

Kūkā'ilimoku

Top two Air Force leaders resign

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- The Air Force's top civilian and uniformed leader tendered their resignations to Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates June 5.

"Recent events convince me that it is now time for a new leader to take the stick and for me to move on," said Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne in a statement.

"Therefore I have given my request

to resign to Secretary Gates. Even as I do, my heart, my thoughts and prayers remain with America's Airmen who will continue to do magnificent things for this great country."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley, who was appointed the 18th Air Force chief of staff in September 2005, has also tendered his resignation.

"Recent events have highlighted a loss of focus on certain critical matters within the Air Force," General Moseley's statement reads. "As the Air Force's senior uniformed



(Left) Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. T. Michael Moseley. (U.S. Air Force photo illustration/Mike Carabajal)

see LEADERSHIP page 9

HIANG crew delivers relief to China

by Public Affairs, 154 WG

A Hawaii Air National Guard C-17 crew was the first of two Hickam-based C-17s to deliver relief supplies into China a few days after a devastating earthquake severely damaged the region May 12.

After an ever-changing flight destination and a multitude of obstacles, crewmembers from the 204th Airlift Squadron, successfully delivered close to 100,000 pounds of food, tents, blankets and tools as part of "Operation Caring Response."

The following is a record of events written by crewmembers Maj. Troy Cullen and Maj. Anthony Davis:

The crew was put on Bravo alert at 11:00 p.m. As we waited, cargo pallets were being built and mission details, such as multiple air refueling rendezvous along the route, were planned and coordinated. We embarked on our adventure after receiving another alert call for a 2:45 a.m. Saturday takeoff. We showed up at the squadron and were informed that we were good to launch, but with one problem...we did not have a return route after our landing in China. Although we knew

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Maj. Troy Cullen and Maj. Anthony Davis, C-17 pilots with the Hawaii Air National Guard's 204th Airlift Squadron out of Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, prepare to land a C-17 Globemaster III at Chengdu Shuangliu International airport in China. The United States Pacific Command support of earthquake relief efforts was authorized by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, in support of the U.S. Department of State. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Chris Vadnais)



Commander's Call: Getting back core values

by Brig. Gen. Peter S. "Skipper" Pawling, Commander 154 WG

Aloha Airmen!

Recently we learned through the news that both Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley resigned following the report on the investigation into the recent shipment of sensitive

missile components.

The Secretary of Defense, Robert M. Gates, a former Airman himself, came to the conclusion that the focus on our most sensitive mission—the handling of nuclear weapons—has eroded over the past decade. He said a change in leadership was in order to underscore our commitment to this important mission.

With that in mind, I truly believe being a member of the armed forces is a special calling that is highly respected by all. It's also a great privilege to be a member of the Hawaii National Guard, where we are known, respected and admired by our community.

The Air Force and our Governor on down have trust and high confidence that we're doing the right thing every time. However, our past performance doesn't automatically replicate itself. We are only as good as today and for that reason we have to do our best everyday! Please keep up the good work!

As we garnish lessons learned form the recent events,

I expect more discussion concerning Air Force Core values along with the culture and standards of our 154th Wing.

A change that will hit closer to home is the permanent change of station for the Hickam installation commander, Col. John J. Torres, 15th Airlift Wing. Col. Torres has been the 15 AW commander for two years and has done an extraordinary job. He has helped us considerably to continue our development as a C-17 classic associate unit. Although I am sad to see him go, I know that he will do great things at his next duty location.

The May CERE was a good stepping stone for us all. It went well; we saw considerable improvement from the last exercise. The most improvement was the decrease in the number of discrepancies for the members that were tasked to deploy. That accomplishment is a direct reflection of the hard work that each of you have put in to making sure that your ancillary, mobility and personal readiness are taken care of. Keep up the good work and let's continue to strive for zero discrepancies; it is possible and we can do it.

As a reminder, remember that all activities carry some level of risk, so continue to use common sense and practice good Operational Risk Management in everything you do. Continue to drive defensively, wear seat belts, and arrange for designated drivers when social activities involve alcohol. Be a good Wingman!



photo by Staff Sgt. John Yano

Members of the 154th Medical Group load equipment June 7, in preparation for a joint CERF-P exercise in Reno, NV June 12 – 22. Approximately 30 Airmen from the 154 MDG and more than 100 HIARNG Soldiers will participate.

