; 1-24th Inf. Rgt.; Jan. 15, 2005
- Staff Sgt. Ioasa F. Tavae Jr.; Pago Pago, American Samoa; 1-5th Inf. Rgt.; April 2, 2005
- Cpl. Joseph C. Thibodeaux III; Lafayette, La.; 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt.; Sept. 1, 2004
- Staff Sgt. Salamo J. Tuialuulu; Pago Pago, American Samoa; Co. A, 3rd Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt.; Dec. 4, 2004
- Staff Sgt. Darren D. VanKomen; Bluefield, W.Va.; 2nd Sqn, 14th Cav. Rgt.; Dec. 21, 2004
- Staff Sgt. Oscar D. Vargas-Medina; Chicago, Ill.; 84th Eng. Bn.; May 1, 2004
- Spc. Phillip Whitkowski; Dunkirk, N.Y.; 3rd Bn., 7th FA Rgt.; May 1, 2004

Voices of Lightning: "What qualities do you especially admire in a leader?"



"...A leader that's concerned about the welfare of their Soldiers, because a leader without Soldiers isn't a leader."

Sgt. James Smeiser
Co. C, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.
Team Leader



"Honesty. It's always good to know the truth up front."

Master Sgt. Tim Boehm
HHC, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.
Operations NCO



"Professionalism. A leader that leads by example, knows his job and looks out for his Soldiers."

Pfc. Paul Tejada
Btry. B, 3rd Bn., 7th FA
Cannon Crew Member



"Selflessness. Leaders need to put Soldiers' needs before their own."

WO William Kilgore
1st Bn., 25th Avn. Rgt.
Pilot



"Loyalty. ...To know that a noncommission officer will work hard and help you to get the mission done."

Spc. Wuendy Ocampo
HHC, DISCOM
S-3 Operations Specialist

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,

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

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.

If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer will refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

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.

Commander

Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson

Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Stacy M. Bathrick

Command Information Officer

Ed Aber-Song

Managing Editor

Aiko Brum

Editor

Sgt. Sean Kimmons

Staff Writers

Joy Boisselle

Sgt. Stephanie Carl, 17th PAD

Spc. Chris Stump, 17th PAD

Spc. Cheryl Ransford, 17th PAD

Spc. Dijon Rolle, 17th PAD

Layout

Sueann Carter

Editorial Office: 655-4816/8728

Fax: 655-9290

E-mail: e-mail the HAW direct at editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com or

editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

Address: Public Affairs Office

Bldg. 580, Stop 215

Schofield Barracks, HI 96857

Web site:

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

Advertising: 521-9111

New 'Warrior' chief



Sgt. Sean Kimmons

Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson (middle left), commander of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, passes the 2nd "Warrior" Brigade guidon to Col. Stefan J. Banach, incoming commander, during the brigade change of command ceremony, Wednesday, on Sills Field, Schofield Barracks. For more coverage on the ceremony, refer to next week's Hawaii Army Weekly.

Division Soldier wins DoD journalist award

Compiled by the Public Affairs Office
25th Infantry Division (Light)

A journalist from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) recently won first place in a Department of Defense journalism competition for a news story he wrote for the Hawaii Army Weekly last year.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen, who is currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, won first place in the Pacific Region and Department of the Army Keith L. Ware Journalism Competitions.

First place winners from

the DA competition were then forwarded to DoD where they competed against winners from the other military branches.

"It never really affected me because I'm not into awards like this," Rhen said about his recognition. "Don't get me wrong," he continued, "it's cool to get recognized with this award, but that's not why I do what I do. I like being a journalist because it gives me a chance to hang out with other Soldiers and tell their story."

Rhen also said the best reward he gets from his job is when Soldiers come up to him and tell him how they, or

their family, saw themselves in the paper or Internet.

"I like to [give] Soldiers whose jobs are more difficult than mine their 15 minutes of fame," he said.

Rhen, who was the editor of the Hawaii Army Weekly when he compiled the story, wrote about Soldiers of the 25th ID (L) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, deploying to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"It was the start of the biggest deployment for the Division since Vietnam, so it was like watching Division history happen," Rhen said about his story. "It was also sad because I had to watch some Soldiers say goodbye to their families before they left," he added.

Rhen, a 29-year-old Lebanon, Pa., native who will have served in the Army for seven years this August, joined the service after graduating from Penn State with a Journalism major and an English minor.

"The Army offered a job in what I went to school for, and it seemed like a good way to get some experience and pay off my bills," Rhen said.

Rhen and the rest of the Division Artillery Soldiers are scheduled to be back in Hawaii early June.



Courtesy Photo

Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen (left) interacts with some Afghan kids while out on a story assignment.

2005 Military Appreciation bills posted

House of Representatives,
State of Hawaii
News Release

Members of the State Legislature unveiled the final package of successful bills, resolutions and appropriations in support and appreciation of Hawaii's military community.

"As a beneficiary of their courageous and dedicated service, the State bears a special responsibility toward United States forces," said the release. "The pieces of legislation that comprise the Military Appreciation Bill Package address some of the many challenges facing our military personnel and their families."

The Medal of Honor

HB 8 establishes criteria for the Hawaii Medal of Honor for military personnel with Hawaii ties killed in action since 2003. (Takai)

Education

HB 115 requires the University of Hawaii to establish a program to allow readmission to military members who have been deployed. (Ito)

HB 100 provides \$460,000 for each of the next two years for the Hawaii 3Rs Program. (Say)

SCR 70 requests Hawaii's Congressional delegation to re-evaluate the Department of Defense Enlistment Policy for Homeschoolers. (Sakamoto)

National Guard and Reserves

HB 100 provides \$400,000 for each of the next two years to fund the Tuition Assistance Program for eligible members of the Hawaii National Guard. The bill also provides \$250,000 for an event to thank our troops for their service. (Say)

HB 115 authorizes the State to deposit the uniform maintenance allowance into a financial institution account designated by an enlisted member of the National Guard. (Ito)

HB 295 relaxes license restoration requirements for DCCA licensees who are deployed during state or national crisis. (Takai)

SR 104 urges the Congress of the United States to authorize and appro-

priate funds to allow all members of the Armed Forces Reserve Component to Access the TRICARE Program. (Sakamoto)

HR 228 recognizes the contributions of the Hawaii Chapter of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. (Takai)

Memorials and Veterans

HB 115 appropriates \$187,450 for casket liners and to address the soil problems at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery. (Ito)

HB 1029 appropriates \$30,000 for each of the next two years to publish a Hawaii Veterans' newsletter. (Kawakami)

SB 1378 designates the path from Halawa landing to Waipahu as the Pearl Harbor Historic Trail. (Espero)

HCR 246 encourages the U.S. Postmaster General to Issue a USS Arizona Memorial Stamp. (Takai)

HCR 249 urges Congress to support legislation conferring veterans' benefits on Filipino World War II Veterans. (Takai)

HB 100 provides for operating and capital improvement appropriations and authorizations for agencies in the Executive Branch for the fiscal biennium 2005-2007 (Say):

- Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Oahu. Provides \$564,000 for construction and repairs.

- Nisei Veterans Memorial Center, Maui. Provides \$1,500,000 for construction for the adult day care facility.

- Arizona Memorial Museum Association, Oahu. Provides \$500,000 for the replacement of the museum and visitor center.

- Oahu Veterans Center, Oahu. Provides \$850,000 for Phase II improvements at the Oahu Veterans Center at Foster Village.

- Keaukaha Joint Military Center, Hawaii. Provides \$4,400,000 for a specially designed complex for Soldiers, airmen, veterans and retirees, including an expanded post exchange, limited commissary and an Office for Veterans Affairs.

- Hilo Medical Center, Hawaii. Provides \$18,228,000 for the construction of a long-term veterans care home.

News Briefs

The Wave — All are invited to attend the "Crave the Wave" service, Sunday at 10 a.m. at the Fort Shafter dining facility. Lunch will be provided following the service. For more details, call Chaplain (Capt.) James Lester at 438-1816.

Memorial Day Remembrance — The 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, will conduct a Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony at the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery on Monday at 11:30 a.m. The ceremony is open to the public.

The uniform for this observance is Class B, with awards and decorations, for military personnel, and aloha attire for spouses and civilians.

Call Sgt. Maj. Class Stampely, G-3 Operations, at 655-8711 for more information.

Commissary Closing — In observance of the Memorial Day holiday, the Schofield Barracks Commissary will open at 9 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. on Monday. The store will resume normal business hours on Tuesday.

For more information, contact Jay Felton at 655-0633.

Dental Training Deadline — Applications for the 2005-2006 Dental Assistant Training Program will be available at the Red Cross Service Center at the Aloha Center, Building 690, from now through Wednesday. This program provides volunteers accepted into the program with comprehensive training and knowledge needed to compete successfully for employment in the dental office.

The program requires 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday, for approximately seven months, and applicants must meet several requirements: Possess a valid military ID card, be enrolled in TRICARE, be at least 18 years old at the start of the program, have at least 10 months remaining on the island

Inactivating and casing



Spc. Cheryl Ransford

Maj. Edward J. O'Neill, commander of troops and executive officer, 1st Battalion, 62nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, executive officer, cases the regimental colors during the unit's inactivation ceremony Wednesday at Schofield Barracks. Since all other units within the regiment have been inactivated, 1st Bn., 62nd ADA Rgt. maintained control of the regimental colors.

from the first day of class (Sept. 6), be fluent in English, be able to finance child care costs, and be able to purchase the \$80 dental book.

For more information, call 655-4927.

Health Care Recruiting — Sgt. 1st Class Charles W. Bradshaw, program manager for the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Enlisted Commissioning Program, will give briefings on the Interservice Physician Assistant Program and the AMEDD Enlisted Commissioning Program, Thursday at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Sergeant Smith Theater.

All ranks and specialties are invited to attend. For more details, contact Sgt. Maj. Jimenez at 655-6184.

NSPS — A video highlighting the design process of the National Security Personnel System — the

new civilian personnel management system that goes live in July — is now available for viewing.

The 17-minute video, entitled "NSPS: Towards a Mission-Centered Workforce," also includes commentary from several participants in current demonstration projects in the Department of Defense.

All civilians and military supervisors are encouraged to review the latest about NSPS. To access the video, go to <http://cpol.army.mil/library/general/nsps/>, and then click on the video title.

Operation Tribute to Freedom — The Operation Tribute to Freedom (OTF) Web site is a Department of the Army program designed to honor Soldiers, especially those returning from Operations Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Noble Eagle.

OTF identifies opportunities that give the American public a chance to salute the individual Soldier and to better understand his or her military experience. The Web site provides a weekly list of feature story and recognition opportunities for Soldiers and members of the Army family.

OTF officials coordinate requests or put the interested party in contact with a reporter or event coordinator. Either way, Soldiers get a chance to tell their story to a wider, or even a national, audience.

To be added to the distribution list, send e-mail with "Subscribe" in the subject line to <http://www.army.mil/otf>.

Harley-Davidson — Harley-Davidson motorcycles and the U.S. armed forces have had a long, intertwined relationship dating back to World War I when half of Harley's motorcycle production went to the U.S. military. As well, Harley-Davidson has long been a supporter of veteran's issues, donating hundreds of thousands of dollars to the World War II Memorial and the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Fund.

Currently, the company extends its product warranty coverage for military personnel deployed in the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"If their motorcycle is under warranty, Harley-Davidson will provide an extension equal to the number of days they were deployed," said Joseph Nicolai, owner of Pacific Harley-Davidson in Honolulu. "Since these brave young men and women have been unable to ride during their deployment, we think it's only fair to extend their factory warranty."

To find out more about the Harley-Davidson-Armed Forces connection, contact Joseph Nicolai at 831-2600.

Hawaii Army Report — Tune in to the Hawaii Army Cable Network, TV-2, for the Hawaii Army Report, which is a biweekly television newscast hosted by Spec. Mary Simms, covering the Army team in Hawaii.

