



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Honolulu District

®



The  
**Pacific**  
Connection

BUILDING STRONG®

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# WHAT'S INSIDE



Honolulu District said farewell in April to Steve Mora after 52 years of outstanding military and federal service with the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Army. For his service at Honolulu District, former District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Cray (above) presented Steve with a Commander's Award for Civilian Service. During his tenure with the Fort Shafter Area Office, Steve demonstrated his expertise in construction quality assurance. Some of his notable projects included State of Hawaii Americans with Disabilities Act Sidewalk Compliance; Paaau and Wailoa Stream Flood Control Repairs; Hickam FY02 and FY08/09 Hydrant Fuel System; C-17 Parking Apron; Cargo Taxi Runway and Hangar 2 Renovation. He was a key leader in mentoring co-workers by providing training and advice on construction inspection, contract administration and safety. Good Luck in your retirement Steve! Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



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## On The Cover

Lt. Col. James D. Hoyman (back right) receives the unit colors from former Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn, becoming the 70th Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Honolulu District Commander  
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Honolulu District Deputy Commander  
 Maj. Thomas E. Piazzese

Deputy District Engineer for  
 Programs and Project Management  
 Stephen Cayetano

Chief of Public Affairs  
 Joseph Bonfiglio

*The Pacific Connection* Editor |  
 Command Information Manager  
 Dino W. Buchanan



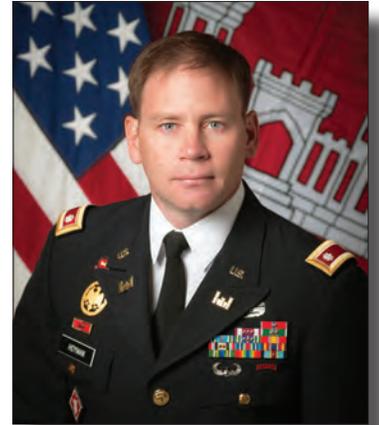
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# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

**Lt. Col. James D. Hoyman**  
District Commander



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



***Aloha District Ohana!***

I want to say Mahalo to all of you for the warm welcome you gave me and my family to the Honolulu District Ohana. And special thanks to everyone who made the change of command and reception first-class events.

I'm very proud, honored, and excited to be the 70th commander of such a great organization. The Honolulu District has a well-deserved reputation for excellence, and I'm thrilled to be a part of the team.

I also want to say Mahalo to Lt. Col. Christopher Cray for the guidance and leadership he provided the District during his tenure and for making this a truly seamless transition for me and my family. We wish him and Maria all the best, and we are happy that they will remain on Oahu for another two years. Mahalo Nui Loa!

As I continue learning about the District, our people, processes, and customers, I am reassured to discover that we are focused on the right priorities and headed in the right direction. We will maintain the momentum of our previous successes while we work to enhance areas which need attention. I have been very impressed with the positive attitude and professionalism displayed by the Ohana. Please know that you are all continuing to make valuable contributions to Soldiers and the people of Hawaii and the whole Pacific Region.

Since the last Pacific Connection, the District has reached several historical milestones, some of which you can read about in these pages.

Honolulu District celebrated its 111th year of dedicated service in the Pacific on April 15. Throughout our history the District has truly demonstrated that we are "America's Engineers in the Pacific" by providing first rate engineering products and services during times of war and peace, to our Nation, Army, sister services, and the public. We should all take pride in the organization we serve - it's a great one to which we all contribute.

The District recently completed and turned over Contract One (the Arrival Building) of the USARPAC Mission Control Facility (MCF) project. We also began construction on Contract Two. The MCF project team also met with USARPAC stakeholders for the Contract Three charrette.

In late January 2016, the District jointly partnered with Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) and the U.S. Army's 7th Dive Detachment for an underwater survey of the waters 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 a part of the Kaneohe Naval Air Station National Historic Landmark and once based PBY Catalinas (Patrol Bombers), 33 of which were present when the Japanese Empire attacked the base on Dec. 7, 1941.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' hopper dredge Essayons arrived in Hawaii in April to conduct maintenance dredging in five of the state's commercial harbors. Since more than 80 percent of all consumer goods are imported into the state through these harbors, maintaining proper channel depths is crucial. Because of its size and dredging depth, the Essayons is particularly well-suited for dredging larger coastal entrances. The Essayons dredged more than 300,000 cubic yards and safely released the dredge materials at EPA-designated ocean disposal sites.

Throughout the past few months our engineers and staff were involved in numerous STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education-oriented outreach events such as National Engineers Week, MATHCOUNTS, and the Hawaii Science Olympiad. In addition, District employees spoke to potential future engineers about STEM and the Corps of Engineers at local schools.