Kuka'ilimoku

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The Kuka'ilimoku can be seen on the 154th Wing intranet web page at <http://154web/>. The punctuation of the name of this publication was researched by the Indo-Pacific Language Department at the University of Hawaii.

All photos are United States Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

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Brig. Gen. Peter S. Pawling
STAFF
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PAO
Tech. Sgt. Betty J. Squatrito-Martin
PA Representative
Published by
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A desire, appreciation for serving our country

by Command Chief Master Sgt. Robert S.K. Lee III, 154 WG



Aloha All! The month of May was dedicated to "Military Appreciation," and I can tell you from first hand experience that our country truly does appreciate what you do, and then some. My travels took me to Gunter Air Force Base, in Montgomery, Ala., just weeks ago. Thanks to the ingenuity of our travel coordinators, I traversed from airport to airport

making my way across the country while people of all walks of life stopped to shake my hand, put a hand on my shoulder or smile at me, warmly expressing their gratitude toward me for serving my country. I thanked every single individual, on behalf of the Hawaii Air National Guard.

While in Los Angeles, I was approached by a young woman whose father served in the Active Air Force, but passed away a few years back from cancer. She explained how being raised as an Air Force dependent was absolutely wonderful, even though being uprooted and changing schools was not easy for her, she knew she was a member of the Air Force family and saluted smartly while doing her part. She shared how proud her Dad was because he was doing something very special, and that was wearing the uniform that represented freedom. She so wanted to serve in the same service as her Dad, but was found ineligible due to a medical condition. I could see the sadness in her eyes as she described her dedication to our country. I mentioned

that she had done her part; the support structure that she provided her Dad made him the superstar he is and allowed him to perform his duties for his country everyday. She acknowledged that, but still possessed an unfulfilled passion to serve; it was very evident that this young lady will serve this country in some capacity, who knows she may be President one day!



While at Gunter, I had the privilege of listening to and meeting Staff Sgt. Matthew Slaydon, an Active Duty Explosive Ordnance Detonation technician who lost his left arm and eyesight from a bomb that detonated while on convoy duty in Iraq. Listening to Staff Sgt. Slaydon will put a lump in your throat, a tear in your eye and an overwhelming sense of pride in your heart as he talks about the things he misses most about being an active member of the United States Air Force without a complaint about what had happened to him.

This young man's complete dedication, selfless service to the mission and absolute honor while serving this country suddenly reminded me that there cannot be anything in my life that could be bad enough to make me feel like I am having a lousy day, no way, no how. Let this Wounded Warrior be an inspiration to all of you as he was to all of us in attendance. His wounds are real; his sacrifice immense, but mostly his heart is as genuine as it comes.

I appreciate everything you ALL do for our state and country. I am so very proud to represent you 24/7, 365. Thank you for your dedication and service. Let's Roll!!!!

Hawaii Air National Guard First Sergeant Council "Diamond Tips"

Earrings(W)

Small spherical, conservative



round diamond, gold, pearl, or silver earrings with any uniform combination and worn as a set. If member

has multiple holes only one set of earrings will be worn in the lower

earlobe. When members wear civilian clothes for duty they will conform to AFI requirements. Matching earrings must be worn and should fit tightly without extending below the earlobe. EXCEPTION: Connecting band on clip earrings.

Conservative, no wider than 1/2 inch and must not present a safety

Bracelets(1 only)

hazard. Worn around the wrist. Ankle bracelets are not authorized. The wear of traditional metal POW/MIA bracelets, in colors besides silver, bronze, or gold remains authorized.

Conservative is defined as plain, not drawing attention, or faddish (must be gold or silver). Bracelets for medical alert identification are authorized as long as they meet the standard.

Bracelets espousing support for a cause, philosophy, individual or group are not authorized.

Gemstones/tennis bracelets are authorized to be worn only with the mess dress uniform.

**QUESTIONS?
CONTACT YOUR
FIRST SERGEANT**

C-17

the planners would have a return route developed before our second air refueling, it was evident that this was no ordinary mission. Thus, the crew stepped to the jet knowing that we would be continuously flying for more than 14 hours, accomplishing two aerial refueling hook-ups, and landing at an airfield in China.

