



Civil Engineer Jennifer Eugenio talks to elementary school girls about the different types of engineers at the Super STEM Saturday for Girls held at Hale Kula Elementary School on Schofield Barracks in November. Eugenio and several District engineers also provided mentorship for activities during the event. Courtesy photo



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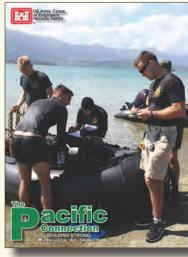
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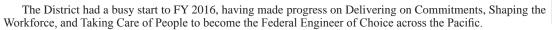
# Commander's Commen

# Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary District Commander



"The best place where the best people serve. singularly focused on executing quality projects...relevant, ready, responsive and reliable and having fun!"





In recent months Honolulu District has completed several key projects as well as hosted multiple USACE,

U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC), VIP and Congressional visits to the USARPAC Mission Control Facility (MCF) project site, showcasing the recently completed Arrival Building and the start of construction for the second contraction contract.

By the conclusion of FY 2015, the District completed and turned over 13 construction projects worth \$253 million to customers, including the renovation of Quad D Barracks, the Central Vehicle Wash Facility and South Range Campus at Schofield Barracks, and the Child Development Center at Fort Shafter. The second contract award for the Mission Control Facility was made in September and the District also conducted the USARPAC MCF design charrette for the third construction contract.

In addition to the MCF Arrival Building, the completion of the first contract also included construction of a central utilities plant, switch building, and a communications hub by contractor Niking Corporation for the Corps, Contractor Watts Constructors, LLC has now started work on the \$63.5 million contract that includes construction of administrative and special use operation spaces with supporting mechanical, electrical, and telecommunications systems.

As we roll into the middle of the FY16 calendar, the mid-year in house FY16 budget and the national FY17 budget are now hot topics. We've started ramping up contract actions for the remainder of the year, and the District contracting team is pushing to get projects awarded. Of note, we are nearing the ready to advertise contract award for the Schofield Barracks Health/Dental Clinic Project 2 (Clinic) and the contract award for the Schofield Barracks Health/Dental Clinic Project 1 (Parking Structure) should be completed in the near future.

On Jan. 25, our civil works team learned the HQ USACE Senior Executive Agency Decision Milestone (ADM) panel agreed to waive the ADM Briefing for the Ala Wai Watershed Flood Reduction project based on the documentation provided. This milestone accomplishment is a testament to everyone's hard work in compiling a quality Draft Feasibility Study Report with Integrated Environmental Impact Statement document, being timely and responsive towards meeting our review schedules, and resolving all concerns with reviewers. We currently remain on schedule for the next milestone - the draft report scheduled for completion in June 2016.

In late January, the District jointly partnered with Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) and the U.S. Army's 7th Dive Detachment for an underwater survey just off of the MCBH seaplane ramps in Kaneohe Bay as part of an in-house District structural study assessing the feasibility of landing craft use and training on the ramps. The ramps are part of the Kaneohe Naval Air Station National Historic Landmark and once based PBY Catalina Reconnaissance Planes, 33 of which were present when the Japanese Empire attacked on Dec. 7, 1941.

With the observance of Presidents' Day in February, our engineers and staff focused on participation in this year's Engineers Week activities. Engineers and District personnel also once again graciously volunteered as proctors and scorers for the 2016 Oahu and State MATHCOUNTS competitions. Many thanks to our Regulatory office which conducted educational outreach in February at Fort Shafter Elementary School, engaging 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 6th grade students in wetland related activities including leaf identification, soils, and wetland functions. The outreach helps to increase a focus on the "Science" aspect and encourages young students to embrace the sciences. Our Workforce Management team and several Army Interns met with students at the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Engineering Career Day in mid-February to provide future engineers with educational career guidance, information on potential job opportunities within the Corps, as well as discussing potential STEM field career paths. I salute everyone for their Engineer Week efforts.

This spring the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' hopper dredge Essayons will be in Hawaii to conduct maintenance dredging in several of the state's commercial harbors. Because of its size and dredging depth, the Essayons is particularly well-suited for dredging larger coastal entrances. This is a great opportunity for the District to partner with our local stakeholders, especially the State Department of Transportation, Harbors Divi-

During the remainder of FY2016 the District will be saying Aloha to several key members of our corporate board as well as participating in the District and Pacific Ocean Division changes of command. On July 21, I will pass command of this great organization to Lt. Col. James Hoyman, who is currently a Professor of Military Science at Wheaton College (Ill.).

Since this will be my last opportunity to write to you in this forum, let me say just it has been a humbling privilege for me to serve as the 69th Commander and District Engineer of the Honolulu District for the last two years. It's been personally and professionally rewarding on many levels. I'm never failed to be impressed by quality of professionals serving in the District or their steadfast commitment to solving the region's most challenging engineering problems. The magnitude of the mission these great Americans execute every day is staggering. I also want to thank our many partners and stakeholders who continue to support our engineers and projects that are making a difference for the Army and people of the Pacific.

A quick look at the pages of this magazine shows you that the people of the Honolulu District have been and are making a difference every day - and validating that this is "the best place where the best people serve."

As we inch closer to the change of command season, please be aware there will an uptick of activity in the command suite over the next quarter. I will provide updates on anticipated meetings and activities as we get closer.

Maria and I have been honored to serve with each of you and look forward to seeing and serving with you all again. Mahalo for your support, friendship and Aloha.