This program is produced by the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, Public Affairs Office and TV-2. Check the TV-2 schedule for dates and times. (See

page B-2 of the Hawaii Army Weekly.)

OCS Selection Board — The next Department of the Army Officer Candidate Selection Board is scheduled to convene the week of Sept. 12; however, Soldiers who wish to be considered by this selection board must submit their applications through command channels to the Directorate of Human Resources, DA Boards Section, Building 750, Room 130 (located on Ayers Avenue), Schofield Barracks, no earlier than June 13 and no later than July 1.

The Installation Structured Interview Panel will convene July 18 to interview qualified applicants. Specific interview dates, times and locations will be provided to each individual applicant. Eligibility criteria and application procedures are outlined in AR 350-51.

The education requirement to apply for OCS is a minimum of 90 semester hours, verified by the Education Center. For Soldiers who do not possess a baccalaureate degree, a Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT, 850 or higher) or American College Test (ACT, 19 or higher), not older than six years, is required.

Also, Soldiers without a secret security clearance must provide a memorandum signed by the division security officer stating a secret security investigation has been received and initiated by Defense Security Service.

Applicants should ensure they allow sufficient time, at least three to four weeks, to receive results prior to the packet submission deadline. Provide the original and three copies of your completed application packet; pick up packets in Room 130 of Building 750.

For more information, call Ms. Nan Lucero at 655-4511.

Army Emergency Relief — Consider making a voluntary contribution to your Army community AER fund. Your contribution is important to individuals with emergency needs.

Monetary donations are accepted at any time. For more information, contact your unit AER Fund Campaign project officer, or call 655-2383.

Upcoming leadership changes announced

Compiled by the
Public Affairs Office
25th Infantry Division (Light)
and U.S. Army, Hawaii

The 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, community is invited to attend the multitude of change of command ceremonies — a time-honored tradition that formally symbolizes the continuity of authority when a command is passed from one commander to another — taking place in June and July.

Local ceremonies will be preceded by an awards ceremony, 15 minutes prior to the change of command ceremony. The following ceremonies will be held at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks.

(Editor's Note: Information listed is subject to change. Times are the start time for each change of command ceremony.)

Upcoming Ceremonies

June 2, 10 a.m., 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment

Lt. Col. Mark Dewhurst will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Matt Kelley.

June 3, 9 a.m., 115th Military Intelligence Brigade

Col. Lukefahr will redesignate command.

June 6, 10 a.m., 125th Signal Battalion

Lt. Col. Bevan Daley will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Anthony Farris.

June 6, 2 p.m., Brig. Gen. Bernard S. Champoux

outgoing assistant division commander (support), will be honored in a Flying V ceremony.

June 7, 10 a.m., 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment

Lt. Col. David Miller will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Robert M. Mundell.

June 7, 2 p.m., 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery

Lt. Col. Joseph R. Connell will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Stephen Myers.

June 8, 10 a.m., 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment

Lt. Col. Michael D. Lundy will relinquish command to Lt. Col. James Barker.

June 9, 10 a.m., 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment

Lt. Col. Walter Piatt will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Drew Meyerowich.

June 9, 2 p.m., 325th Forward Support Battalion

Lt. Col. James Hess will assume command.

June 13, 10 a.m., 25th Aviation Brigade

Col. B. Shannon Davis will relinquish command to Col. Arthur Ball.

June 14, 10 a.m., 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment

Lt. Col. Michael McBride will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Michael Browder.

June 14, 2 p.m., 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery

Lt. Col. Clarence Neason will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Jack Pritchard.

June 15, 10 a.m., Division Artillery

Col. Gary Cheek will relinquish command and 25th Field Artillery Detachment and Battery F, 7th Field Artillery, will inactivate.

June 15, 2 p.m., 30th Signal Battalion

Lt. Col. Lynne Daley will relinquish command.

June 16, 10 a.m., 556th Personnel Services Battalion

Lt. Col. Patrick M. Rice will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Bruce Jenkins.

June 21, 2 p.m., 125th Military Intelligence Battalion

Lt. Col. James D. Lee will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Patricia Frost.

June 22, 10 a.m., 3rd Brigade

Col. Richard Pedersen will relinquish command to Col. Patrick Stackpole.

June 24, 10 a.m., 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment

Lt. Col. Terry Sellers will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Malcolm Frost.

June 24, 2 p.m., Defense Information Systems Agency, Pacific

Col. Gilbert A. Griffin will relinquish command to Col. Charles D. Dean

June 28, 9 a.m., 516th Signal Brigade at Palm Circle, Fort Shafter

Col. Brian J. Donahue will relinquish command to Col. Edric A. Kirkman.

June 28, 10 a.m., 725th Main Support Battalion

Lt. Col. Derek S. Smith will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Aimee Kominak.

June 29, 10a.m., 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii

Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson will relinquish command to Brig. Gen. (Promotable) Benjamin R. Mixon.

June 30, 10 a.m., 65th Engineer Battalion

Lt. Col. Andrew V. Jasaitis will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Bryan Truesdell.

July 6, 10 a.m., Fort Shafter, 29th Engineer Battalion

Lt. Col. Steven Miles will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Christopher Benson.

July 7, 10 a.m., 225th Forward Support Battalion

Lt. Col. Flem B. Walker Jr. will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Charles Gibson.

July 8, 10 a.m., Pohakuloa Training Command

Lt. Col. Fred S. Clarke will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Kimberly A. Rapacz at the PTA Headquarters Building.

July 11, 10 a.m., Brig. Gen. Francis J. Wiercinski

incoming assistant division commander (support) will be honored in a Flying V ceremony.

July 12, 10 a.m., 125th Finance Battalion

Lt. Col. Domenico Rossi will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Roosevelt Corpening.

July 14, 10 a.m., 84th Combat Engineer Battalion

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Eckstein will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Richard Toy.



Billy Calzada, Courtesy of the San Antonio Express

A hero passes

Compiled by the Public Affairs Office
Courtesy of Adam Bernstein

Retired Army Master Sgt. Jose M. Lopez, 94, shown here in January, fought at Normandy and in the Battle of the Bulge. He died May 16 at a daughter's home in San Antonio; he had cancer. Lopez received the Medal of Honor for engaging in a series of "seemingly suicidal missions."

A short but sinewy man, born in Mexico and orphaned when he was 8, Lopez worked in a series of jobs before enlisting in the U.S. Army.

"I was really very, very afraid," he told journalist Bill Moyers in a television special in 1990. "I wanted to cry ... we saw other people laying wounded and screaming and everything, and there's nothing you could do.

"We could see them groaning in the water, and we had to just keep walking," he said of the landing at Normandy, a day after the June 6, 1944, invasion — a day when a bullet smacked into his ammunition belt, grazing his hip.

Lopez retired in 1973. To maintain his physique, he jogged until age 88. He also saw a trainer three times a week, a regimen that ended three months ago when his illness worsened.

(Editor's Note: Read the full story on Lopez by Adam Bernstein — an article that originally appeared in the May 18 Metro edition of The Washington Post and republished with permission — at <http://www.army.mil/news/article.php?story=7352>.)

Hamilton is 'home sweet home' for single Soldiers

New spaces offer almost 1,000 square feet of space, full kitchens, laundry area

By Joy Boisselle
Staff Writer

Barracks room availability is at a premium across U.S. Army Hawaii installations. Reasons for the shortfall are the 25th Infantry Division (Light) transformation, which will bring nearly 1,600 more single Soldiers to Hawaii, and the ongoing Department of the Army-mandated barracks revitalization.

Enter Army Hawaii Family Housing. After consideration of the problem by military and AHFH leadership, single Soldiers, sergeants through master sergeants, are now moving into renovated apartments in Hamilton Community at Schofield Barracks.

"We thought they [AHFH] could do a better job managing our single Soldier quarters, and provide a \$12,000 renovation in the process," said Col. Howard Killian, commander, U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, calling the initiative a creative solution to the barracks shortage problem. "This is a win-win situation for single Soldiers and [the] Residential Community Initiative."

The solution was simple. AHFH canvassed property assets to determine which areas could support the unique program. In Hamilton Community, 202 homes were identified to house 404 Soldiers.

"Hamilton Community was selected because we had many two-bedroom homes, which are harder to rent to families," explained Janine Lind, AHFH property manager. "Almost 70 apartments are renovated, and we are moving Soldiers in now."

In the "old" Army, recruiters guaranteed Soldiers "three hots and a cot." The cot was usually a bunk bed in an open bay with a communal shower, shared with 60 to 80 others. That was then ... this is now.

The "old" Army is gone, and Soldiers today expect and deserve a higher standard of living, according to Killian.

"We are committed to getting our Soldiers to the '1-plus-1 standard' under the whole barracks renewal plan," he explained.

In the meantime, Soldiers have another on-post living alternative through AHFH.

Calling the initiative "an opportunity to



Spc Juan Jimenez

Soldiers can now live in newly renovated apartments like the one shown above.

further our partnership with the Army," Hamilton Community manager, Stephen Quinn, said, "Living here is adult, private and mature, more so than the barracks could ever hope to be. You [Soldiers] are the 'king of the castle.'

"You have all the benefits of living on-post that the barracks affords, with all the benefits of living off-post," Quinn added.

The benefits are many. Living space jumps from typical barracks room space of 185 square feet to almost 1,000 square feet in the new apartments.

Amenities include a full kitchen, a dining and living area, a balcony or lanai, two storage areas, carports, a bathroom, a washer and dryer, and private bedrooms.

Each apartment, also, features carpeting, window blinds, ceiling fans and — each comes fully furnished.

Additionally, Soldiers' rent is 90 percent of their basic housing allowance and includes basic utilities. A sergeant will pocket the remaining 10 percent, approximately \$150 a month.

But, according to AHFH management, the number one reason to live in the community is the AHFH "Resident's First" philosophy.

Lind said, "We offer the same services and amenities offered families, including lawn care, trash pick-up, and community activi-



Joy Boisselle

Sgt. Jason Noyce checks out the appliances in his new apartment in Hamilton Community. Noyce is the first single Soldier to occupy Army Hawaii Family Housing under an initiative to alleviate barracks shortages.

ties."

Quinn added, "We will look after our single Soldiers just like our families here. I want to see them fully integrated into our community."

Sgt. Jason Noyce, Company B, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, heard

At a glance, Hamilton Community benefits to single Soldiers

- Newly renovated, fully furnished homes
- Nearly 1,000 square feet
- No security or utility deposit
- Utilities included
- Washers and dryers provided
- Flexible lease terms
- Rent that is 90 percent of basic allowance for housing (so, 10 percent is returned to the Soldier)
- Convenience to work and shopping
- Roommate preference that is possible
- Private, mature living environment
- Community activities
- Home and lawn maintenance provided

about the program from his first sergeant. Prior to his deployment to Iraq, he lived off-post; upon redeployment, the barracks became his home; and on May 5, he became the first Soldier to sign a lease and move in.

"This is a good deal," Noyce said. "Off post, I had to deal with traffic going to work. This is a lot closer."

"In the barracks, I wanted to live away from work. Now when I am off work, I am not still right there [at the barracks]," Noyce said.

More space, privacy and the ability to personalize his living space added to his decision to move, Noyce explained.

The housing initiative has not been all Shangri la. Some Hamilton Community residents voiced concerns over possible speeding and noise issues.

Quinn said, "We had focus group meetings and discussed resident concerns. And, we have made the rules clear. What holds true for our single Soldiers also holds true for our families."

"We are delighted to welcome single Soldiers into our community and further show our commitment to the entire Army family," Quinn said, summing up the initiative.

(Editor's Note: For information on Hamilton Community apartments, contact Stephen Quinn at 275-3720. See page B-3 for more on the community.)

Fire

From A-1

“The management of these ecosystem level threats will benefit all native species in the areas, not just those that are federally listed,” she said.

Gayland Enriquez, the fire chief for the U.S. Army, Hawaii, Garrison Fire and Safety Office, became the liaison between the natural resource biologists, the contracted helicopter, the Federal Fire Department, and the City and County of Honolulu Fire Dept. during the firefight.

