



DA LAVA FLOW



The Official Newsletter of the 29th Brigade Combat Team

Volume 1, Issue 3, October 2004

Commander's Corner

To all of the dedicated Warriors of the Lava Brigade. You are responsible for the great success we have seen over these past weeks at Ft. Bliss. As we continue to progress through company to Battalion and Brigade Operations, our success will continue to rest on the efforts of every soldier in the Brigade Combat Team

To stay focused, our Army Values, The Soldiers Creed, and our Warrior Ethos will be our compass. Our Army is serving our nation with great courage and honor during very dangerous times. We enjoy great support and the confidence of the American people, whom we serve, and we are respected around the globe.

In view of current events, we must redouble our efforts, hold our heads high, and drive on to accomplish our individual tasks and collective missions. Integrity is non-negotiable. Everyone has leadership responsibilities when it comes to the legal, moral, and ethical.

The warrior ethos means to me that when we place mission first, we talk about everyone focused on doing our assigned mission and all assigned tasks. Mission

first also applies to you pursuing your goals and assisting others realizing their goals. Never leaving a fallen comrade is about being a loyal friend, spouse, someone people can rely on. If a soldier is experiencing difficulty, we will not leave that soldier behind by not attending to their concerns. And finally, never accepting defeat simply means being persistent, you don't quit. To be successful in anything we do takes persistence. We know what we must accomplish, and therefore must take action on a persistent basis in order to succeed.

On the historic journey that lies ahead, we will encounter roadblocks that seem to jump out of nowhere in an attempt to halt our progress. Count on these obstacles. They are a part of life. Your job is to be persistent and work through those obstacles. If you find little or no obstacles along the way, chances are you are not really challenging yourself. Make your goal a challenging one!

If you take the time to study any successful person, you will learn that the vast majority of them have had more 'failures' than they have had successes.

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Let the training begin

"We do more before 9am than most people do all day." I remember that phrase as part of a commercial the Army used to run in the early nineties. So true, so true.

Training has been fast and furious. Boots are hitting the ground, troops are moving out. Classes, rehearsals and then the performance. Sounds like a play at the local theatre but it's all happening in the field. "Rehearsals are the key to our success." said Staff Sergeant Henry Pilsanca of Alpha Company 487th Artillery after completing ambush training. Practice, practice, and practice some more. When will it all end? "Close of business... 2006." exclaimed a soldier as he was walking away from the Tactical Operation Center.

What is being learned you ask? Everything from convoy training to detaining the enemy. Somebody got real smart and decided to have soldiers that have had the Iraqi experience come here to Ft. Bliss to train the Soldiers of the 29th BCT. "We were all trained to standard...to be combat effective. Said Specialist Willie Sims of Headquarters 184th after going through the different phases of platoon operations.



General Joseph Chaves observes training with Echo Company 100th Battalion.

Simultaneous training at the command post exercise (CPX) provided leaders with simulated scenarios that had to be acted upon in a quick and analytical format to determine potential patterns of the enemy. "The CPX established a baseline of where we stand as a staff and how we can fix things to prepare us for upcoming missions especially in Iraq." explained Battle Major Paul Wilson.

During the CPX the staff manned each station of battle around the clock. It was the real thing played out on computer simulations. Communications were key to move personnel, equipment and

what ever was needed to the right place at the right time. "Along with the motivated soldiers and once the battle staff gets used to working together we will be able to monitor and maintain the 29th Battle Combat Team operations throughout our stay in Iraq." said Major Jason Matsumura when explaining the purpose of doing this phase of training. Major Matsumura said the CPX conducted is the first of many building blocks to complete the construction of a fully trained Battle staff.

With Soldiers both training in the field as well as the planning staff getting operations down, things are falling into place and an understanding is taking shape for the 29th BCT.

Important Thanksgiving policy pg. 3



CSM 'S Message

I'd like to address 2 topics in this article. One is standards of conduct, and the other is on promotions. Let me discuss the promotion topic first as that is the number one issue with soldiers. In this article, I will address how the Hawaii Army National Guard or HIARNG system works. With minor differences, other Army National Guard States follow the same process. Our 100th Bn 442nd brothers in arms follow the procedures as directed by their OCAR and 9th RRC.

