

Hawaii State Department of Defense

pupukahi

pupukahi: "harmoniously united"

3949 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

Alaska infantry unit joins 29 IBCT

134th Public Affairs Detachment
Story and Photo by Sgt. David Bedard

Anchorage - The 1st Battalion, 297th Infantry Regiment, Alaska Army National Guard, activated during an Oct. 16 ceremony at the Alaska National Guard Armory, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Roberts assumed command of the newly formed organization during the ceremony.

Additionally, 1st Squadron, 297th Cavalry Squadron, also deactivated during the proceedings.

Col. Moses Kaouiwi, commander of 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Hawaii Army National Guard, presided over the ceremony. The new battalion is tactically a subordinate unit to the 29th IBCT, though it also reports to the Alaska Guard's 38th Troop Command.

Kaouiwi's brigade has units in three states and the territory of Guam, and the colonel spoke about his command's diversity.

"The 29th now is composed of you, the 1st of the 297th, with your unique Alaska frontier toughness, culture and heritage," Kaouiwi said. "You now will stand alongside the Chamorro warriors of Guam, our American Southwestern warriors from Arizona, and our Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander and Asian warriors of Hawaii."

"We are bred for battle and bred for peace," Kaouiwi continued. "We are a clear representation of what the Army National Guard is all about. We are diverse, yet uniquely American. We are many, yet we are one in purpose and duty. We are loyal to our home states, yet maintain a strong sense of duty to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

During his remarks, Roberts spoke about his expectations of the new battalion, beginning with defining an infantry unit's role.

"Our trade is to use fire and maneuver to close with and destroy the enemy," Roberts explained. "That is our job, and so we must start training to do that job now, for we do not know when the



First Lt. James Tollefson, commander of A Company, 1st Battalion, 297th Infantry Regiment, affixes the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat team patch to mortarman Spc. Drew Gatlin, Oct. 16, 2016, at the Alaska National Guard Armory at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. The 1-297th Infantry activated during the ceremony and became a subordinate unit to 29th IBCT, Hawaii Army National Guard.

crucible of combat will be forced upon us. That must be your mindset as we conduct training, so we will be ready when our nation calls."

Roberts also laid out what 1-297th Infantry Soldiers can expect from him and Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Ramey.

"One thing that sets National Guard Soldiers apart from all others is that you volunteered to serve our country and the great state of Alaska on your weekends," Roberts said. "Command Sgt. Maj. Ramey and I appreciate that, and we will honor that commitment by training you hard and not wasting your time. I am proud to be your commander, and I look forward to seeing what we will accomplish together."

The battalion comprises a headquarters company, three rifle companies (A, B and D), and a forward support company. A fourth rifle company, C Company, belongs to the Wyoming Army National Guard.

The 1-297th Infantry was originally constituted Oct. 21, 1939, in the Alaska National Guard and was organized and federally recognized Jan. 11, 1941, with its headquarters at Juneau.

During the course of the next 70 years, the battalion would inactivate, reactivate, and take on infantry and scout roles before transforming into 1st Squadron, 297th Cavalry Regiment, in 2009 with a battlefield reconnaissance mission. The Oct. 16, 2016, ceremony marked the battalion's return to its infantry roots.

Hawaii Army National Guard Receives New Medevac Helicopters



Aircrew members from the Tennessee Air National Guard and Hawaii Army National Guard Soldiers off load the first of three HH-60M Blackhawk Helicopters from a C-17 at Kalaeloa Airfield. The HH-60M Blackhawks are being assembled on site and will operate out of Wheeler Army Airfield until the 189th Aviation Regiment's facilities are completed at Kalaeloa, Oct 28, 2016 (U.S. Air National Guard Photo By Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson)

Kalaeloa, Hawaii -The Hawaii Army National Guard's newest unit has received three HH-60M Blackhawk helicopters. The Blackhawks were offloaded from a C-17 transport at the Kalaeloa Airfield Oct 28. They will be assembled on-site and operate out of Wheeler Army Air Field until a new facility at Kalaeloa is completed.

