

## In this week's Kukini



■ New ABS-G tactical ensemble improves capabilities of Airmen working outside the wire with ground forces **A5**

## News Notes

**Hickam Community Housing town hall meeting** — Residents living in Onizuka Village are invited to a Town Hall Monday evening from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the HCH Community Center. Onizuka Phase II-2 construction plans are scheduled to begin in June 2009. Residents can learn more about the relocation process at Monday's meeting. Onizuka Families not able to attend this meeting are encouraged to contact their community manager for information at 423-2300.

**15 CONS closure notice** — The 15th Contracting Squadron will be closed for an official function today. For emergency support, please contact Lt. Col. Phillips at 620-5299 or Erika Eberhart at 620-1191. For more information, call 448-2955.

**Temporary Food Booth Applications** — Any organization that is going to temporarily sell food on Hickam must contact Public Health and fill out a temporary food booth application within three duty days of the event. Public Health is in the clinic (Bldg. 559) on the second floor. For more information, call 448-6340 or 448-6350.

**Legal Office closure notice** — As a result of the base-wide operational readiness exercise (ORE) next week, the legal office will be minimally manned and therefore will not be open for walk-in legal assistance on Monday or Wednesday. Emergency legal assistance will still be available upon request. For more information, call 449-1737.

**Hispanic Heritage Month dinner** — The Hispanic Heritage Month Committee is hosting a dinner on Friday, Oct. 17, at the Officer's Club. Beginning at 6 p.m., enjoy a social hour with an open bar/mariachi band. At 7 p.m., a Hispanic cuisine buffet dinner will be served. Guest speaker is "Soul de Cuba" restaurant co-owner, Mr. Jesus Puerto, followed by DJ entertainment and dancing. Dress is casual attire. Ticket prices are \$15.35 for adults and non-club members (\$2 club discount); \$5 for children ages 7-11; and free for children up to 6 years old. For more information, call Master Sgt. Garcia at 448-3411 or Staff Sgt. Morris at 449-1701.

**Services** B2  
**Crossword** B3  
**Sudoku** B3  
**Hickam History** B3  
**Movies** B4  
**Classifieds** B5-8

# 2008 CFC runs through Oct. 31

By Jeff Nicolay  
 Hickam Kukini editor

Granted, the World Series, the NFL and Halloween — not to mention all the roller-coaster drama on Wall Street — stand to catch most of the headlines from now through the end of the month, but October also marks the Combined Federal Campaign season, a time when CFC campaigns throughout the country and internationally to help raise millions of dollars each year.

"The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign," said Col. Giovanni Tuck, 15th Airlift Wing commander. "Pledges made by military donors — as well as federal civilian and

postal donors — support eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world. I'm proud to be part of this year's effort."

Capt. Joseph Ringer, 15th Security Forces Squadron operations officer and 2008 CFC POC, pointed out that the CFC has much in common with his experience serving in the Air Force.

"As Airmen, we do a great job of taking care of our people," he said. "Now, as Americans, we are afforded the chance to do the same on a much larger playing field."

He also pointed out that the campaign touches thousands of the same people he and other Team Hickam

See CFC, A5



Photo by Master Sgt. Robert Burgess

Col. Giovanni K. Tuck (center), 15th Airlift Wing commander, is flanked by Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Westermeyer, 15 AW/CCC, and Col. Dean Wolford, 15 AW/CV, as signs he his Combined Federal Campaign donation form, while CFC POCs Master Sgt. Daniel Clark (left), 15 CES, and Capt. Joseph Ringer, 15 SFS, look on.

## Critical-care medical teams set to end week-long training today

By Maj. Sam Highley  
 13th Air Force Public Affairs

Critical-care specialists from the Air Force, Army and Navy spent this week training to move seriously ill patients in the Pacific theater at a course set to end today.

The aeromedical evacuation regulating organization for U.S. Pacific Command, 13th Air Force's Theater Patient Movement Requirements Center-Pacific, is hosting the inaugural Joint Medical Attendant Transport Team training course.