Please remember that the great support you provide every day to Hawaii, the Army, our customers, the Nation, and each other, makes a huge difference.

ONE TEAM - BUILDING STRONG®!



District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary (center right) and Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Milhorn (center left) presented the Hui O'i Loa Award for the 2015 Project Delivery Team of the Year to the Flood Mitigation Structures, Fort Shafter Flats Project Delivery Team at the Annual Awards Townhall held in early January. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan

## District Honors the Best of the Best at Annual Townhall

The Honolulu District Ohana gathered for its Annual Awards Townhall in early January where employees were honored for their exemplary work accomplishments in 2015.

The townhall featured a year-in-review video, a commander's update to the District, USACE and District annual award presentations.

District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary, Pacific Ocean Division Commander Jeffrey Milhorn and Pacific Ocean Division Command Sgt. Major Yolanda Tate also presented pins and certificates to employees who completed 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 40 years of federal service.

Kimberly Jyo, Resident Engineer, South Range Resident Office, Schofield Barracks Area Office was presented the 2015 Pacific Ocean Division Construction Management Excellence Award by Brig. Gen. Milhorn.

The goal of the District's annual awards program is to encourage and recognize employees who exceed standards and achieve excellence in their daily work.

The 2015 Honolulu District Annual Award winners:

Ikaika Loa Award for Administrative Support Employee of the Year: Kay Chin

Ikaika Loa Award for Technical Employee of the Year: Elizabeth Freitas

Ikaika Loa Award for Professional Employee of the Year: Jimmy Lam

Maika'i Loa Award for Leader of the Year:

Andrew Kohashi

Alaka'i Loa for Project Manager of the Year:

Hui O'i Loa Award for Project Delivery Team of the Year: Project Manager Dean Fukuchi and the Flood Mitigation Structures, Fort Shafter Flats Project Delivery Team





Admin. Support Employee of the Year: Kay Chin



Technical Employee of the Year: Elizabeth Freitas





Professional Employee of the Year: Jimmy Lam



POD 2015 Construction Management Excellence Award: Kimberly Jyo



## Honolulu District Continues Support to Army, Pacific Region in 2015

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

During Fiscal Year 2015, highly motivated U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District staff supported military construction at Hawaii Army posts with the District completing more than \$159 million in construction, including \$101.6 million in Military Construction, \$52.9 million in Operations & Maintenance, and \$4.4 million in Civil Works / Interagency and International Services construction.

The District also completed and turned over 13 construction projects worth \$253 million to customers in FY15, including the renovation of Quad D Barracks, the Central Vehicle Wash Facility and South Range Campus at Schofield Barracks, and the Child Development Center at Fort Shafter. The contract award for the FY14 U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) Mission Control Facility Project 2 was completed in September and the District also conducted the USARPAC Mission Control Facility Project III design charrette.

Honolulu District also completed two photovoltaic projects that can generate up to 748 kilowatts of electricity. 2015 District Highlights:

- Awarded 534 contracting actions in the amount of \$146,692,463.
- Reorganized Regional Technical and Design Centers into the Regional Engineer Center.
- Completed more than 30 outreach events for FUDS and Regulatory programs to inform over 4,500 stakeholders and/ or members of our communities on the programs, processes, and safety considerations.
- Sponsored three Wounded Warrior Interns enabling them to build job skills while they transitioned from the military to civilian workforce.

The Honolulu District Emergency Management (EM) Teams were busy during the 2015 Hurricane season as 13 tropical storms/hurricanes passed by Hawaii while transiting onward into the western Pacific region. Our emergency response efforts in Saipan and Hawaii were enabled by tremendous augmentee support from Headquarters USACE, several other Divisions and Districts, and the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power). The EM teams remained active providing support to Saipan for Typhoon Soudelor response into late September as well as initiating District pre-storm mobilizations for the potential effects of the hurricanes and tropical storm systems passing Hawaii.

The District also hosted numerous Senior Leader visits to District project sites including former Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh, Lt. Gen. David D. Halverson, commanding general of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, USARPAC Commander Gen. Vincent Brooks (twice) and the Honorable Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment, as well as Senior Executives Mr. Stacey Hirata, Northwestern Division/Pacific Ocean Division Regional Integration Team Chief and Dr. Ilker Adiguzel, Director of the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) and several others.

The District's Regulatory Office made significant efforts in improving coordination/collaboration with interagency and interservice partners throughout the Pacific and creating a more efficient 401 Permitting process with the State of Hawaii.



Former Secretary of the Army John McHugh and senior USARPAC and Corps leaders were briefed on the construction status of the USARPAC Mission Command Facility (MCF) at Fort Shafter in April 2015. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio



The District and U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii celebrated the grand opening of the Corps-built Fort Shafter School Age Center in early December. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

District contract actions signify the Corps' commitment to provide high-quality facilities to the Armed Forces and to protect and improve the lives of the people of Hawaii and the region. Honolulu District is responsible for major military design and construction, civil works, international and interagency support, real estate services to the Army and Air Force, regulatory work, environmental services and emergency management.