Detachment 1, Company G, 1st Battalion, 189th Aviation Regiment is a new aeromedical evacuation unit and is in the process of filling its ranks. The detachment's mission is to provide MEDEVAC support to military entities. The unit will have about 30 soldiers, most of whom will be drill status, or part-time forces. The unit will not provide full-time support to civil authorities, but when fully staffed, it may provide supplemental support.

"Well, this aircraft is unique in HIARNG we don't really have a medevac platform," said Chief Warrant Officer 3, Phillip Wilson, Hawaii Army National Guard "This will definitely help if there's a lot of casualties that the counties aren't able to support or if there's a search and rescue operation where additional aircraft are needed. This aircraft can actually identify and hoist them out of really tough terrain that normally a helicopter wouldn't be able to land in."

This unit is one of the most requested types of units to deploy, with its specialty of MEDEVAC being in high demand.

The new Blackhawk models have a couple of features that differentiate them from the HIARNG's current UH-60M Blackhawks. These HH-60M have an external hoist, a Forward Looking Infrared Radar (FLIR) and the capability to carry six litter patients or six ambulatory (or three of each patients) within its MEDEVAC cabin configuration. The four-person crew is made up of two pilots, one crew chief and one flight medic.

"Throughout the next few weeks, the aircraft will be test flown and inspected to make sure that they are ready for the unit to accept them," stated Wilson.

It will initially operate from Wheeler Army Airfield, Army Aviation Support Facility #1, until administrative requirements are completed. The new unit will then operate from the nearly completed Army Aviation Support Facility located at Kalaeloa. The Kalaeloa AASF cost \$32.6 million and is being built by Watts Constructors, LLC. The estimated completion date is November 2016. The Kalaeloa AASF will encompass almost 67,000 square feet and will have a large hangar to support aircraft as well as an administrative area for classrooms, restrooms, conference rooms and offices.



Green Dot aims to eliminate violence

154th Wing Public Affairs

Story and Photo by Airman 1st Class Stan Pak



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Ryan Buffett, Command Post Controller with the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Wing, and Green Dot coordinator, briefs members of the HIANG on the Green Dot program at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Sep. 23, 2016. Green Dot is a total Air Force initiative to replace the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response training.

The Hawaii Air National Guard strengthens anti-violence education with the Green Dot training.

The Green Dot program is a new training regimen that is being integrated into the total Air Force. The initiative aims to give people the power to demonstrate their individual commitment to ending violence.

"Green Dot is a violence prevention and awareness

program focusing on a bystander approach." said Senior Airman Ryan Buffett, Command Post Controller with the 154th Wing command post, and Green Dot coordinator. "It focuses on combating all violence, not just limiting itself to one form."

Green Dot is replacing the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program in the Air Force.

"The Air Force has been looking for a violence prevention program to replace SAPR, as it was not getting the results that the DoD wanted." Buffett said. "Green Dot statistically has the best results so the Air Force decided to adopt this program for the next five years. In short, Green Dot is Air Force wide and we are the only branch out of all the military components using it."

"The program allows people to acknowledge barriers within their personalities that would prevent them from intervening or helping someone who is about to or has suffered from violence." said Buffett. "Once people have acknowledged their barrier, we then teach techniques to get around those barriers and make a difference."

The idea behind Green Dot is that just raising awareness of violence is not enough and that only a cultural change sparked by many will be the catalyst required to stop violence.

"Aside from violence, social

media is the biggest culture we have and we saw how it could change, simply taking two minutes or less to put in an email and password." Buffett said. "We can take that same approach to combating violence if everybody does one small thing."

With the Green Dot program in effect the Air Force hopes to lower violence by 50 percent over the next five years. The goal is to have all active-duty, Guard, and Reserve airmen trained in Green Dot by Dec. 31, 2016.

"I believe in the program and believe that we can change the culture." said Buffett. "Remember, 'No one has to do everything, everyone must do something.' As long as everyone does their part, we can win."



