

Army Guard

Military Intelligence recognized

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Environmental

Map reading made easier
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Air Guard

Guard radar facilities undergo changes
page 6



Hawaii State Department of Defense

pupukahi

pupukahi: "harmoniously united"

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January - March 2001

Calendar

April 7-8

Hawaii National Guard State Family Program Conference, Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel, rooms and times to be announced.

April 13, Friday

Good Friday, state holiday only.

May 18-20

Hawaii National Guard Volleyball Tournament, time and location to be announced.

May 28, Monday

Memorial Day, federal and state holiday. Ceremonies at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl and Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery.

June 8-11

2nd Annual Hawaii National Guard Youth Camp, ages 8-14, location and details to be announced.

June 11, Monday

Kamehameha Day, state holiday only.

July 4, Wednesday

Fourth of July, federal and state holiday.

August 17, Friday

Admissions Day, state holiday only.

September 3, Monday

Labor Day, federal and state holiday.

September 21-23

Hawaii National Guard Softball Tournament, time and location to be announced.

October 8, Monday

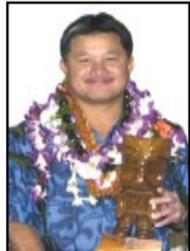
Hawaii Air Guard recognizes best

Leaders from Hawaii's National Guard, State government and civilian employers joined nominees and guests at the annual Hawaii Air National Guard Awards Banquet on February 17. The event, held at the Hickam Officer's Club, featured guest presenters including Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono, Maj. Gen. Edward L. Correa Jr., the adjutant general, and Brig. Gen. Myron N. Dobashi, the Hawaii Air Guard commander.

Individual awardees

Taking the **Outstanding Airman** award, from a field of 12, was **Senior Airman Shari M. Sugai**, an air traffic controller from the 297th Air Traffic Control Squadron. She was hand picked to augment the standards evaluation team in providing training to the outstanding air traffic control operations at Kalaheo. She is a top-notch supporter of unit programs and is relied upon for many of the most demanding assignments. (photo not available)

Tech. Sgt. Thomas Chock, from the 154th Logistics Squadron, bested 19 **Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer** nominees. In addition to his duties as the element's NCO in charge, he was instrumental in automating and streamlining supply accounting procedures. Chock is also responsible for the activation of the Hawaii Air Guard's Honor Guard team, which has performed at more than 100 funerals and local activities.

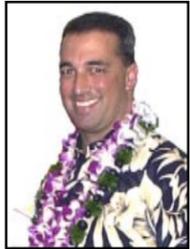


Chock

Master Sgt. Brian Tom, a member of the Headquarters, 154th Wing finance section, led a list of the 14 **Outstanding Senior NCOs** who were nominated. He manages the pay records for some 2,500 Hawaii Air National Guard members. He spearheaded two pay system upgrades that resulted in a 40 percent increase in productivity with a significant decrease in errors. During the FY00 closeout, he worked overtime and on weekends to ensure that the job got done. He is an outstanding motivator and always leads by example.



Tom



Faurot

Capt. Christopher Faurot, a 199th Fighter Squadron pilot, was named the **Outstanding Company Grade Officer**. Faurot has the responsibility to see that all the 34 F-15 pilots are ready to go to combat if called. He developed a yearly training plan to maximize ground and flight training while minimizing the time required to accomplish it. Faurot inspires the whole squadron with his pro-

fessionalism, knowledge and "can do" attitude. His competence both on the ground and air is a testament to his hard work and perseverance to be the best.

Maj. Jeffrey T. Namihira, also a pilot with the 199th Fighter Squadron, was presented **Outstanding Field Grade Officer** award. Namihira, the most active traditional guardsman in the unit, is one of only six pilots qualified to evaluate all other unit pilots. He volunteered to take over training eight months before an inspection and ensured the squadron was in compliance. Next, he volunteered to become the unit scheduler, normally a full-time job. As scheduler, he has ensured all pilots receive their minimum sorties. Namihira is a leader who inspires others and achieves outstanding results.



Namihira

Group awardees

The **Outstanding Service Team** winner was the **Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduates Association, Chapter 18**. The NCOAGA organized several community projects, such as Kid's Day, Help Understanding & Group Support (HUGS), Farmer's Bureau and Easter Seals. They sponsored a leadership seminar that was attended by a diversified group of officer and enlisted personnel from across the country. With each event, they were goodwill ambassadors of the Hawaii Air National Guard.

Team members included Chief Master Sgts. Pam Goya and Iris Kabazawa; Senior Master Sgts. Doug Awana, Miles Moriyama, and Tako Wada; Master Sgts. Ed Essman, Kathy Fritz, Robert Garcia, Craig Harimoto, Sam Kekuna, Craig Mikiya, Brian Tom, and Irvin Yoshino; and Tech. Sgts. Rex Godinez and Wayne Pontes.



Tech Sgt. Wayne Pontes

The Service Team, the Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduates Association, Chapter 18, is joined by Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono and Brig. Gen. Myron N. Dobashi, Hawaii Air National Guard commander.

AIR AWARDS — continued on page 8

Communications personnel deploy to Persian Gulf Region

Members of the Hawaii Air National Guard began deploying to the Persian Gulf region in February as part of a scheduled rotation of troops supporting Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. Following the Persian Gulf War, coalition forces, under the auspices of the United Nations, imposed no-fly zones in the northern and southern sectors of Iraq. The southern no-

fly zone was imposed to prevent Iraqi aircraft from flying and large-scale Iraqi troop movements below the 33rd parallel.

Approximately 40 airmen from the 201st Combat Communications Group, will be taking part. Most are deploying for approximately three weeks. Rotations will continue through early May. Several other HIANG members

have been deploying to air bases in Italy, Germany and Turkey to support U.S. Air Force operations.

The first rotation of Hawaii airmen was from the 291st Combat Communications Squadron, based in Hilo. Senior Airman Glen Gebin is a drill-status satellite and wide-band communi-

PERSIAN — continued on page 3

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Command Notes

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Correa Jr.
The Adjutant General

recognized by the United Services Organization (USO) as the best in the nation. On April 3, Youth CHalleNGe Academy director Bob Watanabe

number of brush fires. They have since done extensive work to reduce the risk of fire and made plans that will protect the environment while still providing for realistic training. The 25th Infantry Division is currently working with the community and reviewing an Environmental Assessment (EA) that found resumption of training would have minimal impact on the area. Some in the community want an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) conducted. The Division leadership will decide shortly on its course of action. The key is that the Army and the community continue to talk with each other to resolve issues involving Makua Valley. But while discussions are going on, the Army should resume training. I believe that since 1998, the Army has taken positive steps to ensure the environment and Hawaiian cultural sites are protected. The Army can be good stewards of the land and still prepare its soldiers for the battlefield.

Youth program rated best

Leading the way — we have so many people doing outstanding work and receiving major awards! First of all, the Hawaii National Guard Youth CHalleNGe Academy has been

will accept the USO award for *Best-All Around* program at a Washington, D.C. ceremony. Watanabe and his team have consistently worked very hard to help Hawaii's youth at risk excel. Since its inception in 1994, Hawaii's program has graduated nearly 1,000 corpsmembers from the residential phase. This accomplishment cannot be understated. Think about how much more productive and fuller life is for these graduates and their families. Best in the nation — a well-deserved award! (Read more about Youth CHalleNGe in a related article on page 4).