With an unknown return destination and more than eight hours into our flight, the plan was to take on as much fuel as possible as we began our rendezvous with our first tanker. In hazy conditions, we were able to get 85,000 pounds of fuel and continue our track over the vast Pacific Ocean. This was 15,000 pounds more fuel than we had originally planned but we decided to plan for the numerous “what ifs” that had to be considered for mission accomplishment and safety. We still faced a second air refueling and seven more flight hours of flying, and getting the extra fuel allowed us to breathe a little easier.

After our discussions with Command and Control, we determined our primary return field was unusable due to a typhoon evacuation; we would have to take enough fuel to make our secondary and tertiary bases.

Eleven hours into our flight, we accomplished our second air-refueling, taking on 115,000 pounds of fuel. Rarely does the C-17, with a 245,000 pound fuel capacity, require two air refuelings. However, with the cargo load and the far off destination of Chengdu, China, this was a very unique mission.

After 14 hours of flying, Chengdu Shuangliu airport was finally in our view. As we flew over the area, we were able to see the destruction left by the 7.5 magnitude earthquake. The collapsed buildings and downed power lines stretched throughout the countryside. It was apparent that the people of this province were in desperate need of help, and they were about to receive it from an aircrew that flew all the way from

Hawaii.

Excited spectators stopped in their tracks and stared at our aircraft, eager to take in this first-time event. As we pulled into our parking spot, the crew was overwhelmed by the support and media reception. Everyone wanted a view of the American C-17 aircraft. We decided to keep the crew entry door closed until we were able to see our contact on the ground. After a brief moment, out of the massive crowd, we spotted an individual in U.S. BDUs waving a cap at us that had a gold oak leaf on it. We had a visual on our contact and so we began our shutdown/offload procedures.

The excitement and electricity was felt by the aircrew as we trickled down from the flight deck one by one. After conversations with the welcoming party, we formed up in front of the C-17. The Deputy Director of the Foreign Affairs Office of China’s National Defense Ministry, General Guan Youfei, personally

see C-17 page 5



Master Sgt. Kurt Uchimura, a C-17 loadmaster assigned to the Hawaii Air National Guard’s 204th Airlift Squadron, discusses the offload plan with an airport official May 17 at Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport in China. The C-17 is carrying nearly 100,000 pounds of food, blankets, tools and shelter materials. The United States Pacific Command support of earthquake relief efforts was authorized by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, in support of the U.S. Department of State. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Chris Vadnais)

thanked us for bringing in the supplies. First, Major Anthony Davis received a special gift, a portrait with three Panda bears in a field. Next, each aircrew member was presented with a traditional Sichuan Opera mask. The entire crew felt honored to be a part of this unique mission, and was over-whelmed to receive such gifts. We respectfully showed our gratitude by presenting the General with boxes of Hawaiian Macadamia Nuts and a United States/State of Hawaii flag patch.

Following the presentation of gifts, the off-loading of humanitarian supplies began. Touchingly, our hosts' warm demeanor made it clear how much they appreciated the relief supplies and support.

While the Loadmasters continued off-loading, the pilots borrowed a cell phone to call the planners for information about the return route.

Through static reception and multiple read backs, we were able to get the return routing. However, after waiting over two hours for taxi clearance, we were having doubts that we would make it to our recovery destination because of the crew duty day restrictions and fuel. (The maximum crew duty day for an augmented crew is 24hrs 45mins. We just made it in 24hrs 40mins.) Therefore, in-flight we had to come up with a plan of our own. We decided that we could make it to Kadena Air Base, Japan, but unfortunately, the typhoon was forecasted to hit the base in the next 24 hours.

We contacted Weather to check on the typhoon's strength and position and were relieved to hear that the typhoon had been downgraded to a tropical storm. We were able to safely land at Kadena Air Base and get the crew rest we needed.



Senior Captain GUAN Youfei, deputy director of the foreign affairs office of the Chinese Ministry of National Defense, greets the first of two U.S. aircrews delivering earthquake relief supplies May 18 at the Shuangliu International Airport in Chengdu, China. The two C-17 U.S. Globemaster III aircraft carried food, water containers, blankets, generators, lanterns and various hand tools. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, in support of the U.S. Department of State, authorized U.S. Pacific Command to support earthquake relief efforts in the People's Republic of China. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Chris Vadnais)

The synergism produced by the planners and aircrew for "Operation Caring Response" led to a flawlessly executed humanitarian mission that benefitted the people of China in their time of need.

The crew exemplified the meaning of service before self, a true testament of why our country, Air Force, and Airmen are best above all. Aloha.

