



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Honolulu District



The
Pacific
Connection

BUILDING STRONG®

Winter 2015 Vol. 49 No. 1

WHAT'S INSIDE



A view inside the Soldier & Family Assistance Center lobby after the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Schofield's new WTB campus. See the story and more photos on page 10. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Honolulu

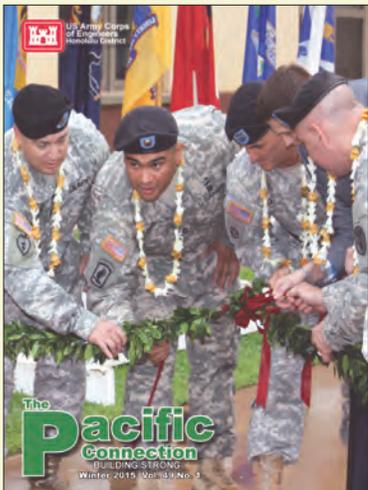
Follow Honolulu District Online!

www.facebook.com/HonoluluDistrict
www.twitter.com/CorpsHonolulu
www.flickr.com/HonoluluDistrict
www.youtube.com/HonoluluDistrict

Honolulu District's official website:
www.poh.usace.army.mil

On The Cover

A ribbon cutting ceremony for a new WTB Campus was held Oct. 31. Pictured from center are Sgt. 1st Class Bonifacio Castro, WTB cadre and four-time Purple Heart recipient; Maj. Gen. Charles Flynn, 25th Infantry Division commander; 1st Lt. Matthew Turell, Soldier in transition; and Col. David Dunning, TAMC commander. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Honolulu District Commander
Lt. Col. Christopher W. Cray

Honolulu District Deputy Commander
Maj. Brennan V. Wallace

Deputy District Engineer for
Programs and Project Management
Anthony Paresa

Chief of Public Affairs
Joseph Bonfiglio

Pacific Connection Editor |
Command Information Manager
Dino W. Buchanan



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. Contributions are welcomed and highly encouraged. The editor reserves the right to make editorial changes to any material submitted as deemed necessary. Circulation: 1,150.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

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!"*



Aloha District Ohana!

Happy New Year! We just completed a great 2014 and we look forward to an even better 2015!

In this first issue of the New Year, you'll read stories about our people, our projects, and our activities. You'll read about our teammates who were recognized for excellent service. And you'll see examples of how our great professionals are safely delivering quality projects and engineering services within schedule and budget.

Last month we conducted our annual Awards Townhall, and we were honored to have our Pacific Ocean Division (POD) Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn and Command Sgt. Maj. Federico E. Boyce attend as distinguished guests. Brig. Gen. Milhorn commented on the extraordinary accomplishments of our District team and the value the Honolulu District provides to our Nation, to our partners, and within the Pacific. Congratulations to all of our awardees for their achievements and service to our Great Nation!

Our District was recently honored to host visits from several key senior leaders of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC), including USACE Deputy Commander Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens, USARPAC Commanding General Vincent K. Brooks, USARPAC Deputy Commanding General Maj. Gen. James F. Pasquarrette, and USARPAC Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Todd B. McCaffrey. They and several Senior Executives from Headquarters USACE and a Staff Delegation from Sen. Schatz's office visited our top projects at Fort Shafter (the USARPAC Mission Command Facility) and Schofield Barracks (South Range and Quads B & D). My personal thanks go out to all who had a role in making these visits successful. All of the senior leaders took away a great sense of our missions and teamwork and lauded the excellence you all exhibit daily. They were very complimentary of your diligence, and they now have a better appreciation of the challenges we face as we build facilities for our Soldiers and execute projects across the Pacific.

In addition, Tony Paresa, Derek Chow, and I recently completed key Pacific region stakeholder engagements with elected officials and agency directors in the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam. The constant theme I received from these stakeholder engagements was that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is very well-respected in the region and the infrastructure development and capacity building services we provide are greatly appreciated!

I'm also proud to announce that we've turned over several large and very important projects in support of U.S. Army units at Schofield Barracks. Late last year we opened the new Warrior in Transition Complex at Schofield Barracks, which provides first-class living and recovery areas for our wounded warriors. Last month, we joined the 2nd Battalion 27th Regiment "Wolfhounds" to reopen two barracks at Quad D, and soon we'll be handing over the keys to several command and battalion facilities inside Schofield's South Range project area. All of these projects will have a significant impact on the quality of life and readiness of the Soldiers and leaders in Hawaii. I know our entire District takes great pride in being a part of the Army team and the supporting role we provide to our Soldiers with the construction and delivery of these facilities.

I also want to applaud the many members of the District Ohana who volunteer and participate in STEM and engineer-related events. Your efforts showcase the District as the employer of choice for future engineering professionals and leaders within the community.

