

Hawaii State Department of Defense

# pupukahi

pupukahi: "harmoniously united"

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The Adjutant General of Hawaii, Maj. Gen. Arthur "Joe" Logan, relinquishes responsibility to former Deputy Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Kenneth S. Hara during a transfer of authority ceremony as Soldiers, Airmen, distinguished guests, family and friends gather at Washington Place, Hawaii, Dec. 6, 2019. After five years of leadership as the Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Logan will be retiring from the Hawaii Army National Guard next month with over forty years of dedicated service. Please join the State of Hawaii in bidding a fond farewell to Maj. Gen. Logan and his ohana, for his service and dedication.

## Hawaii Dept. of Defense welcomes newly promoted Hawaii Adjutant General

Honolulu, HI- A transfer of authority ceremony and a promotion ceremony was held Dec. 06 for Maj. Gen. Kenneth S. Hara, the newly appointed Hawaii Adjutant General. Hara was first promoted from Brig. Gen. to Maj. Gen., and then was transferred authority as Adjutant General from his predecessor, Maj. Gen. Arthur Joe Logan. Over a hundred people attended the ceremony at Washington Place, including Governor David Ige.

In 1987, General Hara received his commission as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry through the Hawaii Military Academy, Officer Candidate School,

Hawaii Army National Guard. He has served in numerous positions of increased authority and responsibility, from 29th Infantry Brigade Commander and most recently as the Commander of the Hawaii Army National Guard. In addition to multiple federal mobilizations, he's also led Hawaii National Guard efforts on several recent state missions, including responses to Hurricane Lane, Tropical Storm Olivia and the Kilauea volcanic eruption.

The former Hawaii Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Logan, has served five years in his leadership role with the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense and will now retire from the Hawaii Army National Guard in January.



Go to Page 16 for feature story on Historic Fly-over



## Hawaii Youth Challenge Academy Cadet overcomes biggest obstacle yet; the challenge for change

HI-DOD PA | Story: Krystal Kawabata | Photos: Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson

Many high school students are excited about graduating this year, but none quite like Cadet Periphery Aunu.

Aunu, who is enrolled at Kalaeloa's Youth Challenge Academy, has come a long way in just the past six months since starting the program.

"Before coming to Youth Challenge, I experienced a life on the streets," said Aunu.

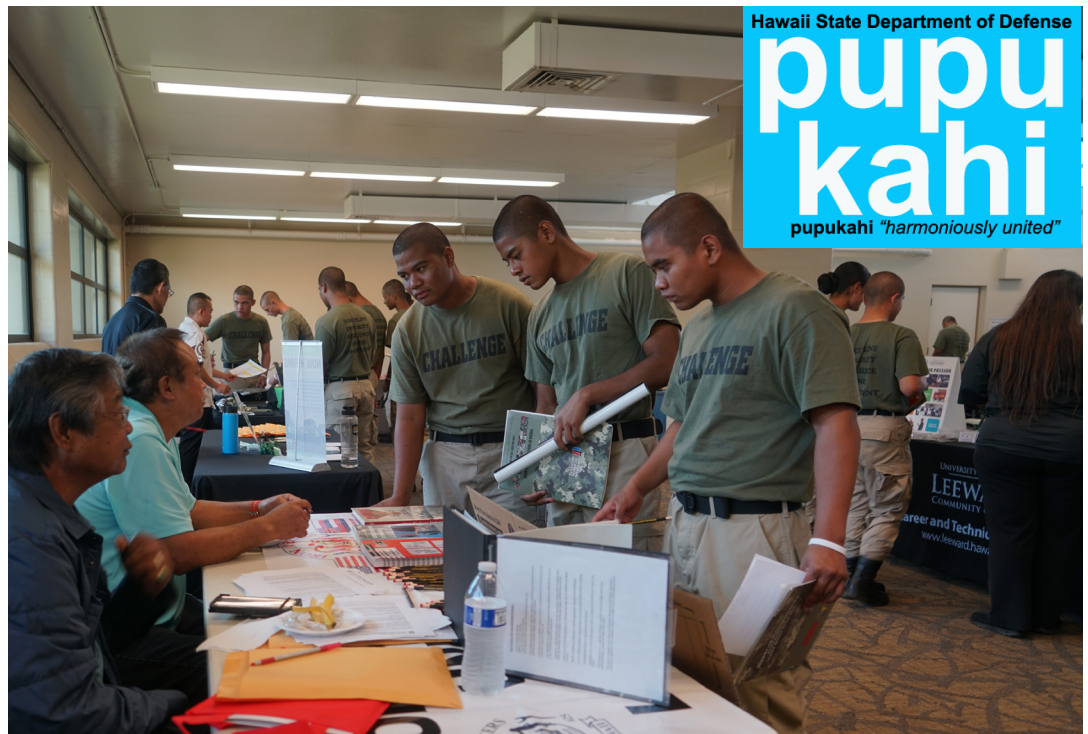
Like many of the other Cadets that Youth Challenge services, Aunu was facing homelessness. A problem that only turned darker as he tried to find a way out.

"It was a struggle," recalled Aunu. "I didn't like it, so I had to find a way to provide for myself, which led to me selling drugs. I sold drugs because that was the only way to keep my mind off the struggles I had. As we got a roof over our head, again it was still a struggle. We didn't have enough money to pay for our food, because it would all go to rent."

Aunu says he was just trying to survive, so keeping up with homework was put on the back burner.

"I was slacking on school, because I thought this struggle was more important. So I thought school wasn't going to help me at all at that point."

With slipping grades and seemingly nowhere left to turn, Aunu was recommended to the Youth Challenge by his



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high school counselor.

To Aunu, it turned out to be one of the best decisions of his life.

"Youth Challenge Academy opened me up and gave me the opportunity to think about my future," said Aunu.

**"He now has a plan and the tools necessary for him to succeed once he has graduated from our program," said Atanoa.**

A future that's big as it is bright, as Youth Challenge Academy Director Sina Atanoa will tell you.

"As part of the 80% of the Cadets that are labeled 'at risk-youth,' Cadet Aunu is on his way to greater things and no longer being categorized as an 'at-risk youth,' but 'at-promise youth,' said Atanoa. "He has a promising future ahead of him."

"He remembers one quote I gave during my speech for PreChallenge Graduation and states that he tries to live by. The number one reason why people give up so fast is because they tend to look at how far they still have to go,

instead of how far they have gotten.' Cadet Aunu is on his way to graduating from the program and has been able to succeed in many of the facets that this program has to offer."

Aunu is currently in the Culinary Vocational Training through Leeward Community College and now plans on joining the Hawaii Army National Guard.

"He now has a plan and the tools necessary for him to succeed once he has graduated from our program," said Atanoa.

And he'll have help, as a personally picked out mentor guides the way.

"He's been a really good mentor," said Aunu. "It's really important, this program, it's not an easy program. Like the director said, only the strong last. The strong will make it through."

And thanks to Youth Challenge, Aunu knows he's one of them. Beating the odds, even when it didn't always seem like they were in his favor.

"Looking back the past me till now. I changed a lot," said Aunu. "If it was me back

then, I wouldn't think about going to school, applying for a job, I wouldn't think about any of this."