The crewmembers were: Maj Anthony Davis, Maj Troy Cullen, Capt John Tucker, Master Sgt. Kurt Uchimura, Staff Sgt. Scott Oshiro, Staff Sgt. Nathan Chee, and Staff Sgt. Jacob Ness.

Readiness check for upcoming CERE exercise in July

Airman's Manual Quiz

How ready are you for the upcoming exercise scheduled for July 31 to Aug. 3? How much do you remember from the May Operational Readiness Exercise?

- When sheltering in place and there is an outside hazard you would shut off all the following except:
 - HVAC
 - Lights
 - Fans and exhaust fans
 - Combustion Heaters

2. When in the proximity of a UXO you should not transmit from your vehicle within?

- 75 ft
- 100 ft
- 50 ft
- 300 ft

3. Which of the following is a POST Attack action?

- SALUTE (ground attack)
- Take protective Cover
- Fight Fires
- Both A and C above

4. The form used to annotate

inspection of your protective mask is?

- DD Form 1351-2
- AF Form 1574
- AF Form 1351-2
- DD Form 1574

5. Which of the following is NOT a symptom of Dehydration?

- Dizzy
- Headache
- Sweating
- Skin Turgor

see Answers page 9

News Briefs

SNCO Course

A Senior Non-Commissioned Officer's course is scheduled for Sept. 8-12. The location is tentatively scheduled to take place in the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Wing Dining Facility.

The course is four and one-half days and ends with a banquet the evening of Sept. 12. This course is designed for newly promoted Master Sergeants or Technical Sergeants with a line number to Master Sergeant.

This course does NOT replace PME. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Master Sgt. Rona Cardwell.

Master Sgt. Cardwell is the Team Hickam Career Assistance Advisor. Her cell phone is (808) 234-8330; DSN 315-448-0920 ext. 237; commercial (808) 448-0920 ext. 237 or rona.cardwell@hickam.af.mil.

SNCO Conference

SAVE THE DATES - The Senior Non-Commissioned Officer's conference is scheduled for Sept. 11-12, 2008 at the Nehelani Inn, Schofield Barracks.

For further questions please contact Command Chief Master Sgt. Denise Jelin-



ski-Hall. at (808) 733-4231.

HNGA meeting

The HNGA monthly meeting will be held at Lt. Col. Bill Petti's conference room in the C-17 Maintenance Building on June 11, at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome. If there are any agenda items you want discuss, please contact Peter W. Ching, President HNGA (808) 655-7211.

June promotions

Promoted to TSgt. (E-6)

154 MDG	Costales, Kasssy K
292 CBCS	Domingo, Leomer T
293 CBCS	Harris, Brian
293 CBCS	Mendoza Raymond C.
204 AS	Perry, Antonio
292 CBCS	Tran, Nam H.

Promoted to SSgt. (E-5)

297 ATCS	Barber, Edward
154 SFS	Cheers. Kenneth K.
154 MDG	Turla, Alvin T.
154 MDG	Visitacion, Ernette B
154 MDG	Zeller, Albert D.

No more base decals

In keeping with Air Force directives, the **154th Security Forces Squadron** will no longer issue Installation vehicle decals as of July 9, 2008.

We currently have a limited supply of decals which we will continue to issue until they are exhausted. If you have the need to enter any other military installation i.e. Pearl Harbor, Schofield or K-Bay we suggest that you register your vehicles with that installation since this policy doesn't include other DoD organizations.

Privacy Data

For those of you who do not already know, DO NOT store Privacy Act data on the LAN share drives (i.e., HIHICKNAS4). Privacy Act data includes but is not limited to items such as your Social Security Numbers, Date of Birth, address, telephone numbers.

Sexual Assault

If you have been, or think you may have been, sexually assaulted please contact the sexual assault response coordinator, Lt. Col. Mervin Oyafsuo, 448-7270 or the 15 AW SARC at 449-7272. You can also contact military one source 24/7 at militaryonesource.com.

Chaplain's assistants needed

The 154th Wing Chaplain's Office is in immediate need of two individuals who possess basic administrative skills and are of high moral standards, to serve as Chaplain Assistants.

If you enjoy working with people of all walks of life and are willing to give 100 percent of yourself, this may be what you have been looking for.

There are no religious requirements; however, an interview with the Wing Chaplain and Non-Commissions Officer in Charge is mandatory.