First of all, as mobilized soldiers under Title 10 USC 12302, whether ARNG or USAR, we use the DA PPG, or Personnel Policy Guidance – Chapter 13, Reserve Component Promotions. NGB has published further guidance under the ARNG PPG. General ARNG/HIARNG procedures are as follows:

1. Advancements to PV2, PFC and SPC.
 - a. Unit commander advances soldier IAW NGR 600-200.
 - b. Unit sends DA Form 4187 to Bn/Bde S1 verification.
 - c. Bde S1 sends DA Form 4187 to Rear Detachment who is tracking both Rear and Forward Unit Manning Reports (UMR). Rear Det. then forwards to G1.
 - d. G1 forwards documents to RC Liaison at PERSCOM.
 - e. Soldier is promoted.
2. Advancement to SGT thru SGM.
 - a. Unit identifies need to fill a valid vacancy in FWD UMR.
 - b. Unit submits request for Promotion Control Number (PCN)/vacancy fill through Bn/Bde S1 based on the State's Current Promotion List. This request does not necessarily request for a PCN by name.
 - c. Bn/Bde S1 forwards request to Rear Det. to check against the FWD UMR.
 - d. Rear Det. verifies that a vacancy exists on FWD UMR and forwards request to G1.
 - e. G1 prepares DA Form 4187 and forwards promotion request to RC Liaison at PERSCOM.
 - f. PERSCOM forwards approval back to State.
 - g. G1 issues PCN/promotion order.
 - h. Soldier gets promoted.

Key points are: A vacancy must exist for #2 above. The Unit must ensure that any excess soldiers are slotted first. Soldiers must not be flagged. Soldier meets minimum Time in Grade and Time in Service For promotions to SGT thru SGM, the promotion list must be used, and the soldier must be at the top of the promotion list. One important thing is that soldiers who are promoted against the FWD UMR are under a conditional promotion. In other words, upon the 29th BCT demobilizing, we revert back to a single UMR/MTOE, and if a soldier in the rear is occupying the same position under the REAR UMR, the soldier in the FWD UMR may face reduction, reassignment or reclassification upon demobilization if that soldier is still in that position upon return back to Home Station.

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“Duck Hunters”

No they don't shoot ducks out of the sky, at least they try to avoid doing that. “Duck hunters” are what they are referred to in the air defense artillery circles. “We shoot at planes, which we refer to as ducks.” explains PFC Ben John. “Echo 216th is commanded by Major Tad Hervas. Major Hervas served 8 years in the Air Force before joining the National Guard. He has been the Echo 216th Commander since March 2003. Echo 216 Air Defense Artillery is based out of Cloquet, Minnesota, about 2 hours out of Minneapolis, but they are currently residing at the “Dona Ana Inn.”



Major Tad Hervas

The 216th just celebrated its 7th birthday—growing from 30 members in 1997 to the size it is today, with over 100 soldiers. Despite its young existence the unit is being called upon to do battle. Delta Battery of the 216th ADA are participants already located in the western area of Baghdad. Delta is just 2 months into its tour but have already contributed valuable knowledge toward Echo's deployment to Iraq.” “Delta has provided great information to prepare me for the Battlefield.” said Major Tad Hervas of Deltas input to his planning strategies.

“We are the first to fire because enemy air craft usually initiate the first attack of war.” said PFC Derrick Williams when asked about the motto and mission of Echo 216th: “First to Fire.”

Echo has also gone through the Eleven Bravo training to ready themselves for what lies ahead in Iraq.

Whatever the mission may call for, Echo 216th is ready to go duck hunting and be the “First to Fire”

REQUEST LINE

JAG: The consumption of any beverage containing alcohol is prohibited at all times unless specifically approved by the Brigade Commander. If you have any legal issues call us at 569-9684 or 9180.

IG: The IG has changed their phone number as follows. (915) 569-9042

S5-: Do shake hands gently in greeting and departure, but always with your right hand.

Don't use your left hand for contact with others, eating or gestures. It is considered unclean.

