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Hawaiian Raptors Deploy to Central Command Area of Responsibility

Story by Lt. Col. Charles Anthony Photos by A1c Robert Cabuco

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii- More than 200 members of the Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG) and the active duty Air Force as well as an undisclosed number of F-22 Raptors, based at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam have deployed to the Central Command Area of Responsibility (CENTCOM AOR). The F-22 fighter aircraft and most of the Airmen departed from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Sept. 26. For security reasons, this deployment was announced only after the F-22 Raptors and Airmen arrived at the CENTCOM AOR base they will operate from for the next six months. Because of security considerations and host nation sensitivities, the HIANG will not release the base nor country where the Raptors are operating from, nor will the HIANG release the number of F-22 fighters that are deployed.

The Hawaiian Raptors are flown by pilots from the HIANG's 199th Fighters Squadron and the active duty's 19th Fighter Squadron. Maintenance and other support personnel are from the HIANG's 154th Wing and the active duty's 15th Wing. This is the first operational deployment for the Hawaiian Raptors. In 2010, the 199th Fighter Squadron converted to the F-22 from the F-15 Eagle and began flying the Raptors in partnership with the 19th Fighter Squadron. This is the first combat deployment for the 199th Fighter Squadron since it deployed to Saudi Arabia in 2000 to patrol the southern no-fly zone of Iraq. The 19th Fighter Squadron last deployed to Southwest Asia in 1992.

The CENTCOM AOR encompasses the area of Southwest Asia and most of the Middle East.

While some of the Hawaiian Raptors are deployed, the HIANG will continue to perform its 24 hour a day/365 days per year air defense mission, as some of the F-22s have remained in Hawaii.



A Hawaii Air National Guard F-22 Raptor takes off from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Sept. 26, 2015. The Hawaiian Raptors are deploying to the CENTCOM area of responsibility. This is the first combat deployment for the 199th Fighter Squadron since it deployed to Saudi Arabia in 2000 to patrol the southern no-fly zone of Iraq. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Robert Cabuco/released)



The Hawaii Air National Guard F-22 Raptors taxi through the tarmac at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Sept. 26, 2015. The Hawaiian Raptors are flown by pilots from the HIANG's 199th Fighter Squadron and the active duty's 19th Fighter Squadron. Maintenance and other support personnel are from the HIANG's 154th Wing and the active duty's 15th Wing. The Hawaiian Raptors are deploying to the CENTCOM area of responsibility. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Robert Cabuco/released)



U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Braden Sakai, commander, 154th Wing Hawaii Air National Guard, returns a salute from an Airman leaving for deployment, Sept. 26, 2015, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Airmen from the 154th Wing, Hawaii Air National Guard and active duty 15th Wing are part of the Hawaiian Raptor deployment to the Central Command Area of Responsibility. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Robert Cabuco/released)

Around the Guard

Protecting the Pope in Philadelphia



In support of Pope Francis' visit to the United States, a National Security Special Event (NSSE), the 93rd CST provided one individual, SFC Alika K. Kane, to assist with CBRN technical expertise and tactical response alongside Philadelphia Police and Fire, FBI WMD, and Department of Energy members in a joint hazard assessment team (JHAT) initiative. These teams were segregated into sectors within the city and were responsible to respond to any suspicious package or event within that sector during the entirety of the Pontiff's visit to the Philadelphia area.

Accident Rehearsal in Hilo



The Hawaii Army National Guard AASF #1 in Hilo conducted its annual pre-accident plan rehearsal with the Hilo Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting team at Hilo Airport September 22, 2015.

SAVE THE DATE



On 10 November 2015, please come to the 2nd Annual National Guard and Veteran Stand Down & Job Fair.

This is a collective community endeavor with lead agencies such as the Office of Social Ministry, U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U. S. Vets, State of Hawaii Office of Veterans Services, State of Hawaii Institute for Human Services, and other service providers coming together to offer services to National Guard service members, their families, and qualifying veterans.

