

In this week's Kukini



■ The PACAF Commander encourages contributing to the Air Force Assistance Fund **A2**

News Notes

Fitness Center power outage

— The Hickam Fitness Center will experience a power outage today, Friday, March 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. The center will be closed during the power outage, but will reopen from 4 to 10:30 p.m. Call 448-4640.

Home Front Hero ceremony

— This event is to recognize children whose parents have been deployed, are on a remote tour or TDY for 90 or more days. Those left behind serve as "Home Front Heroes." The ceremony will be held March 27, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., at the Airman & Family Readiness Center. Applications are located at <http://www2.hickam.af.mil/units/15mssaaf>. Applications must be submitted by today, Friday, March 20 in order for a child to receive a certificate and medal. Call 449-0300.

Commissary closing early

— Hickam Commissary will be closing early on Tuesday, March 24 to conduct Formal Annual Inventory. Hours of operation on Tuesday will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will resume normal operating hours (9 a.m. to 8 p.m.) the following day. Contact Mr. Reynaldo Andres, Assistant Store Director at 449-1363 ext. 304.

No bicycles zones

— Here is a friendly reminder of the no bicycle zones on Hickam Air Force Base. Bicycles are prohibited at the BX complex area, Mokulele Pedestrian overpass, Kuntz Avenue overpass and O'Malley Boulevard. For those interested in biking tips, there's a limited number of the state "Bicycle Regulations and Illustrated Safety Tips" in the Safety Office. The booklet can also be picked up at any DMV office.

Special Olympics needs volunteers

— Special Olympics of Hawaii is hosting its first ever Polar Plunge on March 28. Those interested can contact TSgt Curran (james.curran@hickam.af.mil) or A1C Sanchez-Graves (christina.sanchez-graves@hickam.af.mil) for information.

Air Force Spouse 101: Heart Link

— This is scheduled March 27, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Airman & Family Readiness

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Upcoming workshop to cover Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam

By Glen Bailey
Joint Basing Oversight Working Group

On March 24-27, the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) will conduct a Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) MOA Workshop at the Navy's Ford Island Conference Center.

The purpose of this workshop is to validate the MOA drawn up between the supporting (Navy) and supported (Air Force) Components to provide installation support at (the future) Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The MOA workshop is a primary step toward getting the completed MOA up to the Component Vice Chiefs of Staff for approval. Representatives from Office of the Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environmental), HQ AF, Commander Navy Installations, PACAF, Navy Region Hawaii, Naval Station Pearl Harbor and 15 Airlift Wing will participate.

Over the past 2-1/2 years, our two

bases have worked closely together to do the research, planning, and develop interface actions that will allow seamless execution as we merge all of our installation support functions under the new Joint Base Commander.

These planning actions will directly affect the majority of our 15th Mission Support Group and a small portion of other 15 Airlift Wing civilian and military employees when they transfer or become imbedded into the Navy led Joint Base construct.

As we implement our plan there should be little change in the level of service provided to our 65 AF tenants when they become either supported or remain in tenant status after joining.

OSD and reps from Service HQs will moderate and assist the JBPHH team with validating the Memorandum of Agreement which describes the Joint Base: organization, resourcing, manpower, real property, budget, and performance standards.

During the workshop the OSD team will work with each Functional

Working Group on a prearranged schedule to facilitate issues that surfaced prior to the workshop and develop consensus on way ahead.

Navy Station Pearl Harbor, 15 Airlift Wing, Navy Region Hawaii, NAVFAC Hawaii, and FISC PH Functional Working Group leads have been working hard over the past several months in preparation for the MOA workshop.

Our JBPHH MOA will be based on the three overarching tenants that apply to all Joint Basing actions at JBPHH. They are:

1. Maintain or enhance Warfighter capability
2. Ensure successful and effective integration
3. Harvest efficiencies

Operating procedures and business rules for applicable functional areas will be documented in separate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), which shall follow a standard format approved by the Joint Base Partnership

Council (JBPC). Additionally, we are actively working an Implementation Plan that will merge the 42 functional areas performing installation support into the new Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam organization between Feb. 1, 2010 and 1 Oct. 1, 2010. We will reach full operational capability on Oct. 1, 2010.

15 Airlift Wing Commander Col Giovanni Tuck and Commander of Naval Station Pearl Harbor Capt Richard Kitchens will be in attendance at the MOA Workshop to give hands-on presence throughout the week.

