



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Honolulu District

®

The **Pacific** Connection

BUILDING STRONG®

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On The Cover

Maj. Evan Ting
verifies landscape
survey readings on
a **Pakistan Air Force**
base flightline dur-
ing his three-month
long deployment
to assist the **Asian**
Development Bank
with their **Damage**
Needs Assessment
in the aftermath of
the catastrophic
July 2010 monsoon
rains. Courtesy photo



Commander's Comments

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



Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen
District Commander

Aloha All!

As I write this edition's notes, USARPAC and our sister district in Japan remain fully engaged in supporting the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief mission resulting from the tragic earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan on March 11. The District will continue to assist both POJ and USARPAC with whatever assistance possible to help alleviate suffering there. Also as part of the resulting tsunami's impacts on Hawaii and across the Pacific the District has been engaged with state and local authorities conducting preliminary damage assessments of all our projects. Fortunately, it appears that damage to our projects and assets was minimal. However, the opportunity for the District to partner with other governmental authorities in assessing infrastructure impacts was very valuable.

I'm proud to announce that in March the District completed the award of several large and very important projects in support of Army units at Schofield Barracks. We awarded the Warrior in Transition Facilities at Schofield Barracks, which will provide first-class living and recovery areas for our wounded warriors and the four major "South Range" projects at Schofield Barracks, which will provide new facilities for several brigades. These projects will have a significant impact on the lives of the Soldiers and leaders in Hawaii and the District is very excited to be able lead these construction efforts. Thanks to the many people, inside and outside of the District, who had a role in making these awards happen. Other major recent awards include a motor pool facility at Schofield Barracks and a Barracks renovation project at Tripler Army Medical Center.

This quarter also provided some great opportunities for the District to showcase the unique, diverse and challenging missions we perform together with our sponsors and stakeholders. We hosted the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Ms. Jo-Ellen Darcy for a couple days in March and had the opportunity to host a number of the Headquarters, USACE Senior Executive Service leaders for a day in February. Both visits allowed the District to demonstrate some of the unique challenges of doing construction in remote island environments (both on the Civil Works side and the Military Construction side), while showcasing some of the District's great partnerships and projects. To our sponsors and stakeholders who had a role in these visits, thanks for your support. All those who visited walked away with a great sense of the teamwork that happens here in the Pacific on a daily basis and an appreciation for the challenges we all face as we build facilities for our Soldiers and Airmen and execute projects with the local communities.

As I close, I encourage you all to keep our deployed comrades in your thoughts and prayers. They are truly making a difference in Afghanistan. President Teddy Roosevelt may have said it best when he said, "Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing." These folks are certainly living that mantra.

BUILDING STRONG®!



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2010 Annual Awards

The Honolulu District's 2010 Annual Awards Townhall held in January honored employee work accomplishments.

Photos by Dino W. Buchanan

Kris Young

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Administrative Support Employee of the Year* is presented to Kris Young, Engineering & Construction Division by District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen 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.



Reynaldo Dalmacio

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Technical Employee of the Year* is presented to Reynaldo Dalmacio, Engineering & Construction Division, Design Branch, Mechanical Section, by District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen, for his 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.



Jason Tanaka

The *Alaka'i Award* is presented to Jason Tanaka, Programs and Project Management Division, Military Branch., by District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen, 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.



Louis Muzzarini

The *Mai ka'i Loa Award for Leader of the Year* is presented to Louis Muzzarini Jr., Chief, Construction Branch, Engineering & Construction Division by District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen to recognize him as a leader who creates positive change through his or her talents, energy, creativity, leadership and communication skills. *Mai ka'i Loa* means mighty, achieving excellence.



Randy Mita

The *Ikaika Loa Award for Professional Employee of the Year* is presented to Randy Mita, Engineering & Construction Division, Fort Shafter Area Office by District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen for his 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.



Employees of the Year

Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen (center) poses with the 2010 Employees of the Year: (left to right) Lou Muzzarini, Leader of the Year, Jason Tanaka, Project Manager of the Year; Reynaldo Dalmacio, Technical Employee of the Year; and Professional Employee of the Year Randy Mita. Not shown is Kris Young, Administrative Support Employee of the Year.



Project Delivery Team of the Year

The *Hui O'i Loa Award for Project Delivery Team of the Year* is presented by District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen (center) to FY 07 Child Development Center Project Delivery Team members (left to right): Bruce Chun, Cora Shimabukuro, Jon Yoshinaga, Sheldon Nishina, Linda Tsugawa, Ron Nakagawa, Project Manager Tammy Luke, Edwina Williams, Mark Maddox from Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command, Don Schlack, Robert Antonio from USAG-HI DPW, Nathan Lum from DPW and Derrick Matsuda from the Directorate of Information Management. Not shown are Rodney Hollowell from DPW, Elton Choy, Nelson Lee, Jenny Masunaga, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawaii (NAVFAC-HI) and Jodi Muraoka from NAVFAC-HI.