The one-week course is a shortened version of the Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's two-week Critical Care Air Transport Team Course and will be taught by the same instructors. Training will focus on the aeromedical



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Stephen Schester

Four U.S. Air Force Airmen transfer a simulated patient onto a C-17 Globemaster aircraft during exercise last year's Pacific Lifeline exercise. A similar course being taught was this week in support of Pacific Command's inaugural Joint Medical Attendant Transport Team training course.

evacuation mission and equipment proficiency skills.

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Lynda Vu, the validating flight surgeon for TPMRC-P, said the 5,300-nau-

tical-mile distance in the theater between Okinawa, Japan and California and the limited divert options across the vast Pacific Ocean pose huge challenges to the safe air transport of critically ill patients. Given these challenges, the Pacific Air Forces surgeon recently began developing safer options for the transport of critically ill patients.

"As a result, we now have dedicated JMATT personnel in Okinawa — our Pacific aeromedical evacuation hub — and we paid for qualified medical personnel from our sister services in South Korea, Guam, Okinawa and Hawaii to attend the formal CCATT course at the Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks City-Base, Texas," Colonel Vu said. "Now, with the mobile JMATT course in Hawaii, we have a way to get that same training while also saving travel expenses and time for all participants."

See JMATT, A5

## PACAF PJs aid injured mariners

Courtesy Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

KADENA AIR BASE, JAPAN — A team of Pacific Air Forces and Air Force Special Operations Command Airmen from Kadena Air Base deployed last Friday to provide medical assistance to two injured mariners aboard a Panamanian freighter 750 nautical miles north of Saipan.

"This is one of the many scenarios Air Force rescue professionals train for, and I'm glad that we were able to respond and provide the medical assistance desperately required by those injured crew members," said Maj. Jason Pifer, commander of the 31st Rescue Squadron. "I am proud of everyone — across both Air Force commands and the other services — who came together to make this event happen."

According to Major Pifer, pararescuemen from the



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Reynaldo Ramon

Pararescuemen of the 31st Rescue Squadron perform water rescue training using an inflatable Zodiac boat in the waters off of Kadena Air Base, Japan. The zodiac was used last Friday to provide medical assistance to two injured mariners aboard a Panamanian freighter 750 nautical miles north of Saipan.

31st Rescue Squadron and members of the 320th Special Tactics Squadron left around 2:30 p.m. local time aboard an MC-130 flown by the 1st

Special Operations squadron. The 320th STS and 1st SOS are both part of the 353rd Special Operations Group, based at Kadena AB. The

31st RQS is part of the 18th Wing.

After a flight that lasted

See RESCUE, A4

## Hazmat 'harvest' set for Nov. 1

By Tom Czerwinski  
 Hickam Kukini staff writer

In an effort to keep hazardous waste from being improperly disposed of on Hickam and surrounding communities, the City and County of Honolulu has scheduled a household hazardous waste collection event for Nov. 1, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Pearl City Industrial Park.

"Hickam residents can drop off items such as lead-acid batteries, propane tanks, solvents, pesticides and aerosol cans, by calling 768-3201," said Dennis Pomo, an environmental engineer with the 15th Civil Engineering Squadron. "Those wishing to drop off household hazardous waste must make the appointment before Oct. 24."

Mr. Pomo added that these services are available by appointment only.

During peak times, he said, when more military families PCS, these abandoned items turn up on base more frequently.

"Moving companies are strict about not packing household hazardous waste such as cleaners, paint, gas cans and propane, so there is an underlying expectation that the government is in the business of hazardous waste disposal for base residents," he said.

These items are potentially harmful to the environment and must never be disposed of anywhere on base.

"This is everyone's problem, illegal dumping of toxic and environmentally unsafe substances is a health risk for all," he said.

Mr. Pomo pointed out that the biggest challenge the base environmental faces households illegally dump

See HAZMAT, A4

## ACTION LINE

### Have you ever wished you could tell your leaders what you think?

As of Wednesday, all Air Force personnel now have the opportunity to "Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow" by filling out the 2008 Air Force Climate Survey.

The purpose of the survey is to assess the opinions and perceptions of Air Force active duty, guard, reserve, and civilian personnel on a wide range of issues, including general satisfaction, the job, and unit performance.