“My focus was to let the incident commander know where the natural resource people were, and [to tell the commander] they were doing their own operation of protecting species,” Enriquez said.

Toward the end of the firefighting, the Hawaii National Guard used CH-47 Chinook and UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters to drop water on various hot spots.

“There was never an official request for the National Guard, so they just used it as a training opportunity,” Enriquez said. “But while they were training, they helped put the fire out at the same time.”



Endangered tree snails and plants

Enriquez said the Army would have played a bigger role in the fire but because of the recent redeployments Army aviation units did not have their aircraft available.

“We didn’t have any aircraft because they are still in the redeploying process, so we had to depend on the private sector,” he explained.

According to Enriquez, more fires are projected to flare up this summer due to a rainy winter that has built up vegetation, which in return will be used to fuel a wildfire when it dries out.

The USAG-HI fire and Safety Office plans to perform controlled burns and train Army aviation units for possible fire bucket missions to fight future fires.

(Editor’s Note: Michelle Mansker, the natural resource manager for Directorate of Public Works, contributed to this article.)

Medal of Honor

From A-2



Ito

would be eligible for the Hawaii Medal of Honor under this Act.

Sen. Norman Sakamoto, Maj. Gen. Robert Lee and I will convene an interim legislative committee to determine the design of the new medal, as well as a process to certify that the recipients were legal resi-

dents of, or stationed in, Hawaii at the time they were killed in action.

Nothing, however, can be greater than the gift these fallen heroes have given to us. In parting, they have given us a world that is safer and better because of their service.

They have given us the responsibility to care for members of our team, just as they cared for their fellow troop members in combat. They have given us the inspiration to become better leaders, and to make decisions with our hearts as well as with our minds. And so that their lives will not be sacrificed in vain, they have given us hope,

and the will, to achieve peace.

In the past two years, the war in Iraq has changed our world, and our lives, in a profound way. Ultimately, it’s not about politics, it’s not about money, and it’s not even about winning. It’s about families and loved ones and what these brave men and women sacrificed to keep us safe.

As we strive to find meaning behind such heartbreaking loss, I think we will find it in the small deeds we do each day. If we can always remember the sense of purpose and the generosity of spirit of those we honor, not just on Memorial Day, but everyday, the world will be a better place.

The military appreciation bills were among our priorities during the 2005 legislative session. We want our service men and women to know that they are considered a stronghold of our community. We live in freedom and relative security because of their efforts.

The Legislature will continue to address issues facing our military.

(Editor’s Note: For a listing of the bills passed in the State Legislature, see page A-3.)



A Coast Guard C-130 transports personnel during the joint training.

Training

From A-1

team commanders in the future,” Bednarek explained.

The joint operation was organized by the 196th Infantry Brigade, a training support brigade out of Fort Shafter, which has been critical in preparing National Guard and Reserve formations before heading to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Bednarek also pointed out the importance of opening training areas and lending support to Army National Guard and Reserve units in the Pacific, as well as other military branches, while they prepare for upcoming deployments.

“We must partner together to ensure that we are maximizing the available resources that we do have, and train together so when we do use ranges, training facilities, we are maximizing the full capability,” Bednarek added.

This past fall, the 25th ID (L) and USARHAW opened its doors to the 29th Brigade Combat Team of the Hawaii National Guard, and also assisted in the 29th’s in-processing before the unit deployed to Iraq.



Here’s a Sobering Thought

Communities recognize military volunteers

By Spc. Cheryl Ransford
17th Public Affairs Detachment

HONOLULU — More than 1,000 community leaders, military members and businessmen gathered for the 20th Annual Military Recognition Luncheon, May 18, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village here. The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii hosted the event as part of Military Appreciation Month.

“By holding these luncheons, it gives communities throughout Hawaii a chance to thank the military for all they have done for us,” said Charles Ota, vice president of Military Affairs at the chamber. “Every year, more and more business people and spouses come out to show their support and appreciation. Today, you could almost feel the ambience in the room.”

Some businesses donated gifts to the six service members who were recognized for their voluntary service in the community.

“Coming out here, today, seeing how many people showed up for this event, is very inspiring,” said Sgt. 1st Class Malia Nemetz, military community service honoree for the Army. “It’s good to see that the local communities acknowledge the hard work [service members] do 24-hours-a-day.”

The 25th Military Police Company’s operations sergeant was recognized for her contributions to numerous children’s organizations.

During the luncheon, local communities were also recognized for

the support they provide to service members.

“The military has received tremendous support from every community throughout Hawaii,” said Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commander of 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii. “The close relationship between the military and the civilian communities is a constant and steady thing that happens in Hawaii. It is a mutually beneficial relationship.”

Olson wasn’t the only service member to provide a heartfelt “thank you” to local communities.

“Words cannot express the thanks and appreciation felt for the support from Hawaii businesses and individuals,” said Lt. Col. Gregory Boyle, commander, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. “The love and support from around Hawaii is overwhelming. We could not accomplish our mission without the support we receive from the communities.”

While the luncheon has always been a special occasion, this year is even more special because Hawaii is welcoming members of all armed forces home from the Global War on Terror, said retired Gen. David Bramlett.

The luncheon ended with a musical salute to Hawaii’s troops and spouses. Sgt. 1st Class Eric Basora, lead singer of the 25th ID (L) rock band, gave a rendition of Toby Keith’s “American Soldier” and Spc. Derek Trayling, 25th ID



Sgt. Stephanie L. Carl

Sgt. 1st Class Eric Basora, lead singer of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Rock Band, energetically belts out the lyrics to Toby Keith’s “American Soldier.”

(L) Tropic Lightning Band, sang “God Bless America.”

Adding to the cooperative spirit of the day’s events, the 25th ID (L) Tropic Lightning Band played a musical medley of service songs, extending an invitation to current and former members of the five branches to join in the singing of each.

“The military is America’s real team,” said Bramlett. “I want today to be a way to say ‘thank you’ for all you have done and will continue to do.”



Spc. Cheryl Ransford

Sgt. 1st Class Earlene Thompson, 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, leads the joint service color guard off the stage after the national anthem is completed luncheon.

Celebrating Asian-Pacific heritage



Photos by Spc. Juan Jimenez

Members of 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, community and distinguished guests attend this year’s Asian-Pacific Islander Heritage Observance at Sergeant Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks, May 20. The theme for this year’s celebration was “Liberty and Freedom for All.”

Above center – Guests said keynote speaker Dr. Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel of Chaminade University provided educational and enlightening remarks.

Right – Travis Kaka, a dancer with the Polynesian Cultural Center, performs a Samoan dance.



Farwyn Sakulsinghdusit gracefully moves with the song “Aloha Oi.”

Fort DeRussy museum inducts two local Soldiers

Soldiers from two past wars are honored at U.S. Army Museum's Gallery of Heroes

Story and Photo by
Capt. Juanita Chang
Media Relations Officer

FORT DERUSSY — A veteran from the Korean War and another from the Vietnam Conflict are the latest additions to the U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii's Gallery of Heroes.

The two veterans were inducted into the esteemed gallery of Hawaii veterans here May 20, in a ceremony hosted by Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commanding general of 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii.

Toshio Aoyagi, 78, and Dennis Fujii, 56, will join 39 other Army veterans and two Navy veterans already honored in the museum's gallery, which honors local islanders who have received the nation's second highest medal for valor. All 41 Army veterans honored at the museum are recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross and two Navy veterans, the Navy Cross.

Toshio Aoyagi

Aoyagi earned the Distinguished Service Cross as a first lieutenant and infantry platoon leader when he attacked a North Korean position at Chungse-ri, Oct. 14, 1951. Aoyagi led his men in an attack against a well-entrenched hostile force occupying a strategic slope.

After advancing to within 30 yards of the enemy main line of defense, Aoyagi's radio was shot from his hands, eliminating any communication with the remainder of the friendly forces. Aoyagi directed his men to lay suppressive fire while he single-handedly charged three enemy emplacements with

only his carbine and extra grenades.

Although his weapon received enemy fire and was inoperable — he was also wounded in the abdomen — Aoyagi continued his attack until all three enemy positions were destroyed.

Aoyagi, a graduate of Konawaena High School, continued to serve the Army for 30 years, retiring as a colonel.

Dennis Fujii

Fujii earned the Distinguished Service Cross when he was a Specialist 5 and UH-1 helicopter medical evacuation crew chief, in Laos. His helicopter was shot down on Feb. 19, 1971, while attempting to retrieve seriously wounded South Vietnamese military personnel from the midst of a raging battlefield.

Despite being wounded himself, Fujii provided medical care to allied soldiers following the crash of his helicopter — while simultaneously directing helicopter gunship fire.

After receiving numerous hits, his second helicopter crash landed at a South Vietnamese Ranger base. While there and under fire prior to being rescued, Fujii administered first aid to South Vietnamese soldiers for two days.

Maj. Gen. Fred C. Weyand, the commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division in Vietnam, presented Fujii his award 33 years ago and attended the ceremony to honor Fujii.

Fujii, a graduate of Waimea High School, served on Army active duty for nearly four years before joining the Hawaii Army National Guard and the Pacific Army Reserve before he was medically discharged.

He currently serves as the chief of the Community Relations Branch at the U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs Office.

The Gallery

The concept of a Gallery of Heroes was developed in 1980 by



Retired Col. Toshio Aoyagi (left) and former Specialist-5 Dennis Fujii stand proudly in front of the displays honoring their induction into the Gallery of Heroes at the U.S. Army Museum at Fort DeRussy.

Maj. Gen. Herbert E. Wolff, to honor recipients of the nation's two highest awards of valor: the

Congressional Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross, or its equivalents, the Navy Cross

or the Air Force Cross.

Located on the second floor of the museum, the Gallery offers a quiet, cool place to recognize and review the heroism of Hawaii's military.

The U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii is located adjacent the Hale Koa Armed Forces Recreation Center at Saratoga and Kalia Road in Waikiki. The museum is open to the public and free of charge.

Audie Murphy inductees



Courtesy Photo

Five 2nd Brigade Soldiers — (from left to right) Sgt. 1st Class Stanley McQueen of 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery; Sgt. 1st Class Joe Winstead of 2nd Bn., 11th FA; Staff Sgt. Daniel Frantz of 1st Bn., 27th Infantry; Staff Sgt. Nephtali Linares of 1st Bn., 27th Inf.; and Staff Sgt. Irvin Mitchell of 1st Bn., 27th Inf. — were inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy club during a ceremony at the 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt., headquarters on Schofield Barracks, May 20. Family members gathered around the awardees for a keepsake photo.

Retirees honored during ceremony

Story and Photos by
Spc. Dijon Rolle
17th Public Affairs
Detachment

A total of 720 years. That's the number of years of combined military service dedicated by a group of retiring Soldiers honored May 19 at Sergeant Smith Theater during the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Quarterly Retirement ceremony.

The 35 Soldiers ended their distinguished military careers and prepared to embark on a new mission ... as civilians.

Many recently returned from combat deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq, while others still carry memories and stories from past operations like Desert Storm and Continued Hope. Several served as drill sergeants, recruiters and Reserve Officer Training Corps instructors for thousands of Soldiers following behind them.

"You get up every morning put on the green suit, lace up your boots and prepare for whatever the day might bring," said Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Caliguire, 17th Corps Support Battalion.

Caliguire said he joined the Army 21 years ago to serve his country and fund a college education. Now that he's retired, he said he will miss "the people" the most. One other thing that will likely remain with Caliguire forever is military time.

"I'll probably still get up early ... I'm programmed that way," he said.

The host of the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, commander, thanked the retirees for their faithful service.

"This is truly an extraordinary day," he said. "These Soldiers here have dedicated a lifetime of service at a time when our Army and our nation has needed them most."

These men and women, our brothers and sisters in arms, stand as examples of what makes our Army great and what makes this division great."

He also thanked the many military spouses seated in the audience for their continued support.