Major military construction contracts awarded in 2015 included:

- \$63.3 million for the USARPAC Command and Control Facility (C2F) Project 2, Fort Shafter, Oahu
- \$5.35 million for the Replace Substation Switchgear, Tripler Army Medical Center
- \$2.949 million for the Replace 46 kilovolt line, Castner / Menoher, Schofield Barracks
- \$2.499 million for Repair USARPAC Strategic Capabilities, Center (SCC), Building 145, Fort Shafter



Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn, (center) is assisted in the traditional maile lei untying and ribbon-cutting ceremony by Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary (third from left,) Mr. Len Housley, Deputy Commander U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (fourth from left), Ms. Sally Pfenning, Director, Directorate of Public Works, USAG-HI (fifth from left), Lt. Col. Michael Binetti, Commander, 29th Brigade Engineer Battalion (fourth from right), Maj. Chris Izquierdo, Executive Officer, 19th Military Police (CID) Battalion (third from right), and Capt. Michael Simmons, Commander, A Company, 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) (second from right). The Rev. Sherman Thompson (left) led the Hawaiian blessing and maile lei ribbon untying cutting ceremony. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

## Army Corps, 29th BEB Hold Ribbon Cutting for South Range Road

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

Officials from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, Directorate of Public Works, 29th Brigade Engineer Battalion (29th BEB) and Military Police units gathered in September to hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Schofield's new South Range Road Project area.

The 101-acre complex built by contractor Joint Venture Dck-ECC Pacific LLC and managed by the Honolulu District, features 22 new buildings, five miles of roadway, a one million gallon water storage tank, and is the new home for the 29th BEB, 249th Engineer Battalion Prime Power "A" Company, the 19th Military Police Battalion (CID), and the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade.

During the ceremony U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn told guests the planning for the South Range project began in 2004, with design starting in 2007 for a complex to be built in an area of Schofield Barracks "previously used for farming pineapple and had no utilities or infrastructure."

"With today's ribbon cutting, we are celebrating operation of these state-of-the-art and highly energy efficient troop command and maintenance facilities, while also recognizing our continuing partnership with the Army Garrison–Hawaii, the 25th Infantry Division, IM-COM, military commands and our contractor teams," Milhorn said.

In March 2011, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded a \$127.9 million contract – far below the programmed amount of \$237 million

- to Joint Venture Dck-ECC Pacific LLC for construction of the South Range campus, the largest single construction contract in Honolulu District's recent history.

"Four projects for the campus were consolidated into one solicitation contract package because of the remoteness of the construction area, requirement to incorporate all utilities and infrastructure, common campus architecture, efficiency and economy of scale," Milhorn said.

The South Range's new infrastructure and sustainability components constructed also establishes a utilities backbone structure for various vertical buildings, a training support center and many future military construction building projects as well as translates into real dollar savings for the Garrison and the Army for the next 20 to 30 years.

"Handing over the keys to several command and battalion facilities inside Schofield's South Range project area is what we – the Corps of Engineers and partners - envision when we sign on to build these world class facilities," Milhorn said. "These particular facilities will have a significant impact on the quality of life and readiness of Schofield's Soldiers as many new South Range occupants were previously scattered in overcrowded and inadequate facilities throughout Schofield."

Milhorn explained that the completion of these South Range facilities allows Army units to ensure ease in scheduling training, maintaining the units' readiness, plus more productivity and higher morale.

"Our entire Army Corps of Engineers' team takes great pride in being a part of the Army team and the supporting role we provide to our Soldiers, so they can fulfill their mission in Hawaii and around the world."

Participating in the traditional maile lei untying and ribbon-cutting ceremony were Brig. Gen. Milhorn, Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District, Lt. Col. Michael Binetti, Commander, 29th Brigade Engineer Battalion, Maj. Chris Izquierdo, Executive Officer, 19th Military Police (CID) Battalion, Capt. Michael Simmons, Commander, A Company, 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), Mr. Len Housley, Deputy Commander U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, and Ms. Sally Pfenning, Director, Directorate of Public Works, U.S. Army Garrison-HI. The Rev. Sherman Thompson led the Hawaiian blessing and maile lei ribbon untying cutting ceremony.

The Honolulu District is committed to building and managing the construction of high quality projects that improve the quality of life for service members and their families and that provide jobs and money which stimulate the local economy.



The 29th Engineer Battalion Headquarters was one of the new facilities built by the Corps of Engineers on the South Range Road Project cantonment. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Honolulu District Civil Works Branch Chief Derek Chow gave the Ala Wai Feasibility Study presentation during the public meeting held in September at Washington Middle School in Honolulu. More than 100 people including elected officials attended the meeting Photo by Dino W.

### District, State DLNR Hold Public Meeting for Ala Wai Canal Project Draft Feasibility Study Report

#### Story by **Honolulu District Public Affairs**

The Honolulu District and Hawaii State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) held a public meeting in late September at Honolulu's Washington Middle School on the Draft Feasibility Study Report with Integrated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Ala Wai Canal Project, which is a flood risk management project for the Ala Wai Watershed.

The watershed includes the neighborhoods of Makiki, Manoa, Palolo, McCully, Moiliili, Kapahulu, and Waikiki.

The proposed \$173 million project is a subsequent phase of an effort that was previously called the "Ala Wai Watershed Project."

(ACE) flood would result in damages to more than 3,000 structures, with approximately \$318 million in

structural damages alone (2013 price levels), not accounting for loss in business income or other similar economic losses.

Analyses conducted in support of this project show the one percent ACE floodplain extends over approximately 1,358 acres of the watershed.

"If we didn't have the project, most of Moiliili and McCully and almost all of Waikiki are underwater," said McCully-Moiliili Neighborhood Board member Ron Lockwood, who



Modeling results indicate a one A rendering of the Ala Wai Watershed shows the potential extent of inpercent annual chance exceedance undation resulting from the 1 percent annual chance exceedance flood. Courtesy rendering

was among more than 100 people who attended the public meeting.