## Hawaii Army National Guard Change of Command



The Hawaii Army National Guard held a change of command ceremony at the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Readiness Center in Kapolei, Hawaii Oct. 6, 2019. Fellow Soldiers, family members, and distinguished guest gathered to witness Brigadier General Kenneth S. Hara relinquish command to Brigadier General Moses Kaoiwi Jr. charging him with the prestigious responsibility as commander of the Hawaii Army National Guard. (Hawaii Army National Guard Photos by Sgt. Tinisha Mellein/Released)





## Air superiority maintained upon completion of Sentry Aloha 19-2

154th Wing Public Affairs | Story  
by Senior Airman John Linzmeier |  
Wednesday, September 4, 2019

More than 700 Airmen from across the country and a team from the Royal Australian Air Force wrapped up a large-scale, combat-aircraft exercise Sept. 4, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. (JBPH-H)

Since kicking off on August 21, dozens of fighter, command and control, and tanker aircraft were launched each training day of the Hawaii Air National Guard led exercise, Sentry Aloha 19-2. Two training missions were carried out daily, one in the morning and a second in the afternoon.

Lt. Col. Matthew Ohman, Sentry Aloha Exercise Director, said the routine exercise is held to provide tailored and cost-effective training for all participants, with a focus on fourth and fifth generation fighter integration against an advanced threat.

While Hawaii-based aircraft, assigned to the 154th Wing, practice combat sorties on a regular basis, dissimilar air combat training offers more diverse and realistic training, resulting in heightened levels of readiness for pilots and the hundreds of support Airmen from a broad variety of career fields. In total, members from 20 units from 15 states and one unit from Australia came to Oahu to participate in Sentry Aloha.

Visiting fighter aircraft included Oregon ANG F-15 Eagles from the 173rd Fighter Wing and Oklahoma ANG F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 138th FW. These fourth generation visitors took on alternate roles throughout the training, taking turns 'fighting' against and alongside the Hawaii F-22 Raptors.

Similar to real-world flight operations, the success of each mission relied on the process of inflight refueling. A team of KC-135 Stratotanker from the Nevada, Utah and Hawaii ANG flew alongside the fighters and transferred fuel to each airframe, prolonging flight time and



Members of the Royal Australian Air Force check in for a welcome briefing at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Aug. 19, 2019 during fighter exercise Sentry Aloha 19-2. The exercise entails back-to-back combat sorties with visiting aircraft from visiting air national guard units and the Royal Australian Air Force. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mysti Bicoy)



U.S. Air Force Technical Sergeant Shane Williams, 203rd Air Refueling Squadron Boom Operator, refuels a F-16 Fighting Falcon from Tulsa Air National Guard Base in Tulsa, Oklahoma, during the Sentry Aloha exercise at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, August 27, 2019. Aircraft from around the world took part in Joint Exercise Sentry Aloha, a three week coalition exercise at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Honolulu, Hawaii. (U.S. Air National Guard Photo by Airman First Class Adam Smith)

potentially maximizing lethality in the battle space.

This iteration of Sentry Aloha also featured the integration of an airborne early warning control system, provided by members of the Royal Australian Air Force No. 42 Wing. An Australian aircrew utilized a high powered radar aboard an E-7A Wedgetail to monitor the battle space and provide friendly forces with an advantage over their opponents.

**"Our way of measuring success is in making sure that everyone is a better tactician," said Blake "a better subject matter expert when they leave than when they arrived." - Col. Blake**

"The force integration is the main thing we're looking to work on when we're coming here, with the Raptors, [Falcons] and Eagles," said RAAF Flying Officer Nelson Mirus, Wedgetail aircrew member. "What we provide, with the airborne early warning, is giving them a heads up and let them know what they're flying towards; and they can derive their own tactics according to that."

While the majority of traveling participants flew halfway across the Pacific Ocean to join in the exercise, small teams of Airmen from the Hawaii Air National Guard's geographically separated units were called upon from

neighboring islands.

Members of the 292nd Combat Communications Squadron, in Maui, relocated to JBPH-H to set up lines of radio communication for the Australian Wedgetail and provided satellite network capabilities for visiting ANG members.

Unlike communication technicians at a normal squadron, 'Combat Comm' Airmen specialize in installing mobile communication centers at virtually any provided location. These agile capabilities were demonstrated during an inclimate weather exercise in Saipan this year, which was used to provide command and control to a dispersed team of F-22s.

Since the last iteration of Sentry Aloha, held in December 2018, the 154th Wing's Raptor cadre has grown considerably, as additional F-22s, originally assigned to Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, are now maintained and operated at JBPH-H. The Hawaiian Raptors belong to the Hawaii ANG's 199th FS and also operated by active duty Airmen from the 19th FS.

While the additional fifth-generation aircraft and large force employment of new partners serves as a force multiplier, Col. Michael Blake, 154th Operations Group Commander, indicates that the goal of Sentry Aloha has constantly remained the same.

"Our way of measuring success is in making sure that everyone is a better tactician," said Blake "a better subject matter expert when they leave than when they arrived."





"For this response we were fortunate to do a unit fly away," said Sgt. 1st Class Chalcedony Silva, 93rd CST, Logistics NCO. "We brought four of our vehicles, one being our communication vehicle, which allows us to establish communications and access to the internet. We were also able to bring the survey vehicle which contains monitoring and sampling equipment."

The Hawaii National Guard's 93rd CST is comprised of six sections: command, operations, administration/logistics, medical/analytical, communications, and survey. The sections

work together to assess and respond to situations where there are suspected CBRNE threats. There are 57 CST units in the United States. During Vigilant Guard, the Hawaii CST assisted to the response to multiple threats of natural and manmade origin.

"Hawaii's readiness increases when we participate in exercises like Vigilant Guard because we get to interact with different agencies and other units," said Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Baqui, 93rd CST, CBRNE NCO. "It forces us to step outside our comfort zone and mesh with other people and figure out new operational procedures and tactics to solve a complex problem."

Hawaii's CERFP Medical Airmen provided casualty collection, triage, and decontamination support to a collapsed structure scenario where there was a verified chemical contamination.

Vigilant Guard exercise organizers strive to keep each exercise as close to real-world scenarios as possible, in order to push the responders and help expose potential shortfalls so the participating organizations do not become complacent.

Members of the 93rd CST load an Airman with a simulated injury on a Guam National Guard Lakota helicopter for transport during exercise Vigilant Guard 2020, Guam, Nov. 21, 2019. Vigilant Guard is a series of exercises that take place in each FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) region annually. The training exercise program sponsored by U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), in conjunction with National Guard Bureau, provides civilian-military first responders and emergency management personnel the opportunity to evaluate their capabilities and identify areas for improvement, in the most realistic, large-scale disaster scenarios possible. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson)

## Hawaii National Guard participates in Vigilant Guard 2020 in Guam

HI-DOD PA | Story and Photos by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson | Friday, November 22, 2019

The Hawaii National Guard sent the 93rd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team (CST) and the Medical Detachment 1 section of its CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive) Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) section to Guam in the closing weeks of November 2019 to support the final Vigilant Guard exercise of 2019. Vigilant Guard is a series of exercises that take place in each FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) region annually. The training exercise program sponsored by U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), in conjunction with National Guard Bureau, provides civilian-military first responders and emergency management personnel the opportunity to evaluate their capabilities and identify areas for improvement, in the most realistic, large-scale disaster scenarios possible. This is the second time Vigilant Guard has been held in Guam.

"It is important for the 93rd CST to participate in Vigilant Guard because we operate in the U.S. Indo-Pacific

Command (USINDOPACOM) area of operations and based on our island location and geography we need to be able to respond to other locations and support our brethren here in Guam," said Capt. Nathaniel J Calio, 93rd CST, Operations Officer. "We gain the opportunity to increase our interoperability with other partners through this exercise."

