

In this week's Kukini



■ Acting SECAF discusses wide range of issues at Monday's Air Force Association event **A5**

News Notes

Air Force Ball transportation — There will be two buses departing from the BX/Burger King parking lot and another two buses from the Shoppette on Air Force Ball at 4 p.m. Limited seating is available and transportation will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Buses will return from the Hilton to Hickam at staggered times: 10 p.m., 11 p.m. and midnight. All buses will drop off at both pick-up locations upon return. A friendly reminder that no alcoholic beverages are allowed on buses and violators will not receive transport.

15 AW Headquarters Bldg. 1110 phone number changes — Apart from the Command Section, all phone numbers in Bldg. 1110 have changed. New numbers for individuals can be found on the Global Address listing. By calling the old number you will receive a message

See **NEWS NOTES, A5**

PACAF Web browsers find new homes — In an effort to ensure Airmen have access to the latest news that affects them, bases in Pacific Air Forces will substitute their local Web site for the Air Force Portal, the current default homepage of all PACAF computers.

Every Air Force installation has a local Web site regularly updated with news, photos and information. PACAF Public Affairs initiated the change to improve the flow of internal information to Airmen and civilians across the command. "This is a great way for members of Team Hickam to stay connected to base information and know what's going on," said Col. Giovanni K. Tuck, 15th Airlift Wing commander. "It's another tool for leadership to reach out to Airmen in addition to existing products like the commander's access channel, radio and the base newspaper."

Several bases have already made the switch from the Air Force Portal to their local news sites; others are working on making the change.

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C-17 lifts 'Go For Broke' team

By **Tom Czerwinski**
Hickam Kukini staff writer

More than 25 members of the 'Go For Broke' National Education Center came to Hickam Friday to experience the ride of a lifetime when they took to the sky for an hour-long tour around some of the Hawaiian Islands, aboard Team Hickam's C-17, The Spirit of 'Go For Broke'.

The flight organized by U.S. Army Gen. Eric T. Shinseki (ret), the Center's national spokesman, brought together a mixture of veterans from the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion, the Military Intelligence Service and the 1399th Engineers, all Japanese-American veterans of World War II — to mingle

with members of the Hawaii Air National Guard's 204th Airlift Squadron.

"What came about as an idea while recently addressing the Center in Los Angeles, became reality when group members came to Hawaii for a national board meeting, said Gen. Shinseki. "An arrangement had been made for them, along with the Hawaii chapter to get a ride on the Spirit of 'Go For Broke.' The timing was just right."

As the group shuffled onboard the massive C-17, many looked around in awe at the cavernous fuselage — for most it was the first time aboard an Air Force jet.

"I look around with amazement at the advance-

See **SHINSEKI, A3**



Photo by Tom Czerwinski

World War II veteran Col. (ret.) Bert Nishimora (center), of the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Gen. (ret.) Eric T. Shinseki (left) and other members of the 'Go For Broke' National Education Center depart Team Hickam's C-17 the Spirit of 'Go For Broke' after a flight around the Hawaiian Islands.

Operation Deep Freeze Airmen record Antarctic aviation first

By **Master Sgt. Chris Vadnais**
Air Force News Agency

PEGASUS ICE RUNWAY, Antarctica — A C-17 Globemaster III aircrew from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., performed the first known after-dark landing in Antarctica using night-vision goggles here Sept. 11.

The McChord aircrew, consisting of active-duty Airmen from the 62nd Airlift Wing and Reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing, verified the C-17's capability to access McMurdo Station, Antarctica, by landing here in complete darkness using night vision technology in combination with reflective cones.

Maj. Corey Simmons, an



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Chris Vadnais

Lt. Col. Robert Weichert, a C-17 evaluator pilot with the 313th Airlift Squadron at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., looks out over the ice after the first-ever night-vision goggle-assisted landing on Pegasus Ice Runway near McMurdo Station, Antarctica, Sept. 11.

evaluator pilot with McChord's 62nd Operations Support Squadron and one of the pilots

on the mission, said there are many reasons the National Science Foundation may need

strategic airlift during the winter.

"There could be a contingency operation where someone is sick or hurt down here during the winter-over months, when they have complete darkness for four and a half months," Major Simmons said. "We have the capability now to get them out."

The mission was flown as part of Operation Deep Freeze, which is commanded by U.S. Pacific Command's Joint Task Force Support Forces Antarctica. Headquartered at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, and led by 13th Air Force, JTF SFA's mission is to provide air- and sealift support to the National Science Foundation and U.S. Antarctic Program.

There is no sunlight in

See **FREEZE, A4**

Climate survey set to launch Oct. 1

By **Hickam Kukini staff**

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Have you ever wished you could tell your leaders what you think? That power will soon be at your fingertips with the launching of the 2008 Air Force Climate Survey Oct. 1-8. During that time, individual e-mail invitations will be sent out Air Force-wide that will include a survey link and easy-to-follow instructions.

"This is an opportunity for Airmen across the Air Force to have a voice," said Col. Daniel Badger Jr., commander of the Air Force Manpower Agency, whose organization is responsible for administering the survey. "By voluntarily completing this survey, you can help our leaders identify what is going well and what needs improving."

The 2008 Air Force Climate Survey, which will run from Oct. 1 to Nov. 26, is designed to assess the opinions and perceptions of the Air Force's active-duty members, Reserve, Guard and civilian personnel (appropriated and non-appropriated) on a wide range of topics. These topics include job characteristics, trust (both in senior leadership and in immediate supervisor), support for deployment, resources, recognition, general satisfaction, and unit performance and unit characteristics.

The 2008 survey is the sixth Air Force-wide survey conducted since 1997; however, this year's version has been streamlined and will

See **SEASONING, A6**

See **CLIMATE, A6**

Seasoning Training Program preps reservists for desert duty

By **Master Sgt. Daniel Nathaniel**
624th Regional Support Group Public Affairs

Four years ago, three young men who graduated from high school in Hawaii together never thought they would find themselves serving together in Iraq.

Senior Airman Derek Dumlaio, Airman 1st Class Shane Costa and Airman 1st Class Dennis Gaxiola — alumni of Oahu's Leilehua High School and Air Force Reservists from the 624th Regional Support Group at Hickam — are currently deployed with the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, Joint Base Balad.

Their job is to help ensure people and cargo get to where they are needed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Just the thought that I am on the other side of the world is crazy," said Airman



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jason Epley

(From left) Senior Airman Derek Dumlaio, Airman 1st Class Shane Costa and Airman 1st Class Dennis Gaxiola completed a new Air Force Reserve seasoning training program prior to deploying to Iraq. The program allows Airmen to voluntarily remain on active duty for upgrade training, finishing it in three months instead of 14 to 16 months. All three Airmen graduated from Leilehua High School in Wahiawa, Hawaii, in 2004.

Dumlaio. "Never thought in my life that I would be here but I am, and I'm proud to be serving my country at a time when my country needs me."

For Airman Costa, it's the heat, the food and "living in a one-mile radius for four months."

Then there are the hazards. "Just the constant bombardment of mortars keeps me on my toes and alert," said Airman Dumlaio. "Other than that, it's pretty much day to day."

What is not a challenge for them is how they perform their jobs. They are able to meld

seamlessly with their active duty counterparts because of the Air Force Reserve Command's Seasoning Training Program (STP), which allows Airmen to reach job proficiency sooner than they would through the traditional Reserve process of one weekend a month and two weeks a year.

"Had I not been through the STP most of my training would have been received through this deployment, so I'm definitely ahead of the game," said Airman Gaxiola.

After completing their initial technical school training, the Airmen did 90 active-duty days of "seasoning training" with the 735th Air Mobility Squadron at Hickam.

"Much of the credit for the success of our Squadron's Seasoning Training Program should be given to the 735th AMS," said Lt. Col. Randall Honke, commander of the 48th Aerial Port Squadron,

ACTION LINE

Kudos for Integrity in action

Comment: I wanted to publicly thank two unknown Airmen for a good deed! My daughter lost her wallet in the parking lot of the Shoppette last week. For anyone who has lost a wallet, you know what that means: lost ID, credit cards, cash and a big hassle.

Two Airmen showed up at our home on base and returned the wallet with everything still intact. My daughter was so taken aback and relieved that she didn't feel she had thanked them enough. We don't know the names of these two fine Airmen, but we wanted to thank them for a good deed that really meant a lot and hope they see this in the Kukini.

Thank you both so much for your honesty and the effort it took to return the wallet.

Response: Thank you very much for taking the time to recognize these two outstanding Airmen, and for bringing this to my attention.

One of the Air Force core values is Integrity, and these two Airmen set an example for us all to follow. It's unfortunate we don't know who these Airmen are, but when they read the Action Line column, they will know their good deed has not gone unrecognized, and that we are proud of the actions they took in returning your daughter's wallet.

Again, thank you for giving us the opportunity to recognize these two exceptional individuals.

The Action Line is your direct link to me so we can work as a team

ACTION LINE

Diamond Tips

Men's hair – Men's hair must appear tapered with or without headgear (block cut permitted if tapered); not worn in an extreme or fad style; not exceed length or bulk standards nor violate safety requirements; not touch the ears (only closely cut or shaved hair on the back of the neck may touch the collar).



Questions? Contact your First Sergeant.

Got Good News?

Why not share it? Email your story idea or press release for Hickam Kukini to:

hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil



Deadline for article submission is end of day Monday for Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300-500 words in length, and e-mailed to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

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 Law Enforcement Desk 449-6373
 Base Chaplain 449-1754
 Military Family Abuse Shelter 533-7125
 SARF Hotline 449-7272

Kukini: Meaning swift and valued messenger, the Kukini in ancient times took news from one Hawaiian leader to another.

'Parachute packers' provide critical link in chain of success

By Lt. Col. Keith Parnell
 15th Operational Support Squadron commander

On Sept. 4, after more than six weeks of joining the 15th Operational Support Squadron (OSS), I finally accomplished all the requirements needed to re-qualify in the C-17. Walking out on the flightline that evening with an experienced five-member crew, my thoughts focused on the training ahead—assault landings at Kaneohe, night low-level operations north of Oahu and night-vision-goggle (NVG) landings at Kalealua.

All of these represented routine weekly training events in the C-17 community. Fast forward several hours — timing, location and chance all converged as our crew was notified of a potential downed helicopter. For more than two hours, we assisted in the rescue efforts helping to locate the site and search for fellow aviators in the water.

Over the past week, I have reflected much on this somber event. The constant media coverage has highlighted the enormous resources and multiple agencies working together on this effort. In our weekly OSS staff meeting, we identified the role our flights had contributed to this one C-17 sortie.

Airfield management processed the flight plan; current ops/training/tactics



coordinated the training; aircrew flight equipment inspected our helmets and NVGs; and the weather flight provided accurate/updated local conditions.

All of these, viewed separately, represent routine jobs performed everyday by dedicated Airmen across the Air Force. Collectively, however, these individual acts are the backbone of the Air Force and its ability to accomplish our mission.

I was reminded of a story about a Navy flyer whose plane was shot down over North Vietnam after 74 successful combat missions. He parachuted to safety but was captured, tortured, and spent 2,103 days as a POW.

Shortly after coming home, he was sitting in a restaurant with his wife. A

man rose from a nearby table, walked over and said, "You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!"

Surprised that he was recognized, the Navy flyer responded, "How in the world did you know that?"

The other man replied, "I packed your parachute."

The Navy flyer pumped his hand, gave a thumbs-up, and said, "I guess it worked!"

Chance put our crew at a place and time that night to offer assistance, but Airmen across Team Hickam doing their jobs allowed us to skillfully and safely accomplish the task presented before us.

To the Coast Guard, our hearts and prayers go out to you, and to all of you

Tiger 22 crew shines on dark night

By Capt. Sharon Tweedy
 535th Airlift Squadron

On Thursday, Sept. 4, Tiger 22 departed Hickam AFB on a typical C-17 local training sortie consisting of assault landings at Kaneohe Bay MCAF (PHNG), a night-vision goggle (NVG) low-level around the northwest shore of Oahu, and multiple NVG approaches at Kalealua (PHJR). While on initial NVG approach into Kalealua, ATC informed the crew of a Coast Guard helicopter that may have crashed approximately five miles off shore of Hickam Airport/Honolulu International (PHIK/PHNL).

With all five C-17 crewmembers on NVGs, we immediately queried the controller if we could assist with search efforts. After coordination with Honolulu ATC, Tiger 22 was given coordinates and an initial vector to the last known position of the downed helicopter, and from that point, a typical local training sortie transitioned into a real-world, real-time search and rescue mission of a Coast Guard HH-65 Dolphin helicopter and its four crewmembers.

Tiger 22 was first to arrive at the reported coordinates and entered an orbit at 500ft AGL. By means of ambient moonlight and use of NVGs, the crew quickly spotted an extended oil slick on the water. After two orbits, the crew was able to see the faint beacon of the partially submerged helicopter. The crew immediately marked the coordinates and relayed the information to an inbound HFD helicopter. Once the HFD arrived on scene, Tiger 22 talked HPD and its spotlight onto the HH-65 Dolphin crash site.

Tiger 22 continued to orbit in the vicinity of the crash site for more than two hours, looking for any additional signs of the four crewmembers. During this time, a Coast Guard C-130 arrived, along with multiple helicopters and rescue boats. Three of the four crewmembers were recovered that evening and transported to Queen's Medical Center.

Throughout the search, Tiger 22 crewmembers exemplified top-notch Crew Resource Management while deconflicting with all on-scene search aircraft, monitoring multiple active radios, and ensuring the

safe configuration/position of the aircraft during extended low-level operations. Additionally, Tiger 22 experienced a complete radio failure midway through the search and expertly troubleshot the problem to eventually regain all affected systems.

The abilities of Tiger 22 on Sept. 4 can be seen as direct evidence of the mission-ready stance and professionalism of members of the 15th Airlift Wing — from the 15 OSS Aircrew Flight Equipment that ensured all NVG equipment was properly inspected and issued to the 15 MXG personnel who ensured mission readiness of the aircraft and offered extensive assistance to our ability to continue the search efforts. Additionally, 15 AW Command Post members also displayed great flexibility in assisting the crew to coordinate for extended flight time to continue search efforts.

The crew of Tiger 22 would like to offer our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the four Coast Guard crewmembers who lost their lives that night. Their steadfast service to the community and country will never be forgotten.

One re-enlistment he'll never forget ...



Tech. Sgt. Anthony Taylor (left), a special airlift mission flying crew chief, gets the executive treatment Monday as he takes his oath of enlistment from Adm. Timothy Keating, U.S. Pacific Command commander, in front of a 65th Airlift Squadron C-40 during his re-enlistment ceremony, held on Hickam's DV flightline.

U.S. Air Force photo by Vanessa Perez

Decision 2008: What must Airmen do to execute their right to vote?

Article courtesy PACAF voting assistance office

With the 2008 General Elections fast approaching, PACAF Leadership is encouraging all eligible members to make a difference and exercise their right to vote!

Command and Base Voting officials are available to answer questions and theater postal managers from all Service branches will be placing special emphasis on mailing to ensure timely ballot delivery.

PACAF Air Postal Squadron, Mr. Gabe Telles, Chief of Postal Operations, had the following to say about postmarking ballots:

"A postmark is a postal marking made on a piece of mail indicating the date and time that the item was delivered into the care of the postal service.

Postmarks are used to determine if voting materials have been mailed by state deadlines. Due to varying mail pick up times, the day you 'mail' your election ballot may not be the day the postal facility postmarks it.

Check the collection box schedule posted on each drop box, before you deposit your ballot if you mail on state deadlines. Or simply ask a mail clerk at your local post office to hand stamp the election material so that a date is clearly visible. Our goal in supporting federal voting this year is simple — 100-percent on-time postmarking and delivery of all Federal balloting material!"

The following information outlines how to apply for an absentee ballot on-line, on-time to ensure that "Your Vote Counts!"

1. First, register to vote by going to this Web site: <http://www.fvap.gov/>

2. Select the appropriate "Get Started" button for your status (military, civilian, etc.)

3. The next screen asks you, "What Would You Like to Do?" in bold red letters—select the option for: "Register to Vote and/or Request an Absentee Ballot"

4. This takes you to a screen that asks you to select your state—just click on your state

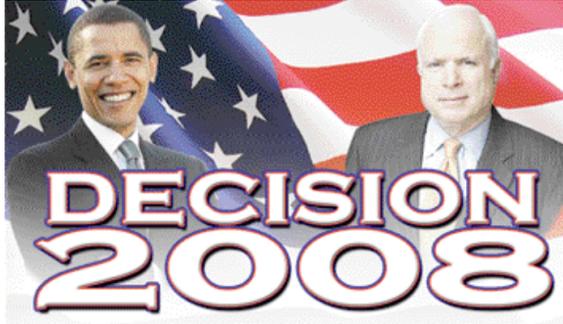
5. Then you'll get to the screen with "Request Registration/Absentee Ballot." A red arrow with "STEP 1" will ask you to "Fill out the Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request"

6. Just below that "STEP 1" red arrow, you'll find a PDF file titled, "Open Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request" click on that area and SF Form 76a, "REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST – FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)" will open up and you can fill this in on your screen

7. Going back to the website with the "STEP 1" red arrow, you'll see under the area "What Do I Fill in?" in bold red letters—that you may not need to fill out this entire form, only the information your state requires below the area "Only the following blocks are required:"

8. Once you've filled out the form, proceed to red arrow with "STEP 2 Submission Options." To mail your form, click on the area "Open Election Official Address List" to get the mailing address for your county where you need to send your form.

9. If you are able to print



envelopes, there is a postage-paid envelope you can use to send in your form, just click on the area, "Open Postage-Paid Envelop Template."

10. Your state may also allow you to fax in your form—if so, you'll see the fax numbers and even fax cover sheet you can use—just click on the area "Open Fax Coversheet"

11. Once you've submitted your Registration and Absentee Ballot Request form, you can

take the follow-up actions under the red arrow with "STEP 3 Follow-up"

12. When you receive your absentee ballot in the mail, make sure to open it right away, make your voting selections, and get your absentee ballot to your post office right away—the same day, if possible to make sure your ballot makes your state "ballot return deadline."

13. If you've taken all the above steps and still don't

receive your absentee ballot two weeks prior to the election—by 21 October 2008, take the following actions:

a. Go to this website: <http://www.fvap.gov/>

b. Select appropriate "Get Started" button for your status (military, civilian, etc.)

c. The next screen asks you, "What Would You Like to Do?" in bold red letters—select the option for: "Complete a Back-up Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot"

d. This takes you to a screen that asks you to select your state—just click on your state

e. Then you'll get to the screen with "Complete Back-up Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot"

f. A red arrow with "STEP 1" will ask you to "Fill out the Voter's Declaration/Affirmation and Ballot"

g. Just below that "STEP 1" red arrow, you'll find a PDF file

entitled, "Open Back-up Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot" click on that area and Standard Form 186A, "FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS" will open up and you can fill this in on your screen.

h. Going back to the website with the "STEP 1" red arrow, you'll see under the area "What Do I Fill in?" in bold red letters—that you may not need to fill out this entire form, only the information your state requires below the area "Only the following blocks of the Voter's Declaration/Affirmation are required:"

i. Follow the instructions of the red arrows for STEP 2, 3 and 4 for envelope instructions, submission options, and follow-up

You can also contact your Unit Voting Assistance Officer for any help and to obtain voting materials.

SHINSEKI, From A1

ment in technology and how the military aircraft has changes since the 1940s," said Colonel (ret) Bert Nishimora, a member of the 442nd RCT.

Colonel Nishimora was the commander of the first group of 442nd volunteers from the Island of Kauai. "I was work-

ing as the military liaison in the Governors office at the time and was called upon to deliver this first group of volunteers to Camp Shelby Mississippi," he said.

During the flight, the group got to tour the cockpit for spectacular views of the

Hawaiian Islands, and they interacted with the crew where they learned about modern air mobility and global-reach.

Upon landing, General Shinseki, a former Army Chief of Staff, had this to say, "Fantastic, it's not the first time I have flown on a C-17.

But for these gents, getting this ride and to see the Spirit of 'Go For Broke' emblazoned on the aircraft, commemorating their unit and what they did was a very special moment in their lives."

"Go For Broke" meant to be all-in with nothing to lose.

Air Force develops plan for filling UAS positions

By Master Sgt. Russell P. Petcoff
Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Air Force leaders are taking a two-pronged approach to address the increasing need for pilots of unmanned aircraft systems in Afghanistan and Iraq, an Air Force official said recently.

The first approach will use a small percentage of undergraduate pilot training graduates for the short term. The second will examine the potential for a distinct career path for Airmen to fly unmanned aircraft.

"The UPT approach will happen quickly," said Col. Pete Lee, chief of the operational training division in Air Staff Operations.

In the next couple of weeks, Air Force officials will select approximately 10 percent of UPT graduates to begin UAS training when they graduate in

October. Their UAS training will be at Creech Air Force Base, Nevada.

After completing a standard UAS tour, UPT Airmen will receive a follow-on assignment to a manned aircraft, Colonel Lee added.

In January 2009, the Air Force will begin the second approach, a small-group testing of a program to train approximately 10 active-duty officers to specifically fly unmanned aircraft.

Colonel Lee said the lessons learned from the first group will be used to train a second group of 10. Initial training will begin in Pueblo, Colo., where the Air Force conducts introductory flight screening.

The colonel added that this is a historic time for the Air Force.

"Pilots flying unmanned aircraft today and Airmen selected for the new UAS training program are charting groundbreaking paths for the Air



Force," Colonel Lee said. "They are truly trailblazers."

The Air Force general in charge of oversight of air, nuclear, space, cyber and weather operations for the Air Staff said the demand for UAS in theater is critical.

"The combat contributions of unmanned aircraft systems in today's fight have surpassed all expectations and have taken a crucial role in our ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Lt. Gen. Daniel Darnell, Air Force

deputy chief of staff for operations, plans and requirements.

"The surveillance-only role of UAS has rapidly expanded to include strike, force protection, and additional intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions," the general added.

Colonel Lee said unmanned aircraft are the tip of the spear for Air Force combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq because of "their ability to identify, track and engage our enemies."

FREEZE, From A1

Antarctica for several months of the year, from around late March to the middle of August. The night-vision goggle concept will make it easier and safer for C-17 aircrews to get into Antarctica any time of the year.

The use of night-vision goggles and reflective cones on the ground capitalizes on an inherent strength of the C-17 Globemaster III — the jet is built

for night-vision operations. Its Heads-Up-Display shows all the aircraft's operating parameters directly in front of its pilots on a piece of glass. This allows pilots to use night-vision goggles to survey the area while maintaining a close eye on the aircraft's performance.

Flying airlift missions into the coldest, windiest, and most inhospitable continent on the

globe can be challenging business. No one knows this better than Lt. Col. Jim McGann, commander of the 304th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron and the night-vision goggle concept's chief architect. With 12 years and more than 60 missions to the ice under his belt, Colonel McGann has just about seen it all.

"Previously, we couldn't physically light the entire run-

way; it wasn't possible," Colonel McGann said. "Now, with the inherent [night-vision goggle] capability in the C-17, the increased technological advances in night-vision goggles, and 64 high-intensity retro-reflective cones placed on the runway edge, we can leverage the technologies and say, 'Let's see if we can get in there and access McMurdo at night.'"