While the stories in this magazine describe what the District has been doing recently, I also want to take a moment to describe the mindset behind them. This mindset is one of excellence in service. Service excellence has been an enduring principle for the District and is a standing commitment to our partners, our stakeholders, and the general public.

I am very proud to be your commander and I greatly appreciate the hard work everyone does for the Corps and our nation. Let's have a great 2015 together! ***Imua!***

BUILDING STRONG®! ARMY STRONG!

Employees Honored With Annual Awards

Diane Oda

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Administrative Support Employee of the Year* was presented to Diane Oda, Administrative Support Technician, Office Automation Schofield Barracks Area Office, Engineering and Construction Division, by Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn and District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Cray, 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.



Sandra Ginto

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Technical Employee of the Year* was presented to Sandra Ginto, Engineering Technician, Program Management Branch, Programs and Project Management Division, by Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn and District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Cray, 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.



Cheryl Gusikuma

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Professional Employee of the Year* was presented to Cheryl Gusikuma, Supervisory Budget Analyst, Budget Manpower and Management Branch, Resource Management Office, by Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn and District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Cray, 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.



Darren Carpenter

The *Maika'i Loa Award for Leader of the Year* was presented to Darren Carpenter, Program Manager, Stryker Residence Office, Schofield Barracks Area Office, Engineering and Construction Division, by Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn and District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Cray to recognize him as a leader (supervisor or manager) who creates positive change through his/her talents, energy, creativity, leadership, and communication skills.



Kevin Araki

The *Olelo A'o Award for Mentor of the Year* was presented to Kevin Araki, Chief, Regional Technical Center, Regional Technical Center, Engineering and Construction Division, by Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn and District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Cray in recognition of his commitment to excellence in caring, compassionate leadership.



Lorayne Shimabuku

The *Alaka'i Award for Project Manager of the Year* was presented to Lorayne Shimabuku, Program Manager, Civil and Public Works Branch, Programs and Project Management Division, by Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn and District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Cray, in recognition of her 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.



Tyler Johnson

The *Holo'imua Award for Emerging Leader of the Year* was presented to Tyler Johnson, Engineering Intern, Engineering and Construction Division, by Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn and District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Cray, to recognize his commitment to excellence in becoming a good leader.



Honolulu District held its Annual Awards Townhall in January at Fort Shafter's Richardson Theater where employees were honored for their exemplary work accomplishments in 2014. Special awards were also presented for length of service, civilian excellence, and Overseas Contingency Operations deployments. We were honored to have Pacific Ocean Division (POD) Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Milhorn, District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Cray, and POD Command Sgt. Major Federico Boyce presenting the awards.

Photos by Dino W. Buchanan



Project Delivery Team of the Year

The *Hui O'i Loa Award for 2014 Project Delivery Team of the Year* was the Kunia Tunnel Project Delivery Team (PDT). 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. This PDT performed within two operational objectives, design development and contract awards. The technical team members, Regional Technical Center, Environmental, Cost Engineering and Project Management focused on design development. The contracting, counsel and resource management team members were primarily involved with solicitation strategy and timely awards. While the PDT members were focused on discrete areas of expertise, each enthusiastically supported other team members at every opportunity. This level of support was fostered through vigorous communication and total team commitment.



Candace Lotomau was presented a koa wood box commemorating her volunteer service in Afghanistan in support of Overseas Contingency Operations.



Shivaun White was presented a koa wood box commemorating her volunteer service in Afghanistan in support of Overseas Contingency Operations.



Tom Snider was presented a koa wood box commemorating his volunteer service in Afghanistan in support of Overseas Contingency Operations.



Athline Clark was recognized for her successful completion of USACE's Planning Associates Program.

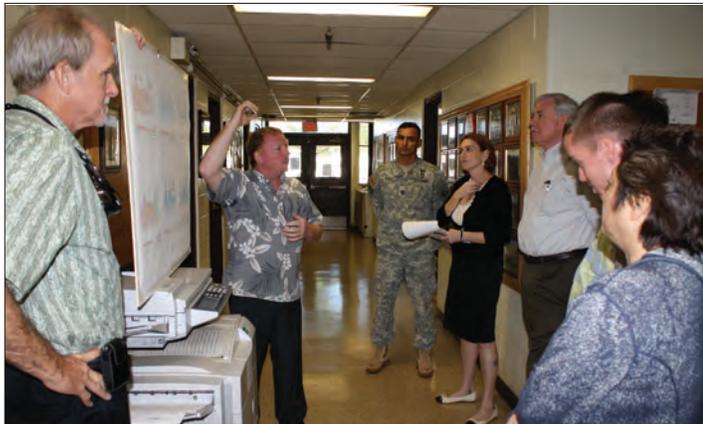


Steve Mora was honored for 50 years of outstanding Federal service to our country. Steve began his military career in the Navy in 1959 and rose in rank from E-1 to E-9 and later moved into the Warrant Officer Program. He served on three aircraft carriers, and was at one time the West Loch Special Weapons & Waterfront Officer. He retired as CWO4 in the late '80s. He began work in private industry and was hired as a DOD civilian by U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, DPW and then the Navy. He was joined USACE in 2000 as a Construction Inspector and has worked for various offices within the District. In 2012, Steve received the District's Ikaika Loa award for Technical Employee of the Year.