In the near future employees, commanders, tenants, and other interested parties will be invited to attend a series of town hall style briefings that will go into more detail of this initiative.

For further workshop information, the Navy contact is Ms. Ann Hanson at 473-0840 ext. 232, e-mail ann.hanson@navy.mil, and for the Air Force is Mr. Alan Yoza at 449-1594, e-mail allan.yoza@hickam.af.mil.

Visit to Hickam opens window to the past for returning Airman

By Staff Sgt. Erin Smith
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

He ran a trembling hand over the words, "PFC Jack W. Fox." Then stood up, stepped back and rendered a long, slow salute.

"He was a great soldier," said Henry Heim, Hickam Airfield attack survivor,

as he glanced at the memorial with tears in his eyes. "I knew the other guys, every one of them, but he was a buddy — a real buddy."

More than 60 years after the attack on Pearl Harbor and Hickam Airfield, Mr. Heim, who currently resides in New Cumberland, Penn., returned to Hawaii and stepped back in time, sharing his

story and an integral part of Air Force history.

"I don't know if I have the intelligence or the vocabulary to tell you how great it feels," he said of his return to Hickam. "It's so wonderful. And it's still sad. I try my best not to break down, but it's something. I not only look at new

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Above, Henry Heim visits the memorial at the main flag pole to place a lei and salute his fallen friends, lost on Dec. 7, 1941. Below left, Mr. Heim visits the hangar/flightline area, taking in all the changes. Below right, Mr. Heim talks to Hempfield Area High School students outside where he used to live, which is now PACAF HQ.

Chris Aguinaldo photos



Helping warriors to heal

By Chris Aguinaldo
Hickam Kukini Editor

For many returning warriors, coming back after deployment is a welcome experience. But for some, adjusting to life here can be a challenge — and leadership, family and friends need to be involved, said Dr. Bridget Cantrell, psychologist. She is visiting various bases in PACAF and recently spoke at Hickam AFB at the Airman & Family Readiness Center.

"Everyone is affected. No one leaves unscathed when you leave a war zone," said Cantrell, who counsels war veterans from all eras and their family members.

"I've been working with military personnel for over 20 years," said Dr. Cantrell, one of a small number of specially selected and trained mental health providers for the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Program.

In addition to an increase of domestic violence, failed relationships and money and legal problems related to PTSD, it could lead to the greatest loss of all through suicide. She is pleased people are taking advantage of the Department of Veteran's Affairs suicide prevention hotline (1-800-273-TALK). She reminds Airmen that there are great many resources available, including treatment programs and chaplains, for those having a tough time back home.

Dr. Cantrell is visiting other bases in March, including Yokota, Misawa and Kadena. She also has a book out this month, "Souls Under Siege: The Effects of Multiple Troop Deployments — and How to Weather the Storm." For information and links to resources, see www.heartstowardhome.com.



Dr. Bridget Cantrell

Taking care of our own through AFAF

By Gen Carrol H. "Howie" Chandler
Pacific Air Forces
Commander

I am most proud of the priority we place on taking care of our fellow Airmen and their families. A great example of taking care of our own is the Air Force Assistance Fund (AFAF) annual fundraising effort.

Through the AFAF, the Air Force Village Foundation, Air Force Aid Society, LeMay Foundation and the Air Force Enlisted Village provide tangible support every day to Active Duty, Reserve and Guard members as well as retirees and dependents. This financial assistance takes on many different forms such as help during emergencies, help with educational needs, or securing retirement homes for widows or widowers of Air Force members.

Contributions through the AFAF are among the best investments we can make in our own community. In 2007, PACAF Airmen pledged \$619,000 to the overall AFAF campaign while receiving back over \$1.6 million in Air Force Aid Society assistance



Gen Carrol H. "Howie" Chandler

during that same year. Impressive figures, but consider this: Just three of 10 Airmen contribute to AFAF. We could do much more for our wingmen with even a modest increase in participation.

Eva-Marie and I ask each of you to consider joining us this year in supporting the AFAF. Whether you chose to participate or not, know that we deeply appreciate all you do for our nation and our Air Force. We are the greatest Air Force in the world and will remain so because of the spirit of our Airmen and our commitment to one another and the mission.

Duo of Hickam Airmen leave for 'Tops in Blue' tomorrow

By Chris Aguinaldo
Hickam Kukini editor

Tomorrow, two Hickam Airmen leave for the better part of the year to serve as ambassadors of aloha in Tops in Blue.

