

3949 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

## Welcome Home Re-fuelers

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson Story By Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz  
Hawaii Air National Guard Public Affairs



More than 50 Hawaii Air National Guard members and three KC-135 Stratotankers from the HIANG 203rd Air Refueling Squadron returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam June 16 and 20 following a deployment to Southwest Asia.

The Airmen were deployed for four months in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

Homecoming began when one group of Airman and one tanker arrived here June 16, June 20 marked the full celebration as the remaining Airmen and tankers arrived home to JBPH-H.

The Airmen were greeted in the Hawaii sunshine by family, friends, and the 154th Wing Commander, Brig. Gen. Gregory Woodrow.

"It's great to have our Airmen home, they represented the HIANG and the nation with honor and distinction," said Woodrow. "I consistently get incredibly positive feedback on the professionalism and Aloha our members bring to the fight. Way to represent while serving the nation's call!"

HIANG's 203rd Air Refueling Squadron, along with flight and maintenance crews and other support personnel from the 154th Wing were part of an 18-nation air coalition engaged in the fight against Daesh or ISIS.

Aerial refueling makes it possible to extend the range and persistence of coalition air operations in Iraq and Syria, enabling the United States and coalition aircraft to maintain a 24/7 presence over areas of Daesh operations.

The 203rd ARS has deployed to the U.S. Central Command Area of Responsibility numerous times. This latest deployment was part of an Air Expeditionary Force rotation.



## New Faces in the DOD



### Office of Veterans Affairs

**Roxanne Bruhn**

#### Records Manager

Served 31+ years in the Hawaii Air National Guard. Initially recruited in 1984 as the first female Aerospace Ground Equipment Mechanic Specialist with the 154th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (CAMS). Eventually cross-trained into Information Management and Personnel where she worked in the Consolidated Base Personnel Office (CBPO), the 293rd Combat Communications Squadron, the 154th Maintenance Squadron and the 154th Maintenance Group. Was one of the early AGE mechanics in the newly formed 203rd Air Refueling Squadron. Last assignment in the HIANG prior to retirement was at HQ, HIANG as the HIANG AGR Program Manager.

"I handle all correspondence to OVS and from the director, OVS. I am the records manager for the office. I handle all email correspondence sent via the OVS website. I handle the OVS special events: Veterans' Day and Memorial Day invites, seating and protocol. I provide backup to the Counselor Administrative Assistant. I am the secretary for the Governor's Advisory Board on Veterans' Services and the 50th Commemorative Vietnam Veteran Planning Committee. I provide invaluable military insight to the veterans' claim and burial process. Liaison to the many veteran organizations-providing information utilizing Vets Flash and to veterans seeking employment. During the legislative season, I provide administrative support to the Director as he introduces and lobby's for veteran related bills and resolutions."



The Hawaii Army National Guard Environmental Office has created an on-line form to report noise complaints.

<http://dod.hawaii.gov/env/noise-complaint/>

A screenshot of a web browser showing the "State of Hawaii Hawaii Army National Guard Environmental Office" website. The page has a teal header with navigation links: Home, ENV Home, Our Work, Plans. Below the header, there's a section titled "Home » Noise Complaint" and "NOISE COMPLAINT". It says "Please fill out the form below and someone" and has a "Name \*" field with "First" as a placeholder.

CW4 Tracy Taylor, SGT Ricky Morales, SSG Jojo Bongolan, SGT Rolito Fortez, SGT Gene Muller, SGT Carty Raquedan, CW3 Arnel Antonio, MSG Roland Ladera

### US Army Chief of Staff, Supply Excellence Award (SEA)

By Lt Col Cesar V. Pudiquet

The HIARNG USPFO warehouse competed with all the 54 states and territories and came out on top as the first place winner of the SEA. Each team was required to submit a bulky continuity folder consisting of standard operating procedures (SOPs) (internal & external), regulatory and inspection reports, surveys, pictures of their facility/office/personnel, and other miscellaneous documents. States that made the semi-finals received a visit from the inspector team which is comprised of active duty logistics instructors from the Quartermaster School in Fort Lee, VA. The visit lasted about full day and although it's not an inspection, it is very intense, meticulous and scrutinized. Most would say that it's tougher than the CLRT inspection.





ULAANBAATAR, Mongolia (May 23, 2016) - Members of the Mongolian Armed Forces are trained on how to properly apply a tourniquet during a casualty control familiarization class as part of Khaan Quest 2016.

## U.S. Sailors, Soldiers teach combat medical care course at Khaan Quest 2016.

American Forces Network Pacific  
Photos and story by Petty Officer 3rd Class Marc Castaneda

Fleet Marine Force (FMF) corpsmen from 3rd Medical Battalion and medics from the Hawaii National Guard taught a casualty control familiarization class to soldiers of the Mongolian Armed Forces, May 23, at the Five Hills Training Area in Mongolia during the multinational peacekeeping exercise Khaan Quest 2016.