USACE Director of Military Programs Discusses Schofield's New DPW/Corps Revitalize Initiative, Visits USARPAC MCF Project Site



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Director of Military Programs, Senior Executive Lloyd Caldwell (Above, second from right) and other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers senior leaders met with Schofield Barracks' Directorate of Public Works Deputy Director Sally Ciereszko at Schofield's Bldg. 1492 (Above and left photos) to discuss a DPW/Corps initiative to revitalize old and existing facilities using decidedly smaller amounts of funding and without having to generate full renovation plans and funding. Caldwell also visited the U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) Mission Command Facility (MCF) project site at Fort Shafter (Below photos). 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. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan



Corps of Engineers Supports Strategic Rebalance to Asia

Story by
Joseph Bonfiglio
Chief, Public Affairs

The Department of Defense is actively implementing the administration's strategic decision to increase focus on and rebalance U.S. engagements, activities, and resources toward the vital Asia-Pacific region. The United States is an historic Pacific power whose economy, strength, and interests are inextricably linked with Asia's economic, security, and political order. As America's Engineers in the Pacific, the Honolulu District has many projects which advance this policy goal. Some of these key projects are explored in the following article.

U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC), Mission Command Facility (MCF)

USARPAC is America's Theater Army in the Pacific - assuring security and stability. It provides trained and ready forces, responds to threats, sustains and protects the force, and builds military relationships that develop partner defense capacity in order to contribute to a stable and secure U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) area of responsibility.

USARPAC Headquarters currently operates in historic structures built in 1944 that were meant to be temporary. While they have stood the test of time, the 70-plus-year-old buildings are not ideal for a 21st Century Command like USARPAC.

The Corps' Honolulu District is currently building the USARPAC MCF at Fort Shafter, Hawaii which complies with the Army design standard. It will consolidate USARPAC Headquarters into one facility that will support Mission Command of Army or joint forces across the Asia-Pacific area of operations.

USARPAC leads more than 60,000 active-duty and Reserve Soldiers and is increasingly being used for engagements and partnerships with countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

The MCF is currently in phase one of construction. It is a multi-phase project that will be underway for several years. The construction contractor for phase one is Niking, Inc. The current phase started with an historic groundbreaking with the late Sen. Daniel K. Inouye in the spring of 2012.

The Honolulu District is doing many things on site to minimize the environmental impact of construction. This is part of our commitment to protect the natural environment. For example, stone that came from the excavation was crushed on site and re-used during construction, eliminating the cost and disruption of transporting bulky construction waste off the site. Likewise, any cleared trees or brush are similarly mulched on-site and re-applied to maintain the undisturbed green space.

Once all remaining phases are appropriated and constructed, the new operational headquarters will provide a state-of-the-art facility and consolidate the functions of the current buildings into a more efficient, effective organization. This new complex of buildings will also provide an environment conducive for a four-star headquarters like USARPAC to host flag-level and diplomatic visits from partner nations



(Top) An artist's rendering shows the future U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) Mission Control Facility. Courtesy graphic (Above) USARPAC Mission Control Facility Phase One Project Engineer Gerald Young explains the project's layout to Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick during a site visit in July 2014. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

in the Asia-Pacific. In so many ways, the MCF will further the goals of the Asia-Pacific rebalance.

South Range Program

Another important District project is the South Range Program at Schofield Barracks.

The Corps of Engineers and its partners held a ground blessing ceremony in November 2011 for the Unit Operations Facilities campus at South Range, Schofield Barracks.

Honolulu District is building this campus to put Army standard design facilities on the ground for world-class Soldiers, so they can fulfill their mission in Hawaii and around the world.

The South Range complex projects are important to the Schofield military community as many units are scattered in less than adequate facilities throughout the post.

South Range facilities will enable the Army

more ease in training and maintaining unit readiness, which equates to more productivity, higher morale, and better support to USARPAC and the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region.

The South Range infrastructure project establishes a utilities backbone structure for various vertical buildings, a training support center and many future military construction building projects for the next 20 to 30 years.

The construction contractor is Joint Venture dck-ECC Pacific LLC. Completion for the campus is scheduled for spring 2015.

The contract includes construction of 21 buildings and various other infrastructure projects covering 88 acres.