Our world-class workforce also recently held our 22nd Annual Safety Day and enjoyed a sun-and-fun-filled Organization Day at Bellows Air Force Station on Oahu.

As we are now in the 4th quarter of FY16, awarding new project and services contracts as well as finishing ongoing projects, will become paramount for our branch offices. This is a crucial, high stakes and high stress period requiring our team to perform at our very best. That said, we love what we do and it is our pleasure to deliver quality projects and services for all our supported commands and customers.

To our stakeholders, I say to you that the Honolulu District stands ready to assist your engineering needs with all the capabilities we have to offer.

Again, thank you all for the tremendous welcome to the District. I look forward to work with all of you as we support our great Soldiers and the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Region.

*Essayons!*



Pacific Ocean Division (POD) Deputy Commander Col. Christopher D. Lestochi (second from left) and former Honolulu District Deputy Commander Maj. Brennan Wallace (right) congratulate POD's 2016 Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board Award winners: (left to right) Tim Inouye, Wanda Kohashi (for Andrew Kohashi), Melissa Frank, Kay Chin and Kenji Santiago. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

## District Employees Honored at Annual FEB Awards

Four Honolulu District employees, one Pacific Ocean Division (POD) employee, and one District project delivery team were honored at the 60th Annual Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board's Excellence in Federal Government Awards ceremony May 7 at the Hickam Officers Club, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Agency selectees in seven categories were honored as the "best of the best" - the best people who helped meet their mission, goals and values for the year. The Pacific Ocean Division commander endorses each year's nominees from POD for the Federal Government Awards Program that recognizes outstanding federal employees for their efforts, leadership, and/or initiative. The program encourages innovation and excellence in government, reinforces pride in federal service, and helps call public attention to the broad range of services provided by federal employees.

POD was honored to have Wanda Kohashi, Andrew's widow, accept his award posthumously.

This year's Honolulu District/Pacific Ocean Division awardees were:

**Team Excellence:** Fort Shafter Flats Flood Mitigation (Tim Inouye accepting)

**Federal Leader/Supervisory/Manager of the Year:** Andrew Kohashi (Wanda Kohashi accepting)

**Federal Employee of the Year – Professional, Administrative and Technical:** Melissa Frank (POD)

**Federal Employee of the Year – Clerical and Assistant:** Kay Chin

**Federal Employee of the Year- Trades and Crafts:** Kenji Santiago



Photos by Dino Buchanan & MC1 Phillip Pavlovich, NPASE West Det. Hawaii



Wanda Kohashi



Melissa Frank



Kay Chin



Kenji Santiago



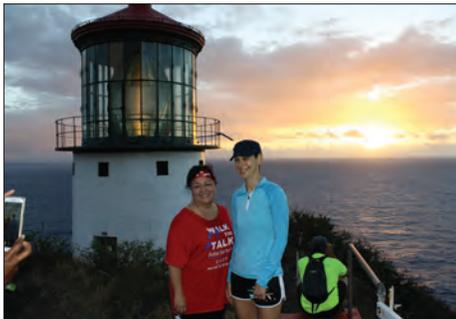
Tim Inouye

# Ohana Celebrates District's 111th Birthday With Sunrise Hike to Makapu'u Lighthouse

Story by  
Dino W. Buchanan  
Pacific Connection Editor



Former Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary, Former District Deputy Commander Maj. Brennan Wallace, and Pacific Ocean Division Command Sgt. Maj. Yolanda Tate, led more than 25 District teammates, friends and families and Pacific Ocean Division employees on a hike to Oahu's Makapu'u Lighthouse to view the sunrise on April 15 in celebration of the 111th anniversary of the District's founding. Photos by Dino Buchanan



Led by former Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary, former District Deputy Commander Maj. Brennan Wallace, and Pacific Ocean Division Command Sgt. Maj. Yolanda Tate, more than 25 District teammates, friends and families and Pacific Ocean Division employees, hiked to Oahu's Makapu'u Lighthouse to view the sunrise April 15 in celebration of the 111th Anniversary of the District's founding.

The Corps' history in Hawaii and the Pacific began in 1905 when Lt. John Slattery became the District's first commander. His original mission was to construct lighthouses for navigation, like Makapu'u.

Makapu'u Lighthouse was built by the Corps in 1909 on a 600-foot sea cliff overlooking Makapu'u Beach in southeast Oahu. Makapu'u Point is an important location passed by all ships moving between Honolulu and the U.S. Mainland.

