

Hawaii State Department of Defense

# pupukahi

pupukahi: "harmoniously united"

3949 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

## Director of the Air National Guard Visits HIANG Campus

Photo and Story By Tech. Sgt. Andrew Jackson



Lt. Gen. L. Scott Rice, Air National Guard Director, speaks to HING Leadership at the Daniel K. Inouye auditorium on the opening day of his tour of Hawaii Air National Guard facilities.

Lt. Gen. L. Scott Rice, Air National Guard Director, and members of his staff, recently visited Hawaii Air National Guard and some of its locations. The two-day tour started at the F-22 operations facility that is named for the late U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye. He was then briefed on the unique needs and capabilities of the largest and most complex wing in the ANG and its role in the security posture of the Pacific area of operations.

"We need to focus on the integration of the three aspects (Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves) of the Air Force working well together to move us in the the 21st century so that we can respond to the future threats to world security," said Rice

Rice took the opportunity to meet with Airmen through-out the Hawaii Guard as he toured Guard facilities on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Wheeler Army Air Field, and on Keaukaha Military Reservation on the Island of Hawaii.

"It is good that he visited because he can see all the missions that the Hawaii Air National Guard is comprised of." said SMSgt Carol Orr "So, it's great for him to see what we are capable of doing in coordination with our active duty counterparts as well."

Airlift was provided by a variety of Hawaii Army Guard aircraft allowing the general and his staff to make the most of the short time they had to visit. The visit was concluded with an "all call" where he addressed some of the issues facing the Guard, answered questions, and recognized some of the HIANG'S outstanding performers.

"I'm the director," said Rice. "So I manage a program to train, organize, and equip our force to match the Air Force mission for mission and provide capability that's very cost-effective and capture all the experience that you represent here."

## Army Guard scout teams compete to take part in Army's best scout competition

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Jon Soucy - National Guard Bureau



1st place, 1st Squadron 299th CAV 29th IBCT, HIARNG, team - SSG Shiraki - Squad Leader, SGT Craig - Team Leader, SGT Nakasone - Team Leader, SPC Borden - Scout, SPC Batangan - Scout, SPC Hulse - Scout. During 2017 ARNG Gainey Cup Assessment and Selection each Team moved over 20 miles during the week and conducted numerous physical and scout tasks. CSM Kepner, ARNG CSM, observed the competition and spent time talking with the teams

FORT BENNING, Ga. – Spc. Joseph Borden's ankle has been giving him trouble. He slipped while getting up during a reconnaissance mission earlier in the day and it's been sore ever since. At the moment, however, Borden, a scout with the Hawaii Army National Guard's C Troop, 1st Squadron, 299th Cavalry Regiment, is focused on other things – like prepping for an upcoming run with his six-person scout team.

The run, and the recon mission earlier, were all part of an assessment of scout teams from throughout the Army Guard to determine who would represent the Army Guard in the Gainey Cup, which pits teams from across the Army to earn the title of the Army's best scout team.

Named after retired Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey – who served in a variety of armored units before being selected as the first senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff – the Gainey Cup has been held every other year since 2013.

For Borden, getting through the assessment despite the sore ankle all came down to one thing.

"I don't quit," he said. "You just gotta cowboy up."

Led by instructors from the Army Guard's Warrior Training Center at Fort Benning, the assessment tested eight teams on a variety of tactical and technical skills including land navigation, reconnaissance and map reading.

"It tests the tactical and technical skills that scout formations and recon elements use," said Army Capt. Dwain Hinman, commander of the WTC's C Company, who oversaw the assessment. "The selection process has been built off of previous Gainey Cups."

After the assessment, four teams will be selected to return to the WTC in April where they are scheduled to go through a month-long train up prior to the competition in May.

For the competitors, the three-day assessment was a physical and mental challenge.

The assessment was designed to be as strenuous as possible.

"We wanted to put together a course that would challenge guys who are in good physical shape," said Army Staff Sgt. Bradley Arms, an instructor at the WTC. "That's going to be a prerequisite for being able to compete in the Gainey Cup."

In addition to land navigation and map reading, teams took part in a number of long distance runs and ruck marches.

The recon run, which required teams to navigate a specified course while making note of significant features and obstacles along the way, was one of the more challenging events for many teams. While the course was known, the distance, however, was not.

"The recon run was definitely tough," said Melvin. "You're already physically exhausted at this point, you've had very little sleep. We went out a few miles and pushed on to complete it."

"We came upon some obstacles that were in place and we just tried to remember everything we saw and get back as fast as possible," said Melvin.