Vietnam Veteran?



Hawaii's 50th Anniversary of Vietnam Commemorative Committee is compiling a database of Hawaii-based Vietnam-era veterans.

To register for the 50th Anniversary of Vietnam database, veterans, or their family members, are encouraged to click on [here](#) or visit the Office of Veterans Services website (www.dod.hawaii.gov/ovs) and click on the link to the 50th Anniversary website.

Gema Bhakti - 2015



U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lt. Nicholas J. Boire, left, reviews the execution plan during a simulated search and rescue mission as part of Exercise Gema Bhakti in Jakarta, Indonesia, Sept. 17, 2015, as instructors U.S. Army Major Bill Flynn, right, and Indonesian Marine Corps Major Nyoman provide feedback. The urban search and rescue training is one of four lanes that increases service members' humanitarian assistance and disaster response capabilities in the Pacific area of operations which is prone to various natural disasters. Gema Bhakti, Indonesian for 'Echo of Good Deeds,' is a joint, bilateral ten-day exercise designed to promote positive military relations, increase cultural awareness and enhance training and understanding of each other's capabilities. Boire, a native of New York, New York, is the combined anti-armor platoon commander with weapons company, 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment and currently deployed to Darwin, Australia, as part of Marine Rotational Forces-Darwin. Flynn, a native of Orlando, Florida, is the acting commander for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear enhanced response force package (CERFP) with the Hawaii National Guard. Nyoman, a native of Jakarta, Indonesia, is an operations officer with 2nd Engineer Battalion and a past participant of Operation Cobra Gold, a Pacific Command directed multinational and multiservice exercise. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by 2nd Lt. Michael Maggitti/Released)

More than 25 members of the Hawaii Army National Guard participated in exercise Gema Bhakti from Sept. 14-23 in Jarkarta, Indonesia. It was the third year that the humanitarian assistance/disaster relief exercise was conducted with the Tentara Nasional Indonesia or Indonesian National Armed Forces.

GB15 presented four lanes for the TNI and U.S. Armed Forces members to navigate at an operational-level within a notional humanitarian assistance/disaster relief scenario which included a 7.3-level earthquake that occurred in the fictional country of Oceania. The four lanes were Urban Search and Rescue, Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination, Multinational Coordination Center and Coalition Task Force Rules of Engagement.

"The exercise went really well," said Lionel Payes, Joint Multinational Exercise Manager for U.S. Army Pacific, G7 Directorate and former 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery commander. "Both U.S. and TNI were on the same playing field coming into this exercise. The curriculum and the information shared in all four lanes, was information that neither military gives at their basic courses."

By learning and experiencing this specific scenario with the emphasis on multinational civilian military coordination, it can make things easier when you are trying to integrate and set up with multiple nations in a foreign country.

"This information tends to be learned on the spot," said Payes. "We are not schooled in this, however after every natural disaster, those affected and in leadership positions, would say that this is the type of information that would have been helpful before we got to a disaster area... and when the day comes, you can reach in your tool bag and reference the lessons learned from Gema Bhakti, it will definitely make things easier and a lot smoother during a natural disaster."

The Hawaii National Guard made up the majority of the U.S.

Armed Forces present at the exercise. Active duty service members from the Navy, Air Force and Marines and some from the U.S. Army Reserves rounded out the group.

"I believe the Hawaii Army National Guard participants received a wealth of knowledge here at Gema Bhakti 2015," said Payes. "They have been here from the inaugural event, and continuity has been built with their TNI counterparts. The HIARNG has been and will be a prominent fixture in GB."

Indonesia and Hawaii are State Partnership Program partners, a National Guard Bureau program where both participants conduct military to military engagements in support of defense security goals and also broader government, economic and social objectives. Exercise Gema Bhakti 2015 is a perfect vehicle for both countries.