Wing earns new feather

The 154th Wing will shortly be receiving its seventh Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA). This award is for exceptionally meritorious service from July 14, 1998 to July 13, 2000. The citation accompanying the award states the 154th is the best-trained and equipped Air National Guard unit in the nation. The HIANG has been instrumental players in operations NORTH-ERN WATCH, SOUTHERN WATCH, DELIBERATE FORGE, ALLIED FORCE, AND PHOENIX SCORPION, AS well as exercises such as FOAL EAGLE, ICELAND ALERT, and SENTRY



Lt. Col. Frederick F. Fogel

TROOP REVIEW — Maj. Gen. Edward L. Correa Jr., the adjutant general, inspects the troops during a February visit to Hawaii's States Partnership Program country, the Philippines.

ALOHA. The Wing has supported numerous missions such as Joint Task Force-Full Accounting, air refueling from Geilenkirchen, Osan and Kunsan. We've always known that we have outstanding people and that we're capable of taking care of business. This AFOUA is proof that we're recognized nationally for our efforts. Well Done!

154th Wing AFOUA and YCA and the are just among the most visible examples of outstanding performance within the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense. The whole department has been doing excellent work. Our success is contingent upon constantly building on our strong foundation. As long as we maintain standards, keep our values close to our hearts and keep a positive attitude, we will continue to achieve great things. It's a total team effort. That is the nature of our busi-

ness. We all depend on each other to accomplish the mission, from the mechanic to the pilot, from the machine gunner to the fire team leader — everyone doing his or her part, is the only way we keep moving forward.

Sympathy for families

Recently, we were reminded that ours is a dangerous business. On March 3, 21 National Guard soldiers and airmen were killed in a tragic plane crash in Georgia. In February, six U.S. Army soldiers, aboard two UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters, were killed during a nighttime training accident in the Kahukus. I knew one of those soldiers — Chief Warrant Officer George Perry — personally. He was as fine a soldier as you would ever meet. My deepest sympathy goes to the families of those great Americans who died while serving their country.

Training in Makua Valley

I'd like to take this opportunity to talk a little bit about an issue that has been in the news recently which could have an impact on the Hawaii National Guard — Makua Valley. Military leaders have a sacred trust to ensure their people are properly trained. This we understand is non-negotiable. It is our moral obligation to ensure that our people are prepared when called upon to go into "harm's way." An integral part of that training is tough, realistic company-sized live-fire exercises. From my vantage point, the only feasible location for the near future is Makua. Pohakuloa is too costly, both in dollars and in time it takes to get there and back. Could live-fire exercises be conducted at Schofield Barracks? Sure, but that would mean displacing the qualification range that our soldiers use to practice firing individual weapons and the cost would be in the \$20-30 million range, or higher.

The Army shut the Makua range in 1998 because of the

Departmental News

Educational support to Guard community

Soldiers in the Army National Guard typically do not serve on large DoD bases where there is a base or post education center to assist them. They serve in Guard armories spread out all across the state, just like Hawaii. Now, there's an option. Soldiers, spouses, and civilian employees can receive *free* expert educational guidance from the new Army National Guard Institute.

Education option

The institute focuses on non-traditional educational options. Traditional education takes place in a classroom. Students have sat in college classrooms in America for hundreds of years to earn a college degree. When Army Guard soldiers think of a college degree, they usually look at traditional education opportunities. Nontraditional education is a method of earning college credit without sitting in a classroom on a campus.

Assistance available

Local colleges continue to be the best resource for soldier to receive an education. In fact, Hawaii

Guard personnel are able to attend State universities and community colleges with 50 – 100 percent tuition assistance.

However, the local college is not for everyone. Some soldiers frequently travel in their civilian job, work odd hours, or face other barriers to classroom-based education. Others may want to take a particular course that is not offered in the evening. Unfortunately, many soldiers don't know where to turn to when they face these barriers. Now, through nontraditional learning, soldiers have an alternative.

Keep in mind, nontraditional education is not for everyone. It takes someone who is self-disciplined to stay on schedule. The student must be an independent learner willing to have limited contact with the professor and other students.

If nontraditional learning is for you, then the ARNGI can put you back in the right path toward that college degree. The institute will assist Army Guardmembers in using nontraditional education opportunities to overcome barriers. ARNGI provides

computer-generated degree plans to show soldiers where they stand toward completion of a college degree. ARNGI also seeks to get the Army Guard soldier maximum application of college credit from military training, such as basic training, advanced individual training, officer basic courses, etc.

Alternative plan

So how does the soldier begin to put together a computer-generated degree plan with ARNGI. First of all, enlisted soldiers entering service after October 1981 should view their military transcript, or AARTS transcript, at: www.leavenworth.army.mil/AARTS. They can also call 1-866-297-4427 (toll free) to request a soldier copy through FAX and to resolve errors on the transcript. Enlisted soldiers joining before October 1981 and all officers must continue to maintain records of all military courses taken and have this list ready before calling ARNGI. The institute will then create a military transcript and ask you to verify the transcript through the

education officer. The good news is, automated AARTS transcripts are scheduled to be ready for officers and enlisted members who joined before October 1981 sometime during 2001.

Before calling ARNGI, soldiers should also have available any college transcripts from accredited schools they have attended. Call your Education Officer if you are not sure if your school qualifies. Any score reports from college credit examinations such as CLEP exams and any professional licenses or certifications should also be available when calling to receive maximum college credit.

Signing up now?

Army Guard soldiers, spouses, and Army Guard civilian employees who are ready now, call the Institute at 1-877-632-7644 or visit their website at www.arngi.org. You will be asked to complete an application which may be obtained from the website or through the Hawaii Army National Guard Education Office. It's best to complete this easy one page application

prior to calling and faxing it at: 1-888-205-4065.

Your success is the goal of the Army National Guard Institute. Soldiers, spouses, and Army Guard civilian employees are encouraged to take advan-

tage of this valuable benefit and get back on the path to a college degree! Please feel free to call the Hawaii Army National Guard Education Office at 733-4133 for more information.



pupukahi

State of Hawaii Department of Defense
pupukahi: harmoniously united

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Military Intelligence accomplishes high marks

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Curtis H. Matsushige

There's a compact Hawaii Army National Guard unit that's got a bit of everything. They've got pounding grunts with surveillance savvy, a linguist in case you're in a foreign zone, and this year they are the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade's company of the year. It's no wonder that one of their sections is known as ACE.

This wealth of diversity is in a single unit. It is the 229th Military Intelligence Company. Federally recognized in 1998, the MI Company became a brigade resource during the reorganization of the 29th into its enhanced configuration. Kalaeloa, the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station, is the home of this 42-soldier unit.

They are prepared to do their mission of providing intelligence support to the brigade in times of war and peace. Their deployment to the Joint Readiness Training Center in Fort Polk, La., proved their versatility in a variety of situations.

During the JRTC exercise, the counter intelligence section analyzed activity in the base support area and action close to the forward units help insure safety and security during operations. Captives

SPECIAL INTEL — Specialists Janal Jones (standing) and Rick Ishii, from the 229th Military Intelligence Company, train on the WARLORD notebook computer. The computer keeps the unit in sync with the Army's newer intelligence gathering systems.



