

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

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Serving the U.S. Army community in Hawaii

November 12, 2004

What's Inside



Wolfhounds Patrol

2-27 Inf. delivers needed supplies; patrols.

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Scheduled Power Outages

Directorate of Public Works scheduled three 8-hour power outages on consecutive Saturdays beginning this Saturday and ending Nov. 27. The outages will allow tree trimming and electrical maintenance in those designated areas. Signs listing the dates and times have been posted in the affected areas. For more information, call Purdy Keohokapu at 864-1083.



Kualoa Ranch

Where horses, ATVs, a verdant valley and white beaches reside.

B-1

Annual Anti-terrorism Exercise until Nov. 18

Exercises will be accomplished through a series of short notice, one day situational training exercises. The Anti-terrorism office and U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii are endeavoring to create an exercise with minimal impact on the community's activities while protecting families, installations and islands from acts of terrorism. Call Robert C. Marsh at 655-5212 for more information.



Spouse's Spotlight

She's painting her name all over Hale Kula Elementary.

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25ID pilots saved in daring rescue

By Cpl. Benjamin Cossel
American Forces Press Service

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – For two AH-64D Apache Longbow pilots, the night of Oct. 16 was just a regular night flying a reconnaissance mission around Southern Baghdad.

Then a distorted cry for help came across the emergency radio, shattering the chatter of all other communications. They recognized the call sign; they recognized the area; and a few minutes later, they were en route to perform what would become a heroic rescue.

"I really couldn't make out at first what was going on. The transmission over the radio was broken up and weak, but I could make out that it was a distress call," said Chief Warrant Officer Justin Taylor, an Apache pilot with Company C, 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, of the 4th Brigade Combat Team.

At first, the transmission seemed as though it might be coming from a U.S. Marine Corps aircraft. The call sign of another aircraft speaking to the downed pilot was of Marine Corps designation, Taylor said. He

radioed to Marine Corps headquarters asking if any aircraft of theirs was down in the area. The response came back — negative.

Then a call sign familiar to Taylor and Capt. Ryan Welch, the air mission commander, came across the emergency channel. The two men now knew that Army OH-58D Kiowa helicopter pilots were down.

The downed pilots, Chief Warrant Officers Chad Beck and Greg Crow, are assigned to the 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment of the 25th Infantry Division (Light). Their unit is attached to the 4th BCT, Welch's unit.

Reports later found that their Kiowa helicopter collided with another one from the 25th Inf. Div. (L).

Capt. Christopher B. Johnson and Chief Warrant Officer William I. Brennan were killed in the crash.

"Those were our guys on the ground, and we had to help. My first thought was we would provide aerial security," said Welch.

As the team changed flight paths, they notified the USMC aircraft they had heard earlier of their intentions and made a call to 4th BCT headquarters to alert



Cpl. Benjamin Cossel

Army Capt. Ryan Welch demonstrates how he attached himself to the outside of his AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopter during the rescue of two downed pilots.

the unit of their movement.

"As soon as we told the Marines what we were doing, a call came up on the guard channel. It was the same call sign but a different numerical designation," Welch explained.

The wounded pilot explained that the pilot who had called previously was now unable to respond, that two other pilots had been killed in action, and that he and the other survivor were trying to make their way to a defensible position but were having difficulty because one of the wounded men was unable to walk.

"When we flew over the sector, we immediately picked up the heat signature of a burning fire," said Welch.

While the two were flying over the fire trying to get a better look at the ground, an excited call came up. "You just flew over our position," the transmission informed.

"Once we had identified the crew on the ground, I made the call that we were going to land and get those pilots out of there," Welch said.

"As we landed and I got

See "Rescue" Page A-8

Anti-terrorism exercises evaluate safety on posts

By Spc. Daniel P. Kelly
Assistant Editor

After terrorist attacks against the United States Sept. 11, 2001, President George W. Bush declared War on Terror. Soldiers from Hawaii are currently deployed in support of that fight.

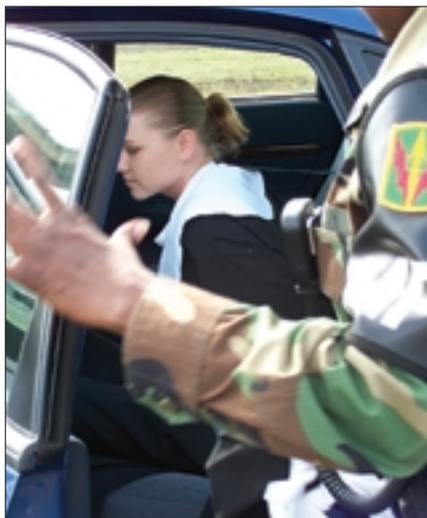
On U.S. Army Hawaii posts, Soldiers and civilians are being evaluated on their anti-terrorism tactics through a series of exercises Nov. 1-18.

"The Anti-Terrorism Exercise is designed to test the seven annual requirements from Army Regulation 525-13," said Robert C. Marsh, anti-terrorism officer for U.S. Army, Hawaii.

Military and D.A. Police along with Soldiers manning the gates are graded on their ability to detect and stop covert and overt surveillance from those who may want to plan an attack on or near USARHAW posts.

"Surveillance conditions on a covert operation were as simple as a car driving by at a slow rate with a video camera pointed out the window, or a group of people dressed as construction workers," Marsh explained.

See "Exercises" Page A-8



Spc. Charles Hayes

A MP slams the door on terror after three "protesters" stormed Wheeler Army Air Field during an anti-terrorist exercise on Nov. 4.

Defense Act increases pay, provides benefits

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush signed the \$420.6 billion National Defense Authorization Act Oct. 28.

The bill increases the number of Soldiers and Marines by 20,000 and 3,000, respectively. Army end-strength will be set at 502,000; Marines, 178,000.

In addition, the bill funds a 3.5 percent across-the-board pay raise for servicemembers and eliminates out-of-pocket expenses for housing by increasing the basic allowance for housing.

The bill also makes permanent increases in hostile fire and imminent danger

pay to \$225 per month and in family separation pay to \$250 per month.

The bill also allows the base realignment and closure process to move forward. The House version of the bill would have delayed the process for two years.

The bill authorizes a number of programs for Reserve-component servicemembers.

On the medical side, it provides for up to 90 days of Tricare coverage for reservists and their families who are mobilized. It also authorizes 180 days of transitional Tricare health benefits for reservists, active-duty members and their families after separation from active duty.

See "Benefits" Page A-8

All Soldiers awarded American Soldier medal

By Sgt. Lorie Jewell
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Association of the United States Army chose "The American Soldier" as its 2004 George Catlett Marshall Medal recipient and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston accepted on behalf of all Soldiers.

"These noble and selfless patriots who serve causes larger than themselves are known as American Soldiers," said retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, AUSA president, in presenting the award at the organization's annual George Catlett Marshall Memorial Dinner Oct. 27. "They consistently embody all that is good about America."

Marshall served as the Army's chief of staff during World War II, from 1939 to

1945, and following his retirement, as secretary of state from 1947 to 1949. He created the Marshall Plan, which provided economic and military aid to foreign nations. Marshall received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston accepted the award with a robust "Hooah!" generating a resounding round of hooahs in return.

"What a great night to be a Soldier," Preston said, thanking the association for the honor on behalf of Soldiers everywhere. "We are very humbled by this tribute to the American Soldier."

Preston noted that throughout the Army's 229-year history, every Soldier has had a story as unique as the various cities and towns

they came from. He shared a few stories that best exemplify the Soldier's Creed.

In the War of Independence, for example, Preston recalled Deborah Sampson of Plimpton, Mass., who disguised herself as a young man in order to join the fight. Her masquerade lasted for three years and through two injuries. When her true gender was discovered, she was discharged. Gen. George Washington lobbied on her behalf to ensure she received the same pension and benefits afforded other veterans.

Once asked if she fought to advance the cause of women's rights, Preston quoted Sampson's reply:

"I was heeding the call of

See "Soldier" Page A-8



Sgt. Reeba Critser

Pfc. Douglas Long, 38th Sig. Bn., Fort Shafter, looks at the George Catlett Marshall Medal awarded to "The American Soldier" in Washington D.C. Oct. 27.

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

To Iraq with love – Gods speed!

Commentary

By Linda Lappi
Proud Mom

This has been a difficult year for the Lappi family. Since January of this year, we have said goodbye to three young men heading for Iraq. Another is in training to be shipped out soon and yet another could be deployed at any time.

We are a large family, scattered from "sea to shining sea," and as a family we have shared weddings, births and deaths; graduations, reunions and everything in-between.

For a time we were only linked by blood and marriage. Now we have something more in common, something that will bind us together for the rest of our days. We did not choose this for ourselves, nor would we wish this on another family.

But with our fear, uncertainty and heavy hearts, also come pride, patriotism and a fierce loyalty for our children. For they are doing

what they choose to do. No compromises, no apologies.

They do not complain or whine or feel sorry for themselves. They are respectful as well as respected. They have families that they miss and a separate life they are missing.

They have experienced more in their short lives than most of us could comprehend. Yet, they are doing what has to be done, only asking for our support, love and prayers.

The letters and packages wing across the sky on a daily basis. News from home, tidbits of the life they have left behind, Care packages with videotapes, beef jerky, teddy bears, local newspapers- anything and everything.

Churches add their names to prayer chains, praying for their safe return. Yellow ribbons hung carefully in the yard and on a mailbox; the American flag waving ever so proudly on a light pole.

The Beanie Baby "Hero" poised gallantly on the dashboard; the helmet band from boot camp dangling from the car's rearview mirror. Stickers on the automobile for all to see.

A bracelet worn as a reminder of what the son is sacrificing. A yellow ribbon with a flag representing a Soldier away from his homeland and loved ones.

Yellow flowers planted on the sunny side of a house. Tears of a mother - fear for her child facing the uncertainty ahead. So afraid to miss the phone calls, praying to hear that familiar voice.

The blue star in the window proclaiming "We are the family of a United States Armed Forces service member."

These are the family members that we are so very proud to call our own:

Spc. Robert G. Gorgas is training with the 145th Army National Guard in Fort Bliss, Texas. Rob is 25-years-old, married to wife Jessica and has a 1-year-old daughter, Trinity. He is the son of Cathy (Lappi) Gorgas of Florida.

Staff Sgt. Karen Gorgas is a 35m Radar Repairer serving in the Republic of South Korea. She is 24-years-old. She is the daughter of Cathy (Lappi) Gorgas of Florida.

Spc. William MacDonald of Clearfield, Pa. is serving with the

U.S. Army 1st Cavalry Division from Fort Hood, Texas. Bill is 29-years-old, the son of Reverend Lowell and Joan (Lappi) MacDonald also of Clearfield.

Spc. Heather Canonico of Reading, Pa. Is the fiancée of MacDonald. She is with the 1st Cavalry serving in Baghdad. Heather is 22-years-old, the daughter of Barry and Susan Canonico of Reading, Pa. She is an Ammunition Specialist.

1st Lt. Joseph A. Lappi has been with the U.S. Army National Guard for 13 years out of Manti, Utah. He is 31-years-old, married to wife Teresa and has four children; Joe Jr., Daria, Lillian and Sophie.

When asked if he could be deployed in the future - "There's always a chance, it's one of the risks of wearing the green uniform."

Pfc. Brandon Howard is 19-years-old from Bovey, Mn. He is serving with the U.S. Army Co. D, 125th in Baghdad. Brandon is a Track Vehicle Mechanic. He and his wife Amanda were married for two weeks before he deployed to Iraq in June. Brandon is the son of Ken and Pam (Lappi) Talonen of Bovey, Mn. and Tad Howard.

Spc. Erick O. Lappi is 20-years-old from Cook, Mn. He is serving with the U.S. Army 25th Infantry Division in Northern Iraq. He was deployed in January.

His parents are Howard and Linda (Lee) Lappi of Cook, Mn.

Sgt. Ronald Lappi is serving with the U.S. Army in Fort, Lewis, Wa. He is with the Infantry Bravo II. Ron is 24-years-old and married to Lisa and has two children - Zak and Angelina. His mother is Connie Lappi from North Dakota.

AW3 (Navy AirCrew) William Andorfer is 20-years-old from Jacksonville, Fl. He is the son of David and Sandra (Lee) Brewer of Livermore, Ca. and William Andorfer of Florida.

William volunteered to go to Iraq. He is taking the place of a sailor whose father has a brain tumor.

He said, "I would hope someone would do the same for me one day if need be."

We do not discuss the politics of it all, nor do we care who is right or wrong. The focus is on our children - our sons, daughters, nephews and niece. Their health, safety and well being come before all else.

Dear Diary: A Soldier's story

Commentary

By 1st Sgt. Robert Jennings
Co. A, 1-21 Inf. Bn.

As we round out the end of October enemy activity seems to be on the rise. We are keeping our eyes peeled and ears to the ground for any unusual tendencies.

Oct. 24, 8:50 p.m. - An explosion is heard in the distance, south of the patrol base. Initial reports are confusing, but the police are dispatched to investigate. The initial report is that one police officer had received minor injuries.

Oct. 25, 12:30 a.m. - Gunshots are reported in the direction of one of the police stations.

After getting the interpreters to contact them, they report three gunmen attacked them while they were guarding a future election center. One police officer was shot in the arm but was treated and released from the hospital.

Another tactic we're battling lately in the city is graffiti. Our enemy is trying to cast fear in the hearts of civilians by threatening the populace. Our latest message was found in a girls' school. It was translated to read, "You will agree not to teach Latin and Kurdish. We will give you one week. The principle and vice principle will be treated badly. No other languages except Arabic are allowed. Arab resistance and life for Fallujah."

The message was signed by the same group that is trying to control Fallujah. We are unsure if this is a valid threat, or someone

using their name to sound more powerful. Like any threat we treat them with validity and have increased police patrols in the area.

Oct. 28 - 29 - After receiving intelligence on a new terrorist group in our sector, leadership has developed a plan. Company A begins to stage for an upcoming mission. It's been a while since the company has had a mission like this, so the Soldiers are pumped up.

Hit time! There were four houses to be hit simultaneously. Four minutes after we reached the edge of the village, all target houses were secure and clear, and the police were called in to conduct searches of the houses. In the end over a dozen suspects were in custody, and the terrorist cell was crippled from the top.

This was a very successful mission, and the Soldiers had grins on their faces as they processed their suspects at the detainee collec-

tion point. All the evidence was marked, bagged and processed.

This week meet Spc. Roland Garza. He is from San Antonio, Texas and has been in the Army for almost three years. Garza said, "When we were told we were deploying to Iraq, I felt like I was finally fulfilling my obligation."

