As a part of an ongoing exchange of military experience and expertise between the United States and the Philippines, members of the Philippine Air Force recently toured Hawaii National Guard Facilities at Wheeler Army Air Field. The delegation was briefed on the aviation capabilities of the Hawaii Army National Guard and inspected its airframes. Of special interest to General Lauro Dela Cruz, Commanding General Philippine Air Force, was the Hawaii Regional Air Operations Center where he discussed the efforts to improve his nation’s radar and Air Force capabilities and was treated to an exercise demonstration in the operations center involving the 199th and 19th squadrons’ F-22s and a suspicious aircraft. See more:

Some Hawaii Army National Guard soldiers will soon be flying missions in unarmed civilian turboprop aircraft over battle zones in Afghanistan. They’ll be able to see — but will be flying high above — the action on the ground for safety, and have helicopters and fighter jets to call on.

The Detachment 55 soldiers will be using Super King Air 300s loaded with high-resolution sensors and cameras to support troops on the ground. “I think we’ve been trained well enough where we mitigated a lot of (the) risks, and there is support around us,” said Capt. Jeffrey Chang, a deploying pilot. “We’re not flying solo, so we

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