For the full schedule of December 1-11, 2016 events:

[http:// pearlharbor75thanniversary.com/full-schedule-of-events/](http://pearlharbor75thanniversary.com/full-schedule-of-events/)

National Guard challenges students during leadership reaction course

117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Theresa Gualdarama



Sgt. 1st Class John Paul Jones, Hawaii Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Non-Commissioned Officer, mentors Prince David Kawanakoa Middle School students while navigating as a team through an obstacle course at the Schofield Barracks Leadership Reaction Course on Oct. 28, 2016. The LRC is an obstacle course that challenges the mental and physical strengths of all participants while teaching teams to work together to navigate through each obstacle. Since 2012, the Hawaii Army National Guard has collaborated with President Theodore Roosevelt High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and Kawanakoa Middle School faculty to host this event.

Schofield Barracks, Hawaii - Hawaii Army National Guard Recruiters sponsored 112 Prince David Kawanakoa Middle School students to go through the Leadership Reaction Course at Schofield Barracks on Oct. 28. President Theodore Roosevelt High School's Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps cadets also assisted the HIARNG recruiters with mentoring and training students as they navigated through each obstacle.

Retired Brig. Gen. Bruce E. Oliveira, former commander of the Hawaii Army Guard, initiated this partnership in 2012 when he was an administrator at

Kawanakoa Middle School.

"The purpose of the program was to first use the activities at the Leadership Reaction Course to bond the 8th graders at KMS into a cohesive class that would provide the leadership and role models to the 6th and 7th graders for the school year," said Oliveira. "Second, to involve the JROTC programs at Roosevelt and McKinley (high schools that KMS feeds into), the ROTC program at the University of Hawaii, and the Hawaii Army National Guard as facilitators, it introduced the 8th graders to future opportunities in the Army



prior to completing their high school registration."

The Hawaii Guard and the Roosevelt JROTC Cadets worked together to challenge the Kawanakoa students. The LRC introduces team building and leadership skills that allows the middle school students to broaden their minds in a critical thinking and tactical environment.

"This was a great opportunity to help students with their leadership skills, confidence and self-esteem," said Master Sgt. Conrad Koki, a retired Army logistical NCO and current Roosevelt Army JROTC instructor. "This is a positive recruitment tool because it broadens their career choices and pathways that they can think about before entering high school; it opens their eyes to different opportunities available."

This event allowed participants the opportunity to mentor students, leaving them with a sense of direction and gratification with all they've accomplished individually or together as they went through the course. For some of the 8th graders, it was their first time

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You can now text 911 if you can't call 911

New to the State of Hawaii, you can now text 911 if you need emergency services. It does require a text enabled/capable cell phone and it is necessary that "location services" on the phone is turned on. The text messages must be brief and easily understood. So no "text abbreviations", slang or codes (like "hE7p4me"), type out full words. Voice calls are still preferred, but if you are in a situation where it is not safe to call, please use this text 911 service.

What do you say in the text? Location city and address, type of emergency, and your name. More info on this service can be found at www.hawaiiextto911.com

HIANG shares air defense expertise with Philippine Air Force partners

154th Wing Public Affairs

Story and Photo by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz



Hawaii Air National Guard Airmen observe a Philippine Air Force air intercept exercise at the control room at Wallace Air Station, Philippines, Aug. 31, 2016. The demonstration was part of a State Partnership Program subject matter expert exchange between the HIANG and PAF. The State Partnership Program is a National Guard program that links a state's national guard with a partner country to help build capacity and security cooperation.

Air Defense was the primary topic of discussion during a recently completed subject matter expert exchange between the Hawaii Air National Guard and Philippine Air Force counterparts.

The SMEE was a result of the HIANG airmen executing the National Guard's State Partnership Program. Through SPP, the National Guard conducts military-to-military engagements to support defense and security cooperation around the world.

"Given the complexities of today's environment, you need to have international partners," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Colin Yoshimitsu, mission crew commander with the 169th Air Defense Squadron. "During these engagements we exchange knowledge and experiences with our Philippine Air Force counterparts. They learn from us and we learn from them. It's through this sharing that we are building a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship".