You must pass a background check and have a minimum score requirement of A35 OR G44 to apply. The available slots are: one Staff Sergeant and one Technical Sergeant.

If you belong to a unit other than the 154th Wing, please visit the Retention Office staff or call at 448-7445 to initiate a career change worksheet.

We will schedule interviews once we receive a copy of your eligibility on these worksheets.

For additional information, contact the Wing Chaplain, Lt. Col. Robert Nagamine, or NCO-IC, Tech. Sgt. Michael Dinneen, by email at robert.nagamine@hickam.af.mil or michael.dinneen@hickam.af.mil. Or you can call 448-7275 on drill weekends. During the work week you can contact Chaplain Nagamine on his cell phone, 258-3582 or Tech. Sgt. Dinneen on his cell, 255-3394.

154 WG
Drill Dates
July 11-12, 2008
CERE
July 31 - Aug. 3, 2008

Chaplain's Corner: God didn't make junk

by Lt. Col. Robert K. Nagamine, Chaplain

Though last month's exercise wasn't picture perfect, it was good to see our wing take steps forward and work together to accomplish the Wing's mission. I witnessed the execution of all that we have been trained to do while we operate as the 154th Wing ohana!



Recently, I read from the Scriptures concerning spiritual gifts. What we can glean from various passages, especially 1 Corinthians 12, is that great teams practice certain principles. The following are some of those principles:

Everyone brings something to the table. Everyone is important because everyone contributes something important to the mission of the wing. Sometimes, some people might feel like a "fly on the wall" and feel like they are not contributing, but in the exercise, it was quite clear that everyone was needed. Whether it was checking ID cards or tending to casualties, everyone played a very essential role.

Everyone is significant, not insignificant.

God didn't make junk. Long ago in a biology course that I took, a student complained about the seemingly excessive amount of small bones that the human body has. He said, "We should get rid of some of them." But the answer is, "Every small bone in the body has a unique purpose to it and that is the reason it is there." In like manner, just as every part of the physical body is important, every person is important and has a service to fulfill in the wing. So, I believe that everyone needs

to feel a strong sense of value in what he/she brings to the mission, whether it is manning a post with little activity or making major decisions.

Teamwork wins. Only with the combined effort of everyone working together and doing what they are uniquely trained to do within their specialties, will we all succeed. The combined effort will spell victory. Even when we are in our gas masks for a while and moving slow or trying to be a good wingman in sometimes confusing, difficult or awkward scenarios, we are making progress. In the big picture, we were moving together with both small and large steps toward fulfilling our mission. Let's keep pressing, improving, learning together to get to that picture perfect mission accomplishment, by God's grace.

May the Lord bless and help us as we prepare for the ORI. Thank you for all that you are doing. Keep the faith!

WORSHIP SERVICES

General Protestant Service

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., UTA Sundays, Bldg.3416, 2nd floor, Na Koa Conf Room.

Catholic Services

5:00 p.m., Saturdays, Nelles Chapel

10:30 a.m., Sundays, Chapel Center

Jewish Services

7:30 p.m., Fridays, Pearl Harbor Aloha Chapel on Makalapa Road.

Buddhist, Muslim or other faith groups

call either the Wing Chaplain's office at 448-7275 on drill weekends or during other times the Chapel Center at 449-1754.

It's pretty *foul* out there...it ain't the VOG

by Rex Jones, EEO

It was "one of those days," Lea said as she goes on to describe her experiences to me. "I was already late for work when HPD pulled me over for speeding. At the office, the computers were down. By noon, the banana I'd brought for lunch was squishy and finally, as I sped for home at the end of the day, the needle on the car's fuel indicator shook convulsively as it was sucking on the fumes in my gas tank."

Lea doesn't recall uttering any profanities during her day's irritations, but in all likelihood, she did.

She goes on to say, "I whipped off H1 to find the nearest gas sta-

tion only to discover all the pumps taken. Making matters worse, as I impatiently waited, some women in a 'Beemer' tried to inch ahead of me and cheat me out of my territorial rights."

At this point, Lea is confident that she muttered some choice words under her breath—although, she doesn't recall exactly what they may have been. Eventually, she filled her tank, ran inside to pay – only to have to wait in line for the privilege of forking over money.

"Now, I'm swearing silently about another delay in my life. The guy in front of me asks for a pack of cigarettes when the clerks request to see

his ID."

Lea stated that the appeal for identification was more than the customer can stand, and he burst forth with a string of verbal garbage. She said that she stood observing the exchange more out of a sense of indifference than anything.