The scenario in the FEMA Region 9 iteration of Vigilant Guard, encompasses the response to a category five hurricane, circumstances the Guam National Guard is familiar with, along with a domestic terrorism plot. The recovery and reaction to these notional natural and human-caused disasters required Guam's first responders and the Guam National Guard to seek extra support from outside the territory. Hawaii, California, New Mexico, Alaska, and Utah provided the needed assistance in the form of HERF (Homeland Emergency Readiness Response Force), CERFP, and CST units. These units consist of specially trained Soldiers and Airmen who help reduce human suffering and mitigate risk along with a vast array of equipment and vehicles outfitted to aid response efforts. All of this equipment and manpower was airlifted to Guam as it would need to be in a real-world situation,



## Sixty Hawaii Army National Guardsmen receive the Combat Action Badge.

HI-DOD PA | Story by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson | Friday, November 22, 2019

Sixty members of the Hawaii Army National Guard recently received the Combat Action Badge (CAB) for their actions during an ongoing deployment in Afghanistan. These Soldiers are members of the 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery Regiment (1-487 FA), also known as the "Hiki No" (Can Do!) Battalion. Although the Hiki No Battalion is a Field Artillery unit, the battalion is deployed to conduct the Counter-Rocket Artillery Mortar (C-RAM) mission which focuses on preventing enemy mortar attacks on fixed positions like bases and airfields. The unit first mobilized in March of 2019 and conducted training for this mission at Fort Sill, Oklahoma for three months prior to deploying overseas to Afghanistan. There are currently about 350 1-487 FA Soldiers deployed to various locations throughout Afghanistan.

Since assuming the mission in July, the battalion has engaged nearly 150 enemy rockets while protecting U.S. and coalition military and civilian personnel and strategic critical assets across Afghanistan. Their efforts have protected millions of dollars of critical assets and have saved countless lives. For their efforts 23 of the assigned Soldiers of the 1-487 FA were awarded the Combat Action Badge (CAB) in early October 2019. The CAB is awarded to those Soldiers personally present and actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy, and performing



courtesy photo from the 487th

satisfactorily in accordance with the prescribed rules of engagement.

"The award of the Combat Action Badge signifies that our Soldiers have performed their duties to standard while being engaged by and engaging the enemy," stated Lt. Col. David Hatcher, 1-487 FA Commander. "It really is testament to their dedication and commitment and their ability to maintain focus on the mission. I am so very proud of all of our Soldiers. Not all of our Soldiers will be awarded the CAB, it is not something automatic. These Soldiers who have been recognized have been tested under fire. The CAB signifies that fact."

The CAB is awarded to Soldiers who personally engage the enemy, or are engaged by the enemy in combat operations, therefore it is not a ribbon that is only shown while the Soldier is in dress uniform. The Badge is displayed on the uniform above the "U.S. Army" tape immediately after the Soldier receives it and will be worn on every uniform that Soldier wears for the rest of their career.

"I only wish that we could

award the CAB to all of our Soldiers, but that is not the case with this badge," said CSM Norbert Baluyot, Battalion Command Sergeant Major "I am very proud of all of our Soldiers and what they have accomplished together. These Soldiers performed admirably in the presence of danger, and have been battle tested."

This is a different kind of mission for the Soldiers of the 1-487 FA. They are responsible for the maintenance and operation of the C-RAM systems which are effectively land adapted versions of the U.S. Navy's Phalanx CIWS radar-controlled rapid-fire gun for close-in protection. The system is used to knock down or obliterate incoming indirect fire from enemy positions off base. It also contains a forward-looking infrared (FLIR) camera to allow a Soldier to visually identify these target threats before engaging the targets. The rounds the C-RAM systems fire explode on impact or after the tracer burns through, greatly reducing the risk of collateral damage from rounds that fail to hit their target.

"Our mission is going well,"

said Capt. Joseph M. Ortega, Alpha Battery Commander. "Our Soldiers have become professionals in their new duties as Air Defenders, but we all get a little jealous when we hear our redleg brothers and sisters sending (artillery) rounds down range. They were awarded the CAB for providing defensive fires while being engaged by enemy indirect fire. Today validated their 24/7 dedication to perfection and attention to detail that helps everyone here sleep well at night."

The battalion is in the fifth month of its nine-month deployment and is expected to return to Hawaii in the spring of 2020. While the mission has been a successful and eventful one, the 1-487 FA soldiers are encouraged by the support they have received from their families and eagerly await their return home.

"To the great people of the State of Hawaii, we take great pride and honor in being able to represent the state and defend our country on your behalf," said 1LT Joneal Anthony V. Altura – C-RAM Battle Captain.





Tech. Sgt. Mark Crabbe and Staff Sgt. Darrell Bactad, 204th Airlift Squadron information managers, practice Honor Guard ceremonial movements Oct. 4, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. The two friends have performed military ceremonies side-by-side in the Hawaii Air National Guard Honor Guard team since the early 2000s. Crabbe became an honor guardsman in 2001 and Bactad joined in 1999, when the unit was established. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier)

## Decades devoted toward Honor Guard service

154th Wing Public Affairs | Story by Senior Airman John Linzmeier | Monday, October 28, 2019

It's almost a universal phenomenon, knowing that some of life's best experiences seem to come-and-go at the blink of an eye. Teenagers create unforgettable friendships and memories over a few short years in high school, as do some young adults who pursue a college education. Perhaps it's even rarer for people to work side-by-side for decades on end. Two such friends in the Hawaii Air National Guard found just that while serving in a prestigious organization, which spanned the greater half of their careers - as members of the Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG) Honor Guard.

Unlike the most common Honor Guard participants, who serve for a portion of their time in their twenties, Tech. Sgt. Mark Crabbe and Staff Sgt. Darrell Bactad started their time in their 30's and remained active well into their 50's. Together,

they performed in numerous memorial ceremonies, military observances and community outreach events.

The HIANG Honor Guard team was first established in April 1999, but Crabbe and Bactad first became acquainted with each other as students at The Kamehameha Schools in the 1980s. Crabbe, a senior at the time, was volunteering as an orientation counselor for the incoming freshman class, which included an eager and adolescent Bactad. It was up to Crabbe to show Bactad the 'ropes' of high school life, a gesture that would be returned more than 20 years later.

As one of the few original members of the Hawaii Air National Guard Honor Guard team, Bactad was considered a seasoned veteran who guided inbound candidates and newly appointed members, to include Crabbe's entry in 2001.

Bactad developed a strong capacity to help mentor and train junior members, knowing that the original team learned how to perform and operate with minimal

resources. Early practice sessions were merely based on printed directions, without an instructional video for reference. Bactad said he often looked back at his only experience at an official ceremony for inspiration.

"I remember being at my uncle's funeral," said Bactad. "He was an Army veteran, and that's where I saw the funeral honors ceremony for the first time. I watched every movement the Honor Guard did. How they folded the flag, fired their rifles and how taps was played. I didn't know anything about the ceremony except that it meant so much to me and my family. So, I thought to myself one day, since I'm already in the military that would be an absolute honor to do. I don't know how I'm going to do it, but if there's an opportunity, I would go for it."

Only a small portion of Airmen are selected to take on the role of ceremonial guardsmen, as they are expected to uphold the highest standards of professionalism, discipline and military bearing. Bactad, Crabbe and the rest of the team were

MIA Accounting Command (currently adapted as the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency) ceremonies at DV row on Hickam Air Force Base. A joint-service team from all branches receives the remains of POW/MIAs in flag-draped caskets off a C-17 Globemaster III. Bactad said the solemn ceremonies overwhelmed him with goosebumps each time, knowing that fallen warriors from past generations were finally being repatriated and brought home.