Chaplain's Thoughts

Religious Services:

Roman Catholic Services at McGregor: 1700 HRS, Saturday, 23 Oct and 0700 HRS, Sunday, 24 Oct 2004.

Christian Non-Denomination, and LDS Services: No Change.

The story of the ant is worth repeating. The ant uses Summer to prepare for the Winter. The ant stores up enough food when the sun is shining and warm. The ant is not under pressure, and prepares deliberately and diligently. The lesson we learn from the ant is preparation during the good times to help us weather times of need. Every moment of our lives should be used to prepare for tomorrow. A wise person said, "Prepare now, for the night draweth nigh." Remember the ant while at Fort Bliss, and Fort Polk, as we prepare for OIF.

CH (MAJ) Leonardo Jamias

A day of thanks to be observed

Two Native Americans, Samoset and Squanto, taught the pilgrims who landed at Plymouth how to survive in the new land. These Pilgrims who settled around 1621 were very thankful for the guidance and skills taught to them. Governor William Bradford proclaimed a day of Thanksgiving. Colonists and the Native Americans turned that one day into three days of Celebration. These days of celebration are believed to be the first Thanksgiving.

Timetables were made then timetables were changed to accommodate the soldiers of our Brigade. As we progress further into this rotation we will always have to remain flexible and patient.

The Soldiers of the 29th BCT will have November 25th, and 26th 2004 off in observance of this significant event in our history. Let us remember also how much

it took for everyone to get this day off. Because we were able to work together to make it happen. Let this also be a time of togetherness because we all know things were probably said in the heat of the matter at hand.

The 29th BCT units will conduct a day of no scheduled activities on 25-26 November, 2004. DA FORM 31 Request and Authority for leave must be filled out by each soldier. It will be up

to Unit commanders to establish a time out and report-back time to ensure that soldiers will be ready to start training refreshed on Saturday morning. Let's all have a fun and safe time off on this day of thanks.

The Thanksgiving policy is detailed in FRAGO 30 to BCT operations order 04-08 (KINAOLE). Please ensure that you read it and understand the parameters of this pass.



Muzzle Awareness? Why Bother?

By: 1LT Shawna M. Lynch

We have all seen the new signs on nearly every door around FOB McGregor reminding us to be aware of the muzzles of our weapons. "Think Safety," it says. But, what's the point? Is it just a friendly reminder,? Another message from higher? Just another rule we are *forced* to comply with? Well, let me give you some food for thought: there is no such thing as an "accidental" discharge of a weapon. Any time your weapon goes off when you didn't want it to is classified as a "negligent" discharge.

This is punishable by UCMJ. It has been reported that there are, on average, 80 negligent discharges being investigated every MONTH in Iraq. Unfortunately, 14% of these end up as friendly-fire fatalities. That means that **11 American Soldiers are killed per month** because the muzzle of a fellow soldier's weapon was pointing at them when the weapon was negligently discharged. Weapons don't kill people; people kill people. Don't let this happen to you!! Being aware of the direction the muzzle of your

weapon is pointing, ensuring that you follow proper clearing procedures and constantly checking to ensure your weapon is on "safe" are some of the most important things you can do to protect your fellow soldiers. Let's change this trend; pay attention to detail, watch out for your buddy and let's all come home alive and well. None of us wants something as awful as fratricide to happen within the "Lava Brigade."



Happy Birthday to SFC Regan Pelekai (Nov 11) and to his Son Riley turns 18 (nov 3). Also his Daughter Harmony made the principals list at Kamehameha (Maui). From your wife Georgette k.Bissen-Pelekai

Happy 21st bday also to SPC Melvin Luu from your maintenance buds. You're a legal eagle.

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. This is because successful people are persistent; the more they stumble and fall, the more they get right back up and get going again. On the other hand, people that don't get back up and try again, never reach success.

Today we take another step on our journey towards tomorrow's successes! Colonel Bruce Oliveira

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- That is an issue that is being looked at. As long as we are mobilized, the Rear UMR will not be filled except by soldiers who are REFRADED.

That is the ARNG/HIARNG promotion process in a nutshell. In a future article, I will discuss the NCOES system.