Tech Sgt Alison Maldonado, 204th Airlift Squadron, Hawaii Air National Guard and Airman 1st Class Shane Jones, 15 CS, join the morale-boosting team of Airmen.



Courtesy photo
Tech Sgt Alison Maldonado

"This has been an 18-year journey to get to this moment," shared an excited TSgt Maldonado, who will perform as a vocalist.

She caught Tops in Blue in 1991 and said she was "completely blown away by the talent I saw. The show was everything I loved about entertaining."

"And to top that off, each member was volunteering to be on this one year tour," she said. The TIB performers get no additional compensation and are on Permissive TDY to be part of the show.

She looks forward to being part of the experience. "Our main job will be entertaining the troops, their families and

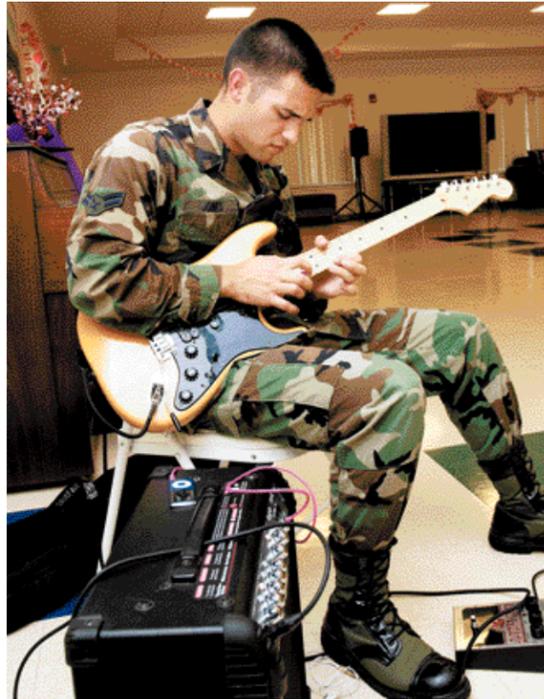


Photo by Chris Aguinaldo

A1C Shane Jones sizzles as he plays some Santana. After catching Tops in Blue while stationed in Korea, he said he knew he wanted to be part of it.

the community. We have a lot of Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines out there sacrificing their lives so we can be at home and feel safe. In return they don't ask us for much... they just want a respite every now and then."

One of those who had

"respite" at at TIB show was A1C Jones. "I really enjoy music and saw them play in Korea in 2007."

"They made me feel like I was home again. I was homesick," said the guitarist, who was at Osan AB at the time. "I wanted to be part of that."

He said he's looking forward to performing with TSgt Maldonado and the other Airmen he met while auditioning for TIB. "That was really fun and we all had a common goal. I think it's going to be a good experience."

Already, he's seen the kind of discipline needed to be part of the experience, with the performers functioning as their own road crew putting up and breaking down the sets and lighting.

"This is truly a military entertainment squad, with a full-blown work ethic."

He hopes he can help give the same kind of boost to Airmen that he needed overseas. "They made me forget I was so far from home."

The Hickam personnel are part of 31 Airmen chosen for the Tops in Blue team for 2009.

To get there, they competed against other talented Airmen from around the force. For 10 days, 80 Air Force singers, dancers, musicians and comedians competed for the Tops in Blue slots during January's Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

After completing a training regimen at Lackland AFB, the 2009 touring squad will hit the road in May for a 10-month tour that includes more than 120 shows in more than 20 countries.

DIAMOND TIPS

Shirt sleeves — BDU shirt sleeves may be rolled up with material matching the shirts and touching or coming within one inch of the forearm when bent at a 90-degree angle.



Questions? Contact your First Sergeant

Got Good News?

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

caguinal@honolulu.gannett.com

Deadline for article submission is end of day Friday for next Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300-500 words in length, and e-mailed to caguinal@honolulu.gannett.com.

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



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Cohen A. Young

Thousands see Hickam C-17

AVALON AIRPORT, Victoria, Australia — Thousands show up to take a look at a C-17 from the 535th Airlift Squadron, 15th Airlift Wing, Hickam Air Force Base, at the 2009 Australian International Airshow March 15. It was one of 11 U.S. military aircraft participating. The Hickam team was also awarded Best Large Aircraft Demo.

Make sure you're licensed to drive Air Force vehicle before heading out

By Tech Sgt Jason Redfern
15th Logistics Readiness Squadron

So there you are, getting the mission done. You just got tasked to go from your location to another unit to pick-up some important safety gear for your team. Your supervisor hands you the keys to your unit's government pick-up truck and sends you on your way. You don't even think twice and jump in the vehicle and go to collect the important gear.