"What we do in the Honor Guard, isn't something we do for a medal," said Crabbe. "It's just another way to give back service to those who truly deserve it most. When people realize it, everyone really has a lot to offer and there are so many ways to do it. Of course, there's a fine balance to it. I see it as a mix between family time, personal time and community service time. Personally, I don't think there's anything better than providing service to others." When family members come up to you and say thank you for doing this for their loved one, it makes us more proud to be able to do this for grieving families."

Like many units on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, the HIANG Honor Guard personnel integrates with active duty partners from the 15th Wing; although there can be a noticeable difference between the two teams.

"When we do funerals with the active duty team, we're doing the same thing alongside 19 and 20-year-olds, said Bactad. They're young enough to be our kids." It's just amazing thinking about the age difference. We don't have nametags on our Honor



Guard uniforms, so it doesn't matter who performs the ceremony, the main thing is we perform as 'ceremonial' guardsman; one team, one fight."

"It's definitely a wow moment for them," Crabbe added. "They're just surprised to see us still being passionate for the program. We've had so many people come and go over the years, but for some reason, we stuck it out. And the one thing that's remained the same is our enthusiasm for this role, and it's lasted with us until today."

With Honor Guard experience under their belts, it also provided an outlet for both Airmen to serve Veterans in other capacities. Bactad took his involvement even further and sought out membership into a second unit that is unique to the Hawaii Islands - the Hawaii National Guard's Royal Guard. Members of this ceremonial unit don traditional uniforms, dating back to the 19th century, which serve to re-enact the royal bodyguards of the Kingdom of Hawaii. Bactad, and a select-few guardsmen from the HIANG, have been active volunteers for the Governor, performing at state functions since establishment in 1962. Bactad currently holds the second highest position in the HIANG Royal Guard, Luna Koa.

Eventually, Bactad arrived at a pivotal point in his military career in 2014, when he faced the option to retire after serving in the 154th Logistics Readiness Squadron for 28 years. Bactad had his reservations about retiring, knowing that he would be leaving the HIANG Honor Guard team shorthanded and

void of a superintendent.

Crabbe said he could see how Bactad had mixed feelings about leaving and suggested that he could apply for a vacant personnel position within his own unit, the 204th Airlift Squadron. However, the new position came with a slight caveat.

In order to qualify for the new position, Bactad said his previous rank of Master Sergeant would need to be dropped two ranks. Despite being 54-years-old and a seasoned First Sergeant, Bactad was excited to start over again on a new career path.

"With all the things we do, we don't think too much about our age," Bactad said. "Yes, things can be a little harder on our bodies, but even that doesn't stop us. If people can just let go and forget about surface level details like their age, nothing is going to hold us back."

Not only was he able to re-enlist into a new career field and retain his membership in

the Honor Guard, Bactad said he found a new family within the 204th Airlift Squadron and ended up traveling more than he ever had before with the HIANG.

"Being part of the [204th AS] 'Pueo' Ohana has been a definite blessing for myself to be a part of," said Bactad. "I've got to travel to New Zealand, Japan, Philippines, and Guam on our C-17 'Manu' (meaning bird in the Hawaiian language)."

Since then, the two friends worked side-by-side and continued their Honor Guard services. They also stayed active in other community service events, such as the Special Olympics, Great Aloha Run and The Hawaii Food Bank. On occasion, they have been seen trying to raise morale for no apparent reason, such as waving and welcoming Airmen at the start of drill weekends, while raising a sign that says 'Fly Like a Champion.'

Crabbe and Bactad finely tuned their own unique sets of niches throughout their

careers and made sure their passions shared everywhere they went. To friends and wingmen throughout the HIANG community, it's an emotional experience to see one's career come to an end, as Crabbe officially retires this month.

While their professional partnership has finally reached an end, Crabbe said the friendships connections made in the ANG are bound to last a lifetime.

"We simply believe in small acts of kindness without getting anything back in return," said Crabbe as Bactad nods in agreement. "That's what Aloha is all about. It's wonderful that we got to be part of these organizations for so long because they've empowered us to reach out and make an impact on others. But when it's time to move on, it's not a problem. Because if my career has taught me one thing - there's always a way you can be of service to others. No matter what."



Staff Sgt. Darrell Bactad and Tech. Sgt. Mark Crabbe, 204th Airlift Squadron information managers, welcome inbound traffic as Airmen begin weekend drill Dec. 1, 2018, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. The two friends are advocates of random-acts-of kindness and also longstanding members of the Hawaii Air National Guard Honor Guard team, with nearly 40-years-of-service between the two. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier)



## Hawaii National Guard teams with Indonesia to practice key aspect of mission planning

HI-DOD PAO | Story and Photos by  
Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson | Friday,  
August 23, 2019

The Hawaii National Guard State Partnership Program facilitated an operation design seminar recently in Jakarta, Indonesia. Participants from the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard along with counterparts from Tentara Nasional Indonesia, spent five days in a combined lecture and hands-on staff exercise focusing on operational design. Lecturers and moderators were provided by the U.S. Air War College.

"U.S.-Indonesia defense cooperation has never been stronger or more comprehensive than it is today," said Col. Michael Tougher, Hawaii Army National Guard deputy exercise commander. "We are proud to be Indonesia's largest military engagement partner, conducting joint exercises, exchanges, and other military-to-military engagements, training with hundreds of Indonesian military personnel, and providing world-class defense technology."

The Hawaii National Guard is a state partner with Indonesia and regularly holds combined exercises and events to increase the depth of that relationship. This is the second year Hawaii and Indonesia have participated in an operation design seminar.

Operation design is a process where a committee of military members, and sometimes members of government, examine very complex problems to help define variables, goals, tension points, and a desired end-state to aid in the planning and execution of military or governmental action.

"The Hawaii National Guard and the Indonesian military have a long-standing relationship centered around the State Partnership Program," said Maj. Tulsi Gabbard, Hawaii National



Hawaii National Guard Soldiers and Airmen and members of the Tentara Nasional Indonesia listen intently to the direction of the operation design instructors from the U.S. Air War College during the lecture portion the operation design seminar, Jakarta, Indonesia, August 19, 2019. U.S. Air National Guard Photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson)

Guard military planning officer. "That has provided a great benefit not only to those who participate, but to the U.S. efforts and interests in building these relationships that are strengthened through these engagements."

Nested in the military planning framework, operation design requires committees of personnel from diverse backgrounds that want to understand complex social and political problems to make recommendations on a desired end-state, or to develop an operational approach. While the process is not linear, there are defined steps or phases each committee must go through. The process is also not accomplished by a single committee, but by multiple teams in a competitive environment. This 'teams within a committee' concept helps highlight overlooked aspects of the situation being analyzed and combats 'group think,' a situation where a single strong personality can influence the analysis.

"Operation design takes complex situations and breaks them down in easy, manageable steps in the military planning process," said Lt. Col. Brandon Torres, Hawaii Army National Guard military intelligence officer. "This is important because in our current operation environment, things are not as simple as they used to be. As we come upon what the U.S. Air War College calls 'wicked problems,' we need to be able to think through them and get to a solution for those problems. This process helps us to define what the true nature of the problem is so we can plan a response."

As the teams worked through the operation design process to frame the problem, their relationships began to mesh and new facets of the scenario came to light. Throughout each day the entire group would pause and each team would present their products - further shedding light on different variables and possible ways forward.

"This process frames or underpins the whole of a military campaign or operation," said Maj. Mochamad Reza Achwandi, Indonesian Naval Officer. "This seminar has strengthened [the TNI] because we have gained knowledge and experience. We have expanded our network with new friends as well as broadened our perspective. The gained insights and perspectives have widened our view."