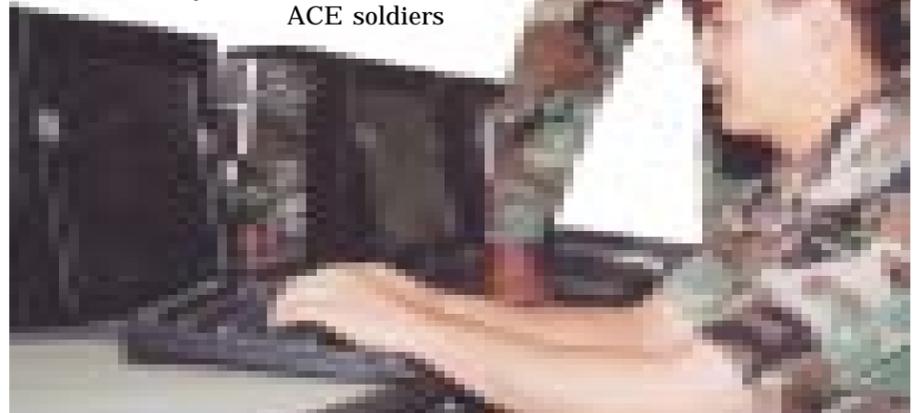
Sgt. Clinton Wood, Minnesota Army National Guard
"FROZEN WARRIORS" — Sgt. Peter Aguon and Spc. Pedro Ortiz of the 299th Military Intelligence Company pull a sled at the Guard's Winter Warfare Course at Camp Ripley, Little Falls, Minn. They were two of seven Hawaii soldiers in the 42-student class.

could be interrogated in their native language or observed more discretely for intelligence.

The unit's infantry soldiers trained in surveillance and stealth, could hump and eat dirt with the best, then deliver accurate and timely information.

"These guys are the pit bull" said Staff Sgt. Jerry Yuen, the unit administrator of the reconnaissance section. "They're mostly 11 Bravos (infantry soldiers), our eyes and ears in the field."

The gathered information is then relayed to the ACE section or intelligence Analyst Central Element.



ACE soldiers

used the WARLORD notebook computers. These computers are internet ready and one of the latest tools for information analysis and creating intelligence.

"Being in the MI is definitely a challenge, fast-paced, and you learn a lot of technical skills you can use in the civilian job market," said Spc. Jason Forbes, who works full-time for the State.

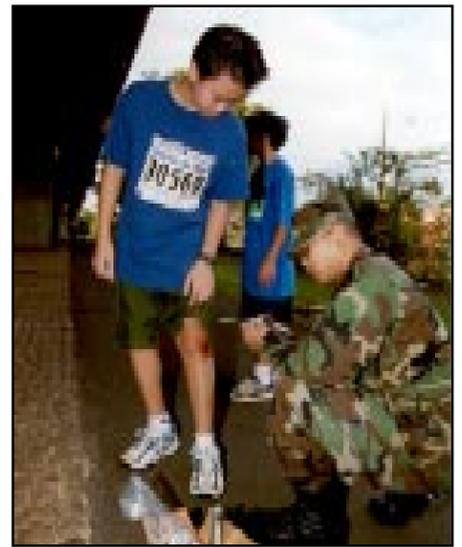
A good opportunity to train and learn civilian skills while in the Guard now, that's military intelligence.

Hawaii Guard family assists at Great Aloha Run



Staff Sgt. Curtis H. Matsushige

STARTING OFF WITH A BANG — Battery B, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery soldiers (left), stand fronting the Aloha Tower, ready to start the February 2001 Great Aloha Run. The Hawaii National Guard's Youth Challenge Corpsmembers passed water out to runners along the route, while medics like Pfc. Allan G. Julian (right), Company C, 29th Support Battalion, treated runners for aches and scrapes.



Sgt 1st Class Wayne T. Iha

More Departmental News

Servicemember's Group Life Insurance automatic increase

Effective April 1, the rate of Servicemember's Group Life Insurance will automatically increase to \$250,000. The current premium payment of \$.80 per \$10,000 will continue, this will result in an additional \$4 premium being deducted from member's pay for SGLI.

For those members who currently have the maximum amount of \$200,000, the premium payment per month is \$16.

With the increase in coverage, the premium will now be \$20 per month for the maximum coverage.

If the member desires the full coverage of \$250,000, then no action is required. However, if any member desires a reduced amount of coverage, or no coverage, troops must report to the 154 MSF or your Army Guard

unit to complete a new SGLI form indicating this change.

The form must be reaccomplished, signed, dated and submitted **no earlier than April 1 and no later than April 30.**

Any requests for reduced coverage, or no coverage, received during this period will result in a refund of any over-collection of the premium in the month of April.

The April 1 to April 30 time frame is critical. Requests for reduced SGLI coverage, or no SGLI coverage, dated and received after April 30 will be processed to reduce the coverage, or stop the coverage, effective in May, but will not result in a refund of the maximum premium withheld for the month of April.

For more information regarding the SGLI increase, phone the 154 MSF at 448-7434 or your Army Guard unit.



Capt. Steve C. Lai

NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU'S ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD BROUGHT HOME - Lt. Col. Ronald R. Swafford, Hawaii Army National Guard's environmental protection specialist, accepts the FY 2000 NGB Environmental award for Environmental Quality, Industrial Installation, during a presentation at the February National Environmental Workshop. Col Stacey K. Hirata (left), U.S. Army director of Environmental Programs and Col. Richard Murphy, division chief of NGB Environmental Programs, were on hand to recognize HIARNG's stewardship in several key areas including innovative procedures, environmental compliance, natural resources and waste management. Swafford also accepted Melissa Dumaran's meritorious service award recognizing her outstanding individual achievements as the HIARNG natural resources manager.

PERSIAN

— continued from page 1

cations apprentice with the 291st, who volunteered for the deployment. He plans to pursue an Associates Degree in electronics from Hilo Community College after returning from the Persian Gulf. "I like exploring the world," said Gebin, a Hilo native. "I've been to Thailand and Korea with the Air Guard, but this will be my first deployment to the Persian Gulf," said Gebin. Staff Sgt. Lawrence Fong is a drill-status member of the 291st who works full-time for Suisan, wholesale food distributors, as a data processor. During the month of March, he will be working alongside his active-duty counterparts in the Persian Gulf area in computer operations. Fong says he looks at this deployment as an opportunity to learn new techniques while serving on active-duty. Fong says his bosses in Hilo are being "very supportive" while he serves his country.

The 201st Combat Communications Group is comprised of units at Hickam Air Force Base, as well as Kalaeloa, Kahului and Hilo. Its federal mission is to provide secure microwave and satellite communications and air traffic control services to the U.S. Air Force and other U.S. military forces.

Guard breaks ground for military school in historic Waimanalo

By 1st Lt. Jonathan M. Shiroma
and Cadet Wendy R. Cook



It's being called the pride of Waimanalo. That comment from various community and military leaders as the Hawaii Army National Guard broke ground for the new \$16.4 million Regional Training Institute (RTI), Dec. 13, 2000.

Located on 40 acres of land on Bellows Air Force Station, the new facilities will include an auditorium capable of seating 300, classrooms, conference rooms and a number of other features to train military personnel.

The RTI will be the new home of the 298th Regiment which is charged with training soldiers from the Hawaii Army Guard, U. S. Army Reserve and active Army in the Pacific region. The training courses currently being conducted through the RTI are Noncommissioned Officers Development Programs, Officer Candidate School and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) qualifying courses.

"It's a great day for Hawaii, the Hawaii Army National Guard and the Army," said Maj. Gen. Edward L. Correa Jr., the adjutant general. "This represents a great link between the civilian community and the military."

Guard officials say when the facilities are not being used by the military with proper

authorization and clearance, nonprofit and community groups may be able to use certain parts of the RTI.

The area is rich with history. It was once a favorite vacation spot for Hawaiian royalty. In 1941, the War Department established Bellows Field as a permanent post and in the postwar period, it was used as a recreational facility. The Hawaii Air National Guard first used the field in 1946, and in 1948, it was renamed Bellows Air Force Base. The Fleet Marine Forces Pacific also started to use the beach areas for operational training and landings. The runway was closed in 1956 and a radio transmitter was built on the site. Starting in 1960, it was a Hercules-Nike missile site for ten years. Seventy-seven acres were set aside to become the Waimanalo Recreation Area in 1963. In 1987, the Hawaii Military Academy relocated to the area.

