



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Honolulu District

The Pacific Connection

BUILDING STRONG®

Winter 2013 Vol. 47 No. 1



One Team BUILDING STRONG®!

WHAT'S INSIDE



8

District Honors 700 Years of Experience

Honolulu District said "Aloha" to 29 retiring members of the Ohana at multiple ceremonies during the last two months of 2012. (Above) District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (back row, center) poses with the 17 District employees who attended the retirement ceremony held in their honor in December. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/HonoluluDistrict>



YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/HonoluluDistrict>



Twitter

<http://twitter.com/CorpsHonolulu>



Flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/HonoluluDistrict>



Follow the Honolulu District on social media and the District's official website @:
<http://www.poh.usace.army.mil/>

4 District Welcomes 565th Engineer Detachment Home from Afghanistan

5 District Completes Vietnam Pavilion Addition at Punchbowl

6 District Deploys Power PRT to Support Hurricane Sandy Relief

7 STEM Outreach: Washington Middle School Career Day

8 District Honors 700 Years of Experience

10 District Honors Employee Excellence at Annual Townhall

12 District Holds Professional Development for Army JROTC cadets

13 Disability Awareness Month: Ohana Learns About Relationships

13 Maj. Gen. Cox Visits South Range Project Sites

15 District Showcases Army Corps Opportunities at UH Career Fair

16 U.S. Marine Corps Wounded Warriors Learn About Army Corps Job Opportunities, Careers

On The Cover

More than 180 Honolulu District employees gathered for a group photo following January's Annual Awards Townhall at Fort Shafter Flats. District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (front row, second from right) and the District Corporate Board stand in the first row. Photo by Dino Buchanan



Honolulu District Commander
Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery

Honolulu District Deputy Commander
Maj. Sally Hannan

Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management
Anthony Paresa

Chief, Public Affairs
Joseph Bonfiglio

Pacific Connection Editor | Command Information Manager
Dino W. Buchanan

Public Affairs Specialist
Angela E. Kershner

The Pacific Connection, an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1, is published quarterly by the Public Affairs Office, Honolulu District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440. Telephone: (808) 835-4004. This command information publication is published for Honolulu District employees and others who request it in writing and is also available online at: <http://www.poh.usace.army.mil/>.

The expressed views and opinions are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. Content is prepared in accordance with the Associated Press Style Guide. Contributions are welcomed and highly encouraged. The editor reserves the right to make editorial changes to any material submitted as deemed necessary. Send submissions to the address listed above. Circulation: 1,125.



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery 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 and Mahalo to the Honolulu District Ohana!

The Honolulu District has started 2013 at a fast pace after spending some much needed and well deserved time with friends and family over the past holidays. As this issue heads to press we are facing the most fiscal uncertainty our Nation has experienced in recent history. The leaders of the Honolulu District are making every effort to meet our customers' expectations for this year although there are some projects and programs that may fall short of that goal. We are already jointly developing scopes of work with our customers, designing projects, and awarding contracts when funds are available. My pledge to you is to maintain open and honest communications as we identify those areas that may be impacted.

In this issue, you'll see many stories about our people including the welcome home for our FEST-A Team from Afghanistan, our Annual Awards Townhall, the Power Planning and Response Team support for Hurricane Sandy, and the retirement of 29 members of our Ohana in December. You'll also see some stories about our community outreach like the UH Career Fair and JROTC Professional Development. And you'll see some stories on what we do every day – deliver quality projects for our "Partners in the Pacific" such as the Vietnam Pavilion at Punchbowl.

These stories comprise only a fraction of the entire portfolio the District is executing and delivering as America's Engineers in the Pacific. But together, these stories give you an appreciation of how we are serving our great Nation and the region.

In this Commander's Column, I also need to address an area I get asked about frequently. This is the decrease in the District's workload over the next several years. Based on current federal fiscal challenges, the District continues to expect a reduced workload over the next several years, particularly in our Military Construction mission. In light of this, we are continuing to adapt, and as necessary, we will reduce the size of our workforce. It is the leadership's intent, however, to reduce the workforce responsibly without reducing the quality of service we offer our customers, partners and stakeholders. This is a firm commitment to the District and its many stakeholders. A multifunctional team from across the District continues to develop the tools to help meet this commitment. We will continue to keep all our stakeholders inside and outside the District informed.

I am always impressed by the outstanding volunteers that selflessly put themselves in harm's way in service to the USACE mission in Afghanistan and our Nation. I want to congratulate both the 565th FEST-A and our Power PRT that deployed to Afghanistan and Hurricane Sandy as well as those individuals that deployed and are about to deploy. Thank you all for your remarkable accomplishments and sacrifices. Please help me by keeping all of our deployed civilians and service members in your thoughts and prayers as we look forward to their safe return to family and friends. Mahalo Nui Loa for what you all do each and every day and your commitment to excellence.