The Ala Wai Canal did spill over its banks in 1965 and again in 1967. And in 2006, torrential rain also brought the canal close to overflowing.

"We want to do it where it fits the aesthetics of the area," said Derek Chow, Honolulu District's Chief of Civil and Public Works. "It also fits the historic district, because the canal is part of a historic district."

The plan would control floods upstream before they reach the canal.

"We are talking about small detention basins, may in a series, to reduce the actual size of each basin so that it doesn't have the potential to cause any harm if it was to fail," said Chow.

According to Chow, in response to identified flood-related problems and opportunities a range of alternatives were evaluated through an iterative screening and formulation process, resulting in identification of a tentatively selected plan. The proposal includes six detention basins that would hold back excess floodwater in the upper reaches of Makiki, Manoa and Palolo Streams. There also would a debris catchment basin for Manoa Stream, along with multi-purpose detention basins in open space areas, such as parts of Ala Wai Park, as well as building a four foot-high wall on the banks of the canal to prevent the flooding from flowing into Waikiki and three associated pump stations.

"I think they're doing something that should have been done a long time ago," said Barbra Accoutrement of the Diamond Head-Kapahulu-St. Louis Heights Neighborhood Board.

It has taken more than 15 years for the proiect to reach this point, and it could be another seven years before anything is actually built. Funding would have to be approved by Congress. The Corps is continuing to work with all stakeholders on the feasibility study process.

> Pacific Connection



## **Corps Teams with Army Divers to Conduct Structural Study** of Historic Seaplane Ramps at Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Story by Joseph Bonfiglio Chief, Public Affairs

The U.S. Army's 7th Dive Detachment completed a dive survey for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District in support of a Navy Dept. financed structural study of the historic Seaplane Ramps at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) on Kaneohe Bay in late Janu-

The study, being conducted in-house by the District, provided an opportunity for the Corps to partner with the Army's 7th Dive Detachment, 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade, which conducted the two-day underwater site survey.

The District conducted the two-phase assessment for MCBH to determine the feasibility of the ramps to support landing craft use and training. The dive survey is part of the first phase that includes an initial scope validation with a visual site survey, research of as-built documents, and recommendations for the second phase, which will be an overall assessment with cost estimates.

The study also provided the certified divers of the 7th Dive Detachment with a challenging training opportunity in addition to providing the Honolulu District with vital structural information for less money than a commercial dive operation.

"Our divers enjoyed this mission," NCOIC Sgt. Thomas Hunnicutt said. "They checked the condition of all five ramps and the Ramps at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) on Kaneohe Bay. Photo by Jomarine environment around them, collected data, and took photos for seph Bonfiglio the report documentation. In addition, this mission provided an outstanding training opportunity for our Soldiers. It has been very good working with the Corps' Project Manager Jennifer Eugenio and Coral Rasmussen

Soldiers from the U.S. Army's 7th Dive Detachment ready their dive gear

and rib boat before heading out into the waters of Kaneohe Bay to conduct

a dive survey for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District in

(the MCBH Cultural Resources Manager)." According to Rasmussen, the seaplane ramps are a part of the Kaneohe Naval Air Station National Historic Landmark, which means they meet the

highest level of national significance and warrant a level of preservation and care commensurate with this designation. The five seaplane ramps are located on the shore of Kaneohe Bay south of Hangars 101, 102, 103, and 104. The ramps and Hangar 101 became famous in the first few minutes of WWII when forces of the Empire of Japan attacked the Navy's PBY Catalina patrol fleet and hanger complex minutes before the main attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

The PBY Catalina (PB designation stands for Patrol Bomber and the Y for its manufacturer code) was an amphibious aircraft first commissioned by the Navy in the late 1930's. Sometimes called a "flying boat," it was the mostly widely used seaplane of World War II.

Catalinas served with every branch of the United States Armed Forces and in the air forces and navies of many other nations. The planes, with their 100-foot wing spans and large fuel capacity, were used for long-range patrols, bombing missions, search-and-rescue, convoy escort, and cargo transportation.

Kaneohe Naval Air Station was home to three patrol squadrons and 33 PBY's were on the ground or floating just off-shore in Kaneohe Bay at the time of the 1941 attack. Only six survived the bombing, and those six were heavily damaged. Three Kaneohe PBY's were on patrol during the attack and were the only patrol squadron seaplanes fit for use after the attack.

In 2016, more than 80 years after the first PBY flight, these aircraft continue to fly as waterbombers in aerial firefighting operations all over the world.

The Honolulu District is committed to supporting our federal partners and stakeholders by executing high quality studies and projects, and the District was honored to support the mission to document and analyze such an historic military site.





(Left) Soldiers from the U.S. Army's 7th Dive Detachment, 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade, talked with Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary about their dive survey in the waters of Kaneohe Bay. (Above) Divers conduct their site survey just offshore from the historic Seaplane Ramps at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Photos by Joseph Bonfiglio



# **Corps Continues Work on USARPAC MCF**

Story by Joseph Bonfiglio Chief, Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District recently finished the first of three contracts for the U.S. Army Pacific's (USAR-PAC) Mission Command Facility (MCF) at Fort Shafter in late 2015 with the successful completion of a central utilities plant, switch building, communications hub, and arrival building.

The contractor for the first contract was Niking Corporation.