Hawaii's CHalleNGe program top ranked

By Spc. Brandon T. Bocanegra

The New Year is off to a great start for the Hawaii National Guard's thriving Youth CHalleNGe Academy. It was recently announced by the U.S. Service Organization (USO) that Hawaii's program is the best program overall among 25 programs nationally. Besides receiving new recognition on the national level and positive feedback from its corpsmembers and the community, the first training cycle of the year will herald in the program's 1,000th graduate. Youth CHalleNGe Academy has also begun expanding to attract more recruits and to better prepare them for the challenges of the program and life afterward.

Mentoring more than 1,000 of Hawaii's youths is a great achievement for the Guard, said Wallace Mitsui, Youth CHalleNGe's program coordinator. But Youth CHalleNGe, which is a high school competency program, has continued to improve its standing by increasing the chances of success for the students. A preparatory program was initiated last October, which offers a brief introduction and overview of the program, but primarily provides academic help to struggling students. Hawaii's prep program is like few others in the nation and is a hallmark of Youth CHalleNGe's success, he said. "The prep program has helped with recruiting because it gives students a

taste of the residential program," said Mitsui. "However, the basic intent is to help those that are not academically ready. It is a great addition to the program and nationally, we are one of the few that do it."

The commandant of the Hawaii National Guard Youth CHalleNGe Academy, Capt. Christopher Slavens, explained, "students must be able to read at a sixth grade level to be eligible. What we were finding was a large percentage of students only had a third grade reading level."

To get the students up to par, the prep program provided two full-time teachers with several assistants, enabling 16 students to pass the course. The teachers met with the students for one month and tutored them about four hours each day, five days a week. After class, students met with members of Youth CHalleNGe's cadre for instruction on some of the tasks they would be performing as corpsmembers. The benefits of the prep program will be measured with this next training cycle, as the 16 graduates enter the five-month residential phase. But, based on feedback from the first one, the next prep program has already been scheduled to include 25 students.

Mitsui reaffirmed that education is a primary factor in molding good citizens. "It is a positive achievement that 992 students have finished the program and that we will be celebrating our

Hawaii's program is the best program overall among the 25 programs nationally.

— U.S. Service Organization (USO)



THE FUTURE IS YOURS — Maj. Gen. Edward L. Correa Jr, the adjutant general, assisted by the Capt. Christopher Slavens, the Youth CHalleNGe Academy commandant, presents certificates to the December 2000 graduating class at Kapolei High School facilities.

1,000th this cycle. But, what we would really like to see is 1,001 students receive their high school diploma. That would be an accomplishment," he said.

Eighty-five percent of the programs' graduates have received their diplomas.

Slavens said, "there is no doubt that we have been extremely successful. The diploma rate is a tangible indication. But, some of the biggest results are the changes you see in the kids. When we receive our follow-ups and hear they have passed basic training in the Marine Corps as an honor graduate, we

know the rest will go off to do great things as well."

They have an accomplished track record, but the Hawaii National Guard has never advocated settling for second. With the goal to "become the most respected alternative learning organization in the nation" as their mission statement, the staff and cadre of Youth CHalleNGe are well on their way to living up to their words; and, they have more than 1,000 examples to testify to it.

Mālama i Ka 'Āina Koa

"Preserving the soldier's land"

No. 6

Hawaii Army National Guard Environmental Office

January-March 2001



Hawaii Army National Guard Engineering and Environmental's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) section updates a three-dimensional map of the Diamond Head area with the smart map in a computer program.

New millennium map reading made easier

By Cadet Wendy R. Cook

As technology advances so does the equipment and resources used by the military. Very soon soldiers may be doing away with maps and compasses for land navigation and using more advanced ways to find locations and directions. With the help of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), the Hawaii Army National Guard engineering and environmental departments have been tapping into those technological advances.

The GIS is a smart map in a computer program or software with many different layers of maps incorporated into one and with three-dimensional views. It often includes actual aerial photographs, topographical and grid maps so a person can see what

is really there from the photographs, the topography and the exact grid location all at once.

Although still in development, GIS has its advantages over the basic paper map. Raw paper maps aren't easily updated and it is often years before new ones are printed, whereas the GIS is constantly being updated.

"It's easier to analyze the data, store and organize," said Joel Myhre, environmental GIS coordinator. With the GIS, we get a better analysis so we can combine a lot of the roads, lines and topography. We take very simple data layers and add the satellite and aerial photos to them. Ideally, you could create a custom map before going out, a map that is high focused just in your area or lane."

System more accurate

Measuring is more accurate and if something needs closer inspection, it's simple to zoom in and out on a particular object or area of a map rather than having access to a map that covers a large area holding much specific information. GIS developed in the last 10 years and is still growing with more advances every year.

"Within the next six months, we will have delivered the imagery, color infrared imagery and air photos that will have resolution of a quarter of a meter, that is less than one foot," Myhre said.

With information that is easy to update and so specific, the environmental department intends to use the system to track land changes. They will be able

to track plant growth or receding, invasive species and any changes made to the land over time whether manmade or natural. It will be a visual history of the land. For example, they can track the restoration of Battery Harlow on Diamond Head. But, there are many other uses for GIS that the Guard will access including tracking demographics.

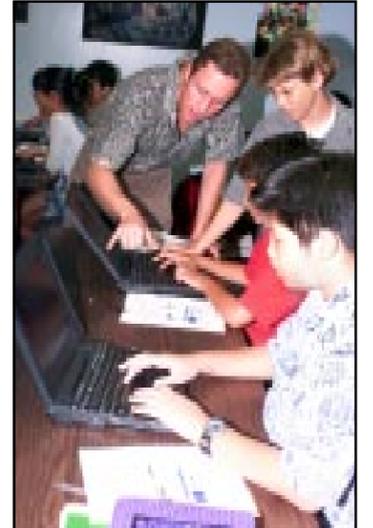
Working in cooperation with other agencies

In cooperation with the Pacific Disaster Center and Civil Defense Depot they have already mapped Pohakuloa Training Area and are trying to get data for all the island chain sites. At the moment, the Guard is working on collecting all the information for Diamond Head and Keaukaha Military Reservation with the training areas on Bellows Air Force Station scheduled to be done in the next couple of years.

"In the next year, the thrust is to get real accurate information on the ranges, because of the Department of the Army's Range Rule," Myhre said. The Army wants to get an accurate report on the number of inactive and active ranges, particularly the boundaries and fence lines."

Although every soldier won't be able to have access to a computer with GIS capabilities, there is a push to get as much of the information and resources from GIS as possible with gen-

eral map production, large map scanning and printing and producing more selective detailed maps of specific lanes.



Capt. Steve C. Lai

GEOGRAPHY HIGH TECH WAY — Iolani School seventh graders, Simon Che (foreground), Michael Siah and Jonathan Lance of Ms. Daphne Theotocatos' World Cultures and Geography class, get hands-on training in the basics of Geographic Information Systems, Feb. 20. Joel Myhre, HIARNG Geographic Information Systems manager, shows students how the Hawaii Army National Guard uses imaging software to make maps commanders and soldiers use to maximize training by avoiding endangered plants, animals and culturally sensitive areas.

Environmental staff's quest: Save our aina's endangered species

Story and photo by Cadet Wendy R. Cook

It is the plant that almost slipped into extinction. As Diamond Head Crater undergoes renovations to accommodate more visitors, the Hawaii Army National Guard is making sure the rare and endangered *Schiedea Adamantis* sticks around for future generations.

The *Schiedea Adamantis* is a native Hawaiian plant so rare it does not even carry a common name. Currently, the only naturally occurring population in the world is found on the rim of Diamond Head, near the southern shore of Oahu. There is also a small population at Koko Head Crater, but it is not a naturally occurring population and doesn't produce viable seeds.