"It's been quite an adventure," said Sandra Smith, wife of Chief Warrant Officer Derek Smith, 25th Aviation Brigade. "It's been tough at times, but also rewarding. But ... I'm glad he's retiring. We're ready for the second part of life's adventure — being civilians."

The majority of retirees

said they plan to transition to civilian jobs soon after taking a well-deserved vacation. Others like Sgt. 1st Class Charles Harris, Headquarters Support Company, 84th Engineer Battalion, plan to pursue higher education.

"School has always been a priority for me and now couldn't be a better time," said Harris.

The Texas native, who just returned from a combat deployment in Iraq, said he plans to major in Sociology. He offered advice to returning Soldiers.

"Get your education, invest your money, keep God first, and always be true to yourself," he advised.

The ceremony gave retiring Soldiers an opportunity to reflect on their time in service, and while they were there to be honored, another group of Soldiers worked hard to make the event memorable.

"There's definitely a lot of work involved in putting that together," said Sgt. Maj. Billy Thompson, 25th



ID (L) operations, as he performed a final walk around the theater before the ceremony. "It's so important that we take the time to recognize these individuals

and their contributions to the United States Army. We owe them that."

Each retiree received a certificate of retirement, a retirement pin, an Amer-

ican flag, and either a Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal or Meritorious Service Medal.

Spouses were also recog-

Maj. Gen. Eric Olson, commander of the 25th ID (L) and USARHAW, shakes hands with Donna Harris after presenting her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Charles Harris, with his retirement award during the 25th ID (L) & USARHAW Quarterly Retirement Ceremony at Sergeant Smith Theater, May 19.

nized for their contributions and support of their Soldiers throughout their military careers. Each received a Department of the Army certificate of appreciation and a lei.

(Editor's Note: See page B-5 for the full story on Department of the Army civilian Susan Sencio who retired after 58 years from the Directorate of Public Works.)



Living History Day

FORT DERUSSY — In honor of Armed Forces Day, the U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii held its sixth annual Living History Day here Saturday, May 21. Among the features were modern-day Soldiers and equipment, restored military vehicles and re-enactors in vintage military uniforms. Test your knowledge of history by finding the following re-enactors: 1) a Soldier from the Spanish-American War, 2) Soldiers receiving a

briefing during the Vietnam Conflict, 3) a Civil War family, 4) a Soldier taking advantage of down time in the midst of the Vietnam War and 5) a modern-day Boy Scout delighting in Living History displays. Military and student volunteers who enjoy the specific periods represented served as re-enactors. (Editor's Note: Here are the answers: looking clockwise from the top left, 3, 4, 1, 2 and 5.)

Photos by Capt. Juanita Chang

IRR remains 'key' part of total military

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Individual Ready Reserve is “a key component” of America’s total military force, a senior Defense Department official noted during a May 17 gathering of reserve component leaders in Denver.

Consisting of about 300,000 people, the IRR “presents a valuable pool” of trained military manpower for the nation, David S.C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, noted at the 2005 Reserve Personnel Center Commanders’/IRR Conference.

IRR members have prior training and experience in active, Guard or Reserve units, but they’ve been discharged and are no longer serving in military units. However, they have time remaining to fulfill their

eight-year total service obligations.

Some IRR members have volunteered for duty in the war against global terrorism, Chu noted, while others in key military specialties have been called up for continued service.

About 30,000 IRR members were called up for service during the Gulf War of 1990-91, Chu noted. Today, he said, “substantially fewer” IRR members have been called up for service in the Global War Against Terrorism.

Chu observed that the more recent IRR call-ups have generated some misunderstanding among affected service members and the general public.

Therefore, he noted, it’s important that military leaders take the time to explain to IRR members what’s expected of them in terms of possible further military service.

Army recruiters stand down

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Army recruiters took a pause May 20 to refocus on values, as investigations are underway to see if some recruiters are cheating to make quotas.

“We’re going to have a values ‘stand down day’ to take a look at who we are as an institution and what we represent,” Maj. Gen. Michael D. Rochelle, the Army’s senior recruiting officer, told reporters May 20 at the Pentagon.

Rochelle noted that seven cases involving alleged recruiter improprieties at different locations across the country are now being investigated.

One widely reported case involves a recruiter in Houston who allegedly threatened a potential recruit with arrest if he didn’t show up for a meeting. And some recruiters in Colorado

have been accused of offering advice on how to pass drug tests and falsify documents. Citing his potential role in adjudicating the cases under investigation, the general didn’t talk about any case specifically.

Recruiters shouldn’t be taking improper “shortcuts” to bolster their numbers, Rochelle noted. This type of behavior, he asserted, is “simply not acceptable.”

The current recruiting environment is challenging the Army’s 7,500 recruiters, Rochelle acknowledged, noting his service is now about 6,600 active duty recruits below quota as recent data shows the propensity of young people to join the Army continues to fall.

Sustained land combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, combined with a low unemployment rate, are driving “the most challenging conditions we have seen in recruiting” since the all-

volunteer Army began in 1973, Rochelle noted.

But cheating isn’t the answer, the two-star general emphasized, noting that as one of the messages being delivered during the stand down.

Rochelle said all recruiters are required to watch an unscripted videotaped message from him as part of the stand-down. Secondly, he said, commissioned officers and noncommissioned officers with U.S. Army Recruiting Command will reaffirm their oaths to the Army.

Recruiters will also discuss why personal integrity, values and ethics are important and necessary in their work, Rochelle said.

The American public “can rest assured — rest absolutely assured — that we hold every single recruiter to the highest level of adherence to those values,” he further emphasized.

Army gives comments on Tillman to public

By Department of the
Army
Army Public Affairs

The Army reaffirms its heartfelt sorrow to the Tillman family and all families who have lost loved ones during this war.

The Army is dedicated to keeping families informed before Soldiers deploy, when they deploy, while they are deployed and when they return, but most especially when there is a death or serious injury.

In every case, the Army acts with compassion and a heartfelt commitment when informing grieving families.

This [notification] often is an extraordinarily painful and sensitive duty that must be performed and the Army takes it seriously.

In the case of the death of Cpl. Patrick Tillman, the Army made mistakes in reporting the circumstances of his death to the family.

For these, we apologize. We cannot undo those early mistakes.

In the 393 days since his death, the Army actively

and directly informed the Tillman family — keeping them apprised of the results of three separate investigations into the matter and dedicating a personal team of more than 10 Soldiers and Army civilian employees to communicate personally with them.

The members of this team range from two non-commissioned officers who notified the family, a major who continues to assist the family, a casualty affairs staff, a medical examiner, a brigadier general commander and a three-star general from the Army Headquarters — all of whom personally expressed our sympathies, while ensuring the family was as well informed as they could be, through numerous phone calls and in-person meetings with family members to answer questions with candor and completeness.

This [notification] continues today.

(Editor’s Note: This press release was posted to the Army Web site <http://www4.army.mil/ocpa/pres/s/> on Monday.)

Sunset in the Park

Fun, food, exhibits and music for all was part of this homecoming event

Story and Photos by
Sgt. Sean Kimmons
Editor

WHEELER ARMY AIR FIELD — A welcome home celebration for more than 10,000 redeployed Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, was held last weekend at Wheeler Army Airfield.

The celebration, called Sunset in the Park, showcased fun, food, exhibits and entertainment for Soldiers, their family members and anyone else who wanted to attend.

Ukulele extraordinaire Jake Shimabukuro made a memorable performance on Sunday, while Hapa and Ho'onua put on a show Saturday. Many other musicians played as well throughout the two-day event.

The comedian duo Da Braddahs, who have their very own television show on OC-16, brought laughter to the audience on Sunday.

Xtreme fun rentals and inflatables, E.K. Fernandez rides and games, and other keiki activities were also part of the Sunset in the Park entertainment.

On Saturday evening, the movie "Finding Neverland" played on a 30-foot projection screen and "National Treasure" played the next evening.

A military appreciation program featuring City and County of Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann, other Hawaii government officials, sponsors and Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commander of the 25th ID (L) and USARHAW, also took place on Sunday.



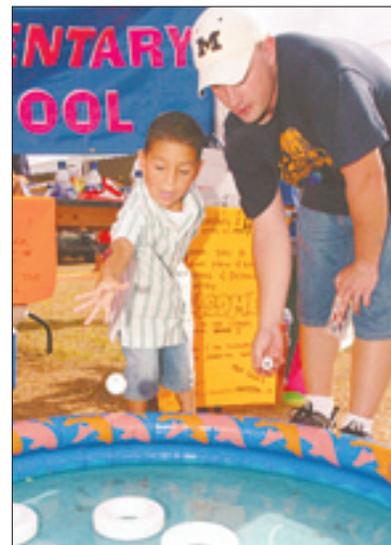
Above — Zeus Gran (left), 5, and his sister Zena, 7, raise their arms in the air while they enjoy the Twister ride.

Right — Tony Silva, a member of Da Braddahs performs a comedic skit on Sunday.

Bottom — Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commander of the 25th ID (L) and USARHAW, addresses the audience, as City and County of Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann watches on in front of the 30-foot projection screen, Sunday.



Ukulele extraordinaire Jake Shimabukuro finishes a song in style during his performance Sunday at the Sunset in the Park event on Wheeler Army Airfield.



Above — Sgt. Leo Doan (right), a generator mechanic for Company B, 325th Forward Support Battalion, assists his neighbor's son, Anthony Torres, 4, in a keiki water game.

Left — Kayla Ganancial, 10, receives a face painting at one of the keiki activities booths.

MWR Briefs

Serving America's Army in Hawaii

May

27 / Today

Salute the Troops Concert — There's still time to enjoy live, local entertainment at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks, Friday nights at 8:30 p.m., with no cover charge. Listen to "Juke Joint" tonight and a surprise entertainer on the last night of the concert series on June 3.

Patrons can enjoy free entertainment, drink specials and food from MacGregor's Market. Also, guests can visit the Tropics and register to win a sport utility vehicle sponsored by JN Mazda. Finalists are selected at each concert event, and the vehicle will be given away at the June 10 "Right Arm Night" event at the Nehelani.

Visit the Tropics or call 655-0002 for more information.

"The Secret Garden" — This classic children's story is about a grieving family and a secret garden that is found and restored back to life. The play will show at the Army Community Theater on Fort Shafter; the last two showings are tonight and tomorrow.

Curtain is at 7:30 p.m., and tickets for adults are \$17 and \$14; children under 12 are \$10 and \$8. Box Office Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Call 438-4480 for more information.

Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet — Taste a traditional Hawaiian style feast from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hale Ikena at Fort Shafter, or at the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks. Cost is \$9.95 per person.

Call the Nehelani 655-4466 or the Hale Ikena at 438-1974 for reservations or information.

28 / Saturday

A-Maze-Ing Corn Festi-

val — Join the fun by getting lost in the huge corn maze at Aloun Farms on May 28. Enjoy pony and hay rides, carnival games, self-pick corn, food booths and lots more fun.

Adults can sign up and enter the five-mile GPS scavenger hunt, which uses the latest in technology. This hunt is just right for ages 15 and up and costs \$20 to enter. The winner will receive a trip to the Big Island of Hawaii, plus other consolation prizes will be awarded.

Sunday, participate in a paintball challenge within the maze. Don't miss the special military price for this event: \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. One dollar from each entry will benefit the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program.

Call 677-9516 or 256-5546 for more information.

June

1 / Wednesday

Fourth of July Picnic Sites — MWR will be accepting reservations for picnic sites beginning today at Kaala Community Activities Center, Room 101. Cost is \$60 for a 20 x 20 area on the perimeter of Sills Field.

These areas are the only areas where cooking on grills will be authorized. Call 655-0112 or 655-0110, or stop by to reserve your site today.

3 / Friday

Texas Hold'em Tournament — The deadline to enter the Texas Hold'em Tournament is June 3 by 5 p.m. Applications are available at the Martinez Physical Fitness Center on Schofield Barracks.