(Left to right) Andrew Kohashi, Lou Muzzarini and Todd Barnes pose with their Bronze DeFluery Medals after the town hall.

Bronze DeFluery Medal

ASA (CW) Stresses AGO Initiative at Heeiea

Story by Joseph Bonfiglio

Chief, Honolulu District Public Affairs

In order to promote President Obama's America's Great Outdoors initiative, the Nature Conservancy of Hawaii (TNC); community group Kakoo Oiwi; the UH Institute of Marine Biology; Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy and leaders of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers held Hawaii's first ever America's Great Outdoors event at Heeiea Wetland adjacent to Kaneohe Bay, Oahu, March 17, 2011.

President Obama launched the America's Great Outdoors (AGO) Initiative in April 2010 to develop a 21st Century conservation and recreation agenda. AGO takes as its premise that lasting conservation solutions should rise from the American people – that the protection of our natural heritage is a non-partisan objective shared by all Americans.

President Obama specifically charged the Secretaries of the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, the Administrator of the EPA and the Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality to develop a 21st-century conservation and recreation agenda to reconnect the American people with the great outdoors and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers fully supports and embraces this initiative and has been engaged in AGO events across the country.

In the spirit of AGO, the Hawaii event, hosted by Kakoo Oiwi, and TNC Hawaii, celebrated efforts of local community members from diverse organizations who are engaged in a project to restore currently fallow lands in the Heeiea Ahupuaa (Native Hawaiian watershed) into a working agricultural taro loi (taro pond) and restore the native wetland.

The goal for Kakoo Oiwi, with support from TNC Hawaii and others, is to continue community efforts to provide food security, conduct research, promote education and biological resiliency in order to foster cultural and community use within the Heeiea Ahupuaa.

Darcy, who was the keynote speaker at the Pacific Command's Pacific Environmental Security Conference held in Honolulu, provided opening remarks for the Hawaii AGO event in which she stressed the importance for all Americans to achieve lasting conservation of the outdoor spaces that power our nation's economy, shape our culture and build our outdoor traditions. She urged participants to continue to reinvigorate our approach to conservation and reconnect Americans, especially young people, with the lands and waters that are used for farming and ranching, hunting and fishing and for families to spend quality time together.

Following her opening remarks, the community groups went to the taro ponds where they instructed Darcy in Native Hawaiian taro planting techniques and provided information about the cultural importance of taro to the Hawaiian community.



Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy (right) prepares a taro seedling for planting at the Heeiea Wetland on Oahu as part of Hawaii's first ever America's Great Outdoors Event. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

After planting taro, Darcy and community members met to discuss the key elements that make up the America's Great Outdoors initiative. Community members provided insights into how their project is directly related to the core principles of America's Great Outdoors in that it allows them to reconnect, conserve and protect the aina (land).

In addition, community members discussed their long-term vision for the site, current ac-



Corps Park Ranger Corey Yamashita explains the ecosystem of the Kaneohe-Kailua Dam project to ASA (CW) Jo-Ellen Darcy at the Corps' Pacific Regional Visitor Center. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

tions and possible constraints they are facing to restoring this wetland. This vision supports the AGO concept that America needs a 21st century conservation ethic that builds on local ideas and solutions for environmental stewardship which connect to our historic, cultural and natural heritage

According to Brad Wong, Marine Fellow at TNC and a supporter of Kakoo Oiwi, "this is a wetland restoration project to return the land to taro loi production. It's the community that wants this to happen. The kupuna (Hawaiian elders) have been here for generations and generations. They know what is best for this area and they're the ones who steward the land. What we try to do is partner with other organizations and everyone in this ahupuaa."

According to Bootsie Howard, Community Coordinator for Kakoo Oiwi, "for me the significance is healing to the land and the people and it's also providing food for the community. We work with our TNC partners and AmeriCorps Urban Youth. Again, our goal is to heal the people and heal the land."

According to Mark Fox of TNC, "we starting working in Kaneohe Bay removing alien algae off the reef and we noticed that we were only getting after one part of the equation. We also had to get after sedimentation coming off the land and so we were able to partner with Community Group Kakoo Oiwi, and the state's Hawaiian Community Development Authority to provide support and staffing to them for restoring this wetland area."

"The idea from our perspective is if you can restore these wetlands, it can mitigate the heavy rain pulses when they come and keep the heavy sedimentation off the reef. So it's a one, two punch to remove the algae and help keep the sediment off the reef and actually the knock-out punch is the native collector urchins that are being cultured at Coconut Island by the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology to be put back out on the reef."

According to Darcy, "one of the reasons for this visit was to be able to talk to people about the president's America's Great Outdoors Initiative. What we're trying to do is connect and reconnect our people with America's Great Outdoors with our recreation facilities.

"I think that this initiative will help. Part of it is to educate people about what it is that we have and what's available to them and how fortunate we are to have it and how good it is to be able to be outside not only for your health but also for all of our well being," Darcy said.

"This was one of the most fun days I've had in this job. It's great to be able to dig in the mud and have it be something worthwhile.