The critical need for this light was demonstrated in August 1906 when the 27,000-ton S.S. Manchuria went aground on a reef between Rabbit Island and Makapu'u Point. Congress later appropriated \$60,000 for the light on October 1, 1909.

The lens for this light was one of the wonders of the Pacific. Press clips of the time noted the hyper-radial Fresnel lens, which had been exhibited at the Jamestown Exposition, was the most expensive and largest in the United States at the time of its construction. The lighthouse stands 46-foot-tall and its light is visible out to 17 miles. It was fully automated in 1974 and is still an active U.S. Coast Guard navigation aid.

As "America's Engineers in the Pacific," the District's civil works, military construction and environmental missions evolved over time -- in periods of peace and war -- for more than 110 years.

Today the Honolulu District is a full-service District, providing a wide range of timely, effective, innovative solutions to meet our customers' engineering, construction and environmental needs.

The Honolulu District has seven primary missions: Military Construction, Civil Works, Interagency and International Services, Real Estate, Regulatory, Environmental Services, and Emergency Management.

Honolulu District offers project management, design, construction management, contracting, cost engineering, and more.

The Honolulu District's area of operations is enormous - crossing five time zones, the international dateline and approximately 12 million square miles of the Pacific Ocean - and includes the territories of Guam, American Samoa and CNMI, as well as the Freely Associated States including the Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.



*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Park Ranger Samantha Vazquez explains to Earth Day volunteers the process of placing name placards on tree trunks in Fort DeRussy Park area near the Corps' Pacific Regional Visitor Center. More than 20 volunteers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers partnered with local JROTC students and others to clean up Waikiki Beach April 2 as part of Earth Month 2016. Photos by Joseph Bonfiglio*

## Corps of Engineers Partners with Punahou JROTC to Clean Up Fort DeRussy Beach Area for Earth Month 2016

Story by  
Joseph Bonfiglio  
Chief, Public Affairs

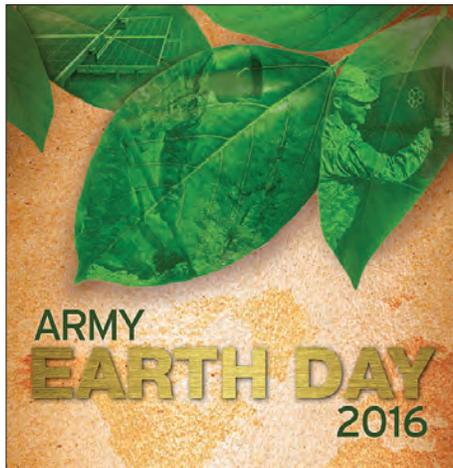
More than 50 volunteers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, their local JROTC partners, and others teamed up to clean up Fort DeRussy beach and berm April 2 as part of Earth Month 2016.

More than 30 of the volunteers were from the Punahou Junior ROTC program (which includes cadets from other area high schools and some home-schooled students) joined Corps employees, Soldiers from the 163rd Transportation Detachment, and local Boy and Cub Scouts and their friends and families, to clean up the beach and berm area at the Corps' Pacific Regional Visitor Center (RVC) at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki.

Earth Month and Earth Day increase awareness and support for ongoing education and efforts to build partnerships and grassroots involvement to keep the environment clean year-round. Earth Day was established March 21, 1970 as an annual event to deepen reverence and care for life on the planet.

The Corps' RVC first opened its doors at Battery Randolph in 1983. Its goal is to enhance the public's understanding of the multidimensional role of the U.S. Army and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Particular emphasis is on Civil Works and water resources development which affect the lives of all the residents of Hawaii and the people of the Pacific.



# Chief of Engineers Visits Two Fort Shafter Project Sites



Honolulu District hosted site visits July 12 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Commander Lt. Gen. Todd T. Semonite to our Bldg. 112 renovation (above left) and USARPAC Mission Command Facility (MCF) (above right) at Fort Shafter. Semonite was briefed on the status of the MCF, which the Corps is building for USARPAC, which will consolidate USARPAC Headquarters into one facility to support Mission Command of Army or joint forces across the Asia-Pacific Area of Operations. The District finished the first contract for the MCF with the successful completion of a central utilities plant, switch building, communications hub, and arrival building. Since the start of the New Year, the District has been moving forward with the second contract that includes construction of administrative and special use spaces, with supporting mechanical, electrical, and telecommunications systems. Semonite also toured Bldg. T-112 on Palm Circle where he was briefed on the historical significance of the building and renovation techniques being used to preserve the building. Lt. Gen. Semonite was in Hawaii to preside over the Pacific Ocean Division Change of Command ceremony. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan and Joseph Bonfiglio

# Pacific Ocean Division Welcomes New Commander

Story by  
Terri Kojima  
Chief, Pacific Ocean Division Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn relinquished his position as commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Pacific Ocean Division to Col. Peter B. Andrysiak, during a change of command ceremony July 12, at historic Palm Circle.