The Army consolidated the four campus projects into one solicitation contract package to increase efficiency and economies of scale. While the South Range location did not need demolition work of any buildings prior to con-



(Top) An aerial view of the 88-acre South Range construction area shows facilities that will enable the Army more ease in training and maintaining unit readiness, which equates to more productivity, higher morale, and better support to USARPAC and the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region. **(Inset)** Images shows South Range facilities nearing completion in 2014. Courtesy photos

struction, the Army acquired the property from previously used pineapple farm land and designed and constructed complete utilities and infrastructure. As with all projects the District builds, protecting the aina (the land) is an on-going priority. This program also supports PACOM's Asia-Pacific rebalance.

Infantry Platoon Battle Course (IPBC)

The Honolulu District is also supporting the Asia-Pacific rebalance with an IPBC at Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) on Hawaii Island. PTA is a major training area for the 25th Infantry Division.

Over the years, the Honolulu District has supported the development of PTA with Military Construction design and construction projects including replacement barracks, a consolidated command & range control facility, a Battle Area Complex, and a Tactical Vehicle Wash facility.

This IPBC will support the live-fire collective platoon training needs of the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserve, and Hawaii Army National Guard units, as well as other service components needing to train in Hawaii.

Primary facilities will include the battle course, a range control tower, a classroom building, an operations/storage building, a bleacher enclosure, a covered mess area, an ammunition breakdown building, a latrine pad, and building information systems.



Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Milhorn (third from right) listens as Resident Engineer Kimberly Jyo (left, center) talks about the South Range Army project footprint outside a new Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facility. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

The battle course, modified from the standard by being wider on each end and having three additional objectives, consists of one moving armor target emplacement and nine objectives that include eight stationary armor target emplacements, 56 stationary infantry target emplacements, 18 moving infantry target emplacements, a trench obstacle, 10 machine gun bunkers, nine sound effect simulator, and 10 mortar simulation device emplacements and an assault/defend house.

The course also includes two helicopter landing zones. Supporting facilities include electric service, paving, walks, curbs and gutters and information systems.

This complex is for training and testing infantry platoons, either mounted or dismounted, on the skills necessary to conduct tactical movement techniques and detect, identify, engage and defeat stationary and moving targets in a tactical array.

All targets will be fully automated and the event specific target scenario is computer driven and scored by the range operations system which will be capable of providing immediate performance feedback to the using participants.

A construction contract was awarded on June 23, 2014 to Goodfellow Bros., Inc.

The IPBC is situated approximately 10 miles southwest of the PTA cantonment.

As in all District programs, the IPBC and other projects at PTA and elsewhere completely support the administration's Asia-Pacific rebalance.

District Continues Support to Army, Pacific Region

Story by
Honolulu District Public Affairs

During 2014 highly motivated U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District staff supported military construction at Hawaii Army posts with the District completing 16 projects including three unaccompanied enlisted personnel housing units – one each at Schofield Barracks, Helemano Military Reservation, and Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) - and the Warriors in Transition Barracks and Complex at Schofield.

Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary became the 69th commander of the District.

The District continued vital work on the USARPAC Mission Command Facility (MCF) at Fort Shafter. The MCF will consolidate HQ USARPAC into one facility that will support Mission Command of Army or joint forces across the Asia-Pacific Area of Operations.

The District Ohana demonstrated an unwavering willingness to work as a TEAM to deliver projects and services, focused on quality and timeliness as well as providing community outreach to the local and state like MATHCOUNTS competitions, the twice-a-year University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Engineering Career Fair, the 2014 Earth Day and National Public Lands Day at Honolulu District's Pacific Regional Visitor Center and participation in the annual Engineers Week.

Unique partnerships continued with our military Wounded Warriors and professional development within the Engineer Regiment. The District also continued partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies for the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative, and signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in January with the government of American Samoa today to formalize a partnership for the Corps to sponsor STEM activities in American Samoa schools.

In February, several of the District's Department of the Army (DA) interns showcased District capabilities by creating Corps of Engineers and Honolulu District photographic exhibits highlighting District's missions for public dis-



In mid-September the American Samoa government held a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Corps-built \$5.4 million Leone Bridge on Tutuila Island. The original Leone Bridge was damaged beyond repair during the 2009 tsunami. Courtesy Photo



Honolulu District, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, Tripler Army Medical Center and contractor Sumo-Nan, Inc. officials opened a renovated Unaccompanied Enlisted Personnel Housing (UEPH) Building 104 in late May 2014. Building 104 was one of the original structures built and completed by the Corps in 1948. It has been renovated on several occasions and today the exterior - including the coral pink color - looks much the same as it did after its original construction. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

play at Pearlridge Shopping Center as part of the 2014 Engineers Week.

In late May officials from Honolulu District, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC), and Sumo-Nan, Inc. opened a renovated barracks at TAMC during a blessing and maile lei untying ceremony.

During the approach of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Iselle in early August "mission-essential" personnel of the District's Crisis Management Team, Crisis Action Team, Power Response Team, Damage Assessment Teams, Emergency Operations Center Support Team, and Harbors and Channels Team, to assist the U.S. Coast Guard, Hawaii State Civil Defense, FEMA, and other federal, state, and local agencies.