But take a moment to ask, are you legally licensed to drive an Air Force owned/leased/rented vehicle with only your state license?

The answer is no. As of November, all vehicle operators must have a valid AF Form 2293 to operate government vehicles (Non-Appropriated Funds (NAF), General Services Administration (GSA), Air Force owned, leased, or rented). According to AFI 24-301, Vehicle Operations, this applies to all military and civilian vehicle operators.

So how can you become legal to oper-



Courtesy photo

Before hopping in that USAF truck or car, think if you're licensed to drive that vehicle. A Motor Vehicle Operator Identification Card is needed to take the wheel.

USAFA Motor Vehicle Operator Identification Card. To apply for a license however, you must have all the appropriate documentation:

- Valid motor vehicle license issued in any of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or a similar licensing jurisdiction
- Completed and signed AF Form 171, Request for Driver's Training and Addition to U.S. Government Driver's License, from unit VCO/VCNCO or Commander
- Valid Geneva Conventions Identification Card (USAF military ID)

If you have any questions or concerns about government motor vehicle operator licensing, do not hesitate to contact the Operator Records and Licensing section at 448-4254.

ate a government motor vehicle? Head to the Operator Records and Licensing (OR&L) section in Bldg 2003 on Hickam AFB and get issued an AF Form 2293,

Airmen serve Oahu community during Jungle Day

By Tech. Sgt. Kerry Jackson
13th Air Force Public Affairs

Continuing their efforts to serve and give back to the Oahu community, more than 150 13th Air Force Airmen volunteered in communities throughout Oahu during Jungle Day last Friday, on March 13.

Jungle Day, traditionally observed on Friday the 13th, provided 13th AF Airmen a number of opportunities for community service. Airmen volunteered at the River of Life Mission and visited children at the Kalihi Elementary School. They also spent time cleaning trash and drift wood from Waimanalo Bay, Blaisdell Bike Park and Ala Moana Beach Park.

"Today is all about service; it's about giving of ourselves," said Lt.



U.S. Air Force photo by Oscar A. Hernandez

From foreground, Master Sgt. Donavon Schaefer, Airman 1st Class Darrin Potter, Maj. Matthew Stratton and Airman Chris Yanchun lift a large driftwood log from the rocky shoreline along Ala Moana Beach Park in Honolulu on March 13. The Airmen volunteered for the beach clean-up as part of 13th Air Force's Jungle Day, a tradition for the Hickam Air Force Base unit that occurs every Friday the 13th

Gen. Chip Utterback, the 13th AF commander, to the volunteers before the day's activities. "You will serve in soup kitchens that help people who three months ago had a house; you will visit classrooms where our future sits and represent to them responsibility, education, and leadership; and hopefully you'll take away something valuable through your service to others."

During a visit to the River Life Mission, Airmen prepared and served meals to those in need. They also took time to meet the people there.

"The success of the River Life Mission depends on the generous donations and volunteer efforts of people who make service to others a priority," said James Webb, the River of Life Mission manager. "We are

thankful that Hickam Airmen decided to serve at River Life Mission, and we continue to pray for them and their safety."

Thirteenth AF has observed Jungle Day on Oahu since 2007. It is a tradition that originated when the organization was assigned to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. Jungle Day is intended as a day to bring 13th AF Airmen together through both recreational activities and community service.

Thirteenth AF is responsible for command, control and execution of air, space, and information operations capabilities across the full range of military operations in the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility, excluding the Korea theater of operations.

Thefts from vehicles on rise

By SSgt Brandon Wylie
15th Security Forces Squadron

In recent weeks, the No. 1 crime reported to Security Forces has been "theft from vehicle." In fact, 14 theft from vehicle cases have been reported over the past eight weeks, and it is believed the number of unreported incidents climbs significantly higher. The common denominator in this recent crime trend is unsecured vehicles.

Why is this happening on our base? It's simple: thieves steal and unsecured vehicles — containing high value items — present a very appealing opportunity.

The 15th Security Forces Squadron has partnered with

Hickam Community Housing (HCH) to curb this emerging theft from vehicle crime trend.

Specifically, Security Forces has targeted areas vulnerable to this type of crime — large parking lots, base housing and heavily trafficked areas — with increased patrols. HCH will begin distributing flyers around base housing that cover simple crime prevention tips designed to prevent you from becoming the next victim.