BUILDING STRONG®!

District Welcomes 565th Engineer Detachment Home from Afghanistan

Story by
Joseph Bonfiglio
Chief, Public Affairs

Honolulu District welcomed home the District-based 565th Engineer Detachment, Forward Engineer Support Team-Advance (FEST-A) with a redeployment ceremony Jan. 24 at District headquarters marking the official end of their deployment to support Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Pacific Ocean Division Commander, Col. Gregory J. Gunter presided over the ceremony and commended the spirit of volunteerism the team members exemplify.

“In the nine months deployed in support of Overseas Contingency Operations, the 565th FEST-A provided essential engineering support to the combatant commander,” Gunter said. “This unit’s unique skills and capabilities have made a significant engineering impact here at home in the Pacific as well as downrange.”

Family members and District co-workers of the FEST-A welcomed them home with leis and hugs.

The eight-man detachment deployed in May 2012 to Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan where they provided technical engineering support to Regional Command-South.

While in Afghanistan they provided vital support to Coalition Forces, were instrumental in improving electricity distribution in key areas of Kandahar and worked on Afghan capital improvement projects.

“These capital improvement projects will be the enduring legacy of coalition and U.S. efforts from the last decade. The Afghanistan government will be the recipient of a great opportunity to provide multiple levels of services to its citizens that would most probably not have been available for another 30 years,” said Lt. Col. Robert Bensburg, officer in charge of infrastructure in Regional Command-South’s Stability Division.

According to 565th Commander, Maj. William C. Hannan Jr., “the detachment worked ex-



Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Gregory J. Gunter (left) commends the 565th Engineer Detachment's spirit of volunteerism at the redeployment ceremony held at District Headquarters in January. Family members and District co-workers of the 565th team welcomed them home with leis and plenty of hugs. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio



565th Engineer Detachment's Mechanical Engineer Jon Hosaka shares a laugh with District Ohana after the redeployment ceremony. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

tremely hard during the deployment and made an outstanding contribution to the Afghanistan mission. They provided excellent technical engineer support during our nine month rotation. I couldn't be more proud of this team.”

The FEST-A consists of a detachment commander, a non-commissioned officer-in-charge and six Department of Defense civilians who serve in the jobs of a geographic information

system specialist, and civil, structural, environmental, mechanical and electrical engineers with other engineering disciplines available for augmentation depending on the mission.

The original 565th was constituted on Sept. 9, 1944 in the Army of the United States as the 3090th Engineer Service Detachment. On March 20, 1951 it was designated as the 565th Engineer Welding Detachment and allotted to the regular Army and eventually, as the 565th Engineer Detachment on April 22, 1965.

Since that date the unit has been activated and deactivated three times with the recent activation date of Oct. 16, 2007. The unit saw extensive action during World War II in Normandy and Germany and during the Vietnam War.

The current unit, which has been active since Oct. 2007, has the mission of providing responsive technical engineer planning and limited design capabilities in support of combatant commands and civil agencies for the Full Spectrum of Operations. The unit has also traveled to the Philippines, the Republic of Palau, the Marshall Islands, Germany, Korea and to Thailand in support of the Corps.

The evolution of an on-call, all-volunteer FEST-A to an established military unit was motivated by the Corps' No. 1 goal in its Campaign Plan, which is delivering Corps support to combat, stability and disaster operations through forward deployed and reach-back capabilities.

As the Army's needs have changed since the Cold War, the FEST-A has become a vital asset. With military deployments to nations such as Somalia, Bosnia, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Afghanistan since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the Army and the Corps discovered gaps in their ability to rapidly provide technical engineering expertise in these austere environments. FEST-As provide engineering skills which traditional troop units do not possess.

The Corps responded by ensuring the top priority was executing the concept of field force engineering. It started in 1999 with the establishment of “Legacy FEST-As”, and teams for logistics, environmental support, contingency real estate and infrastructure assessment. The Corps' Alaska District was the first FEST-A to go into Iraq in 2003. By 2009, field force engineering became a formal part of the Army.



Bill Hollingsworth, a civil engineer from the 565th Engineer Detachment Forward Engineer Support Team - Advance visually inspected the unpaved road at Shur Andam Industrial Park in November, as two boys from a local village follow him. Photo by Jasmine Chopra-Delgadillo, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Afghanistan Engineer District - South



Special guests (center left to right) former U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Akaka (with silver hair and lei), U.S. Rep. Colleen Hanabusa (clapping), ABMC Secretary Max Cleland (sitting), Punchbowl Director Gene Castagnetti (with black and yellow tie) and other stakeholders dedicate the new Vietnam War Pavilion during the annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Nov. 11. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District managed the construction project for the ABMC. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

District Completes Vietnam Pavilion Addition at Punchbowl

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

The American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC), along with the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) and the Honolulu District dedicated two new pavilions at the Honolulu Memorial on November 11, 2012.

Following the annual Veterans Day ceremony hosted by Punchbowl, attendees gathered around the new pavilions for a traditional Hawaiian “maile lei” untying ceremony. Attendees at the pavilion dedication included ABMC Secretary Max Cleland, former U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka, Rep. Colleen Hanabusa, Punchbowl Director Gene Castagnetti, Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery, District Project Managers Jason Tanaka and Tammy Luke, Vietnam veterans and many others responsible for the success of the project.

The Honolulu District managed the \$5.2 million construction project for ABMC. The project architect was Fung and Associates, Inc. of Honolulu, and the pavilions were built by the Innovative-Mira Joint Venture of Aiea, Hawaii. The new pavilions were built in less than six months.

One of the new pavilions commemorates the service and sacrifice of all Americans who served in the Vietnam War. The new pavilions combined with the already existing Vietnam War Courts of the Missing constitute the only federal memorial to veterans of the Vietnam War built solely with federal funds. The completion of the pavilions was timely as the U.S. starts its commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

During the Veterans Day ceremony, Secretary Cleland, a Vietnam veteran himself, reflected on a statement by fellow Vietnam veteran Lt. Gen. Hal Moore whose story was told in the movie “We Were Soldiers.”

“He (Moore) said that while those who served in Vietnam may not have been part of the



District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (back row, center) and project managers Tammy Luke (front row, center) and Jason Tanaka (right) pose with project contractors in front of the new pavilions after the maile lei untying ceremony. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio.

greatest generation, they were the greatest of their generation. That is the way I feel,” Cleland said. “It’s a high honor to dedicate this lasting memorial in their name.”

The new Vietnam War pavilion at the Honolulu Memorial houses two mosaic maps. The mosaics show the overall theater of the Vietnam War and the sites of major battles fought during the conflict. The mosaic maps are unique works of art keeping in tradition with the World War II and Korean War maps at the memorial.

The method used to produce the mosaics utilize a variety of cements, pigments, ground glass and sand to replicate the mosaic maps constructed in the 1960s. Each map is 10 feet tall and nine and half feet wide and each weighs about 2,000 pounds.

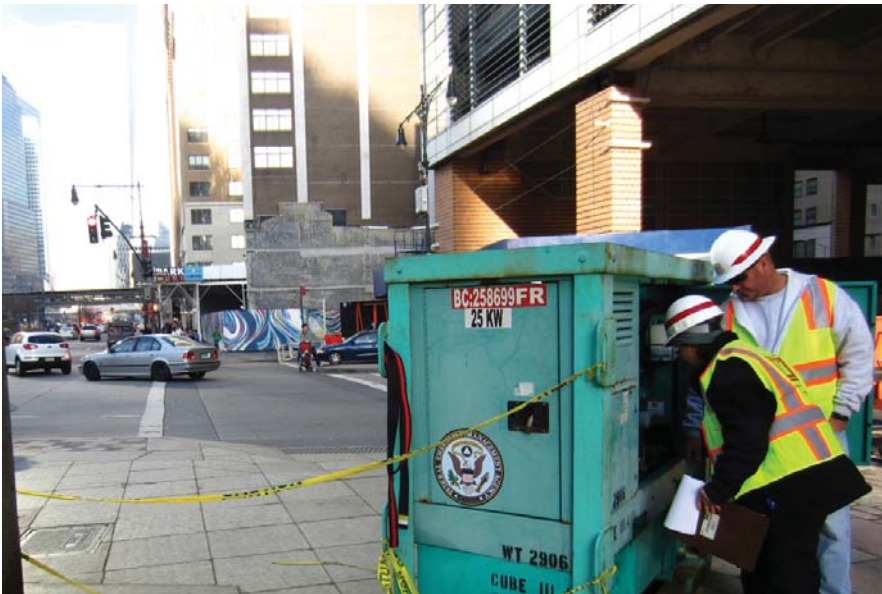
The two pavilions are constructed from travertine stone quarried from Idaho. The second new pavilion houses porcelain panels depicting ABMC commemorative sites in the Pacific and providing an orientation to the Honolulu Memorial.

Located on the grounds of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, the Honolulu Memorial was dedicated in 1966 to honor the sacrifices and achievements of American armed forces in the Pacific during World War II and the Korean War. It includes the names of 18,096 individuals missing in action or lost at sea from World War II, and the names of 8,200 individuals listed as missing from Korea. The memorial grew in 1980 to include the 2,504 missing of the Vietnam War at the urging of Secretary Cleland, then Administrator of the Veterans Administration.

Construction on the new pavilions started in May 2012 with a target completion date for Veterans Day. During his remarks Secretary Cleland said “all the folks involved with this project did a heck of a job to get this done on time.”

The two Vietnam War mosaic battle maps were constructed by the Armbruster Company of Glenview, Ill. The conceptual art was designed by Mary Jacobs, of Glenelg, Md., who also created the artwork for the original World War II and Korean War mosaics at the memorial.

“As you leave these grounds, I ask you to reflect on the words of poet Archibald MacLeish, who lost a brother in World War I; words now forever inscribed on the Vietnam pavilion: ‘We leave you our deaths. Give them their meaning,’” said Secretary Cleland. “These words say it all for me. May we never forget the competence, courage and sacrifice of those who served in the Vietnam War.”



Honolulu District's Power PRT Quality Assurance representative Joe Tribbey (right) and Logistics Specialist Lauren Vizcarra checking a 25kw FEMA-owned generator installed for the West Street Underpass sump pumps in New York City. Courtesy photo

District Deploys Power PRT to Support Hurricane Sandy Relief

Story by
Honolulu District Public Affairs

Fifteen U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Honolulu District personnel deployed Dec. 3 to support recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in the Northeast.

The Power Planning and Response Team (Power PRT) from the District included specialists for contracting, liaisons, mission management, data management, logistics and quality assurance.

This specialized management team worked with the 249th Engineer Battalion, contractors and state and local entities to assess, install and maintain emergency generators at critical facilities.

The Power PRT worked with the Corps' New York District, which has ongoing projects in the state, to identify, assign and resolve existing and incoming FEMA mission assignments as well as other assignments or projects related to Hurricane Sandy.

Honolulu District's Chemist Don Schlack was initially deployed as a Subject Matter Expert, Emergency Power just prior to the onslaught of Hurricane Sandy on Oct. 29. He was initially assigned to the FEMA Region I Regional Response Coordination Center and later served in Concord, Mass., Lakehurst, New Jersey, and Washington D.C. as a member of the USACE Hurricane Sandy Relief Task Force, managing efforts across four states.

Honolulu District Chief, Office of Counsel Shivaun White followed Schlack on deployment in November and was based at FEMA Division C, Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Man-



agement Office where she supported coordination of the following Army Corps Technical Assistance Missions (Infrastructure Assessment, Critical Public Facility assessments, and Debris) with FEMA Division C, Monmouth County, and public entities across the 53 municipalities in Monmouth County.

Corps infrastructure teams conducted engineering assessments of public works facilities that sustained hurricane damage to include water treatment plants, medical facilities and public safety buildings.

The Corps of Engineers has been on the scene from the beginning supporting FEMA and state and local officials to provide contracting and management oversight to debris removal and clearance missions, infrastructure and coastal assessments and technical assistance work in the state.

Under the National Response Framework and in support of FEMA, the Corps is the responsible agency for Emergency Support Function 3, Public Works and Engineering. FEMA assigned 65 missions to USACE following Hurricane Sandy for \$249 million.

These missions to date have included dewatering, debris management, emergency infrastructure assessment, emergency temporary power, bottled water, critical public facility assessments and regional activation.

Army Corps Winds Down Power Mission in Coney Island

Story by
Brandon A. Beach, USACE

When Hurricane Sandy barreled into Coney Island on the night of Oct. 29, 2012 it left an entire community in the dark.

With high winds and a 15-foot storm surge, Sandy stranded many Coney Island residents, a majority living in high-rises, without power, heat or hot water. At Coney Island Hospital, the basement flooded from floor to ceiling, shutting down the entire 371-bed medical facility. It has yet to reopen.

Within two days of Sandy, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, at the request of the city, issued a tasker to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to install a two-megawatt generator at the hospital. So began the Army Corps' emergency power mission in Coney Island.

"It's one of the biggest generators in FEMA's inventory," said Elton Choy, an electrical engineer with the Army Corps New York Recovery Field Office.

Three days later, the Army Corps would install a 480-kilowatt generator, backing up the hospital's emergency power grid as construction crews mobilized to gut the basement and begin repairs.

"The [hospital's] transformers were completely destroyed by water," said Choy.

Three of the Army Corps' power teams deployed to New York City in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Those teams came from Pittsburgh, Tulsa, and Honolulu Districts. Additionally, Soldiers from the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) out of Fort Belvoir, Va., began arriving soon after Sandy to assess facilities and install generators, as needed.

"We'd go in and drop a generator, so the facility could continue to function," said Geoffrey Lee, power mission manager for the Army Corps New York Field Recovery Office. "Meanwhile, the state and city are working on their end to get their services back up."

In the two-and-a-half weeks following Sandy, the Army Corps installed six generators in Coney Island and an additional 99 at locations in Queens, Brooklyn and Manhattan. Most of these generators have now been de-installed, as facilities complete repairs and return to commercial grids. Three, though, remain in Coney Island, supplying around-the-clock power and helping a community get back on its feet.

"It enabled us to feel human again," said Connie Hulla, pastor of the Coney Island Gospel Assembly, of the FEMA-generator sitting at the corner of Neptune Avenue and West 29th Street providing power to the church.

One day after Sandy, volunteers at the Gospel Assembly, which serves as a kind of ad-hoc distribution center for the needy, began passing out food, blankets and bottled water.

Like the hospital two miles away, water seeped into the church's basement the night of Sandy and wiped out the daycare, kitchen, several offices and the electrical panels.

"The water came up to the top step and stopped a quarter of an inch from the sanctuary," said Hulla. "Any more and we would have lost the entire church."

Instead, the sanctuary was spared, and within days, became the central hub of relief efforts in Coney Island.

"Light is hope. People gravitate to the light," said Hulla. "Thank God for that generator; otherwise, we'd still be in the dark."



Chemist Don Schlack pre-deployed prior to the arrival of Hurricane Sandy on Oct. 29 and was initially assigned to the FEMA Region I Regional Response Coordination Center. Courtesy Photo



Honolulu District Chief, Office of Counsel Shivaun White (second from right) poses with her Monmouth County (N.J.) Debris Team subject matter experts (left to right) Jim Guttshall, Jay Hershey and Lamar Jenkins while based at FEMA Division C, Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Management Office. Courtesy Photo



Six of the District's 15 Power Planning and Response Team personnel pose in the Recovery Field Office's power generator storage yard during their deployment to support recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in the Northeast U.S. (Left to right) Herb Montalbo, Wendy Mow, Laureen Vizcarra, Geoff Lee, Elton Choy and Marsha Phillips. Courtesy Photo

STEM Outreach



Honolulu District Department of the Army intern Geoffrey Ries talks with students at Honolulu's Washington Middle School about the careers within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as well as potential careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) during the school's Career Day held in mid-December. Photo by Waverly Johnson, ACE-IT Audio-Visual Specialist

District Honors 700 Years of Experience



Ohana Says Farewell to 29 Employees

The Honolulu District said “Aloha” to 29 retiring members of the Ohana at multiple ceremonies during the last two months of 2012.

In particular, one ceremony on Dec. 6 honored 17 retirees who were able to attend where more than 300 employees, friends, fellow retirees and VIP guests came by to say farewell.

These retirees were honored by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery for their 588 years of total combined federal service, and he presented each with a certificate and retirement pin. After the ceremonies, fellow employees and guests extended their best wishes and swapped “war stories.”

Altogether, the 29 District employees retiring at the end of 2012 represented more than 700 years of dedicated service to the federal work force and the nation. Some of the retirees returned to the District in early 2013 as rehired annuitants, and we welcome them and their skills back as they continue to serve.

(Above) District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (back row, center) poses with the 17 District employees who attended the retirement ceremony held in their honor in December. (Left to right) Clyde Maeda, Karen Chang Lou Muzzarini, Roy Ishikawa, Myran Higa, Earl Carvalho, Ronald Lum, Visitacion Pascual, Robert Shimizu, Steve Takeguchi, Niel Tamayori, Gail Sasaki, Romeo Querubin, Wayne Yamashita, Frank Ono, Lynette Serrao, and Jonathan Serrao.

(Above Left) Project Manager Tammy Luke (right) congratulates retirees (left to right) Myran Higa, Visitacion Pascual and Gail Sasaki following the December retiree ceremonies.

(Opposite page, center left) Husband and wife retirees Polly and Eric Bjorken pose at their retirement ceremony in mid-December.

(Opposite page, bottom left) Administrative Support Assistant Toni Agustin (center) congratulates retirees Beverly Candelario (left) and Myran Higa at their surprise retirement party in late November.

Photos by Dino W. Buchanan & Joseph Bonfiglio

Congratulations Retirees!

Eric Bjoken
 Polly Bjorken
 Robert Shimizu
 Lou Muzzarini
 Steve Takeguchi
 Ronald Lum
 Visitacion (Vecy) Pascual
 Niel Tamayori
 Myran Higa
 Al Carvalho

Gail Sasaki
 Faith Soma
 John Kawaaokoa
 Wayne Yamashita
 Jonathan Serrao
 Lynette Serrao
 Karen Chang
 Romeo Querubin
 Clyde Maeda
 Tom Goto

Beverly Candelario
 Roy Ishikawa
 Frank Ono
 Randy Kurashige
 Dan Myers
 Brian Chung
 Han Duong
 Jasmina (Jessie) Dobinchick
 Sharon Kashiwabara



District Honors Employee Excellence at Annual Townhall

Un Yong "Jin" Onuma

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Administrative Support Employee of the Year* was presented to Un Yong "Jin" Onuma, Office Support Technician, Programs and Project Management Division, by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery for her high level of achievement in administrative responsibilities by exhibiting enthusiasm and pride in serving our customers. *Ikaika Loa* means mighty, power of knowledge, professional skills and expertise.



Kelly Jones

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Technical Employee of the Year* was presented to Kelly Jones, Engineering Technician, Schofield Barracks Area Office, Engineering & Construction Division, by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery, for her superior performance of duty resulting from noteworthy application of principles of hard work, technical superiority, and customer service. *Ikaika Loa* means mighty, power of knowledge, professional skills and expertise.



Maria Buckner

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Professional Employee of the Year* was presented to Maria Buckner, Contract Specialist, Contracting Division, by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery for her superior performance of professional duties through solid application of principles of professional knowledge, enthusiasm, and pride in serving customers. *Ikaika Loa* means mighty, power of knowledge, professional skills and expertise.



Steve Cayetano

The *Maika'i Loa Award for Leader of the Year* was presented to Steve Cayetano, Deputy Chief Programs & Project Management Division, by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery to recognize him as a leader (supervisor or manager) who creates positive change through his/her talents, energy, creativity, leadership, and communication skills.



Steve Yamamoto

The *Olelo A'o Award for Mentor of the Year* was presented to Steve Yamamoto, Resident Engineer, Fort Shafter Area Office, Engineering & Construction Division, by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery in recognition of his commitment to excellence in caring, compassionate leadership.



Allison Kirkland

The *Holo'imua Award for Emerging Leader of the Year* was presented to Allison Kirkland, Office Assistant, Air Force Resident Office, Engineering and Construction Division, by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery to recognize her commitment to excellence in becoming a good leader.



Kalani Smith

The *Alaka'i Award for Project Manager of the Year* was presented to Kalani Smith, General Engineer, Project Manager, Programs and Project Management Division, by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery, in recognition of his commitment to excellence in project management while leading project delivery teams and delivering outstanding quality projects. *Alaka'i* means leader, personal strength and exhibiting leadership quality.



Honolulu District held its Annual Awards Townhall in January at the 9th Mission Support Command auditorium at Fort Shafter Flats, where employees were honored for their exemplary work accomplishments in 2012. Also, special awards were presented for length of service, military and civilian excellence, plus Overseas Contingency deployments as well as recognition of the District's Power Readiness Team for their efforts in the aftermath of 2012's Hurricane Sandy in the Northeast U.S.



Photos by
Dino W. Buchanan



Project Delivery Team of the Year

The *Hui O'i Loa Award for 2011 Project Delivery Team of the Year* was presented by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery, (center) to the American Battle Monuments Commission, Vietnam Pavilions, National Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl Project Delivery Team of: (left to right) Maydean Martin, Paul Wong of Innovative-MIRA Joint Venture, Arthur Holmes, Mike Gangloff of Innovative-MIRA Joint Venture, Paul Choy, Tonia Moy of Fung and Associates, Louis Fung of Fung and Associates, Cathy Yoza, Lt. Col. Asbery, Tammy Luke, Glenn Oshiro, Bruce Chun, Jeffrey Chuck, Randall Mita, Theodore Turney, Roxanne Pien, Kanale Sadowski and Joanne Hasegawa. Unable to attend was Tom Sole of the American Battle Monuments Commission and Earl Nagasawa. The *Hui O'i Loa Award* recognizes the Project Delivery Team in the District for their contributions to excellence in delivering quality projects in terms of budget, schedule, quality, customer satisfaction and safety.

Louis Muzzarini Jr

The Department of the Army, Meritorious Civilian Service Award was presented to Louis Muzzarini Jr., for Meritorious performance of duty as Chief, Construction Branch, Honolulu District from July 2000 through December 2012. Under his leadership, the Honolulu District executed several significant military construction programs including the Stryker Brigade Combat Team Transformation, Whole Barracks Renewal, Grow the Army Initiative, and the C-17 and F-22 Beddowns.



Maj. Sally Hannan

The Army Achievement Medal was awarded to Maj. Sally Hannan for Exceptionally Meritorious achievement while serving as the Team Leader for the Workforce / Workload Project Delivery Team. Maj. Hannan's phenomenal leadership and extraordinary attention to detail ensured that the Honolulu District will remain affordable in the immediate future and beyond.



1st Lt. Diana Worth

The Army Achievement Medal was awarded to 1st Lt. Diana Worth for Exceptionally Meritorious achievement while assigned to the Honolulu District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. First Lieutenant Worth's outstanding leadership, commitment to professional development and exemplary leadership reflects great credit upon her, the Honolulu District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the United States Army.





Power Readiness Team: Hurricane Sandy Recovery Effort

The District's Power Readiness Team deployed in support of the 2012 New York Area Hurricane Sandy Recovery and was recognized by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (right) for their outstanding efforts. Team members recognized were: (left to right) Cathy Yoza, Mike Wong, Debbie Solis, Paul Kai, Laureen Vizcarra, Elton Choy, Marsha Phillips, Darin Aihara, Jason Tanaka, Wendy Mow, Sean Sackett, Geoffrey Lee, Joseph Tribbey and Kenji Santiago. Not pictured is Herb Montalbo.



District Awards Committee

The District Awards Committee manages the employee recognition program year-round and coordinates the annual awards townhall. The volunteer committee members serve for two years. (Front row, left to right): Jimmy Lam, Toni Agustin, Amy Kitano, Ed Chambers, Maj. Sally Hannan, Phillip Mun. (Back row, left to right): Tristin Suetsugu, Hoku Tamayori, Allison Kirkland, Joseph Bonfiglio, Debbie Vierra and Cathy Yoza.

Lindsey Kasperowicz

Lindsey Kasperowicz, an attorney in the Office of Counsel, was awarded the Joseph W. Kimbel Award by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery. The prestigious award recognizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers attorney who has demonstrated the highest potential for future legal achievements, symbolizing the continuing tradition of extraordinary professional potential and performance exemplified by "Judge" Joseph W. Kimbel.



Derek Chow & Nick Morikawa

Derek Chow (right) and Nick Morikawa were presented Koa wood boxes by District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery in recognition of their Overseas Contingency Operations deployments. Derek deployed to Afghanistan from April through October 2012, as the Chief of the Water and Infrastructure Division, Joint Programs Integration Office, Joint Engineering Directorate, U.S. Forces Afghanistan. Nick deployed to Afghanistan from February through August 2012 as a Mechanical Engineer for the Trans-Atlantic Northern District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



Lindsey Kasperowicz & Eric Li

USACE Leadership Development Program (ULD) students Eric Li and Lindsey Kasperowicz (center) were presented their graduation certificates by (left) District ULD Coordinator Gary Nip and District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (right) for successfully completing the 18-month program.



One Team, BUILDING STRONG®!



District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (front row seventh from left) poses with the District Corporate Board comprised of Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management Tony Paresa (front row left), Deputy District Engineer Maj. Sally Hannan (front row, second from left), Chief, Resource Management Ronnie Kirkland (front row, fourth from left), Chief, Contracting Division Dave Williams (front row fifth from left), Acting Chief Counsel Robyn Au (front row sixth from left) and Chief, Engineering and Construction Branch, Todd Barnes (front row, eighth from left) and more than 180 Honolulu District employees who gathered for a group photo at Fort Shafter Flats following January's Annual Awards Townhall. Photo by Dino Buchanan

District Holds Professional Development for Army JROTC Cadets



Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery welcomed Punahou School (Honolulu) Army JROTC Commander Lt. Col. Robert Takao and 16 Punahou School Army JROTC cadets in November to a Professional Development session inside the project trailer for the District's Command and Control Facility (C2F) project on Fort Shafter. The C2F will be the future headquarters for U.S. Army Pacific. The session's intent was to provide the high-school-age students information on possible future career opportunities in the Army, specifically in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as well as discussing opportunities in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields of study. Cadets listened to a command brief provided by Lt. Col. Asbery and presentations about the multi-billion dollar project by (top photo) Honolulu District's C2F Project Manager and Project Engineer Lise Ditzel-Ma and C2F Phase 1 Project Manager Gerald Young. Following the briefings, cadets asked questions, conducted a walk-through tour of the project trailer and were able to view the existing project site from the trailer's exterior deck. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan

Disability Awareness Month: Ohana Learns About Relationships



More than 100 District Ohana attended an observance of Disability Awareness Month in October sponsored by the District's EEO and Special Emphasis Program Committee, focusing on the 2012 theme: "A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce: What can YOU do?" Featured guest speaker Loren Lasher of the Hawaii Fi-Do Service Dogs organization shared the stage with his partner Buddy, a very cool black labrador retriever. Lasher explained the differences between Therapy and Service Dogs as well as the benefits of the animals for Wounded Warriors and others in need of a dog's skills and unconditional love. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

MG Cox Visits South Range Project Sites



Maj. Gen. Kendall P. Cox, Deputy Commander, Military & International Operations, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, toured Honolulu District project sites at South Range, Schofield Barracks, during his visit to Oahu in late Oct. 2012. During the site visits District project managers provided Cox with job-site safety, programmatic and informational project status briefs. (Above) Maj. Gen. Cox (right), listens as South Range Resident Engineer Kimberly Jyo (second from right) explains the locations of various facilities within the project area. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

SOLDIERS LEADERS CIVILIANS FAMILIES

Take 5 for Pedestrian Safety

- Distracted walking can kill. Take off the headphones and put away the cellphones.
- Cross the street at a designated crosswalk.
- If you have to walk on a road that does not have sidewalks, walk facing traffic.
- Increase your visibility at night by carrying a flashlight and wearing reflective clothing.
- Is a text message really so urgent it can't wait until you're in a safe place to send or read?
- Be aware of your surroundings — it's a matter of life and death!