The month long exchange involved reciprocal visits to the respective countries and commenced on Aug. 19th when a team from the HIANG travelled to the Philippines for what would be a seventeen day operation at multiple sites throughout the Southeast Asian country.

Basa Air Base, a roughly two and half hour drive northwest of Manila was the first major stop for the HIANG team.

Military modernization efforts by the Philippine government includes the acquisition of the South Korean

developed, FA-50 Golden Eagle fighter aircraft. With its 8000 foot runway, the newly acquired fighter could one day be based out of Basa.

At Basa, the team worked with PAF units tasked with operating and maintaining the FA-50.

A bonus for the team came in the form of a coincidental crossing of paths with U.S. Secretary of the Air Force, Deborah Lee James, who was at Basa for a separate, unrelated engagement.

"The team really worked hard to accomplish the mission and represent the U.S. Air Force in a professional manner and to meet Secretary James while we were there was one of the highlights of the experience," Yoshimitsu said.

After completing the five day SMEE at Basa, a four and half hour drive north took the HIANG airmen to Wallace Air Station where the PAF maintains and operates multiple radar sites.

While at Wallace the team was able to witness a demonstration of intercept and command and control operations during a simulated air incursion of Philippine air space.

"I was really impressed with PAF's command and control," said Master Sgt. Joseph Salvador, a loadmaster with the 204th Airlift Squadron and Hawaii Air National Guard State Partnership Program coordinator and planner. "Their equipment is not as modern as ours, but it is still capable. As the PAF

goes through their modernization efforts, it's really going to be interesting seeing their air defense operations grow and evolve."

Although the overarching theme of the SMEE was air defense, other topics of discussion included cyber security and aerospace medicine. According to Salvador, the SMEE was an important way to learn the issues the PAF face.

"Exchanges such as these are invaluable in understanding what our international partners are going through. These engagements build upon each other. We are constantly trying to tailor the program to best address some of those challenges they experience," Salvador said.

With reciprocity built into the program, the HIANG hosted a contingent of PAF air defense experts who visited Hawaii in September.

While in Hawaii the PAF group was able to tour HIANG operations at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam as well as some of its geographically separated units.

PAF members departed Hawaii on Sep. 17th marking the completion of the 2016 engagement.

Maui Airmen and Soldiers team up to clear flood debris

154th Wing Public Affairs

Story by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz



Maui island based Hawaii National Guard Airmen and Soldiers work to remove debris from the Wailuku river September 2016. Storm generated heavy rains on Sep. 13th caused river swelling and flash flooding impacting area residents and damaging property and infrastructure. The service members volunteered for state active duty from Sep. 21 to Sep. 27 for domestic operations to provide humanitarian assistance. (courtesy photo)

Wailuku Maui, HI - Hawaii Air and Army National Guard members based out of Maui teamed up to help clear debris from the Wailuku River Sept. 21-27.

To protect life, property, and infrastructure and to provide humanitarian assistance, Airmen from the HIANG's 292nd Combat Communications squadron and Soldiers from the HIARNG's 230th Engineering Company volunteered to remove the debris.

Debris settled in the Wailuku River following the heavy rains that besieged Maui on Sept. 13. Like the drain pipe blocked with too much waste, the debris that settled in the Wailuku River redirected the flow of water causing damage to the surrounding community.

Area residents were directly impacted or at risk of being affected as overflow from the river flooded homes and severely damaged state and county property and infrastructure.

"The Situation when we responded was a high priority," said Chief Master Sgt. Charles Tomlinson, Plans and Resources Superintendent with the 292nd CBCS and Air Guard liaison to Maui county emergency officials. "The area was at risk of [additional] flooding from even the slightest rainfall due to the changes in the river. This put several homes at risk as well as infrastructure in the area."

The Maui News reported that river flow

during the height of the rainstorm was at three billion gallons a day; normal flow for the river is 150 million gallons a day.

The situation prompted Maui county officials to request assistance and Gov. Ige to issue an emergency proclamation.

Once on site, Hawaii National Guard Airmen and Soldiers along with a local trucking company, worked to clear debris from the river and transport green waste to a county landfill.