In early September, the Honorable Ms. Jo Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Jeff Milhorn, Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary, and other Corps team members attended the 32nd U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meetings on Maui.

Throughout the year Honolulu District developed working relationships with two Wounded Warrior units. In October the Warrior Transition Battalion at Schofield Barracks, TAMC, U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, and the 25th ID held a Ribbon Cutting and Campus Dedication for the Corps of Engineers -built facilities.

The District completed a successful Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) during which 569 contract actions were awarded totaling \$315,114,308.00. In support of its Small Business Program, the Honolulu District awarded just over \$167 million or 54.23% of its total FY14 new contract and task order dollars to small businesses. This exceeded the yearly U.S. Army Corps of Engineers small business contract award goal of 43.30%.

Throughout 2014, the District also consulted with government agencies in American Samoa, Kwajalein in the Republic of the Marshall



Donald Schlack, the District's subject matter expert for Emergency Power, talks with emergency response officials at his workstation in the Honolulu District Emergency Operations Center in response to the onslaught of Hurricane Iselle in August. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

Islands, the Republic of Palau about potential studies and projects in their respective areas. In mid-September, the American Samoa government conducted a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Corps of Engineers-built \$5.4 million Leone Bridge.

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.

USACE DCG Stevens Visits Schofield's South Range, Quad D



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Deputy Commanding General Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens (Above photo, right), Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary (above photo, second from right), and other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers senior leaders and engineers made a site visit in early January to Schofield Barracks' South Range project area. They later listened to a brief about Quad D barracks renovations (bottom left) and toured the Corps-renovated barracks rooms inside Quad D. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan



New WIT Battalion Campus Unveiled at Schofield Barracks

Story by

Staff Sgt. Chris Hubenthal

Defense Media Activity - Hawaii Bureau

Service members and civilians gathered at the new Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB) Campus for the WTB, Tripler Army Medical Center's (TAMC) Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Warrior Care Month Kick-off event at Schofield Barracks Oct. 31, 2014.

The ceremony unveiled the \$60 million construction project that includes a 120-room, five story barracks constructed and designed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st. Class. Bonifacio Castro II, Hawaii WTB Headquarters and Headquarters Company cadre and platoon sergeant, explained to the audience how his initial idea of what defined a wounded warrior was changed to a more open mind set upon arrival to his assignment at the WTB.

"I always thought that wounded warriors were only Soldiers who got hurt in combat," Castro said. "That was me being wrong and not open minded. Once I came back from the cadre course I was eager and excited to help out these wounded warriors. I remember I was informed that I was receiving two soldiers that were being medevac'd."

Upon meeting the two Soldiers, Castro said he was confused because he had expected them to be recovering from physical injury but they appeared healthy.

"Once I got to meet the Soldiers I first looked at them and took a second look again because they both looked perfectly fine," Castro said. "They were smiling and had all their limbs, no bandages and no wounds. I thought to myself, 'these two are perfectly fine.' But the truth was that medically, they were far from fine. That's when I realized that how I saw a wounded warrior was wrong."

Through his time assigned to the WTB as a cadre, Castro began to see the Army in a different light.

"I started to see a side of the Army that I've never seen before," Casto said. "It's bigger and there is more to it than jumping out of planes, grabbing your gun, and ruck sacking and moving on."



TAMC's Warrior Transition Battalion kicked off November's Warrior Care Month with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new WTB Campus dedication. Pictured from left to right: Lt. Col. Brian Peterson, WTB commander; Sgt. 1st Class Bonifacio Castro, WTB cadre and four-time Purple Heart recipient; Maj. Gen. Charles Flynn, 25th Infantry Division commander; 1st Lt. Matthew Turell, Soldier in transition; and Col. David Dunning, TAMC commander. Photo by Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

Soldiers moved into the new five story barracks on Sept. 17, 2014 and the event offered a chance to honor the men and women of the WTB as well as the efforts that were made to make the WTB Campus a reality.

Tulsi Gabbard, Hawaii's 2nd Congressional District Congresswoman was the keynote speaker of the event.

"It's deeply personal for me to have the opportunity to be here today opening this and blessing this Warrior Transition Battalion be-

cause I have got a lot of friends who are going through here now, been through here before and can relate at some level to some of the experiences that Sgt. 1st. Class Castro shared," Gabbard said.

The new campus is located next to the Schofield Barracks Health Clinic, bringing Soldiers closer to medical facilities creating improved access to health care. It is also centrally located of Schofield Barracks support facilities on the post.