With the passing of the ceremonial flag symbolizing the official change of command, Andrysiak became the 32nd commander of the Army Corps' division serving the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. He now leads an organization that employs 1,600 military, Department of Army, host nation civilian engineers, technicians and other professionals in the annual execution of a \$3.2 billion program.

The mission includes engineering design, construction and real estate management for the Army in Hawaii, Army and Air Force in Alaska, and for all Department of Defense agencies in Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Andrysiak's service to the Engineer Regiment spans a period of more than 25 years. He most recently served as the 3rd Infantry Division Chief of Staff at Fort Stewart, Georgia, and USFOR-A JTF-3 Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, chief of engineers and commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, hosted the ceremony and said that both Andrysiak and Milhorn were officers with diverse experiences across a very broad range of areas of our Army, and perfectly suited for command of the Pacific Ocean Division.

"They're both tactical and technical engineers and combat heroes," said Semonite. "There is another dimension they have that is most important to USARPAC and PACOM, and that is they have the ability to be able to understand strategic contacts." They are strategic thinkers and strategic leaders and they understand what they're bringing to the fight." Semonite praised the outgoing commander's relentless commitment to excellence and dedication to duty.

In the face of enormous natural, political and fiscal challenges, Milhorn directed the two largest host-nation military construction projects in the history of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers valued at more than \$17.7 billion. A major military construction project under Milhorn's command is the \$380 million U.S. Army Pacific Mission Command Facility at Fort Shafter, which will consolidate USARPAC Headquarters into one facility that will support Mission Command of Army or joint forces across the Asia-Pacific area of operations.



Col. Peter B. Andrysiak (center right) receives the Army Colors from Lt. Gen. Todd T. Semonite during a Change of Command ceremony July 12, on Palm Circle at Fort Shafter. Andrysiak became the 32nd Commander of the Pacific Ocean Division. Photo by Terri Kojima, Pacific Ocean Division

Through an extensive engagement strategy, Milhorn supported 270 technical exchange activities in 23 countries in collaboration with U.S. Pacific Command, USAID, and the Department of State, provided guidance and support on more than 260 humanitarian assistance projects, and numerous disaster response and management exercises and exchanges.

During Milhorn's command, the Division experienced two of the most intense hurricane/typhoon seasons on record. In support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Response Framework, Milhorn deployed Emergency Support Function #3 response teams, cadre and technical subject matter experts from across the USACE enterprise, as well as the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) Soldiers to the major islands of Hawaii, Guam, Saipan and American Samoa.

During his assignment as Pacific Ocean Division Commander, Milhorn served as the Deputy Commanding General JTF-505 for the Nepal earthquake response, leading the relief transition effort and planning reconstruction requirements.

For his exceptional service from July 2014 to July 2016, Milhorn received the Distinguished Service Medal. Milhorn now serves as assistant chief of staff of operations, U.S. Army Pacific.