2019 marks the 70th anniversary of relations between the U.S. and Indonesia. Throughout the year, the U.S. Mission to Indonesia is highlighting places, stories, and dreams that showcase our broad partnership with Indonesia.

In 2019 alone the Hawaii National Guard SPP and Indonesia will have had 22 separate engagements to help strengthen each nations' operational readiness; in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response (HADR), peace keeping operations, Air Space Management and Aviation Operations.





Investigator Sgt. John Suess IV from Pinellas County Sheriff's Office gives presentation at the Hawaii State Fusion Center on findings from the 2018 Parkland Shooting law enforcement response.

## Parkland shooting investigator shares lessons-learned with Hawaii authorities

HI-DOD PA | Story: Krystal Kawabata

HONOLULU, HI - The topic of school safety took center stage at the Hawaii State Fusion Center. The lead investigator of the deadly Parkland shooting in Florida traveled to the islands to discuss findings from the case, in order to prevent future shootings. Several key authority figures in Hawaii attended the presentation, including the Honolulu Police Department, the FBI, the Department of Education and the State Department of Defense.

The Parkland shooting left 17 people dead and 17 more injured at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, on Feb. 14, 2018. Since then, investigator Sgt. John Suess IV from Pinellas County Sheriff's Office has made it his mission to travel across the U.S. to talk about lessons learned from the tragedy.

Suess was initially a homicide detective, but was recruited into the commission that began the Parkland shooting investigation. The report the commission came up with

detailing what happened that day is 500 pages long, but Suess believes the visual presentation they're taking across the country is much more compelling.

Attendees got a closer look at surveillance video from inside the building when the gunshots first rang out, heard 911 calls, and saw a visual breakdown of what went wrong in the law enforcement response when communicating the crisis.

**“Every parent has a right to expect when they send their kid to school in the morning that they’re going to come home in the afternoon,” - Sgt. John Suess**

“I would say one of the main objectives is to help people understand that the information silos, the barriers to sharing information, have to be eradicated,” said Suess.

And the state is doing just that, learning where Parkland failed in its response to the shooting. The presentation showed improper training of security personnel and poor communication, with many employees confused about what to do and who to alert

about suspicious activity.

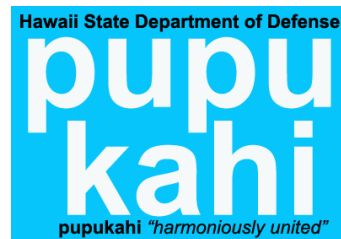
An even more crucial component the school was missing; a plan in place in the event of a shooting - something that is critical to a crisis such as this one. Organizations can't assume shootings won't happen. They need to plan and prepare for the worst.

“The number of people that told us in Parkland that they didn't think it could happen here is astounding,”

said Suess. “That mentality of it's not going to happen here needs to go out the window, and there has to be a presumption that it will happen here.... This can and will happen, so what's being done to mitigate the harm?”

Organizations across the U.S. are now being tasked with asking themselves this.

As for prevention, it's not enough to just tell the public ‘if you see something, say something.’ Suess also points



out that every tip needs to be followed up on by authorities. “We have to take every tip seriously,” said Suess. “Of course, it's labor intensive. It's costly, it's expensive. But we have to evaluate everyone, every threat, as if it is completely legitimate. Complacency can't exist.”

These are among the key lessons Hawaii authorities are taking from the presentation, including the State Office of Homeland Security (OHS).

“School incidents are becoming more frequent even in Hawaii,” said OHS Administrator Dolores Cook. “The more we can discuss these matters, it will translate to more lives being saved.”

OHS, which falls under the State Department of Defense, is responsible for addressing Hawaii's vulnerabilities by enhancing its capacity to prevent, protect, respond to, and recover from any critical incidents.

In the last 20 years there have been dozens of attacks on schools. OHS is constantly on guard to make sure Hawaii does its best to prevent becoming another statistic.

“Every parent has a right to expect when they send their kid to school in the morning that they're going to come home in the afternoon,” said Suess. “That's not an unreasonable expectation.”





## Team Hickam gathers in remembrance of Dec. 7 attacks

154th Wing Public Affairs | Story by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz | Saturday, December 7, 2019

Airmen from the 15th and 154th Wings, along with family members and honored guests converged at a historic site, Atterbury Circle, on the morning of December 7, to observe The Hickam Field Remembrance Day Ceremony.

This marks the 78th anniversary since the catastrophic attack, carried out by Japanese forces, struck Hickam Air Field, among five other military installations on Oahu.

The event opened with musical renditions performed by members of the Pacific Air Forces Band. A soloist sang the National Anthem, as the 15th Wing Honor Guard Team slowly raised the U.S. flag to half-mast, followed by Hawaii Pono'i - the official song of the State of Hawaii.

After an invocation by the 15th Wing Chaplains Office, Col. Dann S. Carlson, 154th Wing commander, stepped to the podium to officiate the ceremony. This marked the first time a Hawaii Air National Guardsman led the annual event.

Carlson recognized several of the surviving family members who attended and remain impacted to this day and presented them with history books as a token of remembrance. He also shed light on Air Force heritage, sharing stories about historical landmarks that still bear wounds from the aerial attack.

"As you drive by the [Pacific Air Forces] headquarters building and see the divots in the side of the building," said Carlson, "that needs to remind us of the resolve that we need to maintain."

Along with the educational commentary, spectators were provided a symbolic glimpse of Team Hickam's state-of-the-art aircraft. A formation of four

F-22 Raptors soared directly above the flagpole, demonstrating the installation's heightened state of readiness, which has stemmed from the events of December 7.

Within the grounds of Hickam Field, the attacks claimed the lives of 189 Army Air Corps Airmen and civilians and injured 303 others. Operational capabilities were severely impacted as well, with nearly half of all aircraft being struck or completely destroyed by bombs and bullets.

The site of the ceremony holds historic significance, as bombs landed near the flag pole three times, along with a strafing of machine-gun fire. Somehow, the flagpole managed to see the battle through.

This tragic occasion was deemed 'a date which will live in infamy,' by prior President Franklin D. Roosevelt. As leader of a shaken nation, Roosevelt responded with a call to arms on a national scale, declaring a state of war against Axis powers. Ultimately, this unmatched effort of military mite led to the liberation of European and Asian populations who had been oppressed by conquest; and it all started on December 7.

After Carlson delivered his closing remarks, wreath and flower lei presentations were made by individuals representing the various government and civilian organizations, and the honor guard team conducted a three-round volley.

While it has been nearly a lifetime since the historic attack, it wasn't enough time to prevent tears and prolonged hugs amongst the emotion-filled audience.

The United States has only seen devastation within its territory at this scale only a handful of times. For this reason, Carlson said it's important for us to be reminded of events such as Dec. 7 and Sept. 11, as they are contributors to our country's continuous resolve and readiness.



## Hanapepe-Eleele Recognized As HHARP Disaster Resilient Community

HIEMA | Arlina Agbayani

Hanapepe-Eleele HHARP was honored as a Hawai'i Hazards Awareness and Resilience Program (HHARP) disaster resilient community by local and state officials during the Kaua'i Community Disaster Preparedness Fair. This fair was held at the Hanapepe National Guard Armory on May 18, 2019. Fair organizers are members of a community group named Hanapepe-Eleele HHARP.

Hanapepe-Eleele together with Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA), Kaua'i County Emergency Management (KEMA), and the Department of Defense worked together for a three-year period to complete HHARP and is the first neighbor island to do so.