"Gema Bhakti is very important to us," said Capt. Octoberiandi Yusuf, TNI Air Force. "The training with U.S. PACOM, the Hawaii National Guard and TNI specifically, allows everyone to practice what we will do during times of emergency. I have new friends and I learned so many lessons from the U.S. armed forces here at GB15. I appreciate the opportunity to develop our relationships and we can make the Pacific region stronger."

Gema Bhakti is Indonesian for "echo of good deeds." Many deeds were accomplished and those deeds have the potential to protect the precious time that military responders need during a disaster. Where the main effort can be out saving lives, whether it be providing medical assistance, supplying fresh water or shelter to those in need.

"It was a fantastic opportunity to work with the Hawaii National Guard," said Jesse Wolf, Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance Advisor with the Center for Excellence in Hawaii. "And see the Guard really build their partnership with the TNI and strengthen the ability to work together on critical real world situations."

Around the Guard



Lt. Col. Courtney Vares-Lum salutes the official party during the 103rd Troop Command change of command at the Hawaii Army National Guard armory Oct. 4, 2015. Vares-Lum acted as commander of troops for the ceremony. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)



Brig. Gen. Keith Y. Tamashiro, commander of the Hawaii Army National Guard, passes the 103rd Troop Command guidon to the new commander of the unit, Col. Roger Pukahi during the 103rd Troop Command's change of command ceremony at the Hawaii Army National Guard armory Oct. 3, 2015. Pukahi assumed command from Col. Robert W. Leshner. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)



Brig. Gen. Keith Y. Tamashiro, commander of the Hawaii Army National Guard, smiles as he gives his remarks during the 103rd Troop Command change of command ceremony at the Hawaii Army National Guard armory on Oct. 3, 2015. The 103rd Troop Command is a diverse unit, with a wide variety of missions. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)



Col. Roger Pukahi, the new commander of the 103rd Troop Command, gives his remarks during the 103rd Troop Command change of command ceremony at the Hawaii Army National Guard armory on Oct. 3, 2015. Pukahi's experience as a rotary-wing aviator will benefit him during his command of the 103rd Troop Command, a substantial part of which is comprised of soldiers from Company B, 777th Aviation Support Battalion. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)



Brig. Gen. Keith Y. Tamashiro passes the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Guidon to Col. Moses Kaoiwi, Jr. during the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team change of command ceremony in Kapolei, Hawaii, Oct. 4, 2015. The ceremony was attended by many distinguished guests, including Gov. David Ige. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)



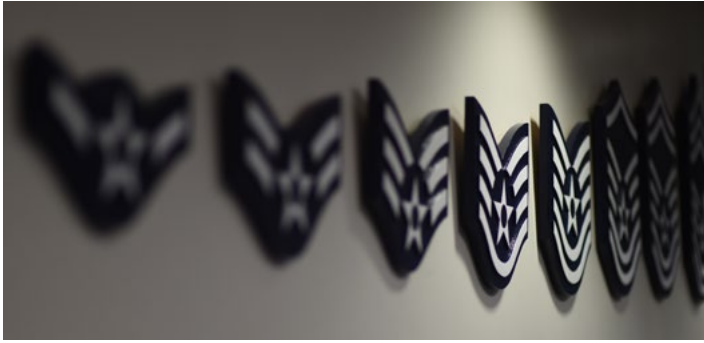
Col. Stephen F. Logan prepares to relinquish the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team guidon to Col. Moses Kaoiwi, Jr. during the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team change of command ceremony in Kapolei, Hawaii, Oct. 4, 2015. Brig. Gen. Keith Y. Tamashiro, commander of the Hawaii Army National Guard, facilitated the exchange. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)



Col. Moses Kaoiwi, Jr. passes the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team guidon to his senior enlisted advisor during the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team change of command ceremony in Kapolei, Hawaii, Oct. 4, 2015. Kaoiwi assumed command from Col. Stephen F. Logan. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Paul D. Berzinas/Released)

Total Force Leadership Development Program bridges PME gap

by Tech. Sgt. Aaron Oelrich, 15th Wing Public Affairs



Are you in the gap? The gap between Airmen Leadership School, Noncommissioned Officers Academy or Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy? In most cases, there are several years between each professional military education school and, now, with the increased use of distance learning, the gap is only getting bigger.