The class is part of a five-day course that will train the Mongolian soldiers in basic life-saving skills and casualty care to prepare them for deployments in support of United Nations peacekeeping or other missions.

“Our training that we’re providing for the Armed Forces of Mongolia are things like, hemorrhage control, basic splints, tactical field care, things that you would normally encounter in the field,” said FMF Hospitalman Charles Lebaron, with 3rd Medical Battalion. “This training will be beneficial for the soldiers of Mongolia because we want to be able to treat those possible injuries in combat situations.”

The course reemphasizes information that the Mongolian soldiers are already familiar with, but it also introduces the soldiers to new techniques and tactics critical to life-saving in combat situations. Some of these topics include extensive training in hemorrhage control and how to provide immediate care while under fire.

“This is a very good training for us, especially for the soldiers who are not combat medics,” said Mongolian Armed Forces Senior Sgt. Purevdorj Javkhlan. “So they [soldiers] will know how to treat casualties in the battlefield. We really appreciate



Fleet Marine Force (FMF) Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Joshua Rogers, assigned to 3rd Medical Battalion and Sergeant Gerald Mina, assigned to the Hawaii National Guard, demonstrate proper hemorrhage control to members of the Mongolian Armed Forces during a casualty control familiarization class as part of Khaan Quest 2016 in Mongolia.

the U.S. Army, Navy and Marine Corps instructors.”

The course instructors are helping shape the way Mongolian forces prepare and train for future operations, but this training stretches far beyond the wind-swept hillsides of the training areas of Mongolia.

“The training is just as beneficial for the U.S. Forces as it is for Mongolian forces,” said Lebaron. “Because if and when we do partner up in the future together, we can rely on our Mongolian counterparts to take care of us, as we would with them. It also allows us to bridge the gap between soldier and medic, in a sense that every soldier in a combat environment will be able to take care of casualties as well.”

Khaan Quest 2016 is an annual, multinational peacekeeping operations exercise hosted by the Mongolian Armed Forces, co-sponsored by U.S. Pacific Command, and supported by U.S. Army Pacific and U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific. Khaan Quest, in its 14th iteration, is the capstone exercise for this year’s Global Peace Operations Initiative program. The exercise focuses on training activities to enhance international interoperability, develop peacekeeping capabilities, build to mil-to-mil relationships, and enhance military readiness.



## Company B, 777th Aviation Support Battalion deployment ceremony



Governor David Ige shakes hands with Soldiers of the Co B, 777th Aviation Support Battalion, Hawaii Army National Guard, during their deployment ceremony at the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Readiness Center in Kalealoa, Hawaii, June 10, 2016. This is the fourth deployment for the 777th ASB since 9/11. (U.S. Air Natioanl Guard Photo by Tech. Sgt Andrew Jackson)



U.S. Army 1st Sgt. Roger Goodwin a member of the Hawaii Army National Guard's Co B, 777th Aviation Support Battalion hugs his daughter after the company's deployment ceremony, in Kalealoa, Hawaii, June 10, 2016. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Lisa Lariscy)





## HING ten - The Finals are over.

Col. Lance A. Okamura

After two straight days of non-stop surfing and competing in a pool of 18 teams from all over the State of Hawaii (Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and the Big Island) from the greater law enforcement, fire-fighting, public safety, and military communities, your "Team US Army Boyz-Hawaii" comprised of US Army & National Guard Soldiers was successfully awarded Third Place overall in the "1st Annual Hawaii State Law Enforcement Surf Classic 2016."

A special thanks and big mahalos to the following super Soldiers awho sacrificed their weekend and contributed all of their energies and efforts to representing the US Army's "One Team" here in the Pacific:

1SG Ka'i Peleholani (51 pts)  
SSG Ryan Baqui (54.5 pts)  
SGT Jake Kiyohiro (66.5 pts)  
COL Lance Okamura (77 pts)

Also, many THANKS to the Honolulu Police Department's Specialized Services Division and to the Special Olympics Hawaii for personally issuing us this invitation and for providing this unique opportunity to participate in this first ever surf contest of its kind.

It was a sincere pleasure serving with and surfing alongside these dedicated Soldiers while enjoying the immense camaraderie of the men and women who uphold the law and care & protect all of our Ohana every day.

Again, many Mahalos to all of you for your support and kokua. We look forward to representing the 'One Team' next year and bringing home the bigger trophy.



The Royal Order of Kamehameha I and the Hawaii Civil War Round Table honors the memory of military service of Soldiers and Sailors of the Kingdom of Hawaii who served in the Union and Confederate Army and Navy during the American Civil War from 1861 to 1865. Brig. Gen. Kenneth Hara, the deputy adjutant general and the Hawaii Air National Guard's Ceremonial Royal Guard join Civil War reenactors at the newly dedicate grave marker of J.R. Kealoaha at Oahu Cemetery, May 25, 2016.



## National Guard, local students perform together in fellowship concert

117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment (Hawaii)  
Story by Spc. Paul Berzinas  
Sunday, June 12, 2016

The concert, performed in front of family and friends, was the culmination of a weekend-long outreach mission conducted by the band in order to mentor local students.

“This mission is about community outreach,” said Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Okubo, a team leader in the 111th Army Band. “[We’re] reaching out to the high school and college students, and giving them the opportunity to be a professional musician for a weekend.”

According to Okubo, professional musicians generally have less time to prepare for a concert than students in band classes do.

This is a valuable experience for any student pursuing music as a career, said Okubo.

“In general, we’re teaching them how to be professional musicians and put together a concert and adjust to changing conditions,” said Okubo. “That’s something that most of them aren’t used to.”

The students are also given the chance to perform in smaller musical ensembles consisting of only a handful of musicians, said Okubo. Performing in these small teams allows the students to gain experience as soloists.

“Rather than being hidden in a band of 70 people or so, they’re one of five



U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Okubo rehearses alongside Raistlin Ramos at the Pearl City Cultural Center in Pearl City, Hawaii on June 12, 2016. Okubo and Ramos were preparing for a performance as part of a community outreach mission put on by the Hawaii Army National Guard's 111th Army Band. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)

voices,” said Okubo. “So it really gives them a chance to be heard.” The experience of working with the band was not what Wryen Waniya, a trumpet player and a junior at Punahou School, expected it to be.

“The Soldiers are so welcoming,” said Wryen. “You hear about the military and you expect them to be really strict, but the Soldiers here are really relaxed.”

While the band spent much of the weekend mentoring the students, the band members also learned new things from working with the students, said Okubo.

“I’m learning from a clarinet player who’s a college graduate in music,” said Okubo. “She’s a better player than I am,

so I’m learning from her, while at the same time we’re teaching the younger kids about music techniques.”

According to Okubo, this is the first year the 111th Army Band has held this event.

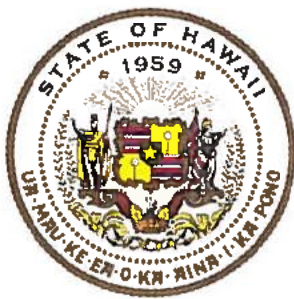
“Now that we’ve done the first event, I’m hoping that we’ll be able to do it annually,” said Okubo.

Wreyn is looking forward to playing in the next fellowship concert.

“It was such a good experience working with the Soldiers, they perform at a professional level, so we really learned a lot,” said Wreyn. “If this event happened again next year I’d be willing to come.”



The Hawaii Army National Guard's 111th Army Band participates in a music fellowship concert with Hawaii students in Pearl City, Hawaii on June 12, 2016. The concert was the culmination of an outreach effort made by the soldiers of the 111th Army Band in order to facilitate an exchange of knowledge between students and National Guard soldiers. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)



*Proclamation*  
*In Recognition of*  
**Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day**

**WHEREAS**, the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who proudly serve the United States and risk their lives to protect our freedom deserve the investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, combat operational stress historically has been viewed as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw of a person's character or ability, and the term Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and

**WHEREAS**, post-traumatic stress can occur not only after a traumatic event experienced in combat, but also after rape, sexual assault, battery, torture, confinement, child abuse, car accident, train wreck, plane crashes, bombing, and natural disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, referring to the complications from post-traumatic stress as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness, and this stigma discourages those suffering from post-traumatic stress from seeking proper and timely medical treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, making the condition less stigmatizing and more honorable can favorably influence those affected and encourage them to seek timely treatment and help without fear of retribution or shame, and can diminish suicide rates; and

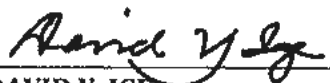
**WHEREAS**, all citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress injury deserve our consideration, those who have received these wounds in service to our nation further deserve our respect and recognition;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 27, 2016, as**

**"POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY"**

in the State of Hawai'i and ask the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in encouraging all public, private, and military service providers to continue educating service members; veterans; families of service members and veterans; victims of abuse, crime and natural disaster; and the general public about the causes, symptoms and treatment of post-traumatic stress injury.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this twenty-third day of June 2016.



DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i



SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i



# Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day

Governor David Y. Ige signed a State Proclamation designating June 27, 2016, as “Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day” to encourage all public, private, and military service providers to continue educating service members and veterans and their families, victims of abuse, crimes, and natural disasters, and the general public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS) injuries. The State House and Senate also approved House Concurrent Resolution No. 129 denoting and emphasizing the same themes and objectives of the governor’s proclamation affirming their unified support of this important measure that deserves increased public emphasis, awareness and supportive services to help those in need.

Thomas Lee, Military Affairs Liaison attached with the Office of the Governor, understands how Post-Traumatic Stress can affect the lives of those you serve with, your family members and friends, people you meet daily and especially the affected individual. Here is his personal account and how he has coped with PTS.

“On March 2007, my unit, the 4th Brigade 2nd Infantry Division deployed as part of “The Surge”. On 22 May 07 while on morning patrol, my Stryker was struck by a deep buried IED taking the lives of two men, Staff Sergeant Kristopher Higdon and PFC Robert Worthington and injured three other soldiers, one of which was me. Visibly shaken and trying to focus after the blast, I looked down and saw my severely injured right leg. My foot was missing - No fibula and only half of my tibia!! I immediately performed self-aid applying a tourniquet above what was left of my right knee. SPC Eric Orapeza, recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, upon reaching me placed a second tourniquet above the first which in retrospect, was just one of the many actions taken that day by him and others that would cumulatively save my life.

I was first Medevac’d to Baghdad then transported to Landstuhl, Germany with final destination set as Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas where I would undergo many more procedures and a revision of my amputation that would result in the total loss of my right knee.

I am able to recall a lot of what happened that day but there are pieces I have blocked out and am in constant fear of what recalling those memories may have as the men we lost that day were located in the vehicle near the blast point of entry and I crawled twice in-and-out of the hole created by the blast, meaning I had to have seen them.

It is with humble gratitude I can say, without a doubt, that the encompassing support of my family by blood and my military family abetted my physical and my initial PTS recovery from my trauma. I still suffer from PTS although, perhaps, not as severe as others. Today, there are times when placed in certain situations the stress will present itself. From my perspective, PTS isn’t something you can simply “just work through” and it ceases. And, in some cases, PTS may not even present itself until years later. Everyone who suffers from this “invisible injury” handles

the symptoms differently because the feelings, the thoughts, and the emotions triggered by this trauma are individually unique. Although not obvious, I am uncomfortable in large crowds... I can cope with being in them but am not comfortable at all. I also deal with instances of “flash-backs” in my sleep. I don’t like calling them nightmares as those flashbacks are not imaginary instead they are vivid memories of the events of that day and the many days before and after my injury.

I have found that talking about the events helps me to keep from bottling up my emotions. However, this past Memorial Day proved to be hardest for me since my injury. I attended both the Punchbowl ceremony and the Governor’s ceremony in Kōne’ohe and it hit me. Emotions filled me and with tears swelling, I realized I was home with my family and friends and my brothers-in-arms are not. To cope with my sense of loss, I spoke their names during the playing of taps and looked to the skies of my Island home and welcomed them here with me.

PTS is very personal to me and it warms my heart that we have this opportunity to peel back the stigma related to PTS by recognizing that it is NOT a “disorder” but rather an INJURY. I have lost more battle buddies at home than I have in combat! I grieve for the friends who suffered alone and succumbed to untreated PTS where the only common thread is their combat deployments. PTS is an “invisible” injury and it is my hope that education and unilateral awareness will lead to less stigma and more service members coming forward to seek help before becoming a statistic.”

Post-Traumatic Stress can occur in military combat operations as experienced by Thomas Lee, but also in traumatic events experienced by people exposed to rape, sexual assault, battery, torture, confinement, child

abuse, automobile accidents, train wrecks, airplane crashes, bombings, and natural disasters to name a few. Referring to the complications from PTS as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and the bias against mental illness and may discourage those suffering from seeking proper medical healthcare and treatment. Making the condition less stigmatizing by increasing educational awareness at all levels, as one example, may help and positively influence those affected to seek timely treatment and care without fear of retribution or shame.

As another progressive step to address this important issue, Governor Ige with the support of Maj. Gen. Arthur “Joe” Logan, State Adjutant General, Dr. Rachel Wong, the Director of the Department of Human Services, Dr. Virginia Pressler, the Director of the Department of Health and Thomas Lee, the Military Affairs Liaison, have joined forces to be key stakeholders along with federal, state, county, public, and private agencies in aligning with the tenets and objectives of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The development of strategic planning teams that will consist of policy level decision makers from these entities has already commenced. They will focus on the elements necessary for strengthening behavioral health systems serving military members, veterans, their families and our citizenry.



Thomas Lee, current Military Affairs Liaison attached with the Office of the Governor, runs in one of the many events he participates each year to bring veterans health issues to the for front.