The natural population has been at critical levels in the last few years. Trae Menard and the environmental staff of the Hawaii Army Guard saved this rare native Hawaiian plant from extinction.

Menard started monitoring the plant in 1998 when the Hawaii Guard hired him to be their new ecosystems manager.

"The numbers have taken a dive in the last 10 years," Menard said. "In 1990 there were about 244 plants on the rim. In 1997, there were 60 to 80 living plants, and in 1998, there were 30. Last year, the number of living plants was approximately 20. In October, the number went down to 11. That trend proved to me that something had to be done or we would lose the plant forever," he said. "Recently, I went up there and counted zero living plants."

At one time, the plant probably populated much of the southern parts of Oahu, but by the time the first botanist arrived, it was only found at Diamond Head Crater. Causes of its demise most likely stem from feral animals, fire, urban development, climate instability, and fluctuations in rainfall.



TAKING ROOT — Molly Foley, environmental assistant, and Melissa Ito, research and vegetation assistant, plant seedlings of the endangered *Schiedea Adamantis* at historic Battery Harlow, Oahu, in February.

"It doesn't need a lot of rain, but we've had really dry years, which definitely caused the demise," said Menard.

California scientists aid in restoration

After realizing how quickly the plant was disappearing, Menard continued monitoring the dwindling population and contacted University of California Irvine botanists, Steve Weller and Ann Sakai. The two had been studying the plant and had plans and funding to restore it. Menard teamed up with the botanists and their work took root as they scattered 100,000 seeds yielding 100 seedlings. The team had to design a sprinkler system, which they mounted along the rim of Diamond Head crater, to give the seedlings a chance to sur-

vive against the dry, windy, and harsh southern Oahu climate. Unfortunately, nothing from that batch survived.

"At that point, we needed to do something," Menard said. "We realized we might get more success if we restore it to an area with a more amiable environment with consistent access to water. That site is Battery Harlow, which is straight down the slope where the plants had been living."

With that idea in mind, Menard contacted Weller again. But, this time, he was equipped with a greenhouse full of plants and was conducting research to maximize the genetic diversity of the plants. In all, Menard and his group of environmental assistants, planted 50 seedlings at Battery Harlow, 32 of which are still alive. He received another package of seeds last summer and, with the help of endangered species

horticulturist Bill Garnet, has prepared them to be planted at the historic Battery Harlow site. About 400 seedlings were grown and as of this date, 88 plants have been put in the ground.

"If we establish a population at Battery Harlow down slope from the native population, these plants will grow and produce seeds to continue the restoration of the species," Menard said.

"Furthermore, we're starting an effort to get water back up to the rim to see if any of the seeds or dead plants will germinate or stimulate growing up there. "We also want to out-plant adult plants along the rim in an attempt to recover the species."

Volunteers wishing to help restore and conserve Battery Harlow can participate in this year's Earth Day event, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sunday, April 22. For more information, please contact Capt. Steve Lai at 733-4214.

Federal Aviation Administration consolidates radar facility with Hawaii Air Guard in Wahiawa

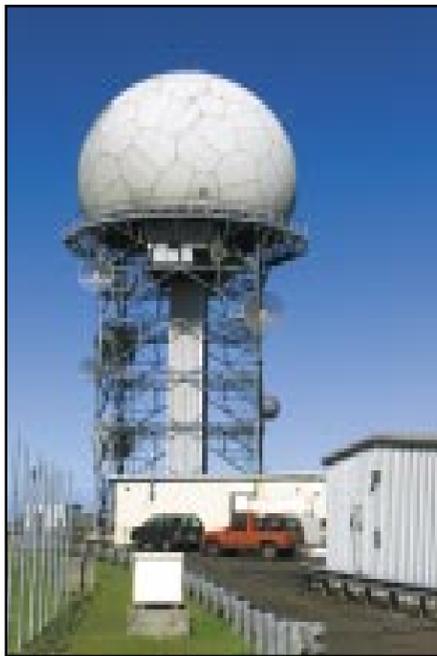
Story and photo by Derek Inoshita

The Hawaii Air National Guard and the Federal Aviation Administration are working together to make the skies over the Hawaiian Islands safer for people both in the air and on the ground.

Operating under the "Onipa'a" project, translated from Hawaiian as "all together as one," the Hawaii Air Guard and the FAA are sharing their resources to consolidate radar systems networks that provide radar coverage over the Hawaiian Islands. "This consolidation will allow uninterrupted air traffic control and air defense under the majority of foreseeable contingencies," said Lt. Col. Dewey Arakawa, operations officer with the Hawaii Guard's 169th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. "The system's been designed specifically to ensure operations won't fail even during natural disasters such as tsunamis and hurricanes."

Backup system moving to Hawaii Guard's Wahiawa facility

The origins of the Onipa'a project began with the anticipated closure of the FAA's primary radar tracking facility located inside Diamond Head



Derek Inoshita

ON TOP OF MOUNT KA'ALA — Airway Route Surveillance Radar 4 replaced the multi-domed "golf balls" on Mount Ka'ala tracking station maintained by the 169th Aircraft & Warning Squadron.

crater in 2001. This facility is responsible for monitoring all incoming and outgoing air traffic over the islands. Demolition of the facility is scheduled to begin in May and should return the

crater site to its natural state by the end of 2001.

As a result of this scheduled closure, the FAA is in the process of moving its primary operations center to the site of its former backup facility located at the Honolulu Tower on Hickam Air Force Base. Commissioned in January, the new Honolulu Consolidated Air Traffic Control Facility will continue to provide complete radar coverage for all islands while maximizing existing FAA resources.

Assets combined

As mandated by federal law, a backup radar system, or Risk Mitigation Facility, capable of maintaining complete and uninterrupted monitoring, must be active in the event of an emergency or natural disaster that renders the primary system inoperable. With the new Honolulu Consolidated Air Traffic Control Facility's geographical location within a low-lying tsunami inundation zone, the FAA turned to the Guard's 169th and their Hawaii Regional Air Operations Center (HIRAOC), located at Wheeler Army Airfield, for assistance in creating a new backup monitoring center.

Responsible for the defense of the airspace over the Hawaiian Islands, the

169th monitors air traffic 24-hours-a-day to detect and identify potential threats to the islands.

As part of the "Onipa'a" project, the FAA plans to construct its new Risk Mitigation Facility within the HIRAOC command center, using its office space, power supplies and information systems.

Radar data from the Airway Route Surveillance Radar 4, located atop Mount Ka'ala, the highest point on Oahu, will continue to be shared by the HIANG and the FAA. Now, however, "we'll be able to share and analyze the data face-to-face," said Arakawa.

"Having both the HIANG and FAA operations in the same location will benefit both organizations, and the citizens of Hawaii, immensely. The FAA will be able to get its program up and running in no time, not having to build from the ground up and we'll all be on the same page in the event of a crisis."

With a commissioning date projected in May, the new HIRAOC Risk Mitigation Facility will also save millions in taxpayer dollars by maximizing the potential of existing infrastructure and human resources.

The consolidated HIANG and FAA radar facilities at Hickam and Wheeler will continue to provide quality air defense and air traffic control for Hawaii.

Aircraft Generation personnel passion for jobs results in honors

Story and photos by Capt. Charles J. Anthony

The 154th Aircraft Generation Squadron has been selected as the Hawaii Air National Guard Outstanding Unit for 2000. The unit, commanded by Maj. William S. Petti, garnered the award as a result of its exceptional maintenance production rates, which included the best C-130 maintenance rates in the Air National Guard community in Fiscal Year 2000. The squadron was also cited for making the most significant production improvements of all ANG KC-135 units over the past year. The 154th has completed three recent deployments, racking up 100 percent mission success and 100 percent sortie effectiveness rates.