"In terms of disaster resiliency, this is a great moment for the community," said Luke Meyers, Executive Officer of HI-EMA. "With everything that the Garden Island has endured, the formation of Hanapepe-Eleele HHARP is vital for the outreach and education necessary to keep Kaua'i strong."

HHARP was developed by HI-EMA in 2013. The goal of the program is to enhance community resilience against hazards. The HHARP method for achieving this goal is taking the communities through a facilitated education and outreach program to promote hazard understanding and awareness and by offering tools and information resources in mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

HI-EMA continues to introduce and administer HHARP in island communities. Actively engaged communities include Ewa Beach, Hawaii Kai, Kaneohe, Kahaluu, and Mililani.



## 1-207th Aviation Battalion Re-designation



In front fellow Soldiers, Company Charlie, 1-207th Aviation Battalion held a re-designation ceremony at Wheeler Army Air Base on November 2, 2019. Going forward the unit will now be known as Company Charlie, 1-183rd Aviation Battalion.

## Change of Responsibility ceremony at 103D Troop Command



Hawaii Army National Guard Soldiers participate in the change of responsibility ceremony at 103D Troop Command, Waiawa, Hawaii November 2, 2019. Incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Bret D. Moore prepares to receive the "passing of the colors" as he replaces Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Odoardi as Command Sgt. Maj. of the 103D Troop Command. (Photo by Hawaii Army National Guard Sgt. Matthew A. Foster)



## Youth Challenge Academy Cadets get clearer path for future after career fair

HI-DOD PA | Story: Krystal Kawabata

Dozens of Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy Cadets from Kalaeloa class 51 attended a career fair on Nov. 15, to get a better idea of what they want to do with their future. Each class at Youth Challenge Academy has a career fair set up for them right before graduation.

This year, over 21 vendors attended, including businesses, colleges, and military recruiters. The Cadets took a checklist

and stopped at every booth to learn more information about each one and see if any sparked their interest.

"There's multiple different careers and opportunities for us to look into," said Cadet Mackenzie Bewley, one of the numerous attendees. "We ask them questions, things that we are interested in, get job applications, information about fees, and learn about scholarship funds that we can get ahold of. It's great because you wouldn't get this if you were in high school."

And getting a boost to put the Cadets leveled with the rest of their teen peers is important. All the Cadets enrolled

into the Youth Challenge Academy program dropped out of high school or weren't on track to graduate on-time. Many of them also dealt with challenges outside school; including homelessness, drug abuse, or family problems.

The Youth Challenge Academy's goal is to provide them with an opportunity to catch up on their school credits, provide them with a safe and conducive environment to grow in, and set them up for long-term success - whether that be going to college or getting a steady job. Youth Challenge Academy Program Coordinator Brandon Suzuki explains they also taught

them the skills required to getting and maintaining work.

"We teach them career search, work ethics, writing a proper job application ... and from there they build their resume," said Suzuki. "They also do a mock interview where we can tell them what their strengths and weaknesses are, so they're prepared to talk to the different vendors."

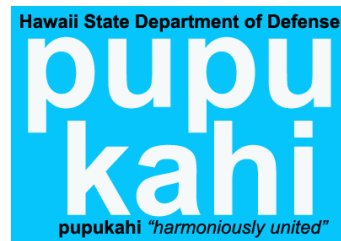
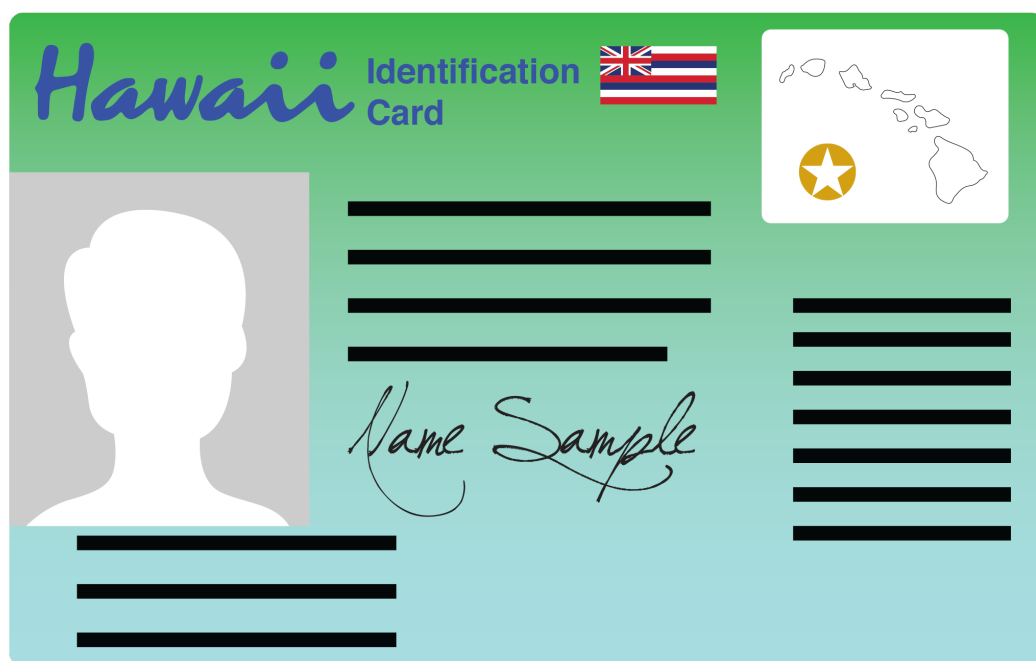
But just because they've now graduated from the nearly six-month program and have begun to choose their next path in life, doesn't mean they'll be facing it alone. Each Cadet has been set up with a personal mentor that will keep them accountable for the next year.

"The mentor's part of this program is the biggest part," said Youth Challenge Academy Director Sina Atanoa.

The mentors have to be someone outside of the Cadet's family and will check in periodically with them, assuring they're one step closer to a brighter future.

"There is still work to be done," said Atanoa. "There is still a lot of work on our part to do to make these guys ready. I wouldn't call it a success yet, but we're working towards it."





Some shortcuts to be aware of though; if you renewed your license before 2014, the city says it should have all your documents on file, and all you'll have to do is request a duplicate of your driver license online - which will cost a total of \$7. The only downside to that option, is that your expiration date will remain the same, and will not be extended unless you get your real ID in person.

If you need to book an appointment, or get more information about being REAL ID compliant, go to these links:

Hawaii State Department of Transportation - <https://hidot.hawaii.gov>

City and County - <https://honolulu.gov/csd/dlicense.html>

County of Maui - <https://mauidmvappointments.co.maui.hi.us/mauidmv-online-appointments>

County of Hawaii - <https://www.hawaiiicounty.gov/departments/finance/vehicle-registration=licensing>

County of Kauai - <https://www.kauai.gov/DriversLicense>

Department of Health Certified Copies - <https://health.hawaii.gov/vitalrecords/>

## Deadline looming for Hawaii residents to get REAL ID

**cards | HI-DOD PA | Story: Krystal Kawabata**  
City and state officials are reminding Hawaii drivers that the deadline to get a gold star on their ID is now less than a year away; Oct. 1, 2020.

The gold star is important if you plan on traveling, because of new TSA rules. The changes were made to beef up national security after 9/11, and the new law was officially passed by Congress in 2005 - giving travelers and states 15 years to get people REAL ID compliant. A REAL ID is any identification card that has a gold star.

Residents can get that gold star on either a Hawaii driver's license or their State ID. If they don't do so by the looming October deadline, they won't be able to use either the license or State ID to get onto a plane, or access federal facilities, including military bases. Hawaii Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hara is strongly urging Hawaii National Guardsmen and State Department of Defense employees to get their gold star.