(Left photo) Tulsi Gabbard (right), Congresswoman of Hawaii's 2nd Congressional District and U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono (left), help unveil the new Warrior Transition Battalion Campus with U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Charles Flynn (center right), 25th Infantry Division commander, U.S. Army Sgt. 1st. Class. Bonifacio Castro II (center left), Hawaii Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB) Headquarters and Headquarters Company cadre and platoon sergeant, and other leadership during the Tripler Army Medical Center's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Warrior Care Kick-off Event Oct. 31, 2014 at Schofield Barracks. The ceremony officially unveiled the WTB's new five story barracks and honored the service and sacrifice of wounded warriors. The construction of the barracks was managed by the Honolulu District. Photo by Spc. Paxton Busch (PRMC)

Japan Ministry of Defense Officials Visit USARPAC MCF Project

Honolulu District was honored to host a visit of Japanese Ministry of Defense construction and Japan District officials to our U.S. Army Pacific Mission Command Facility (MCF) construction site in late January. 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. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan



USARPAC Senior Leaders Visit Mission Command Facility Project Site

Senior U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) leaders, including Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn, conducted site visits in December and January to learn about the construction status of the USARPAC Mission Command Facility (MCF) at Fort Shafter. Leaders included USARPAC Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Todd B. McCaffrey, (Below photo, left) and USARPAC Deputy Commanding General Maj. Gen. James F. Pasquarette (right photo, right). 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. Photos by Joseph Bonfiglio, Dino W. Buchanan, and Gerald Young





Honolulu District officials and the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds" gathered in Schofield's Quad D Jan. 23 for a ribbon cutting ceremony that officially reopened two barracks renovated by the Corps. Wolfhounds Commander Lt. Col. Kevin Williams (below, top photo) hosted the ceremony and honored the District engineers and contractor representatives for completing the renovation of buildings 450 and 451. The \$43.7 million project involved renovating the buildings to meet current Unaccompanied Enlisted Personnel Housing 1+1 living standards (below, middle photo shows a 1+1 configuration shared kitchenette). Photos by Dino W. Buchanan

Army Corps, 2-27 Wolfhounds Reopen Quad D Barracks

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

Honolulu District officials and the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds" gathered in the center of historic Quad D at Schofield Barracks Jan. 23 for a ribbon cutting ceremony, which officially reopened two barracks renovated by the Corps of Engineers.

Wolfhounds Commanding Officer Lt. Col. Kevin Williams hosted the ceremony attended by more than 250 Wolfhounds Soldiers, family members, guests and the Wolfhounds' Russian Wolfhound mascot Kolchak XVI.

Attending the ceremony representing Honolulu District were District Deputy Commander Maj. Brennan Wallace, Project Manager Cora Shimabukuro as well as representatives from the project contractor Nan, Inc. Nan, Inc. previously completed work on Quad C and is also currently working on \$70 million renovations to upgrade three of four Quad B buildings to 1+1 UEPH configurations.

During the ceremony Lt. Col. Williams praised the District engineers and contractor representatives for completing the renovation of Quad D's Buildings 450 and 451 and for the Corps of Engineers' unwavering support to the Army's and 2-27th Soldiers.

Nan Inc. was awarded the \$43.7 million design-build project in Sept. 2011 to renovate the buildings to meet current Unaccompanied Enlisted Personnel Housing 1+1 living standards. Each of the barracks now have Soldiers living in two-man suites that feature a shared kitchenette with a cook-top range & oven, microwave, a refrigerator and dining area, a shared bath, central air conditioning, cable TV, and internet service.

Historic Quad D was constructed in 1920 and 1921 featuring three barracks with an open-bay barracks design, gang latrines and one administration building. Today Quad D is part of the Schofield Barracks Historic District. As such, the renovations provides a highly-energy efficient and upgraded barracks to 2-27 Soldiers with modern, state-of-the-art accommodations, while also maintaining the facility's historical aspects (maintaining the original exterior appearance).

The Corps is continuing work on the remaining two Quad D buildings (449 and 452) as it continues to support U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii through Operations and Maintenance, Army (OMA)-funded design for the renovation to meet current building codes and accommodate future use as a Company Operations Facility and Battalion Operations Facility (COF and BOF).

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.



Hawaii-based U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Reestablish Kwajalein Resident Office, Continuing 50-year Island Legacy

Story by
Sheila Gideon

Managing Editor, *Kwajalein Hourglass*

After a 50-year presence at Kwajalein Atoll, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shut down their office in 2009, leaving only one individual to oversee small engineering projects.

In July 2014, that office was reopened and with it came 11 Corps of Engineer employees here for two year tours. Heading up the office is Resident Engineer Paul Sadowski. He is accompanied by four project engineers, five construction representatives who are in the field on a day-to-day basis and one administrative assistant, all of which will be on board by June 2015.

The USACE Kwajalein Resident Office (KRO) was officially established in 1959 when Kwajalein was selected to be the testing site in the Nike-Zeus Anti-Missile Program. The KRO was shut down in 2009 due to the slowdown of military-related construction on Kwajalein. When the resident office shut down, Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka said, "We (the Corps) will continue to support USAKA from Honolulu until the USAKA program supports a District resident professional. ... We're looking at possibly reopening the resident office in Fiscal Year 2011 or beyond."