According to Master Sgt. Heath Adams, co-chairman of the Total Force Leadership Development Program, a group of senior noncommissioned officers from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, started the TFLDP as a way to fill the void between PME courses, and create a leadership curriculum that would improve the Air Force's leaders' development.

Adams said the initial group of SNCOs developed the program moved bringing the TFDLP to their new bases and over the years, the program has grown and is now implemented at more than 20 bases.

The TFLDP consists of specially designed courses that mixes commercial leadership tools with the Air Force core competencies as well as the Core Values and leadership vision.

"The courses are designed to get through to Airman who don't know that they are leaders and pull those leadership qualities out of them," said Adams.

He noticed that there was not a TFLDP here after arriving to JBPHH.

"I initially started out selfishly looking for a way to develop myself," said Adams. "I had gone through the TFLDP courses at my last base and wanted to continue to develop myself as a leader. I think the best way to learn is to teach, so I tried to find a leadership avenue where I could teach, and starting the TFLDP at JBPHH gave me that opportunity. So, I found some other motivated NCOs and we worked with the 15th Wing command chief to receive funding and get the program off the ground."

Adams said that over the past year, about 300 Airmen have attended the two courses offered by the TFLDP—"360 Degree Leader" and "Developing the Leader within You." Both courses are based on the teaching of John Maxwell and the Air Force's core competencies as well as the Core Values and leadership vision.

Maxwell is an author and speaker who focuses on leadership and leadership development.

"One of the themes of the course is that you can't lead others until you can lead yourself," said Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Perez, co-chairman of the TFLDP. "The courses make students take a look at how they are presenting themselves and how others view them."

Perez said the class really seems to speak to Airmen and the majority of students who attend one class immediately register for the second.

"I absolutely loved the class. I realized that I was behind the power curve as a leader," said Master Sgt. Sterling Magby, a student and now facilitator for the TFLDP. "I waited too long to develop myself as a leader. I thought I couldn't be a leader until I was at the top. Now I am trying to complete the steps I need to catch up. The courses teach that you can lead from anywhere within an organization and that leadership is specifically influences. The course made me change my philosophy, instead of looking at myself, I started looking at what I am going to do for my team."

According to Perez, over an eight-hour course, a facilitator guides 30 students through a curriculum that is discussion-based.

"The job of the facilitators is to help draw out the leaders in the class and help them share their experiences and challenges they have faced," said Perez. "This helps build the bridge between institutional competencies and their experiences, allowing the students to learn how to lead more effectively over others and themselves."

Becoming a facilitator is often the next step for those who have a desire for influencing Airmen.

Facilitators range from Senior Airman to Captain, anyone can be a facilitator as long as they have a passion to develop leadership and, are not in it for themselves but in it for the development of the people who are going to receive the guidance.

Facilitator training occurs once month and is a two-hour course that covers the course curriculum as well as the history of the program. Then, facilitators have to attend both courses and qualify as a facilitator by teaching a course. To stay current, each facilitator must teach a course once every six months.

Magby said after taking the course he started looking for ways to develop the Airmen around him to impact the mission on a bigger level, so he became a facilitator.

"The younger Airmen make up the majority of our people in the work force," said Magby. "If they attend these courses, they could really have a positive impact on their organization. You can never have too much leadership development. From an Airman 1st Class to a General there is always improvement that can be made to develop yourself."

If you are interested in attending a TFLDP course, you can register up at <https://cs3.eis.af.mil/sites/OO-DP-PC-15/PLDreg/Registration/Registration.aspx>