This tournament will take place from June 7 through 9 beginning at 6 p.m. Card sharks can register to play or just come watch, but only the first 128 who register will play and active duty personnel have first priority.

First and second place winners will receive trophies and the opportunity to play in a celebrity charity tournament in July in Waikiki. Call 655-4804 or 655-0900 for more information.



4 / Saturday

Honolulu Zoo — Today only, admission to the zoo is free to all military ID card holders.

Free transportation is being offered to the zoo, courtesy of Army Hawaii Family Housing and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. If you'd like a lift to the zoo, call 655-0112. Seating is limited and reservations will be accepted until June 3.

6 / Monday



Summer Reading Club

— This summer, children ages 6 to 12 are invited to "Flip Over Books" at their Army library. This free program will run for five weeks beginning June 13 and features special weekly programs and reading incentives.

Registration and packet pick up begins today at your nearest Army library.

Steak Night — Enjoy a sizzling steak cooked to perfection on the grill outside Reggie's and in front of the Nehelani, which comes complete with a tossed salad, baked potato, rolls and vegetables.

This entrée will be served from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$11.95 for adults. Call 655-4466 for more details.

8 / Wednesday

Fund-raising Opportunities — Units and family readiness groups that are interested in fund-raising at the Fourth of July event are encouraged to attend a meeting today at 9 a.m., at the Kaala Community Activities

kamaaina and military, free for members and children under



age 3.

Kids who are 4 to 12 years old will get in free with a wrapper from a Kraft Foods or Oscar Mayer product. Call 847-3511 or visit www.bishop-museum.org for more details.

30 / Monday

"America Remembers" — The Military Channel will observe Memorial Day with its world premiere special "America Remembers," which tells the compelling stories of a few of the many brave men and women of the armed forces who have fought and died for their country. The special will debut at 8 p.m. (EST/PST).

The people profiled in "America Remembers" are men and women from different eras and different arms of the military. They are ordinary Americans who were thrust into extraordinary situations on battlefields ranging from Omaha Beach in Normandy, to the streets of Fallujah in Iraq.

June

4 / Saturday

Honolulu Zoo's Military Appreciation Day — Lions will roar, monkeys will howl,

Center, Room 101.

For more information, call 655-0110.

Stained Glass Class — Back by popular demand, learn beginning foil or lead techniques at the Stained Glass Class at the Arts and Crafts Center, Schofield Barracks.

Four sessions will be held on Wednesdays beginning June 8, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 plus supplies, and payment is required at the time of registration.

Class size is limited, so register today. Call 655-4202 for more details.

10 / Friday

Right Arm Night — Enjoy a delicious Polynesian luau buffet at the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks, June 10 beginning at 4 p.m. Plus, gather for great local entertainment by lively performers and win prizes and more.

A Mazda Tribute from JN Mazda will be the grand prize giveaway at this event, so get your tickets now.

Cost is \$5 in advance or \$7 on June 10. Patrons must be 18 years or older to attend; no children will be allowed.

Call 655-4466 for more information.

Stamping and Scraping

— Make your own Father's Day cards with rubber stamps and fun papers, but bring enough photos for two album pages. Create your unique "Welcome Home" layout from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Schofield Arts and Crafts Center.

Cost is \$5 plus supplies. Call 655-4202 to preregister.

11 / Saturday

Hawaiian Railway Society Tour — Enjoy a 90-minute, fully narrated train ride beginning in Ewa to Kahe Point and back, and be transported back in time as the conductor passes along historic sites of interests and beautiful views of the ocean.

Transportation will be provided from the Schofield Commissary and the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness

Center for this tour. However, reservations must be made by June 9.

Cost with transportation is \$8 per person and \$1 for children under 2. If you would like to attend and do not need transportation, cost is \$6 per person and children under 2 are free.

Sign up to join the fun at the Schofield or Fort Shafter ITR offices. For more information, call 655-0112 or 655-0110.

14 / Tuesday

Summer Day at Tropics — Beginning today until July 21, visit the Tropics to participate in a variety of weekly activities beginning at 2 p.m.

Tuesday features a Slam Dunk Party of basketball games and contests where you can earn points towards prizes to be awarded at the end of the month.

Every Wednesday participate in outdoor games and contests, and every Thursday enjoy making and taking home creative, summer craft projects using natural materials and art supplies.

All activities are free and designed for children 18 and under. Call 655-8522 for more details.

15 / Wednesday

Taco Wednesday — Enjoy all-you-can eat tacos, burritos, Spanish rice and much more at Reggie's from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$8.95 per person. Call 655-4466 for more details.

18 / Saturday

Latin Night — Come dance the night away to Latin music at the Tropics from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Enjoy sounds from DJ Richie "Salsa" Sanchez.

Cost is only \$2 at the door. Call 655-0002 for more details.

Parent's Night Out

— Leave your kids in the competent hands of Child and Youth Services and delight in a nice night out on the town. Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis at the Resource and Referral Office.

Children enrolled in Parent's Night Out must be registered with the office no

later than Wednesday at noon, prior to the event, each month. Call 655-8313 for more information.

19 / Sunday

Father's Day Brunch — Take dad out for a delicious Sunday brunch at the Hale Ikena on Fort Shafter from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., or the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy a variety of breakfast, main entrée and dessert selections.

Call the Hale Ikena at 438-1974 or the Nehelani at 655-4466 for more reservations.

Father's Day Buffet

— Bring dad to the beautiful Waianae Beach Club from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. for a wonderful breakfast buffet, or treat dad to a scrumptious dinner buffet anytime from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call 696-4778 for more information.

Ongoing

Fast Gifts — New inventory of affordable island crafts is available in the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center. Colorful wood and woven mirrors, floral and fish designs, ukulele towel racks, recipe boxes, pineapple cutting boards and more are on display. Call 655-4202 for more details.

Balloon Monsoon — As part of the Summer Reading program at your nearest library, children will enjoy watching "Balloon Monsoon" on the following dates beginning at 3 p.m.: Fort Shafter on June 21, Schofield June 22 and Aliamanu on June 23. Call your nearest library for more details.

Ronald McDonald

— Also part of the Summer Reading program, children can visit with Ronald McDonald on the following dates beginning at 3 p.m.: Fort Shafter on June 14, Schofield on June 15 and Aliamanu on June 16.

Job Search — Visit, browse and apply for federal jobs that are available in

See "Briefs," page B-5

Community Calendar

May

27 / Today

Aloha Ceremony — Wheeler Middle School will host an aloha ceremony, today from 4:40 to 9 p.m. This event will honor all military heroes and eighth grade Wheeler students.

Cost is \$2 per person (except for children under age 5 and eighth graders), and this event will be held Wheeler students are not charged a fee.

Participants will enjoy a variety of dishes and a Polynesian revue program, complete with hula dancing and Hawaiian music. For more information, call Wheeler at 622-6525.

Silent Auction — You can support Kaneohe Bay Marines by participating in a silent auction to benefit an educational fund for the seven children of Marines who perished in the helicopter crash in Iraq on Jan. 26.

The auction will be held today from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Officers' Club on Marine Corps Base, Kaneohe Bay. Proceeds will be directed to the Armed Services YMCA, for distribution to children's educational funds.

Silent auction items have been donated by organizations such as Hilton Hawaiian Village, Wyland Galleries, Makani Kai Helicopter Tours,

Luana Hills Golf, the Honolulu Zoo, Star of Honolulu, Hilo Hattie, Lowe's, Germaines Luau, Global Village, Too Good Kayaks, GAP Inc., and various other businesses, restaurants and spa services.

For more information, call Erin Ellis at 206-7112.

Military Appreciation

— The Honolulu Academy of Arts will provide an opportunity for service members and their families to enjoy free admission today. Military will be extended a low \$5 rate for the popular "ARTafterDARK" event.

The show is themed "Turkish Delights" and will feature live entertainment, zip-tours of selected galleries, and food and beverage purchases from 6 to 9 p.m.

29 / Sunday

Family Sunday — Come celebrate the grand opening of "Reptiles: Real and Robotic" when Kraft Foods hosts Family Sunday at the Bishop Museum's Castle Hall, May 29 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. The fun-filled day features delicious food, rides, games, interactive educational programs, live entertainment and best of all, reptiles.

The new exhibit tells the story of how these feared, complex and often misunderstood creatures have evolved through history, through larger-than-life robotic reptile models and interactive displays and more.

The Bishop Museum is located at 1525 Bernice Street in Honolulu. Entry fee is \$3 for

parrots will soar and tigers will prowl, when the Honolulu Zoo opens the gates Saturday, June 4 at 10 a.m., for Military Appreciation Day. The place to be is where the wild things are.

USO-Hawaii, in cooperation with the City & County of Honolulu, the Honolulu Zoological Society and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, is inviting all military service-connected personnel throughout Oahu with valid military ID cards for free. Also, the first 5,000 military ID card holders will receive a free picnic lunch.

Face painting, animal mask

coloring, a feed-the-animals game and a hands-on skull/bio-fact table — great kid-oriented stuff — will be happening all day long.

A Marine Forces Pacific Band ensemble, a blessing and a hula halau performance will kick off activities at 10 a.m., followed by the presentation of colors at 11 a.m., and a formal program with the mayor and other dignitaries, plus mega musical entertainment from 11:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Military ID card holders can park free at Kapiolani Community College; a free shuttle bus service will operate

from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., to and from the Zoo.

Iroquois Point Collection Drive

— The Iroquois Point Cooperative Preschool is proud to present its first community

See "Calendar," page B-5

HACN TV2 Schedule

May 27 - June 2

Morning		Evening	
6:00	Sign On	6:00	Hawaii Army Report
6:26	NSPS What to Expect in Hawaii	6:30	What's Down the Drain
7:38	Dash and Grab	6:38	Community Focus
7:49	What's Down the Drain	6:49	Welcome Home
8:00	Hawaii Army Report	6:54	Redeployment Montage 4
8:34	Army News Watch	7:00	NFL-15 Greatest Comebacks
9:00	Pentagon Channel	8:00	What's Down the Drain
10:00	Bulletin Board	8:09	Safety Video
10:46	Maui the Magic Isle	8:12	Antiterrorism FP
11:08	Safety Video	8:30	NSPS What to Expect in Hawaii
11:12	Welcome Home	9:43	Volunteers
11:16	Redeployment Montage 3	9:57	Welcome Home
11:26	Dash and Grab	10:00	Redeployment Montage 3
11:56	Bulletin Board	10:07	Bulletin Board
12:00	Welcome Home	10:47	What's Down the Drain
12:33	Redeployment Montage 4	11:05	NFL's Throwbacks
	Hawaii Army Report	11:52	Welcome Home
	Pentagon Channel		Redeployment Montage 4
Afternoon		Overnight	
2:00	After the Storm		Pentagon Channel
2:23	Bulletin Board		
2:54	NSPS What to Expect in Hawaii		
4:00	Pentagon Channel		

This Week at the MOVIES

Sgt. Smith Theater

Today
Fever Pitch
7 p.m. (PG-13)

Saturday
Fever Pitch
7 p.m. (R)

Sunday
The Upside of Anger
7 p.m. (R)

Wednesday
The Upside of Anger
7 p.m. (R)

Thursday
Fever Pitch
7 p.m. (PG-13)

The theater is closed Monday & Tuesday.

Hamilton community thrives with interaction

Joy Boisselle
Staff Writer

Located in north Schofield Barracks, between Cadet Sheridan and MacMahon Road, is Hamilton Community. This 582-unit community is home to 350 Soldiers and their families — and soon 404 single Soldiers.

Hamilton Community is perhaps the most diverse of all the Army Hawaii Family Housing (AHFH) communities.

At the helm of this most unique community is property manager Stephen Quinn, a native of England who joined the AHFH team in June 2004. He became the Hamilton Community manager in September, and his goals, which embrace the AHFH "Resident's First" philosophy, are simple.

"We treat our residents as people and put their needs first," said Quinn. "I am excited to have this opportunity and to see how things we are doing in the community are impacting on our families' lives. You can definitely see the quality of living has improved, and it's really just the simple things."