But we need your help to be successful. An unsecured vehicle presents a target of opportunity for thieves, and it only takes a thief a few seconds to rifle through your car and steal your valuables.

Here's what you can do to reduce the risks:

- Lock your vehicle when leaving it unattended (none of the cases reported to 15 SFS involved forced entry);
- Never leave valuables in your vehicle;
- Secure items out of sight prior to reaching your destination;
- Never secure your wallet or purse in the glove box or trunk; and
- Be vigilant for suspicious persons in parking lots.

Do your part to reduce crime on our base and secure your vehicles. As always, if you witness a crime or notice anything suspicious, please call Hickam Crimestop at 449-COPS (2677).

Crime Scene

Shoplifting at BX

Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives observed a military family member of an Airman attempting to remove merchandise totaling \$19.90 without rendering payment. The individual will have his/her AAFES privileges revoked for one year and is awaiting a magistrate hearing.

Shoplifting at BX

Army Air Force Exchange

Service store detectives observed a military family member of an Airman attempting to remove merchandise totaling \$67.99 without rendering payment. The individual will have his/her AAFES privileges revoked for one year and is awaiting a magistrate hearing.

Shoplifting at BX

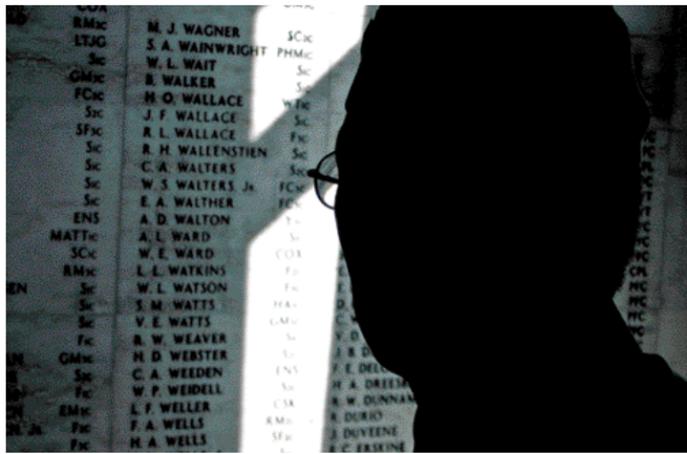
Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives observed a military family member of an Airman attempting to remove merchandise totaling \$3.50 without payment. The individual will have AAFES privileges revoked for one year and is awaiting a juvenile magistrate hearing.

Driving under influence

A Soldier was detained at the main gate for operating a vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant with a blood alcohol content of 0.9. The individual received a Notice of Suspension/Revocation of Installation Driving Privileges and was charged with an Article 111/Driving Under the Influence of an intoxicant.

Citations for March 2-16

Four abandoned vehicle notices
Seven civilian traffic citations
23 moving traffic citations
Zero non-moving traffic citations



Far left, Henry Heim and Hempfield Area High School students present a wreath at the Arizona Memorial.

Left, Mr. Heim surveys the names of those lost on Dec. 7.

Below, Mr. Heim solemnly gazes toward the water after setting foot on the Arizona Memorial.

Chris Aguinaldo photos

VETERAN, From A1

people but what I do is I see my friends, like at that wall over there. When I saw his name and I touched it, I [saw] him.”

Mr. Heim said that seeing his friends brought back memories and gave him a chance to pay his final respects.

“You know what, I’m [going to] get a chance to say hello again to my brothers, the men I was with, and I’m going to say goodbye to them too,” he said.

His goodbyes not only included his friends at Hickam but also a hometown friend, Navy Seaman 1st Class Paul Shiley, who was killed aboard the USS Arizona, Dec. 7, 1941. The first leg of Mr. Heim’s journey was a trip to the USS Arizona for the opportunity to do just that.

“We have a very special person on board today,” said Daniel Martinez, Arizona Memorial Park ranger, as the water trolley floated toward the Arizona Memorial. “Private First Class [Henry] Heim was here on Dec. 7, 1941 and he’s coming to say goodbye to a friend today, Seaman 1st Class Paul Shiley, who’s still serving aboard the USS Arizona.”

Seaman 1st Class Shiley had invited Mr. Heim to the Arizona just a week prior to Dec. 7 to show him where he lived. The next weekend, on Dec. 7, Seaman 1st Class Shiley had planned to visit the barracks at Hickam Field but never made that trip. The morning of Dec. 7, Mr. Heim was in the barracks writing a letter to his brother. No sooner than he’d written “Dec. 7, 1941,” he heard airplanes and explosions.