Turns out it was beyond—it took five years for the resident office to stand back up. Although struggling with budget constraints, U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll (USAG-KA) command has focused on the importance of maintaining island infrastructure; this can be seen in the increase in military construction projects this year at USAG-KA slated to be managed by USACE. That, combined with USACE's agreement to support the Air Force's Space Fence program, was enough justification to reopen the KRO.

The KRO is a contract administration group. Their mission on Kwajalein is to administer construction contracts which are awarded out of the Honolulu District. Three construction companies bid projects as part of a Multiple Award



Improvements to the Water Treatment Plant include additional structural steel where needed, new insulated aluminum panels and a protective coating on the interior and exterior. Photos by Sheila Gideon

Task Order Contract and were selected due to their experience working construction projects at Kwajalein Atoll: Nan, Inc.; San Juan Construction, Inc.; and Marshall Island Builders.

The construction companies do the work, often employing a large team of Marshallese local labor to assist their workers, and USACE supervises the entire project. The USACE team has the authority to modify the contracts up to a certain dollar amount in the field, providing a degree of self sufficiency. In the event of large changes or complex issues the KRO has technical and contractual reach-back support from their home office in Hawaii if necessary.

There are two active projects on Kwajalein right now, one in the design phase and three slated for next year. One of the most visible projects is at the Water Treatment Plant. It is a \$3.5 million dollar project that will be completed in January 2015.

"The Water Treatment Plant structure was

corroded, both inside and outside," Sadowski said.

The USACE project is firming up the structure. They are adding structural steel where needed, new insulated aluminum panels and a protective coating to defend it from damage from the harsh Pacific environment. The challenge is that they're doing all this work while it's occupied; daily work activities must go on, but both USACE and Nan, Inc., are making sure it is done safely.

The other active job is a \$3.3 million project on the roof of building 993, where a massive array of solar panels is being installed. After installation, the panels will support the energy requirements of building 993 and any additional power will be put back into the main power grid. It'll help supplement the island's electrical needs and will generate enough energy to power 100 homes a day. The project will be completed in December of this year.

The \$1 million Lighting Retrofit project is still in the design phase but slated to begin soon. Twenty two buildings, half of them on the island of Roi-Namur, will be refit with new light ballasts and bulbs. The new fittings will provide more light while using less energy. Anticipated completion is August 2015.

Projects are chosen by USAG-KA command based on the greatest need and funding availability. Funding comes from the base operations budget or supplemental government programs. Brian Ebel, energy manager at DPW, submitted a write-up explaining the cost savings for the solar panel and lighting retrofit projects. The Energy Conservation Investment Program provided the funding for those particular projects. Future projects include work on a fuel tank on Roi, an overhaul of the warehouse facility 602 on Kwajalein and installing mist eliminators at the Kwajalein Power Plant.



The Solar Photovoltaic System project on the roof of building 993 is 50 percent finished. The project is being overseen by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Construction is being done by Nan, Inc. Photo by Paul Sadowski

Be Responsible For Fire Safety

Fire prevention is everyone's responsibility at work. Keep your work area orderly and free of clutter. Maintain equipment in good repair. Promptly report any fire hazards so they can be eliminated.

Follow these guidelines for fire prevention in your workplace:

- ◆ Maintain electrical equipment to prevent shorting-out and overheating. Watch for worn insulation, frayed cords and other signs of wear or damage. Keep electrical equipment and other machinery free of dirt so it can run freely. Many serious fires are caused by overheated bearings and other mechanical parts.
- ◆ Do not overload circuits. Watch for signs of overloading such as lights which dim when machinery starts running. Flickering lights and buzzing sounds in switch boxes are also signs of electrical problems. These electrical problems can lead to fires.
- ◆ Store materials safely. Flammable liquids must be stored in properly ventilated areas, away from sources of ignition. Vapors of flammable liquids can travel far from their source. If they encounter a source of ignition such as a spark, the fire will flash back to the original container, causing a serious fire or explosion. Even apparently empty flammable liquid containers still contain the vapors.
- ◆ Reactive materials – those which can burn violently or explode when in contact with certain other materials – must be stored separately.
- ◆ Do not allow scrap and trash to accumulate. They must be removed regularly for disposal or recycling. It is especially important not to allow accumulations of combustible items around fire exits and stairwells.
- ◆ Dispose of oily rags properly. They should be placed into approved, covered containers which are emptied regularly.
- ◆ Follow your company's policies for the use of space heaters. Space heaters should only be used temporarily, and they must not be placed near combustible or flammable materials.
- ◆ Follow your company's policies for any work involving open flames. A permit may be required, and you will have to follow certain safety procedures.
- ◆ Use welders and cutting torches only in areas properly constructed of fire-resistant materials.
- ◆ Smoke only in designated areas. Do not smoke in work or storage areas. Extinguish cigarettes and matches in fireproof ashtrays. These containers must be emptied only when the smoking materials are cold.