"All I wanted was to pay for my gas and get on my way, but my indifference vanished when the clerk (reacting to the profanity), with fire in his eyes and passion in his voice growled, 'That is enough! There is young lady present.' Needless to say, the fouled mouth offender was stunned and so was I." No one had

see LANGUAGE page 10

Reserving a spot in the Emergency Room?

by Lt. Col. Gregory "Woody" Woodrow, Chief 154WG Safety

Riding a motorcycle can be a fun and exhilarating experience. Unfortunately, motorcycle riders get into more fatal accidents than regular vehicles.

Statistically motorcyclists are 26 times more likely to die when riding a motorcycle than when riding in a car. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 1,658 motorcyclists' lives were saved in 2006 because they were wearing helmets. Another 752 could have been saved had they been wearing a helmet.

Other safety considerations like speeding may seem like over-exhausted rhetoric to your average auto driver, but for a motorcycle rider, the implications of speeding can be even more serious. One third of motorcyclist fatalities were speeding upon impact. Proper



courtesy photo

"Yes, that's what I said, I'd like to reserve a bed in the ER."

motorcycle training is also very important to ensure safety. One out of four motorcycle operators that were involved in fatal crashes had an invalid license.

Motorcycle safety literature emphasizes visibility as another key factor in staying safe on a motorcycle. Assume you're invisible to other drivers and ride as defensively as possible. It's important to be aware of how positioning your motorcycle in a lane can ensure maximal visibility to the car drivers around you.

A life or death situation while riding a motorcycle can take milliseconds, so training and the proper attire are important.

According to Air Force Instruction 91-207, the following must complete an approved motorcycle rider education course:

- all military personnel (AGR's) at any time
- all DOD civilians (Technicians) in a duty status on or off a DOD installation
- drill status when on a military status and/or on a DOD installation
- persons in a DoD-owned vehicle
- all personnel at any time on a DoD Installation

Suggested personal protective equipment includes gloves, boots, long pants, a long shirt or jacket and a helmet designed to meet or exceed Department of Transportation standards. Also eye protection should be considered if a helmet doesn't have a full-face shield. The goggles should be impact or shatter resistant. A motorcycle jacket and pants constructed of abrasion resistant materials, such as leather or Kevlar, is strongly encouraged.

Ride safe, and avoid multitasking like our friend in the picture. I think he's calling ahead to see if they take reservations at the ER.

April's new enlistees

154 AMXS

A1C Jason Allen - St. Louis High School

A1C Kevin Tanitomi - Mililani High School

154 MDG

TSgt Jennifer Nyander - Tabb High School, Va.

SrA Man Cheng - Garfield High School

154 SFS

SrA Lloyd Gerrero - Aiea High School

SSgt Michelle Halemano - Hilo High School

SSgt Angelique Poe - Kailua High School

154 SVF

SSgt Aven Abordonado - Pearl City High School

MSgt James Darouse - Poncharoula High School

169 ACWS

Amn Trevor LaTorre-Couch - Waipahu Comm.

SSgt Jacy Lau - Baldwin High School

Amn Jonathan Paragas - Waipahu High School

Amn Timothy Shaner - Academy of the Pacific

199 FS

SrA McHuy McCoy - McKinley High School

204 AS

SSgt Larson Miral - Damien High School

Amn Cory Okimura - Kalani High School

297 ATCS

A1C Jason DeSilva - Mililani High School

A1C Thomas Lee - Moanalua High School

A1C Shaze Miller - Youth Challenge Academy

HNGEA working for Guard members

A message from Ramon "Maui" Quizon, HNGEA Legislative Committee Chairman

First of all, congratulations on passage of HB 2605, Vehicle Tax Registration Exemption! And also, much mahalo to the energy and efforts of our TAG, Maj. Gen. Robert G.F. Lee, his staff, key legislators, and your Hawaii National Guard Enlisted Association (and HNGA) leadership in helping to assure our success in achieving this milestone. We can all "chalk one up" in adding one more benefit to the many others we enjoy as members of the Hawaii National Guard.

Our success in gaining and maintaining our Hawaii Guard benefits (e.g., State Tax Exemption, Tuition Assistance, Scholarship Program, Insurance Program, etc.) is the result of one reason and one main reason only -- your HNGEA membership.

