



Greetings From The Commander



COL SUZANNE P. VARES-LUM

Training Soldiers to exceed the standards is an essential part of our mission. Witnessing Soldiers, instructors, and leaders of the 298th Regiment in action has been inspiring. You each have clearly worked tirelessly course after course ensuring that students who enter these halls receive top-notch training. It has been two months since you have had a new Command Team, and I am sincerely honored to be a member of this outstanding team.

One observation I have made as your new commander is that we train Soldiers well! However, this has occasionally been at the expense of training and developing our own Soldiers. For this reason, I am directing that you as Soldiers and leaders meet all your training requirements. We must uphold the same standards we hold for our students and ensure that we are trained and ready. Leaders must ensure that our Soldiers achieve all standards in readiness and training, including MOS-Q, APFT, PHA, NCOERs and OERs, weapons qualification, and mandatory training. We also need to ensure our programs such as Safety, OPSEC, property accountability, and family readiness are in place and running well.

In March 2013, the accreditation team will be visiting our unit, and our goal should be to achieve the Institute of Excellence. This can be done if we work together as a team. We should maintain a positive outlook together, and you each should lead the way in presenting solutions to problems as they arise.

I have had to opportunity to observe and visit training during the Warrior Leader's Courses, the 11B Advanced Leader's Course, and the Officer's Candidate Program in the field, and it has been nothing less than outstanding. Your focus on safety and risk management is critical when conducting courses in a high-stress environment, and you have answered the call to mission and safety.

In May, you should have received my command philosophy that included my vision and mission statement. I ask that you review this so that we can move forward together.

Commander's Vision: The 298th Regiment MFTU (RTI) is the Hawaii National Guard's premiere training institute of excellence known for its professional leaders who inspire Soldiers to meet the highest standards with realistic and relevant training.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to train Soldiers and leaders of the U.S. Army National Guard, Active Duty and Reserves to the standards set forth by the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), to provide them with the resources and knowledge to train to standard and lead effectively in all circumstances, and to provide specific MOS-qualifying material and engagement scenarios to support the HIARNG and DOD Unified Land Operations.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to accomplishing our mission. You are the key to mission accomplishment. As we move forward, maintain balance in your lives and take care of your families.

NA LEO O KUPONO - *"The Voice of Excellence"*

Command Sergeant Major's Corner

As we begin to close out the Training Year for 2012, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Soldiers families of the 298th Regiment, MFTU (RTI) for supporting there Soldier. For all of our personnel assigned to the 298th Regiment, I would like to commend you on a Job well done. At the 298th Regiment our primary focus is to train Soldiers and Non-Commissioned Officers to be leaders and mentors to our enlisted force in both the Garrison and Combat environment.

I call out to every Non-Commissioned Officer and Enlisted Soldier in the 298th Regiment, MFTU (RTI) to "Lead from the Front" and continue to conduct our training mission to standard. It is our duty as Non-Commissioned Officers to remember "My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind - accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers". With that being said, we must continue to enforce the standards, do the right thing and ensure that when our students return to their unit they instill this training and discipline within there Soldiers.

Army NCOs trace their roots to the beginnings of American military history. They helped Washington preserve the Continental Army at Valley Forge, stood with Winfield Scott at Chippewa, and directed Zachary Taylor's guns at Palo Alto. They carried the Nation's colors at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, fought yellow fever in Cuba with Walter Reed, and led Pershing's and Eisenhower's legions into Germany. Whether helping local populations build a village in Southeast Asia or teaching young Afghanistan Soldiers to conduct operations, American NCOs are leading from the front and are some of our nation's best ambassadors. Over time, through various changes in tactics and technology, Army NCOs have emerged as the Army's small-unit leaders, trainers' and guardians of standards.

