

In this week's Kukini



■ This month, JPAC continues the search for those lost in the Korean War **A4**

News Notes

Zoo party tomorrow — Air Force families can enjoy a Zoo Party at the Honolulu Zoo on Saturday, June 6, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., as part of USO Hawaii's "Military Appreciation Day." The free event includes food, entertainment and fun for all military personnel with valid military ID. The first 8,000 military ID card holders will receive a free lunch. Games and entertainment will go on the entire day. Bus transportation will be provided to military ID card holders from Schofield Barracks, Hickam, Marine Corps Base Hawaii Kaneohe, and the Navy Exchange at Pearl Harbor. Military ID card holders can also park free at Kapiolani Community College and take a free shuttle bus. For more about the bus schedule and the event, call the USO at 836-3351 or visit www.uso.org/hawaii.

Young anglers need help — The Keiki Fishing Tournament is June 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Ho'omaluhia Park, Kaneohe. Volunteers are needed to help measure and record fish caught during the tournament. For more information or to volunteer, contact SSgt. Erin Smith at 449-1531 or erin.smith@hickam.af.mil. Volunteer by June 8.

Sign up for 'Sex Signals' — The 75-minute presentation "Sex Signals" is scheduled at the Base Theater on June 15. Attending the presentation will count as annual sexual assault prevention training. There will be a sign-in so attendees' names can be forwarded to unit training monitors. Contact your first sergeant or call the Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Office at 449-SARC. Seating is limited to 350 per showing. Times are at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. For more about the show, see www.catharsisproductions.com/exsignals03.html.

Hickam Clinic hours — Effective Monday, June 15, Primary Care, Dental Clinic and Flight Medicine morning active duty sick call hours will change to 8 a.m. Monday-Friday. Afternoon sick call hours will remain at 1 p.m., Monday-Friday for both Flight Medicine and Dental. The 15th MDG clinic hours will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday clinic hours will

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Language program is tops in AF

by Tech. Sergeant Shera A. Masterson
 324th Intelligence Squadron

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — The 324th Intelligence Squadron, subordinate to the 692d Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group at Hickam AFB, was recently awarded the 2008 Air Force Command Language Program of the Year Award at a Defense Language Institute ceremony held last month. In short, this means that the 324th has the best language program in the Air Force.

This is the second year in a row the 324th IS has won the award. To accomplish this goal, the 324th created several initiatives and improvements over the past year. One such advancement was to exceed the minimum standard of training set by the Air Force and the National Security Agency (NSA) of one Significant Language Training Event (SLTE) every two years to one SLTE every year.

"Working closely with NSA and using a phenomenal database, the CLP Managers, Master Sergeant Nina Ung and Staff Sergeant Laura Duffey, were able to track our 250 linguists and ensure that 94 percent had significant training this past year," said Lt. Colonel Charles Hogan II, 324th IS Commander.

"None of these accomplishments would have occurred without the dedicated efforts and professionalism of the CLP Managers and the hard work of all of our linguists,"



Courtesy photo

The 324th Intelligence Squadron has once again won the Air Force Command Language Program of the Year Award. From left, holding the 2007 and 2008 Air Force Command Language Program of the Year Awards, are SSgt. Laura Duffey, Lt. Col. Charles E. Hogan II and MSgt. Nina Ung.

said Colonel Hogan. "They have continued to improve upon a model language program and have pushed it to the next level."

Colonel Hogan adds, "I am very proud of my CLPMs, they do a great job in everything they do. Master Sergeant Ung just graduated from Chaminade University with her Master's Degree and Staff Sergeant Duffey was recently selected for commissioning thru the Officer Training School."

The 324th IS success in aiding the Global War on Terror is not due to just the two CLP Managers. "I

have been in the Intelligence community for many years," said Colonel Hogan. "Any success comes through having motivated, dedicated and smart Airmen, NCOs, SNCOs and officers. We have a lot of great professionals in the squadron who go the extra mile. That is the root of our success."

The pursuit of the language as well as its applicability to vital national security missions are common goals shared by all members of the 324th IS, not just the NCO and SNCOs. Visionary members of the squadron, working at the grass roots

level, have pursued inventive ways to achieve both goals. Sr. Airman Christine Riggins created "Language Day." This language-centric event encouraged linguists to use their knowledge in a fun and competitive manner for prizes and bragging rights. Winners of the games received iPods, which the linguists could then use to sharpen their assigned languages skills.

The 324th IS hopes to "threepeat" in 2009 and already has plans on how to make their language program the best for the third year in a row.

Team Hickam Air Mobility Rodeo Team makes their debut, readies for action

by Col. Andrew M. Hockman
 15th Operations Group

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — Team Hickam rolled out its 2009 Air Mobility Rodeo Team in style last Friday with a rousing introduction during the Monthly Recognition Ceremony.

Twenty-three total force team members from Hickam's Active Duty and Air National Guard will begin the challenging preparation for the international competition held biennially to identify the "Best of the Best" in Air Mobility. This year's events will run from July 18-24 at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., and will draw more than 48 teams from more than 26 countries.

With a trophy in hand from 2007, this year's team is looking to bring home even more hardware with

events including flying competitions in airdrop, air refueling, short field landings, backing/combat offload and engine running offload.

In addition, a dozen maintainers will literally hit the ground running, with everything they do graded during the five days of competition, from pre-flight to post-flight, to refueling and day to day inspections, where even a small chip in the paint could cost points. Before they even fly their first sortie, the entire team has to compete in a "Fit to Fight" event within two hours of arrival.

During the flying and maintenance events, Security Forces team members will be executing several combat weapons and tactics courses designed to gauge their performance under stress in combat, and even under chem/bio threat conditions.

The rodeo is designed to demon-

strate air mobility mission capabilities, seek out new tactics, techniques, and procedures that improve mission results, increase esprit de corps both among competing teams and internationally, and build standardization and safety — only the "best of the best" need apply.

2009 Air Mobility Rodeo Team

Team Commander
 Maj. James Chapa

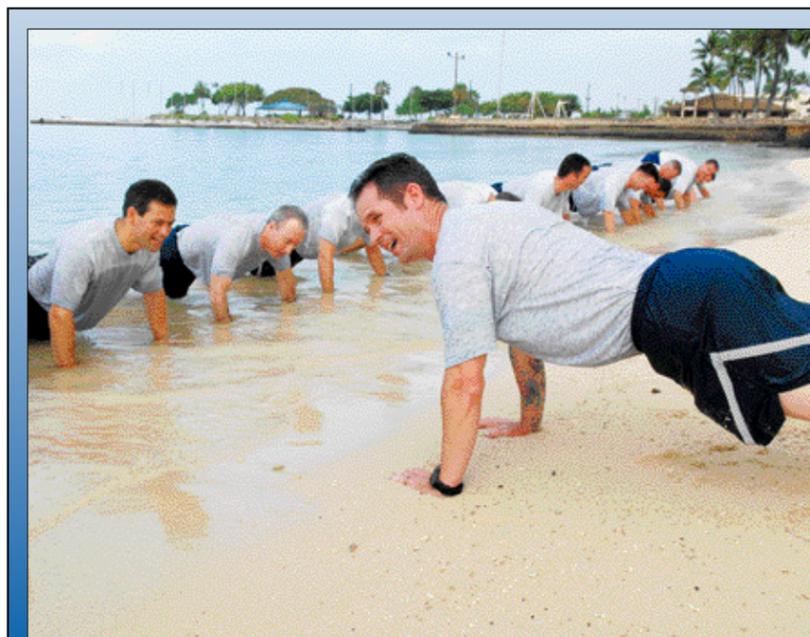
Flight Crew
 Capt. Jeff McCarty
 Maj. Anthony Davis
 Capt. Jon Ma
 Sr. Airman Dan Baker

Maintenance
 1 Lt. Carly Omizo

MSgt. Patrick Pettis
 MSgt. Ronald Timbreza
 TSgt. Willard Jim
 TSgt. Jacob Ness
 TSgt. Ross Yoneda
 SSgt. Christopher Macadangdang
 SSgt. Raul Alafa
 SSgt. Kelley Tolbert
 SSgt. Aaron Trammell
 SSgt. Jonathon Rupp
 SSgt. Troy Matsumiya

Joint Airdrop Inspection
 TSgt. Ike Murray
 SSgt. Scott Stueven

Security Forces
 TSgt. James Howard
 TSgt. Pablo Martinez
 SSgt. Devone Cherry
 Airman 1st Class Eric Fowler



A wet workout

Senior Master Sgt. JJ Little, Pacific Air Forces' Inspector General team, leads a beach physical training session at Hickam Air Force Base. Approximately 70 people participated in the physical training session on May 27, which included a 1.5-mile run to Hickam Beach, a half-hour session of calisthenics and team building, followed by a 1.5-mile run back to the starting point. The directorates participating in the beach session were A3, A4, A5 and A8.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerome Tayborn

Appreciating where we work

Commentary by Chris Aguinaldo
Hickam Kukini editor

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — For me, it only took some time away to realize just how vital and exciting a post Hickam Air Force Base is.

I just picked up the last couple of issues of Hickam Kukini after returning from leave. I was pleasantly surprised reading about how much happens here. The Thunderbirds are coming? How thrilling! Plus the Beach Bum parade looked like loads of fun, especially with the hot weather lately.

Thanks go out to my Honolulu Advertiser colleague Dennis Olkowski for filling in at the editor's desk while I was on leave. Dennis and our unsung designer Jay Parco kept this award-winning paper looking good while I was gone. Mahalo.

Thanks also to all the contributors — including the always professional 15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs staff — and our leadership here at the Wing.

What helps makes a newspaper successful is its community — especially those who take the time to share their stories, photos and suggestions. If you have news to share about our Hickam community, I hope you take a look at the contact information below and consider getting in touch.

Hickam AFB is truly a special place and what better place to show that than in the Kukini?

The editorial deadline is the FRIDAY PRIOR to Friday publications. Prior coordination is MANDATORY. Articles and announcements must have complete information, bylines, credits and contact information.

Share your stories

Do you have unique AF experiences? Is there an issue that touches you or your family that you have written or want to write about? Public Affairs wants to hear from YOU. Contribute to the PACAF Pixels 15th Airlift Wing weblog! Submit ponderings, ideas or scribbles to 15AW.PA@hickam.af.mil with "Blog submission" in the subject line. Stories and photos may also be published in the Hickam Kukini. Write on!



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Law Enforcement Desk449-6373
Mental Health449-0175
SARC Hotline449-7272

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

Learning who holds the most important job in the Air Force

Commentary by
Maj. Kenneth Woodcock
22nd Security Forces Squadron
commander

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan. — Some years ago (I won't say how many), an Air Force Academy cadet visited my base as part of Operation Air Force. She asked me a question that caused me to do some real thinking.

She said, "Sir, I want to be a real leader in the Air Force someday. To do that, I think I need to be in the career field that is the most important. Who has the most important job in the Air Force?"

This seems like a question to which an experienced officer should have an answer. At the time, I was glad I was a young and inexperienced officer, so I didn't have the burden of that requirement. I could admit I didn't know.

However, that question set me on a quest to find out exactly who has the most important job in the Air Force.

As any good investigator knows, the best way to find out something is to do it in such a way as to not tip off those you are investigating that you're, in fact, investigating them.

Being married to an active duty member, I had a great cover. I attended her squadron's social functions in civilian clothes so as not to give myself away. I would ask Airmen of all ranks who they thought had the

most important job in the Air Force.

If I asked maintainers, they told me maintenance was the most important because without it, no airplanes fly.

Aviators told me that without them, no one could fly the aircraft, so they were most important.

Civil engineers said they were the most important because who else keeps the lights on, the streets clean, the airfield plowed of snow, bombs disarmed and buildings in good repair?

Contracting said it was them, because the Air Force uses contracts for essential goods and services.

So I became more and more intrigued. Everyone I talked to thought they had the most important job in the Air Force.

And everyone was right.

But how can everyone be right about something as critical as that? There has to be something in the Air Force that is the most vital, the most essential, the most critical. The answer is not what you might expect, it is the simple truth that each career field, each "job," each role in the Air Force is dependent upon all the others. There is no vacuum in which one career field, carries out the mission of the Air Force to fly, fight and win.

Each career field depends to some degree on another specialty to succeed. Security forces would be unemployed if there were no bases to secure, no aircraft to guard, or no traffic to control.

Without everyone else doing their jobs, your Defenders would have nothing to defend. Collectively, we all enable the mission. And we all execute our portion of the mission. Everyone has the most important job in the Air Force.

Every job in the Air Force is critical, essential, and vital. No one job is more important than another because without all of them working together, none of them get done.

Benjamin Franklin said "If we do not hang together, we shall surely hang separately." The Air Force is the living embodiment of that principle. We are all in this together. We are each other's backup, each other's wingmen and each other's support. There is no more important job than that.

Having been there when backup was needed, I can tell you that seeing someone rushing to your aid is a feeling like no other. Seeing someone risking their own safety to ensure yours is something people who have civilian jobs rarely experience. We see that more often than we can count in our business, because that's what we do. As some of my Airmen say "Sir, that's how we roll."

Who has the most important job in the Air Force? You do. It doesn't matter what specialty you're in or what kind of badge you have on your uniform. First and foremost, you're an American Airman. What could be more important than that?



Airmen medics practice their suture skills

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — Staff Sgt. Latisha Gosha-West, a 624th Aeromedical Staging Squadron medical technician, practices her wound closure skills on a pig foot last month. Pig feet and chicken legs are used for practice because they closely resemble what it's like to perform sutures on a patient with a laceration.

In order to maintain a high level of proficiency, 624th ASTS medical technicians practice different skills each drill weekend. The 624th ASTS is part of the 624th Regional Support Group, which is the largest Air Force Reserve presence in the Pacific.

U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Daniel Nathaniel

Managing stress in a tough economy

Commentary by Maj.
Larry Kroll
354th Medical Group Mental
Health Flight

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska — As talk of the banking crisis, falling housing prices, rising consumer debt and declining retail sales bring up worries about the nation's economic health, more Americans feel additional stress and anxiety about their financial future.

Money is often on the minds of most Americans. In fact, money and the state of the economy are two of the top sources of stress for 80 percent of Americans, according to the American Psychological Association. Add to the mix headlines about closing businesses and job losses, and many begin to wonder how they can handle any further financial crunch.

But, like most of our everyday stress, this extra tension can be managed. Psychologists first recommend taking pause and not

panicking. While there are some unknown effects in every economic downturn, our nation has experienced recessions before. There are also healthy strategies available for managing stress during tough economic times.

Pause but, don't panic. There are many negative media stories about the state of the economy. Pay attention to what's happening around you, but refrain from getting caught up in doom-and-gloom hype, which can lead to high levels of anxiety and bad decision making. Avoid the tendency to overreact or to become passive. Remain calm and stay focused.

Identify your financial stressors and make a plan. Take stock of your particular financial situation and what causes your stress. Write down specific ways you and your family can reduce expenses or manage your finances more efficiently. Then commit to a specific plan and review it

regularly. Although this can be anxiety-provoking in the short term, putting things down on paper and committing to a plan can reduce stress. If you are having trouble paying bills or staying on top of debt, reach out for help by calling your bank, utilities or credit card company or the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

Recognize how you deal with stress related to money. In tough economic times some people are more likely to relieve stress by turning to unhealthy activities like smoking, drinking, gambling or emotional eating. The strain can also lead to more conflict and arguments between partners. Be alert to these behaviors — if they are causing you trouble, consider seeking help from a mental health professional before the problem gets worse.

Turn these challenging times into opportunities for real growth and change. Times like this, while difficult, can offer opportunities

to take stock of your current situation and make needed changes. Think of ways that these economic challenges can motivate you to find healthier ways to deal with stress. Try taking a walk — it's an inexpensive way to get good exercise. Having dinner at home with your family will not only save you money, but help bring you closer together. Consider a class at A&FRC. The key is to use this time to think creatively and try new ways of managing your life.

Ask for professional support. Credit counseling services and financial planners are available to help you take control over your money situation. A&FRC offers financial management classes. If you continue to be overwhelmed by the stress, you may want to talk with a mental health professional who can help you address the emotions behind your financial worries, manage stress, and change unhealthy behaviors.

Pacific mobility warriors celebrate anniversary

by Lt. Col. Ryan Marshall
515th Air Mobility Operations Wing

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — The 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing celebrates its one-year anniversary June 5, operating as Air Mobility Command's first overseas wing, supporting AMC aircraft and crews with maintenance, aerial port, and command and control operations while transiting the Pacific.

The wing, activated June 5, 2008, is responsible for two groups, six Air Mobility Squadrons, three detachments, six operating locations, six air terminal and ground handling locations and several small terminals comprising of nearly 2,000 geographically separated personnel with an annual budget of \$50 million.

The primary en route locations are at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam; Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Yokota Air Base, Japan; Kadena AB, Japan; and Osan AB, Republic of Korea.

The standup of the 515th AMOW established the appropriate level of authority, enhanced response time and guaranteed agility to meet the changing theater requirements.

It provides combatant command-



Courtesy photo

Airmen from the 733d Air Mobility Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Japan, specially configured a 60K-Tunner to support the safe loading and unloading operations of the 120 athletes of the U.S. Paralympics Team while they transited the base on their way to the games in Beijing China. The 733rd AMS is part of the 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing, which celebrates its one-year anniversary today, June 5.

ers global reach through a fixed forward presence.

"This wing provides an enhanced level of control for our en route structure in the Pacific, which includes critical locations for getting people, cargo and patients to and from war zones," said Col. Richard

McClain, the 515th AMOW commander.

The strategic locations of the en route bases maximize the distance mobility aircraft can travel without air refueling. At the same time it provides maintenance and aerial port servicing, it also affords aircrews the

opportunity to get appropriate crew rest between mission legs. The en route system serves as a critical link to support the warfighter. AMC's global mission would be impossible without air mobility people and infrastructure in the theater. Mobility aircraft transiting from their home base across the Pacific need these locations for refueling and servicing before and after long missions.

"In the Pacific, AMC Airmen work alongside their [Pacific Air Forces] counterparts to provide the full spectrum of mobility operations to the joint warfighter," said Maj. Gen. Mike Hostage, PACAF vice commander. "Whether delivering critical life-saving supplies through humanitarian relief missions to victims of an earthquake or tsunami or supporting fighters and bombers in an exercise or contingency operation, AMC's role in PACAF's mission has a worldwide impact."

On a recent visit to the Pacific en route, Gen. Arthur Lichte, AMC commander, commented on the important role of the mobility mission and highlighted its strategic value and its contributions within this theater. With AMC's support, mobility aircraft have demonstrated their ability to deliver supplies and

personnel anywhere in the world while continuing to project airpower through its deterrence mission.

"Whether it's a tanker passing precious fuel to fighters and bombers sending deterrence signals to those who wish us ill, or whether it's a tanker passing fuel to a C-17 taking an aero medical evacuated person back home or an airlifter passing through carrying routine cargo and providing an opportunity for Space-A travelers to get here, it all adds up," General Lichte said.

Worldwide, AMC launches a sortie every 90 seconds delivering more than 2,000 tons of cargo and more than 6,000 passengers every day.

The next milestone for the 515th AMOW comes in September when they host an HQ AMC Inspector General team for their first-ever En Route Readiness Inspection. It will be a chance for the wing to demonstrate how well they support mobility missions in the Pacific. Since its activation, the 515th AMOW has supported 35,205 aircraft, moved 386,158 passengers and more than 108,330 tons of cargo. The Pacific Mobility Warriors work hand-in-hand with PACAF partners around the clock, 365 days a year quietly supporting the joint warfighter.

JPAC searches for Korean War MIAs this month

by Army Staff Sgt. Matthew Chlosta
Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command

SEOUL, South Korea — Military members of a Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command recovery team conducted excavation operations in the South Korea province of Kangwon on May 18.

JPAC's mission is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans missing as a result of the nation's past conflicts.

As of April 29 there are 8,044 missing and unaccounted for personnel from the Korean War, JPAC has identified a total of 91 since 2003.

Army Capt. Frank Castro, JPAC assistant team leader said, "It was going slow because of the rock we had to bust through. We're finding a lot of artifacts for the anthropologist to look through."

"We found a lot of animal remains as well as possible human remains," Dr. Jay Silverstein, JPAC recovery leader, said. "We found part of a Parker pen, boot eyelets, buttons, rounds from the M1 Carbine rifle and M1 Garand rifle. We did find possible human remains today and part of a tooth brush."

Army Sgt. 1st Class Alberto Culanding, JPAC team sergeant, said, "We found a tooth. Just finding possible remains is very rewarding. We didn't find any in my last mission in Laos, just life support."

"We had a little setback



U.S. Army photo by Army Staff Sgt. Matthew Chlosta

Left, Army Staff Sgt. Lamont Davenport, recovery sergeant, Detachment 4, Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command works with Republic of Korea Soldiers during excavation and search for remains of missing American military servicemembers during a JPAC recovery mission in the Kangwon Province, South Korea last month.

because of the rain on the fourth day of the recovery, but overall it's been good," Culanding said, "first recovery in Korea, nice people, really good people, really nice place."

Working together

At the recovery site in Kangwon, JPAC received support from the local Republic of Korea Army Soldiers and the Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense Agency for KIA Recovery & Identification.

"The most rewarding thing about the mission is being able to work with ROK Army and being able to work with the Korean version of JPAC [MAKRI]," said Army Staff

Sgt. Lamont Davenport, recovery sergeant, Detachment 4, JPAC.

"I'm glad they were here," Culanding said. "They're helping us. MAKRI Soldiers know what they're doing, what they're looking for. We have them working, digging in the hole alongside us."

"MAKRI and local Republic of Korea Army support has been very good, couldn't ask for a more pleasant people to work with," Silverstein said. "They're excellent, smart, diligent, very attentive and disciplined. You really couldn't ask for a better workforce than that. For me [the most rewarding experience] is working with MAKRI. It's something

we've been talking about since 2004. First time I've worked with MAKRI on a Korea mission."

Silverstein had some questions about MAKRI answered during the ongoing mission in Korea.

"I never knew if MAKRI had been out at a site before, what are the processes that need to be worked out? Now there are MOUs [memorandums of understanding between JPAC and MAKRI] in place, professional development. As it builds momentum it will enhance both missions, it will help with shared intelligence, consistent standards."

"I think it's a great event showcasing two different

countries working together," Castro said. "It shows a partnership of us working together to find the missing."

Ramping up Korea recovery missions

JPAC has recently made strides to conduct more recovery operations in South Korea as the population of witnesses and the family members of the MIAs back in U.S. age.

"In the past we had research and field resources dedicated to the DPRK [the People's Democratic Republic of Korea], the analysts who had focused on maintaining the op tempo in the DPRK can now dedicate much of their effort to the ROK," Silverstein said. "Like most of our conflicts, we are faced with an aging generation of primary witnesses and we are trying to gather as [much] information and identify sites in a race against this waning resource."

"The op tempo in ROK is dependent on the ability of the J2 [researchers] to identify sites and on the priorities established by the command," Silverstein said.

The day-to-day operation in the ROK is much like other countries, Silverstein said.

"Up early for breakfast and a pre-work brief, determining the site area, safety risks, establishing the grid and work site infrastructure (break area, screening station, latrine, etc.) consists of digging and screening, and for the RL/A [recovery

leader/anthropologist] an evening of finishing up notes, conserving and securing evidence, and report writing," Silverstein said.

Castro, who deployed three times to Iraq most recently for 14 months with the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, compared his new experiences with JPAC to the lessons learned in Iraq.

"There are a lot of similarities here, like dealing with local officials here is like dealing with the sheiks in Iraq. You can apply a lot of the same skills here."

The JPAC missions in South Korea have much easier logistics compared to other countries JPAC operates in, Silverstein said. This stems from the excellent working relationship between the ROK and the U.S.

"Because of the long history of cooperative endeavors, the SOFA [Status of Forces Agreement], and the U.N. and U.S. presence, operations usually receive the highest level of cooperation and minimal bureaucratic or political obstructions," Silverstein said. "With many of the other countries we work in, it is the opposite, we are overcoming a long period of distrust, working hard to build political and professional bridges that are already in place in the ROK."

MIA march

At the burial site the team searched for remains of U.S. Soldiers who died during a

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Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

Zoo party

Children get up close and personal with a four-legged friend at the petting zoo in 2007. This year, Military Appreciation Day at the Zoo will be June 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free to all valid military identification card holders and family members. The first 8,000 military ID card holders and family will receive a free lunch. Military families will enjoy a day filled with music, fun, food and lots of games and activities for kids of all ages. For more information, visit www.uso.org/hawaii.

Crime Scene

Theft of secured government property

A civilian assigned to 15 SVS reported a theft of government property from Bldg. 2065/Singapore Hangar.

This case is currently



under investigation.

Damage of personal property

A civilian reported damage of personal property at Bldg 1804/Enlisted Club parking lot.

This case is currently under investigation.

Driving under the influence/operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant

A civilian was detained at Bldg. 188/Main Gate for operating a vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant which resulted with a Blood Alcohol

Content of .188. This case is being forwarded to Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office.

Citation for May 22-28

Zero Abandoned Vehicle Notice
Six Civilian Traffic citation
Seventeen Moving Traffic citation
Four Non-Moving Traffic citation

Open house celebrates base historic district

Submitted by Hickam Community Housing LLC

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — In speaking to guests attending a recent open house celebrating the restoration of historic homes at Hickam AFB, the 15th Airlift Wing Commander noted the significance of the effort.

“There’s great historic value in what we’re doing,” said Colonel Giovanni Tuck, during the May 28 event. He shared a story about meeting a resident who had lived in the neighborhood at the start of World War II. The woman, whose father was the base commander at the time, shared her memories of growing up as she walked through her old neighborhood, now part of Hickam’s Historic District, nearly 70 years later.

“Her stories show that our work stands for something, it means something,” Col. Tuck remarked. He also stated that the charter signed by the Air Force with Hickam Community Housing (HCH) to privatize housing reaffirms the 15th Airlift Wing’s commitment to provide comfortable homes for families and ensure they will have the support they need, especially during deployments.

David Falls, HCH Project Director, reaffirmed the organization’s commitment to supporting the Air Force’s goals. “We’re honored to be part of continuing Hickam’s history,” said Falls. “This is a great opportunity for us to work with leaders who share our commitment to properly preserving



Courtesy photo
Colonel Joe Dague and wife Ann, at right, are joined by HCH Project Director David Falls, 15th Airlift Wing Commander Colonel Giovanni Tuck, and Military Affairs Liaison for U.S. Congressman Neil Abercrombie Lee-Ann McClain as they untie a maile lei at a recent Hawaiian blessing of their newly restored historic home.

this valuable historic heritage, while providing Service Members and their families with the highest quality of life we can.”

Following the remarks, a traditional Hawaiian blessing

was conducted. Col. Joe Dague and his wife Ann, who will be moving into one of the homes, were invited to participate alongside Col. Tuck, Falls and Lee-Ann McClain, Military Affairs Liaison representing U.S. Congressman Neil Abercrombie.

“When you think about 71 years, you think about military families usually stay in a home for two to three years. So, you’re looking at 20-25 families who have lived here. And we’re blessed to be a part of that,” said Col. Dague.

Ann Dague agreed, “It’s almost a great deal of responsibility as well as being a part of the military and being a part of all the families who have been here.”

Guests had an opportunity to tour two of the 24 homes that are being restored to their original look and feel, while still providing modern amenities such as energy-efficient appliances and central air. This group of homes represents more than 600 that will be rehabilitated. Some of the smaller homes will be combined into larger dwellings. Upon completion there will be 438 homes. Going forward, the remaining homes will be more extensively rehabilitated, while preserving their historic character and also that of the neighborhood.

The project being undertaken by the Air Force and developer Actus Lend Lease is one of the nation’s largest contiguous historic homes restoration and rehabilitation projects.

Canoe Regatta Benefits Hawaii’s Wounded Warriors

Naval Station Pearl Harbor hosted the Hawaii Wounded Warrior Canoe Regatta at Pearl Harbor Rainbow Bay Marina on May 30. The event was held to honor the 300 service members in Hawaii who are recovering from their wounds and injuries sustained during combat operations abroad. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard paddling teams — including some recovering service members — were joined by the Honolulu Police Department’s SWAT Unit and the Honolulu Fire Department’s rescue team in the race.

Pictured in the canoe at middle right are proud Airman paddlers from Team Hickam, which had a dozen teams participating at the regatta.

Photo courtesy of Air Force Master Sgt. John Sieh



NEWS NOTES, From A1

remain at 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

HCH celebrates dads — In celebration of fathers, Hickam Community Housing (HCH) will host a "Daddy and Me Tee Party" at 11 a.m. on June 20. HCH families are invited to the HCH Community Center lawn, which will be transformed into a miniature golf course complete with a 19th hole offering tasty shave ice and a watermelon buffet. Entertainment by Karaoke King will be provided and event-goers will have a chance to win fabulous door prizes. RSVP at www.hickamch.com/daddytee or call 853-3750.

Officer's call — An officer's call will be held Thursday, June 18, at 1 p.m. in the C-17 Ops auditorium. POC for this event is Capt Chris Keller, 449-1524.

Hickam Airmen Council meeting — This month's meeting is scheduled for June 9, at 3:30 p.m., in the Kauai room of the Enlisted Club. All E-1 to E-4 welcome. POC SrA James Watts 449-7798 and SrA Anna Wheeler 449-2281.

AF Birthday Bowling Tourney — Begin forming your teams now for this annual tournament. Teams consist of five people, and the event is open to Active Duty, Guard, civilian and dependents. Date: Friday, June 12, from 3-5 p.m. Cost is \$60 per team (\$12 x 5 members) + \$1 shoe rental. Reserve a lane for your team of five today. Contact SMSgt. McVay, HQ PACAF/A7 at 449-2804, or e-mail james.mcvay@hickam.af.mil by COB, June 10.

Honor guard seeks new members — Hickam HG needs Airmen who are motivated, have passed their most recent Physical Fitness Test, and are able to commit to one week out of a month for one year. Initial Training Class runs June 8-12, at Bldg 1714, from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For questions, call/email MSgt Michael Kormos @ 448-0955 or TSgt Mark Schwartz @ 448-3120 (Ext. 241).

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response training — Victim advocate classes will be conducted from July 27-31. Anyone interested must complete an application, get supervisor/commander approval and an interview with the SARC. If you are interested in becoming a Sexual Assault Victim Advocate e-mail Maritza.sayle@hickam.af.mil or call 449-7272 for further assistance. Applications must be in by 30 June for attendance in the July class.

Home Front Hero ceremony — This event is for children whose parents have deployed/remote tour or gone TDY for 90+ days. The ceremony will be held June 26, from 3:30-5 p.m., at the Airman & Family Readiness Center. Applications are at <http://www2.hickam.af.mil/units/15mssaafrf>. Applications must be submitted by June 22 in order for a child to receive a certificate and medal. Call 449-0300 for information.

Youth Programs summer soccer camp — Registration is taking place from June 5-17 at B1399, Youth Sports and Fitness Center for children

ages 6-18. Cost is \$30 for Youth Programs Members and \$35 for non-members. Camp will take place from June 22-26 at the Youth Soccer Fields behind B1335. Ages 6-8 from 8-10:30 a.m.; ages 9-12 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and ages 13-18 from 4-5:30 p.m. Call Youth Programs at 448-4492 or 448-2287.

DOD Enterprise Staffing Solution (ESS) briefing — The DOD ESS initiative is designed to standardize, streamline, and transform DOD's civilian hiring process; and Hickam has been selected as one of their pilot locations. AF employees will have to apply for AF and DOD vacancies using the new ESS process instead of the current application process. AFPC representatives will conduct the following briefings: June 9, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. for senior leaders at C-17 operations auditorium; June 9, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. and 2:30-4 p.m. for managers and supervisors at Base Theater; June 10, from 8-9:30 a.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. for Employees at Base Theater; June 11, from 6:30-8 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. for employees at Base Theater; June 12, from 8-9:30 a.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. for employees at Base Theater. Registration for the briefing is not required; however, supervisor's coordination must be obtained prior to attending the briefing. See the CPF Web site at <https://hickam.eim.pacaf.af.mil/15AW/15MSG/15MSS/DPC/default.aspx>.

JPAC, From A4

MIA march across the border of North and South Korea.

"The truth is we don't know," Silverstein said when asked if the recovery site had been correlated to a particular event such as the march of U.S. POWs to North Korea from the south during the war.

"The site was identified during a search along a POW march route from Hwachon to North Korea," Silverstein said. "A farmer identified an area where he had encountered remains and a subsequent limited excavation recovered human remains. The site has not been positively correlated to a U.S. MIA loss site at this time. Our witness suggested there are three to five people at the site."

"DPRK methods of handling prisoners often included long marches north during which many U.S. Soldiers perished and were left in unmarked graves," Silverstein said. "In the aftermath of battles civilians often hastily buried remains wherever they found them in an attempt to prevent diseases. The stalemate around the 38th parallel included continuous back-and-forth battles such that UN [United Nations] forces often did not control the battlefield at the end of the day. Because of this remains might be hastily buried or left in place." "The vast majority are ground losses," Silverstein said. "There are a couple of reasons that there are so many MIAs. The speed and chaos of the initial invasion of the south and scattered resistance of U.S. forces meant that the battlefield was dynamic and many were lost without the supporting benefit of a cohesive unit organization."

History of Korean War

The Korean War was the first conflict in which the United States military used fighter jets.

After excavating the burial sites, the JPAC team will conduct recovery operations on a plane crash. There are inherent differences in excavating a burial site versus an airplane crash site

"With an aircraft you often know that you have the right spot because the wreckage leaves a clear signature whereas an alleged burial is usually an uncorrelated site and often based on aged memories of a

time and landscape that has changed dramatically," Silverstein said.

"In other words, the alleged burial may or may not be where indicated and, if it is there, the remains may or may not be related to a U.S. loss.

"On the other side, buried remains tend to be better preserved, even articulated, maybe with equipment and ID [identification tags] media whereas remains from an aircraft can be highly fragmented, burned, and scattered over a large area making the recovery operation itself a challenging and time-consuming operation," Silverstein added.

"It has more to do with the nature of the sites," Silverstein said. "Most of our losses in SEA [southeast Asia] tend to be high speed aircraft losses that, as discussed above, require much more extensive field operations."

Silverstein, who has conducted JPAC excavations in both North and South Korea, has studied the Korean War with particular interest.

"Korea holds a particular fascination for me because it represents a thermometer of the political health of the post-World War II world," Silverstein said. "The state of war is still open and the events of the early 1950s play directly to the events of today. Especially in modern times we wonder what conflicts are worth risking the lives of our citizens and what benefits might be gained, and what mistakes our leaders may have made that cost our troops dearly."

"Having worked in the DPRK, and comparing the two-halves of the Korea, I have a great respect and appreciation for the American forces, as well as those from the UN [United Nations] and ROK, who kept the ROK free," Silverstein said. "That the ROK is able to be a member of the world community can be directly attributed to the sacrifices made by these men and women. Those who risked their lives to keep the world free are owed the obligation of not being forgotten in some anonymous grave."

(Note: Military members of a Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command recovery team are conducting recovery operations in the South Korea provinces of Kangwon and Kyongsang until June 18.)