

## Biography of Major (Retired) Tim Ohno

Major (Retired) Tim Ohno, 45, was born in Tamuning, Guam and spent his teenage years on Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). He enlisted in the U.S. Army in September of 1983. After serving a tour at Fort Bragg he was reassigned to Camp Carroll in South Korea. He later was selected for Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, GA where he earned his commission. Tim spent over a year at Fort Benning attending courses such as airborne school, Infantry officer basic course and Ranger school. He became the first Pohnpeian from FSM to graduate from OCS, Ranger school, and eventually the Special Forces Qualifications course. Major Ohno earned his bachelor degree in Business Management from Saint Leo University, Florida.

As an Infantry officer, then second lieutenant Ohno, served his first duty assignment as a rifle platoon leader with the C Company, 1-503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Battalion and later with 1-5 Infantry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division in Camp Hovey, Korea. He was then assigned as the executive officer to B Company, 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment, 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Fort Ord, CA.



He commanded two Special Forces Operational Detachment Alphas (SFODA) with the 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Lewis, WA. He then earned a Master of Science degree in International Relations from Troy State University in the summer of 2000. Major Ohno has held positions as G5 (Civil Military Operations) for 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, Korea, Director of Operations, J3 for the Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines (JSOTF-P) in 2002-2003, and as S5 Civil Military Operations for the 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Lewis. He also commanded B Company, 96<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion in Fort Bragg, NC.

Major Ohno served in several special operations missions in places such as Sri Lanka, Thailand, Laos, Korea, Afghanistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Southern Philippines. His combat tours included Operation Enduring Freedom Philippines and Operation Enduring Freedom Afghanistan. Major Ohno retired from the 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) after 21 years of service in the United States Army, fifteen years of which he spent in the Special Operations Community.

Tim was invited to participate in the Opening Ceremonies for the 5<sup>th</sup> MicroGames held on Pohnpei, FSM in the summer of 2002 where he parachuted into the opening ceremonies carrying the MicroGames Flag to the delight of thousands of Micronesians. This was the first time an

islander had ever jumped into such an event for all Micronesians. Governor Johnny David of the State of Pohnpei later commented that “it was a big hit because people were thrilled with such special skillful demonstration. It was an honor to have a Micronesian with such special skill to demonstrate for his own people at the beginning of a major sport competitive gathering of the Micronesian region.” Tim later spoke with college and high school students and encouraged them to pursue their dreams and continue their education.

Major Ohno had been recognized for several distinguished achievements. His awards include the Joint Services Commendation Medals, Meritorious Service Medals, GWOT Campaign Medal, Humanitarian Medal, the Special Forces and Ranger Tabs, Military Freefall Badge, Master Parachutists Badge, Expert Infantryman’s Badge, and so forth. Major Ohno was instrumental in helping to calm the crisis that ensued following the accidental deaths of two middle school teenagers in South Korea. He helped design the memorial walls for the two teenagers in South Korea as well as the memorial wall for 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group at Fort Lewis, WA. Mr. Ohno is currently an Assistant Professor of Military Science at Seattle University. Mr. Ohno also is one of the founder and currently the operations officer for the Northwest Special Operations Parachute Demonstration Team, “Warriors.” With nearly 3000 jumps to his name, his team performs for thousands of audiences throughout the United States.

Major (retired) Ohno intends to return to FSM to continue encouraging the younger generation to always pursue their dreams and never stop learning. The future of all the islands and FSMers lie in the hands of the new generation. He says “we must always strive to set good examples and to show that even if you’re from a very small island, the limits of your accomplishments rest on your imagination and the effort you put in to make those dreams a reality.”