The recon run was only part of the day. After a ruck march and other events, teams then had to man observation posts.

"I think the whole OP event was sort of a culminating event," said Arms. "We went out of land nav into a six-plus mile ruck run straight into the OP lanes, which were all night."

Getting through the assessment meant fully working as a team, said Melvin.

"In an event like this, you've got to rely on your Soldiers," he said. "It's humbling to know that I can step back and I have trained Soldiers who can do it."

It also meant taking advantage of the small amounts of downtime during the assessment.

"We noticed that during downtime a lot of other teams were sleeping," Melvin said. "Not us. We were rehearsing and prepping for every mission."

Watching the teams push themselves was one of the most rewarding parts of the competition, said Hinman.

"The best part is seeing the competitors actually just move out and do what they've got to do and stay motivated the whole time," he said.

For Melvin, there may have been an added motivator. Last year's Sullivan Cup, which tests tank crews from throughout the Army, was won by a crew from his battalion.

"That sets the status that our unit is not a lightweight," he said. "We can perform at the highest level."

The Gainey Cup stands as the partner to the Sullivan Cup and Melvin said he was hopeful his team would have similar results this year as the tank crew from his unit had with the Sullivan Cup.

"We've come here to perform at the same level that the [252nd Armor Regiment] tank companies already have."

But Borden, whose ankle was still sore as he finished up the assessment, had other thoughts on his mind.

"Some cool breezes and palm trees would be great about now," he said.

## Sentries for Sentry Aloha

Photos and Story by Tech Sgt Andrew Jackson



Active duty and Air Force Reserve Airmen from Oklahoma's 513th Air Control Group brought two E-3 Sentry aircraft, better known as AWACS, to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. They are participating in the National Guard's Sentry Aloha exercise Jan 23 to Feb 03.

Sentry Aloha is an ongoing series of fighter combat exercises hosted by the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Wing and involves multiple types of aircraft and services. Other visiting units included tanker support from Utah and Tennessee, F-16 Falcons from Minnesota, and F-18 Hornets from California, all playing different parts in a simulated combat exercises in air spaces in and around Hawaii, with F-22 Raptors flown by the Hawaii Air National Guard's 199th Fighter Squadron and the active duty's 19th Fighter Squadron.

Maj. Matt Heckman laid out the days mission agenda: "So we're gonna have a SAM threat out there, we're gonna have an enemy airborne aircraft and we're gonna actually take the fight to them this time. Last week, we went on a defensive posture, we protected the homeland. This time, we're going to get aggressive and practice those operations. We established the airspace, we

take over, our aircraft, like the 22, the 18s, the 16s, are gonna check in with us. We're gonna establish a picture for them, both verbally, so paint a picture verbally, and also through data link, and then we're gonna, at the planned time, we're gonna have our fights on and we're gonna go out, take out the bad guys."

During the daily dissimilar aircraft engagement fighter scenarios, the E-3 crew provided all-weather surveillance, command, control, and communications to the fighters, refuelers, and ground forces.

"So, what we're gonna be doing today is we're gonna have an area, basically we'll have our training area for this scenario," said SMSgt Jay Harris. "The good guys will be on one side, the west of the airspace, the bad guys will be simulated on the east side of the airspace, and so the object is that we can see the whole picture but the good guys can't see the bad guys and the bad guys can't see the good guys. So we'll have to tell them exactly where to go and how to accomplish the mission."

The interior of the aircraft is arranged in tiers with each row working together to accomplish tasks that are ranged from contact identification and classification to airfield



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management, guiding the fighters through an engagement with simulated hostile air forces. The atmosphere of the E-3 is tense as the individual crew members focus on their tasks and communicate with each other and the surrounding aircraft to work out a solution to the day's simulated combat exercise.

"With both the Guard units and then working with the other assets out here, especially Baldwin, the ground control guys, it's an opportunity that we don't get on our regular drill weekends," said Heckman. "So, we get to do some mute sites and some small air-to-air missions, but when we have such a robust amount of aircraft and then the Guard support with Baldwin, we get a lot more training, both with air control, data links, and total force planning. It's in a lot of ways red-flag level for us, with the amount of quality training that we get, and

everyone's doing more than what they're used to doing.



97th Airborne Air Control Squadron' Patch. The patch was designed by the Disney company for the Army Air Corps during World War 2



# CH-47F orientation flight for Recruitment Sustainment Program



U.S. Army Hawaii National Guard 171st Aviation crew conducted an orientation flight in CH-47F Chinook helicopters for new Recruitment Sustainment Program soldiers from the 298th Regional Training Institute, Bellows Air Force Station, Waimanalo Hawaii. (Army National Guard photo by Spc. Matthew A. Foster/Released)



## Dedicated Maintainers

photo and story by Tech Sgt Andrew Jackson



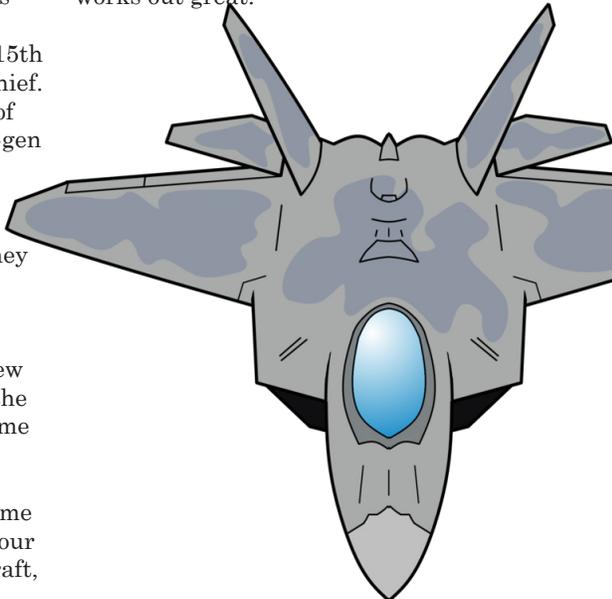
The Hawaii Air National Guard's 199th and the active duty's 19th Fighter Squadrons recently held their first dedicated crew chiefs' ceremony. It is normal for the pilots to have their name emblazoned on the side of their jets along side their crew chiefs but, during this ceremony each pilot presented their aircraft's dedicated crew chief with a ceremonial chock and an F-22 patch.

"I mean, there's so many emotions that goes with it that many people can't experience besides us," said Staff Sgt. John Severino, 15th Maintenance Squadron, Dedicated Crew Chief. "I think we're lucky, honestly, to be a part of this organization and be a part of this fifth-gen jet."

The dedicated crew chief is the heart of the maintenance efforts on the F-22 Raptor. They can recite how many combat bomb drops their jet has had, they clean their jet above and beyond the requirement, and perform maintenance required on their jet. Each crew chief has a marked amount of pride about the performance of his jet, that is why their name is placed on it next to the pilot's.

"The day of a dedicated crew chief is you come in, you get your assignments, walk out to your jet, push out your toolbox, oversee the aircraft, see if it's fit to fly, said," Tech. Sgt. Russell

Mesinas 154th Maintenance Squadron, Hawaii Air National Guard, Dedicated Crew Chief. "Then the Pilot comes out, launch em out and cover it, inspections, and turn over to the next crew chief, to the next shift. Being a crew chief with a TFI unit is a great experience. We can learn from the active duty unit with their resources and our resources to make this jet combat ready and ready to fly. So when we deploy we have more resources and it works out great."



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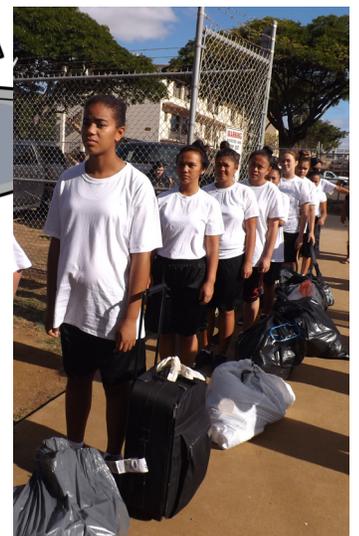
pupukahi "harmoniously united"

## Hawaii's Youth Challenge Academy welcomes new class

Photos by John Cronin



New cadets of YCA Kalealoa Campus class 46's 3 platoons line up to be in processed and receive their gear.



# Recruiting awards

photos by Tech Sgt Andrew Jackson

Hawaii State Department of Defense



Members of the Hawaii Air National Guard recruiting team recently received a series of national level recruiting awards for excellence in their recruiting efforts.



Century Club (achievement of reaching 100 accessions during recruiting tour): TSgt Nolan "Alika" Kaahanui



FY16 Top Prior Service Accessions/Top Officer Accessions: TSgt Sharon Pasion



FY16 Top Overall Accessions/Top Recruiting & Retention Manager: TSgt Todd Shak



FY16 4th Quarter Award/Production Recruiter of the Year/FY16 Director's Challenge (Awarded by DANG & ANG/CCM): TSgt Marigold Manalo



# Unconventional Sustainability Method in Hawaii Nabs Award

By Rita Hess, USAEC Contractor



Hawaii Army National Guard environmental Goats doing ground clearing work.

The Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG) Sustainability Program had a unique challenge: maintain pest management measures and reduce waste in a cost-efficient manner—and in a tropical island environment full of sensitive ecosystems and endangered species.

The program met those directives, in part by launching a new and somewhat unconventional pest management technique: goat and sheep grazing. It slashed costs, safeguarded sensitive habitat from adverse maintenance impacts, and allowed sections of training land to re-open. Project efforts resulted in a fiscal 2016 Secretary of the Army Environmental Award for Sustainability (Non-Industrial Installation) and a chance to take home a Secretary of Defense Environmental Award later this year.

“The Hawaii Army National Guard Sustainability program clearly demonstrates how fully engaged leadership, coupled with sound environmental practices and innovative approaches, can directly enhance Army readiness,” said Mr. Eugene Collins, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health.

The HIARNG installation’s primary training site is the Keaukaha Military Reservation (KMR) in Hilo on the Big Island of Hawaii. Almost half of KMR’s 504 acres are among the most endangered lowland wet forest ecosystems. Numerous non-native species have invaded these forests,

which are home to the Hawaiian hawk, the Hawaiian hoary bat, and a shrub called Haiwale—all of which are endangered. The KMR forest is also home to endemic species not found anywhere else in the world. With such a sensitive habitat, the HIARNG needed a pest management program that supported both wildlife and the training mission. Goat and sheep grazing appeared to show significant cost savings over other methods they had used at KMR. The cost of using goats and sheep is \$500 per acre. This compares to \$1,500 per acre for inmate labor and \$5,500 per acre for contractors—both previously provided herbicide application and/or mechanical removal methods.

When choosing grazing test sites, the Sustainability Program staff considered terrain, previous pesticide use, and existence of threatened or endangered species that may be harmed by grazing. In 2016, 46 acres were ultimately managed with a 194-animal herd in portable paddocks. Results have been dramatic: the goats and sheep clear an average of one acre in just one and a half days and are able to clear areas with terrain that is difficult for machines to access. As a bonus, eliminating machines also reduces petroleum emissions and the potential for leaks or spills of fuel or hydraulic fluids. Herbicide use has been eliminated for the acres under grazing management as well.

Efforts have also yielded significant benefits to the HIARNG mission. The cost-efficient removal of invasive species frees up critical funds for other projects. Grazing reduces fire fuel loads, thereby minimizing fires that might interrupt

training. Goats and sheep remove understory while keeping middle and upper canopies intact, meeting natural resources management goals. Bottom line: controlling invasive vegetation helps ensure the training site will not be subject to restrictions related to protection of threatened and endangered or endemic species.

Sustainability program efforts also kept more than 46 tons of paper and 42 tons of cardboard out of landfills over the past two years, and adding batteries to their allowed recyclables in 2016 generated \$5,000 income and 13 tons of batteries. The program has also enacted measures to reduce energy use. In 2012, the Adjutant General set an energy reduction goal of 25 percent, with 5 percent annual reductions through 2017—a goal the HIARNG installation is on track to meet. Dedication to sustaining the environment will serve it and the surrounding communities well.



Before the goats got to work



After the goats cleared the area



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**23 May 2017 (Tuesday): Aloha Reception-Registration**

**24 May 2017 (Wednesday): Hawaii Night (A Taste of Hawaii) Concert– Local Entertainment and Ethnic Foods**

**25 May 2017 (Thursday): POW/MIA/MOH and Gold Star Family Night at the Pacific Aviation Museum**

**26 May 2017 (Friday): Commemorative Movie: "Ride The Thunder" a true Vietnam War story about the destruction of the Dong Ha Bridge in 1972**

**27 May 2017 (Saturday): Waikiki Parade – Welcome Home Parade**

**28 May 2017 (Sunday): Military Unit Day**

**29 May, 2017 (Monday): A combined City, State, National Memorial Day Ceremony at the National Memorial of the Pacific in Punchbowl**

Register to attend at: <http://www.vietnam50years.org/>



# Occupational Physical Assessment Test



Hawaii Army National Guard Soldiers in the Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP) took the Occupational Physical Assessment Test (OPAT) at the 298th Regiment, Multi-Functional Training Unit (RTI), March 4, 2017. The Purpose of the test is to predict a recruit's fitness ability required to meet the demands of their selected occupational demands of their selected occupational field. The soldiers in this photo are taking the interval aerobic run test which is used to assess aerobic capacity. (U.S. Army Photo By Chavaughn Washington/Released)