# USACE Hopper Dredge

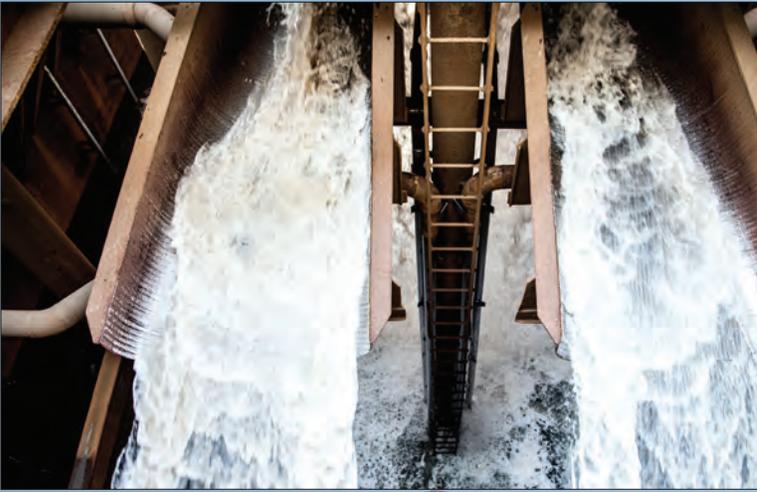
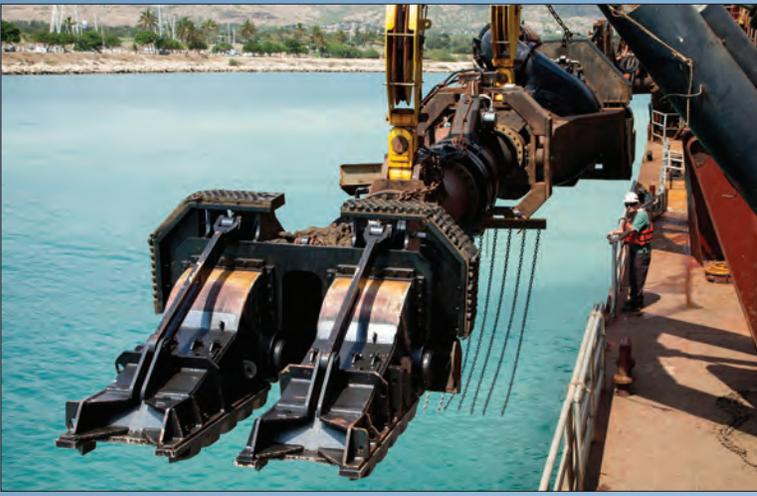
Story by  
**Joseph Bonfiglio**  
Chief, Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' hopper dredge *Essayons* completed vital maintenance dredging of the federal navigation channels in Honolulu, Barbers Point, Kahului, Hilo, and Nawiliwili commercial harbors in April. The last time the federal navigation channels in these harbors were dredged was in 1999.

Hawaii is a maritime state more than 2,400 miles from the mainland and far more dependent on its harbors than most of the United States. The Hawaii state Department of Transportation claims that more than 80 percent of all consumer goods – food, clothing, autos, building supplies, machinery, paper, and allied products, medical supplies, and agricultural materials – are imported into the state. Of that 80 percent, approximately 98 percent enters Hawaii through commercial harbors on the major islands.

To ensure that these vital goods continue to arrive in Hawaii, the *Essayons* dredged approximately 300,000 cubic yards from the harbors and safely disposed of it at EPA-designated ocean disposal sites. Special care was taken to protect marine life such as sea turtles.

Homeported at the Corps' Portland (Oregon) District, the Corps-designed *Essayons* was built by the Bath Iron Works in 1982.



Photos by Duy Ta, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist, Joseph Bonfiglio & Jessie Paahana

# Essayons Helps Keep Hawaii Shipping Moving

Operated by a merchant marine crew, the *Essayons* was delivered to the Portland District in 1983. The *Essayons* helps maintain entrance bars, rivers, and harbors on the coasts of California, Oregon, Hawaii, Alaska and, in emergencies, the Mississippi River. Because of its size and dredging depth, the *Essayons* is particularly well-suited for dredging the larger coastal entrances.

Designed to operate anywhere in the world, the *Essayons* is automated for operation with a semiautomatic drag-arm handling system.

The *Essayons*' crew consists of 46 civil service mariners. The crew is divided into two operating tours each of 23 men and women. Each tour normally alternates an 8-day-on/6-day-off schedule of 10 hours a day, with both crews working the day shift on crew change days.

The Honolulu District is responsible for the operation and maintenance of general navigation features in harbors constructed by the Corps in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Navigation was the Corps' earliest Civil Works mission, dating to Federal laws in 1824 authorizing and funding the Corps to improve safety on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and several ports.

The Corps provides safe, reliable, efficient, and environmentally sustainable waterborne transportation systems (channels, harbors, and waterways) for movement of commerce, national security needs, and recreation.



## How Does a Hopper Dredge Work?

A Hopper dredge is a propelled floating plant which is capable of dredging material, storing it onboard, transporting it to the disposal area, and dumping it. Hopper dredges perform the largest and most dangerous jobs - clearing channels and offshore sandbars from the mouths of major rivers. Hopper dredges move like a ship and when dredging, they move very slowly. Direct pump out is a common method of removing dredged material from hopper dredges. A hopper dredge fills its hoppers as it dredges the bottom. The dredge then moors to a structure, buoy, or multiple buoy berth. Hoses are then connected to a pipeline extending to shore are attached to the hopper dredge discharge manifold. The dredge mixes the dredged material with water to form a slurry and pumps the slurry from its discharge manifold through the hoses and pipeline to a designated discharge location. The *Essayons* is automated for operation with an unattended engine room and semiautomatic drag arm handling system. Sophisticated instrumentation allows constant production monitoring and enables the dredge crew to maintain maximum dredging efficiency 24 hours a day.

