



# Media Release

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## **IMCOM commander visits Pohakuloa**

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii— Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, Commanding General, Installation Command, visited PTA, an Army installation with a dedicated staff and a potential future, on June 29.

“I came here for a couple reasons: one is to see how we are doing on our training readiness; on how we are taking care of our mission, Soldiers, civilians, and families; and also to say ‘Thank you’ for the efforts of the command and all the people who put so much effort into making PTA the premier training area,” Wilson said.

PTA’s staff, led by Lt. Col. Warline Richardson, PTA commander, gave Wilson a tour of PTA which included a hilltop view of PTA’s various training ranges, PTA Environmental’s interpretive garden and propagation facility, and a glimpse of PTA’s old and new barracks.

Wilson sees PTA as an essential part of U.S. Army’s worldwide training grounds.

“For one, the Army has been at war for six years,” Wilson said. “We are in a protracted long war, and the Army is engaged with changing, modernizing, and reshaping the way we fight, and the Army in Hawaii is very much involved in that. U.S. Army Pacific has a lot invested with the Soldiers in supporting our global war on terrorism, sustaining our training readiness here for whatever may occur. Therefore PTA becomes valuable to ensuring that we have a sustained readiness.”

Wilson believes Pohakuloa is vital to Army’s training readiness in the next 5 to 10 years.

“I think, and I agree with Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon (the commanding general, U.S. Army Pacific) on this, that we grow capabilities here as we have the Stryker

brigade in Hawaii. It becomes more important for PTA to enable that training readiness.”

Wilson notes the work dedication of PTA’s military personnel and civilians.

“PTA has a dedicated workforce,” Wilson said. “People are passionate with what they do, whether it’s about training or environmental, and they put their heart and soul to it, and I, the commander of IMCOM, feel good on what they are doing and want them to know that they are making a difference and like to thank them. PTA is a great place to live and work.”

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