As in past surveys unit leaders will have access to their unit's results and use it to improve their organization and their organization's ability to accomplish the mission. Your input is a very important part of the process. Our goal is to receive honest feedback from the Air Force's most valuable resource — YOU!

The survey has been improved to minimize the length of time required to complete it, while optimizing the amount of information collected. The number of questions has been reduced by approximately 50 percent, and two comment questions have been added to provide an avenue for you to openly express your opinions. There are a few more changes that you will notice in this year's survey.

The Trust in Senior Leadership section was expanded, and a section was added to address the impact of deployment on workload, duty hours, and stress on home station personnel.

Technical upgrades to the Air Force Survey System will allow commanders to access their reports sooner than in previous years, enabling them to promptly take action for improvements.

Maximum participation is crucial in obtaining valuable feedback from your leaders. By taking this survey you can help create positive change. Your answers will directly impact leaders' decisions on issues that affect the Total Force.

Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow!

*The Action Line is your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. I urge you to use the normal chain of command first. If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call. If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response. I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.*

## Diamond Tips

**Low quarter shoes** — Low quarter shoes will be black oxford lace-up style with plain, rounded toe or plain rounded, capped-toe without perforation or design; be smooth or scotch-grained leather or man-made material with a high-gloss or patent finish; not exceed 1/2-inch

thickness in the sole; not exceed 1 inch in heel height (may be a low-wedge heel); and be worn with plain black socks without design (women may wear hose).

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](mailto: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](mailto:hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil).

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

# Joint-basing update...

By Ben Borth  
15th Mission Support Group

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor/Hickam team has developed the following three strategic tenets that would provide overarching guidance in the development of the Joint Base organization:

1) Maintain or enhance warfighter readiness (i.e. all joint-basing decisions affecting our workforce will ensure that our Airmen and Sailors continue to receive the necessary training and professional development to maintain their warfighter readiness posture. This training and development cannot be compromised for the sake of attempting to join functions)

2) 'Effectively' rather than 'efficiently' joint bases (i.e. joint-basing decisions will be made on the basis of limiting substantial changes and avoiding near-term manpower reductions in order to maximize a successful transition and may have to be done at the expense of efficiency)



Ben Borth

3) Efforts to glean efficiencies from joint basing — after we have maintained our warfighter readiness, and after we have succeeded in the joint base transition, we will begin to look for duplications or redundancies that can be eliminated. By

strategically caching vacancies, our goal will be to eliminate vacant positions as opposed to occupied positions.

Both Navy Capt. Richard Kitchens, Commander of Naval Station Pearl Harbor, and Col. Giovanni Tuck, Commander of Hickam Air Force Base, have endorsed this approach and, in fact, these tenets were briefed to Wayne Army, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installation and Environment, who also expressed his support. Our efforts to achieve these goals continues incrementally, and I am happy to report the following:

Last week, the Joint Base Oversight Working Group (JBOWG) briefed both base commanders on the proposed joining of installation support functions. The commanders had some questions that required further research, but essentially supported the proposed constructs.

Airfield Operations, Explosive Ordnance Disposal and certain other core competency organizations will not join. Others, such as the Services Squadron, will join completely. Most other organizations within the Mission Support Group and other Wing Staff organizations will join to varying degrees.

Senior leaders from both Hickam and Pearl Harbor will be attending the second Implementation Review Conference Oct. 15 and 16 in San Antonio, TX, where they will meet with the OSD and senior service representatives to discuss progress on the Phase I joint bases and further guidance for the Phase II bases. Pearl Harbor/Hickam is a Phase II Joint Base with a scheduled completion date of October 2010.

## Know your 'roll' in maintaining bicycle safety on Hickam's roads

By Senior Master Sgt. Benson McCallister  
15th Security Forces Squadron

This summer's high gas prices have persuaded — or perhaps coerced — many members of Team Hickam to ride their bicycles to work, as well as when taking short trips around the base. While bicycles offer a more economical means of transportation, they also present their own traffic and safety concerns. The 15th Security Forces Squadron would like to remind everyone about bicycle safety and the applicable laws. By following a few simple rules, motorists and bicyclists can share Hickam's roadways without incident. Here are a few "road rules" bicyclists and motorists must remember.