# Lt. Col. Hoyman Becomes 70th

Story by  
Dino W. Buchanan  
Pacific Connection Editor

Lt. Col. James D. Hoyman became the 70th commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District in a military ceremony held July 11 on Fort Shafter's Palm Circle parade field.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn hosted the ceremony during which outgoing commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary and incoming commander Lt. Col. Hoyman passed the ceremonial flag symbolizing the official change of command. During the ceremony, Hoyman and his family were presented with fresh flower leis, a Hawaiian symbol of welcome, with the Crary family also receiving leis as a tribute to their service.

For his outstanding work and contributions while commanding the Honolulu District, Lt. Col. Crary received the Meritorious Service Medal. Crary leaves to serve in Pacific Command's Logistics, Engineering, and Security Cooperation Directorate (J-44).

Hoyman commands an organization of more than 300 engineers, scientists and support staff serving the Pacific Region, including Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Kwajalein in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Hoyman most recently served at Wheaton College, Illinois as the Professor of Military Science. During this time leading the ROTC detachment at Wheaton, the program commissioned 78 Army officers.

Hoyman graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree and was commissioned into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Hoyman also holds Master's degrees in Engineering Management from Missouri University of Science and Technology and in Organizational Psychology from Columbia University.

Hoyman is a graduate of the Engineer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Command and General Staff College, is Air Assault qualified, a Sapper Leader Course graduate, and a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Colorado.

During his tenure at Honolulu District, Crary met the challenge of successfully leading the District in executing all mission requirements: military construction (MILCON), civil works, international and interagency services, real estate, regulatory, environmental services and emergency management support. For fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the District's contracting team awarded more than \$467.1 million in contracts in Hawaii and the Pacific Region.

Honolulu District is responsible for major military design and construction, civil works, international and interagency support, real estate services for the Army and Air Force, regulatory work, environmental services and



**Lt. Col. James D. Hoyman (back right) receives the unit colors from former Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn, becoming the 70th Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District. Looking on are outgoing District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary (front left) and Honolulu District Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management Stephen Cayetano. Milhorn presided over the ceremony on the Palm Circle parade field at Fort Shafter.** Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

emergency management. The District's current active program is valued at about \$2 billion.

Crary led a highly motivated staff in support of U.S. Army military construction and Army initiatives on Hawaii Army posts that included the renovation of several historic quadrangles (Quads) on Schofield Barracks. By the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2015, the District had completed and turned over 13 construction projects worth \$253 million to customers, including the Central Vehicle Wash Facility and South Range complex at Schofield Barracks, the Child Development Center at Fort Shafter, and the renovation of Schofield Barracks' Quad D barracks. The second contract award for U.S. Army Pacific's Mission Control Facility was completed in September and the District also conducted the MCF design charrette for the third construction contract. The \$63.5 million second contract broke ground in November 2015.

Under Crary's leadership, the District started construction of the \$69.7 million phase two of the Combat Aviation Brigade complex at Wheeler Army Airfield and in September 2015 handed over the keys to command and battalion facilities in Schofield's South Range area. The 101-acre, \$127.9 million South Range complex features 22 new buildings, five miles of roadway, a one million gallon water storage tank, and is the new home for the 29th Brigade Engineer Brigade, A Company 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), the 19th Military Police

Battalion (CID), and the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade.

In early 2015 U.S. Air Force Space and Missile System Center officials, Crary and other U.S. Army representatives, broke ground on the island of Kwajalein in the Republic of the Marshall Islands to kick off a 36-month construction effort to build the \$300 million S-band Space Fence radar system. The Space Fence will be built on U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll, with Honolulu District providing quality surveillance and facility engineering technical support for the facility construction and power plant used to house and run the Space Fence system.

Honolulu District provided significant civil works support to the State of Hawaii during Crary's tour, including the completion in September 2015 of the long-awaited Ala Wai Watershed Draft Feasibility Study Report with Integrated Environmental Impact Statement. Brig. Gen. Milhorn, Crary and other Corps team members met with and provided Corps project site tours for the Honorable Ms. Jo Ellen Darcy (Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works) during the 32nd U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meetings on Maui in September 2015. Participants discussed key national issues, proposed new actions, and presented the latest progress in the effort to protect, restore, and sustainably use coral reef ecosystems. Throughout the week Corps team members engaged in

# Honolulu District Commander



a number of working groups to discuss regulatory, conservation, and watershed management activities.