AHFH created Hamilton Community by incorporating the previously Army-managed housing areas of Patriot Park, Constitution Parks (North and South) and Castner Village. "Young homes" — by U.S. Army Hawaii housing standards — Patriot Park and Constitution Park were built in the mid-70s, Castner Village in the 90s.

Castner Village boasts 94 company grade quarters; while the other areas house junior

enlisted Soldiers and their families and, most recently, single Soldiers: sergeants to master sergeants. Because of the newness of the homes compared to other housing communities, some of which were built in the 20s, Hamilton Community will be one of the last to undergo a visit from the wrecking ball.

In the meantime, Quinn and his team strive to improve the lives of their residents.

"We cannot turn these into palaces overnight, but with the aid of an incredible maintenance team, we can make things better," he explained.

According to Quinn, successes are many and visible to residents. Ongoing improvements in the community include replacing unserviceable gutters, cutting trees and repairing mailboxes.

Vacant quarters have been the priority for interior improvements, but refurbishing occupied housing is one of Quinn's goals.

Quinn describes his maintenance team as



Maria Westlake

A boy tries his best to break a pinata during a Hamilton Community barbecue.



Maria Westlake

Hamilton Community Center hosts events like remote control car races, like the one pictured, and barbecues on a monthly basis.

"second to none" and credits their rapid response to work orders as key to improving resident satisfaction.

"Because these [Hamilton] homes will be some of the last to go down, we want to make people want to live here, and that's going to take some work," Quinn conceded, "but, we've started that work and we'll keep on going upwards."

One focus group priority is the refurbishment of the area's playgrounds.

"Eventually, our 'tot lots' will include a gazebo, barbecue areas, better landscaping, and will provide a place for families to come out and interact with each other in a community atmosphere," Quinn said.

He is especially proud of community programs offered to residents. Two weeks ago, the community built a remote control racetrack and held a well-attended competition. Movie nights, self-improvement and crafting classes, talent competitions, holiday celebrations, and barbecues are just a few of what the Community Center provides its residents.

"We have a lot of things to offer and it [activities] is one of the benefits of community-based management. ...I know the residents here, and

there is a level of personal interaction that is just not possible with centralized management," Quinn said, adding that families appreciate the personal touch.

Community-based management is the cornerstone of Army Hawaii Family Housing. In June 2004, centralized management at the Army Housing Office shifted to decentralized management and maintenance at each of the 13 community centers operated by AHFH. "While it is not always possible to give everyone what they want, when they want it ... we try our best to do just that," Quinn explained.

When asked how residents can maximize the AHFH experience, Quinn offered good advice, spoken as only an English gentleman could.

"Exercise common sense, respect people's personal space and extend the absolute, utmost courtesy that you would expect to receive yourself."

(Editor's Note: For general Army Hawaii Family Housing information, contact the AHFH North or South regional offices at 275-3700 or 275-3800, respectively. Contact the Hamilton Community Center, located in Building 206 on Thomas Paine Court, at 275-3720.)



Mary Rice

Gifted and talented students in Leilehua High School's U.S. government and history class assemble for a photo during the culmination of a school project that took them to the Hawaii State Capitol, May 19.

Leilehua takes learning to the steps of State Capitol

By Joy Boisselle
Staff Writer

HONOLULU — Many teachers agree that “hands-on education” is an excellent way to motivate and excite students to learn.

Twenty-three students in Leilehua High School's gifted and talented U.S. history and government program tested that theory during a Model United Nations Security Council event held at the Hawaii State Capitol building, May 19.

In what has become an annual event for gifted and talented sophomores in teacher Denise Okouchi's class, students spend an entire quarter preparing for this culminating event. Each selects a country, researches problems affecting that country, drafts a resolution for one of the problems, then prepares to defend that resolution at the model UN event.

While the majority of research is traditional classroom and after-school work, the big event features a trip to the seat of Hawaii government, the State Capitol. There, students tour the capitol and prepare to present their resolutions in a more realistic environment.

After the students present their resolutions, the Security Council votes for or against their proposals and determines whether amendments and compromises should be included.

“Teaching U.S. foreign policy in the twenty-first century can be somewhat dreary,” Okouchi said. “This [Model UN] is a way for students to broaden their horizons and force them to look at the contemporary issues that they will be challenged with as they leave Leilehua High School.”

Participating students are enthusiastic about the program as well. Michael Rice, son of

Lt. Col. Pat Rice, is an eleventh grader who took part in the program last year.

This year, Rice returned to participate as a “permanent nation.” Along with two other returning juniors, his task was to question the validity of each resolution and make recommendations as needed.

“The Model UN is fun; it provides insight into current events around the world,” Rice explained. “It [Model UN] is a very organized and specific process, and the experience at the capitol was really cool.”

Putting the military child perspective on his experience, Rice said, “My dad is in the military, and I feel it's really important for me to know what's going on around the world, especially with deployments. It affects me at home.”

Rice's sister, Kelli, a sophomore, participated in the event for the first time this year. She selected Greece as her country of study and stated that seeing government work was an important aspect of the project.

“The hands-on learning was very different from and much better than classroom learning. And, I learned I need to pay more attention to what's going on around the world. I ... may even continue something like this in college,” Kelli said.

Seeing her students present professional projects in a realistic venue holds positive appeal for Okouchi.

“I have former students who ... have gone into International Studies and Law [and] serve in the State Department.”

Of the 23 participating students, nearly one-third were students from military families. Along with Michael and Kelli Rice, other military students included Brandi Runnels, Levi Sutton, Nikki Smith and Robert Timbreza.

Project Grad helps stop drunk driving tragedies

By Rebecca Jochen
Contributing Writer

It's that time of year again, when families all across America come together to celebrate a rite of passage for young adults: graduation.

Graduation is a time to reflect on knowledge gained, friends made and events experienced. It's a chance to officially cross a threshold into adulthood.

Tragically, many graduating seniors with great potential are soon lost when they make the decision to get behind the steering wheel of a vehicle after drinking alcohol.

The Century Council, a national not-for-profit organization funded by America's leading distillers and dedicated to fighting drunk driving and underage drinking, revealed that 705 youths under the age of 21 died in alcohol-related traffic fatalities nationwide during prom and graduation seasons in April through June of 2003.

As well, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, or NHTSA, says that there's stark evidence that prom and graduation seasons are a particularly dangerous time for our nation's youth.

Hawaii, along with most of the United States, enforces the zero tolerance law for underage drinkers. This law makes it illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to operate a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol level of .02 or more — a much

lower rate than for legal aged drinkers at .08.

A survey commissioned by the Century Council revealed that 65 percent of teens obtain the alcohol they drink from family and friends — that is, parents, friends' parents, siblings and/or older friends — with or without permission.

The good news, however, is that among 10-18 year olds, 65 percent of survey respondents cited that parents are the leading influence for them not to drink.

Parents must feel empowered to wield their influence by taking an active role in communicating with their teens about the dangers of drunk driving and underage drinking.

Graduation Night Tips

- Make sure your child has a plan for the evening and that you know it.

- Know what your child's school is offering for activities and encourage your graduate to participate in these safe and fun events.

- Know all of the “hot spot” destinations.

- Take stock of the alcohol in your home.

- Know who is driving your child around.

- Discuss your family's rules and the consequences for violating them.

- Encourage seatbelt use — the best accessory.

- Communicate with other parents and school officials.

- Stay up for your gradu-

ate's return home.

Hopefully with communication, active prevention and awareness from parents and others in the community, this graduation season will be a sober and safe one.

All graduates should be encouraged to participate in after-graduation activities, but with an eye on safety.

Leilehua High School

Graduation ceremonies are Friday, June 3, at 6 p.m. at Hugh Yoshida Athletic Stadium.

Project Graduation (sponsored by the parents of the graduating class) costs \$55 to cover food, activities and a T-shirt. All participants will meet in the gym after graduation to be bussed to an undisclosed activity for an evening of fun and food.

Festivities will end between 7 and 8 a.m., Saturday morning.

Mililani High School

Graduation ceremonies are Sunday, June 5, at 5 p.m. at Aloha Stadium.

Project Grad (sponsored by Mililani High School Students & Parents Against Drugs & Alcohol, Inc., a nonprofit corporation run by parent volunteers) costs \$150 to cover all costs of transportation, activities, food and entertainment.

Busses will leave Aloha Stadium to go to the site at 9 p.m. and return to the high school by 6 a.m., Monday.

DPW faithful says farewell after 58 years

Susan Sencio's career began during the era of World War II and spanned the decades until the Global War on Terrorism of today

to son Bryan in 1942.

By '44, things had sufficiently stabilized, so Sencio accepted hire as a civilian messenger for the Navy. She carried messages between buildings on busy Ford Island by motorized tricycle.

Sencio soon accepted a subsequent promotion to clerk on Ford Island. She quickly learned to type and transferred to the Packing Section. Later, she moved to work in the Shipping Department for incoming and outgoing cargo at Pearl Harbor.

After two years at Pearl Harbor, Sencio said she took a leave of absence to give birth and to care for her daughter Cynthia.

During the Korean War, Sencio returned to civil service with the Army at Fort Shafter. There she worked at the post Supply Office, with the Military Police, with the ID Card Section and Vehicle Registration, and then at Furnishings Management.

When Furnishings Management moved to Schofield Barracks, Sencio did too. She established her new office and warehouse at Building 1007.

In 2004, she transferred to the Directorate of Public Works, where she completed her final tour of civil service in the Engineering Division.

Sencio's outstanding performance throughout all of her many years of service earned her the respect and admiration of her peers and supervisors alike, as well as the Commander's Award for Outstanding Service.

Susan Sencio is still married to Proto Sencio of Aiea. In addition to their son and daughter, they have three grandchildren (Kimberly, Tamara and Kevin) and two great-grandchildren (Kaylon and Jordan).

Sencio says she will spend time in her garden now that she's retired.



Sencio

Briefs

From B-2

Hawaii at www.nafjobs.com.

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

Fort Shafter Library — Regular hours are back at the library. Hours are as follows:

- Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 - Fridays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - Sundays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - Saturdays and holidays, closed
- Call 438-9521 for more details.

Pau Hana Friday — Enjoy cool refreshments and

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

Laser Engraving and Custom Framing — Do you need an item engraved or that picture framed? Visit either Arts and Crafts Center located on Schofield Barracks and at Fort Shafter for a free estimate. Call 655-6330 or 438-1315 for more details.

Interisland Travel — For all your interisland travel needs, visit the Information, Ticketing and Registration office located at Flagview Mall, Schofield Barracks, or at the Post Exchange, Fort Shafter.

This travel office offers airfare, lodging and car rental packages at special military rates. Visit today or call 438-1985 or 655-9971.

Auto Craft Shop — Get your regular-sized air conditioning system checked and recharged for \$90, or your dual-sized for only \$115 during the month of May specials.

Automobile inspections are scheduled on the first and fifteenth of each month for only \$10 (non-tinted windows) and \$15 (tinted windows). Call Fort Shafter at 438-9402 and Schofield Barracks at 655-9368 for complete details.

Blue Star Card Program — The Blue Star Card Program for spouses of

deployed Soldiers will end as Soldiers redeploy. Operation Iraqi Freedom cards (those with a blue background) and Operation Enduring Freedom cards (yellow background) are no longer being accepted. The program will continue for units returning after this date, and the program end date will be publicized.

Green background cards issued for the 29th Brigade Combat Team and the 100th and 442nd Infantry Regiments are valid through 2006. The free hours for child care that were available with the Blue Star Card have been reduced to five hours per month.

Visit your Installation Access Pass Office to receive your Blue Star card. Call 438-0572 for more details.

Calendar

From B-2

"Hawaii 5-cent Collection Drive," June 4.

In order to raise funds for new classrooms, parents from the nonprofit preschool will be collecting cans, glass and plastics at the community center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Participation from the public is encouraged. Drop off items at 5100 Iroquois Ave. For more information, call 499-1279 or 722-1314.