The most important thing to know is that the laws that apply to motorized vehicles also apply to bicyclists. Obeying traffic signs and lights, roadway markings and posted speed limits are a few notable examples. There are also several specific differences.

Bicyclists are prohibited from riding on

sidewalks, the Kuntz overpass, and O'Malley Avenue between Apollo Avenue and the Kuntz Avenue exit. Bicycle operators are also prohibited from using any

crosswalk, sidewalk, driveway or any other area not designated as a traffic lane for the purpose of bypassing a traffic control device. Upon approaching an intersection with a crosswalk, bicyclists must dismount and walk the bicycle through the crosswalk.

To put this into perspective, a motor vehicle recently struck a juvenile bicyclist in a crosswalk. Fortunately, the cyclist suffered only received minor bumps and scratches.

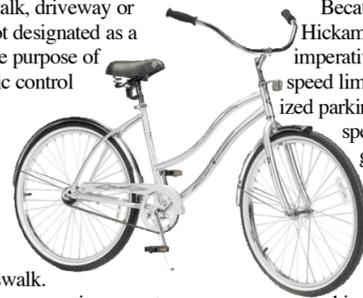
Other locations of concern on Hickam are the areas surrounding Mokulele and Hickam elementary Schools, as well as the bicycle parking area by Aupaka Gate. Before and after school, these areas are congested with vehicular and pedestrian traffic

and an array of non-motorized transportation devices. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure strict adherence to laws and policies in order to prevent accidents or injuries.

Because parking in the vicinity of Hickam schools is limited, it is imperative that vehicle traffic respect speed limits and park only in authorized parking areas. Illegal parking and speeding in these highly congested school areas are contributing factors for disaster. Keep Hickam keiki safe by abiding by all Hickam traffic codes.

Additionally, after sunset, bicycles must be equipped with a front light capable of emitting a beam that can be seen from 200 feet away and a rear red light visible from 200 feet. Finally, always remember to wear your helmet and ensure it is fastened securely.

By following these simple "road rules" you'll help ensure your safe arrival. Have fun, enjoy the ride and remember to be safe! For more information are bicycle safety, call 15 SFS Police Services at 449-1007.



## Patriotic Airman inspires others, self by singing National Anthem

Commentary by Staff Sgt. Sam Hymas  
437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

I come from a very musical family. There were always singing and musical instruments heard in our house when I was growing up. Because of an unfortunate and traumatic piano lesson experience, I avoided joining my family in the noisemaking until I was a teenager. While in high school, I discovered that girls tended to be attracted to guys who could sing, so I somehow found some motivation to overcome my childhood scarring.

I joined choirs, learned some basic music theory and took voice lessons. It wasn't long before I was a pretty confident singer. I continued studying music and voice in college and I even got a girlfriend or two out of the deal.

After I joined the Air Force, I noticed there were opportunities to sing even in the military but it was pretty much only one song: "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Our national anthem is notoriously difficult to sing because of its wide range — an octave and a half. Humourist Richard Armour referred to the song's difficulty in his book "It All Started With Columbus."

"In an attempt to take Baltimore, the British attacked Fort McHenry, which protected the harbor," he wrote. "Bombs were soon bursting in air, rockets were glaring, and all in all it was a moment of great historical interest. During the bombardment, a young lawyer named Francis Scott Key wrote 'The Star-Spangled

Banner,' and when, by the dawn's early light, the British heard it sung, they fled in terror."

I'd never sung the national anthem and, based on its reputation, I was afraid even to attempt it — especially solo and without any accompaniment. So I started practicing in the shower ... for months.

I eventually worked up the courage to audition for singing the national anthem at the base's annual awards ceremony. Luckily, there was someone else who tried out. Staff Sgt. Paul Bright was the other singer and he did a great job. The committee was nice to me and suggested Sergeant Bright and I sing a duet. Sergeant Bright had a great voice and the ability to harmonize on the fly, and he came up with a really nice harmony part for the song.

When the night to sing came I was incredibly nervous, but Sergeant Bright stuck with me and, even though it wasn't as good as when we practiced it, it was good.

Sergeant Bright and I were able to sing about 20 more times in the next 1.5 years, but then he moved to a new duty station and I was on my own. By that time, most of my nervousness had left and I continued to sing the national anthem at various events three or four times a month. By now, I've probably sung it nearly 100 times in front of thousands of people.