In April 2016, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' hopper dredge *Essayons* arrived in Hawaii to conduct maintenance dredging in five of the state's commercial harbors. Because of its size and dredging depth, the *Essayons* is particularly well-suited for dredging larger coastal entrances. The *Essayons* dredged approximately 300,000 cubic yards from the five harbors, which was then safely disposed of at EPA-designated ocean disposal sites.

In late January 2016, the District jointly partnered with Marine Corps Base Hawaii and the U.S. Army's 7th Dive Detachment for an underwater survey of the waters 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 a part of the Kaneohe Naval Air Station National Historic Landmark and once based PBY "Catalina" Patrol Reconnaissance Planes, 33 of which were present when the Empire of Japan planes attacked the base on Dec. 7, 1941.

In addition, in support of USACE Headquarters Emergency Management disaster requirements, Crary led the District through the preparations and potential FEMA response for

13 Pacific typhoons and tropical storms that passed the Hawaiian Islands during the summer of 2015 - the most in one season in recorded history - while the storms transited onward into the western Pacific region. A USACE / FEMA team effort in August 2015 in response to Typhoon Soudelor was led by Pacific Ocean Division and District teams augmented by personnel from Headquarters USACE, three other USACE Divisions and six USACE Districts, the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), and the contracting community. These teams provided temporary power to critical infrastructure as well as other engineering tasks in support of FEMA to improve/protect life, health, and the safety for the people of Saipan. Typhoon Soudelor's path left the 50,000 island residents and tourists without water or power.

Crary and the Pacific Ocean Division commander made several on-site visits to Saipan during the recovery efforts and the Corps response was graciously lauded by local government and federal officials.

Through 2015 and early 2016, Crary and the District hosted numerous Hawaii Congressional, senior leader and VIP visits to District project sites including former USACE Command staff, Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh, Lt. Gen. David D. Halverson, former commanding general of the U.S. Army Installation Man-

agement Command, former U.S. Army Pacific Commander Gen. Vincent Brooks (twice), the Honorable Ms. Jo Ellen Darcy, the Honorable Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment, as well as USACE 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), USACE Environmental Division Chief Karen Baker, Dr. Jeffery P. Holland, director of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), and other local and regional military leaders.

Throughout Crary's tour Honolulu District was also highly involved in the Oahu and State of Hawaii MATHCOUNTS competitions, numerous STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education-oriented outreach events such as the University of Hawaii-Manoa College of Engineering Career fairs, the annual National Engineers Week, the Hawaii Science Olympiad, as well as having many District personnel speak about the Corps and Corps career fields to potential future engineers at local schools.

# Org Day 2016: Ohana Camaraderie at Bellows AFS

Photos by Duy Ta, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist



# Wellness, Safety Focus of District's 22nd Annual Safety Day

Photos by Duy Ta, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist,  
Joseph Bonfiglio, Ada Chun & Dino W. Buchanan



# Practice HEAT SAFETY Wherever You Are

Heat related deaths are preventable.  
Protect yourself and others from the  
impacts of heat waves.



## Job Sites

Stay hydrated and  
take breaks in the shade  
as often as possible.



## Vehicles

Never leave kids or  
pets unattended -  
LOOK before you LOCK



[weather.gov/heat](https://weather.gov/heat)

## *Farewell and Thanks!*

Thirty years go by in the blink of an eye. At the end of September, I will retire from federal service and spend my last day at the Honolulu District. It has been an incredible honor and privilege to work with and learn from such an outstanding group of professionals. Telling your stories has been rewarding and gratifying, but the best part was serving with such wonderful people. Your warmth and generosity are an inspiration, and I am grateful to the Almighty for experiencing these blessings. I am also grateful for a career which enabled me to witness the fall of the Berlin Wall and spend eight years living, working, and traveling in post-Cold War Europe, not to mention traveling the Asia-Pacific region in the service of the greatest country in the world. A country which has afforded my family amazing opportunities. God bless, take care, and Aloha!

*Joseph Bonfiglio, retiring Honolulu District, Chief of Public Affairs*



# EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER

## 2nd Quarter 2016



**JOAN KAIMIKAUA**

While serving as a Supervisory Contract Specialist and as the Deputy Chief of Contracting from January through March 2016, Joan took a leading role in the Division's efforts to ensure Contractor Performance Assessment Reports and Contract Close Outs were managed in a disciplined manner. Her efforts on this project were instrumental in this District's ability to put a dent in the numbers trending in a positive direction. The effort took numerous hours of collaboration with other District activities to reach a point where the District could actually see a light at the end of the tunnel. Additionally, Joan worked tirelessly to bring order to a chaotic contract close-out situation so the Division could understand the metric and how to sort through myriad elements necessary to bring closure to many contracts. Joan's efforts to get these two metrics under control for the District while seamlessly executing contracting work in her branch is commended.