9 / Thursday

Winning Resumes — Learn how to write a masterpiece of a resume when the Army Community Service sponsors a Resume Writing Workshop, June 9 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Building 2091. This workshop will provide you with skills to create effective resumes for public and private sector jobs.

The importance of cover letters and tips on following up with your resume will also be discussed. To register, call 655-2400.

14 / Tuesday

Keiki Care — Catch this two-day class on June 14 and 15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., which is designed to help with interviewing techniques, basic child care skills, discipline strategy and age-appropriate toys and activities. As well, CPR and first aid certification will be provided.

These classes are designed for ages 11 to 17. Those 13 and over who have successfully completed the program are eligible to go on the Certified Baby-Sitter List for families looking for child care assis-

tance.

Enrollment is limited and preregistration is required. Cost is \$40. For more details, contact the Armed Services YMCA on Wheeler at 624-5645.

Battleship Missouri — Army family members will enjoy 50-percent admission throughout the month of June, in honor of the U.S. Army's 230th birthday, which will be observed on June 14. However, the Battleship Missouri Memorial will offer completely free admission to all active duty, reserve and retired U.S. Army personnel.

The Army Birthday Special also includes 10-percent off retail purchases at the memorial's Victory Store, which recently introduced a new inventory of World War II 60th anniversary commemorative items ranging from coins to T-shirts.

Regular admission to the Battleship Missouri Memorial is \$16 per adult and \$8 per child ages 4-12. Military and kamaaina (local residents) rates are \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. With the Army birthday special, immediate family members of Army personnel with ID cards will enjoy \$5 per adult and \$2.50 per child admission rates.

Guided tours are additional. For more information, call 973-2494 or visit the memorial's Web site at www.ussmis-souri.org.

18 / Saturday

Square Dancing — The Hawaii Federation of Square

Dance Clubs would like to invite all members of the military to join in on the fun of Community Square Dancing, Saturday, June 18 and 25 at the Manana Community Park, Waimano Home Road, Pearl City from 7 to 9 p.m. Also, registration is now open for a new 10-week class beginning July 2.

New square dancers will be introduced to the basic fun moves of this national folk dance, and no experience is required. Singles, couples and families with teens are welcome, and admission is free.

"Even real men can square dance." Casual attire is suggested. Call David Lemon at 456-8465 for additional information.

Ongoing

Community Calendar Briefs — Do you have announcements of upcoming events or activities you'd like to post in the Hawaii Army Weekly? If so, e-mail your information to editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com at least two weeks in advance of your event or activity.

University of Phoenix — UOP opened its doors at the Town Center of Mililani in Spring 2004. Known for providing educational opportunities for working adults, classroom space has increased by 50 percent to meet your demand for a college education.

Undergraduate and gradu-

ate degree programs are offered at the Mililani campus, as well as in Kapolei, Honolulu and Kaneohe. Degree programs are offered in teacher education, criminal justice, human services, nursing or healthcare, business and technology.

For more information about programs or to enroll, contact a counselor at 536-2686.

Hickam OU Campus — The University of Oklahoma offers a Master of Arts in Managerial Economics and a Master of Public Administration. Non-thesis programs can be completed in about 18 months during once-per-week classes in the university's very TDY/TAD (temporary duty and temporary additional duty) friendly environment.

Contact OU at 449-6364 or at aphickam@ou.edu. Visit the OU Web site at www.gouou.edu for more details.

Mothers of Twins Club — AMOM is a social and emotional support group for families with twins, triplets or more; it's one of the few places where having multiples are a common occurrence.

Meetings are held at the Salt Lake District Park Gym at 7 p.m. and are normally the third Thursday of each month. Call 247-8946 for more information.

'America Supports You'

Nation shows support on Armed Forces Day

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

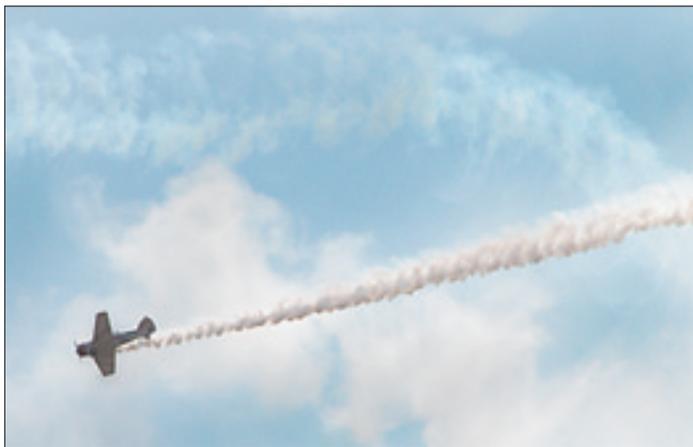
ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, Md. — Nine-year-old Karinne Clester was inside a vast aircraft hanger here Saturday, sending her best wishes to U.S. service members deployed worldwide in the fight against global terrorism.

Americans "need to support our troops ... they're fighting for freedom — for us," Karinne declared, as she typed her message of support onto a laptop at the Defense Department-sponsored "America Supports You" information booth, part of this year's Joint Service Open House activities here.

Karinne's mother, Kelly, remarked that her husband, Dale, is a sergeant in the Maryland National Guard. The America Supports You program, she noted, is a wonderful conduit "to let our troops know how much we appreciate them."

This year marks the 55th Armed Forces Day, when thousands of citizens across America visited military bases as part of an annual salute to U.S. service members.

Typically, an open house is a free event, open to the public. It normally features static displays of aircraft and other U.S. military hardware, as well as flying demon-



Gerry J. Gilmore

A World War II Navy trainer airplane, a T-6 "Texan," skywrites across the clouds above Andrews Air Force Base, Md., Saturday.

strations by military or other aerial groups. Myriad food and souvenir concessions are often dotted across tarmacs, where attendees can buy as much food, drink — and as many T-shirts — as they like.

Dave Evans, the deputy director of community relations and public liaison for DoD public affairs, was one of the people manning the America Supports You booth at Andrews. Evans said it's important for service members to realize that their efforts are appreciated

and supported by the American public.

For example, Marvel Comics is sponsoring America Supports You by publishing a special edition comic book that's dedicated to the U.S. military, Evans noted. The comic displays the program's logo on its front page.

"We're certainly supporting the troops," Evans observed at the joint open house. But America Supports You is "also about their families."



Edward Aber-Song

Sgt. Eishaw Meade, a broadcast journalist with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Infantry Division (Light), looks over a special edition Marvel comics book that is dedicated to U.S. service members and part of the "America Supports You" campaign. Very few comic books are still available at the Post Exchange, Schofield Barracks.

Pentagon Channel marks first year

Military broadcasters and civilians 'explore every technical opportunity and advancement' to get stories to services

By Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON— Broadcast 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the Pentagon Channel is a unique source of military news for service members and their families around the world, and a growing number of civilians stateside.

That was not always the case, however. A year ago, this month, the Pentagon Channel began operation with just a few short news spots produced in-house.

"What had existed for some time as a closed-circuit feed of a few news programs to the Pentagon cable system ... was very quickly spun up into a national TV channel," said Chas Henry, the Pentagon Channel's executive producer. "It's amazing what they've accomplished in [a year]."

Allison Barber, deputy assistant secretary of defense for public affairs (internal communications and public liaison), echoed this sentiment.

"The Pentagon Channel team has exceeded our expectations in several ways," Barber said. "One, we have cultivated a fabulous team of military broadcasters. What has really just wowed me is the talent on the Pentagon Channel in the way of our military."

She said she's also pleased with the content, which she describes as "able to stand up against any news channel."

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jennifer Gray, a broadcast journalist with the Pentagon Channel, arrived six months prior to the channel's launch. She said it's an honor to be involved with something from its very roots.

She said the organization was much smaller when she signed on, and that this presented a challenge for the two managers and four broadcasters running the show. To top it all off, she said, some of the things the Pentagon Channel does were completely new to that founding group.

"It was a huge learning curve for everybody. But I think especially being in the military, faced with a challenge like that, we were all just kind of gung ho," she said. "To go from four news minutes a day to learning how to fill 24 hours of airtime has been challenging."

Gray, who anchors "Around the Services," a daily half-hour show featuring military news from all of the services, said it's interesting to see what people can accomplish when given the resources.

An episode of "Recon," a monthly 30-minute documentary program, solidified the Pentagon Channel's reality for Marine Cpl. Brian Buckwalter.

"That Recon that features [posthumous Medal of Honor recipient Army] Sergeant First Class Paul Ray Smith ... that blew me away," he said. "That could go on network television as is, right now, tonight."

Buckwalter anchors the "Studio 5" program, a weekly show that gives top Defense Department leaders a venue to talk about top military issues.

To grow into what the Pentagon Channel is today, a lot had to happen, Henry



Photos by Air Force Maj. Francisco G. Hamm

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld talks with Air Force Master Sgt. Sean Lehman of the Pentagon Channel during a live broadcast May 20.

said. To start, he said, the staff needed to cultivate sufficient, attractive, non-repetitive content. The staff has been beefed up to 58, and now includes a solid mix of military and civilian broadcasters. This mix has been beneficial, according to the military broadcasters.

"Bringing in all the civilian people that we have from the civilian media who've all worked for the network news stations has

just made a huge difference," Gray said.

Air Force Tech Sgt. Daniela Marchus finds that mix very different from what she's used to as a military broadcaster.

"The mix of commercial broadcast people and military broadcast people has been a whole new thing for me," she said. "We're all teaching each other so many different things. As a [military] producer, I've always been responsible for



Above – Army Sgt. Lee McMahon, a broadcast journalist with the Pentagon Channel, reviews her script prior to anchoring a Pentagon Channel Report, which airs six times daily.



Left – Marine Cpl. Brian Buckwalter, a broadcast journalist with the Pentagon Channel, anchors the Studio 5 program.

the entire creative process," Marchus, a producer-reporter with the Pentagon Channel special programs department, said.

The good experiences don't stop there, though. Because of the channel's unique aspect, the broadcasters often are presented with unparalleled opportunities that commercial

broadcasters may never have.

"Military broadcasters [at the Pentagon Channel] get to experience things that other broadcasters in the military wouldn't," Army Sgt. Lee McMahon, a broadcast journalist with the Pentagon Channel, said. "You get to learn from those in the commercial

[broadcast] world and interview top defense leaders and do things that are outside the realm of typical military broadcasting."

Gray found herself in just such a position when she learned her interview schedule included a sit-down with first lady Laura Bush. "If you had told me two years ago that I'd be interviewing Laura Bush, I'd have said you were out of your mind," she said.

Not all opportunities present themselves in the form of an interview, however.

Buckwalter, who got his start in broadcasting at American Forces Network-Okinawa, Japan, had been in a print journalism position at Henderson Hall, a headquarters battalion near the Pentagon, before being offered the position at the Pentagon Channel. It was an opportunity he couldn't pass up.

"My first love is broadcasting," he said. "I looked at [the Pentagon Channel] as an opportunity to come and learn, honestly. It's a job I never thought I would have."

He and the rest of the Pentagon Channel staff will get the chance to keep right on learning as the channel continues to grow. Barber said the future holds more live Pentagon Channel Reports, the possibility of "video on demand"

See "Channel," page B-8

Hawaii Army Report airs on TV-2

Compiled by Public Affairs Office
25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S.
Army, Hawaii

Soldiers and their families at Schofield Barracks can tune in to the Hawaii Army Cable Network, TV-2, for the Hawaii Army Report. This 30-minute, biweekly television newscast covers the Army team in Hawaii — Soldiers, civilians, family and community members.

The program is produced by the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, Public Affairs Office and TV-2. The show is a myriad of news,

Hawaii Army Report runs daily at 8 a.m., 12 p.m. and 6 p.m.

information and compelling feature stories about the people who make up our army team in Hawaii, according to Spc. Mary Simms, host of the program.

The broadcast and production team is also providing an opportunity for Soldiers and civilians, especially military family members, to intern. Applicants can gain experience in tel-

evision news production and broadcasting equipment, learning how to shoot, edit and produce a television newscast for a professional television news show.

Applicants must have reliable transportation, be able to work a minimum of 10 hours per week, be bright and adaptable, and possess great interpersonal skills. School credit is also possible.

To be considered for this non-paid internship, submit your name and a letter about why you feel you should be picked as an intern to mary.simms@schofield.army.mil.



Air Force Maj. Francisco G. Hamm

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jennifer Gray, a broadcast journalist with the Pentagon Channel, anchors "Around the Services," a daily half-hour show featuring military news from all of the services.

Channel

From B-7

for cable customers and even worldwide Pentagon Channel bureaus.

In some locations the channel will partner with military services. In others it will augment what might be a small broadcast capability, and some geographic locations will feature a full Pentagon Channel bureau.

Another possibility for the Pentagon Channel is making it possible for viewers to receive programming on their cell phones.

Barber said the channel owes it to the nation's men and women in uniform to explore every technical opportunity and advancement.

"When you think about it, our men and women in the military deserve the best," Barber said. "So our standards should be higher than anybody else's because our audience is more important. I feel like our team has really stepped up to the challenge.

"We take it seriously. 'Serving those who serve' is not just a tagline for us," she said. "It's really what we believe every day."

At the end of the day, Barber said, the Pentagon Channel staff wants its unique audience to seek out what McMahon described as "the most unique military broadcasting outlet in the world" for its news fix.

Super Brawler



Spc. Juan Jimenez

In support of Military Family Day activities at the Schofield Barracks Post Exchange, May 20, Falaniko "NIko" Vitale (right), a Super Brawl mixed martial arts fighter, autographs a DVD for Sgt. Ming Chiu, a Soldier with the 65th Engineer Battalion.



Photos by Master Sgt. Geoffrey Carter

Soldiers participating in the 10K Spring Rocket Run begin to race around Forward Operating Base Salerno in hopes of winning a CTF Thunder Coin on May 14.

Rocket Run blasts off at FOB Salerno

By Capt. Dwayne Wirfel
Combined Task Force Thunder Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE SALERNO, Afghanistan — Army, Marine, Air Force and civilian runners had one last blast before many of them headed home, running the 5K or 10K route along the perimeter here.

“Fourteen units participated, about four hundred of those Soldiers ran the 5K and two hundred ran the 10K route,” said Sgt. Maj. Eugene R. Brewer, the brigade operations sergeant major for 25th Infantry Division (Light) Artillery.

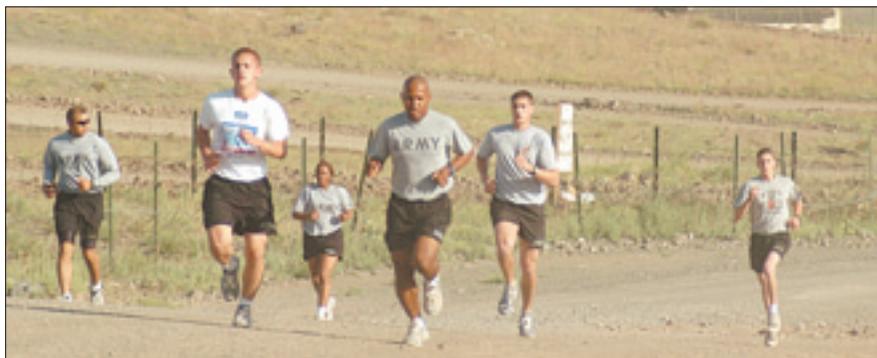
Soldiers waited in formation to start the event while Sgt. Maj. Brewer gave them the rules and a safety brief.

“You all know what to do should we be rocketed during the race,” said Brewer. “Run faster!”

Runners who successfully completed the race received a T-shirt with the dates of incoming rocket attacks from the last year listed on the back. Executive Officer Maj. Gregory Gadson came up with the idea.

Col. Gary Cheek, commander of Task Force Thunder, reminded everybody in his opening remarks just why he thought participation was so important.

“This last event of Task Force Thunder needs to continue on. Soldiers at a forward operating base need events like this to provide a way to forget about the war for just a little while — to just have fun,” Cheek said.



Soldiers participating in the 10K Spring Rocket Run begin to race around Forward Operating Base Salerno in hopes of winning a CTF Thunder Coin on May 14.



May

27 / Today

Fourth of July 5K Run and Fun Run — Entry forms and fees for the Fourth of July runs are available now at the Schofield Health and Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks.

Cost for the 5K is \$17 with T-shirt and \$10 without, if you register by June 15. From June 15 through 25, the entry fee is \$22 with T-shirt and \$12 without. The day of the race, entry is \$27 with T-shirt and \$14 without.

The children's one-mile fun run is free; however, T-shirts may be purchased by June 25 for \$8. Entry forms for both runs are available at all Army fitness centers. Registration on race day begins at 7 a.m. For more information, call 655-8789.

30 / Monday

Sports Night — Every Monday evening from 4 to 9 p.m., watch satellite sports, ESPN and more, while enjoying a special sports bar menu at Reggie's. Call 655-4466 for more information.

Summer Camp — If you're interested in meeting new people, going on field

trips and loads of fun, then the Middle School Teen Summer Camp is just what you're looking for. Registration is currently being accepted at Resource and Referral for the June 13 through July 8 camp.

Cost is only \$25 per week and a waiver is required. Call 655-0451 for details.

June

9 / Thursday

Bike Festival — Listen up at this bike safety clinic, enter bike contests and learn about the latest in bicycles for youth at the Tropics from 2 to 4 p.m. Door prizes will also be available; call 655-0002 for more details.

Ongoing

Swim Club — Record each mile you run, walk or swim and win incentive prizes in the 100-mile run/walk and 50-mile swim clubs. Runners will receive a pair of Thorlo running socks, and swimmers will receive goggles.

Stop by any Army Physical Fitness Center or swimming pool to pick up a log sheet.

Cardio Kickboxing — A new cardio kickboxing class is now available at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center. This class is offered every Tuesday and Thursday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., and its cost is \$2 per class.

Charity Walk nets record \$963,000

Hawaii Hotel & Lodging Association
NewsRelease

HONOLULU — More than 10,205 walkers on Oahu, Maui, Kauai and the Big Island participated in the 27th Annual Visitor Industry Charity Walk, sponsored by the Hawaii Hotel and Lodging Association (HHLA), to raise a total of \$963,000 for Hawaii's charities on Saturday. The previous record was \$960,400 last year.

"Thousands will benefit from the generosity of this day," said Alan Cambra, general manager for the Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel and chairperson for this year's Charity Walk.

Themed "Mahalo to Our Troops," this year's walk paid tribute to Hawaii's

armed forces and their families.

"The visitor industry has its share of employees serving in the military and we are pleased to show our utmost appreciation and respect to all of the service men and women and their families," said Cambra.

"This is an expression of our aloha for the community. There's a lot of heart that goes into this event by the workers and managers of Hawaii's visitor industry, that's been in great evidence today," said Murray Towill, president of HHLA.

The HHLA will be donating a portion of the proceeds to support military organizations, including USO-Hawaii, Armed Services YMCA and Hawaii Supports Our Troops.

On Oahu, walkers stepped off at 6

a.m. from Ala Moana Beach Park's McCoy Pavilion to the trumpet sound of "Reveille in the Morning" and "Charge" by 111th Army Band bugler Sgt. 1st Class Domingo. They continued on a seven-mile trek through Waikiki, Kapiolani Park, along the Ala Wai, and back to Ala Moana Beach Park.

Highlights along the route included a military command post with a live band at the Island Colony checkpoint and an Outrigger Hotels & Resorts booth for walkers who wrote notes of appreciation to Soldiers in Iraq that will be sent with a care package.

The annual walk is the largest single-day fund-raiser here, providing an outlet for the visitor industry to collectively give back to local communities.



28 / Saturday

North Shore Triathlon

— In honor of Soldier and Capt. Mike Tarlavsky (who was killed in action on Aug. 12, 2004, in An Najaf, Iraq), the Bike Factory will present "Tarlavsky's North Shore Triathlon 2005" at Mokuleia Beach Park, Saturday at 6 a.m.

Tarlavsky was involved in all things sports, from scuba diving and kayaking to rock climbing and skydiving. His beloved and athletic wife Tricia joins the Bike Factory

in inviting you to participate by swimming 400 meters, biking 10 miles and running three miles in individual or team relays.

Men and women can enter in various categories and compete for various prizes. Individual entry fee and finisher T-shirt is \$60, teams \$100.

For more details, contact Chris Gardner at 372-8885 or surf www.hawaiiswim.com.

30 / Monday

Pearl Harbor Memorial Race

— The Surface Navy Association will present its inaugural Pearl Harbor Memorials Relay, to commence and end near the Battleship Missouri Memorial on Ford Island on Memorial Day, Monday.

This event is being sponsored by the Pearl Harbor Visitors Center, and proceeds from the event will benefit the USS Oklahoma Memorial Foundation, for the creation of the USS Oklahoma Memorial.

Military and civilian teams (called crews) can consist of as few or as many members desired to run or walk the relay in order to complete the five-hour event. All crew members are required to submit a signed entry form (none will be accepted on the day of the relay).

Each participant will receive a T-shirt and a commemorative "plank owner" certificate for this inaugural event. Registration forms are available online at

www.usmissouri.org/relay or www.RunnersHI.com, and maps at www.usmissouri.org/relay.

The relay will begin at 7 a.m. and conclude at noon. The course is approximately 3.2 miles around historic Ford Island. The route will be mostly paved, with a few grassy field and sea plane ramp areas. Baby strollers that are suited for running are welcome. Water and drinks will be provided.

Crews must pick up their registration packets on Saturday or Sunday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at Runner's Hi in Aiea (98-390A Kamehameha Hwy.).

For more information on the Pearl Harbor Memorials Relay, contact Neil Voje at 488-1391.

Intramural Softball Standings

Unit	Wins	Losses	Pct.	Unit	Wins	Losses	Pct.
East Division				Co. C, 1st Bn., 27th Inf.	0	2	0.000
407th MI	2	0	1.000	Btry. B, 3rd Bn., 7th FA	0	2	0.000
HHC, 25th ID (L)	2	0	1.000	South Division			
40th QM	1	1	0.500	Co. D, 1st Bn., 25th Avn	2	0	1.000
JAG	0	1	0.000	Co. A, 125th Sig.	2	0	1.000
58th MP	0	1	0.000	Btry. C, 2nd Bn., 11th FA	1	1	0.500
HHC, 2nd Bde.	0	2	0.000	Trp. A, 3rd Sqdn., 4th CAV	1	1	0.500
West Division				HHC, 125th Sig.	0	2	0.000
Co. C, 725th MSB	2	0	0.000	Co. C, 25th Avn.	1	1	0.500
Co. B, 65th Eng.	2	0	0.000	Women's Division			
HQ & A, 725th MSB	1	1	0.500	3rd Bn., 7th FA	1	0	1.000
Co. B, 225th FSB	1	1	0.500	58th MP	0	0	0.000
HHC, 84th Eng.	0	2	0.000	TAMC	0	0	0.000
556th PSB	0	2	0.000	205th MI	0	1	0.000
North Division				71st Chem.	0	0	0.000
HHC, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.	2	0	1.000	225th FSB	0	0	0.000
Co. A, 1st Bn., 27th Inf.	2	0	1.000	<i>(Standings are current as of May 20.)</i>			
Co. B, 1st Bn., 27th Inf.	1	1	0.500				
Co. A, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.	1	1	0.500				



Spc. Juan Jimenez

Monroe Travis (left), a Company B, 225th Forward Support Battalion shortstop, throws to Hope Walker, a second baseman, to get a 556th Personnel Service Battalion player out during a softball game at Gimlet Field, Schofield Barracks, May 17.



ArmyOnline
www.25idl.army.mil