As I've mentioned, at first I was very nervous and wasn't able to focus on anything except how much I might mess up if I didn't concentrate. But now I can relax a little bit and I've found that I have an

incredibly inspiring view when I sing "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Most people are able to see the few people in front of them and, if they're lucky, the flag when the national anthem is sung. When singing, I'm in the fortunate position of seeing everyone looking almost right at me.

I have seen rooms full of military members from all five branches silently and respectfully at attention. Never is a room more still than right before I begin.

I have seen grizzled senior NCOs with tears in their eyes. I have seen squadron commanders mouthing the words along with me. I have seen family members of deployed servicemembers huddled close together. I don't know what they're thinking of, but I can see the expressions on their faces and can guess.

I have had crowds of thousands of civilians take up singing the song with me and, standing right in front of them, a wall of American music overwhelms me.

I have seen precision, Air Force and joint service honor guards flawlessly carrying out their solemn duty.

I have performed and practiced this song perhaps thousands of times, but it doesn't get old and I haven't grown tired of it.

I've had a few people throughout the years approach me after a ceremony and say how inspired they were by my singing, but I can't imagine they were more inspired than I was being able to watch the faces of a proud and patriotic people as their national anthem is sung.

# Base officials stress home fire safety

By **Albert D.F. Balderama**  
Chief Fire Inspector, Hickam  
Fire Emergency Services

"A raging fire in the home is the most hideous and destructive threat to the Air Force Family. The double-edged sword of prevention and preparedness can easily slay this beast and ensure the safety of our precious love ones," according to Asst. Fire Chief George C. Crowder

In conjunction with the National Fire Protection Association, Hickam Fire Emergency Services will showcase this year's theme and remind all Airmen to "Prevent Home Fires!"

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports that one out of every four American households believes that they have at least six minutes before a fire in their home will become life-threatening. Real time fire tests conducted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology indicate this time threat can be less than six minutes.

While most people feel safe in their homes, the reality is that home fires are much more common than people may perceive. There were nearly 400,000 home fires reported in 2006 in the United States, resulting in more than 2,500 civilian deaths and 12,500 civilian injuries. Home fires caused 80 percent of civilian deaths and 76 percent of injuries.

Fire Chief Bill Moore Jr. says, "Residential home fires are preventable but it takes a commitment to implement fire prevention vigilance and preparedness." Any emergency will affect one's ability to think clearly, but during a fire, smoke and super-heated fire gases literally inhibits your ability to react. Preparedness is paramount! "When it comes to home fires, minutes, even seconds, can mean the difference between life and death. That's why a well-practiced fire escape plan is vital to your family's safety."

To insure your family's safety, the Hickam Fire Emergency

Services offers this simple executable plan:

- Develop a fire escape plan that identifies two ways out of each room and a family meeting place outside.
- Test your smoke detectors monthly; ensure everyone knows the audible signal.
- Practice EDITH (Exit Drills In The Home) twice a year.
- Stay in the kitchen when frying, grilling or broiling food – don't leave food cooking unattended.
- Establish a three-foot no-child zone at kitchen ranges.
- Replace cracked or damaged electrical cords.
- Use sturdy safe candle holders – never leave lit candles unattended.
- Dispose of smoking material properly.
- Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.
- Store flammable liquids such as gasoline in approved safety cans.

See **FIRE, A6**



Photo courtesy of Hickam Fire Department

**While most people feel safe in their home, the reality is that home fires are much more common than most people may perceive. In 2006, there were nearly 400,000 home fires reported in the U.S., resulting in more than 2,500 civilian deaths and 12,500 civilian injuries.**

## Crime Scene

### Theft of unsecured personal property

An active-duty E-7 assigned to PACAF reported the theft of personal property on Kiele Place. The case is

currently under investigation.

### Theft of unsecured personal property

The spouse of an E-7 assigned to the U.S. Army reported the theft of personal property on Kiele Place. The case is currently under investigation.

### DUI

A civilian was detained

at Bldg. 188/Main Gate for operating a vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant. The case was forwarded to HPD.