## 3rd Quarter 2016



**JON HOSAKA**

Working as a project manager in the Civil & Public Works Branch, Jon oversaw the \$13 million Phase 1 maintenance dredging within five of Hawaii's commercial harbors that was completed in May 2016. The effort began in 2014 with the planning, design, and environmental analysis of the maintenance dredging, at which time the USACE dredge vessel *Essayons* was chosen to perform the work. Hosaka led the PDT and consultant in establishing critical channel and basin areas to be dredged, addressing environmental concerns, and conducting VIP visits of the operation. While an endangered species take permit was obtained for nine turtles, only one was taken. The successful completion of Phase 1 dredging has returned commercial shipping lanes to their original depths and allows waterborne traffic to continue safely and efficiently.



**CHEN SAM LEE**

While serving as the Civil Regional Technical Specialist in the Regional Engineering Center from April through June 2016, Chen Sam has led and served as the lead civil designer submitting the final designs for the Pohakuloa Training Area Cesspool Replacement project and the Kilauea Military Camp Repair Sewer System project, and is in the advanced stages of civil design for the Yokota Post Acquisition Improvement Program project. Lee is also in the early civil design stage for the P807 Aircraft Maintenance Complex for Kadena Air Base, Japan. Chen Sam's ability to work with state regulators was key in the success of the two wastewater projects and because of this, in addition to his technical expertise and professionalism, he is highly valued by key stakeholders including the Directorate of Public Works and the Japan Engineering District.

## District Deputy for DPM Tony Paresa Retires

The District and Division Ohana said farewell to Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management Division Tony Paresa at a farewell luncheon held May 31. As the Honolulu District DPM Tony ensured excellent oversight of all USACE projects in our Area of Responsibility since 2008. All of these projects significantly improved the quality of life of residents throughout the region. At his farewell luncheon former Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Cray presented Paresa with the Department of the Army's Meritorious Civilian Service Medal for his outstanding work covering 32 years of Federal service to the Nation. The District Ohana wishes Tony good luck in his future endeavors and retirement.



Photos by Duy Ta, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist

## In Memorium: Andrew Kohashi



Honolulu District took a huge loss in March with the passing of our beloved Army Branch Chief Andrew Kohashi after a long fight with cancer. Andrew was one of the most beloved members of the Honolulu District as he personified all that is good and what we desire in a leader, professional, and person. Andrew truly loved the Honolulu District and its Ohana. We will continue to remember the good times, his charismatic smile, his charming personality, and his genuine concern for all. As we go forward, we will continue to find ways to support each other and honor his memory and legacy.



*Andrew ...Rest In Peace.*

*You were our dear friend, team member, role model, mentor, and a member of the Ohana.*



## In Memorium: Karen Tomoyasu

Karen Tomoyasu passed away May 23. Karen had more than 36 years of dedicated Federal service with the Honolulu District and Pacific Ocean Division. Within that time, she built lasting relationships and many employees would call her a loved one and a member of the Ohana.

Karen was a hard worker, funny, loved her orchids, and was just always enjoyable to be around.

*Karen,  
...the District Ohana will miss you...  
...Rest in Peace...*



### Transitions

**Welcome:** Lt. Col. James Hoyman / Maj. Thomas Piazze / Capt. Kenneth Porter / Phil Hunt / Gary Tamashiro / Dan Meyers / Clinton Padaraosan / Aaron Mintz / Edward Okabayashi / Paul Remington / Jennifer Chang / Aaron Mintz / Belinda Whitlow / Jessica Daniels / Thomas Crump / James Aoki / Corey Yamashiro

**Welcome Back:** Ken Mocko

**Goodbye:** Kenneth Hunt / Lynn Hunt / Tom Madeira / Michelle Lynch / Tricia Macon / Steve Mora / Robert Finch / Joseph Nagal / Craig Hashimoto / Anthony Paresa / Capt. Alberto Baez / Lt. Col. Christopher Crary / Maj. Brennan Wallace / Katie Tamashiro / Kevin Khan / Mickey Mulvenna / Patty Morrow / Steve Yamamoto / Gary Yamauchi / Alan Leong / James Date / Paul Sadowski / Maks Hromiak / Milo Gerber / Tim Inouye / Randy Itamoto / Joseph East / Kate Bliss / Keith McDonald / Nelson Lee / Joseph Bonfiglio / Darren Walls

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