“I ran up to the window and I started to look out and about that time I caught something out of the corner of my eye,” he said. “I looked over and here comes this plane, and he’s shooting. Not from the



front, he had a gunner. He shot through the screening as I hit the floor.”

After the Japanese dropped a bomb on the barracks, it felt like a trap in there. Mr. Heim said that it was a chaotic trying to get out. Once he escaped, the 19-year-old ran up the street to the hangars, trying to get to the armory.

“I wanted to get in, get a machine gun and ammunition and put it in my airplane, which I found out later, wasn’t flyable,” he said.

It was inside what is now Hangar 9 that he was injured by the concussion of a 500-pound bomb nearby.

“I ran into [the] hangar and a guy was running at me. He went to yell something and, ‘Boom!’ That’s the last thing I remember,” he said. “I came to and there was blood all over the place. Then my attitude changed — I got mad.”

Wounded from the blast and bleeding from the mouth, he continued on toward a B-18 parked outside the hangar, put his gun in the nose turret and started firing back at the Japanese.

“They must have got mad too,” he said, “Because they raked up one side of the plane and down the other. The plexiglass front of the plane shattered and the plane caught fire.”

He got out quickly and ran

toward the irrigation ditch, as planes continued passing overhead.

“There were a couple of times where I could feel the shutter of the bullets hitting the ground alongside me and kicking up dirt into my face and my arm,” he reminisced. “After being strafed three times, I finally got to the irrigation ditch and I thought I was safe but I wasn’t because this one time, this one airplane came down strafing the irrigation ditch.”

Once the attack ceased, he ran to the hospital to get help.

“When I got in the door, I heard screaming,” he said. Upon seeing hundreds of injured men, “I figured I wasn’t that bad after all.”

As he was walking away from the medical group, a lieutenant picked him up in a truck and took Heim and others out to the beach to spend the night.

“He told us, ‘You won’t retreat. You will fight to the death,’” Mr. Heim said. “I laid

down. The [jaw] wound hurt so bad.”

At daybreak, he heard planes flying toward the base again.

“I was lying against an officers house,” he said. “I set up my bayonet then cried like a baby. I was scared. I thought this was my last day.”

But to his relief, they were U.S. Navy planes.

“I went and got help,” he said. “My tongue was split and my molars were up in my gums. It was painful.”

Mr. Heim, who was voted ‘least likely to succeed’ in his high school class, went on to earn his pilot wings on Nov. 25, 1942, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1944. After flying 78 combat missions in World War II and the Korean War, he separated from the Air Force as a major.

“It motivated me as much as anything,” he said of his senior class superlative. “I never thought I would ever live beyond that first day [Dec. 7, 1941]. And even after

that, there were days, not necessarily here, but once I became a pilot.”

Surviving the attacks and becoming a pilot was quite an accomplishment in itself.

“I don’t consider myself a very bright person but I had to pass a written test,” he said. “Not one of my buddies here wanted to take it. I said ‘Well, I’m going to.’”

“Well, you’ll never pass,” they said.

“I said, ‘Yes, I may not, but how do I know this if I never try?’ I took the test and tried. I flew 78 missions.”

As he walked into the “I-wing” of his old barracks, now the Pacific Air Forces Headquarters building, and stepped back into time, he pointed to himself in a photo on the wall.

“That black head right there — that’s me,” he said. “That photo was taken in front of a B-17.”

Then, he slowly made his way up the stairs, noting the

bullet holes as he passed to the second floor where his bed used to be located.

“Saturday nights, we’d lie and listen to music at the Officers’ Club,” he said as he wistfully looked out one of the PACAF HQ windows toward the flag pole in Atterbury Circle.

“After the raid, it was horror — uncertain futures. One thing I see as I look out [this] window is the American flag. It flew about like that. I’m patriotic. I love my country with a passion.

... And to my crew, I’d tell them, which I lost all of them, ‘get the engines warmed up. I’ll see ya soon.’”

More information on Henry Heim can be found in the book, “World War II in their own Words: Oral History of Pennsylvania’s Veterans” at the Hickam AFB library. He accompanied the Hempfield Area High School band of Greensburg Penn. during a visit to Hawaii last week.

Stealth fighter and bomber deployed to Guam

By Senior Airman Ryan Whitney
36th Wing Public Affairs

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — For the first time, F-22 Raptors and B-2 Spirits, the only stealth platforms in the Air Force's current inventory, are deployed outside the continental United States to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, showcasing the U.S. commitment to peace and stability in the region.