### Citation total for the week

28 Civilian traffic citations  
67 Moving traffic citations  
5 Non-moving traffic citations  
8 Abandoned vehicle notices.



## RESCUE, From A1

more than four hours, a total of six Airmen performed a freefall jump into the Pacific Ocean from 3,500 feet around 7 p.m.

Using two RAMZ, or Riggable Alternate Method Zodiac packages, consisting of inflatable zodiac boats and engines, the team made contact with the freighter and boarded it around 10 p.m.

Major Pifer noted that the freighter's crew was mostly Ukrainian, but the ship's captain was able to communicate in English with the rescue team.

The Pararescuemen and

Special Tactics Airmen immediately began providing medical aid to the two injured crewmembers, one in critical condition with head injuries.

"The Airmen stayed in constant contact with flight doctors at Kadena as they worked to stabilize the critical patient," said the major. "During the course of the operation, a KC-135 from the 909th Air Refueling Squadron refueled the MC-130 which subsequently dropped re-supply bundles for the Airmen on board the freighter."

The Airmen stayed on

board the ship providing medical assistance to the injured crewmembers until they were evacuated to a hospital on Guam, according to the U.S. Coast Guard.

Air Force pararescuemen — or PJs — are the only Department of Defense specialty specifically trained and equipped to conduct conventional or unconventional rescue operations. Their primary function is to deploy in any environment as a personnel recovery specialist, to authenticate, extract, treat, stabilize and evacuate injured personnel.

## HAZMAT, From A1

hazardous waste is how to dispose of it properly. It's always more costly after the fact, he added.

The environmental flight gets reports of items that Airmen have illegally dumped anywhere from the recycling center, Firestone, the Airmen's Attic and the thrift shop drop-off points and most any dumpster on base.

"At a certain point in time we (the base) as a land owner have to assume the responsibility for abandoned household waste and the consequences are staggering" he said.

It is estimated that it costs the wing anywhere from few hundred to a few thousand dollars per incident. Mr. Pomo added, "We need to continually educate and re-educate the base

populace to follow the guidelines for properly getting rid of all these items."

For more information on household hazardous waste, please visit the City and County of Honolulu's Web site at [http://www.opala.org/solid\\_waste](http://www.opala.org/solid_waste), or contact Mr. Mark Petersen at 449-3179 or by email at [mark.petersen@hickam.af.mil](mailto:mark.petersen@hickam.af.mil).



Photo by Tom Czerwinski

**The environmental flight gets reports of items that Airmen have illegally dumped anywhere from the recycling center, Firestone, the Airmen's Attic and the thrift shop drop-off points and most dumpsters on base.**

# New battle gear promises to boost capabilities for combat Airmen

By Staff Sgt.

**Andrea Thacker**

Air Forces Central Public Affairs — Combined Air and Space Operations Center

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFP) — Battlefield Airmen will soon receive a new equipment item that will improve their ability to execute their combat duties.

The new airman battle system-ground is a tactical ensemble, or equipment item, for Airmen who perform their mission outside the wire in close coordination with ground forces.

“It will provide Airmen with the right level of safety combined with a fully functional, tactically proficient ensemble, thereby, increasing their confidence and ability to perform their mission,” said Chief Master Sgt. Scott Dearduff, the 9th Air Force

and Air Forces Central command chief.

Airmen are operating outside the wire in an increasing number of ground-centric traditional and nontraditional Air Force missions. The ABS-G was created to fulfill an urgent operational need to enable Airmen to function effectively in ground combat operations.

“The safety and confidence provided to our ground combat Airmen from the development of the ABS-G is a key ‘outside-the-wire’ priority,” said Lt. Gen. Gary L. North, the Air Forces Central commander.

“Today, more than ever, we have Airmen conducting operations in the ground battle space,” General North said. “Our effort to provide them with our airman ground combat ensemble provides them with the highest level of util-

ty, comfort and protection. This is key to our ability to work outside the wire in an ensemble that is optimized for the environment our Airmen are facing.”

Traditional battlefield Airmen who had experience operating outside the wire contributed to the ABS-G development by providing suggestions and feedback during the first prototype phase.