"The amount of devastation is hard to describe and pictures do not do it justice," Tomlinson said. "You would have had to see it first hand to really get a feel for it."

Domestic operations such as these illustrate the National Guard's dual mission. On one hand, National Guard Airmen and Soldiers serve their country as elements of the U.S. military. But unlike Active Duty members, Guard members also have a responsibility to the state and communities they serve in. State governors or the President of the United States can call on the Guard in a moment's notice.

"The experience enhanced and validated the existing Maui county procedures for inter-agency relief efforts in support of natural disasters," said Sgt. 1st Class Brandon Cabanila, a readiness non-commissioned officer for the 230th Engineering Company and Army Guard liaison to Maui county emergency



officials.

"State active duty missions such as these demonstrate to the community that the National Guard [members] are truly citizen Soldiers who can be counted on during time of need for their local communities," Cabanila said.

According to Tomlinson, the event provided a valuable learning experience for the Soldiers and Airmen involved.

"Since this was not what we normally train for we are a communications squadron, it was a learning experience for all," Tomlinson said. "This was the first time being activated in support of the state mission for many of the individuals as well as the first time being involved in a joint Army/Air operation."

Stats indicate that 73 truckloads consisting of over 328 tons of debris were removed from the Iao Valley riverbed and transported to Maui county green waste landfill during the seven day activation period.

"It was great to see everyone come together in their efforts," Tomlinson said.





HIARNG National Public Lands Day (NPLD) MĀLAMA BELLOWS AFS PU'EWAI WETLANDS

Let's plant remove invasives and plant native flora together!

Volunteer!

And receive gift native plant

*Please bring sun block,
re-usable water bottle, gloves,
lunch, and helping hands. All
other tools provided.*



Hui Mālama O Ke Kai

Saturday, November 19, 2016

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Remove invasive plants, spread mulch,
plant native Hawaiian plants. Orientation
teaches BAFS cultural history.

BAFS Pu'ewai Wetlands and Burial Vault
(See attached map / directions).

**Establish native Hawaiian plants around
Pu'ewai Wetlands.**



RSVP to Craig Gorsuch at
927-1867 or
craig.gorsuch.ctr@us.af.mil



Students - Continued

to build self-reliance, stress relationships
and conduct decisive thinking.

"It teaches us teamwork and to listen to
everyone in the group because everyone
has a voice," said Khalid Jackson,
Kawananakoa 8th grader.

The obstacles, which included barrels,
planks of wood and high walls, were
mentally and physically challenging for
all teams, but through collaboration and
perseverance, each team made progress
after each iteration.

"Learning to communicate with others
was a big benefit to this because it
allowed everyone to work together as
one," said Ashlyn Chang, Kawananakoa
8th grader.

This event allowed the Hawaii Army
National Guard to interact with the
community they serve at an event, other
than during a response to a natural

disaster. It wasn't only the middle or
high school students that came away
from the LRC with a positive experience.

"The expressions of enjoyment and
accomplishment on the student's faces
ensures me that it's worth all of the hard
work, coordination and preparation,"
said Sgt. 1st. Class Ryan Goto, Hawaii
Army National Guard Recruiting and
Retention Operations Non-Commissioned
Officer. "Everyone involved contributed
to their experience just by being
present and giving insight through the
obstacles."

Each participant came away from
the LRC experience with something
different.

"I think it's good for our students,
especially those who think they know
everything; these courses are challenging
enough for them to be humbled and give

others a chance," said John Kuna, 8th
grade, Kawananakoa science teacher.
"Thank you so much for keeping this
alive because it's easy to start a program
but hard to keep it going, it's really
wonderful so thank you very much."

The whole event gave a sense of pride
to the Hawaii Guardsmen and JROTC
mentors and was a fun day for the
Kawananakoa Middle schoolers, but it
also helps military programs at all levels
as an option for participants.

"This LRC program resulted in an
increase of enrollment in the high school
JROTC programs at RHS and MHS, the
ROTC program at UH, and recruits into
the Hawaii Army National Guard," said
Oliveira.