With the start of the New Year, the District moved forward with the second construction contract that was awarded Aug. 18, 2015 to Watts Constructors, LLC for \$63,500,000.

The second contract includes construction of administrative and special use spaces with supporting mechanical, electrical, and telecommunications systems.

Supporting facilities include site development, utilities and connections, lighting, paving, parking, walks, curbs and gutters, storm drainage, landscaping and signage. Heating and air conditioning will be provided through connection to the complex central utility plant. Contract two will also provide access for individuals with disabilities.

The Corps is currently installing multiple drilled caissons that provide the foundations for contract two.



Project Engineer Gerald Young and Construction Control Representative Scott Mochizuki discuss a caisson drilling process on the MCF Contract 2 site in January. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

The MCF will consolidate USARPAC Headquarters into one facility that will support Mission Command of Army across the Asia-Pacific Area of Operations.

USARPAC and the District broke ground on the first contract of the MCF in April 2012.

Hosting that ceremony was former USARPAC Commander Lt. Gen. Francis J. Wiercinski who said that "the construction of a new headquarters couldn't have come at a better time both for the shift in strategic emphasis on the Asia Pacific Region, and facilities modernization."



Photo by Gerald Young



Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

# District Emergency Response Teams Provide Timely Assistance Throughout Pacific Region

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

Each year, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sends hundreds of people to respond to disasters in the U.S and around the world.

When disasters occur in the Pacific region, the Pacific Ocean Division coordinates the Corps' enterprise-wide emergency response with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), under the National Response Framework and is the responsible agency for Emergency Support Function 3 (ESF3), Public Works and Engineering. These responsibilities include debris management, emergency infrastructure assessment, emergency temporary power, and critical public facility assessments.

"As we all know too well, we live in a paradise that can be as destructive and deadly as it is beautiful," said Deputy District Commander Maj. Brennan Wallace in reference to the Pacific region. "Honolulu District has a long history of supporting recovery from disasters in the Pacific when they occur. The primary mechanism by which the District helps is by enlisting volunteers from within the District to man the Emergency Response Teams."

The District is currently seeking volunteers to fill several critical needs on its deployable teams. According to District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary, volunteering for service on emergency response teams is "a great way for personnel to continue their civil service in a different and challenging capacity."

During a recent recruiting drive seminar to fill needed rotational vacancies on these teams, several personnel currently serving on them provided candid responses about their experiences, especially their most recent deployment to Saipan in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor.

"When I was on the CTOC team in 2004 we deployed to the island of Yap after a typhoon and we set up the system that was able to provide connectivity to run 40 computers for the local government to do public assistance work," said Helene Takemoto, currently a Power PRT mission specialist. "It was very helpful having the connectivity for the local government."

"Although we don't deploy as often as the Power PRT, we still need to be ready to go when needed," said Jon Hosaka, CTOC team leader.

"People who deploy on our teams work long hours in austere conditions," said Mickey Mulvenna from the District's Emergency Management office. "Affected locations can lack power, water and even lodging, so the deployments can be challenging for volunteers not accustomed to those types of conditions. Missions generally last 30 days, but some do require much longer deployments."

Honolulu District fields two Emergency Power and Planning Response Teams (Power PRT) and a Containerized Tactical Operations Center (CTOC) team who provide state and local officials with a variety of support regarding



Honolulu District Power Planning and Response teammates (Power PRT) take a break from their work in response to Typhoon Soudelor on Saipan in August 2015. This specialized team worked with the U.S. Army's 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), contractors, and commonwealth and local entities to assess, install and maintain emergency generators at critical facilities, especially at wells to ensure that residents of Saipan get a much-needed supply of drinking water. Courtesy photo

emergency power needs during emergency response at critical public facilities in support of FEMA. These emergency response teams are highly deployable and place volunteers directly in the wake of the natural disaster where direct Federal support meets the people that need it.

"We operate in the vast Pacific environment – so we are unique compared to any other geographical area of the world. First responders who go out to assist in these situations must have an appreciation of the mission they are sent to do," Lt. Col. Crary said. "They are being sent to the affected locations to reduce burden on the population and governments in those locations.

We want to minimize our impact to the communities, while providing assistance with re-energizing needed power and communications."

The Emergency Power PRTs work closely with FEMA, local and state entities, and contractors to execute the mission. The District's CTOC, the only unit of its kind in the country, provides a rapidly deployable tactical operations and communications platform for first responders where there are no available facilities or communications capabilities.

Typhoon Soudelor struck the island of Saipan Aug. 2-3 with estimated 120-mph gusts, heavy rains, and lightning, leaving the island's 50,000 residents and tourists without water or power. After the storm Saipan's Commonwealth Utility Company said all 14,622 electric customers on Saipan were without grid power and later visual inspections confirmed nearly 800

power poles and 600 transformers were damaged.

"While in Saipan after Typhoon Soudelor, I witnessed how the communication connectivity was like trying to drink a milk shake through a swizzle straw," said Lt. Col. Crary. "Having a fully-manned CTOC makes us more ready and capable should we need to deploy. As an example, we've stood up our emergency operations teams nine times this fiscal year alone due to a large influx of storms."

"Prepositioning of personnel greatly contributed to the Corps' immediate response," said Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn, who is the Commanding General for USACE's Pacific Ocean Division.

Prospective volunteers at the recruiting seminar listened as current team members revealed that they were overwhelmed by the "countless thanks" from people affected in the disaster-stricken areas.