"I've seen some areas here that are lower than low when it comes to living standards. I couldn't imagine these places before I came here. I guess you could say I was kind of spoiled living in Hawaii and San Antonio."

He continued by saying, "I'm really glad I have spent this time here. A year seems like a long time, but I really think this is what I needed. I've been able to think about things in my life that I wasn't able to before."

"I've been able to sort some things out, and I'm ready to continue on with the military when we return."

Voices of Lightning

How are you planning for reunion?



Oh my gosh, it will be wonderful! I am planning something special for him and the kids, maybe a nice dinner. What is important is that he will be back, and safe, and able to help the family.

Gabriela Miyamota
OIF Family Member



I am keeping a positive attitude about reunion. I will probably attend some of the ACS reunion classes, I just received the ACS reunion DVD in the mail, and I plan to look at it. Our FRG is also having information on reunion issues. My husband has been gone two years actually and we are going to spend quality time with our family when he returns.

Tracy Langley
OIF Family Member



My husband is here on R&R and this is his second time deployed to Iraq. I feel prepared for reunion already. We have talked every day and I think communications is very important to a successful reunion. I also would tell the other spouses to try not to be nervous (about reunion).

Johanna Martinez
OIF Family Member



My husband and I talk on the phone about our feelings and reuniting. Communications is the key. We don't have any special plans yet, but we are saving money for the reunion.

Celina Miller
OIF Family Member



I am actually going to take some of the classes offered by ACS. I got the list from my FRG and there are lots of classes on how to cope and lots of information for kids. I don't have anything concrete yet for our reunion; I just want him home.

Kolonda Rodgers
OIF Family Member



I haven't thought about it yet; it makes me nervous... I am definitely excited and can't wait for him to come home.

Sgt. Wendy Tierney
Co. G, 58th Avn. Bn.

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Medics give medicine and relief to refugees

By Staff Sgt. Phillip Witzke
Army News Service

KABUL, Afghanistan – Huddled in the ramshackle of what is left of a once prominent hillside community; children peered through the closed gates at the Soldiers as they dismounted their vehicles. Rivulets of liquid coursed down the hillside, pooling in small puddles on the road that ran along the base of the community; the smell of raw sewage assaulted the Soldier's nostrils.

But relief would soon be on the way, as Soldiers from the Kabul Compound Medical Clinic arrived Oct. 27 to bring what relief they could to the residents of Sia Sang Kaita Now refugee camp on the outskirts of the Afghan capital.

As the medics unloaded supplies and set up a mobile clinic in a small courtyard and adjoining brick and mud dwelling, word began to spread that the Americans had come to bring medical aid to the camp. Soon, a small crowd began to gather.

Small children, parents with infants, and women lined the walls outside the courtyard, each one waiting for a chance to see a medical professional, many for the first time.

Although the medics weren't able to treat everyone within their two-hour time limit, they managed to provide services to about 85 women and children on common illnesses such as cold and flu, cuts, and aches and pains.

Bringing medical aid to these refugee families is a mission that was born out of necessity.

First, there is no medical Provincial Reconstruction Team in the Kabul area because of the variety of hospitals and free medical clinics. The closest PRT is in the Parwan Province, well north of the capital city. And secondly, the refugees are not considered part of the civilian populous in the Afghan culture, which further isolated this group of nomads.

"Most of these people have never seen hospitals or doctors," said Spc. Timothy Laynor, a medic from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) assigned to Kabul Compound. "This is my eighth mission and the third refugee camp I have been in. "This



Staff Sgt. Phillip Witzke

Spc. Timothy Laynor, a medic with the 25th Infantry Division (Light), helps treat a child Oct. 27 at the Sia Sang Kaita Now refugee camp. Many of the children were immunized to help prevent infection from common diseases that are contracted from poor water supplies and lack of proper hygiene in the camp.

was a brand new camp and we could tell that they had probably never seen a medical provider. But they were very open to it. They know why the Soldiers are here: to help them. So, they would automatically just go right to us."

Laynor said the most common ailments the team saw were dysentery, ringworm, diarrhea and stomach problems, which can be associated with an unclean living environment.

To help minimize such infections, the children were taught how to wash their hands and faces, especially before eating, and posters were hung to remind adults to wash

before preparing food. It is a simple solution to a bigger problem, but one that with training can help the community stay healthier.

"Education is really the key to this," said Dr. (Col.) Michael Young, the medical doctor for Kabul Compound Medical Clinic. "They can learn they need to wash their hands before they prepare food and they need to possibly boil their water until they have a safe water source."

Another preventive measure is to immunize the children against parasites and provide the children and women with vitamins and iron. It is a small measure to help the nutri-

tional needs of this community as the residents try to exist on what little food they can get and a water supply that is often tainted with any number of bacterial and disease.

"We try to give the children anti-parasite medicines," Young said, "but they are going to get re-infected. That is more a symptom of the lack of infrastructure and the hygiene, no sewers and not boiling water."

Even with education and some medical attention, there is still more to be done. Many of these residents didn't get to see a medical professional and in some cases the medics

just didn't have the right medication to give them.

There remains a desperate need for things like common cough and cold medications, children's pain and fever reducer, cortisone creams or other topical antibiotic creams and anti-fungal creams, Laynor said.

Despite the hurdles that must be overcome, the Kabul Compound Medical Team will be out in the community, striving to provide whatever care and relief they can to the people in the Kabul area who need it.

"Children are the future here, so we want to make sure we treat them," Laynor. "And there are no clinics for women, so we will see them."

See what your donations can do

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- Provide two hearing aids for low income, hearing-impaired people this year
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- Open a student's eyes to the conditions of the world's poor through a short-term mission trip
- Provide a solar energy system for an entire village
- Help efforts to configure compounds so that the children can take medicines orally as opposed to injection
- Provide a scholarship for an underprivileged person to travel to Central America or Haiti to document and witness human rights abuses, then return to the US to work for change
- Make and sustain one school-based mentoring match for an at risk youth

Data from the Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area (www.cfcnca.org) For more information, visit the official CFC homepage at www.omp.gov/cfc.

Command safety message

By Col. Michael T. McBride
USARHAW Commander

During this upcoming holiday season Soldiers, family members, and civilian employees will gather with family and friends to reflect on the accomplishments of the year, celebrate the holidays, and look forward to the upcoming New Year. Many of us will be leaving the islands to celebrate the holidays on the mainland or overseas. Planning your trip to allow enough time to reach your destination without an accident is the key to success. Be alert to the aggressive drivers who may be in a hurry or fail to consider difficult road conditions. Give yourself and each family member the extra safety edge by using the

installed seatbelts and child restraint systems for each person in your vehicle. For those of you who will be traveling on the mainland roads during the winter season, be aware of the ever-changing weather and road conditions and allow extra time to arrive alive.

Be cognizant of the hazards caused by speeding, driving while fatigued, and driving under the influence of alcohol. The use of a designated driver or planning ahead to sleep over at a friend's house is prudent planning that will prevent tragedy.

Those remaining in Hawaii or vacationing near water recreation areas must pay attention to water safety at all times. Winter ocean conditions on the North Shore, rip tides,

boating accidents, and other hazards must always be taken into consideration when planning activities. Drinking and swimming never mix and weak swimmers must use the appropriate safety gear and steer clear of rough conditions.

Every one of you is a precious asset to our Army and our nation – we need every one of you back in Hawaii after the holidays. Use the buddy system in everything you do, always let your loved ones know your plans, and take care of each other.

I urge you to enjoy your time off with family and friends and again want to emphasize to everyone to "think safety" throughout the holiday season.

Happy holidays and Tropic Lightning!

ArmyOnline

www.25idl.army.mil

25th Infantry Division (Light)
and United States Army, Hawaii



Soldiers attend exclusive dinner with Sen. McCain

By Spc. Daniel P. Kelly
Assistant Editor

More than eight wounded veteran Soldiers of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom dined on pre-paid \$1,000 dinners when they were invited to an exclusive fundraiser at the U.S.S. Bowfin Submarine Memorial and Museum in Pearl Harbor Nov. 7.

The exclusive dinner was in honor of World War II hero Rear Adm. (Ret.) Joe Vasey. Among the distinguished guests were Pacific Command's commander Adm. Thomas B. Fargo and Vietnam War veteran Senator (Rep. Ariz.) John McCain.

Soldiers were dressed in Class A green uniforms with white shirts and bow ties. As they were escorted into the memorial for the event, salutes were rendered by Cadets and many handshakes were given to Soldiers for their service to the nation.

Upon entering the dinner site, Soldiers were invited to free cocktails and an exclusive look at the Bowfin Museum. McCain dropped in to see the Soldiers and thank them for their service.

"He was a pretty down-to-earth

person," Staff Sgt. Santiago Frias, infantryman with Company B, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment said. "He was like 'one of the guys' basically."

Frias was injured in Iraq, and said being at the Bowfin Memorial was an honor.

"I feel very honored to be here with a lot of very honorable veterans, that have served the United States and the world," he said.

Soon after Soldiers met with McCain, everyone took their seats outside at the red-white-and-blue decorated tables, and awaited their dinners.

As the ceremony began, the lights were dimmed as a Navy Color Guard posted The Colors, the National Anthem was sung along with Hawaii Pono'i (Hawaii's anthem). Bagpipes played Amazing Grace from the deck of the U.S.S. Bowfin sitting in the water behind the dinner crowd, and was shortly followed by echo Taps.

Before guest speakers spoke on the life of Vasey, Soldiers were asked to stand as their names were called individually, and the crowd of high-in-society guests gave a standing ovation to the Soldiers' service to the nation.



Spc. Daniel P. Kelly

(Left) Staff Sgt. Santiago Frias, 1-21 Inf., Master Sgt. Jon McLean, 1-27 Inf. and Staff Sgt. Sean Lane, 40th QM visit with Sen. John McCain at the Bowfin Memorial fundraiser Nov. 7.

Soldiers feasted on delicately prepared salmon, with a three-layer cheese cake for dessert as McCain rose as the guest speaker for Vasey.

McCain gave a long and powerful speech about Vasey's service and friendship with his father while Soldiers looked on intrigued. Many

of the Soldiers turned their chairs around and stopped eating at the round tables to pay full attention to McCain.

After McCain's speech, he received a long standing ovation, and was shortly thereafter joined by Vasey on stage.

The event was concluded after Vasey received "lifetime achievement" awards, but Vasey and McCain took the time to see Soldiers after the dinner.

Spc. Jason Duffie, a cavalry scout from Troop A, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry was injured in Afghanistan, and said he enjoyed the prestigious event.

"It was an honor to be here," Duffie said. "To be here with as many people from the World War II era, and the Vietnam era; but not only that, but to be a special guest to Senator McCain himself, who is a very big supporter of the troops. I had a lot of fun."

Sgt. Jorge Deleon, Sgt. Willard Ball, Sgt. Israel Burks, Staff Sgt. Sean Lane, Staff Sgt. Willie Young, Staff Sgt. Raymond Long and Staff Sgt. Gary Zigler were also in attendance at the dinner.

Briefs

Vehicle Registration Closed - The Schofield Barracks Provost Marshal's Office, Vehicle Registration Section, Bldg 6508, Leilehua Golf Course will be closed Nov. 12 and 26, both Fridays after holidays. For more information call Eloise Holskil, 655-8940.

SAEDA/OPSEC Briefs in November - The Hawaii Resident Office, 205th Military Intelligence Battalion will present community subversion and espionage directed against the army and operations security briefs in November at Fort Shafter, Schofield Barracks and at Tripler. Soldiers and D.A. civilians are required to receive a SAEDA brief at least once a year. Dates and locations are as follows:

Nov. 15, 10 - 11 a.m. at Kyser Auditorium, Tripler.

Nov. 17, 10 - 11 a.m. at Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks.

Nov. 30, 2 - 3 p.m. at Richardson Theater, Fort Shafter.

Contact your unit security manager for more information or call the 205th MI Bn. at 438-1872 or e-mail 205mihro@shafter.army.mil.

Schofield Barracks Community Holiday Concert and Tree Lighting Ceremony - Held Dec. 2 at 5:45 p.m. on General's Loop. Listen to holiday music from the Tropic Lightning Band and a performance by Hale Kula Elementary School. In the evening, watch the lighting of the Christmas tree, visit with Santa Claus and eat holiday treats and goodies.

For more information contact the Schofield Barracks community director's office at 655-8985 or 655-0497.

Driver's Education Classes - Military ID card holders under 18-years-old can register for driver's training classes for \$295. Classes are held at Kaala Recreation Center 8:30 - 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays Nov. 20 - Dec. 26. Call the Resource and Referral Office on Schofield Barracks 655-5314 to register.

The Aloha Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers Offers College Scholarships - Attention high school seniors planning to go to college. An Aloha Chapter American Society of Military Comptrollers scholarship is available for qualified applicants.

The Aloha Chapter of the ASMC is a professional organization established in 1977 dedicated to maintaining and improving the high standards of comptrollership.

Emphasis is placed on education, training and the exchange of ideas and techniques for resolving common problems of the Department

of Defense and Coast Guard.

The Aloha Chapter will award one scholarship for \$1,000 and two for \$500 to qualifying high school candidates. Students must be entering a field of study related to finance or resource management (i.e. Business administration, Economics, public administration, computer science, finance, accounting). For more information, e-mail Shelby.Shigaki@dfas.mil or Ernest.Vidinha@dfas.mil or call 472-7971 or 472-7909. The deadline to apply is Feb. 28, 2005.

Army Emergency Relief Services - AER is the Army's own emergency financial assistance organization and is dedicated to "Helping the Army Take Care of its Own."

AER provides two types of financial assistance: Emergency financial assistance for Army personnel active, retired and their family members as well as their widow (er) with a valid financial emergency.

Categories of assistance are provided for emergency travel, food, essential car repair or insurance, emergency medical or dental, rent to prevent eviction or funeral expenses. AER's scholarship program provides financial assistance to unmarried dependent children of active and retired Soldiers to pursue undergraduate study.

AER is located in building 2091, Schofield Barracks, at 655-2400. When an emergency occurs after hours or on the mainland, contact American Red Cross, at 1-877-272-7337.

AER at Schofield Barracks has provided more than \$435,000 in assistance to 536 Soldiers and families.

According to the Interactive Customer Evaluation there were 90 percent positive comments received during FY04.

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. One week classes are very TDY friendly. Contact OU at 449-6364 or aphickam@ou.edu for more information or visit their Web site at www.gou.ou.edu

Free Admission to Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park - All active duty, Reservist, National Guard and retirees get free entry to Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park On Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Pre-sale tickets are still available, but free tickets are limited. Contact ITR offices on Schofield Barracks at 655-9971 or Fort Shafter at 438-1985.

IAW Policy Memo USAG HI-11 Place of Duty for Soldiers is at Designated

Parent Teacher Conferences - A strong presence at PTCs is what helps make schools strong. It facilitates parental involvement and also keeps an open dialog with the child's teacher. Solomon Elementary will be holding its PTC Nov. 15 - 24. For more information contact the school.

Schofield Barracks and Shafter ID Card Sections Closed - Friday, Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter ID card sections will be closed. Normal business hours will resume at 7:30 a.m. on Nov. 15. For more information, call Master Sgt. Constance Caesar at 655-2959.

Tricare Special Pharmacy Bulletin - In the transition to a new retail contract beginning on June 1 some patients and providers may have been inconvenienced by the enforcement of Tricare's long-standing mandatory generic drug policy.

While the Department of Defense seeks documentation that may have been previously submitted to validate medical necessity, any beneficiary who has received a brand-name product when a generic alternative exists within 180 days from the date of the extension, (from Dec. 21, 2003 through June 18, 2004), will be allowed to continue receiving the brand-name product for a grace period of 180 days from June 18. (This timeframe was extended on Oct. 13 for an additional 60 days, a total of 180 days, and now expires Dec. 12, 2004.)

For more information about the Tricare Pharmacy program, visit the Tricare pharmacy Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/ or call (877) 363-6337.

The Schofield Barracks Military Police Found Property Office - has several items in its possession. You will need to provide valid identification, a detailed description of the property, and proof of ownership to retrieve lost or stolen items.

The Found Property office is located at the Provost Marshal Office, Bldg. #3010 Lyman Rd. Schofield Barracks. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. daily. If you have items that have been lost or missing, you can contact SSG Bunda or Mr. Roberts at 655-7114.

Commissary Now has Internet Coupons - The Defense Commissary Agency is helping customers increase their savings by making Internet coupon links available under a new section at the links page at www.commissaries.com.

"Although we sell groceries at cost, we are always seeking new resources to help our customers increase their savings," said Patrick B. Nixon, chief executive offi-

High-risk adults, kids can get flu shot next week

By Margaret Tippy
Tripler Army Medical Center
Public Affairs

Beginning next Friday, Tripler's Allergy and Immunization Clinic will be providing flu vaccinations for the adult high-risk populations. Tripler's Pediatric Clinic will vaccinate children at the hours listed below.

These are the pediatric patient populations that CDC has identified as "high risk" who should get the flu vaccine:

Children ages 6 months to 23 months; people 2 years and older who have an underlying, long-term illness (heart or lung disease, metabolic disease [like diabetes], kidney disease, a blood disorder, or a weakened immune system (including people with

HIV/AIDS); People who are 6 months to 18 years of age, and take aspirin daily; People who have or take care of a baby under 6 months old. (Never give a flu shot to babies under 6 months.)

The Pediatric Clinic's immunization hours are Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Wednesdays, 8 a.m. - noon, and 2 - 4 p.m.

These are the adult patients that CDC has identified as "high risk" who should get the flu vaccine Nov. 19 and 23 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.:

People who are 65 years of age and older; people 18 years and older who have an underlying, long-term illness (heart or lung disease, metabolic disease [like diabetes], kidney disease, a

blood disorder, or a weakened immune system (including people with HIV/AIDS); women who will be pregnant this flu season; people who live in nursing homes or other chronic-care places; people who have or who take care of a baby under 6 months old. (Never give a flu shot to babies under 6 months.)

Tripler's Allergy and Immunization Clinic's hours for administering adult flu shots are Nov. 19 and 23 are 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. The clinic is located on Tripler's fourth floor.

For information on flu vaccinations available in the community, call 211. Tripler's Immunization Clinic may be reached at 433-6334. The Pediatric Immunization Clinic may be reached at 433-6234.

cer for DeCa.

"As the trend toward Internet coupons grows, this section of our Web site will continue to grow as well."

Along with top Web sites for military grocery coupons, the new section has a link to a new site that offers a choice of English or Spanish; and for customers who prefer more traditional coupons, another link offers commissary shoppers the opportunity to sign up for coupons by mail.

2005 All Army Sports Application Deadline Dates - Men's and women's sports: Cross-Country Nov. 29; Wrestling Dec. 15; Taekwondo Mar. 5; Triathlon Mar. 11.

Men's sports: Volleyball Mar. 5. Women's sports: Soccer Feb. 14; Volleyball Mar. 19. Athlete application, DA Form 4762-R January 2001, must be signed by the Soldier's commander and submitted to the U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii installation sports director.

Applications are available at all Army Hawaii gyms. Obsolete editions are not accepted. The sports office is located in the Ka'ala Recreation Center, building 556, Schofield Barracks. For more information call 655-9914 or 655-0101.

OCS Selection Board - The next D.A. Officer Candidate School Selection Board is scheduled to convene the week of Jan. 24. Soldiers who wish to be considered by this selection board must submit their applications through command channels to Military Personnel Division, D.A. Boards Section, Trailer 14, Room 4, on Ayers Ave., Schofield Barracks until Nov. 18.

The Installation Structured Interview Panel will convene Dec. 6 to interview qualified applicants. Specific interview dates, times, and location will be provided to each individual applicant.

Eligibility criteria and application procedures are outlined in AR 350-51. For more information call Nan Lucero at 655-4511 or Corinne Queja at 655-1845.

Free Packing Materials - spouses and families of military members who are deployed overseas can get free packing materials from the postal service. To take advantage of this service call: 1-800-610-8734 and (press 1 for English and then 3 for an operator) and they will send free boxes, packing materials, tape and mailing labels.

These products are to be used to mail care packages to service members. Log on to supplies.usps.gov. Call the 1-800-610-8734 to receive priority mailing tape. Some of the items available online are: Box 7-12x12x8, Box 4-7x7x6, 106A - Labels, Form 2976A - Customs Form, Form 2976E - Envelope for Customs Form.

Honolulu Symphony - All military personnel are invited to save 20 percent when they purchase tickets to Honolulu Symphony shows. For a complete listing of show times and more information on the military discount, go to www.ticketmaster.com/promo/7463.

Off-post Loaner Furniture Program Discontinued - The on-post loaner program has not changed. Those who have

loaner furniture and live off-post can continue to use the borrowed furnishings until the 90-day period is up on household goods arrive.

All incoming military are encouraged to bring washers and dryers in household goods shipment. Contact the DPW Furnishings Section at 655-1131 or Kelli Wilson, at 275-3122.

Free Money for College - The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund helps Army families with the costs of undergraduate level education, vocational training, and preparation for acceptance by service academies for dependent children.

Funds can be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies, and on or off campus housing. Eligibility: Applicants must be dependent children of Army Soldiers on active duty, retired or deceased while on active duty or after retirement. The children of Gray Area Retirees are also eligible. Deadline is March 1.

For more specific information about deadlines and documentation visit Army Emergency Relief on the Web at www.aerhq.org. Call (703) 428-0035 or e-mail education@aerhq.org.

Abuse Shelter Open - The Joint Military Family Abuse Shelter provides a safe place to stay, food, clothing and personal care items, transportation, child care, crisis counseling, information and referral, advocacy, education, safety planning, and a 24-hour shelter and crisis hotline. All services are free and open to all branches of the military. Call the 24-hour crisis line 533-7125 for information or to talk to a support counselor.

Team LNO: 2nd BCT's link to 1st ID

Sgt. Sean Kimmons
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE DANGER, Iraq – Located 70 miles from 1st Infantry Division headquarters, Col. Lloyd Miles, commander of 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf. Div. (Light), cannot always be present to attend meetings and interact with the commanding general here inside the city of Tikrit.

He relies on four personnel, called Team LNO [liaison officer] to take his place, so he can concentrate on fighting his fight from Kirkuk Air Base.

Team LNO has served as the brigade liaison to the 1st Inf. Div. headquarters ever since 2nd BCT fell under 1st Inf. Division's area of operations in February.

"We are the voice of the Brigade commander here at the Division level," said Capt. Jesse Hunter, a member of Team LNO. "We speak for the commander based on guidance on issues relating to our brigade combat team."

Team LNO also serves as an extension to every staff section and element within the Brigade to help solve their problems at Division level, Hunter said.

Each LNO assists these units by using their past experience. Hunter was a former commander of an



Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Mickunas, a member of Team LNO, hands Col. Lloyd Miles, commander of the 2nd BCT, pre-election plans for the upcoming Iraq election early next year. Miles was at FOB Danger for a commander's conference on Oct. 13.

intelligence company and Capt. Ad Godinez was an infantry company commander.

Sgt. 1st Classes Matthew Mickunas and Ryan Murphy,

the two non-commissioned officers of Team LNO, were once platoon sergeants in infantry companies.

Because of their prior experience, Team LNO mem-

bers have knowledge of the 2nd BCT AO, which pays off when they encounter issues they may have dealt with before.

"I think I have a big influ-

ence," Mickunas said. "I understand the maneuvers, the support, the questions to ask and I'm familiar with the ethnic groups in our area of operations."

Not only is it important for Team LNO to know the AO but also the Brigade itself.

"We are speaking for the Brigade commander here, so we have to understand his intent and his direction," Hunter said. "On a daily basis, we provide input to the Division that impacts our Brigade."

In fact, Team LNO briefs the commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. on Brigade-level issues everyday.

Another big thing Team LNO takes care of is the release of detainees into the Kirkuk area from the Abu Ghriab prison in Baghdad.

"We are the direct liaison with the Abu Ghriab prison release system," Mickunas said.

Either Mickunas or Murphy of Team LNO heads down to the prison and helps the detainees get released back into society.

"It relieves the Brigade from sending someone all the way to Abu Ghriab to coordinate the release of detainees into 2nd BCT's area of operations," Hunter said.

Hunter also said there's a plethora of meetings Team LNO attends on a weekly basis here that prevents a Brigade staff member from participating.

"We help the Brigade save time and free up resources to conduct missions and their jobs," Hunter said.

D.A. civilian workforce to undergo changes

By John A. Emmert
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – The Army's civilian workforce will soon experience shorter hiring times, personnel actions based on performance and increased flexibility for conversions and lateral movements, according to the program executive officer of the National Security Personnel System.

Mary E. Lacey spoke about the plans and implications of the NSPS at the Association of the United States Army annual meeting Oct. 27.

Another senior Defense official told the audience that 5,000 military billets will convert to civilian positions.

Initial implementation of NSPS

Initial implementation (Spiral One) of NSPS is scheduled for July 2005. The Spiral One process will test NSPS at select agencies before implementation throughout the Department of Defense.

Nominations and recommendations for organizations to be included in the Spiral One process are underway, according to the NSPS Web site.

Announcements of organizations selected for the first spiral are anticipated by year's end.

Current civilian personnel system

The current system needs to change to manage Department of Defense civilians effectively, Lacey said. Issues with the system include slow hiring practices, inadequate accountability, limited reassignment flexibility, and set pay regardless of performance.

NSPS was established to make the civilian personnel management system more flexible and to make the Department of Defense a more competitive employer. NSPS will change how civilians are hired, compensated, promoted and disciplined, Lacey said.

Personnel changes

The NSPS will include changes in staffing:

- The hiring time for emergency and hard-to-fill jobs will be shortened.
- Reduction in Forces will be based upon performance and not longevity.
- There will be increased flexibility for conversions and for lateral transfers.

The pay system will also change, Lacey said, adding

that there will be significantly less than the 150 pay grades currently in the system.

Pay banding will combine similar occupations and positions into groups to simplify job classifications and broaden pay ranges. There will be no fixed step rates and pay will be throughout a range and based on performance, not time-in-grade.

Remaining the same

The following will remain the same under NSPS:

- Merit systems principles
- Veterans' preference principles
- Rules on employee training
- Safety and drug abuse programs
- Health insurance and retirement benefits
- Leave and attendance rules
- Anti-discrimination laws
- Travel and subsistence rules
- Rules against prohibited personnel practices

Lacey said the following principles are guiding the work: put the mission first; respect the individual and protect rights guaranteed by law; value talent and commitment to public service; be flexible, understand-

able and responsive; ensure accountability; balance Human Resources interoperability with unique mission requirements; and be competitive and cost effective.

Military to civilian conversions

David S. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, announced at the AUSA annual meeting that the Army is converting about 5,000 military billets to civilian positions. The positions will be located on garrison and headquarters staffs.

Examples of positions converting include:

- Supply technician
- Administrative support assistant
- Lead Human Resources assistant
- Operations assistant
- Information technology specialist
- Paralegal specialist

While the Army is currently in the process of identifying military positions to be converted, those interested in applying for these positions as they become available can view them at cpolwapp.belvoir.army.mil/mil-civ/

(Editor's note: Information

'Tis the season for influx of holiday mail

Holiday letters, gifts must be sent early for timely delivery

Staff Sgt. Monica R. Garreau
17th Public Affairs Det.

AFGHANISTAN – The ability to send and receive mail while deployed is one of the biggest morale boosters for those serving in Afghanistan.

And with the holiday season quickly approaching, it's important to remember that letters and packages must be mailed far enough in advance to reach the intended recipient.

"During the holiday, the mail flow increases to twice the normal amount," said 1st

Lt. Quana Wright, the Bagram, Camp Phoenix and Kabul Postal officer in charge.

Wright suggests that Soldiers tell their families the suggested mailing dates for packages to arrive in theater.

It can take two to three weeks for mail to reach the recipient if they receive mail at the three main bases, and "it takes even longer to get out to the forward operating base sites," she said.

By following the dates listed below, Soldiers can expect their incoming packages to

arrive at their location by Christmas, as well as their outgoing mail to make it stateside in time for the holidays.

Although the post offices will be receiving extra help for the holiday mail influx, Wright said Soldiers can do their part to ensure their packages make it home in time.

"If they plan ahead, then it makes our jobs easier," she said.

This assistance is reciprocated by a more assured holiday morale boost for those serving in theater.

Signal Soldiers keep 2nd BCT connected

Sgt. Sean Kimmons
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq – In any type of military operation, good communications are crucial to winning the fight.

To the 3,000 Soldiers of 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division (Light), deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II, communications are heavily relied upon to fulfill everyday missions.

This is why Company B, 125th Signal Battalion was augmented with more Soldiers to supply 2nd BCT units with secure, robust communication capabilities 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

“Comprised of an expanded Headquarters Platoon and two Nodal Platoons, Company B has provided unequalled communication support to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team,” said Capt. Michael L. Campbell, commander of Bravo Co.

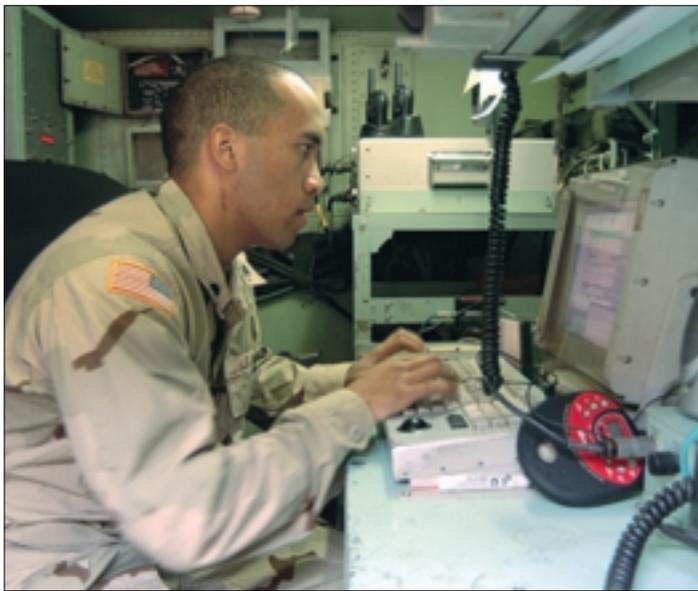
Co. B is the communication link to all forward operating bases within 2nd BCT’s area of operations.

“It’s important to create connectivity. Without the capabilities we have, the 2nd BCT could not function or it would be very difficult,” said Spc. Brandon Chung, a network systems operator and maintainer with Co. B.

The Tropospheric terminal transmits LOS shots up to the earth’s troposphere surface, where it refracts off and goes on to its destination.

“We transmit digital voice and data either through straight line-of-sight, off the atmosphere or satellites,” Chung said.

Chung works at the company’s node center, where transmission of



Sgt. Sean Kimmons

Spc. Brandon Chung, a network systems operator and maintainer with Bravo Co., generates 2nd BCT digital voice and data inside the node center's three by six-foot MSE container at Kirkuk Air Base on Oct. 2.

all 2nd BCT communications begins.

The node center consists of two adjoining MSE trucks. Inside one of the MSE’s three by six-foot containers, a Soldier generates digital voice and data.

“Basically, all [2nd BCT] data, voice communication and digital feeds come through me,” Chung said.

Then using the second MSE truck nearby, the node center transmits digital voice and data to the LOS shelters, TROPO terminal or the company’s satellites. This equipment is then responsible for sending out the digital voice or

data to its final destination.

“He’s like the brain and we are the nervous system,” said Sgt. Dary Antonetty, a Co. B multi-channel transmission team chief who works at one of the LOS shelters.

Co. B continues to provide 2nd BCT with unmatched communication capabilities during their Iraqi deployment.

“Bravo Company, 125th Signal Battalion, has set the highest possible standard for communications support,” Campbell said. “No single brigade-sized unit in Iraq has experienced this level of communication support.”



Sgt. Sean Kimmons

Pvt. 2 Joshua Sturgeon (center) and Sgt. Dary Antonetty (far right), both multi-channel transmission operators and maintainers, secure an antenna at one of the line of sight shelters on Kirkuk Air Base Oct. 2.

Myers talks terror war, transformation at forum

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va. – Furthering transformation, along with the global war on terror, is the mission over the next year, said the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at an Institute of Land Warfare Forum here today.

Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers told the group, part of the Association of the U.S. Army, that the members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will continue to discuss the Quadrennial Defense Review.

“One of the things that we will discuss is how do we keep transforming?” he said. DoD will deliver the review to Congress this time next year, and transformation will be a big part of it.

The chairman said that people must stop thinking about pieces of equipment being “transformational.” He said as the department prepares the fiscal 2006 budget request, people are “running around the Pentagon and you in industry are running around [Capitol] Hill” saying the piece of equipment or program they have is transformational. They believe saying this will increase the chances for funding, Myers noted.

“It’s too bad, because in most cases, transformation isn’t about things,” he said. New equipment may aid transformation, but it’s new thinking that is really the engine for transformation. He said that a new vehicle like Stryker is not transformational in and of itself. It’s when the unit the vehicle is used with is redesigned and reconfigured with new doctrine, procedures and manning that the piece of equipment is part of transformation.

Military planners also must look at the range of

programs and capabilities in the military before making funding decisions, he said. He said one illustration took place in the early 1990s. He was present when an Army two-star briefed the Joint Requirements Oversight Council – chaired by then-Vice Chairman Adm. David Jeremiah – on an Army tank-killer system.

After hearing about the benefits of the system, Jeremiah asked how many tank-killer systems did the Army have? He also asked how many were there also in the Air Force and Navy? “The answer was about 15 to 20 systems,” Myers said. “Jeremiah asked, ‘Do we need 15 or 20, or do we need five or six?’”

Myers said there was no mechanism at the time to make those types of decisions. “We think we have those today,” he said. Projects come up through the service stovepipes and can reach a pretty high level “before someone asks the all-important question of how does this fit in the overall scheme of how we fight?”

He said that in the future, those sorts of questions must be asked earlier. There needs to be more “analytical rigor, intellectual rigor on how we fight (and) how the systems fit together,” he said. “We’ve come an awful long way by necessity.” He said people saw some of that in Army Gen. Tommy Franks’ plans in Iraq and Afghanistan. The chairman called the U.S. Central Command plans “a well-integrated effort,” with “in some cases interdependence” among the services.

Myers said Americans should be very proud of what the U.S. Army is doing today. “In my view it is the busiest service,” he told the group.

There are 17 brigades in Iraq, five in Afghanistan and units around the world deal-

ing with various parts of the war on terror. In addition, the service is moving to transform its basic nature to produce a more flexible and agile force ready to confront the threats of the 21st century.

He said Americans should also be “happy about the impact that we had in Afghanistan.” The Afghans enthusiastically supported the elections in October. “There were people who showed a lot of personal courage to vote,” he said.

The Army – with civil affairs personnel, the provincial reconstruction teams, combat forces and others – have been at the forefront in Afghanistan. “The issue in Afghanistan from my viewpoint is the drug issue,” the chairman said. The U.S. military will help, but it is primarily a British and Afghan initiative. Afghanistan needs a substitute for the opium poppy crop, better interdiction and a fair and impartial judiciary to deal with the drug issue.

In Iraq, the country is marching toward elections in January. Myers said the coalition is working with the Iraqi interim government to provide security for the elections and for the U.N. team that will supervise the polls. He said much routine work is being done.

“We still, of course, have the security issue,” he said. The coalition will deal with security in partnership with the Iraqi interim government. “Any use of military force has to have a political outcome too,” he said. “The Iraqi interim government is the only (body that) can do that.”

“It’s a region of the world where force is respected, but at the same time you can create more enemies by the use of force,” the chairman said. “It’s a fine balance that has to be made.”

Benefits

From A-1

In addition, members of the selected Reserve earn a year's eligibility for Tricare for each 90 days of service in a contingency.

"If a Guardsman or reservist has served for at least 30 days called up on a contingency operation, then had 90 days of service," said Dr. William Winkenwerder in an Oct. 29 interview, "for each 90 days of service, they're eligible for a full year of Tricare coverage if they sign up for another year of reserve service." Winkenwerder is assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

The bill authorizes a new reserve-component educational assistance program tied to the Montgomery GI Bill. The provision has different rates, depending on the length of active-duty service. It is 40 percent for service of 90 days to one year, 60 percent for one year to two years, and 80 percent for more than two consecutive years.

The bill also speeds up concurrent-receipt payments for retirees rated 100 percent disabled. In the past, retirees had their pay docked dollar for dollar by the amount of disability payments the Department of Veterans Affairs paid them. Last year, Congress authorized a phase-in process that would eliminate the concurrent-receipt prohibition over a decade.

On the family and bachelor-housing front, the bill eliminates a statutory ceiling on the privatization of housing. In the program, which allows DoD to leverage public money with private contractors, the services can build and renovate family and bachelor housing.

The authorization act is the second of two bills that had to become law for the Defense Department to operate. The first is the Defense Appropriations Act, which the president signed into law Aug. 5. The appropriations act provides the money; the authorization act gives DoD the OK to spend it.



Cpl. Benjamin Cossel

Capt. Ryan Welch, an Apache Longbow pilot, sits strapped to the outside of his helicopter which is how he flew at 90 miles per hour during a daring rescue of fellow pilots Chief Warrant Officers Chad Beck and Greg Crow of 1-25th Avn. Rgt. Oct. 16. Chief Warrant Officer Justin Taylor looks out the window.

Rescue

From A-1

all the cords off of me, I looked back at (Taylor) and told him if he started taking fire, (he should), 'Get this bird out of here, leave me, and we'll collect all of us later.'

Welch had landed his Apache approximately 100 meters from the crash site. Armed with his 9 mm pistol and an M4 Carbine rifle, he set out to collect the downed pilots.

"I basically had to stumble my way through an open field. It was treacherous, with potholes and low brush," recalled Welch. "But I finally came up on the crash site about 10 minutes later."

The two pilots had been able to get a fair distance away from the aircraft.

"As I came up on them, I noticed they looked pretty bad, multiple cuts on their face and both looked like the early stages of shock had set in.

I called out to Beck, who was standing, to get him to help me with Crow," Welch said.

"It took a few seconds to get Mr. Beck's attention as he was visibly shaken and dazed."

Assisting two wounded men over the treacherous 100 meters back to his Apache, Welch said, "We had to move kind of slow," he explained.

"I swear it probably took us like 10 minutes to get back, but it seemed like we were out there for hours. I was never so relieved to see (Taylor) and my bird sitting there."

Four personnel to get out and only two seats in

the Apache posed a problem.

Self-extraction was a maneuver the pilots had been told about in flight school — a maneuver considered dangerous enough that no practical application was given, just the verbal "here's how you do it."

The general idea is for the pilot to wrap a nylon strap through the handholds and then connect the strap to the handholds outside the aircraft.

The aircraft then flies off to a safe location with the person attached to the outside of the aircraft.

"I knew getting back to my bird that Mr. Crow was in no position for self-extraction — that I would have to put him in the front seat," explained Welch. "I radioed to (Taylor) and told him what I intended to do — Crow in the front seat, Beck and I strapped to the outside."

At first Taylor just looked at Welch, a little surprised at the plan. "It kind of surprised me at first. And then I just thought, 'Cool, that's what we're going to do,'" said Taylor.

Beck and Welch worked to get Crow into the front seat as Welch explained what was next to Beck. "At first Beck really didn't want to leave. His commander (Johnson) had just been killed, and he still wasn't thinking 100 percent clearly."

"I can't go; I just can't go," pleaded Beck, but soon enough he understood the situation.

And then another problem surfaced. "The mechanism Kiowa pilots use for

self-extraction is different than the setup Apache pilots use," explained Welch. "But we finally got it worked out, got Beck hooked up, and then secured myself to the aircraft."

Secured and assuming a defensive posture with his rifle, Welch gave Taylor the thumbs-up sign and the Apache lifted off. "I was a little bit freaked out," explained Taylor. "You just don't fly an Apache by yourself; it's definitely a two-man aircraft"

At 90 miles per hour the helicopter flew 20 kilometers to Forward Operating Base Falcon, the closest base with a combat support hospital.

"I only had my night visor on," said Welch. "I thought my eyes were going to rip out of my sockets and that my nose would tear from my face, the wind was so strong."

Landing on the emergency pad, Welch and Taylor helped medical personnel take Beck and Crow inside for treatment.

"One of the medics asked me if I was a medical-flight pilot," chuckled Welch. "You should have seen the look on his face when I told him, 'Nope, I'm an Apache pilot.'"

With the patients safely delivered to the hospital, the two exhausted pilots looked at each other with the same thought. "We both climbed back into our bird," Welch said, "and almost simultaneously said to each other, 'Lets go home.'"

(Cpl. Benjamin Cossel is assigned to the 122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.)



Spc. Charles Hayes

Two military police officers from the U.S. Army Military Police Brigade Hawaii handcuff a protester and take him into custody during one of the annual anti-terrorist exercises.

Exercises

From A-1

"We found that those protecting the gates are paying attention to, not only vehicles and ID cards, but what is going on in the general vicinity of the gates, also," Marsh said.

One hundred percent of the covert surveillance exercises were detected by Army police.

"Three 'protesters' sped through Kunia Gate on Wheeler and staged a general protest by handcuffing themselves to the gates and vehi-

cles," Marsh said about the covert exercise.

The MPs responded more quickly than ATT staff anticipated and all were apprehended in a rapid, courteous manner.

"The importance of Anti-Terrorism Training is to ensure that everyone remains vigilant, and are educated in the current threats that face our country today," he said.

Marsh added there is no separation between international and domestic terror.

"Terrorism is terrorism, and being alert is the key to success against terrorists,"

Marsh said.

"Everybody, all the time, when they're out, should be vigilant and should be paying attention to things that are out of the ordinary."

"[Family members] are more aware and are reminded daily with the Division being deployed.

That really drives that (point) home with all their family members in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the reason Soldiers are there is for the Global War on Terrorism.

"What we're (all) doing here, is we're protecting their home," he said.

Soldier

From A-1

freedom; that call goes to both man and woman."

Preston also described the heroic efforts of 1st Sgt. Powhatan Beaty of G Co., 5th U.S. Colored Regiment in leading what was left of his unit during a bloody Civil War battle at Fort Harrison, Va. Beaty was awarded the Medal of Honor.

There was also Sgt. Alvin York who in World War I picked off a slew of enemy snipers with his carbine, charged an enemy stronghold and single-handedly captured 132 prisoners.

World War II also created the legend of Pfc. Martin of the 325th Glider Regiment, 82nd Airborne. During the Battle of the Bulge, the story goes, a tank destroyer came upon a solitary Martin digging a foxhole. Martin greeted the tank sergeant, asking if they were looking for a safe place. Affirmative, the sergeant replied.

"Well, buddy, just pull your tank in behind me," the private replied. "I'm the 82nd Airborne and this is as far as they go."

Master Sgt. Anthony Pryor, a Special Forces Soldier fighting with his unit in Afghanistan, earned the Silver Star for his actions during a raid of an enemy stronghold. Credited with killing four enemy fighters, including one in hand-to-hand combat, Pryor was left bloodied and broken. Still, he just wanted to make sure his Soldiers were okay.

In Iraq, Pfc. Jessica Nicholson of the 1st Armored Division proved herself a warrior and team member when she apprehended a man twice her size at a checkpoint she was guarding. The man was loaded with grenades.

Throughout the ages, the conflicts and wars they've born, Soldiers have consistently met the challenge of defending our country, Preston said.

"Some names may be lost to history, but their contributions will never be forgotten," he said.

HAVE A GREAT PHOTO?

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Wolfhounds patrol Afghan village

By Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen
CTF Thunder Public Affairs

SEHLA, Afghanistan – Four months ago, someone fired two rocket-propelled grenades at the voter registration center in this remote village in an attempt to intimidate residents from voting in the Oct. 9 presidential election.

While the scars are still visible on the building, the attack did not deter the voters from coming out and making the election a truly historic event. In fact, Paktika Province had one of the highest voter turnouts in the country.

Part of the reason the election was successful in this province on the Pakistan border is because of the presence of Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, who frequently patrol villages throughout the province.

Before the Wolfhounds arrived in March, there were doubts as to whether the security situation in the province would even allow elections to take place. These days, the sit-



Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen

Sgt. Levi Martinez, a member of Co. B, 2nd Bn., 27th Infantry Rgt., gives a blanket to a young Afghan boy Nov. 5 following a patrol in Sehla, Afghanistan.

uation has improved to the point where villagers come out of their home to greet the Americans whenever they are in town.

That was the case Nov. 5 when Soldiers from Company B, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt. patrolled this village a few kilometers northwest of the provincial capital Sharan.

After arriving in a convoy of humvees, the Soldiers dismounted and conducted a foot patrol to the edge of the village.

1st Lt. Clint Dodson, a platoon leader in Co. B, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt., said the village is near the home of a man who was opposed to the elections.

"He didn't want elections to go through, so he shot two RPGs into this building right here," Dodson said, pointing to a hole just above a window and a shattered ceiling beam inside.

The RPG attack was this man's way of coming in and warning people not to register or they will be subjected to attacks, said Capt. John Sego, commander of Co. B.

However, he said his and other units came in and maintained security in the village after the attack.

"The registrations were completed without further incidents, and the elections went without any incidents whatsoever, so it was very successful," Sego said.

While patrols like this one let the man know the Wolfhounds are in town, thereby building security within the village, the Soldiers also hand out things like candy, soccer balls and blankets to help build relations with the residents.

"Whether we're going out to get a recon of a compound, whether we're going through just to maintain a local patrol for the security of the village, we always try to implement humanitarian assistance projects, but it's all done for a tactical purpose," Sego said.

So while villagers have the perception that the Soldiers are there handing out blankets, soccer balls and other goodies, the unit can conduct recons without tipping their

hand to any enemy, Sego added.

Whether it's conducting combat patrols or handing out humanitarian assistance, Spc. Eric Edwards, an M240B gunner with Co. B, said he thinks his unit has made a big difference since arriving in Paktika Province on March 23.

However, Edwards said he feels the threat of danger every time he goes on a patrol. The first thing on his mind, he said, is making sure his fellow Soldiers make it home safe.

Edwards said he doesn't have a problem transitioning from a combat patrol to handing out candy and blankets to villagers. Often, he said, they can judge by the mission whether they will have the chance to hand things out and they can prepare themselves.

"When we go to the mountains, we know that's the time we're looking for the Taliban and not coming down into the towns where there are a lot of kids around," he said. "You won't expect someone to start shooting at their own people when they're all around us."

Missions create a brotherhood among infantrymen

By Sgt. Jennifer S. Emmons
17th Public Affairs Det.

ZABUL PROVINCE, Afghanistan – As the sun rises over the desolate mountains in Arghndob district in southern Afghanistan, a small group of Soldiers scan the horizon for enemy movement.

The Soldiers, a squad of infantrymen from Company B, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, are tasked to provide perimeter security for a small firebase in the remote region.

"They sit on the towers, they guard the local workers. At night, they have a rotating guard shift on each tower," said Master Sgt. Bob Labella, 3rd Special Forces Group. Before rotating in to provide

security for the firebase, the Soldiers usually conducted presence patrols throughout the province.

This squad has only been together for a very short time, but has used the small amount of time wisely to build a team with a good working relationship.

"We've been together for about two months," said Sgt. Louis Chapman, Co. B, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt., squad leader.

"We all knew each other from different squads. We've always gotten along really well. Out here it's just us, so there's been a lot of team building," he said.

When the Soldiers were assigned to the squad, they knew all the tasks and battle drills, but they hadn't worked

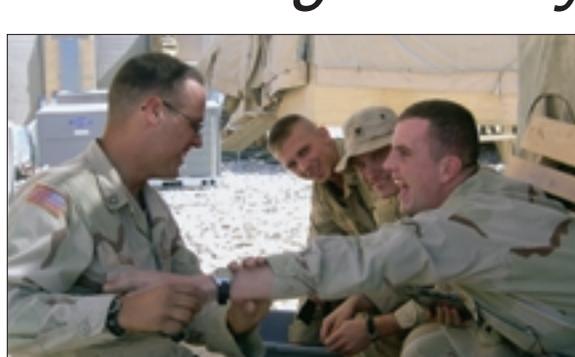
closely together, said Chapman.

"I took them out to train a lot when we first got together just to let them get a feel for each other," he said. "Watching them grow as a team is one of my favorite things about being a leader in the infantry."

"We all have grown together as a family – like brothers – and none of us wants to see anything happen to any one of us. It raises the performance level, because you want to ensure you're not the one that's going to get the other person hurt."

The Soldiers find themselves growing as a team as they spend more time completing tasks assigned to them.

"Each time we go on a mis-



Sgt. Jennifer S. Emmons

From left: Pfc. James Sloan, Pfc. Ray Richard, Spcs. Nathan Hucker and Stephan Rzcidlo take advantage of some down-time to bond outside their tent.

sion we get better," said Spc. Mark Sollars. "We can look at each other and without communicating we know what

each person is going to do." Motivation is also key to keeping Soldiers mission ready, said Medinger.

"The whole preparation for a mission, watching them get ready and everything squared away for the mission, that excites me, motivates me, and makes me want to ensure I'm doing my job to the best of my abilities so I don't let them down."

Although living and operating in such close quarters can sometimes create tension, the Soldiers chalk it up to being part of "family" life.

"This is all we've got right now," said Sollars. "All I've got is my squad and my platoon. These guys are my friends right now. You become close to these guys, because you see them every day. They become your brothers. Sometimes brothers fight and sometimes they get along, but hey – they're still brothers."

Soldiers launch radio station, entertain troops

Story by Spc. Dijon Rolle
17th Public Affairs Det.

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Soldiers from Task Force Diamondhead are taking to the airwaves in Afghanistan, bringing the sound of familiar music to Coalition forces serving at Kandahar Airfield.

90.1 FM Diamondhead Radio is a 12-watt radio station run by Soldiers from the task force's communications shop. The station is the brainchild of Staff Sgt. Erik Averill, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, Task Force Diamondhead, signal support systems specialist.

Averill says he came up with the idea after talking to a Soldier who was worried about being able to listen to his favorite music while in Afghanistan. He was also inspired during a past six-month deployment to Egypt.

"We ran a radio station in Egypt, so I thought it wouldn't be too hard to run a radio station out in Afghanistan," said Averill. "So I just started looking up some stuff on the Internet, put together a proposal and took it to our battalion executive officer Major (Greg) Baker and he signed off on it. We got the equipment and put it together."

90.1 FM's equipment – a transmitter, antenna, laptop computer and mixing board – barely take up a corner in the Administrative Logistics Operation Center communications shop. Soldiers from units stationed all over KAF come in



Spc. Dijon Rolle

Staff Sgt. Erik Averill, (left), and Spc. Takema Randolph, both from HHC, 25th Avn. Rgt., share duties as DJs during a radio show.

and take their turns as guest disc jockeys.

The station plays a variety of music, from alternative rock to rhythm and blues.

"Music is important, it's a form of art and expression," said Spc. Dana Maddox, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Avn. Rgt., Task Force Diamondhead, signal support system specialist.

"We try and mix it up for everybody," she said.

Task Force Diamondhead Soldiers say the radio station is a way to keep busy during their downtime.

"There's not much to do out here," said Maddox. "When you have a little free time, this is something that can keep you out of trouble, keeps you focused and doesn't take up much of your time – and it's fun. It's a morale booster."

Although the station has been on the air for nearly five months, most listeners are slowly finding out about it

through word of mouth.

"I was skeptical at first, because something like this has the potential of getting too big – our primary mission is to support the task force," said Capt. Robert Hamilton, 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Rgt., Task Force Diamondhead, signal officer.

"I have to compliment everyone in my section for doing this, maintaining it in a professional manner and still performing their day-to-day missions. I think it's great for morale, not just for us but for those that are listening."

90.1 FM Diamondhead Radio is on the air 24-hours a day, seven days a week and includes a playlist of almost 14,000 songs. They welcome anyone who wants to bring in music or DJ. The station's signal can be picked up 10 miles outside of Kandahar Airfield.

"After setting this up and doing this, it's shown me that music is important to a lot of people," said Averill. "It's a good thing for the Soldiers."



COMMUNITY & SPORTS



Kualoa Ranch: For both the timid and adventurous at heart

Photos and story Sharee Moore
Editor

Welcome to Kualoa Ranch where horseback riding, verdant landscapes, white sand beaches, and all-terrain vehicles reside in one place.

The 4,000-acre ranch is a well-known historic site on Oahu offering excursions for outdoor lovers of all ages and abilities.

Horseback riding

A one-hour ride takes you through a tree-hedged trail to views of Chinaman's Hat. For a more exploratory tour, a two-hour trip will go deep into the Ka'a'awa Valley offering sneak peeks at the ocean and more. Military rate: \$40 and \$74 respectively.

Keiki rides and therapeutic tours for disabled children are also available. For more information on horse therapy contact Kuuipo at 237-8515 or e-mail education@kualoa.com.

All-terrain vehicles

After a class and practice course, this

action-packed tour takes visitors up and down slopes, through narrow, rock-strewn trails, across streams and into the valley. See glimpses of the sceneries found in movie favorites like "50 First Dates," "Godzilla," Jurassic Park," "Pearl Harbor," and at least ten other feature films.

Historians and nature enthusiasts should note that unauthorized stopping for a picture of the historical points of interest or flora will probably earn one a long walk back to camp. Military rate: \$40, one-hour and \$74 for two hours.

Movie set, kayak and

garden tours

This is the tour for those who like to take unlimited pictures, linger and learn intimate details about the ranch and

movie sets. The mini-World War II bunker, Hawaiian village exhibits, 30-acres of orchids and historical explanations abound. Military rate: \$13

A light workout is in store for those selecting a tour near the shore of the secret island near Kaneohe Bay. Play on a private beach

with full access to canoes, kayaks, beach toys and games. Package includes a trip across the ranch's 800-year old fishpond.

Military rate: \$25 for two hours or \$30 for five hours. Call for more information about snorkeling and scuba diving excursions.

A one-hour narrated tour through tropical flower and fruit gardens is accompanied by a fishpond tour for \$13.

Jungle expedition and gun range

Hop in a six-wheeled Swiss Pinzgauer for an off-course plunge up, down and across the valley for exclusive ocean and mountain views. An experienced guide narrates the one-hour tour. Cost: \$20. Sixteen-years and older can practice their aim at Kualoa's gun range for \$40. Call for details.

Mandatory orientation videos explain the risks associated with the activities offered at the ranch. It's important to pay attention and ask questions. Safety helmets are available for use, but bring your own goggles for ATV rides. Also carry sun block and a hat, but pack light.

The ranch also offers half and full day packages and other tours. For more information or directions to Kualoa Ranch visit their Web site at www.kualoa.com or call 237-8515. Prices listed in article are subject to change. Call to verify.



Above: A group of military and family members leaves the corral for a one-hour tour on horseback. Below: Godzilla attacks! See an authentic footprint used during the making of the movie "Godzilla."



Right: Riders ready themselves for a tour of the Ka'a'awa Valley during an hour-long ride on all-terrain vehicles.



Top of page: Hikers navigate the ranch's luscious valley during the movie set tour. Above: A six-wheeled Swiss Pinzgauer takes tourists on an off-road adventure to one-of-a-kind mountain and ocean views.



Lost in Paradise – Do you want to lose some weight before your Soldier returns home from the deployment? Or maybe it's your New Year's resolution to lose those last couple of pounds? Either way we have a motivational program that's open to all active duty Soldiers and family members that will not only benefit the individual, but the entire unit. Each battalion can enter one group with up to 10 individuals to participate in our Lost In Paradise program. As a team, these 10 individuals will weigh-in Dec. 1 at the Health and Fitness Center on Schofield Barracks. The 10 individuals from one unit that can lose the most weight from Dec. 1 – Feb. 28 will receive a unit party at the Nehelani worth \$1,000 and each group member will receive three month's free membership (\$50 value) to the Health and Fitness Center. The final weigh in will be on Feb. 28, also at the Health and Fitness Center. The winners will be announced at the Welcome Home Troops Block Party March 5. Call 655-0112 or 655-0111 for more information and to set up a time to register your 10 participants.

Melveen Leed at Piliilau – Celebrate Melveen Leed's CD release at Piliilau Army Recreation Center in Waianae Nov. 27 from 5 – 10 p.m. Also see entertainment by Bill Ka'iwa, Liberty Bell, Richard Wells and more. A video concert will be sent to areas where troops from Hawaii are located. Come early and record your message of Aloha. Advanced tickets cost \$17

general admission and \$15 for Blue Star Card Holders. Call 696-6783 for tickets or call 696-4778 for more information.

Free Entry to Sea Life Park – Military and dependents can visit Sea Life Park for free during their Military Appreciation week Nov. 14 – 21. On Nov. 14 from 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. enjoy a variety of games, activities, crafts, free scuba lessons and entertainment. Please carpool, parking is limited and will cost \$2. Military guests (non-dependents) receive a special admission rate of \$9.99 for adults and \$6 for children. Call the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office for ticket information at 655-9971 or 438-1985.

Breakfast with Santa at Reggies – Join Santa for a breakfast buffet at Reggie's on Nov. 27, 9 a.m. – noon. Cost is \$5.50 per person. Photo with Santa will be available for a small fee. Call 655-0660.

Teen Anime Movie Night – Come join the fun and watch anime movies and enjoy free popcorn on Nov. 18, 6 p.m. at the Tropics Theater, building 589 on Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0002.

Kids Shrink Art – Be creative with paint and plastic, then watch it shrink on Nov. 20, 9 – 11 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center. For ages 7 – 12, cost is \$12 per child. Call 655-4202.

Ready 4 Reunion DVD – Coming this month, watch your mailbox! Your copy of the Ready 4 Reunion DVD is being mailed in November. A DVD full of reunion tips for couples and parents. Watch it

from the convenience of your home. Call 655-2400.

Pearl Ridge Shopping Trip – Receive free transportation and spend the day shopping at the mall on Nov. 30. Bus will depart from Schofield Barracks Commissary parking lot at 8:15 a.m. and return by 2 p.m. For information and to register call 655-0112 or 655-0111. Registration deadline is noon on Nov. 29.

Aloha Hawaii Invitation – Bowling Tournament – Bowling tournament will be held on Nov. 21, beginning 10 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center. Four person teams, with a maximum team average of 760 required. Cost is \$30 per bowler or \$120 per team. All prize funds will be returned 100-percent. Call 728-3906/9658.

Get in the Holiday Spirit at the Tropics – Come and learn holiday budget tips, cooking, decorating tips and much more on Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0002.

Army Hawaii Piecemakers Quilt Exhibit – The United States Army Hawaii Piecemakers Quilt Guild will hold it's first annual quilt exhibit at the Sgt. Yano library on Schofield Barracks Nov. 14 and 15. Quilts on exhibit have been made by participants in Army Community Service's Spouse's Night Out program as well as by quilters from other Army programs. Quilt displays will feature works in progress and quilters will be on hand both days to demonstrate quilting and piecing

techniques and to answer questions. For more information call 236-1959.

Spouse's Night Out – Free adults-only program at Army Community Service on Schofield Barracks held every Thursday night, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. On Nov. 18, participate in making a table top Christmas tree. Supplies will be needed, call for more information.

New to Spouse's Night Out, events to be held at the Tropics. On Nov. 18 participate in Create your own Glamour Look. Children ages 6 and up are welcome to participate in Tropics activities. MWR Blue Star Card holders will receive free child care from 6 - 9 p.m. by reservation only at Peterson Child Care Center. Call 655-3929 by noon of the Tuesday before each Thursday event to make child care reservations. Child care reservations can be made two weeks in advance. Pre-registration for classes required, call 655-2736.

"The King and I" – Preview for Blue Star Card Holders Blue Star Card Holders are invited to watch a free "The King and I" presentation at Fort Shafter's Richardson Theatre with free appetizers Nov. 17, 6:30 p.m. Round trip transportation is provided from Peterson Child Development Center on Schofield Barracks, but seating is limited. Transportation reservations must be made by noon on Nov. 15 by calling 655-0111 or 655-0112. Free child care is offered at Peterson to Blue Star Card Holders beginning at 6 p.m. Call 655-8313 for information.

"The King and I" –

Showing at Fort Shafter's Army Community Theatre Nov. 18, 20, 26, 27 and Dec. 3, 4 beginning at 7:30 p.m. East versus West makes for a dramatic tale. Adult tickets: \$17 and \$14 and children (under 12): \$10 and \$8. Box Office is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday - Friday. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.squareone.org/ACT/tickets.html or at Pentagon Federal Credit Union. Call 438-4480 for more information.

Holiday Craft Sale – Don't miss out on Koa wood-crafts, pottery, stained glass, ceramics, jewelry and more at the Fort Shafter Arts and Craft Center. Event will be held Nov. 18 and 19, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Nov. 20, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free transportation from Schofield Barracks Commissary will be provided on Nov. 19, departing at 10:30 a.m. To register for transportation call 655-0111 or 655-0112. For more information on the craft sale call 438-1315.

'Stories of Hawaii's People' – Celebrate children's book week at the Schofield Barracks Library for 'Stories of Hawaii's People' told by noted local professional storyteller Nyla Ching-Fujii. Listen as Auntie Nyla brings tales of old Hawaii to life on Nov. 17 at 3 p.m. Program designed for children up to 6th grade. Others are welcome. Call 655-0145.

Free Entry to Hawaiian Waters Park – Visit the Hawaiian Waters Park for only \$9.39 Friday. Up to four guests of the Military I.D. card holder are invited for \$17 per person on either of the above dates. Pre-sale tickets are available and tickets are limited. Call the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office at 655-9971 or 438-1985.

Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet – Taste a local cuisine buffet at Reggie's Restaurant on Schofield Barracks Nov. 19, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Perfect for office parties. Cost is \$8.95. Call 655-4466 for information.

2004 Youth Basketball Clinic – Come and join the fun and prepare for the upcoming Hawaii Youth Sports League Basketball season. Clinic is open to boys and girls born in the years 1988-1999. Clinic includes offensive (passing, dribbling, shooting) and defensive (rebounding, block out, footwork) skills and drills. Registration continues until Nov. 16. Register at the nearest Army Youth Center, AMR 836-1923, Fort Shafter 438-9336, or Schofield 655-6465. Children must be registered with Child and Youth

Services.

Open Recreation Program School – Age Services program is now offering free open recreation care on Saturdays for three hours at the following youth centers: Bennett, Helemano, Aliamanu, and Fort Shafter. Activities include computer lab, sports and crafts, and self-directed games. Participants must be in grades K-5 and be a current member of Child and Youth Services. Space is very limited; reservations must be made 24-hours in advance. Call your nearest center for more information.

24-Hour Towing – New 24 Hour Towing service is available from the Auto Craft Center to authorized patrons. Call 368-8534 if in need of a tow.

Monday Night Football – Enjoy free pupus and live Monday night football at Waianae Beach Club beginning at 4 p.m. with karaoke to follow. Join the fun with drink specials and door prizes. Call 696-4778 for more information. Also at Schofield Barracks Reggie's, live on satellite at 4 p.m. or repeat at 7 p.m. with ice cold beverages and pupu specials. Call 655-4466.

Driver's Education Classes – Next Driver's Education Class begins on Nov. 20 at Schofield Barracks and Saturday at Aliamanu. Cost is \$295 for 16 sessions. Registration is only available at the Child and Youth Services Resource and Referral Offices. Adults with military ID cards are welcome to enroll if space is available. Call Schofield Barracks at 655-6461 or Aliamanu at 833-5393.

Donate a Stuffed Animal – Help fulfill a child's Christmas wish by donating a stuffed animal before Dec. 3. Donations will be accepted at Piliilau Army Recreation Center, Fort Shafter Auto Craft Center and at the Directorate of Community Activities building 350 on Wheeler Army Air Field. Call 696-6026 for information.

Community Packing Days – Do you need materials, tape or wrapping paper for your care package? The Fort Shafter library will have materials available on Nov. 21 and the AMR library will have materials available on Saturday from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Participants are responsible for postage and taking packages to the post office. Call 438-9521 or 833-4851 for information.

Schofield Barracks Tropics November Food Special – Try St. Louis ribs full rack for \$14.50 or a half rack \$9.50, both offered with two sides. Call 655-0002.



This Week at the MOVIES

Sgt. Smith Theater

Today
Resident Evil: Apocalypse
7 p.m. (R)

Saturday Nov. 6
Mr. 3000
7 p.m. (PG-13)

Sunday Nov. 7
The Forgotten
7 p.m. (PG-13)

Monday - Thursday
Closed

HACN TV2 Schedule		Nov. 12 - 18	
Morning			
6:00	Sign on	3:50	OIF Photo Montage 5
6:30	Fit for Life	4:00	Pentagon Channel
7:00	Bulletin Board	Evening	
7:30	SHAMU-Wild Babies	6:00	Voting 04' Assist Program
7:55	PAMS Report 2004	6:03	Community Focus
8:00	Pentagon Channel	6:13	Living History Day
9:00	Pentagon Channel	6:15	Bulletin Board
10:00	ASAP-Fitness For Duty	6:47	Arm Values Respect
10:30	OIF Photo Montage 7	6:53	OIF Photo Montage 3
10:46	Bulletin Board	7:00	NFL-Tight on the Spiral
11:30	Hawaii Hidden Beauty, Danger	8:00	OEF Deployment Ceremony
11:50	OIF Photo Montage 6	8:30	OEF Deployment Luau
12:00	Pentagon Channel	8:50	History of JAG
Afternoon			
2:02	Hurricane Safety	9:00	Anti Terrorism FP
2:21	Voting 04' Assist program	9:30	Oakland Army Base
2:28	OIF Photo Montage 2	10:00	Youth Protection
2:23	PAMS report 2004	11:00	NFL-'58 Championship Game
2:30	SHAMU-The Manatee	12:12	Bulletin Board
Overnight			
3:00	SHAMU-The Sea Turtle	12:46	Pentagon Channel
3:40	OAHU-Aloha Begins		

Parental involvement is key to success

By Joy Boisselle
Staff Writer

Hale Kula Elementary School is the only predominantly military school, out of 22 Hawaii schools, implementing the Department of Education's Reinventing Education Act for the Children of Hawaii program.

Based on legislation passed earlier this year, REACH will transform how Hawaii schools operate in the future.

Termed pilot schools, Hale Kula and others will implement REACH initiatives throughout the 2004-2005 school year and provide feedback to the DOE and non-

pilot schools for use in the next school year.

Jan Iwase, principal of Hale Kula, said, "The long-term goal of REACH is to have a more engaged school and community where education is not just within the walls of the school but involves the community and the parents helping kids to achieve."

"I asked that Hale Kula be selected as a pilot school, because of the unique needs of military students. I thought it was very important to address the needs of schools with military children. One of the unique issues we face is our transient population."

As a pilot school, Hale Kula must develop an academic plan that mirrors the priorities of the school and a supporting financial plan. In addition, a new program for allocating money to schools, called the weighted student formula, is being tested at the pilot schools.

Previously, schools received money based on enrollment. The new funding process is based on individual student need.

Schools will receive a dollar amount to educate each student, and additional money to educate special



Joy Boisselle

Margaret Gibo, a Hale Kula Elementary teacher, explains the day's activities to her 2nd Grade class. Hale Kula is a Department of Education pilot school participating in the REACH program.

education and disadvantaged students.

The Committee on Weights is still determining what dollar weights to assign each student category. This is particularly important to schools with military children. Iwase said the committee might grant a higher weighted dollar amount to them because of their mobility.

To further streamline how schools conduct business; the school principal will now have control of 70 percent of the school's budget. Iwase sees this as one of the program's advantages.

"With input from our stakeholders, I will be able to make financial decisions for our school programs," said Iwase.

For example, she said, "If we decide we need two counselors; I can make the decision to allocate the funds to hire someone."

Under REACH, decision-making tools are directly in the hands of the principal, teachers, parents, and students through an elected

advisory board called the School Community Council.

Iwase said, the council uses input from community meetings to make decisions that are best for the students at Hale Kula.

Decision-making will take place at the lowest possible level, for the best results.

The first community meeting, held Oct. 20, focused on the strengths and challenges facing Hale Kula.

"One of the challenges is getting the community involved by attending these community meetings. We need everyone's input and we want to work together and hear what each has to share," Iwase emphasized.

Hale Kula's academic and financial plan is still in progress, but is due to DOE in January 2005.

A second community meeting to review the rough draft is on Nov. 17 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

"We are very lucky in that Hale Kula has always enjoyed strong parent and community support, and we enjoy a lot of volunteer support but, we could always use more," Iwase said with a smile.

Iwase, an educator for more than 30 years, relayed her priorities for the school. "I want to improve student achievement, have a strong curriculum, provide support for all kids so they can be successful, and work closely with our parents and the community." She added that the school can't do it alone.

Contact Cheri Phillips, parent facilitator, at 622-6380, Ext. 237 to volunteer. For information about Hale Kula's role in the REACH program, contact Jan Iwase at jan_iwase@notes.k12.hi.us.

Key principles

Empowerment

- Weighted Student Funding - No longer enrollment based, now based on needs of individual student.
- Principals responsible for school operations including curriculum development and control of 70 percent of budget.
- School Community Council is in place to involve stakeholders in school decision-making process.

Accountability

- Principal accountable for school performance.
- School Report Cards published annually detailing the overall quality of education.

Streamlining

- Transfer of key functions from state agencies to DOE, including construction, maintenance, control of federal funds.
- Services geared to meet needs of individual school.
- Adoption of single school calendar by 2006-2007 school year.

For information, go online to the DOE's Web site, <http://REACH.k12.hi.us>.

Hale Kula Elementary Upcoming Events

Nov. 12 - parents invited to analyze strengths and weaknesses data of student achievement with staff, and help determine goals and priorities for Hale Kula, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Nov. 17 - Second Community Meeting, Academic and Financial Plan Draft, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Nov. 18 - Parent Workshop, 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Dec. 15 - PTA meeting and concert, 6:30 p.m.

Homecoming day: Happy or hazardous – you choose

By Michele Adams-Thompson
Contributing Writer

Daydreaming about homecoming day? The kids run full-speed, jumping into his arms. Hey, never mind the kids, I'm running full speed into his arms! The big, family group hug, everyone so happy it almost hurts.

The unit gets called to attention for one last moment; our Soldiers fill with emotion as they reflect on what they've been through together. The commander speaks of all the hard work and accomplishments. They turn in their weapons, grab their duffel bags and the joyous family gets to go home and live happily ever after, right?

Now reality: Remember the front end of this adventure? First, your Soldier was going to leave on this date, and then that date, and no, it's back to the first date, and then all of a sud-

den he left on some date no one had even mentioned before?

It's one of the toughest parts of this business. And the thing is, it can be that way on the back end too. Start making your peace with this now. The timing of the planes bringing our Soldiers home depends on global politics and mission requirements going on literally around the world and they're changing by the hour. It's not like they book a flight like they're coming home from vacation.

Not only is the arrival date potentially a moving target, but sometimes units don't come home all together but are sent in multiple flights over several days. In spite of your best laid plans, one of the kids may get too sick to go meet Dad or the neighbor that was going to give you a ride can't make it because she's in the hospital delivering her baby, or a zillion other things may happen that there is no know-

ing about in advance.

Stuff can happen. You can choose to make this day happy or hazardous by understanding the realities and talking to your Soldier about them before he gets on that plane. I wish someone had told me this some years back.

My Soldier was coming home from several months training deployment.

I'd been called up in the middle of the night for three nights in a row, gotten all the kids up, the baby ready, did my hair, put on my most flattering outfit and went down to the quad only to sit and wait with everyone else and then be sent home at 4:30 a.m. because our guys weren't on that plane after all.

Those days and nights had turned into a terror, not a happy homecoming. On night four when they called, I was just plain cranky and the kids were even worse. I told them if it was true, my husband would have to let

me know and went back to sleep. Of course, that was the night they came in. It was a tough way to start reunion.

So here's the thing. You'll plan and do what you can to be there to meet him, looking gorgeous, the kids looking ready for a photo-shoot. But it could well turn out that you get only enough notice to throw on your favorite pair of worn blue-jeans, never mind you have "bed-head" and no make-up!

Realize in the end, it might not go exactly as planned for whatever weird reason, and both of you need to get prepared for this. Meeting him when he gets home is just the beginning of reunion. Don't add unrealistic expectations to the challenges of this long-dreamed of moment.

For more information, visit www.hoah4health.com/deployment/familymatters or call Army Community Service at 655-2400.

Re-deploying Soldiers and their children: Flexibility, patience keys to reunion

By Nadja Gassert-Depape
Contributing Writer

Army Community Services sponsored a Ready 4 Reunion workshop Oct. 27 designed to help ease and negotiate the unique challenges that re-deploying Soldiers may face when reuniting with their children.

During the 90-minute presentation, Dr. (Col.) Michael E. Faran, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, said the key to a good reunion with a re-deploying Soldier is flexibility. This is especially true if the family includes children.

Even for the healthiest, most loving families, reunion is a process best undertaken slowly and with great flexibility, especially when children are a part of the family. It is normal for all those involved to feel joy and anticipation, as well as a certain amount of apprehension, anxiety and even fear. Homecoming fantasies and expectations are normal, but need to be kept as realistic and flexible as possible.

What is a child's reaction to the returning parent?

A child's reaction to the returning parent depends above all on the age of the child. Other factors, such as the child's prior relationship with the parent or the length of the absence, also play a role. But it is age that determines most reactions and the techniques used to successfully reintegrate the "new" parent:

Newborn – 1-year old

A newborn or 1-year-old will not recognize her returning parent. She might cry more, fuss a lot and become clingy, unwilling to leave her familiar caregiver's side. However, hugging and holding, feeding, changing diapers and dressing, playing and simply spending time with the baby will make her warm up and accept the returning parent after a while.

1-3 years old

Reuniting with a 1-year-old to 3-year-old presents similar challenges. The child does not recognize his returning parent. He cries a lot and exhibits temper problems, becomes shy and clingy. And may



even regress to an earlier stage of childhood. It is best to be gentle with this child, to give him time to warm up to the new parent at his own pace. Hugging and holding shouldn't be forced or coerced.

Helpful Hints:

- Have reasonable expectations.
- Accept that things may be different.
- Be flexible. Be patient. Go slow.
- Spend quality 1:1 time with your children daily.
- Meet your children where they are. Let them set the pace.
- Be fair. Don't criticize.
- Focus on growth, strengths and positives.

Spending time and playing will do.

3-5 years old

Children between the ages of 3 and 5 react differently to the returning parent. Suddenly anger or guilt over having caused the departure of the parent may be demonstrated. The child acts out to gain attention, to test limits and the "realness" of the new situation and parent. She might become demanding and talk incessantly, trying to bring the returning parent up to speed, which seems to include recalling every single day and event during the parent's absence.

Listening is an excellent approach here. Spending time with the child to find out what's new in her life, to reinforce that she's loved and that she did not cause the parent to leave is important. Parents need to be careful, though, not to negate the child's feelings, but rather to accept them.

5-12 years old

The school-age child, from 5 to 12, may even dread the return of the deployed parent. He might be anxious about a new style of disciplining and feel not good enough for the returning parent. Alternately, children may boast about the returning parents and their accomplishments, as well as the Army or the military.

Reunion techniques for this age group involve praising the children for their accomplishments during the time the parent was deployed. Pictures, school books, scrap books and activity reports can be excellent tools to review the time spent apart. Individual, scheduled, play time is important.

13-18 years old

Accommodating an adolescent, 13-18, can be tricky during the best of times. Teenagers may feel unwilling or too old to re-negotiate the parent's position and role in the family. The returning parent may be confronted with a son or daughter who is excited about the reunion, but fears he or she cannot live up to the parent's expectations and standards. He or she may be rebellious, anxious and concerned.

Treating the teenager, his accomplishments, new friends, haircut and taste in music and fashion with respect should work. Paying close attention, listening carefully, not being judgmental and sharing what happened to them will also work for most parents.

Need more help? Have more questions?

Printed materials are available through the Family Advocacy Program. If you have questions or concerns, call 655-2400.

ACS offers a variety of workshops and lectures on reunion. For more information or to find out about future events call 655-2400.

In next week's Hawaii Army Weekly read about "Soldiers' Mental State: Effects of Deployment" by Dr. Peyton Hurt, assistant chief, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

10 tips for teens: Learn to toughen up!

What are some tips that can help you learn to be resilient, or toughen up? As you use these tips, keep in mind that each person's journey along the road to resilience will be different - what works for you may not work for your friends.

1. Get Together

Talk with your friends and, yes, even with your parents. Understand that your parents may have more life experience than you do, even if it seems they never were your age. They may be afraid for you if you're going through really tough times and it may be harder for them to talk about it than it is for you! Don't be afraid to express your opinion, even if your parent or friend takes the opposite view. Get connected to your community, whether it's as part of a church group or a high school group.

2. Cut Yourself Some Slack

When something bad happens in your life, the stresses of whatever you're going through may heighten daily stresses. Your emotions might already be all over the map because of hormones and physical changes; the uncertainty during a tragedy or trauma can make these shifts seem more extreme. Be prepared for this and go a little easy on yourself, and on your friends.

3. Create a Hassle-Free Zone

Make your room or apartment a "hassle-free zone" - not that you keep everyone out, but home should be a haven free from stress and anxieties. But understand that your parents and siblings may have their own stresses if something serious has just happened in your life and may want to spend a little more time than usual with you.

4. Stick to the Program

Spending time in high school or on a college campus means more choices; so let home be your constant. During a time of major stress, map out a routine and stick to it. You may be doing all kinds of new things, but don't forget the routines that give you comfort, whether it's the things you do before class, going out to lunch, or have a nightly phone call with a friend.

5. Take Care of Yourself

Be sure to take of yourself - physically, mentally and spiritually. And get sleep. If you don't, you may be more grouchy and nervous at a time when you have to stay sharp. It's going to be tough if you're falling asleep on your feet.

6. Take Control

Even in the midst of tragedy, you can move toward goals one small step at a time. During a really hard time, just getting out of bed and going to school may be all you can handle, but even accomplishing that can help. Bad times make us feel out of control - grab some of that control back by taking decisive action.

7. Express Yourself

Tragedy can bring up a bunch of conflicting emotions, but sometimes, it's just too hard to talk to someone about what you're feeling. If talking isn't working, do something else to capture your emotions like start a journal, or create art.

8. Help Somebody

Nothing gets your mind off your own problems like solving someone else's. Try volunteering in your community or at your school, cleaning-up around the house or apartment, or helping a friend with his or her homework.

9. Put Things in Perspective

The very thing that has you stressed out may be all anyone is talking about now. But eventually, things change and bad times end. If you're worried about whether you've got what it takes to get through this, think back on a time when you faced up to your fears, whether it was asking someone on a date or applying for a job. Learn some relaxation techniques, whether it's thinking of a particular song in times of stress, or just taking a deep breath to calm down.

10. Turn Off the News

You want to stay informed - you may even have homework that requires you to watch the news. But sometimes, the news, with its focus on the sensational, can add to the feeling that nothing is going right. Try to limit the amount of news you take in, whether it's from television, newspapers or magazines, or the Internet.

You can learn resilience. But just because you learn resilience doesn't mean you won't feel stressed or anxious. You might have times when you aren't happy - and that's OK. The skills you learn during really bad times will be useful even after the bad times end, and they are good skills to have every day. Resilience can help you be one of the people who "got bounce."

(Editor's Note: taken from the Hoah 4 Health Web site: www.hoah4health.army.mil.)

Soldiers need not face 'invisible' combat injury alone

By Spc. Antonietta Rico
FORSCOM News Service

Not all who return from combat leave the war behind.

For some Soldiers, tendrils of memory will pull them back to Iraq or Afghanistan at odd moments of the day. Soldiers might experience flashbacks or insomnia. Unknowingly, they might push family and friends away, shrink from social situations and become increasingly isolated.

Soldiers who recognize some of these symptoms might have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Between 11 and 17 percent of combat veterans will develop Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, according to a study

published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Most will suffer in silence and refuse to seek treatment because of the stigma associated with the illness.

Soldiers do not recognize that just like a physical wound, PTSD is a combat injury.

"Medically, we understand, we know and we expect to see a certain amount of mental health and behavioral health casualties, just like we know that we expect a certain number of physical casualties from being injured," said Lt. Col. Andrew Kosmowski, a division surgeon at Fort Drum, N.Y.

PTSD symptoms can lead Soldiers to exhibit behavior that supervisors might see as misbehaving, such as driving

while drunk or using drugs.

Recognizing symptoms of PTSD is not just the individual Soldier's responsibility. Spouses and family members can look out for signs. First-line supervisors can watch for signs in their subordinates. Leaders can look out for fellow leaders, who are less likely to seek help.

For the Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter communities, the Family Life Chaplains are one of many sources that offer a safe, relaxed environment where Soldiers or family members can receive counseling.

"We're trying to come up with a support group for those with PTSD," said Chaplain (Maj.) Norman Jones, family life chaplain at Aliamanu Military Reservation. This

service is in the developmental stage and will be a supplemental to those seeing a psychologist or other counselor, he said.

"Victims of PTSD don't like to open up, they're very private about it ... and don't feel comfortable talking to their spouse or anyone about it," Jones said.

Jones hopes to encourage openness by showing videos featuring other Soldiers sharing their traumas and what has helped them.

Without treatment, PTSD will likely get worse. If untreated, triggers to flashbacks will go unchecked and Soldiers will develop a habit of avoiding them, becoming more isolated. That could become a chronic pattern throughout their lives, Kosmowski said.

If Soldiers do not seek help for their own sake, they should also consider the effect they might have on their family.

"The family members feel pushed away and isolated," Kosmowski said. "If not even more hurt that after they have withstood the ordeal of a year of separation, now they don't have that closeness with that Soldier that they had been yearning for the last year."

For Soldiers looking for help, the Community Mental Health Department on Schofield Barracks is available for one-on-one and support group counseling. Counselors specializing in PTSD, from the Veteran's Administration, oversee the weekly group sessions held on Wednesdays.

For more information or an evaluation call 433-8575.

Another source of help for Soldiers is Army One Source. The program offers six free sessions with a private counselor. For more information call 1-800-464-8107.

If PTSD is untreated, the burden will only multiply. With treatment, Soldiers can leave the war behind and start pursuing the freedom and happiness they fought to defend.

(Editor's note: Contact the Family Life Chaplains by calling Chaplain (Maj.) David Baum at 655-9460 on Schofield Barracks, or Chaplain (Maj.) Norman Jones at 655-4599 on AMR. Sharee Moore contributed to this article.)

The Tropic Lightning Museum: History in the making

By Rafi Grant
Contributing Writer

Hidden behind big trees and a number of military vehicles, the Tropic Lightning Museum, located in the only lava rock structure on Schofield Barracks at the corner of Waianae Avenue and Flager Road, invites visitors on a journey through history.

Established in the late 1950s, the museum features not only the history of Schofield Barracks, but also the combat history of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) from World War II to recent peacekeeping missions in Haiti and Bosnia.

Upon entry, visitors are introduced to the history of Schofield Barracks as a military post.

The U.S. government ceded the site that was to become the military base in 1899, less than a year after Hawaii was annexed by the United States. In 1908, constructions began on the location, which was between the two major mountain ranges on Oahu and thus recognized to be vital as a strategic position giving access to both the North Shore and the south with Pearl Harbor Naval Base and the city of Honolulu.

The first troops arrived Jan. 9, 1909. In April of the same year, the post was officially named after General John M. Schofield, who had originally called attention to Hawaii's strategic value.

A number of pictures of early Army life on the military post are displayed in the exhibit as well as a showroom with uniforms and weapons.

The second out of three exhibits at the museum introduces the history of the 25th Inf. Div. (Light) and their combat experiences.

Only ten weeks after their activation, the Division was drawn into war by the Japanese attacks on Pearl Harbor on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941.

Later engagements included the Korean War,



Rafi Grant

The Tropic Lightning Museum features the combat history of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) from World War II to recent peace keeping missions.

Vietnam, Desert Storm, and peacekeeping missions in Haiti and Bosnia.

The exhibit shows original armor and uniforms from the respective times as

well as large format pictures of the historical events.

An interesting part of this section is the reconstruction of a Viet Cong

tunnel. Adam Elia, the museum technician and tour guide, shared stories about the tunnels as well as the "tunnel rats," the Soldiers in charge of clearing the underground system.

"The temperature in the tunnels was as high as the upper nineties with a humidity of about 90 percent," explained Elia.

"The tunnels were also full of snakes, rats, and Viet Cong booby traps. The tunnel rats had to feel their way through the system without turning on flashlights."

The third exhibition, the changing gallery of the museum, currently features units which have seen duty with the division.

With the return of the division from the deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan the museum plans a new exhibition on Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedoms.

"It will depend on what the military is able to bring home, such weapons and other historical witnesses, and how much they are able to share with the public about the missions," Linda Hee, the curator of the museum explained.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday. Admission is free, and guided tours and other educational activities are available with advanced notice. Apart from the exhibitions, the museum has a small archive that is open to the public.

For more information call 655-0438, or visit the Division Web site 251dl.army.mil.

Renovation shop offers free service for uniform needs

By 2nd Lt. Kimberly Luft
Contributing Writer

The 540th Quartermaster Company's Renovation Shop is a little known facility that has provided sewing and embroidery services at no cost to Soldiers for years.

Located in building 585 on Trimble Road, the shop might be easy to miss, but it is across from the Schofield Inn and beside the Arts and Crafts Store.

Operated by Sgt. Estelle Nail and four Laundry and Textile Specialists, the renovation shop saves Soldiers roughly \$500 a week.

The shop has six sewing and four embroidery machines. The services provided are the sewing on of patches, rank, name plates, and embroidery services.

Customers just need to bring uniforms to the shop during business hours. Class A uniforms cannot be accepted due to cost and liability. The customer must also provide patches and rank for the renovation shop personnel to sew on.

"We make the name tapes and U.S. Army tapes for the Soldiers. We also make the Gortex and Kevlar name tapes," said Spc. Torando Ogletree. The Renovation Shop usually pulls in 30 to 40 customers a week and sews on 100-300 patches a week.

The Renovation Shop personnel sign in the job and gives the customer a receipt. The turn-around time is usually 72 hours. The customer

then brings back the receipt and signs out their merchandise.

"We supported deploying Soldiers on their way to Iraq and Afghanistan. That was a huge mission. We also have National Guard and Reserve customers, too," said Spc. Stephanie Fernandez.

During deployments, the renovation shop expanded to 24-hour operations, saving Soldiers and the Army thousands of dollars.

"Not enough people know we are here. Sometimes Soldiers forget and end up paying out-of-pocket to get their uniforms straight," said Nail. One way to cure that problem is getting the word out.

Master Sgt. Michael Patarini found out about the shop a year and a half ago during in-processing at the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Replacement Detachment, when new Soldiers were briefed on its free services.

"Luckily, we were told right before we went to CIF draw," said Patarini.

He has since then used the renovation shop for all his sewing needs. Spouses of military members may also bring in their husband's or wife's uniforms.

The Renovation Shop's hours are Monday through Wednesday 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The shop closes weekends, holidays, on days of no scheduled activities and during payday activities. Call the Renovation Shop at 655-0253 for more information.

Brothers reunited in combat

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey, USAF
American Forces Press Service

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan – The first presidential election in Afghanistan has united more than a country; it has also brought together two brothers who serve in the U.S. military from opposite sides of the globe.

Air Force 1st Lt. Matt Robins, an A-10 pilot with the 81st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, deployed from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, caught up on the family news of his brother, Army Capt. Steven Robins, a member of 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, deployed from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

The brothers from Marshall, Texas, support Operation Enduring Freedom from different perspectives — the captain from the ground and the lieutenant from the air.

“I couldn’t imagine staffing patrols and leading troops like he does,” said Matt, the younger of the two at 24.

“And I think he has the coolest job, flying a jet and getting to see the country from the air,” the 26-year-old captain said.

They are the first two in their family to serve in the military, but have always had the desire to be a Soldier and to fly.

“My job here is very rewarding,” Steven said. “I’m always around (Soldiers), and we get to go on some interesting missions.”

Recently, the infantry officer and his battalion helped ensure the security of polling places in Paktika province during the presidential election, which was held on Oct. 9. “The turnout wasn’t expected to be huge, but thousands turned up,” he said.

The captain’s battalion also helps train and outfit local Afghan police forces. “At one time, the Taliban had a stronghold in the area, but now we’re seeing villagers turning them in,” he said.

Matt provides close-air support in Afghanistan, which sometimes requires A-10 pilots to defend U.S.



Air Force 1st Lt. Matt Robins (left), a pilot with the 81st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, poses with his brother, Capt. Steven Robins, a member of 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt., before taking a flight over Afghanistan.

2nd Lt. Michael Sheley, USAF

ground troops by firing on or bombing attacking forces. The lieutenant hasn’t had to provide cover for his brother’s troops or employ munitions to date.

However, Steven has witnessed local Afghan leaders cheering on U.S. military fighter jets, including A-10 Thunderbolts, and attack helicopters providing “show of presence” flyovers. Often the roar of an A-10 coming in overhead serves as enough of a deterrent against insur-

gent forces, said the captain.

“For me, flying here has been great — being in a close-air-support mission where I’m able to do my job and see the effects without having to kill anybody,” said Matt.

The captain is scheduled to continue developing plans and leading Soldiers in Afghanistan through May, and the lieutenant is to provide close-air support to ground troops through January. Both brothers said they look forward to a more

peaceful Afghanistan and the end of organized terrorism.

“Our parents are proud about what we do,” said the A-10 pilot, “but are concerned at times about the fact that we’re serving in a combat zone together.”

(Air Force Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey is assigned to 455th Expeditionary Operations Group Public Affairs. Courtesy of U.S. Air Forces in Europe.)

Message for troops on a day of tribute

Gen. Richard B. Myers
USAF Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
American Forces Press Service

This Veterans Day we pause to honor and thank our veterans, past and present — those who have served and those who are serving today around the world advancing freedom and the cause of liberty.

Since the colonial Minutemen first stood shoulder-to-shoulder, countless Americans have answered our Nation’s call to serve and defend liberty. They are true heroes. In the past century alone, they fixed bayonets at the Battle of the Marne, they stormed the beaches at Normandy and Omaha, assaulted Heartbreak Ridge, patrolled the Ia Drang Valley and stared down our adversaries on the plains of Europe. They stood as shining examples of ordinary citizens doing the extraordinary to defend a grateful Nation.

Like those who wore the uniform before them, today’s Armed Forces continue this proud legacy. At this very moment, American Servicemen and women — Active and Reserve — from every walk of life and from every ethnic, religious and racial background, serve in harm’s way. From the mountains in Afghanistan to the sands of Iraq, from the jungles of Colombia to the shores of the Philippines, they are giving hope to millions that liberty, justice and a lasting peace are within their reach.

Today, the proud men and women of our Armed Forces are once again engaged in a global struggle against those who threaten our way of life. At every turn, they demonstrate our firm resolve and serve notice to terrorists that we will succeed. We are proud of their commitment, dedication and accomplishments.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff and I thank our veterans for their selfless service and for ensuring the continued security of our Nation.

May God bless you and God bless America.

2004 Veterans Day message from the Secretary of Defense

Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
American Forces Press Service

In 1834, the American patriot, Daniel Webster, told the United States Senate: “God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it.”

Fortunately for America, for more than 200 years our nation always has been blessed with patriots who

believed as Webster did, and who have proudly stepped forward — ready to fight and, if necessary, to die to ensure that liberty is defended.

We have a name for these patriots — we call them veterans. And, in their honor, America has set aside a special day each year — a day to recognize their courage and their commitment to our country, and to tell them once again of our deep

appreciation for their dedicated service.

Through every conflict, in every era, they have battled tyrannies of every kind.

While the names of those tyrannies have changed — from fascism to Nazism to communism — the nature of dangers they posed to peace and freedom have all been serious.

Today freedom is again threatened — this time by a new tyranny, the tyranny of extremism — of terrorism. And, again, patriots have stepped forward. They are there — in Afghanistan, in Iraq, and wherever our liberty is at risk — guarding freedom, and bringing hope to millions who once lived in fear.

To those on guard today, and to the veterans of every war on whose shoulders they stand — the living, the departed, and the missing — you have our deepest gratitude for your service and your sacrifice.

May God bless you all. And may God continue to bless the United States of America.

Spouse's Spotlight

Spouse paints them as she sees them

By Joy Boisselle
Staff Writer

Like the Road Runner, Heather Reed, a woman in perpetual motion, would keep Wiley Coyote on his toes or even his rocket-propelled roller skates.

All comic references aside, Heather is one busy lady.

Heather is mother to four kids ranging in ages from 12 to 6, including 10-year-old twins.

She is vice president of the Hale Kula Parent Teacher Association, classroom, youth sport, and Family Readiness Group volunteer, and a talented artist.

As if that isn't enough, her husband, Chief Warrant Officer William Reed, assigned to 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, deployed to Iraq in March.

Heather, jokingly, refers to herself as the "chief executive officer of her own little company, however, the things [painting and volunteering] I am doing are things I would do even if my husband was here," she explained.

Although Heather is most proud of her role as homemaker, she admits that art was her first love.

"My mom fostered a love of art in our house and although I don't feel like a fine-artist, I know my work can bring color and cheer into other's lives, especially children," she said.

Nowhere is this more evident than at Hale Kula Elementary School. With a paint brush and a rainbow palette of color, Heather is single handedly transforming the school's blue and white landscape into a vibrant Hawaiian-inspired motif.

"When I first saw the school, I noticed there wasn't a lot of decoration and color," she explained. "I spoke to the principal and we came up with several ideas to brighten the

school."

Heather started with a large mural outside the cafeteria depicting children holding hands around the world representing the school's multi-cultural flavor.

"I love painting at schools; the kids are excited and curious, and I think it changes the way they feel about their surroundings and their school," she said.

Now, she is painting Hawaiian symbols, like the dolphin, turtle, tiki, and "slippah" on each of the school's classroom buildings.

"I decided that the kids would benefit from having visual cues on the buildings to help them get to their classrooms easier," she said.

While painting unimproved territory is a mission for Heather, that mission began in her home. The typical uninspiring beige walls of government housing are nowhere in evidence in the Reed home. The Reed home is immaculate, warm, and welcoming just the way Heather designed it to be.

"I like to make the home the most important place in our lives. I wanted to create an environment for my kids where they feel safe, secure, accepted, and loved," she said.

Worthy of a tribute on any design show, Heather's artistic talents are everywhere. She painted her children's rooms to reflect each child's inner personality or hobby.

The centerpiece of 10-year-old William's room is a life-size Bionicle preparing for battle. In Alisha's, and Emma's room, a mural of hula dancers takes center stage in a tropical motif complete with palm trees and Bird of Paradise. Oldest daughter, Faith, declined a mural for a more grown-up venue of cool pinks and maroons.

To Heather, making a difference as a volunteer is



Joy Boisselle

Top: Heather Reed touches up one of her murals at Hale Kula Elementary. Reed is transforming the school one mural at a time. Right: Her son's room where a 'Bionicle' prepares for battle. Reed has painted nearly every blank wall in her home.

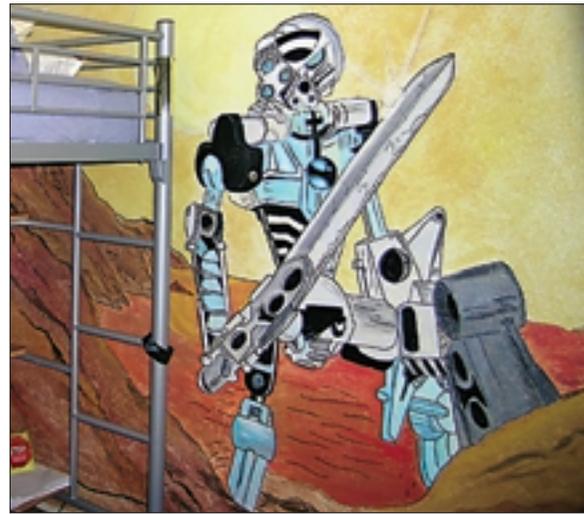
important. "Things don't get done on their own and I don't want to complain without being ready to help make it right," she said with a determined smile, "I'm a solution kind of a girl."

With several deployments under her painting smock, Heather admits that this time the deployment is harder. "The kids are older and comprehend more, it's longer, and the stakes are higher," she added with eyes glistening.

Maintaining a balance in her life is a challenge. Heather said, "I am more self-reliant and try hard to keep a positive attitude, but I have learned to ask for help when I need it.

Thank God for my friends and neighbors." Heather's advice to others is simple. "If you are falling apart, your kids will too. Keep your chin up, and don't forget to pray," she said.

Modest to the end, Heather said, "I want people to realize what I am doing is not so extraordinary. I see fellow PTA members, FRG Leaders, and friends all doing the same kinds of things I do. My art may be more visible, but not any more important or better than others' contributions."



Army runners finish fourth in marathon

By Tim Hipsps
Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. – Maj. Liam Collins led the All-Army team to a fourth-place finish in the 2004 Armed Forces Marathon Championships run in conjunction with the 29th Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 31.

Collins, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., finished 18th with a time of 2 hours, 38 minutes and 13 seconds.

The Armed Forces team standings were determined by combining the times of the top three male and first female finishers.

Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Vandervlugt (2:45:17) of Albany, Ore.; Spc. Nathan Pennington (2:51:45) of Fort Carson, Colo.; and 2nd Lt. Sage Stefiuk (3:06:36) of Fort Bragg, N.C., rounded out the scoring for the All-Army squad, which had a cumulative time of 11:21:51.

Second Lt. Mark Davis (2:54:36) of Fort Campbell, Ky.; Sgt. 1st Class Gary Brimmer (3:06:34) of Fort Hood, Texas; Maj. Jacqueline Chen (3:11:43) of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany; and Maj. Margaret Bozgoz (3:21:04) of Fort McPherson, Ga., also ran for the All-Army team.

Marine Corps Capt. Mary Kate Bailey ran unchallenged for the final 12 miles to win the women's open division in 2:48:31. She helped the All-Marine team capture the Armed Forces title with a time of 10:38:05.

Bailey said her father buried at nearby Arlington National Cemetery gave her extra inspiration, along with her three brothers and



Tim Hipsps

Liam Collins of Fort Leavenworth, Kan., leads the Army team to a fourth-place finish in the 2004 Armed Forces Marathon Championships Oct. 31.

husband who cheered her along the marathon route.

Capt. William Edwards (2:35:16), Capt. Andrew Bartle (2:36:37) and Maj. Alexander Hetherington (2:37:41) rounded out the host Marines' scoring.

Air Force Maj. Chris Juarez, winner of the 2002 Marine Corps Marathon, led all military runners with a third-place finish in 2:26:03.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Kimberly Fagen, of San Diego, was the second female finisher with a personal-best time of 2:51:17, helping the All-Navy team take third place in the Armed Forces standings. Fagen also finished second in the 1999 Walt Disney World Marathon at Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

(Editor's note: Tim Hipsps writes for the Army Community and Family Support Center.)



Touchdown in closing seconds seals victory

By Sgt. Sean Kimmons
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq – With less than 20 seconds left and down by four points, Company B, 125th Signal Battalion needed a big play to put them ahead in the flag football championship game against Task Force 2-11 Field Artillery at Kirkuk Air Base on Nov. 8.

After confusing defenders with a pump fake, Eric Gowie, a generator mechanic, completed a pass to James Raley, a multi-channel transmissions operator, who ran the reception in for a touchdown to lift Co. B, 125th Sig. past TF 2-11 FA, 14-12.

"I was just thinking about doing my route up the middle, which I saw was open the whole game," Raley said. "The free safety bit on the pump fake, I got behind him and

knew it was going to be a touchdown once Gowie threw the ball."

The two-point conversion attempt failed, but this didn't matter as there are no field goals in flag football, so TF 2-11 FA needed to score a touchdown to win the game. Unfortunately, TF 2-11 FA came up short as time ran out on their drive and Co. B, 125 Sig. pulled away with the championship.

Co. B, 125th Sig. finished the season 8-1, while TF 2-11 FA dropped to 6-3.

Raley thought the flag football season, which began mid-September, was good for the deployed Soldiers who participated.

"It boosts the morale for all the Soldiers," Raley said. "It's almost like being back in the rear and sometimes you forget where you are at."

Jason Baldwin, a cornerback for the TF 2-11 FA team,



Sgt. Sean Kimmons

Top: Demetrius Young (center), 2-11 FA, gets a pass off to Andrew Walton before his flag is pulled. Game: 14-12. Above: Ricky Horne runs toward the end zone to score the first touchdown for Co. B, 125 Sig.

thought the same.

"Playing intramural sports in theater is a good morale

booster," he said. "It gives people a chance to compete, relax and get things off their mind."