This is the perfect time to reiterate if you aren't already a member of HNGEA-EANGUS (for officers, NGAUS-HNGA), or if you have yet

to renew, please contact your unit HNGEA POC, your HNGEA Vice President-Air, MSgt Annette Gagarin, or your First Sergeant. The cost of membership is very little, or none really, compared to the substantial savings we all enjoy from our many benefits as members of the Hawaii National Guard.

Earlier this year in March 2008, as your new HNGEA Legislative Committee Chairman, I had the opportunity to attend the Enlisted National Guard of the United States' Annual Legislative Workshop in Washington D.C., where a comprehensive 3-day "Legislative 101" is given to new and current State NGEA Legislative Chairs. I gained an enormous amount of information on our EANGUS and how it's legislative arm lobbies diligently on your behalf, and developed a keen appreciation for the importance of our voices being heard as one, by both our local and national legislators.

Aloha and please -- continue to support your number one enlisted professional organization ... Hawaii National Guard Enlisted Association.

LEADERSHIP

leader, I take full responsibility for events which have hurt the Air Force's reputation or raised a question of every Airman's commitment to our core values.

"I think the honorable thing to do is to step aside," the statement continues. "After consulting with my family, I have submitted my request to resign to Secretary Gates. The Air Force is bigger than one Airman, and I have full confidence that the Air Force will continue working with the joint team to win today's fight, take care of its Airmen and meet tomorrow's challenges. I love the Air Force and remain proud of America's Airmen."

HIANG bonus

Prior Service Enlisted Members who joined the HIANG for three years or more may be eligible for a \$5,000 bonus.

Officers from USAF Active Duty or IRR (with prior USAF Active Duty) may be eligible for a \$10,000 bonus.

For additional information or to determine and validate eligibility, contact the Retention Office:

Master Sgt. Rose Vendiola 448-7445/216-3322

rose.vendiola@hihick.ang.af.mil

Tech. Sgt. Ricky Patrick 448-7249

ricky.patrick@hihick.ang.af.mil

ESGR awards employer for Guard support

Camber Corporation's Asia-Pacific Operations Director Tom Johnson accepted the Patriot Award May 30, from the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve chairman retired Maj. Gen. Albert "Putt" Richards. Camber's Asia-Pacific Human Resources Representative Leihuanani (Carroll) Griffith, a Staff Sergeant in the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154 SVF, submitted Mr. Johnson for the award to recognize his continued support for the Asia-Pacific office's Guard and Reserve members.

The Patriot Award publicly recognizes employers who provide outstanding patriotic support and cooperation to their employees.



courtesy photo

Retired Maj. Gen. Albert "Putt" Richards congratulates and thanks Mr. Tom Johnson for his continued support to his National Guard and Reserve employees during the Patriot Award ceremony.

ORI Feb 2009
ORI Feb 2009
ORI Feb 2009

Answers

1. B 2.B 3.D 4.D 5.C

LANGUAGE

ever protected me from offensive language before.”

As we continued to talk about the incident, Lea began to realize the significance of the entire episode. She concurred that profanity seems to be one of those problems that everyone agrees something should be done, yet few of us ever do anything about it. On the contrary, most of us contribute, if not to its proliferation, at the least to its continuation, by swearing ourselves or making no attempt to curb it in others. Truth is, many of us can recall the less-than-delicate language that rolled off our tongues throughout the years. When you were mad, when you were glad, when you attempt to be dramatic and, yes, even when

we had a day similar to what Lea described above.

As we continue our conversation, Lea asks herself, *“Why hadn’t I told the culprit to knock it off when the first raunchy words came out of his mouth? Would I have been hypocritical if I had said something to him? Truth is, I didn’t even give it a second thought.”*

Lea asks some valid questions that we should all be asking ourselves. Has this language become so familiar to us that it goes unnoticed, just runs off our backs? Recently I read an article that stated although Americans do have a concern about all the unbridled profanity around us everyday, the reality is that we are swearing more and hearing it less.

Personally, I see absolutely no value in the use of profanity. But, I’m unclear as to how we solve this problem? So, I’m simply appealing to you, the reader of this article, to think twice before using words that don’t really represent you and/or us at the Hawaii National Guard very well.

With all that said, I’m curious as to what your views are regarding this subject. Has it become a normal part of conversation or have you sworn it off? Do you tell others that it offends you? Let me know your thoughts by e-mailing me directly at rex.e.jones@us.army.mil.