"What I've learned from years of working on these teams, is that you always get to work with a great bunch of people," Takemoto said. "It's very rewarding to be out there when everyone wants to help and it's really great to work with people who understand the mission and get the work done quickly. It's really gratifying to see how far you've come from square one – the progress almost immediately. You work with a lot of high level and high energy people as well as people from other District's and organizations with whom you can make work connec-



Honolulu District employees Debbie Solis and Paul Kai discuss supply paperwork while deployed to Saipan in August 2015 as part of the federal response to Typhoon Soudelor. Courtesy photo

tions – connections you can use in your normal job while working in the Pacific."

"When you go out to lunch in these areas, local people see your Corps shirt and ask you what you're doing," said Don Schlack, Honolulu District's Power PRT leader. "Once they know, they thank you for it; and I that doesn't happen often for my normal job."

"Because everything these days runs on power; when the Corps' Power PRT arrives in these disaster zones, they are generally viewed as the savior," Lt. Col. Crary said. "Our power team members are providing one of, if not the most, critical service needed immediately during the response period."

In support of the Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas (CNMI), Honolulu District's response teams deployed in early August 2015 to support recovery efforts in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor. The Power PRT deployed specialists for contracting, liaisons, mission management, data management, logistics, and quality assurance.

Prior to Typhoon Soudelor's landfall, USACE had started mobilizing and pre-positioning personnel from its FEMA credentialed emergency management and Power Planning Response Team along with Soldiers from the 249th Engineer Battalion out of Hawaii.

"The resources that are brought to bear in the disaster zone are unlike anything you're used to," said Schlack. "FEMA generally has an open checkbook – and just about anything you need, you can get it. Depending upon where you are and the circumstances, you could even have a meeting with a senator or give a briefing to the governor."

"We're (the Power PRTs) typically the first people out there and also typically the first success story. Our big achievement is generally during the first four days after a storm's landfall – when bad news after bad news story is the norm and everyone is still in a recovery mode. That's a very gratifying feeling."



Honolulu District's Containerized Tactical Operations Center (CTOC) team sets up a satellite dish during a training evolution in January. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio



In the Guam Civil Defense Emergency Response Command Center, Honolulu District Power PRT teammates Helene Takemoto and Don Schlack check aerial landscape maps of Guam in preparation for a potential landfall of Typhoon Dolphin in May 2015 with ESF3 Team Leader Greg Deleon Guerrero from USACE's Dallas District. Courtesy photo



Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Milhorn (center left) listened to an update on power generation inside the Honolulu District Power Planning and Response Team (Power PRT) command center on Saipan in August 2015. Also listening are Honolulu District's Deputy District Engineer for Program Management Tony Paresa (fourth from left) and Chief, Civil Works branch Derek Chow (second from right). Courtesy photo

## **USACE DCG Stevens Visits District, MCF Project Site**











Honolulu District was honored to host a visit by USACE Deputy Commanding General Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens who was in Hawaii in February to visit with District personnel, U. S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) Chief of Staff, USARPAC Assistant Chief of Staff-Engineer, the 130th Engineer Brigade, the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), and Pacific Ocean Division (POD) personnel. Stevens also attended the Pacific Ocean Division Regional Management Board and shared insights with the attendees. In addition, Maj. Gen. Stevens made a site visit to the USARPAC Mission Command Facility (top and bottom right photos) being built by Honolulu District for USARPAC. A highlight of his visit to the District was the presentation of DCG command coins to District employees for their outstanding performance including: Mike Wyatt of Civil Works (top left), Toni Agustin of our Real Estate Office, Chen Sam Lee of our Regional Engineering Center, Kevin Nishimura in Environmental, and Jennifer Ko (bottom left) in Contracting. Photos by Joseph Bonfiglio and Dino W. Buchanan

## Honolulu District Engineers Participate in 2016 National Engineers Week Activities

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

More than 200 engineers and friends of the 17 organizations within the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies (HCES) plus invited local VIPs and dignitaries and engineers from the Honolulu District gathered at the Hale Koa Hotel Feb. 23 for a luncheon to kick off Engineers Week 2016, which ran Feb. 21-27.

"Engineers Week was a great opportunity to showcase the accomplishments and capabilities of the Honolulu District's professional engineers, architects and surveyors," said Todd Barnes, chief of Engineering & Construction, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District.

The 2016 Engineers Week theme was "Discover E - Engineers Make a World of Difference."

Statewide Engineers Week activities included: signing of an Engineers Week Proclamation with Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell; signing of an Engineers Week Proclamation with Hawaii Gov. David Ige; Engineers Week static displays at Pearlridge Shopping Center Feb. 21; attendance at the kick-off luncheon Feb. 23 at the Hale Koa Hotel and the HCES (Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies) Engineers Week Annual Awards Banquet held February 27. The Corps of Engineers supported all of these events.

The celebration of National Engineers Week was started in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers in conjunction with President George Washington's Birthday. President Washington is considered the nation's first engineer, notably for his surveying work.