Now for the 2nd topic, and I'll keep it short and to the point. If you see a soldier, regardless of rank, not in compliance with current regulations, or policies, it is your duty to correct that individual. We are still experiencing a communication breakdown and the word is not getting out about the proper uniform, proper arming instruction, proper clearing of weapons, or proper military courtesy. Don't wait for someone else to make that correction. I expect even a Private to correct me if I happen to do something wrong.

Lava!

PROMOTIONS

Promoted to Specialist:

Maurice Blackwell
Dung Bui
Wilbert Cummings
Norison Ibera
Lance Shimamoto

Promoted to Private First Class

Jeen Chu
Richmond Penales

DA LAVA FLOW STAFF

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

CAPTAIN KYLE YONEMURA

PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCO

SERGEANT ROBERT CURRAN



Posted on: Sunday, October 31, 2004

Kamehameha stuns Saint Louis, 18-0

By [Stacy Kaneshiro](#)
Advertiser Staff Writer

Barring an upset of monumental proportions next week, there will be a new Interscholastic League of Honolulu football champion for the first time in 19 years.

Kamehameha played inspired defense and its offensive line dominated the line of scrimmage to stun 18-time defending ILH champion Saint Louis, 18-0, last night in ILH Division I football.

It was the first time Saint Louis was shut out since 1990, when Canyon Country of California beat the Crusaders, 40-0, and stopped the Saints' 55-game win streak. The last O'ahu team to shut out Saint Louis was Damien, which won 2-0 in 1982.

An Aloha Stadium crowd of 4,946 watched the Warriors (7-1-1 overall, 5-1 ILH) clinch at least a tie for the league's Division I title. They can win it with a victory Friday against Pac-Five at the Warriors' stadium. If Iolani beats Punahou earlier on Friday, a playoff for the overall ILH title will be played the following week. Saint Louis (6-3, 4-2) needs to beat Damien on Friday and needs the Warriors to lose to stay alive.

"This is just awesome," Kamehameha center Tyler Williams said. "A lot of hard work finally paid off."

For decades, the Crusaders have been the Warriors' nemesis.

"It's always disappointing when you lose, but that's part of the game," Saint Louis coach Delbert Tengan said.

"We gave it our best shot and it wasn't good enough tonight."

The Warriors know it is premature to celebrate. Although Pac-Five is 0-5-1 in the ILH, the Warriors aren't taking any chances.

"This isn't over," Warriors coach Kanani Souza said. "All this does is give us an opportunity to keep on playing. In order to do that, we have to keep on playing good."

The win avenges a heart-breaking 21-20 loss to Saint Louis in the first round. An unsportsmanlike conduct penalty — after a Kamehameha touchdown pulled the Warriors to within one — set up the PAT from 35 yards out. They missed it.

Ironically, last night's game opened with the same situation. The Warriors scored on 33-yard TD pass from Pono Kam to 6-foot-3 receiver Waika Spencer. Spencer and Saints defensive back Tyson Marks went up for the ball at the 3. Spencer juggled the ball, but gained control of it just as he crossed the plane of the end zone. But an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty put the PAT try at the 35, where again the Warriors missed.

But the Warriors' defense never relented. The deepest Saint Louis pushed into Warriors territory was to the 25, where it attempted a 42-yard field goal. But Gagamoe Manuma blocked it, preserving the shutout.

Kamehameha's defense produced four interceptions. Travis Uale literally picked the ball from Saint Louis receiver Cameron Bayne after a pass from Cameron Higgins, giving Kamehameha the ball at its 15. Five plays later, running back Jayson Rego went off left tackle for a 78-yard TD run to make it 12-0. A 2-point try failed. An interception by Saint Louis' Joseph Medeiros off Kam gave the Crusaders possession at the Kamehameha 47. But five plays later, Kamehameha defensive back Brad Nakamura returned the pick 77 yards for a touchdown that essentially saved it for the Warriors.

"I just saw it all the way," Nakamura said. "It was just technique."

The Warriors controlled the line of scrimmage behind center Williams, guards Kepa Gaison and Kahawai Soon and tackles Ryan Pohl and Hayden Kahele, allowing Rego to rush for 192 yards on 25 carries.

Saint Louis finished with 240 yards in offense, about 126 less than its season average.