Take 5 ... then take action.



ARMY STRONG™



U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS/SAFETY CENTER
<https://safety.army.mil>

ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG



EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

October



EDITH MATSUKI

Was commended for her outstanding financial management support to the District as the primary CEFMS Database Manager. Edith quietly and efficiently performed her duties and responsibilities without a lot of fanfare and is always willing to help others when needed and provides guidance and assistance with a positive and patient attitude.

November



ROCKWELL ROGERS

Demonstrated outstanding leadership and exceptional technical skills in managing the construction quality assurance program for the Battle Area Complex (BAX), Schofield Barracks project. The BAX will support gunnery qualification/training for the weapon systems employed by the Stryker Brigade Combat Team.

November



LES ASUKA

Demonstrated outstanding leadership and exceptional technical skills in managing the construction quality assurance program for the Battle Area Complex (BAX), Schofield Barracks project. The BAX will support gunnery qualification/training for the weapon systems employed by the Stryker Brigade Combat Team.

December



KATHY MINAMI

Was recognized for volunteering to serve as the secretary for Design Branch. The incumbent secretary retired in Nov. 2012 leaving a large void in administrative support. Kathy's willingness to support the Branch in a new and different capacity makes her a vital and valuable member of the Design Branch team. Kathy has a great attitude and is a valuable member of the District Ohana.

December



GUY KUROIWA

Was recognized for his outstanding performance in the construction contract administration and quality assurance of two renovation projects - Bldg. 108 Wheeler Army Airfield and the Warriors in Transition project, Schofield Barracks. Guy's work ethic and dedication to excellence has earned him the respect from the project delivery teams, customers and fellow employees.

Visit our Facebook page



www.facebook.com/HonoluluDistrict

District Showcases Army Corps Opportunities at UH Career Fair

Honolulu District Chief, Engineering & Construction Branch Todd Barnes (right) and Chief, Workforce Management Office Debbie Vierra (second from right), talk to University of Hawaii at Manoa (UH) College of Engineering students about potential future career opportunities within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Army's Pathways program at the College of Engineering's (COE) semi-annual Career Fair held in October. Honolulu District engineers and Workforce Management staff participate in both UH COE Career Fairs each year. Photo by Angela E. Kershner



Aloha to our Overseas Contingency Operations volunteer who is deployed to Afghanistan:



Steven Prudence

TRANSITIONS

Welcome: Kenneth Mocko / Kouji Kobayashi

Welcome Back: Lou Muzzarini / Steve Takeguchi / Niel Tamayori / Scott Mochizuki / Albert Mathis / Al Carvalho / Ronald Lum / Eric Bjorken / Sgt. 1st Class Gary Malkin / Mike Bruse / Alan Avery / Jon Hosaka / Bill Hollingsworth / Maj. William Hannan / David Nishimura / Jason Blair / Fred Nakahara / Myran Higa

Goodbye: Visitacion Pascual / Bob Shimizu / Niel Tamayori / Lou Muzzarini / Myran Higa / Al Carvalho / Gail Sasaki / Faith Soma / Karen Chang / John Kawaakoa / Wayne Yamashita / Jonathan Serrao / Lynette Serrao / Romeo Querubin / Ronald Lum / Clyde Maeda / Tom Goto / Frank Ono / Eric Bjorken / Polly Bjorken / Cindy Barger / Randy Kurashige / Beverly Candelario / Dan Myers / Roy Ishikawa / Steve Takeguchi / Jeanie Young / Kelly Jones / Tristan Ng / Bill Hollingsworth / Mimi Clemans / Angela Kershner

U.S. Marine Corps Wounded Warriors Assess Potential Army Corps Job Opportunities, Careers



Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery talks to a group of U.S. Marine Corps Wounded Warriors about job opportunities with the Corps of Engineers and Honolulu District during a visit in early November. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

District Exceeds CFC Goal, Accepts Platinum Award

Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (back, right), District Campaign Project Officer Jeff Cochran (fourth from left) and four District CFC keypersons accept the District's 2012 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Platinum Award from Maj. Gen. William G. Beard, Deputy Commanding General, Army Reserve (second from left) at the 2012 CFC Recognition Ceremony held in January aboard the USS Missouri at Pearl Harbor. The CFC award honored the District's 71% contribution rate and \$285.25 average donation. CFC Platinum Award eligibility requirements include 60% command participation and a \$95 per capita donation rate. Honolulu District's 2012 CFC donations totaled \$60,187.52. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Honolulu District
Public Affairs Office
Building 230, Rm. 302
Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440
Official Business**