Fourteen F-22s and more than 260 Airmen assigned to the 90th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron are deployed here from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, and four B-2 Spirits and more than 270 people assigned to the 13th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron are deployed here from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

Although this is the first time these aircraft have deployed together to Guam, both units are part of regularly scheduled Air Expeditionary Force rotations in place since 2003. These particular deployments had been in the works for months before their arrival to support U.S. Pacific Command's Theater Security Package and Continuous Bomber Presence missions.

According to Lt. Col. Orlando Sanchez, the 90th EFS commander, deployed here since mid-January, the location of Andersen provides a unique training opportunity.

During his time as an instructor at the U.S. Air Force Weapons School at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Colonel Sanchez said the two-week mission employment phase there provided students the opportunity to fly with the B-2s, but not integrate and work as closely with them as they do here.

"During exercises, most aircrews don't get the face-to-face time with the B-2 aircrew due to its long range capabilities," he said. The B-2 is capable of flying approximately 6,000 miles without refueling support. During most exercises the B-2 participates in, it flies to the exercise airspace and, when the mission is complete, returns to Whiteman.

"Here at Andersen, we have the advantage of getting to come back to the same place and debrief face-to-face with the B-2 aircrew and see how effective the training was that day," Colonel Sanchez said. "That way we can assess the strengths and weakness of our training and tactics for that day. Being able to do this on a daily basis better prepares us for any situation



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Kevin J. Gruenwald

An F-22 Raptor taxis at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, while a B-2 Spirit from the 509th Bomb Wing, 13th Bomb Squadron, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., waits for clearance last week Thursday. The Raptors are deployed from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, to the 90th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron at Andersen for a three-month deployment as the Pacific's Theater Security Package.

we might encounter."

During these training missions, both units operate as if it were a real world event, in order to better prepare for any possible situation. Though the missions were similar when the B-52 Stratofortress from Minot Air Force Base, N.D., was deployed here, the planning is very different.

"The B-2 brings a very unique capability here, with a completely different set of weaknesses and strengths than what the B-52s brought," Colonel Sanchez said. "So though the missions will be similar as when we flew with the B-52s, it will look a lot different flying with another stealth platform."

Airmen of the 90th EFS will also get the opportunity to strengthen and develop the tactics used with the Air Force's newest fighter, according to Lt. Col. Leland Bohannon, 13th EBS director of operations.

"The biggest thing about this deployment is

we have two low observable [stealth] platforms on base at the same time, which is exciting because we are now going to be able to integrate these two platforms on a day-to-day basis in some awesome airspace," Colonel Bohannon said. "The upcoming months will be a great opportunity to build new tactics, techniques and procedures for the new aircraft."

The deployment will also give the Airmen of

the 90th EFS an opportunity to learn from a more senior and experienced stealth unit, and will help maintenance personnel learn the challenges associated with a low-observable stealth platform, Colonel Sanchez said.

"Everyone in the squadron is really excited about the opportunity to work with another stealth platform for the next couple months," said Colonel Sanchez.

Retirees can give to Air Force Assistance Fund

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Even if retired, Airmen still can give to the Air Force Assistance Fund. Retirees can contribute through a one-time gift of cash or check or by payroll deduction from their retired pay. This year, Airmen likely will need assistance more than ever before.

Airmen who haven't given to the AFAF since retiring now have a chance to once again help the four charities: the Air Force Village Foundation, Inc.; the Air Force Aid Society, Inc.; the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation; and the Air Force Enlisted Village, Inc. These organizations help with emergency aid, educational needs or help secure a retirement home for widows or widowers of Airmen in need of financial assistance.

There are four ways to give:

- Complete an AF Form 2561 available at www.afassisstancefund.org and donate by cash, check or payroll deduction from your Air Force retired pay — you must print and physically sign and then pass form to your installation AFAF key worker;
- Mail contributions — cash/check/money order — and contributors' forms to Air Force Assistance Fund, HQ AFPC/DPSIMF, 550 C Street West Ste 37, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4739. Note that contributions mailed to AFPC will not be counted toward any particular installation's goals or totals;
- Mail contributions directly to the affiliate(s) of your choice at the addresses in the campaign brochures and also found on the AFAF Web site. Note that contri-

butions mailed directly to affiliates cannot be counted toward any installation or Air Force goals or totals; or

- Mail completed Payroll Deduction Plan form directly to DFAS, Cleveland Center, ATTN: Code FR, P.O. Box 99191, Cleveland OH 44199-1126.

