Army National Guard director visits Hawaii

117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment (Hawaii) - Story and photos
by Pfc. Paul Berzinas
Thursday, August 27, 2015

HAWAII - The director of the Army National Guard, Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Kadavy, visited Hawaii in August, to tour Hawaii Army National Guard facilities and meet with soldiers.


“It’s important for him to see the challenges and the relationships we have out here in the Pacific with [U.S. Army Pacific], [U.S. Pacific Combatant Command] and our community,” said Logan. “It’s something you can’t get from a slideshow in Washington, D.C.”

Throughout his visit, Kadavy toured HIARNG and Hawaii Department of Defense facilities.

“I think it’s important for leaders to get out in the field and show the soldiers that we are focused on them and that what we’re really doing is empowering them as leaders and as soldiers to be successful,” said Kadavy.

The staff of the Hawaii Army Guard briefed the director on the state of the Hawaii Guard at the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team headquarters in Kaleaaloa, Hawaii.

Going out and meeting with soldiers is something Kadavy places a premium on as a leader.

“Nothing beats firsthand observations and direct discussions,” said Kadavy.

Kadavy’s emphasis on going out and visiting National Guard soldiers and the facilities they work in is echoed by Maj. Gen. Logan.

“I think it’s always a good thing when you can get the leadership from Washington, D.C., out here to visit,” said Logan. “Especially Hawaii, because we have a combatant command in our own backyard and we have a relationship with that organization, no other state really has that relationship.”
Hawaii Air National Guard completes first ever Indonesia air defense subject matter expert exchange

154th Wing Public Affairs - Story and photos by Senior Airman Orlando Corpuz
Thursday, September 24, 2015

JAKARTA, Indonesia - Air defense experts from the Hawaii Air National Guard completed a Subject Matter Expert Exchange with counterparts from Indonesia, Sept. 15-17.

The three day exchange took place near Halim International Airport in Indonesia’s capital of Jakarta. This was the first time a SMEE involving air defense had been conducted between the HIANG and Kohanudnas, the component of the Indonesian armed forces responsible for air defense.

“The team’s immediate goal was to lay the foundation for a productive relationship between the Hawaii Air National Guard and the Kohanudnas.” said Maj. Michael O’Donnell, Mission Crew Commander, 169th Air Defense Squadron.

“Long term, we would like to have an enduring partnership with the Kohanudnas that promotes stability in the region.”

The exchanges were part of the National Guard’s State Partnership Program. The program matches a state’s National Guard with a partner country in order to build capacity and reinforce security cooperation. Program partners engage in a wide range of security cooperation activities such as homeland defense, disaster response, and interagency cooperation.

“The State Partnership Program is a Department of Defense joint security cooperation program administered by the National Guard.” said Maj. Robert Galino, Theater Command and Control Officer with the 109th Air Operations Group.

“It supports the combatant commander’s security cooperation objectives and Ambassador’s intergrated country strategies.”

A team of seven HIANG personnel from the 169th ADS and 109th AOG engaged with Kohanudnas on topics ranging from air battle management, target identification, target tracking, and data transmission.

“It’s very important to share experiences with air defense and to learn and collaborate with each other as we share in the common goal of peace and security.” said Galino.

“We hope to continue our relationship with Indonesia... to not just include the tactical level, but operational and maybe strategic.”

The partnership with Indonesia was just one example of the HIANG’s execution of the SPP mission and reflects the National Guard’s growing international affairs mission. In August, the HIANG hosted air defense officials from the Philippine Air Force for bi-lateral learning and discussions. The HIANG teams up with the Guam National Guard to execute the SPP mission with the Philippines.

Currently, the National Guard maintains SPP relations with 76 nations around the world.

“The purpose of the State Partnership Program is to build mutually beneficial military relationships with foreign nations. This is accomplished by face to face interactions that foster professional and personal contacts.” said O’Donnell.
DoD Retirement and Service Award Luncheon held at the Okinawan Center

1 - Lloyd Maki, Engineering Office - DoD Manager of the Year

2 - Senior Master Sgt. Grant Suzuki, HIANG, 40 years Service Award

3 - Chief Warrant Officer 4 Russell L. Bishop, HIARNG Aviation, 40 years Service Award. Numerous 30 year service awards from HIARNG and HIANG were also presented.

4 - State Team of the Year was HI-EMA Disaster Assistance & Recovery Ctr (DARC) members included: Arlina Agbayani, Bart Asato, Jennifer A. Chiavone, Chad Crosier, Julie Greenly, Robin Lin, Jack Y. Machida, Brian Miyamoto, Brandon Nakamura, Marc Nonaka, Kevin J. Richards, & Eric K. Shimabuku
HIANG Airman Takes The Lead Role

TSgt Alison Bruce-Maldonado, the 154 Wing Chaplain Assistant, plays the lead role in Diamond Head Theatre’s production of Sister Act as the show runs through October 18th. Bruce-Maldonado takes on the character of Deloris Van Cartier that made Whoopi Goldberg famous from the 1992 hit film. Tickets are available online at www.diamondheadtheatre.com or at the box office.

Below is a short description about the play:

SISTER ACT is a feel-good musical comedy that tells the hilarious story of wanna-be-diva, “Deloris Van Cartier,” (played by Alison Bruce-Maldonado) whose life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a crime. The cops hide her in the last place anyone would think to look—a convent which is run with an iron hand by the acerbic “Mother Superior,” played by Alison Aldcroft. Rounding out the convent residents--Jody Bill Bachler plays shy and soft-spoken nun, “Sister Mary Robert”; Lisa Konove is the choir mistress, “Sister Mary Lazarus,” and Emily Charleton plays perky “Sister Mary Patrick.” With her king-size personality, Deloris breathes new life into the church, the choir and the community, but in doing so, blows her cover. Soon, the criminals are giving chase, only to find themselves up against Deloris and the power of her newly found sisterhood. Directed by Andrew Sakaguchi with Musical Direction by Phil Hildago, Sister Act will be playing from September 25 until October 18, 2015. Performances are at 8PM Thursday -- Saturday, 4PM on Sunday, with Saturday matinees at 3PM. Final weekend (October 17 & 18) performances are on Saturday (3PM and 8PM) and Sunday (4PM) only.