

## America's National Guard: A force leaning forward

Story by Staff Sgt. Ryan Sheldon, 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Airmen and Soldiers from Hawaii's National Guard work behind the scenes in an operations center at the 135th Annual National Guard Association of the United States conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, Sept. 20-23, 2013.

HONOLULU – More than 3,000 National Guard officers and their families from all 50 states, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia met September 20-23, in the Hawaii Convention Center to discuss the common challenges that confront the Army and Air National Guards nationwide. The 135th Annual Conference began with welcoming remarks from Hawaii's State Adjutant General Darryll D.M. Wong and Hawaii

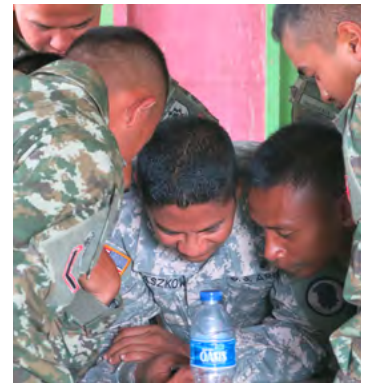
Governor Neil Abercrombie. Abercrombie stressed the importance of the National Guard and the need for Congress to provide the funds needed to support National Guard programs.

"Our diversity defines us, it does not divide us," Abercrombie said. "As long as there is a strong National Guard, as long as there is a strong national unity then the United States can do nothing less than prosper and succeed."

After the governor expressed concerns about funding the National Guard, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki strongly emphasized the need to address a problem we have... [Read More](#)



Hawaii Army National Guard Hosts Clean-up Project at Diamond Head State Park - [Read more:](#)



Hawaii Army National Guard Soldier with the Noncommissioned officer development team holds a discussion with Indonesian NCOs as a part of the State Partnership Program

## Hawaii National Guard sees significant reduction in energy consumption

Story by Steven Lum, Hawaii Department of Defense- Public Affairs



22nd Avenue, DIAMOND HEAD) On Sept. 19, Gov. Neil Abercrombie joined by Maj. Gen. Darryll D.M. Wong, the adjutant general and retired Maj. Gen. Ray Starling, Hawaii Energy program manager, shared how Hawaii State Department of Defense, Hawaii National Guard

division, reduced its energy consumption in some facilities by as much as 23 percent. Last July, as part of the governor's reduction in dependence on fossil fuels initiative, Gen. Wong directed his staff to implement a plan to cut energy usage by five percent each year for five years cutting total usage by 25 percent by 2017.

To date, the projects and behavior modifications throughout the National Guard's facilities

in Diamond Head area have resulted in an aggregate savings of \$79,000 since to program's implementation a year ago.

Over the last several years, the Hawaii National Guard has worked collaboratively with Hawaii Energy, the conservation and efficiency program for Hawaii, Honolulu and Maui counties, to become more energy efficient.

In summer 2012, partnering with Hawaii Energy, State DOD personnel were educated on energy conservation measures. More than 130 Hawaii National Guard staffers learned about conservation and efficiency in the workplace, including identification of wasteful lighting and air conditioning conditions. The ultimate goal is the adoption of institutional behavior change. In turn, these staff members applied the training ... [Read More](#)



Hawaii Adjutant General – Major General Darryll D.M. Wong meets with a delegation of Philippine Armed Forces Officers, Sept. 13

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