Several of the District's Department of the Army interns manned an interactive exhibit Feb. 21 at Pearlridge Shopping Center that showcased District's missions. Each year during Engineers Week, the HCES organizes display exhibits to improve the public image of the engineering profession and to stimulate qualified students in public and private schools to choose careers in engineering and in related science fields. The 2016 Hawaii State VEX and VEX IQ Robotics Skills Challenge was also held Feb. 21 at Pearlridge Mall's Uptown Center Court. Robotics is one of the outreach programs to encourage students to enter the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Jointly hosted by the Honolulu Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) and the HCES, the 2016 Kick-off Luncheon featured keynote speaker Peter E. Crouch, Dean, University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Engineering, who spoke on "Re-Engineering for a Sustainable Future." Robbie Alm, President of the Collaborative Leaders Network and former Executive Vice President of Hawaiian Electric, was the keynote speaker for the Engineers Week banquet and spoke on "Will Hawaii Thrive in the 21st Century?"

Prior to Engineers Week, Honolulu District engineers and staff attended the Oahu 2016 MATHCOUNTS competition Feb. 13 with personnel volunteering their services as moderators, proctors and scorers as well as at the State competitions at Kamehameha Schools, Honolulu. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders from more than 36 Oahu public and private schools participated in the competition. Respective winners from Oahu, Maui and the island of Hawaii met for the State MATHCOUNTS championship March 12.

The MATHCOUNTS program in its 33rd year is sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers at the state and local levels to emphasize the importance of mathematical skills in the development of future technology and encourage students to excel in these areas. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recognizes the critical role that STEM education plays in enabling the U.S. to remain the economic and technological leaders of the global marketplace, and enabling the Department of Defense and Army in the security of our Nation.

Honolulu District Workforce Management staff and District engineering personnel were also on hand to provide educational career guidance as well as information on potential job opportunities within the Corps at the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Engineering Career Day held Feb. 17.

## Golden: A Trek to Hawaii Brings A New Life Vision

In honor of African-American Black History Month, the Honolulu District Special Emphasis Program Committee welcomed featured guest speaker Ernest L. Golden of Laie, Hawaii to an audience of more than 70 District employees Feb. 18. Golden, a 92-year-young local writer, artist, and musician shared his life story about growing up in Athens, Georgia in the days of segregation and how he overcame apartheid in the Old South. With warmth and humor he relayed his experiences of traveling to various locations across the Eastern U.S. in his youth looking for fortune and eventually making his way to Hawaii to assist with the recovery work after the attack on Pearl Harbor. In Hawaii he found solice, a new home, built a family, all while enjoying the relative racial equality he found in the territory. Golden also talked about how his music, writing, art, and spirituality gave him the strength to survive racial divisiveness and overcome the slings and arrows of life he encountered throughout his lifetime. He also recognized the many kind people of all races - who helped him along the way. For employees, it was a pleasure to hear his moving story of faith, perseverance, and gumption. Golden still writes, paints, and performs music with his son and other local musicians on Oahu. The National African-American History Month theme for 2016 was "Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories." Photos by Duy Ta, **ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist** 







## Congressional Delegates Visit USARPAC MCF Construction Site

Congressional staff delegates (top right photo, left to right), Mr. Christopher R. Grawien, on behalf of Rep. Glenn Grothman; Ms. Nikki Kirsch on behalf of Rep. Ken Buck; Mr. Brent Robinson on behalf of Rep. Robert J. Wittman; and Mr. Pat Thompson, on behalf of Rep. Rob Wittman, were briefed by Corps and USARPAC leaders Feb. 19 on the construction progress of the U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) Mission Command Facility (MCF).

The MCF, which the Corps is building for USARPAC, will consolidate USAR-PAC Headquarters into one facility that will support Mission Command of Army or joint forces across the Asia-Pacific area of operations.

On Feb. 22, USARPAC and District engineers also briefed Ms. Lauren Hernandez (center, bottom photo), Military and Community Liaison for U.S. Sen. Mazie K. Hirono, at the MCF construction site. The District recently finished the first contract for the MCF with completion of a central utilities plant, switch building, communications hub, and the arrival building.



Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio



Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Ready ... or Not is a call to action for leaders, Soldiers, Army Civilians and Family members to assess their "readiness" for what lies ahead—the known as well as the unknown.

Throughout our professional and personal lives, events happen all around us. We are often able to shape the outcome of those events, but many times we're not. Navigating life's challenges is all about decision-making.

So are YOU ready ... or not?





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# EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER

## 4th Quarter 2015



### ROCKWELL "ROCKY" ROGERS

While serving as a Construction Control Representative within the Stryker Resident Office, Schofield Barracks Area Office, Rocky performed beyond his normal duties in an exemplary manner while managing/leading the quality assurance (QA) functions on the following projects: \$70 million renovation to Quad B, Schofield Barracks; \$8 million Hawaii Learning Center, Mililani Technical Park; and the \$2 million Facilities Reduction Program (Demolition). Rocky admirably filled-in as the "sole" QA representative on all three projects normally staffed with a project engineer and a second construction control representative. He was very effective in balancing his work load between projects ensuring critical RFIs, submittals, changes and inspections were given the attention needed to keep the contractors progressing on schedule while meeting/exceeding the quality requirements. He was instrumental in coordinating with the contractors, designers of record, REC, PPMD, Huntsville Engineering and Support Center, Baltimore Distinct, USAG-HI DPW, and other government agencies, to resolve issues in a timely manner.