The ensemble was designed with the tactical configuration in mind, said Col. Lawrence Jackson II, the Air Forces Central expeditionary ground combat support adviser.

“We spoke to members in the field to find out what changes would be tactically efficient. These inputs guided the design,” he said.

The airman battle ensemble is composed of the coat, pants and battle shirt. It is basically

a tactical, fire-resistant adaptation of the current ABU. The ABE is the core of the ABS-G.

“It wasn’t designed to replace the airman battle uniform,” Chief Dearduff said. “It was designed to give us a fire-retardant tactical ensemble that is fully integrated through multiple layers of clothing and equipment to provide maximum fire protection, warmth and tactical functionality.”

**A battlefield Airmen stands guard wearing the new airman battle system-ground ensemble. The ABS-G provides battlefield Airmen with fire resistance and tactical integration with body armor. Distribution will begin in February, 2009, and it will most likely be in testing phase for 18 to 24 months.**

U.S. Air Force photo



## SPECIAL NOTICE

The 2008 Consumer Confidence Report of Tap Water Quality for Hickam Air Force Base is available online at: <http://www2.hickam.af.mil/>. Click on “2008 Tap Water Report” in the Special Interest Items box in the center column.

## JMATT, From A1

Current JMATT personnel are located in Okinawa, Guam and Hawaii, providing easy accessibility of trained critical-care medical attendants for most of the critical patients originating from the PACOM theater, Colonel Vu said.

“This inaugural JMATT class will add the clinical expertise of another 24 critical-care physicians, nurses and technicians to PACOM’s arse-

nal of specialized aeromedical attendants,” she said.

In addition to training U.S. Airmen, Soldiers and Sailors, three civilian members of Hawaii’s Disaster Medical Assistance Team and two Royal Australian Air Force physicians will attend.

Colonel Vu said additional support for this course was provided by many agencies including active duty Air Force

and Army units, Hawaii Air National Guard units, and a Hawaii Air Force Reserve unit.

“Making this course as successful as possible has required the joint efforts of personnel from multiple agencies,” Colonel Vu said. “We would not be able to provide such a broad, high quality experience for our participants without the help from our joint colleagues.”

## CFC, From A1

members serve with on a daily basis.

“The CFC is a great medium for service members to continue serving and give back to the community,” he said. “This proves that the U.S. military and federal employees not only contribute globally, but provide much needed help back home.”

The captain added that contributing to the CFC is easy for

Team Hickam members.

“Eligible charitable organizations are allowed to solicit employees of the federal government,” he said. “Contributions can be made in the form of cash, check or payroll deduction.”

For information on the Combined Federal Campaign and how you can contribute, log on to the CFC Web site at <http://www.opm.gov/CFC/>.

## International Space Station conducts tests for Air Force

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFP) – Air Force Research Laboratory officials here recently partnered with NASA to conduct materials experiments aboard the International Space Station.

The project incorporates 500 materials samples into two suitcase-like containers attached to the exterior of the International Space Station.

The containers are fully opened and folded back to expose them to atomic oxygen bombardment, solar radiation, extreme temperature changes, and other severe space environmental factors. They will remain in that configuration until retrieved by International Space Station astronauts and brought back to Earth aboard a space shuttle.

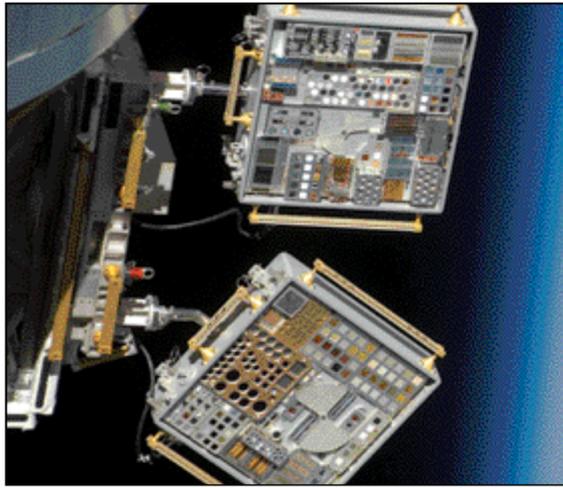
The International Space Station provides a tremendous opportunity to demonstrate and qualify promising new materi-

als that may offer weight, performance and cost savings benefits, and to re-qualify existing materials, said Shane Juhl, an engineer at AFRL and current program manager for the Materials on the International Space Station Experiment program, known as MISSE.