"The REAL ID act was created to ensure national security," said Hara. "It's important that people pay attention to the Oct. 1 deadline and make appointments to take care of getting their gold star."

If you're one of the hundreds of thousands of Hawaii residents that still don't have a gold star on their IDs and need to get one, the important thing is to make sure you're bringing the right documents, so you don't have to make multiple trips to city and

county offices.

The Department of Customer Services in Honolulu says you'll need to have documents proving:

- Legal Name (birth certificate, US passport, marriage certificate)
- Date of Birth (birth certificate, US passport, driver license)
- Proof of Legal Presence in the US (birth certificate, US passport)
- Social Security Number (Social Security Card, W-2, 1099 form)
- Hawaii Principal Residence (2 documents required: voter registration card, pay statement, utility bill, bank statement)

It's important to note that all documents must be originals or certified copies. Notarized copies or faxes won't be accepted. If you need to get a certified copy of your birth or marriage certificate, you can get them through the Department of Health, though they're seeing a spike in traffic as many rush to get their copies. The quickest way to obtain your copy is by filling out the online form (linked below) and tender the correct amount. If the paperwork and payment are properly completed, the copies should be mailed within 10 business days.

Once you're ready to go with the proper documents, make sure to schedule an appointment at a satellite city hall. Many people report having to schedule months in advance, due to an increase in traffic at the offices.





A U-30 Aircraft Tow Tractor is positioned to tow a KC-135 Stratotanker assigned to the Hawaii Air National Guard 203rd Air Refueling Squadron, July 18, 2019, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The tow tractor was powered by hydrogen fuel cells and was part of a demonstration on the capabilities of hydrogen fuel cell technology to power some Airforce operations. The Air Force Research Laboratory on behalf of the Hawaii Center for Advanced Transportation Technologies conducted a demonstration towing on the Stratotanker utilizing a hydrogen fuel cell powered tug. This was the first tug demonstration on a large U.S. Air Force aircraft using the hydrogen fuel cell equipment. The project is a proof of concept demonstration to validate hydrogen vehicle technologies in supporting Air Force mission requirements. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Alison Bruce-Maldonado)

## Clean energy partnership demonstrates 'alternative' way to move aircraft

154th Wing Public Affairs | Story by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz | Sunday, September 1, 2019

The Hawaii Air National Guard [HIANG] demonstrated the use of alternative energy to tow a KC-135 Stratotanker at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPH-H) Jul. 18, 2019

A U-30 Aircraft Tow Tractor retrofitted with hydrogen fuel cells was used to tow the 186,000 lb aircraft on the flightline of JBPH-H and demonstrate the efficacy of the technology, showing one way the U.S. Air Force could incorporate the use of renewable energy in conducting operational missions while lessening its dependency on fossil fuels.

According to the Hawaii Center for Advanced Transportation Technologies[HCATT], the

event marked the first time hydrogen fuel cell technology had been used to tow a large USAF aircraft and was made possible through a collaborative effort of a consortium of public and private entities.

"We're very pleased about this first demonstration. We've worked with U.S. Hybrid, TUG Technologies, and the Air Force Research Laboratory on this vehicle for three years and have garnered a lot of technical knowledge along the way," said retired Col. Dave Molinaro, HCATT project manager. "But to get it in the hands of an Air National Guard Airman doing an operational mission is really what is most rewarding."

Working closely with the original manufacturer, U.S. Hybrid Corporation modified the diesel-based drive train with a 30kW fuel cell, two 5kg hydrogen storage tanks, a 28kWh Li-ion battery configuration, and a 240kW AC induction motor linked to the transmission.

Hydrogen for the U-30 is produced using HCATT's electrolyzer at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in a relatively simple process of splitting water with DC electricity into oxygen and hydrogen gas. The fuel cell in the tug combines the hydrogen gas and ambient air to produce electricity with byproducts being water, heat and zero greenhouse gas emissions.

The demonstration involved towing the Stratotanker from its normal parking area to a wash rack, located one quarter-of-a-mile away, to conduct its periodic corrosion prevention maintenance.

Comments by HIANG tow team members centered around the tug's relative quietness, smooth operation, and the lack of diesel fuel smell.

"I've never seen a tug move that smoothly and without the lurching common to other tow vehicles," said Chief Master Sgt. Edward Tang, 154th Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle maintenance superintendent

who was among the dozens of HIANG Airmen on-hand conducting or observing the demo.

The tug demo was just one example of the HIANG's efforts to incorporate renewable energy in its operations; in 2018 an HCATT hydrogen fuel cell generator provided the energy to power a multi-national training exercise while numerous facilities at the HIANG campus on JBPH-H receive their power from solar panel technology.

The tug will be put through its paces for another two to three years while HCATT continues to collect data in an operational environment.

"This is the technology that can help the Air Force be more resilient," said retired Brig. Gen. Stan Osseman, HCATT director. "I have a feeling that this will perform as well as our other prototypes, and the Air Force will want this kind of reliable, quiet, pollution free gear in its support equipment arsenal."





Members of the Hawaii National Guard Counterdrug team supported the National Drug take back event on Hilo and Oahu. 2,803 lbs of unused/expired prescription medication that may have ended up on the streets, was collected during the event.



Brig. Gen. (Ret) Oliveira was the grand marshal for the Kauai Veteran's Day parade.

The Hawaii National Guard Sexual Assault Response Coordinator would like to introduce and inform HING members of the newly launched Department of Defense Catch a Serial Offender (CATCH) Program. This program is a new, confidential way for Service members and their adult dependents who have experienced sexual assault to provide information about their incident or alleged offender to military investigators to identify serial sex offenders. There is no normal way to react to sexual assault. Support is always here for you.

Lehua Halemano, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

HING SAPR Helpline: 1-888-SAPR-101

DoD SAFE HELPLINE: (877) 995-5247



# Catch a Serial Offender (CATCH) Program

Sexual assault victims making a Restricted Report can help the Department of Defense identify repeat sex offenders by anonymously disclosing suspect information.



For more information, please visit [sapr.mil](http://sapr.mil) or contact your local Sexual Assault Response Coordinator or Victim Advocate

**Safe Helpline**  
Sexual Assault Support for the DoD Community  
[safehelpline.org](http://safehelpline.org) | 877-995-5247



[www.sapr.mil](http://www.sapr.mil)



HIANG KC-135 conducts historic flyover  
 154th Wing Public Affairs | Story by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz | Sunday, December 1, 2019



A historic KC-135 Stratotanker from the Hawaii Air National Guard completed a flyover above the skies of the U.S. Air Force Academy Oct. 2, 2019.

Tail number 60-0329 and her HIANG crew of five, over-flew the picturesque campus as part of a ceremony honoring those who served during one of America's most prolonged and costly conflicts.

During the ceremony a plaque to remember the academy

graduates who served as Stratotanker crews in the Vietnam War was dedicated.

The flyover occurred over the Southeast Asia Plaza of Heroes, a solemn place honoring the Air Force Academy's Vietnam veterans. The plaza sits on a bluff overlooking the cadet areas and is surrounded by pine and oak trees; mountains to the west provide an awe inspiring backdrop.

Amongst the memorials

of individuals and various remembrances stands a long granite wall adorned with plaques of the aircraft that were flown during the Vietnam War. Each plaque includes a description and or story of the aircrafts' virtuous service in the armed conflict.

As the aircraft soared over the school and memorial grounds, onlookers could see very little which would distinguish the aircraft's appearance from most

other KC-135 Stratotankers, yet it's set apart by it's distinct tail number, 60-0329; the same number which was etched on the most recently revealed plaque and printed in aviation history books.