Our NCO Corps is unrivaled by any Army in the world, envied by our allies and feared by our enemies. Throughout the Army's history, the NCO has been a pivotal figure, but never more so than today with our full spectrum of operations - tank-on-tank fighting as during the invasion of Iraq; the guerrilla/insurgency war ongoing in Afghanistan; and peacekeeping operations in Kosovo. As NCOs embrace their ever-growing responsibilities in the 21st Century, this volume will help them remember how they came to be the "backbone of our Army."



Recent Promotions

Congratulations to the following newly-promoted Staff Sergeants:

SSG Marciel Manago

SSG Maria Nguyen

SSG Roxanne Taniguchi



Volume 1, Issue 1

Eye On Safety

Recall notice from NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation—27 JUL 12

Michelin is recalling certain BF Goodrich Commercial T/A A/S LRE and Uniroyal Laredo HD/H LRE tires, sizes LT235/85R16 120 Q and LT245/75R16 120 Q.

These tires may develop a separation at the tread/belt edge. Tread/belt separation of the tire while the vehicle is in use can result in rapid air loss which may increase the risk of a vehicle crash. Michelin will notify owners and replace the affected tires free of charge. The safety recall is expected to begin on, or about, August 6, 2012. Owners may contact Michelin Consumer Care at 1-800-637-5527.

For more information for this particular recall, please go to 12T019 [<http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallsearch.cfm>]



Be sure to check your tires for proper inflation and inspect for excessive tread wear or punctures.

Family Readiness Group News

Hawaii National Guard Drug Awareness Prevention Workshop

The Hawaii National Guard - Counterdrug will be sponsoring a drug awareness workshop with Mr. Gary Shimabukuro of Laulima Hawaii, on 14 August 2012.

All Soldiers and family members; spouses/significant others, children (12 and over) will receive important and timely information about recent drug-abuse related trends in our community as well as information on how we can help to prevent drug use.

“Knowledge is the power to understanding what is going on in our community and how we can combat this problem,” said Command Sergeant Major Ronald Oshiba, Hawaii Army National Guard Command Sergeant Major. “This will probably be one of the most important learning experiences you all need to be involved in because it affects ALL of us.”

Location: Hawaii Okinawa Center in Waipio Gentry (94-587 Ukee Street)

[Zippy's will be providing food for our attendees (for FREE) from 1700hrs to 1800hrs; the workshop will then conducted from 1800hrs until 2000hrs.]

“THIS WILL PROBABLY BE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT LEARNING EXPERIENCES YOU ALL NEED TO BE INVOLVED IN BECAUSE IT AFFECTS ALL OF US.”

Welcome, Newborns!



James Joshua Soriano, son of SPC Soriano (February 1)

Riki Satoru Tsuda, son of MAJ Tsuda (April 25)

Abby Ngoc Huynh, daughter of SSG An Huynh (April 9)

Ryder Dean Neal, son of SFC Jeffrey Neal (June 13)



Upcoming Training Dates

04-05 August 2012

08-09 September 2012

22-23 September 2012



REGISTER NOW!

Hawaii National Guard Family Programs

*Annual Key Volunteer Workshop
August 18-19, 2012*

"Resilient Families, Resilient Hawaii National Guard"

"An annual event to provide the opportunity for our National Guard Family Readiness Group Volunteer leaders to learn, to share, to be energized, and be recognized in a weekend filled with the tools, and synergy to continue to build and support resiliency in our Guard Families."

*Note: Commanders only required to attend Day One (18 August) of AKVW.
Childcare will NOT be provided during this year's workshop.*

We Are Still Looking For Volunteers!

Statutory Volunteers (those key individuals that are appointed by the Commander) are still needed for Alternate Key Leader, Treasurer, and Alternate Treasurer positions; once again, these positions can seek credit for their Volunteer hours in direct support of the National Guard Family Program.

Other positions that are available include Secretary and Alternate Secretary, Phone Tree Callers, as well as volunteers for fundraisers and other FRG programs.

For more information on how you can help, please contact MAJ Wandasan: (808) 561-8708