“Due to the limited number of qualified materials for space, manufacturers tend to build spacecraft using existing qualified materials,” Mr. Juhl said. “MISSE offers a cost-effective means for testing new materials and requalifying existing ones whose suppliers or processing methods have undergone change over time.”

“No single piece of equipment or facility currently exists that can simultaneously expose materials to all the damaging environmental effects of space,” Mr. Juhl said. “In the laboratory, samples can be exposed to only a limited number of simulated environments at a time. In space — the ultimate testing environment — samples are exposed to all the harsh realities of the space environment at once.”

## Living in the material world



U.S. Air Force photo

**NASA recently partnered with Air Force Research Laboratory officials from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, to conduct materials experiments aboard the International Space Station. The Materials on the International Space Station Experiment program exposes items in suitcase-sized containers to orbit before returning them to Earth aboard the space shuttle. Pictured is MISSE 6A and 6B.**

MISSE 6 is composed of two containers and incorporates 40 samples from AFRL, including

the eight active experiments. Officials say a seventh deployment is in the planning phase.

## Homeland Security boosts required documentation to replace, renew IDs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) — Homeland Security Directive 12 now requires retirees and family members seeking to renew or replace a military identification card to provide two types of ID.

Retirees and family members needing identification cards must have two of the following types of current identification, one of which must include a photo:

- Driver's license or ID issued by a state or outlying U.S. commonwealth or possession
- ID card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities
- School ID card with a photograph
- Voter's registration card
- U.S. military ID card
- U.S. passport

- Certificate of U.S. citizenship
- Certificate of naturalization.

For people younger than 18, who are unable to present a document previously listed, they may bring:

- School record or report card
- Clinic, doctor or hospital record
- Day-care or nursery school record.

The listing above is not all inclusive. A list of acceptable documents can be found at <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/I-9.pdf>, Page 4.

Before visiting a military ID card issuing facility, people may want to call first to determine what specific documents may be required, and to verify the process to renew or replace an ID card. For contact information and the location of the nearest ID card issuing facility, visit <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rs/owa/home>. On this Web site, people can search by city, state or ZIP code.

## FIRE, From A3

• Test and inspect holiday decorative lights – unplug if you leave the house.

• Water your live Christmas trees and immediately dispose of brown dried trees.

• Treat your family to a professional fireworks display at designated locations.

• Shut off propane tank valves on your grill when you finish.

• Include disabled persons in your fire prevention planning.

• Some children and adults may not be awakened by the sound of the smoke detector – prepare to provide assistance.

Executing sound home fire prevention practices is a never

ending commitment to preserving our most precious resource, the Air Force Family. While this year's theme is “Prevent Home Fires,” we want the Hickam Ohana to be prepared. Currently, only 35 percent of U.S. households have a well-practiced plan in place for escaping home fires. Hickam Fire Emergency Services encourages everyone to make a fire escape plan and practice it. There is an opportunity for individuals and communities to join together to promote fire safety and be a part of The Great American Fire Drill. For more information you can visit

[www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org) or [www.sparky.org](http://www.sparky.org).

During the month of October Hickam FES will be visiting Hickam, Mokulele and Nimitz Elementary Schools. Firefighters will be teaching students about; home escape plans; Stop, Drop and Roll; recognizing the sound of your smoke detector; calling for help via 911; and much more. The Hickam FES will also conduct a fire vehicle display/demonstration at the BXTRA on Saturday 11 Oct 2008 from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Fire equipment from State, Federal, DoD and City agencies will be

on display. The awesome Annual Fire Prevention Week Parade will make its way through Hickam next Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. Starting point for the housing occupants is Halehaka Street and Ohana Nui Circle with the parade ending at Beard and 8th Street. Due to major current housing construction projects the parade will not enter Onizuka Village at Apollo and Gemini Ave. Each Hickam Community Housing household received a map of the parade route and activities schedule. Check out the Commander's Channel for more informative fire prevention messages.