- ◆ Follow your company's security procedures to help prevent arson. Lock doors and windows as directed. Report any suspicious persons or activities.
- ◆ Never interfere with emergency equipment such as sprinklers, fire extinguishers, or fire doors designed to prevent the spread of fires.

Fire prevention is an important part of your job. Follow all procedures for preventing fires, and report all hazards.

EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER

Fourth Quarter 2014



BRANDI CASTILLO

While serving as a Structural Engineer Team Leader in the Regional Technical Center (RTC) from October through December 2014, Brandi single-handedly completed all of the structural reviews assigned to the RTC. Work is normally done by three structural engineers, but because other offices were faced with retiring individuals not being backfilled, these offices were short-handed and in desperate need of help. One structural engineer was detailed indefinitely to negotiate AE contracts, and the other structural engineer was detailed to help with structural design in Design Branch. Brandi graciously accepted the challenge to remain in the RTC as the only structural engineer. She was able to manage her time efficiently and effectively to perform her duties with excellence. During this period she provided sound technical advice designers, project managers and real estate personnel to address questions regarding anti-terrorism force protection and design issues. Her achievement this quarter was exceptional and noteworthy of recognition.



WALTER NAGAI

Walter Nagai, Environmental Engineer, Programs and Project Management Division, was recognized for his outstanding leadership and commitment to excellence as the Waikoloa Formerly Used Defense Sites Program and Project Manager. During this quarter, Walter successfully programmed and managed hundreds of rights of entry (ROEs) from landowners and lessees to conduct follow-on investigation and cleanup. Timely access ensures sustained program execution and funding stream. Securing ROEs is just the “tip of the spear” of a disciplined and organized team led by Walter, a team that consist of Real Estate, Office of Counsel, Public Affairs, Contracting and agencies outside of the Corps to include the State Departments of Health and Land and Natural Resources and Hawaii Island first responders. An aggressive community outreach program also led by Walter contributed to securing ROEs by educating the public about the program. Walter’s work exemplifies the outstanding quality of the workforce that serves in this organization.



Kwajalein Resident Office Promotes STEM Initiatives with Kwajalein High School Students

In mid-January, Capt. Jerrauld Ma, Paul Sadowski, and Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Klass (back row, center, starting fourth from left) from the Corps' Kwajalein Resident Office (KRO) shared their engineering experiences with Kwajalein High School Students. Cindy Engen, Algebra II / Trigonometry teacher, invited the KRO personnel to speak to her students. Our employees promoted the importance of having a solid technical background and encouraged students to strive within the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields as they prepare themselves for college. Several students were interested in pursuing a career either in engineering or the military, and our KRO team provided information and shared the many opportunities not only within USACE, but also for the technical engineering field. Courtesy photo



In late October Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary talked to Army JROTC students at Honolulu's Punahou High School to promote the importance of a solid technical background and encouraged students to study science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) as they prepare for college and possible careers in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio



American Samoa Lt. Gov. Lemanu Peleti Mauga (right) made an office call to Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Jeffrey L. Milhorn (center) and Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary in December to discuss current and future potential Corps civil works projects. Listening to the discussion is Honolulu District Civil Works Branch Chief Derek Chow (left). Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

Transitions

Welcome: Crystal Hood / Gina Smith / Marilyn Clark/ Milo Gerber

Welcome Back: Candace Lotomau / Eric Sugiyama

Goodbye: Phillip Mun / Dave Williams / Bill Yuen / Fred Goto / Norman Kaneshige / Gary Nip / Emilee Stevens / Lynette Kwock / Sgt. 1st Class Keith Bradley / Deloney Denson / Les Asuka / Don Espaniola / Matthew Perrett / Tyler Johnson / Lance Shiroma / Justin Goo/ Lorrie Kaneshige



Senior Executive James Bersson, Pacific Ocean Division Director, Regional Business has retired after 42 years of outstanding service to our nation. (Above) Bersson received the Department of the Army Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service Medal from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Deputy Commanding General Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens at his farewell luncheon held in early January at Fort Shafter. Bersson began his career working for USACE in 1972 and had been working within Pacific Ocean Division since 1986, including working at Honolulu District as the Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management. Photo by Duy Ta, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist

IN MEMORIAM

Former POH DPM Secretary Kojima Dies

Janet Kojima died Feb. 14 in Honolulu. She was secretary for several of the District's most recent Deputy District Engineers for Programs and Project Management - Ray Jyo and Jim Bersson - and was many times deemed by the Ohana as "the real person in charge in the front office at PPMD." Janet was a recognized expert in preparing official correspondence and provided exceptional quality control for all correspondence prior to signature by the District leadership. She also was instrumental in training numerous Acting Deputy Chiefs and other branch secretaries.



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