In 1967, 60-0329 and her crew consisting of Maj. John A. Casteel, Capt. Dean Hoar, Capt. Richard Trail, and Master Sgt. Nathan Campbell made the first ever triplane aerial refueling.

That stratotanker was then assigned to the Strategic Air Command and deployed to Southeast Asia in support of the Vietnam war effort.

60-0329 was on a mission in early 1967 on the coast of Vietnam and had just completed refueling Air Force aircraft when a call came through for emergency refueling of a U.S. Navy A-3 Skywarrior who had just a few minutes of fuel left.

In those days it was not accepted practice to refuel

aircraft from a sister-service; but the emergency took precedence and the "Young Tiger" and crew would disregard the protocol and execute a maneuver never before pulled-off in aviation circles.

As the Stratotanker refueled the Navy tanker, a Navy F-8 Crusader hooked up to the Skywarrior to receive fuel, marking the first time in aviation history that aerial refueling had been conducted between three aircraft connected to each other simultaneously.

The feat helped avert disaster and earn the crew of 60-0329, the 1967 Mackay Trophy, an annual award given by the U.S. Air Force for the most meritorious flight of the year.

Currently 60-0329 is still in service as part of the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron.

"I felt very honored to be a part of this mission and after meeting everyone (Vietnam era KC-135 veterans), I was extremely humbled by it all," said Maj. Carrie Hironaka 203rd ARS pilot and aircraft commander for the mission. "Being a tanker pilot, we all have the mindset of always just doing what needs to be done and accomplishing the task at hand."

A highlight of the mission involved the current crew



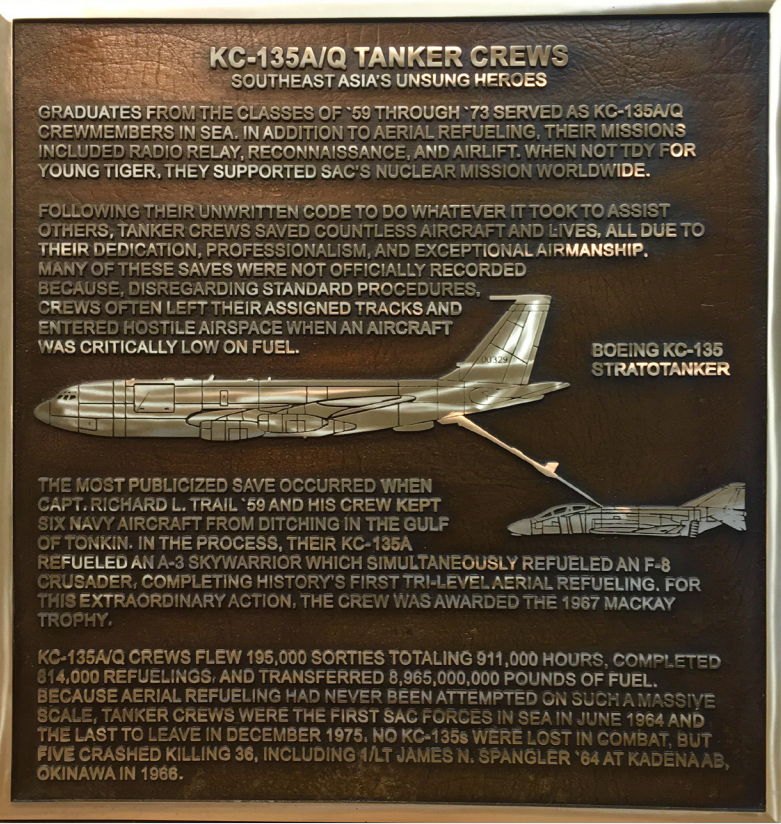
Maj. Carrie Hironaka, 203rd Air Refueling Squadron pilot, retired Lt. Col. Richard Trail and Maj. Jared Raymond pose for a picture in the flight-deck of KC-135 Stratotanker, tail number 60-0329, Oct. 2, 2019, Colorado Springs, CO. Trail was a crew member operating 60-0329 during a 1967 mission that accomplished the first ever tri-plane refueling and earning the crew the 1967 Mackay Trophy awarded by the U.S. Air Force for the most meritorious flight of the year. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz)

from the HIANG meeting 1967 Mackay Trophy mission crew member, retired Lt. Col. Richard Trail.

"My most memorable experience of this mission was seeing how emotional Dick Trail was when he saw the plane that was doing the actual fly-by was the exact same plane that he flew for that Mackay Trophy mission," Hironaka said.

Crewing the "Young Tiger" on its historic flyover with Hironaka were Col. James Shigekane (Air Force Academy graduate, class of 92), Maj. Jared Raymond, and boom operators Master Sgt. Derek Wheeler and Staff Sgt. Kimo Kahalelehua. 154th Maintenance Group crew chiefs Master Sgt. Kevin Kalani and Master Sgt. Jeff Barker ensured the Stratotanker was good to go and mission ready.

"Flying a 200,000 lbs airplane 500 feet above the ground with mountains surrounding you is not something you do everyday and certainly not something you even train for, so without the entire crew this could not have happened as smoothly as it did," Hironaka said. "Maj. Raymond did all the flight planning and timing calculations to a tee and with Col. Shigekane knowing the academy layout and all the landmarks in the area, all I had to do was sit back and enjoy the view!"



Planning for the flyover started months in advance and was the original brainchild of retired Capt. David Kline (Air Force Academy graduate, class of 69). An exhaustive search for the nearly 60-year old plane eventually led Kline to the HIANG.

"The mission never would have happened without Dave Kline who over a year ago dreamed it all up and coordinated many of the details into making this happen," Hironaka said. "Only after talking with Dave Kline

and then meeting everyone did it hit me how special of a mission this was."

The mission culminated with the HIANG crew receiving a plaque from Lt. Col. Trail commemorating the flyover which has now been permanently placed in the cabin of 60-0329.

"By far, this was the coolest temporary assignment I have ever been a part of," Hironaka said.



Retired Lt. Col. Richard "Dick" Trail points to the crew members of the 1967 Mackay Trophy award mission inscribed on the nose of KC-135 Stratotanker, tail number 60-0329, Oct. 2, 2019, Colorado Springs, CO. Trail and his crew conducted the first ever tri-plane refueling on 60-0329 earning the award for the most meritorious flight of the year. 60-0329 is currently assigned to the Hawaii Air National Guard 203rd Air Refueling Squadron and conducted a flyover above the U.S. Air Force Academy as part of plaque dedication ceremony at the Plaza of Heroes to honor the contributions of U.S. Air Force Academy graduates who served as KC-135 Stratotanker pilots in the Vietnam War. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz)





A team from the Hawaii Air National Guard pose for picture in front of KC-135 Stratotanker, tail number 60-0329, Oct. 2, 2019, Colorado Springs, CO. The HIANG team had just completed flyover above the Plaza of Heroes at the U.S. Air Force Academy to honor the contributions of U.S. Air Force graduates who served as KC-135 Stratotanker crew members in the Vietnam War. 60-0329 was the aircraft involved during the 1967 Mackay Trophy mission in which the first ever tri-plane aerial refueling was conducted. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz)



Hawaii Air National Guard airmen receive a tour of the Southeast Asia Plaza of Heroes memorial located at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO, Oct. 2, 2019. The HIANG team had just completed a flyover above the memorial as part of a plaque dedication ceremony to honor the contributions of U.S. Air Force graduates who served as KC-135 Stratotanker crew members in the Vietnam War. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz)