

**Sept. 19-20
Open House**



**92
Days!**

News Notes

Daddy and Me and Tee — Celebrate Fathers Day with a fun day of Daddy and Me Look-A-Like Contest, lunch special guest speaker/instructor, craft activities, and miniature golf. Sponsored by AFRC FAP and HCH Center, it's scheduled Saturday, June 20, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Register online at www.hickamch.com or call 449-0188 for more information.

Ice hockey team forming — Hickam Air Force Base Airmen looking to play on an ice hockey team that will compete in the local community should contact 2nd Lt. Jason Smith at jason.smith.1@hickam.af.mil or 449-1522. Players at all talent levels are welcomed as the level the team will compete has not yet been determined.

Wingman 5K Run/Walk — This fun fitness event is scheduled on June 27. It starts at the Fitness Center at 6:30 a.m. Entry fee is \$5 per person and kids are free. POC is Benny Miguel, Fitness Director, at 448-4640.

Home Front Hero Ceremony — This event is for children whose parents are deployed, on 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 located at <http://www2.hickam.af.mil/units/15mssaafrf>. Applications must be submitted by June 22 for a child to receive a certificate and medal. Call 449-0300 for information.

Open House volunteers needed — The Hickam Open House marketing committee is looking for volunteers to assist with the coordinating, booking and organizing various military static displays and demonstrations. The committee is also urgently looking for skilled Web page designer. Please contact Master Sgt. Jennifer Isom at 449-1525 or jennifer.isom@hickam.af.mil.

Ohana Aloha/Bus Tour — This is on June 23, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Makai Rec Ctr. This newcomers' orientation is for newly arrived AF members and their families. The Wing Commander welcomes families and various base agencies

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U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares

Stephanie Kafer, 8, beams with pride over her catch at the recent Keiki Fishing Tournament, hosted by Friends of Hickam, at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens. For more photos, see page B1.

Keiki hooked on fishing

by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — Children bobbed with energy and excitement as they eagerly anticipated grabbing a fishing pole and getting the hook wet.

Keiki caught a record-setting 449 fish at the 10th Annual Keiki Fishing Tournament, hosted by Friends of Hickam, June 10 at the Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens. What started as a suggestion a little more than 10 years ago has become a legacy for the Friends of Hickam.

"We are very fortunate for the support we have had in helping us make this event happen for 10 years," said Clearance Apau, Friends of Hickam Keiki Fishing

Tournament committee member.

"It's been beautiful. It just keeps getting better and better."

The children and their parents arrived at the gardens to the wafting smells of hamburgers and hot dogs sizzling on the grill. They filled their bellies and washed it down with a cold drink.

Col. Russ Quinn, Pacific Air Forces Headquarters safety director, and his son Ryan, sat on the roots of a tropical tree in the gardens chatting about the fishing adventures they have been on in Australia and the mainland and about the day's upcoming adventure.

"It's fun for me and dad," Ryan said. "I want to catch a whale-size fish," but added after a short pause, "maybe a baby whale."

Once everyone was fed at the picnic-style lunch, Chris Lifu of the Polynesian Cultural Center wowed the crowd with demonstrations of how the Samoan culture makes fire by rubbing two sticks together, how they easily they crack open a coconut, the difference between coconut juice and milk, and how the men do all the major cooking while the women shop.

After a few good laughs, the children and their parents made their way to the lake where they were to grab their fishing pole and spend the next 90 minutes attempting to catch as many fish as possible.

And that they certainly did.

Between cheers when someone

See FISH, A4

Pacific aerial porters prepare at Hickam Air Force Base for upcoming AMC Rodeo

by Senior Airman
Carolyn Viss
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — Working out twice a day and running in a gas mask may sound like part of the training only a Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape team or pararescue crew would do, but eight air transportation specialists from around the Pacific are doing it together at Hickam AFB.

This elite group of Airmen was hand-picked from more than 500 other aerial porters in the Pacific to compete in the 2009 Air Mobility Rodeo competition scheduled on July 19 to 25 at McChord AFB, Wash.

More than 100 teams and 2,500 people from the Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard, as well as



Courtesy photo

The 515 AMOW rodeo team stands ready. From left to right Staff Sgt. Dustin Barboza (734 AMS), Staff Sgt. Russell Mann (732 AMS), Sr. Airman Andrew Cramer (732 AMS), Staff Sgt. Travis Wilt (733 AMS), Staff Sgt. Clifton Robertson (735 AMS), Sr. Airman Baltazar Valdez (731 AMS), Tech. Sgt. Dwayne Johnson (735 AMS), and Master Sgt. Maurice Wijnen-Riems (730 AMS).

Joint Base update: The role of the JBC

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Committee

Last week, the first edition of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) newsletter "Transitions" was released. The cover included a welcome memo from Commanding Officer for Naval Station Pearl Harbor Capt. Richard Kitchens, and the 15th Airlift Wing Commander, Col. Giovanni Tuck. Joint bases are led by a Joint Base Commander, or JBC, and in the case of JBPHH, that position will be filled by a Naval officer since the Navy has been identified as the lead agency for the joint base. Currently, that commander has been prospectively identified as Capt. Kitchens.

Ultimately, it is the JBC who is dedicated to the delivery of Installation Support across the entire Joint Base. The JBC has the authority and responsibility for effectively using available resources for planning, organizing, directing, coordinating, and controlling the delivery of Installation Support as described and detailed in the Memorandum of Agreement between the Air Force and the Navy.

Command Authority will reside with the JBC effective Jan. 31 2010, when Initial Operational Capability (IOC) will start. During the period between IOC and Full Operational Capability (FOC), Oct. 1, 2010, installation support functions currently being conducted at Hickam AFB will begin phased transition to the joint base.

Not all functions will transfer at the same time, and not all functions will transfer on Jan. 31. As the functions are transferred, the JBC will assume direct responsibility and authority for the performance of those functions.

See the Web page at <http://www2.hickam.af.mil/library/joint-basinginformation/index.asp>

allied nations, are expected to participate, according to Air Mobility Command.

"Working in a joint environment will be great because we will get to see different skill sets from different bases," said Master Sgt. Maurice Wijnen-Riems, the Pacific's en route bases team chief from the 730th Air Mobility Squadron, Yokota Air Base, Japan.

The biennial, international competition features events that showcase each team's readiness and ability to perform critical wartime skills including airdrop and air refueling, according to Capt. Mark Klohr, 715th Air Mobility Operations Group director of operations.

Participants will range from security forces to aerial port, maintenance, and aeromedical evacuation personnel.

See RODEO, A4

ACTION LINE

Be aware of cellular phone use policy while pumping gasoline on base

Comment: My complaint is in regard to personnel using cell phones while pumping gas at the Shoppette pumps. This is extremely dangerous. I'm hoping someone can enforce the rule prohibiting cell phone use while pumping gas, as that has been known to cause

explosions in rare cases.

Response: The use of cellular telephones while pumping gasoline at AAFES gas stations is prohibited.

The AAFES Hawaii Exchange General Manager said the safety decal prohibiting the use of cell phones while pumping gas, along with several other items that are prohibited, is displayed on the gas pumps to alert customers to the dangers they could

encounter if in violation of these rules.

While we hope that patrons are respectful enough to obey all posted rules, we understand there will be those who still choose to ignore them.

AAFES managers periodically monitor the area and have the authority to ask customers to end their conversation or deactivate the pump; whatever they deem appropriate for the situation.

The safety of the Hickam

community is my number one priority and it's everyone's responsibility to adhere to the rules. If you have questions or concerns please don't hesitate to call the AAFES General Manager's Administrative Office at 423-8632.

Thank you for bringing this issue to our attention.

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, contact my commander's Action Line. If you would like me to get back to you, send 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 on your issue and respond verbally or in writing.

The Action Line e-mail is: 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil

CMSAF shares that he's 'proud to be an Airman'

Perspective by Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley

I grew up in a small country town in Ohio. I always maintained very good grades and wanted to make something of myself. We didn't have much money and certainly not enough for college. This is what led me to

the Air Force recruiter's office and the opportunity to become an Airman. That was a great decision and being an Airman has been one of the blessings of my life.

I am very grateful to the Air Force and all the leadership over my 30 years that has provided me the opportunity to serve my country, raise my family, see the

world, receive a first-class education, learn many trades, make many friends, and have the opportunity to lead other Airmen. I could never have imagined all of this would be possible. We sometimes tend to take things for granted and want



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley

more, not cherishing what we actually have. The Air Force has given me so much.

As I look back over my 30 years, it isn't the awards, decorations, rank or recognition that I treasure. It is the people, our Airmen, and the relationships along the way. I have been very fortunate that leaders have seen something in me to promote me into leadership positions along the way. These leadership positions have given me the opportunity to perform

the mission, help and hopefully inspire others.

As an Airman, you can rise to great heights, no matter where you are from, how poor you are, your ethnicity or gender. Being very successful is right in front of you if you perform, do the right things, remain humble, and listen to your leadership. It has been my extreme privilege to serve with each and every one of you through these many years. We will be retiring very soon, but Paula and I want to thank

you for all your kindness and generosity to us and our family. I am very proud to be an Airman and always will be.

Chief McKinley is set to retire June 30 after serving three years as the service's top enlisted Airman. He is the 15th chief master sergeant of the Air Force. Before assuming that position, he served as Command Chief Master Sergeant, Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Air Force Base.

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

Do you know the Airman's Creed?

Commentary by Chief Master Sgt. Mike Hayter
 8th Missions Support Group superintendent

KUNSAW AIR BASE, South Korea (AFNS) — Do you know the Airman's Creed? The Airman's Creed has been out for more than two years, yet there are still some Airmen who do not know it. Yes, I know sometimes it's hard to remember all of those lines on a piece of paper but what you need to do is to add meaning to it for yourself. This is the only way I can remember the creed.

Let's take a look at the first paragraph. "I am an American Airman, I am a warrior, I have answered my nation's call." What does that mean to you? To me, it means that I represent the folks from my hometown in East Tennessee. I have not lived there for more than 25 years now but I still feel that they are the folks that I am responsible to. To the folks back home in your hometown, you are their Airman, their warrior, and their representative in the great military of our nation. To prove my point, think about the times when you've gone home to visit all your friends and family. You are not only their pride and joy, but also the pride and joy of the entire

local community. This is because you are an Airman, a warrior, and you have proudly answered your nation's call.

Now, let's move on to paragraph two. "My mission is to fly, fight, and win. I am faithful to a proud heritage, a tradition of honor and a legacy of valor." When I think about this paragraph, I think about the great Airmen who came before us; like Billy Mitchell and Paul Airey. I think about what we owe them in following in their footsteps. We must preserve their great heritage, and we must do this in a manner that will also bring honor to the individuals who will follow in our footsteps. Finally, this paragraph speaks to me about the great history of the Air Force and how we each have a chance to play a part in shaping the future of not only the Air Force, but of the United States as well.

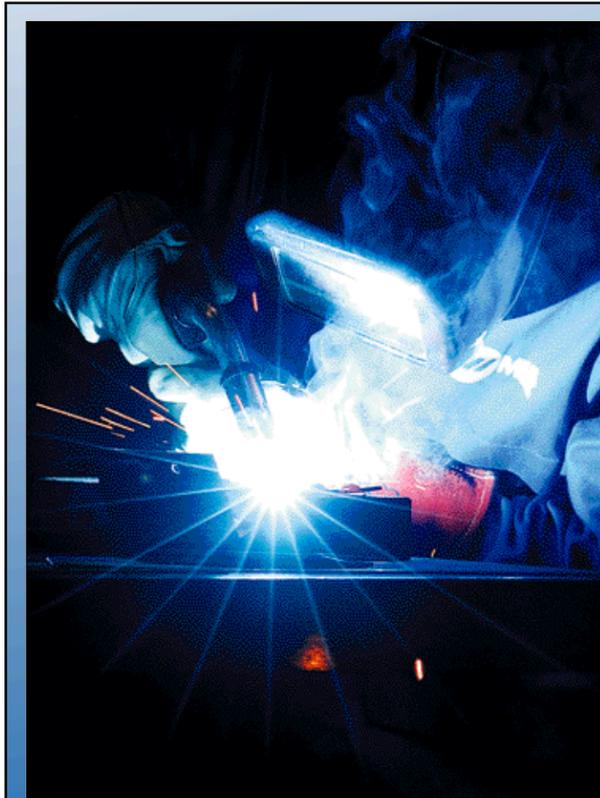
The third and final paragraph is the most powerful part of the creed. With words like freedom, justice, sword, shield, sentry and last but certainly not least, avenger, this paragraph strongly appeals to me. It reminds me that we in the military are oftentimes the only thing that stands between us and chaos and anarchy in many parts of the world. It reminds me that we are there to help maintain and often rebuild the countries of our friends and enemies

alike. Finally, the closing line strikes me the most, "I defend my country with my life." I am reminded of the people mentioned in the first paragraph; those friends and family back in East Tennessee. I am willing to give my life for them.

Additionally, the final paragraph, to me, is all about the bond that we have as Airmen and the responsibilities we have to one another.

We are all in the profession of arms and we enjoy the power that comes with it. However, with that power comes great responsibility. We are all part of something bigger than ourselves. We have to be leaders, followers and yes, sometimes we have to be warriors. We have the responsibility to the Airmen on our left or right to take care of each other and demand the best of each other. We have to be strong for each other and we can never leave anyone behind because we are only as strong as the weakest Airman. We cannot fail. Our nation needs us to be the strongest and most professional military force in the world.

If you believe and live this creed you will have no problem remembering those lines because they will be more than just lines to you. They will be a lifestyle.



Welding is a 'gas' with new course

Airmen and local nationals practiced tungsten inert gas welding June 4 at Kadena Air Base, Japan. Personnel from vehicle mechanics and body shop are completing a newly implemented welding course at the Pacific Air Forces Transportation Training Center. The center trains vehicle maintenance personnel in the Pacific region and they also train Army, Marine Corps, and Navy personnel, including the host-nation employees. The PACAF TTC offers this course three times a year for transportation mechanics and maintenance-related courses for personnel in the body shop career field.

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

Learning the facts about H1N1 and taking protective measures

Submitted by 15th Medical Group

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE — The H1N1 strain of influenza, sometimes referred to as “swine flu,” is spread from person to person in much the same way as the common flu virus is spread.

As of June 11 the World Health Organization (WHO) has raised the worldwide pandemic alert level to Phase 6, the highest level. Over a span of two weeks there have been ongoing community-level outbreaks in multiple parts of the world.

The alert level reflects the geographic spread of the virus, not the severity of illness caused by the virus or the number of cases that may have been diagnosed in a particular area.

Here are some good preventive

measures for slowing down the spread of any virus:

- Most important is hand washing with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaner is effective but should not take the place of washing hands with soap and water. CDC recommends that when you wash your hands (with soap and warm water) that you wash for 15 to 20 seconds. When soap and water are not available, alcohol-based disposable hand wipes or gel sanitizers may be used. If using gel, rub your hands until the gel is dry. The gel doesn't need water to work—the alcohol in it kills the germs on your hands.

- You can protect yourself and others by covering your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze.

Use tissue or some other type of barrier and dispose of it in the trash.

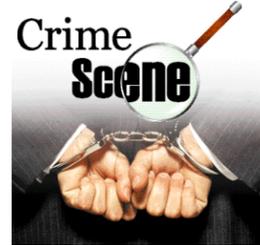
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth; that's how germs are spread with any virus. If you are having flu or flu-like symptoms, such as a fever (greater than 100.5 F), cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue, (some people may also experience diarrhea and vomiting), please contact your medical provider or report to the emergency room. If you do have these symptoms, limit contact with other people as much as possible. Stay home until you have been free of symptoms for 24 hours.

The Hickam AFB community recently had three confirmed cases

of H1N1. The individuals are all recovering quickly. Most individuals have had mild symptoms and have made a rapid and full recovery. We all need to continue prevention practices and good hygiene. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the H1N1 virus has the same properties as seasonal flu viruses. Studies on H1N1 show that the influenza virus can survive on surfaces and can infect a person for up to eight hours, so it's very important to continue to use good hand washing methods and/or alcohol-based hand cleaner. The community needs to remain vigilant and practice good hygiene and hand washing.

For any questions, please call Public Health at 448-6146/6352.

More information is also available at www.cdc.gov and www.hawaii.gov/health/.



Theft of unsecured personal property

An Active Duty O-4 assigned to SOCPAC reported a theft of personal property on Challenger Loop. This case is currently under investigation.

Theft of unsecured personal property

An Active Duty O-3/E-6/E-3 assigned to OSS/AMXS/AS reported theft of personal property from an aircraft parked on the flight line. This case is currently under investigation.

Citation totals for June 5-11

Zero abandoned vehicle notices

One civilian traffic citation
19 moving traffic citation

Four non-moving traffic citation

Fraser confirmed as next SOUTHCOM commander

by U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs

CAMP SMITH — U.S. Pacific Command's Deputy Commander, U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Douglas M. Fraser, will be promoted to the rank of general and take command of U.S. Southern Command June 25.

Fraser, who has served in his current position since April 2008, was confirmed by the Senate June 10 for his new assignment at

SOUTHCOM, which is one of the nation's six geographically-focused unified commands, with responsibility for U.S. military operations in the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

“It is truly an honor to have been nominated by the



Lt. Gen. Douglas M. Fraser

President and subsequently confirmed by the Senate,” Fraser said. “I am looking forward to the challenges ahead, and to engaging with key leaders and personnel within the Executive and Legislative branches of the U.S. Government, as well as military and government leaders of nations throughout the Southern Command area of focus to address issues of mutual concern.”

Over the past three and a half decades, Fraser has served in a variety of Air

Force and joint assignments, in both operational and staff positions.

Among other operational assignments, he commanded a fighter squadron in the Pacific, a combined air operations group in the U.S., including periods of combat operations during Operation Southern Watch, and a combined air wing supporting worldwide airlift and providing forces for

combatant command operations.

Fraser's staff positions include Headquarters, U.S. Air Force; the Office of the Secretary of Defense; a previous assignment with U.S. Pacific Command; and the Air Force Space Command staff.

In addition to military experience, Fraser lived in Bogota, Colombia for three years and graduated from

high school there. “I have maintained a life-long interest in and affinity for Latin America and the Caribbean,” he said.

Fraser is a 1975 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy and 1992 graduate of the National War College. He earned a master's degree in political science from Auburn University at Montgomery in 1987.

FISH, From A1

pulled in a big fish and the dreaded "Ahhhh" when the big one spit out the hook, children stood on the edge of the lake eyeballing their bobbers intently, begging for it to go under water. According to Friends of Hickam, the keiki blew last year's records out of the water by catching 86 more fish than last year's record-setting 363 fish.

"This is better than any day at work," Colonel Quinn said. "This really is a good time."

Though the children spent their afternoon hauling in the fish, it was the volunteers who ensured the catch was included in tournament numbers. When the fishers caught a fish, volunteers from Hickam were standing ready to measure and log the length and remove it from the hook.

"It's fun seeing these kids get excited," said Matt Ball, a military spouse and volunteer at lakeside. "If I was a kid, I would have a lot of fun doing this. But seeing the excitement on their faces when they pull in a big catch has been more fun than fishing myself."

Volunteers from Friends of Hickam and Hickam AFB also set up the fishing area, cooked lunch, and cleaned up after everyone went home. As well as helping with the logistics of the tournament, volunteers ensured two of the commander's key elements for the tourney were met: safety and sportsmanship.

These topics were touched on by Col. Giovanni Tuck, 15th Airlift Wing commander, when he thanked Friends of Hickam for putting on the event and gave the keiki a pre-tourney pep talk, where he explained safety precautions and encouraged the children to be good sportsmen.

"We could not do these events without Friends of Hickam," Colonel Tuck said to the group of children, parents and volunteers. "Safety and sportsmanship is the key to this being a successful event. If the youngster next to you catches a fish, congratulate them, don't get upset."

The tournament was divided into boys and girls categories, and awards were hand-

ed out for most fish and the largest fish. Tournament winner for the boys was Taka Endo, 12, who caught 11 fish, and for the girls Jamie Valdez, 11, who caught 21 fish, the most in the tournament.

This was the second year in a row Jamie won it for the girls and helped the girls beat the boys in the overall competition. During last year's event, she caught 10 fish.

"I just watched the bobber the entire time," she said. "I made sure it went all the way under before I pulled on the fishing pole. I knew I caught it."

She attributes her success for the past two years to her dad's hands. The smell of fish transferred from her dad's hands to the bread and she thinks the fish weren't afraid to take the bait because of the smell. With one more year of eligibility, she plans to return to beat her record next year, knowing that she will have fun in the process.

"It's really fun because the free food and prizes," Jamie said. "Getting to hang out with other people is fun too."

At the end of the day, they were fished out, but not a single child walked away from their experience with empty hands. Though they were not going to be able to take the fish they caught home for dinner, each one received a door prize from the Friends of Hickam. From fishing poles and tackle boxes to volleyballs and snorkeling kits, the Hawaiian isles will be a nice playground for the keiki's new toys.

Third largest fish

Ariana McCain, 12, 11 inches (girls)
Nathan Lowry, 6, 11-1/2 inches (boys)

Second largest fish

Kierra Shirley, 8, 11 inches (girls)
Jordyn Brown, 6, 11-1/2 inches (boys)

Largest fish

Abigale Winward, 5, 12 inches (girls)
Dexter Wurn, 9, 12 inches (boys)

Most Fish

Jamie Valdez, 11, 21 fish (girls)
Taka Endo, 12, 11 fish (boys)

RODEO, From A1

"We have a very experienced team, both in terms of the RODEO and performing our wartime tasks on a daily basis," said Col. Rich McClain, 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing commander here. "This is what we do every day and we do it well. I have no doubt this team will apply the same sound principles they use every day to succeed and represent us well at the RODEO."

The 515th AMOW will compete against 22 other aerial port teams. Events include C-130 engine running on and off load, joint inspection with hazmat, in-transit visibility, 60,000-ton driving course, and a 10,000-ton forklift driving course.

Because some of the events involve equipment that's not available at Hickam AFB, they've set up training on C-130s at Barbers Point as well as with the South Korean team, according to Sergeant Wijnen-Riems.

"It's been great seeing the team in action and doing what we have trained to do," said Tech. Sgt. Dwayne Johnson, 735th Air Mobility Squadron training manager.

"I'm looking forward to meeting the different foreign militaries and getting to see how they do things in contrast to how we do things. It's a life-broadening experience," he added.

The training and rodeo also give them a chance to communicate with a diverse range of people of various nationalities and career fields, he said.

"It's more than just seeing how they operate in different aircraft," Sergeant Johnson said.

"Getting familiar with their customs and culture is a huge benefit as well, and really prepares us for the times we may deploy

and work with multinational forces."

In addition to the events involving aircraft, they'll all run a four-mile combat endurance course in full uniform while wearing their battle gear.

"We've been working out twice a day," said Staff Sgt. Cliff Robertson, 735th AMS knowledge operations management. "I hear part of the confidence course is pushing a humvee and running in a gas mask, so we're really pushing it hard to make sure we're ready."

Accompanying the team chief and Hickam sergeants are Senior Airman Baltazar Valdez, 731st Air Mobility Squadron, Osan Air Base, Korea; Senior Airman Andrew Cramer and Staff Sgt. Russell Mann, 732nd Air Mobility Squadron, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska; Staff Sgt. Travis Wilt, 733rd Air Mobility Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan; and Staff Sgt. Dustin Barboza, 734th Air Mobility Squadron, Andersen Air Base, Guam.

Sergeant Robertson said it's been great getting to know the guys from other bases during the last two weeks, and he's confident they will be able to win the best overall aerial port team award.

"We're not dreading any aspect of it," Sergeant Johnson said. "We're definitely prepared. We were picked because of our ability to do the job, and we're fit to do what we've trained to do."

The Hickam Air Mobility Rodeo Team has been chosen, and the story announcing their debut ran in the June 5 edition of the Kukini and on the base Web site, www2.hickam.af.mil. There will be ongoing coverage of the Rodeo and Hickam's teams.

Airmen maintainers keep F-22 jets ready in Guam

by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente
36th Wing Public Affairs

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — To support F-22 Raptors deployed here as part of U.S. Pacific Command's Theater Security Packages, a team of maintenance personnel are working behind the scenes to ensure that each flying mission is a success.

The team of 150 Airmen from the 525th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, is providing maintenance support for 12 F-22 Raptors, also deployed here from Alaska, to meet emerging security challenges in the Asia-Pacific Region. The team, which includes both officer and enlisted, is responsible for the condition of the flying fleet, and for the safety of its flying team.

"It takes a skilled team of Airmen to get these F-22s in the sky," said 2nd Lt. Brian Struyk, 525th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit officer in charge.

The aircraft maintenance team includes: low observables technicians, weapons load crew members, electrical and avionics specialists, fuels specialists, a crash recovery



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christopher Bush

Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Smith and Senior Airman Theodore Cupp, F-22 crew chiefs from the 525th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit deployed from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, perform maintenance on a hydraulic pump June 3. The Airmen are deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam in support of U.S. Pacific Command's Theatre Security Packages.

team and crew chiefs.

"Our day-to-day mission out here is pretty simple: get the jets ready to go," said Staff Sgt. Donald Lundeen, 525th EAMU F-22 Raptor crew chief.

In order for the Raptors to support the TSP mission, each member of the team has a key role in the process. And while many might assume the pilot is the most signifi-

cant player of the team, the maintenance team is a key player in ensuring the aircraft get off the ground, according to Sergeant Lundeen.

"I think [our] job is pretty important because without your crew chief [and maintenance team] out there working the jet, you really don't have a jet," said Sergeant Lundeen. "You have a good static display. That's about it."

Even those with a few year's experience, like Airman 1st Class Andrew Snelling, a 525th EMAU weapons load crew member, have pride in what they are accomplishing, but realize the importance of the 525th EAMU being deployed here.

"Our unit's goal is to get every sortie that we've planned," said Airman Snelling, 525th EAMU weapons load crew member. "If we're getting our sorties, it reflects well on our unit. As long as we get the sorties that we've planned and fly them successfully, we should be in fine shape."

Whether deployed or at home, Airmen of the 525th EAMU have the same mission— to ensure the aircraft is ready for flight. Location, however, can play a role in what type of work is required, Sergeant Lundeen said.

"One of the challenges that we're going to face is definitely the heat," Sergeant Lundeen said. "Being out here, coming from Alaska, it's a pretty big change temperature-wise. The aircraft dealing with humidity is another big challenge you face, but we've got a good unit, so we'll overcome anything that comes our way."

A great deal of responsibility is entrusted to the young enlisted

Airmen who help ensure each Raptor is prepared to fly, Lieutenant Struyk said.

"Most young adults out of high school can't fathom being responsible for a \$130 million aircraft," said Lieutenant Struyk. "The Airmen we have here make it look easy."

One of the most important aspects of the F-22 is its low observable characteristics.

"We have a separate back shop crew called LO that maintains all of the coating on the aircraft," the lieutenant said. "Due to the heat, rain and high humidity, the LO technicians have one of the heaviest workloads here."

The Air Force deployed two contingents of F-22A Raptors, the newest addition to the Air Force's aircraft inventory, to Pacific Theater in May for approximately four months. Twelve fighters deployed to Kadena Air Base, Japan from the 94th Fighter Squadron at Langley Air Force Base, Va., and 12 deployed to Guam from the 525th Fighter Squadron at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. The deployments support U.S. Pacific Command's Theater Security Packages in the Western Pacific.

2009 Consumer Confidence Report of Tap Water, Hickam AFB

Submitted by 15 CES/CEVQ

Hickam AFB water consumers can rest assured that their water is safe and reliable, meeting all Federal, Air Force, State, and local safe drinking water requirements. Continual monitoring at the source and within the system ensures only safe quality drinking water is supplied on Hickam AFB.

Federal Law requires we publish this consumer confidence report to provide water quality information to the consuming public; however, consumers would be notified immediately if a regulated contaminant exceeded standards. Presented in this report is information on the source of our water, its constituents, and the health risks associated with any contaminants.

Tech. Sgt. Brignac and Capt. Gilliam of the Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight are available at 448-6769 to answer any questions you have about your drinking water quality. Safety and health of our people and family members are paramount.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We work in cooperation with the Navy and State to protect our water from contaminants.

Within the boundaries of Hickam AFB, the State and the Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight monitor for contaminants in the water system.

All contaminant levels were well below the established health and safety limits.

The Pearl Harbor Water System is continually working to protect the water from contaminants. The State of Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) has completed the Source Water Assessment in early 2004.

This document identifies the susceptibility of your water supply to contamination. The source water assessment is available for review by contacting the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii, Public Affairs at 471-7300.

What is the source of my water?

Hickam AFB water is supplied by the Pearl Harbor Water System. The Pearl Harbor Water System uses groundwater from local aquifers as its water source. Groundwater is naturally filtered as it travels from the surface to the aquifer below ground.

The water is pumped from the aquifer, then disinfected, fluoridated, and piped into the distribution system. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health as those limits set by EPA for public water systems.

Why does my water have an unusual odor or taste?

The water on Hickam AFB may taste differently than what you are accustomed to; however, it still meets all applicable standards. Several things cause different odors and tastes coming from ground water. Some are caused by dissolved salts and minerals as the water percolates through the ground to the aquifer. Some minerals may be filtered out of the water.

The absence of minerals such as manganese, calcium, and iron, may cause the water to taste bland. The water on Hickam AFB may also taste differently than water at other areas on the island because some of the local water systems do not add chlorine, as the Pearl Harbor Water System is required to do by Navy policy. Adding a small chlorine "residual" is a standard industry practice to prevent pathogens, such as bacteria, from growing within the system.

Chlorination is one added factor of safety to ensure your water is safe. Another factor that may affect taste is the water temperature. When water is warm, it may not seem to taste as pleasant as when it is cold.

Although the water may taste differently here than other areas on the island or from your previous locations, the water is safe for consumption.

Why are there contaminants in my water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

What are some possible contaminants?

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and resi-

dential uses.

- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care

providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

What are the sampling results?

The Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight and Pearl Harbor Public Works Center constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements.

The actual results are listed in the appendix (see page A7). The contaminants listed in the table were analyzed at levels above laboratory detection limit; however, levels are well below the EPA and State Safe Drinking Water limits.

Contaminants not present in the drinking water or analyzed below laboratory detection limits are not included in the table. Hickam AFB Water System meets all applicable standards and complies with the

National Primary Drinking Water Regulation.

If the water ever became unsafe to drink on the base, we would immediately notify the public and take appropriate actions to provide safe drinking water to all base residents and workers.

For additional information regarding this report, or if you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact the Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight at 448-6769.

We think it is important for our consumers to be informed about the quality of their water. Because the water distributed on our base is such high quality, we do not hold any regularly scheduled meetings to discuss water quality issues with the base populace.

However, if you want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact a representative at the above number to discuss your concerns and/or questions.

Lead-specific Health Information?

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

Hickam AFB is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead/>

See WATER, A7

WATER, From A6

Appendix: Sampling Results

The following table lists contaminants that were detected during the latest round of sampling by the State of Hawaii Department of Health and/or Navy Public Works Center. Unless specified otherwise, data presented in this table is from testing done from 1 January through 31 December 2008. The state requires us to monitor certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Definitions: AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

Abbreviations: ppm: parts per million; ppb: parts per billion; mg/kg: milligrams per kilogram, or a unit of measure equivalent to part per million (ppm); µg/L: micrograms per liter, or a unit of measure equivalent to part per billion (ppb); mg/L: milligrams per liter, or a unit of measure equivalent to parts per million (ppm).

Contaminants in the Source of Water

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Average Level Detected	Range	Date of Sample	Exceeded Standard?	Likely Source of Contaminant
Inorganic							
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0047	0.0027 - 0.067	2006 ¹	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	1.2	1.0 - 1.3	2006 ¹	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	n/a ²	n/a ²	0.0076	nd - 0.014	2006 ¹	n/a	Erosions of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/L)	4	4	0.69	0.20 - 1.44	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.57	0.52 - 0.64	2008	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits
Organic							
Heptachlor epoxide (µg/L)	0	0.2	0.013	nd - 0.013	2006 ¹	No	Breakdown of heptachlor
Unregulated Contaminants²							
Sodium (ppm)	n/a ³	n/a ³	35	27 - 48	2006 ¹	n/a	Naturally-occurring
Sulfate (ppm)	n/a ³	n/a ³	6	nd - 12	2008	n/a	Naturally-occurring

Contaminants in the Distribution System

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Average Level Detected	Range	Date of Sample	Exceeded Standard?	Likely Source of Contaminant
Inorganic							
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	0.92 ³	0.06-0.14	2007 ¹	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppm)	0	AL=15	<1 ³	n/a	2007 ¹	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Organic							
Residual Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	0.5	0.1 - 2.0	2008	No	Water additive used to control microbes

1. The state and EPA require us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. The date of the last sample collected is as indicated.
2. These results are for informational purposes. There are no set standards. EPA will use this data to help determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate these contaminants. At this time, these contaminants do not have MCLs or MCLGs.
3. In accordance with EPA and State regulations, this number represents the 3rd highest (90th percentile) value of the 20 samples collected.

NEWS NOTES, From A1

acquaint newcomers with resources and services. Then take a tour of the island. Appropriate attire is uniform of the day. Register through your unit CSS or MPF.

Air Force Spouse 101: Heart Link — This is scheduled Friday, June 26, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Spouses can join us 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. There's free lunch and with

advanced notice free child care may be provided. Call 449-0300 to register.

Health Care Advisory Council — The 15th Medical Group will be hosting the next Health Care Advisory Council on Friday, June 26 at 1 p.m. in the 15th AW conference room. All Commanders, First Sergeants, spouses and retirees are encouraged to attend. This meeting enables Commanders, First Sergeants, and delegates to give input on how the 15th Medical Group can better serve the population and provides the latest in policies, directives, and procedures in provision of health care. For more information please contact Capt. Roger

Bermea at 448-6335.

Estate of 1st Lt. Roslyn Schulte — Col. Giovanni Tuck, 15th Airlift Wing Commander, regrettably announces the death of 1st Lt. Roslyn Schulte, 613th AOC/IRD. Anyone having claims against or indebtedness to the estate of 1st Lt. Schulte should contact Capt. Jaclyn DeRoush, 613 AOC/SRD, Summary Court Officer, at (808) 448-2493.

15 Airlift Wing Equal Opportunity Office — We are here to assist in the resolution of discrimination complaints based on race, color, religion, national origin and sex. Call 449-1701.



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Matthew Hannen

The wild blue yonder

Aircraft looked like they were climbing high into the sun as T-6A Texan IIs fly over Texas June 7. The aircraft and pilots are from Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.