#### Kanale Sadowski

Kanale was nominated for his leadership resolving the Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) 802 Family Housing project contract and lease. Several months ago, the MCBH requested the Corps to terminate for convenience the 802 Housing Contract and lease awarded in 1991. The 802 contract included the construction of 276 housing units and was set to expire in 2017, at which time the homes constructed would return to the possession and ownership of the U.S. MCBH made this request so it could pursue a new Family Housing contract under the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific's family housing contract. Time was critical because the MCBH's \$95 million in funding expired on Sept. 30, 2015. Kanale took the lead for Honolulu District to coordinated the requirements of the many entities that directly impacted the District's ability to terminate the contract and lease including: MCBH Housing office, Honolulu District contracting and real estate offices, Army Corps Division and HQ real estate and legal offices, the 802 contractor, NAVFAC Pacific and HQ privatized housing and legal offices, the mortgage holder for the 802 contactor, and the new housing contractor. Multiple agreements among the parties had to agreed upon and signed to implement the transition from the District contract to the NAVFAC contract before Sept. 30 or MCBH would lose the \$95 million for the follow-on project. Kanale's consistency and persistence to reach resolutions that satisfied the impacted entities was key to the Corp's ability to meet the request from MCBH and terminate the lease.

### 1st Quarter 2016



#### **IESSIE PAAHANA**

While serving as a Project Manager in the Regulatory Office from October through December 2015, Jessie conducted herself in a very professional manner, providing exemplary service in dealing with two difficult Regulatory Enforcement cases, one of which is very high profile (SPCA), with Congressional interest, neighborhood community involvement, and media coverage. She acted above and beyond to document her findings based on the regulations and established processes, kept the parties informed of the status and process, and worked to keep any potential enforcement actions at the lowest level.



#### LANCE SHIROMA

While serving as a Staff Accountant Intern in the Finance and Accounting Branch from October to December 2015, Lance was an integral contributor in the management and accounting of the District's Military Construction In Progress (CIP) assets that are transferred to our customers based on DD FM 1354s to enable them to record these assets and be ready for their first full Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Audit of their financial records in FY2017. He was instrumental in the progress made by the District that resulted in its current GREEN CMR rating for the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Test Plan #5. Lance has transferred \$589 million worth of assets to date and is accounting for \$406 million worth of active and pending projects. Lance continues to conduct monthly briefings to the Project Delivery Team on the status of each project and is establishing an Resource Management repository for all DD FM 1354s.



#### **USACE CSM Jones, POD CSM Tate Tour MCF Project Site**

In early December Honolulu District was honored to host USACE Command Sgt. Maj. Antonio S. Jones (center) and new Pacific Ocean Division Command Sgt. Maj. Yolanda M. Tate (center left) and provide them with tours of two of our Fort Shafter construction projects. They visited the recently completed Arrival Building of the USARPAC Mission Command Facility (MCF) and received a briefing on the construction status of the MCF project. The MCF, which the Corps is building for USARPAC, will consolidate USARPAC Headquarters into one facility that will support Mission Command of Army or joint forces across the Asia-Pacific Area of Operations. They also toured the Corps' Bldg T-112 renovation project on Historic Palm Circle. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

### **District Welcomes New RM Chief**



Robert Lau returned to the Army Corps of Engineers in Hawaii in late 2015 to become Honolulu District's Chief of Resource Management, following the retirement of Ronnie Kirkland. Before returning to Hawaii, Lau served as the Chief Financial Officer, Far East District, US. Army Corps of Engineers.

### **Daniels Returns to District as New EM Chief**

Jeff Daniels has returned to serve as Honolulu District's Emergency Management Chief after a working for the Corps' Albuquerque District. Jeff last served with the Ohana from 2010 to 2012 as an Emergency Management Specialist in the EM office. During his federal career Jeff has completed deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan and also worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and for the Bureau of Reclamation (USBR).



## Ohana Says Farewell to Acting EM Chief

Honolulu District Ohana and Emergency Management (EM) teams said farewell to acting EM Chief Mickey Mulvenna in late February after she led the District EM operations from July 2015 to January 2016. She was the cornerstone for mission accomplishments for USACE Emergency Management Operations in the Pacific during an unprecedented El Nino year of tropical storms and typhoons. Her outstanding leadership and technical competency ensured a highly successful threemonth USACE/FEMA Typhoon Soude-



lor response in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. (Above) Mulvenna is presented the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service by Deputy Commander Maj. Brennan Wallace at her farewell in February. Courtesy photo



In December, Benton Ching, a hydraulic engineer in our Technical Integration Branch, was selected as the National Society of Professional Engineers' (Pacific Ocean Division) Agency Winner for the Federal Engineer of the Year Award. (Above) Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Milhorn congratulates Benton with the presentation of a commander's coin for his extraordinary efforts on the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation Harbors Division GIS Program Implementation. This effort has assisted the State DOT Harbors Division with complying with a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's consent decree for storm water violations. The implementation of the GIS program is helping the state save an incalculable amount of monetary fines while offering a sound solution to protect Hawaii's valuable water source. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

#### **Transitions**

Welcome: Kenneth Hunt / Donald Sivils / 1st Lt. Jerome Johnson / George Chan / Tom Barlow / Debbie Starr / Lissa Maxwell / Lynn Hunt / Mike Bauman / Staff Sgt. Dawn Rogers / Donald Sivils / Joseph East / Capt. Kenneth Porter / Steven Sansone / Patty Morrow Welcome Back: Lance Sewake / Jeff Daniels

Goodbye: John Mihlbauer / Zandra Smith / James Date / Vince Hall / Laureen Vizcarra / Mickey Mulvenna / Steve Mora / Gordon Kuioka / Toni Agustin / Michelle Lynch / Alma Wu / Tom Madeira / Capt. Alberto Baez / Robert Finch / Gary Yamauchi / Glenn Fernandez

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