Not to be misleading, I’m not likely to respond you; however, I may use your feedback as fodder to a follow-up article to this particular matter.

154 WG new champions in the race against cancer

This year the 154th Wing has added another great cause to champion, the American Cancer Society’s signature event, Relay For Life®.

During Relay For Life® events, teams of people take turns walking or running laps. Through the survivors’ lap and the luminaria ceremony, we honor the people who have faced cancer first hand, and we remember those who have been lost to this disease.

There will be a Relay for Life® event held at Magic Island on Saturday, July 12, at 7:00 p.m. until Sunday, July 13, at 7:00 a.m. There’ll be food, entertainment, a silent auction, and various other activities. If you would like to participate, please contact Sandy Hoggan at <http://www.main.acsevents.org/goto/sandra.hoggan>.

We are fundraising with luminaria bags, which are similar to little lanterns. You can dedicate a luminaria to someone who is no longer with us, or in honor of someone fighting cancer, or to a group for support. These bags are lit in a ceremony and light up the track.

It’s amazing as you walk along the track to read and see how beautiful they are. Each bag is \$5; you can see your representative listed for the luminaria, or if you just want to make a monetary donation (checks can be written out to American

Cancer Society):

If you wish to make a credit card donation online, go to www.main.acsevents.org/goto/sandra.hoggan <<http://www.main.acsevents.org/goto/sandra.hoggan>>

All money raised will remain in Hawaii and all 154th Wing proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society in Hawaii on behalf of the Hawaii Air National Guard. As volunteers and donors, your efforts support research, education, advocacy, and services that allow the American Cancer Society in Hawaii to offer help and hope to people across the islands when they need it most.

Relay for life Representatives

HQ 154 WG-MSgt Maui Quizon
 154 CF-CMSgt Kyle Okaneku
 199 FS-SSgt Mu Kang
 154 MSF-MSgt Rose Vendiola
 154 SFS-SMSgt Ray Duropan

204 AS-MSgt Ramona Fujimoto
 154 SVF-TSgt Dodie Pagaoa
 169 ACWS-MSgt Pua Sugai
 154 LRS-MSgt Darrell Bactad
 154 OSF-MSgt Dawn Peters
 154 MOF-SSgt Cherie Castanares
 154 AMXS-Capt Jason Matsuoka/SMSgt Jody Goya
 MDG-2Lt Wendy Umipeg



[GI Bill Ch1607 REAP Monthly Verifications](#)

If you are not receiving your GI Bill Ch1607 REAP - The Veterans Administration now requires GI Bill Ch1607 users to do a monthly verification to ensure that you are continuing to attend school.

Your enrollment can be verified starting on the last calendar day of the month by using the Web Automated Verification of Enrollment (WAVE) at <https://www.gibill.va.gov/wave> or by calling our toll free Interactive Voice Response (IVR) telephone line at 1-877-823-2378. You must do this every month that you are enrolled in school or you will not get paid your GI Bill!

Training Time	Service of 90 days but less than one yr	Service of 1 year +	Service of 2 years +
Full time	\$440.40	\$660.60	\$880.80
3/4 time	\$330.30	\$495.45	\$660.60
1/2 time	\$220.20	\$330.30	\$440.40
Less than 1/2 time More than 1/4 time	\$220.20**	\$330.30**	\$440.40**
1/4 time or less	\$110.10**	\$165.15**	\$220.20 **

[REAP Program Buy-Up:](#)

The VA website reads: Eligible REAP participants may now participate in the “buy-up” program. Eligible reservists may pay up to \$600.00 to increase their monthly rate of pay by as much as \$150.00 per month. You must be a member of a Ready Reserve component (Selected Reserve, Individual Ready Reserve, or Inactive National Guard) to pay into the “buy-up” program. http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/benefits.htm#REAP

The VA and ODS are working out the details on how the different military services will proceed with processing applications. When finalized, we will send out the buy-up process.

[Write your Congressman today!](#)

Our Congressmen are battling over big increases to the Active Duty and Reserve GI Bill. There are two different versions of the proposed increases so read the article at military.com and contact your Congressman to tell them what you feel about your military education benefits.

Write your US Senator and Representative a letter through email, mail, or fax.

US House of Representatives http://clerk.house.gov/member_info/index.html

US Senate http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

The article and proposed bills can be found at

<http://www.military.com/features/0,15240,165937,00.html>