— *Retired Chief Master Sgt. William D'Avanzo/Air Force Personnel Center*

New accountability system to go online next month

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — A new personnel accountability system goes online April 1 and affects both Airmen and civilians. The Air Force Personnel Accountability Assessment System is a new total force web-based program that assists Air Force people and their families after a disaster or large-scale crisis.

The old accountability system process used many manual steps and reported only unaccounted individuals. Old spreadsheets were consolidated manually and the results given to leadership were not in real time.

Accountability varied from organization to organization. Some commanders used recall rosters, while others used different means to account for their people, said Edgar Turner, personnel readiness man-day manager at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command.

Now, the new AFPAAS provides accountability in real time and is accessible by all levels of leadership at the same time. It facilitates rapid, large-scale accountability.

If a reservist's personal data is already in DEERS, it will automatically transfer their personal data to AFPAAS. Initially, members will not need to enter their data into the system.

However, people will have to update their information to

reflect any changes and ensure accuracy.

They can access and update their personal data on the AFPAAS Web site by logging into <https://afpaas.af.mil> from either a personal or a business computer.

"Each reservist must go to the Web site and update their personal data," said David Holly, chief of the personnel readiness operations branch at Headquarters AFRC. "Civilian employees are encouraged to enter their data as well."

The Air Force Personnel Center, Personnel Readiness Cell has the mission to carry out personnel accountability resulting from manmade or natural disasters. This cell will manage the personnel data and implement the web-based program.

With the new system, AFPC can notify members through the Air Force's Emergency Notification System before a disaster, if a warning exists, and call for accountability.

People will have 48 hours to respond by phone or by logging in to AFPAAS.

If people have filled out their location before evacuating an area, then the system would account for them without them having to respond twice if their status did not change.

AFPAAS will provide updated reports are available in real time to commanders at all levels. These reports will allow for commanders at all level to focus on assisting families.

Though a new Air Force system is in place, it does not replace AFRC's emergency notification system.

Eventually the goal is to associate ENS with AFPAAS at AFPC, said Mr. Holly.

The Air Force will test the new system in March in preparation for going online in April.

— *Air Force Reserve Command News Service*



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Kenny Holston

Hiking on 'Hercules'

U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Lucke Boyer performs a preflight inspection on a C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft on Ramstein Air Base, Germany, March 4, 2009. Boyer, a crew chief, is assigned to the 86th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

NEWS NOTES, From A1

Center. Come for a fun day meeting other AF spouses. Participate in interactive activities that will unlock the mysteries of the AF. Meet expert panelists who will enlighten you about benefits and entitlements and give you advice on how to adjust to the demands of military life. Free lunch and child care provided. Call 449-0300 to register.

EPRs/OPRs printing with a missing line

If you or someone you know has found that when they print their performance report from ARMS (or ADP—OPRs only) and it has a line missing, there is no need to submit an Evaluation Appeal through vMPF. Instead, have your CSA load LOTUS Viewer 3.0 on your computer. This software is available for download from the N drive in the CSA Software folder. Once this new viewer is loaded, the report will print with all appropriate lines visible. See <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123118886>.

Food drive volunteers needed — The military coalition for the Hawaii Food Bank will be holding their annual Food Drive at the Hickam AFB

Commissary March 21 and 22, and April 4 and 5. Volunteers are needed to collect donations. To sign up e-mail tiffany.benes@hickam.af.mil or oliver.martin@hickam.af.mil.

Women's History Month Hickam AFB Teen Scholarship Pageant

— You are invited on March 28 to the Officer's Club lanai from 6 to 9:30 p.m. for a Teen Scholarship Pageant. Enjoy a night to get dressed up in formal attire (dress/gown, suit and tie), eat a scrumptious buffet dinner and watch a pageant where 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be awarded. Cost is \$30 per ticket. For information or tickets call SMSgt Lisa Boothe at 449-8504 or Carole Reynolds at 291-7236.

Estate of TSgt Davis

— Col Giovanni K. Tuck, 15th Airlift Wing Commander, regrettably announces the death of TSgt Willie J. Davis, 15AW/CP. Anyone having claims against or indebtedness to the estate of TSgt Davis, should contact Capt Christopher Keller, 15AW/CCX, Summary Court Officer, at 449-1524.