Crime Scene

Theft of unsecured personal property

An active-duty O-3 assigned to PACOM reported a theft of personal property on Challenger Loop. The case is currently under investigation.

Theft of unsecured personal property

The dependent of an active-duty O-4 assigned to DISA-PAC reported a theft of personal property adjacent to Bldg. 4010. The case is currently under investigation.

Theft of unsecured personal property

An active-duty E-7 assigned to HQ/PACAF reported a theft of personal property on Kokomalei Street. The case is currently under investigation.

Shoplifting

Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives observed the spouse of an Airman assigned to Hickam attempting to remove merchandise totaling \$7.80 without rendering payment. The individual will have his/her AAFES privileges revoked for one year and is awaiting a magistrate hearing.

Shoplifting

Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives observed an active-duty Soldier assigned to Schofield and the spouse of another Soldier attempting to remove merchandise

totaling \$1,153.94 without rendering payment. The individuals will have their AAFES/DECA privileges revoked for three years, were issued a one-year Prohibited Entry to the Base Order and are awaiting a administrative/magistrate hearing.

Shoplifting

Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives observed the spouse of an active-duty Soldier assigned to Schofield attempting to remove merchandise totaling \$96.90 without rendering payment. The individual will have his/her AAFES/DECA privileges revoked for one year and is awaiting a magistrate hearing.

Shoplifting

Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives observed a retired U.S. military member attempting to remove merchandise totaling \$12.99 without rendering payment. The individual will have his/her AAFES/DECA privileges revoked for one year and is awaiting a magistrate hearing.

DUI

An active-duty Airman assigned to JPAC was detained at Bldg. 188/Main Gate for operating a vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant. This case is being forwarded to the Airman's unit for administrative actions.

Citation total for the week

16 Civilian traffic citations
18 Moving traffic citations
4 Non-moving traffic citations
1 Abandoned vehicle notice.

News Notes

From A1

for the new number for approximately 30 days. Immediate contacts are as follows: MSG: 449-1574; OG: 449-1543; XP: 449-1593; PIO: 449-1589; CCA: 449-1506; PA: 449-1527; Protocol: 449-1514; CAG: 449-1524; IG: 449-1556; and Wing UDM: 449-1560.

Attention all service-members living on Oahu —

A Hickam housing analysis to determine future on-base housing needs wraps up today. Don't miss out — your participation is important ... regardless of branch ... whether you live on base or off, are accompanied or not. Please take a moment to complete the survey at: www.airforcehousingurvey.us/. When prompted choose "Hickam AFB" and enter password "hick7195," which is case-sensitive. The survey is anonymous; no personally identifiable information will be retained nor will this survey affect BAH. FAQs about the survey can be found at: <http://www2.hickam.af.mil/units/civilengineersq/index.asp>. For more information, call

Randy Kawakami, 15 CES, at 448-3650.

FTAC course enrollment

— The next FTAC Course will run Monday through Oct. 3. To enroll an Airman, email: stanley.thomas@hickam.af.mil with the individual's rank, full name and squadron by COB today. FTAC is in Hangar 2, Rm. 136. Show time is 7:30 a.m. and the UOD is ABU/BDUs for attendees. Supervisors must accompany their Airmen to the 'Welcome Brief' on the first day. For more information, call Stan Thomas at 448-4643.

Volunteers needed —

The Airman and Family Readiness Center is looking for volunteers to assist with the Deployed/Remote Tour Families' Bingo Night, Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m. The event will be held at the Privatized Community Center. Volunteer duties consist of set-up, take-down, photography, dinner servers, craft/prize tables, sign in and name tags. To volunteer, call Tech. Sgt. Cherie Greene at 449-0300.

Acting Secretary Donley speaks at AFA conference

WASHINGTON (AFP) — From uniforms to deployments, nuclear priorities and the service's future, acting Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley spoke of a variety of topics at the Air Force Association convention here Sept. 15.

"We are providers of tremendous capability of air and space," Secretary Donley said. "All Airmen in every function specialty are contributing. We need to prepare to engage and debate the major issues facing the Air Force."

Some of the major issues he addressed regarded the nuclear mission, the recently deferred tanker deal and Airmen-specific issues such as manpower, force shaping and taking care of families.

"We need to take care of Airmen and families," Secretary Donley said. "We can have the best technology in the world, but our Airmen are the most valuable asset."

He spoke of improvements being made in childcare availability and making sure families of deployed Airmen are receiving the care they need.

He also said that when it comes to uniforms, the focus is now on fixing

problems with the current physical training uniform, Airman Battle Uniform and the jacket for it, the All Purpose Environmental Clothing System.

There will be no new service dress at this time, though future leadership may want to consider it again, he said.

"For now, we need to put our attention to the uniform issues that are affecting our Airmen

now, and that does not include the service dress uniform," he said.

Secretary Donley said the service dress uniform was an issue when he last served as acting secretary in 1993.

"And I want to be clear that my policy on this matter remains the same: any questions on uniforms go to the chief," he said of Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton A. Schwartz, drawing laughs from the audience.

Secretary Donley expressed some disappointment that the tanker deal, which would have refurbished the Air Force's aging fleet of air refuelers, couldn't be resolved as quickly as he hoped, but said he understood and supports Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates of deferring the decision on how to proceed until the next presidential administration is in place.

"With the tanker, seven years of history on this program culminated in a missed opportunity to

begin modernization of an important capability for the joint warfighter," he said. "Eventually, the Air Force and Department of Defense will need to circle back on air-to-air refueling."

Regarding the nuclear mission, he said, the Air Force's first priority is to reinvigorate the nuclear enterprise.

"We established an Air Force nuclear task force in June to review the nuclear mission area from a strategic perspective, including a thorough review of our inspection processes."

Secretary Donley wrapped up his speech by saying he is optimistic that the Air Force will work through the challenges that faces it.

"We will continue to deliver the kind of decisive air, space and cyber power that the American people deserve and expect. And, just as in the past, the Airmen of tomorrow will inherit a force that we decide upon today," he said.



Acting SECAF Michael Donley

CLIMATE, From A1

include 50 percent fewer questions. The survey will also be customized to accommodate major command-specific questions, and will include comment questions so people can express their opinions on issues they feel strongly about.

"This survey should only take about 15 to 20 minutes to complete instead of the 45 to 55 minutes it took to finish the previous surveys," said Dorothy Felberg of AFMA's Air Force Survey Office. "We've had great support in the past and again we're looking for maximum participation."

Once the data are gathered, the results will be briefed to the secretary of

the Air Force and Air Force chief of staff, and then released to the Air Force's unit leaders sometime in early 2009. Technical upgrades to the Air Force Survey System for 2008 will allow commanders to access their reports earlier than in previous years, enabling them to start making improvements immediately.

"Through the survey, people can voice their concerns on issues that directly affect them and their units' mission, with a view on improving the Air Force mission worldwide." Colonel Badger said. "Look for your personal invitation coming to your inbox Oct. 1-8."

SEASONING, From A1

which is part of 624 RSG. "They have bent over backwards to ensure our personnel are trained in 100 percent of their core tasks by the end of their 90-day STP tour."

Since the beginning of 2007, members of the 48 APS have made it their goal to get their Airmen upgraded to a journeyman 5 level in 15 months through the Seasoning Training Program.

So far they've been able to meet that goal.

"If not for the Reserve Seasoning Training Program, I wouldn't have been comfortable with allowing these young Airmen to deploy to Balad," said Colonel Honke. "The

hands-on training and experience they received would normally take any other traditional Reservist more than three years to accomplish."

The length of seasoning training depends on the nature of the career field. Since June 2007, the 48 APS, in conjunction with the 735 AMS, has successfully graduated 10 personnel in the STP. Four of these graduates have deployed in support of the Global War on Terror.

"The Seasoning Training Program enabled me to hit the ground running," said Airman Costa. "While certain things are done differently here, I was able to adapt quickly with the training I had already received."



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jason Epley

Airman 1st Class Shane Costa (left) and Airman 1st Class Dennis Gaxiola push a pallet train off a 60k-loader driven by Senior Airman Derek Dumlao onto a high line dock here Aug. 24. All three Airmen graduated from Leilehua High School in Wahiawa in 2004.

By Dr. Philip Breeze
15th Airlift Wing
Public Affairs director

Resilience could be the hallmark of Senior Airman Sunshine Leon-Guerrero's character.

Born in Japan, to a native Filipino ... graduating from high school in a class full of "military brats," she watched classmates come and go.

"They'd be there in 8th grade, and then you wouldn't see them in ninth, but they'd be back in tenth or eleventh after a few years at Ramstein or Kadena," she said. "We'd just pick up where we left off."

When her desire to become a nurse was dampened by the specter of death during her early studies, she shifted her focus to preventive medicine.

"I was living with my parents, going to community college to become a nurse. But, I found myself getting attached to patients, and it was sad when one of them would

WARRIOR *of the week*

pass away."

Rather than abandon her desire to serve others, she refocused it.

"The Air Force has given me a stable career and a chance to further my education. The feeling of adventure combined with the sense of family is very appealing. I have learned a great deal from my patients, co-workers, family members and friends."

It has also given her a chance to make a positive difference in the lives of her fellow Airmen.

"Airman Leon-Guerrero is a key player and a motivating force in achieving significant improvement in maintaining the hearing conservation pro-



Photo by Dr. Philip Breeze

Sunshine Leon-Guerrero, Hickam's Warrior of the Week, says she sees herself as a master sergeant — possibly a commissioned nurse — in the next five to 10 years.

gram," said Lt. Col. J. Peter R. Pelletier, 15th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron commander.

"She performed more than 1,500 audiograms in the past year with speed and precision.

Her strong leadership, acute management acumen, and technical competence lead to the identification of more than 20 individuals in just the past month who displayed hearing shifts.

"She obtained the appropriate follow-up and assessment of the decreased hearing function which enabled us to distinguish true versus natural shifts in baseline hearing ability. Through foresight and outstanding knowledge, she ensures that Team Hickam remains fit for duty," Lt Col Pelletier said.

The career-minded Airman sees herself as a master sergeant — possibly a commissioned nurse — in the next five

to 10 years, stationed in Japan or Europe, mentoring other young Airmen and guiding their public health careers.

In addition to taking advantage of all that the Air Force has to offer, Airman Guerrero also takes time to give back at the end of the duty day.

"She is actively involved in the community. Through the Asian-Pacific Islander Committee and her superior ability to effectively organize tasks and priorities she enhanced relationships between the military and our civilian community. She has fostered cultural diversity throughout the Wing," said Colonel Pelletier.

When asked what one thing she would change about Hickam Air Force Base, resilience — and prevention — came into play again.

"I enjoy running, and I think it would be a great benefit to all of Team Hickam if the base track were rubberized to help reduce injuries."

Joint patrol provides valuable knowledge

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq (AFP) — It's been more than 30 years since the Vietnam War ended and since the Air Force has been solely responsible for a base's defense in a war zone, but that's all about to change at Joint Base Balad by the end of September.

The Air Force is taking responsibility for base defense from the Army, and to make sure the Airmen are ready for that they performed a joint patrol Sept. 11 with their Army comrades. Operation Lewis and Clark employed more than 200 Soldiers and Airmen outside the wire to perform four dismounted patrols of the near 36-mile perimeter here.

"The purpose of the operation was to clear the zones outside Joint Base Balad and give the Air Force the opportunity to see the ground they'll be operating in," said Army Maj.

David McCulley, 5th Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Battalion operations officer.

"Normally, we do mounted patrols [in vehicles] of the outside perimeter, but a dismounted patrol [on foot] gives a different perspective," Major McCulley said. "Since the Air Force is assuming responsibility of base security, this (operation) gave them a better knowledge of the area they will be operating in."

All Airmen on the patrol agreed that the information received during Operation Lewis and Clark was beneficial.

"The Army has practical application in this area," said Staff Sgt. Johnathon Krueger, 332nd Security Forces Squadron sergeant of the guard. "We are receiving very valuable training, and we plan to take everything we can from it."

Aside from obvious security threats to the base, Soldiers pointed out some that the envi-

Brothers in arms ... on patrol in Iraq



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Aaron Allmon

Soldiers help Air Force Staff Sgt. Johnathon Krueger across a irrigation canal outside Joint Base Balad, Iraq, during Operation Lewis and Clark Sept. 11. Operation Lewis and Clark was a joint patrol in which Air Force security forces Airmen were introduced to Balad's outer perimeter. Since Americans began operating from Balad in 2003, the Army has been responsible for base security.

ronment itself introduces.

"When we go out there, if there is anything that obstructs the observation towers' vision, we'll cut it down or mark it on a map so there is an increased level of perimeter awareness," said Army Staff Sgt. Johnny

Palma, a self-propelled field artillery system mechanic and Operation Lewis and Clark patrol member. "We will update the perimeter maps to provide the Air Force with the most up-to-date, detailed maps possible, so they are not surprised by

anything when they take over."

Since Americans began operating from Joint Base Balad in 2003, the Army has been responsible for base security. The 332nd ESFG will soon be the largest security forces unit deployed to defend an air base.

Air National Guard, Air Force partner for new mission

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFP)

— The Air Force and Air National Guard officials have agreed to establish a temporary mission qualification training detachment for the RC-12 aircraft at Key Field in Meridian, Miss. This mission, conducted by the Mississippi Air National Guard, will help bolster the Department of Defense's intelligence gathering capability in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The RC-12 aircraft is the Air Force's newest manned intelligence, surveillance and recon-

naissance platform (ISR), providing near-real-time ISR. Nearly \$100 million has been obligated to bring up to seven RC-12 aircraft to the base beginning in January 2009.

This mission, designated Project Liberty, will train approximately 1,000 students during the next two years at the 186th Air Refueling Wing, located at Key Field. The 186th ARW will conduct total force mission qualification training for this program, providing the manpower and facilities for the training unit. The 186th ARW will continue performing its current air refueling mission through 2011, operating the KC-135R Stratotanker while conducting Project Liberty training.

"The Air National Guard is excited to be a part of this important mission and to play a critical role in providing this needed capability to today's fight," said Lt. Gen. Craig R. McKinley, director of the Air National Guard.