The AGS is comprised of three separate Aircraft Maintenance Units (AMUs), each specializing in the F-15, KC-135 and C-130 airframes and is responsible for all of the Hawaii Air National Guard's aircraft sortie production. Senior Airmen Mike Page and Nicolle Nakano, both with the F-15 AMU, are the type of young men and women who have helped bring the generation squadron to its current state of readiness.

Page is an aircraft armament systems specialist who was singled out by this chain of command for providing outstanding support during the unit's deployment to the Persian Gulf at the end of 2000. Page was among those who loaded live missiles onto the F-15 Eagles prior to takeoff for missions over the southern no-fly zone of Iraq. "It was my first deployment



MENTORSHIP CONTINUES — 154th Aircraft Generation Squadron crew chiefs maintain the KC-135R Stratotankers to the same standard as the active components. Staff Sgt. Paul Foster (instructor standing right) gives Senior Airman Austin Tengbergen (Hawaii National Guard Youth CHalleNGe program graduate) pointers on the maintenance of the Stratotanker.

with the Hawaii Guard, and it was pretty intense," said Page, who works full-time as an investigator for the federal government. "I joined the Guard because it offered a lot of opportunities, plus the chance to serve the local community as well as our state and nation."

Nakano, an F-15 crew chief, says she thrives on the challenge of being responsible for a \$32 million piece of machinery, not to mention the life of the pilot. "I actually find my job with the Air Guard to be stress relief — a big change from my civilian job," said Nakano, who is a medical technologist with Diagnostic Laboratory Services. "Being outside, the wind, the hot exhaust — I love it. Working in an emergency room — now, that's stress."

Staff Sgt. Kevin Flores is an ISO docks inspector with the

C-130 AMU. "I inspect the airframe once a year, looking for structural integrity, any corrosion and cracks," said Flores, who has been with the unit for five years. "There's always something new to experience and learn," according to Flores who has deployed to Japan, Australia, and Germany and who casually donned a flack vest for hops into Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia last fall.

Senior Airman Austin Tengbergen is only 20 years old, but he has been a KC-135 crew chief for about a year and a half. The Honolulu Community College student credits his Hawaii Air Guard instructors for teaching him his craft and making sure his records and tests are up to date. "I really like being in the military without having to leave Hawaii. I love it here and want to stay," said Tengbergen,

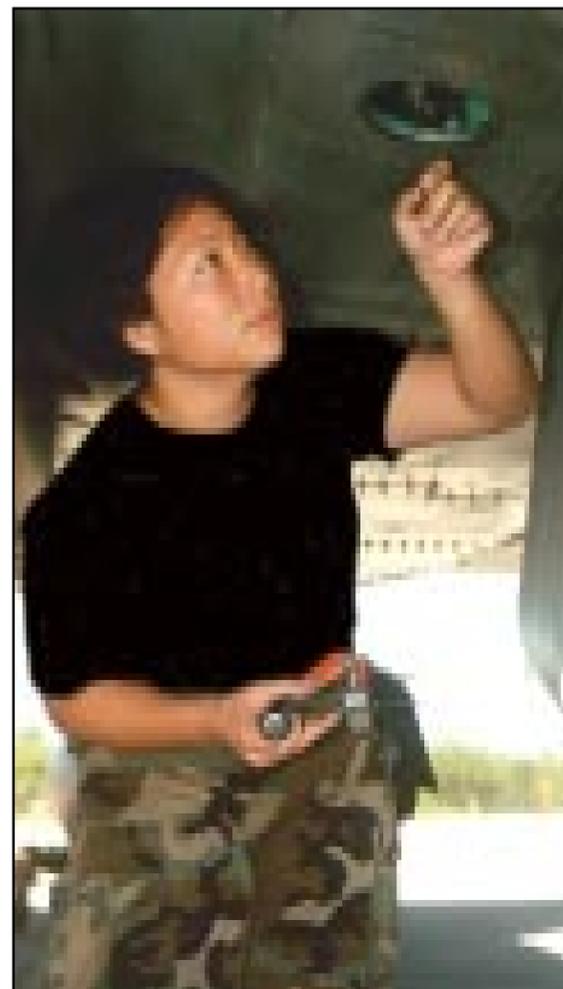
who is working on his airframe and power plant certification, so that he can qualify for work with a commercial airline. He graduated from the Hawaii National Guard Youth CHalleNGe Academy in December 1999. "I never took school seriously until Youth CHalleNGe and now the educational benefits with the Guard are great."

Senior Airman Andrew Ganeko is also with the KC-135 AMU as a crew chief and mechanic.

Ganeko, along with Tengbergen and Nakano, are second generation members of the Hawaii Guard. All three followed their fathers into the Guard. "We've got a really good working environment here. Everybody comes together. There's a lot of teamwork. It's a good feeling, getting the mission accomplished," added Ganeko who said he is very

proud of the unit's low abort rate.

Page, Nakano, Flores, Tengbergen and Ganeko are just a few examples of the men and women in the 154th Aircraft Generation Squadron, which is 311 officers and airmen strong, each one doing his or her part to keep the Hawaii Air National Guard flying and recognized around the nation as one of the best organizations in the Total Force.



TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL — Senior Airman Nicolle Nakano, a crew chief with the 154th Aircraft Generation Squadron, works on the belly of an F-15 Eagle jetfighter.



Hawaii National Guard Family Program

Lt. Col. Martha "Marty" Wong
State Family Support Coordinator

The good news is getting out about Family Program in the Hawaii National Guard . . . we want to be sure you are getting all the resources available to you, too! Visit the State Family Program website at www.dod.state.hi.us/family for more Family Program information.

Thanks to the State Public Affairs office, the Family Program website has been updated and includes some really great local and national family program links. Also, see the article from the Hawaii Army National Guard education officer in this issue who shares great information about educational benefits for the Guard members and their families.

Family sharing

The senior spouses who attended the Feb. 18 "Ka Hui' Ana o ka Pu'uwai ka Mana'o, a me ka'Uhane" at the home of Mrs. JoJo Correa, the adjutant general's spouse, found that this event was truly a "gathering of the heart, mind and spirit". The family program is a commander's program of readiness, support and networking. As the senior commander, Mrs. JoJo Correa, commander's spouse, Mrs. Correa began the networking by sharing her views on the family program and how important it was to her and her family during her time with the National Guard. She invited other spouses and significant others to get involved in anyway they could, too. Jeanne



OPEN HOUSE — Mrs. JoJo Correa (center), the adjutant general's wife, hosted an informational gathering for spouses at her home to share command family views on family program. Pictured with her are HING family members, JoAnne Yamamoto and Leilani Patoc.

Carpenter and Jean Dobashi, the Hawaii Army and Air Guard commander spouses, respectively, also shared their family program experiences and ideas with the group.

An excerpt from Mrs. Carpenter's personal letter of support for families is included later in this article.

Mrs. Dobashi is very active with the Department of Education and the travels this entails; yet, she is still willing to take the precious time to be a presenter at the April 7-8 Annual Family Program Conference.

We thank you senior leader spouses! Liz Taga, JoAnne Yamamoto,

Barbara Yadao-Petti, Harriet Kuni, Bobbie

Agena, Bobbie Kito-Hong, members of the State Advisory Council, continued the exchange by sharing their own stories of how they became involved in the family program and what it has meant to them.

Other senior spouse attendees joined in with their own perspectives and insights including Leonard Wong, Kristine Davidson-Oh, Blossom Logan, Dianne Hara, Leilani Patoc, April Ranceful, Suzy Vares-Lum, Shari Heen, Vanessa Lung, Lynn Ando, Lois Mizumoto, LeeAnn Hara and Yoshiko Townsend. A moving exchange of experiences and networking were the

positive results.

Bobbie Kito-Hong created the informational bookmarkers and JoAnne Yamamoto and Harriet Kuni created the lovely mementos that all attendees received.

The State Family Program also provided attendees with a Rainbow Packet of information on the Family Program and upcoming events. Refreshments were compliments of the State Advisory Council and hostess Mrs. Correa.

New team member

Introduced at the senior spouse gathering was a welcome addition to the HING Family Program Team, Lt. Col. Ann Greenlee. She is the new 154th Wing community manager and will have new oversight over the Air Guard's Family Program as part of her duties with the Wing. As she begins in this new role, she will be working to fill a family readiness and support fulltime position for the Air Guard. This position will be a great enhancement to the HING's "purple" (Army and Air) Family Program and State Advisory Council by bringing fulltime management and resources to the Air Guard.

The HING Family Program and Coordinator will continue to function and support the HIANG, HIARNG and DOD families of the Hawaii National Guard with the added benefit of more resources for families.

Upcoming dates worth marking on your calendars:

March 20 – Deadline for registration for the April 7-8 Family Program Conference . . . don't miss out!! (More info follows)
March 31 – State Advisory Council meeting, Fort Ruger, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. — final preparations for the April Conference.
April 7-8 – Family Program State conference and Awards Banquet, Hilton Hawaiian Village. Registration packet published and provided to units. Hard or digital copies available upon request or on the Family Program website. Deadline for registration is March 30.

See your unit FRG representative or SFPC for more information. Commanders and military POCs are invited to the April 8 date, so check your

training calendars to ensure you can participate during the drill weekend. Family member volunteers will have a personal training and sensing session focusing on readiness during the April 7 workshop events including some special guest speakers. An awards banquet for family member volunteers and military members will follow that evening. Sunday, April 8, will bring the family members and military members together for some interesting and interactive training, guest speakers and feedback for commanders from families. This will be an outstanding, don't want to miss, Family Program event!!

May 19 – Family Program State Career Day . . . more details to follow!

June 8-11 – Family Program Youth Team Building and Leadership Workshop, Camp Timberline, Oahu. All island HING family members, ages 8-14, are invited. Pre-registration information will be provided at the Family Program Annual Conference on April 7-8.

For information about the Family Program or Family Readiness Groups (FRGs), please contact the Family Program office at 732-1823 or 1-800-732-6964, nationwide. We can help get your unit and family members on the road to readiness and self-sufficiency as a part of our vital Hawaii National Guard team! Training and resources for your families are just a phone call away. Make sure you have your Hawaii National Guard "purple magnet" with important phone numbers (above) for every HING family. During deployments, Red Cross emergency number 473-3155, can also provide a vital link to loved ones.

An excerpt from a letter from Jeanne Carpenter, HIARNG commander's spouse, to family members:
Dear Family Member
I'm writing to say "thank you" for being in our Guard family. You play a vital role as you support your Guard member, not only to him/her but also to the National Guard as a whole . . . I know that it can be difficult on you at times; often it requires sacrifices by everyone in the family, and that can be pretty tough . . . We want to be sure you're aware of the support network and services available to you. The Family Support Group (FSG) is a means to provide this support network and inform you of available services. I want to encourage you to become involved in a FSG if you aren't already involved. If your unit does not have one, please consider what you can do to help get one started. Among other positives, it will surely strengthen your unit bring individual families closer together as you participate in activities and get to know each other better. It's easy, even within a group, for people to remain isolated, and the group isn't as effective as a close-knit one. More positives: It will create a strong and ready unit with informed families who know about their benefits and entitlements, and how to obtain them, and who will be prepared ahead of time in case of deployment . . . Many units have FSGs already. We would love to see the rest of the units establish their own, too... won't you look into it?
Sincerely,
Jeanne Carpenter



SHARING EXPERIENCES — Bobbie Agena explains her experiences with the Kauai Family Program while family members, Barbara Yadao-Petti, Harriet Kuni, Yoshiko Townsend and April Ranceful look on.



OUR PROGRAM — Sharing and networking at the spouse gathering are Kristine Davidson-Oh, Shari Heen, Vanessa Lung, and Lois Mizumoto of Oahu.

Awards and Recognition

Members and units of the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard were recently presented with awards in recognition of their outstanding performance.

Aviation Intermediate Maintenance: AVIM
 Combat Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction): CST (WMD)
 Company: Co.
 Detachment: Det.
 Hawaii Air National Guard: HIANG
 Headquarters: HQ
 Headquarters & Headquarters Company: HHC
 Headquarters & Headquarters Service Battery: HHSB
 Oak Leaf Cluster: OLC
 Reconnaissance & Intrastate Detachment: RAID
 State Area Command: STARC

Meritorious Service Medal

Lt. Col. Leslie Bise, HQ STARC
 Lt. Col. Freddie A. Esperanza, HQ STARC (1st OLC)
 Lt. Col. Kerry K. Oshiro, HQ STARC
 Maj. Vernon M. Miyake, HQ STARC
 Chief Warrant Officer Gerald Sueishi, HQ STARC
 Master Sgt. Mervin E. Anguay, 2nd Battalion, 298th Regional Training Institute
 Sgt. 1st Class Anson H. Jordan, HQ STARC
 Sgt. 1st Class Dean Norwood, HQ STARC (2nd OLC)

Army Commendation Medal

Maj. Lionel A. Payes, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det.-Rear Operations Cell (1st OLC)
 Maj. Randall Tom, 169th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron
 Maj. Gavin P. Tomlinson, HQ STARC (3rd OLC)
 Maj. Wayne A. Yamashita, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det.-Rear Operations Cell (1st OLC)
 1st Lt. Jonathan M. Shiroma, 117th Mobile Public Affairs

Detachment

1st Lt. Mark H. Tatum, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det.-Rear Operations Cell
 Master Sgt. Kurtis T. Mabe, HQ STARC (3rd OLC)
 Sgt. 1st Class Jerome J. Fonseca, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det.-Rear Operations Cell
 Sgt. 1st Class Garrett H. Iha, HQ STARC (1st OLC)
 Sgt. 1st Class Michael L. Nii, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det.-Rear Operations Cell (1st OLC)
 Staff Sgt. Peter M. Hope, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det.-Rear Operations Cell
 Staff Sgt. Marc K. Luther, 229th Military Intelligence Co.
 Staff Sgt. Jin Ho Pak, HHD, 12th Personnel Service Detachment
 Tech. Sgt. John Lacio, 93rd CST (WMD)
 Sgt. Ralph P. Aguon, 229th Military Intelligence Co.
 Spc. Natasha A. Ariola-Dunston, HHD, 29th Separate Infantry Brigade (1st OLC)
 Spc. Matthew T.K. Dela Cruz, 227th Engineer Det. (1st OLC)
 Spc. Brian C. Nepo-Muceno, 12th Personnel Service Det.

Air Force Commendation Medal

Capt. Craig N. Tsutsui, 169th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron
 1st Lt. Blane H. Vilorio, 169th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron
 Master Sgt. Colosse Eliapo Jr., 154th Wing
 Tech. Sgt. Jackie J. Roque, 154th Wing
 Staff Sgt. Pail D. Kalama, 154th Aircraft Generation Squadron
 Staff Sgt. Lina N. Steffany, 154th Wing
 Staff Sgt. Lorrie A. Wiley, 154th Logistics Squadron

Army Achievement Medal

Capt. Leif Fautanu, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (1st OLC)

Chief Warrant Officer George M. Yonamine, Co. C, 193rd Aviation (1st OLC)
 Master Sgt. Joseph Lawrence Jr., 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det.-Rear Operations Cell (2nd OLC)
 Sgt. 1st Class Tommy Hirai, HQ STARC (2nd OLC)
 Sgt. 1st Class Charles A. Patterson, HQ STARC (3rd OLC)
 Sgt. 1st Class Richard D. Santos, HQ STARC (2nd OLC)
 Staff Sgt. Mara L. Bacon, HHD, 12th Personnel Service Det. (1st OLC)
 Staff Sgt. Fred G. Castro, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (6th OLC)
 Staff Sgt. Colbert Halemano, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (1st OLC)
 Staff Sgt. Ann Marie Miguel, HQ STARC
 Staff Sgt. Gary T. Zukeran, HHD, 12th Personnel Service Det. (2nd OLC)
 Sgt. Wayne Anno, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (2nd OLC)
 Sgt. Dennis Higa, Co. D, 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry (2nd OLC)
 Sgt. Robert K. Kaai, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (1st OLC)
 Sgt. Alfredo J. Nunes, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Sgt. John O Sumang, Battery A, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (5th OLC)
 Sgt. Trent N. Takaoka, HQ STARC
 Sgt. Randy Y. Tone, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Cpl. Steven Uy, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (1st OLC)
 Spc. Brandon T. Bocanegra, 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
 Spc. Gilbert H. Cardenas, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Spc. Sean M. Dodge, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (1st OLC)
 Spc. Michael A. Johnson, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field

Artillery
 Spc. Eric P. Kauhane, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (6th OLC)
 Spc. Jonathan J. Knox, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (1st OLC)
 Spc. Arvin Layugan, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (6th OLC)
 Spc. Papsy E. Lemus, HHD, 12th Personnel Service Det. (1st OLC)
 Spc. Jeremy I. Martin, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det. Rear Operations Cell
 Spc. Gordon A. Mattos, 298th Engineer Det.
 Spc. Davil W. Maxwell, Battery B, 1st Battalion, 497th Field Artillery (2nd OLC)
 Spc. Matthew M. Miyahira, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (2nd OLC)
 Spc. Michael A. Namumnart, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery

Spc. Patrick W. Naughton, Co. D, 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry (1st OLC)
 Spc. Joseph P. Routon, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (1st OLC)
 Spc. Allan J. Sniffen Jr., HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Spc. Samuel D. Tagavilla, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery (1st OLC)
 Pfc. Rod L. Dupont Jr., HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Pfc. Richard E. Griggs, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Pfc. Johanan L. Lobo, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Spc. Marino M. MaCalde, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Pfc. Katherine E. Pallyman, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Det. Rear Operations Cell
 Pfc. Vivi W.K.K.K. Rosa, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Pfc. Damon L. Skillern, Battery B, 1st Battalion, 487th Field

Artillery
 Pfc. Ryan K. Yamaguchi, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Pvt. David K. Benito, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Pvt. Jay H. Boucher, HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery
 Pvt. Henry Tarpley Jr., HHSB, 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery

Hawaii National Guard Medal for Merit

Lt. Col. Freddie A. Esperanza, HQ STARC

Hawaii National Guard Commendation Medal

Capt. Moses Kaoiwi Jr., HHC (-), 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry
 Capt. Guy B. Terai, HHC (-), 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry
 2nd Lt. Robert L. Vandertuin, HHC (-), 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry
 Staff Sgt. Clinton K. Haina Jr., HHC (-), 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry

AIR AWARDS — continued from page 1

The **Winning Team**, from a field of three nominees, was the **201st Combat Communications Group: Integrated Communications Access Package (ICAP) Conversion Team**. The award recognizes the teams who have made significant process improvements. The conversion team was recognized for its efforts in training and mentoring Pacific Air Forces equipped units. They established the requirements for the training program, standards and plans; developed the procedures and configurations, and provided critical qualification evaluations to active duty counterparts. As a result, the team successfully managed the Initial ICAP User Familiarization for three units and conducted the first equipment deployment by an Air National Guard unit to Joint Chiefs of Staff Exercise FOAL EAGLE. Team members are Maj. Reynold Hioki, 2nd Lt. Brian Abrigo, Chief Master Sgt. Norman Uyechi, Senior Master Sgts. Roy Yamasaki and Michael Mayou; Master Sgts. Reid Hirata, Mary Angela Kamaouha, Derek Kawamoto, Ryan Kawamoto, John Kikuyama, Nathan Kum, Elmer Looney, Mamo McCullun, Mathias Thornley, and Charles Tomlinson; Tech. Sgts. Rodel Cabral, Guy Ishii, Derrek Kurose, Heather Leite and Calvin Yonamine; and Staff Sgt. Timothy Archer.

The evenings awards ceremony concluded with the **Outstanding Unit** presentation to the **154th Aircraft Generation Squadron**, who beat out the 154th Communication Flight. The criteria for the award considers mission readiness and accomplishments, unit strength, unit retention, process improvement efforts, effective resource management, and participation in community activities during the past year. The generation squadron, whose success is story detailed on page 6, was tops in Air National Guard for C-130 Hercules units and made the most significant improvements of all KC-135 Stratotanker units. Their community efforts were exemplary as leaders and supporters of fund raising, foodbank, service and Combined Federal Campaign events.



Safety talk

Maj. Arnold Iaea
 Safety Officer, Hawaii Army National Guard 733-4105/09

This System works to save lives

According to Webster's dictionary, a system is "a set of connected things or parts that form a whole or work together." Effective systems can be seen in all walks of life. Take the sporting world, for instance, where the Chicago Bulls perfected a system that has led to six world championships. Closer to home, you rely on the doctors and specialists who make up your particular health care network. And at work, you and your co-workers are dependent upon the operation of your interoffice computer system. In each of these instances, the system's effectiveness is determined by all parts working successfully together.

The same can be said of the safety devices in your car. Your safety belts, your baby's child safety seat, and your car's air bags make up your car's restraint system, so named because everything needs to work together, as a system, to work best. The effectiveness of each device is lessened when they are not used in tandem.

Of the three, safety belts are the most proficient means of reducing injuries and fatalities. Using safety belts reduce the risk of fatal injury for front-seat passengers by 45 percent. Between 1982 and 1995, an estimated 75,000 lives were saved by safety belts. The owner's manual for your car should detail the correct and safest way to wear your car's safety belts.

Stay alive, use your passenger restraints. If you drink, use alternative means of transportation or designate a driver. Don't let an accident spoil your fun.

For more information or training and consultation assistance, feel free to call the Safety and Occupational Health Office at 733-4105/4109.



Tech Sgt. Wayne Pontes photos

The **Winning Team**, the **201st Combat Communications Group: Integrated Communications Access Package (ICAP) Conversion Team** is joined by Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono and Brig. Gen. Myron N. Dobashi, Hawaii Air National Guard commander.

Training Schedule

Listed below are the inactive duty training dates for all Hawaii Army and Air National Guard units. Dates for subordinate units are the same as their parent headquarters, unless otherwise indicated. All dates are subject to change.

Hawaii Army National Guard	Apr	May	Jun
HQ, State Area Command	7-8	5-6	2-3, 23-24
29th Separate Infantry Brigade	7-8	5-6	2-3
227th Engineer Co.	7-8	5-6	2-3
29th Support Battalion	7-8	5-6	2-3, 23
Co. B	7-8	5-6	2-3
1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery	7-8	5-6	2-3
103rd Troop Command	7-8	5-6	2-3
Hawaii Air National Guard			
HQ, Hawaii Air National Guard	7-8	5-6	2-3
154th Wing	7-8	5-6	2-3
201st Combat Communications Group	7-8	5-6	2-3