Reach Stacy Kaneshiro at skaneshiro@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8042.

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SAINT LOUIS (6-3, 4-2) 0 0 0 0—0

KAMEHAMEHA (7-1-1, 5-1) 6 0 6 6 —18

Kam—Waika Spencer 33 pass from Pono Kam (kick failed)

Kam—Jayson Rego 78 run (pass failed)

Kam—Brad Nakamura 77 interception return (kick failed)

RUSHING—Saint Louis: Cameron Higgins 1-1 Kevin Sullivan 19-38, Aaron Bain 2-2, Shaun Kauleinamoku 1-7. Kamehameha:



Kamehameha quarterback Pono Kam sprints away from a Saint Louis defender in the first quarter at Aloha Stadium.

Eugene Tanner • The Honolulu Advertiser



Saint Louis running back Kevin Sullivan looks for running room in the second quarter against Kamehameha.

Scott Morifuji • The Honolulu Advertiser

Pono Kam 3-0, Rego 25-192, Ryan Montez 2-2, Jeremiah Dela Pena 1-1, Ikaika Hardie (minus 10), Tyson Fujimoto 4-16.
 PASSING—Saint Louis: Higgins 14-34-4—192.
 Kamehameha: Kam 12-18-1—132.
 RECEIVING—Saint Louis: Shane Perry 4-62, Kauleinamoku 7-103, Bain 1-4, Matthew Zablan 2-23. Kamehameha: Kamuela Kapanui 3-22, Aaron Nichols 1-16, Spencer 3-51, Hardie 5-43.

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O'ahu Interscholastic Association

Friday

Division I (Red) Quarterfinals

- Mililani 41, Kailua 21
 - Kahuku 32, 'Aiea 8
- Yesterday

Red Quarterfinals

- Castle 16, Kapolei 6
- Leilehua 7, Farrington 6

Red Semifinals

Nov. 5 at Aloha Stadium

- Castle vs. Mililani, 4:30 p.m.
 - Leilehua vs. Kahuku, 7 p.m.
- Yesterday

Division II (White) Semifinals

- Waipahu 28, Kaiser 6
- Campbell 22, Radford 9

White Championship

Nov. 12 at Aloha Stadium

- Waipahu vs. Campbell, 4:30 p.m.

JV Quarterfinals

- Wai'anae 47, Leilehua 0
- Castle 20, Mililani 0
- Kahuku 12, Kailua 7
- 'Aiea 27, Waipahu 6

JV Semifinals at Wai'anae, Nov. 6

- Kahuku vs. Aiea, 2 p.m.
- Wai'anae vs. Castle, 4 p.m.

Interscholastic League of Honolulu

Friday

- Iolani 49, Damien 7
- Yesterday

- Punahou 35, Pac-Five 2
- Kamehameha 18, Saint Louis 0

Big Island Interscholastic Federation

Friday

- Kealakehe 34, Konawaena 0
 - Kohala 27, Ka'u 21
- Yesterday

- Kamehameha 26, Kea'au 7
- Hawai'i Prep 24, Hilo 14
- Honoka'a 20, Waiakea 17

Kaua'i Interscholastic Federation

Friday

- Kaua'i 28, Waimea 10

Maui Interscholastic League

Friday

- Lahainaluna 28, Maui 0
- Yesterday

- King Kekaulike 36, Kamehameha 0

Message Center



“To my family & friends on Guam, we are doing fine and we thank you all for your support and blessings.”

SSG Frank Cepeda S.N.



“To my family and friends on Saipan, thank you all for your support and God bless you all.”

SGT Joseph M. Sablan



“Sup everyone back home. Thanks for taking care of things while I’m gone. Everyone here is having some good training and learning to become Warriors. Most importantly take care of yourselves too.”

SGT Kevin Okamura



“Hey Mom, hey Dad, I am having to much fun out in New Mexico. Well see you later. Love Bryan.”

PFC Bryan Adams



“To my family and friends in American Samoa, Thanks for all your prayers.”

SGT Mataese Mataese Jr.



“To my wife Jennifer and my children Elizabeth and Daniel, I love and miss you.”

SGT Daniel Dohls