For more information about the America's Great Outdoors initiative visit: www.americasgreatoutdoors.gov



To publicize the Corps of Engineers' technical capabilities during Engineers Week, Pacific Ocean Division's informational panels were displayed for public viewing at Oahu's Pearlridge Mall Feb. 20-23. Courtesy photo.

District Engineers Display Skills for 2011 Engineer Week Activities

Story by
Honolulu District Public Affairs

More than 150 members of Hawaii's engineering community, including engineers from Honolulu District, gathered at the Hale Koa's Banyan Tree Showroom Feb. 22 for a luncheon to kick off Engineers Week 2011, which ran Feb. 20 to 26.

"Engineers Week is a great opportunity to showcase the accomplishments of our professional engineers, architects, and surveyors," said Todd Barnes, chief of Engineering & Construction, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District and past president, Society of American Military Engineers (SAME).

Jointly hosted by the Honolulu Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) and the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies (HCES), the kickoff luncheon featured keynote speaker, Jeff Chang, Engineering Program Manager, Engineering Branch of the Airports Division, Department of Transportation, State of Hawaii, who spoke on the Airports Modernization Program.

Barnes and his staff orchestrated the District's Engineers Week activities in concert with John Ramos, chair of the HCES and the Honolulu Post of SAME.

Engineers Week activities included: signing of an Engineers Week proclamation and photo opportunity with Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie and Lt. Gov. Brian Schatz on Feb. 23; signing an Engineers Week proclamation and photo opportunity with Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle

Jan. 29; Engineers Week exhibits at Pearlridge Mall from many engineering organizations Feb. 20 to Feb. 23; and attendance at the Engineers Week Awards Banquet held Feb. 26 in DeRussy Hall at the Hale Koa Hotel, which was attended by more than 250 members and friends of the 17 organizations within the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies, plus invited local VIPs and dignitaries. The Corps supports these events.

from local high schools have gathered at Oahu's Kahala Mall and displayed projects they had been working on and entering in competitions. The purpose of the displays and interactive exhibits sponsored by HCES during Engineers Week is to improve the public image of the engineering profession and to stimulate qualified students in public and private schools to choose careers in engineering and in related science fields.

The 2011 event focused on "the future of engineering" once again. HCES invited the societies' consulting engineering firms & manufacturing companies, the UHM student groups and the high school's robotic clubs to participate in the event that showcased their respective projects as well as to allow interaction with the public and to excite others about the engineering profession. The static portion of their exhibits were on display at Pearlridge Shopping Center from Feb. 20 through Feb. 23.

The guest speaker for the 2011 Engineers Week banquet was Wayne Y. Yoshioka, the Director of Transportation Services

for the City and County of Honolulu, where he provided a presentation on Honolulu Rail Transit covering project time line, budget/funding, preliminary engineering, transit-oriented development, and its relationship to other transportation capital improvement projects.

Also coinciding with this year's Engineers' Week activities was the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Engineering Career Fair that was held Feb. 18. The Corps always supports this outreach event.



Honolulu District Engineering Aide Jessica Wiggs (third from left) and Electrical Engineer Reid Yamada (fourth from left) joined Pacific Ocean Division and other District engineers who talked with University of Hawaii (UH) engineering students about career opportunities within the Corps of Engineers during the College of Engineering Career fair held Feb. 18 at Holmes Hall. Courtesy photo.

Honolulu District engineers also prepared for the 2011 MATHCOUNTS competition with the Oahu-chapter events held Feb. 19 at Puna-hou School's, Case Middle School where engineers volunteered their services as moderators, proctors and scorers. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders from more than 36 Oahu public and private schools participated in the competition.

For the past years, several societies' consulting engineering firms & manufacturing companies, the student groups from the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM), and the robotics clubs



Warrior Transition Battalion Commander Lt. Col. David Weisberg and Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen show off the signed memorandum of agreement to implement a Work Re-Integration Volunteer Program at Honolulu District for Wounded Warriors of the Tripler Army Medical Center's Warrior Transition Battalion. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

District Signs Soldier WIT Re-Integration Pact

Story by

Joseph Bonfiglio

Chief, Honolulu District Public Affairs

Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen and Warrior Transition Battalion Commander Lt. Col. David Weisberg signed a memorandum of agreement Feb. 11, 2011, to implement a Work Re-Integration Volunteer Program for at Honolulu District for Wounded Warriors of the Tripler Army Medical Center's Warrior Transition Battalion.

The Honolulu District is fully committed to support the Army Family Covenant and Wounded Warrior Program. The Work Re-Integration Program was developed by the Honolulu District with the TAMC Warrior Transition Battalion to provide civilian workplace opportunities for various Soldiers to help them reintegrate into the civilian workforce.

Selected Program candidates from the TAMC-Warrior Transition Battalion will be assigned to various Honolulu District organizational positions to learn and develop areas of career interest identified by each Soldier. To implement this program, the District agreed to:

- Advertise worksite opportunities to the Warrior Transition Battalion POCs and present briefings to Soldiers during training sessions.
- Carefully match the future goals of the selected Soldiers with a comparable training opportunity within the District.
- Provide Soldiers time in their schedule to attend all appointments since the wounded warrior's recovery is the highest priority.
- Conduct periodic After Action Reviews with both Trainees and Supervisors to ensure that this program continues to meet program objectives.
- Establish training objectives for each wounded warrior and train these Soldiers to meet the objects.

Conversely, the TAMC-Warrior Transition Battalion agreed to work closely with the District to screen and nominate Soldiers to work as Trainees and facilitate full and open communication in order to maintain situational awareness of Trainee opportunities within the Honolulu District.

In 2007, the Army established the Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2) to support returning wounded Soldiers from the Global War on Terrorism.

The Army Medical Command was tasked to establish Warrior Transition Battalions on specific installations to serve severely wounded, injured and ill Soldiers, Veterans and their families for "...as long as it takes." Recognizing that every Soldier is unique, the AW2 assists these Soldiers in transitioning to civilian life and careers or in returning to duty.

Nationwide, in 2009 alone, AW2 served well-over 12,000 severely wounded Soldiers and Families of the Active Component, Army Nation Guard and Army Reserve. AW2 assists these Soldiers as they work through treatment, rehabilitation and transition to post-injury life. As stated by the AW2 program director, "The success of our organization is rooted in our ability to provide AW2 Soldiers and Families with the best personalized support possible "for as long as it takes."

District Engineers Help Build Future Engineers at MathCounts competitions

Story by Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

The 28th annual MATHCOUNTS Oahu Chapter competition was held Feb. 19 at Punahou School's, Case Middle School where District engineers volunteered their services as moderators, proctors and scorers. Nearly 200 "mathletes" in grades six to eight - representing 36 public and private schools - tackled, wrestled and wrapped their minds around problem-solving, analytical and logical thinking.

"Honolulu District engineers have actively supported this outreach activity for the past 14 years which offers volunteers the opportunity to maintain the visibility of the Corps of Engineers in the engineering community and in schools," said District MATHCOUNTS coordinator, the Oahu MATHCOUNTS moderator and Chief, Construction Branch Louis Muzzarini. "Each year the number of (Corps) volunteers exponentially increases as former participants spread the word about how rewarding it is to be part of this event."

This year, 15 District volunteers served as proctors and scorers for the Oahu and state competitions, arithmetic's equivalent to the National Spelling Bee, with the proctors assisting in the distribution and collection of test materials and monitoring student activities during the competition, while the scorers graded completed tests.

Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp has said, "The Corps views these students as our legacy, not just for us, but for America. They represent our nation's next great leaders in technology. The country needs 160,000 engineers to graduate from our universities and come to work in our industries and with us in the Corps. Last year (2010), approximately 75,000 students graduated with engineering degrees. So the challenge is there: the nation needs great engineers."



Honolulu District's MATHCOUNTS coordinator, the Oahu MATHCOUNTS moderator and Chief, Construction Branch Louis Muzzarini (left) and Wendy Mow, a Honolulu District program analyst, pause while scoring a MATHCOUNTS test during the Oahu team competition held Feb. 19. Courtesy photo

Similar to a school sporting event, students are coached throughout the school year to participate as individuals and as teams in a series of written and oral competitions at the chapter, state and national levels. Preparation starts early in the school year with students drilling in algebra, geometry, probability and problems that simulate real-world situations. Each February four students are selected to represent their school at a local chapter MATHCOUNTS competition.

At the Oahu Chapter competition, students competed as individuals in a Sprint Round to solve 30 math problems in 40 minutes followed by a Target Round where they solved eight problems in pairs within six minutes per pair. In the Team Round teams solve 10 math problems in 20 minutes.

The winners of the 2011 competition on Oahu and the top seven teams moved on to the state level competition held March 5 at Iolani School.

The 2011 overall state MATHCOUNTS champion was Oahu's

Washington Middle School. The four highest-scoring individual "mathletes" from three different state schools will comprise the the State of Hawaii team at the National Competition, which will be held May 6 in Washington, D.C.

The first Hawaii MATHCOUNTS Competition was held in 1984 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Engineering Department facilities.

MATHCOUNTS is sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers to emphasize the importance of mathematical skills in the development of future technology and to encourage students to excel in these areas.

MATHCOUNTS builds skills, promotes strategic problem solving and challenges students to sharpen their analytical abilities by having students engage in a lively exchange of mathematical ideas through competition.



Damages in the flood-affected areas in the Sindh province after a monsoon season in Pakistan. U.S. Marines with the Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165 Reinforced, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit and the Marine Medium Tilt Rotor Squadron 266 Reinforced, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit assisted the Pakistan Army with humanitarian assistance operations. Courtesy Photo

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Major Helps Pakistan Recover from Its Worst Monsoon Season in 80 years

Story by Alicia Embrey
USACE Transatlantic Division
Public Affairs

In July 2010, monsoon rains of historical magnitude caused catastrophic flooding throughout Pakistan. Approximately one-fifth of the country was submerged by floodwaters. The flood wiped out livestock, homes, crops, and critical infrastructure (roads, bridges, railways, etc.).

According to Pakistan's Natural Disaster Management Authority, more than 20 million Pakistanis have been affected by this catastrophic event. Damages have been estimated in the billions. The United States responded to Pakistan's international plea for assistance by standing up several Task Force organizations under the command of the Office of the Defense Representative to Pakistan to support the relief efforts.

As floodwaters from one of the country's worst monsoon seasons began to sweep downstream and overrun riverbanks, the United States immediately ramped up to deliver much needed humanitarian assistance.

According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Transatlantic Division's G3-Contingency Planner Mario Trevino, the unprecedented amount of rain and floodwater in the region triggered a United States Central Command Request for Forces for the Division.

"A Request for Forces initiated our involvement in the effort. We were also tasked to develop a rough order of magnitude for the damage and potential reconstruction of Pakistan," said Trevino.

"Initially, ODRP requested the assistance of one engineer officer with experience in engineer



Maj. Evan Ting, (third from left, standing) relaxes with his entourage of Pakistani military drivers and security team before heading out to a survey site. Courtesy Photo

planning, bridging and ground lines of communication assessments. Later the Corps of Engineers were asked to provide a five man team of consultants to assist the Asian Development Bank with their Damage Needs Assessment." Trevino explained.

Due to his diverse engineering background and experience in conducting engineer reconnaissance as an Army Engineer, Maj. Evan Ting, former commander of the 565th Engineer Detachment Forward Engineering Support Team - Advance, was by-name requested and chosen to represent the Corps in this effort.

"Ting's mission was to assist ODRP with planning and design requirements for the tem-

porary forward operations base camps from which the humanitarian missions were staged," Trevino said.

Keys to Success

As with most catastrophic events, you really don't know what to expect until you reach ground zero. Being well trained, flexible and having a great support network are all keys to success.

"I received a call on August 12, 2010 notifying me that I was tasked to support the flood relief efforts in Pakistan. A week later, I was on a plane. I really didn't know what to expect even as I listened to the news and read the incoming situation reports. I was originally bil-



Maj. Evan Ting verifies landscape survey readings on the Chaklala Air Base flightline to assist in compiling a layout for a 300-personnel base camp near the Pakistani capital of Islamabad. Courtesy photo

leted as a Planner/Ground Lines of Communications/Bridging Assessor supporting ODRP and I didn't have full comprehension of what was expected of me," said Ting.

"My main concern was not about my own safety, but whether I would be able to make a positive impact," said Ting. "Once in theater, the requirements became clear. Flood victims were suffering and desperately needed fresh water, food and medical supplies. Forward Operating Bases were required for fixed and rotary wing assets to deliver these crucial basic needs. Planning, design, and construction of these bases are an engineer's forte."

Because of the flood's devastation, road access to remote villages in the mountainous north and the flood plain in the southern part of Pakistan were cut off.

"The way to provide humanitarian assistance was by fixed wing aircraft that flew supplies to forward operating bases and then rotary wing aircraft moved those supplies to United States Agency for International Development and World Food Program distribution locations in isolated parts of the country," explained Ting.

During his assignment in support of the Humanitarian Assistance mission, Ting was responsible for the construction and oversight of three major Forward Operating Bases located at

existing Pakistan Military Bases (Chaklala Air Base, Pano Aqil Army Cantonment and Ghazi Air Base). These forward bases were used by more than 500 U.S. military personnel conducting fixed and rotary wing operations, delivering relief supplies to flood victims. Development of these bases included airfield and road improvements, troop billeting and work spaces, sewer systems, water supply and distribution, electrical upgrades and other critical facilities required for successful operations.

"The 15th and 26th U.S. Marine Expeditionary Units and the U.S. Army 16th Combat Aviation Brigade needed facilities to conduct their operations," Ting said. "In one forward base, we constructed two wells and a water tower to supply water for our latrines on the flight line. We relocated overhead electrical lines to mitigate hazards to the rotary wing assets. Although we didn't have our own engineer units on the

See Maj. Ting

Continued on page 10



Pakistanis watch as a U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter from 16th Combat Aviation Brigade prepare to deliver food for flood relief in the Khoistan Region, Pakistan, Oct. 24, 2010. While stationed at the forward operating base Pano Aqil cantonment at Ting also assisted in the delivery of supplies to stranded flood victims. Photo by Jason Bushong, 55th Combat Camera



Maj. Ting's Engineering Skills Help Pakistan Gov't Recover from Its Worst Monsoon Season in 80 years

Maj. Ting

Continued from page 9

ground, we were able to accomplish over 21 infrastructure improvement projects with an engineer, contingency contracting officers, the local labor force and a partnership with the Pakistan military.”

Tight Deadline

Just days after arriving in flood-stricken Pakistan, Ting was tasked to conduct an engineer reconnaissance and layout a base camp for 300 personnel at Chaklala Air Base near the Pakistani capital of Islamabad. The base was used as an intermediate staging area for the 16th CAB, prior to their movement north to Ghazi Air Base. With reach-back support from the USACE, Ting was able to provide the Task Force with a base camp design, technical specifications, and contract scopes/statements of work within 48 hours.

Immediately after, Ting was tasked to conduct an engineer reconnaissance of Pano Aqil Army Cantonment. Home to the Pakistan Army's 16th and 21st divisions, Pano Aqil Army Cantonment is located about 25 miles north of



Pakistan civilian flood victims wait patiently as the U.S. Marines with the Marine Medium Tilt Rotor Squadron 266 Reinforced, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, unload food off of a CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter in the Sindh province, Pakistan, during flood relief operations. Photo by Marine Lance Cpl. Jhonson Simeon

stand up the forward operating base and have helicopters delivering relief supplies within days.

“The forward operating base at Pano Aqil supported approximately 200 Marines from the 15th and 26th MEUs, ODRP personnel and eight Marine aircraft (four CH-46 and four CH-53). In order to accommodate the troops, upgrades were required: barracks renovations, upgrading electricity, installing sewer treatment systems, improving the airfield to be AC-130 capable, constructing work spaces, and establishing a Dining Facility in an existing structure,” Ting said. “It was a tight time frame in getting this base camp stood up but we had the right team at the right time, and great Pakistan Military support.”

Personal Account

While stationed at the cantonment, Ting also assisted in the delivery of supplies to stranded flood victims. The 15th and 26th

Marine Expeditionary Units delivered millions of pounds of food and supplies in the southern Sindh province, the worst hit area covering hundreds of miles.

“Most of the flood victims in the south were hungry, destitute and still marooned by a sea of floodwater. It was a horrible sight to see. Mothers, children and the elderly were stranded on roof tops, on islands with no access to food or fresh water. People's lives shattered, homes gone,” Ting said. “There were literally hundreds of square miles underwater and a lot of suffering.”

“It was amazing how dedicated and hard working our Marines, Airmen, Sailors and Soldiers were, working alongside our Pakistani

counterparts. Day to day, you could see friendships forming as we worked together. I feel incredibly fortunate to have been part of this mission,” Ting said. “It was an honor to deliver relief supplies and I'll never forget the look of gratitude on the faces of many of the flood victims. There is no better feeling than getting the opportunity to help those in need.”

During Ting's service as an ODRP engineer liaison to the Pakistan Government and Military, International community, USAID and the State Department his contributions also included conducting engineering and ground lines of communications assessments. He generated three major engineering infrastructure reports, numerous CADD design plans and technical specifications. Additionally, the floods wiped out numerous bridges throughout Pakistan cutting off transportation routes for supplies.

Ting made significant and enduring contributions by playing a key role in coordinating the transfer of more than \$8 million in bridging assets to the Government of Pakistan. The bridges, held in “Theatre Reserves” in Kuwait, were shipped to Pakistan, ground transported to Northern Pakistan and delivered to the Pakistan Military. The bridges were administratively transferred through USAID to NDMA for the Pakistan Military Engineers to install. A bridge turnover ceremony was held at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad to officially mark the turnover.

Ting deployed back to the Honolulu District mid-December 2010 and was one of the honorees at the Honolulu District's Townhall on Jan. 10, 2011.

According to Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas Guttormsen, Maj. Ting's outstanding work under difficult conditions received the attention, praise and accolades of the vice admiral running the mission in Pakistan.

“He did a super job representing our nation and the District,” said Lt. Col. Guttormsen.



A U.S. Army service member from 16th Combat Aviation Brigade hands out candy to Pakistani children in Swat Valley, Pakistan. Photo by Jason Bushong, 55th Combat Camera

Sukkur in Sindh province. The 15th and 26th MEUs would eventually make Pano Aqil their home for the next few months while delivering relief supplies to flood affected areas in southern Pakistan. During the two day recon, Ting met with the Pakistan Military Liaison Officers to conduct a feasibility study, and to determine the requirements of the forward operating base.

Upon returning to Islamabad, Ting briefed the engineer findings to the ODRP senior leadership. A day later, Ting was part of a specialized ten-man quartering party with a mission to



Observations of BUILDING STRONG®

Lt. Col. Chytka Encourages OCO Deployments for Invaluable, Intense Field Experience

As part of the Pacific Connection's continuing coverage of our deployed District "warriors" downrange, the Pacific Connection interviewed former Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka via email, who is currently on an Oversea Contingency Operations (OCO) deployment to the Corps' Afghanistan Engineer District-North (AED-N).

Lt. Col. Chytka offers his insights on volunteering to work at the tip of the spear:

How is it that you deployed?

I volunteered to be the Deputy Commander of AED-N, fulfilling a commitment that I had made to the Honolulu District Ohana. Since I asked the Ohana to consider deploying, it was only appropriate that I also consider going. After volunteering, I was selected for the AED-N Deputy Commander position, which has allowed me to assist the AED-N Commander in managing his staff.

How does your mission impact the people of Afghanistan?

The AED-N mission is vital in setting the conditions for the Afghans to provide their own security and develop a sustainable economy. We have roughly a \$5 billion total program both post- and pre-award. Although, we have a number of different programs from Support For Others (SFO) and Infrastructure to MILCON, our main effort is construction for the Afghan National Security Forces (Army and Police). This effort will eventually allow the Afghans to provide security for themselves.

How does that mission make us safer in the U.S.?

The stability of Afghan security forces is important in order for Afghans to secure their country and not let the Taliban re-emerge to train terrorists.

What is your specific mission?

I manage the AED-N staff and synchronize senior District leader efforts to meet the commanders intent. When needed, I also stand-in for the AED-N District Commander.

Where are you stationed?

I am stationed at Qalaa House, Kabul, but I also circulate around the AED-N District's area of operations when the need arises.

What is the work like?

Operation Enduring Freedom, like all operations, entails long hours of challenging and rewarding work. Unlike most stateside USACE Districts, where they might get five to 10 major projects completed and turned over in a year, in AED-N we are constantly completing and turning over projects. I personally like being able to influence our AED-N senior leadership to place some of the Honolulu Ohana in great jobs.

What is it like working in a military environment with civilian contractors and GS employees?

Everyone is doing their best. We have an eclectic workforce that includes servicemembers from all of the armed forces, plus civilian as well as other governmental agency civilians and contractors. We also have a large local national workforce.

What are the security challenges?

I have never felt unsafe and I have visited many other locations outside the confines of Qalaa House. Qalaa House itself is very safe. It's located in the Green Zone and has plenty of top-notch military and contracted security. However, I do read the serious incident reports and recognize that some areas do have insurgent activity.

What are some of the best things about your deployment?

One of the best things I see and feel is the camaraderie amongst the workforce. Also, the ability to see projects to completion within a year and the knowledge I have had a once in a lifetime experience doing things that matter.

Can you describe the worst things about deployment?

Being away from my wife and children is hard, but this is mitigated by the easy access to telephones to call home.

What was the OCO deployment process like?

The overall process is fairly straight forward and easy to complete with the assistance of our Honolulu District Emergency Management (EM) and USACE Deployment Center (UDC) teams.

Would you recommend OCO deployment to civilians?

Absolutely, we need our best folks to come over to help get things done. What an employee gains in knowledge and experience in a short period of time is truly amazing.

What advice would you offer to people who are considering deployment?

If you really want to do something important and get a lot of experience in a short period of time, then I say make it happen. Do not put off calling our District Deployment coordinator in the EM branch - just pick up the phone and call.



Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka (second from left) poses with Honolulu District OCO deployers (left to right) Ike Borja, Steve Cayetano and Nelson Lee. All four are deployed to AED-North. Courtesy photo



Leilehua Science Fair: Students See the “World of the Corps”

The first ever complex-wide K-12 Leilehua Community Science Fair at Leilehua High School on Oahu was attended by more than 500 adults and children as well as Honolulu District representatives. According to Honolulu District Biologist Cindy Barger who attended the event, “students were teaching other students, as well as parents and grandparents.” Student “Ambassadors” manned volunteer booths to share information and show off displays of on-going school science projects. (Above) 565th Engineering Det. NCO SFC Colleen Hatfield explains to students and parents how an IKE (It Knows Everything) device helps with gathering in-the-field information. Also attending the event were Corps Park Rangers Angela Jones and Corey Yamashita. Courtesy Photo

Maj. Hannan Takes Command of 565th Engineer Detachment

Maj. William C. Hannan Jr. became the second commander of the Honolulu District-based 565th Engineer Detachment, Forward Engineer Support Team-Advance (FEST-A) March 18 during a change of command ceremony held at Fort Shafter Flats on Oahu.

Hannan took command from Maj. Evan Ting who is moving on to work in the Emergency Management branch within the Corps of Engineers’ Pacific Ocean Division.

Maj. Hannan reports to the 565th following graduation from the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and a previous assignment as a Small Group Leader for the Engineer Captain Career Course and Battalion S3/Executive Officer of the 5th Engineer Battalion during train-up, deployment and redeployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 08-10.



Maj. William C. Hannan Jr. (third from right) poses with the members of the 565th Engineer Detachment, Forward Engineer Support Team-Advance (FEST-A) after the change of command ceremonies held March 18 at Fort Shafter Flats. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

District Awards ADA Chairlift Contract for Punchbowl


The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District, awarded a \$945,000 Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC) Jan. 25 to TOP Pacific Builders, LLC, an 8(a) contractor from Aiea, Hawaii., for a fiscal year 2010 project to install four chairlifts along the eastern side of the American Battle Monuments Commission Honolulu Memorial within the National Cemetery of Pacific at Punchbowl to facilitate American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant access to the entire monument. Each chairlift's placement will allow access to all five levels of the Memorial.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who originally constructed the cemetery and the Honolulu Memorial, is committed to work with the American Battle Monuments Commission and the National Cemetery of the Pacific to make the memorial grounds fully accessible to the public.

Contract number W9128A-09-0018-0006 has a 210 calendar day performance period and a notice to proceed was issued to the contractor on Feb. 17, 2011.



In celebration of Black History Month, Honolulu District personnel gather in the Fort Shafter Area Office to listen to a presentation by Ervin Hendrix, Jr., who is a retired U.S. Army Vietnam combat veteran, a former business owner and retiree from the Oahu Transit Service as well as an author of "One Voice" – an autobiography about the importance of being a positive force in the community. He gave a fascinating historical account of the struggles of African-Americans to win dignity in the early history of the United States. In the photo above Hendrix talks to Pacific Regional Visitor Center volunteer Makanani Marcusson about his presentation materials. Photo by Kevin McCowan, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist.

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Practicing Safety During Spring Cleaning

Spring is the traditional time of year when we seriously clean our homes. While this is a rewarding activity, it can also be a risky one. Falls, cuts, chemical burns, and electrical shock are just some of the injuries which can occur. Following these safety suggestions this spring and year-round can help prevent accidents while you're house-cleaning.



You can survive spring cleaning by following these safety tips.

- Wear protective clothing. Sturdy shoes will protect your feet if you drop something, bump into an object, or step on something sharp. The soles of the shoes should be made of non-slip material. Wear vinyl or rubber gloves when you use liquid cleaning products. Cloth or leather gloves will protect your hands from minor injuries which can occur while you are dusting, moving furnishings, and handling debris.
- Beware of electrical hazards. Keep moisture away from electrical appliances and outlets. Don't spray cleaning products directly onto light switches or the fuse panel area of an electrical stove. Ordinary household vacuums must not be used on damp surfaces.
- Slips, trips, and falls are common household accidents, and they can occur easily when the house is in disarray during spring cleaning. Keep traffic areas clear of buckets, cords, boxes and other obstacles. Clean up spills promptly, and move carefully on damp surfaces.
- Read the directions before using any cleaning product. When using the

product, keep the work area well-ventilated. Many chemicals used for house cleaning can cause irritation to the respiratory system as well as burns to the eyes and skin.

□ Never mix bleach and ammonia because this creates a deadly gas. Avoid using ammonia cleaning products in the bathroom at the same time as cleaning products containing bleach. Another way which this deadly mixture accidentally occurs is by pouring a bucket of ammonia cleaning product, which has been used for cleaning floors or windows, into a toilet bowl already containing a bleach product. When using cleaning products to remove soap scum from shower doors and walls, keep in mind this soap residue is slippery. Clean the bathtub or shower floor thoroughly so the soap does not create a slipping hazard.

□ Ladders are involved in many serious injuries at home. Make sure the ladder is in good condition. Place the base of the ladder on a solid, even surface. Do not stand on the top few rungs of a ladder. Do not lean away from the ladder because this can cause it to tip over. Use sturdy scaffolding and good sense when doing work at heights such as cleaning stairwell ceilings or second story windows.

**ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG**

District employees honored by USARPAC for excellence

By Aileen Humphreys
USARPAC Public Affairs

U.S. Army Pacific held its first Army Civilian Recognition awards program, recognizing civilian service excellence, March 9 at the Hale Ikena club on Fort Shafter.

Lt. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon, former U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) commander, hosted the sold-out event and recognized civilian employees in nine categories including Emerging Leader of the Year, Team Excellence and Unsung Heroes.

"I want to point out that our civilians take an oath of office with the same provisions as military officers when they enter onto duty with the Department of the Army," Mixon said. "(They) serve to defend our constitution and our nation."

Randall M. Mita, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District, took top hon-



(Left to right) Rey Dalmacio, Steven Paahana and Randy Mita were honored by the USARPAC commander at USARPAC's first Army Civilian Recognition awards program, which recognized civilian service excellence. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

ors in the Professional category; Steven Paahana, also from the Corps, was recognized for Trades and Crafts; Marilyn C. Aranca,

USARPAC, won for her Administrative Support excellence; Jeffrey A. Havelock was the best Supervisor/ Manager/ Leader of the Year; Reynaldo B. Dalmacio, Jr., also from the Corps, was recognized for Best Emerging Leader; and Coral Pietsch, USARPAC Judge Advocate General was recognized for her Community Service.

The honoree for Team Excellence was Task Force ACENET, a team of 20 individuals, was recognized for its Team Excellence. The group is tasked with improving the Pacific LandWarNet, the Army's portion of the Global Information Grid in the Pacific region.

Eleven individuals, all from USARPAC Headquarters, were honored as Unsung Heroes and five individuals were recognized for 50 or more years of service. Others acknowledged during the ceremony were civilians who had deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom and civilians who have served 30 or more years.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

EMPLOYEE AWARDS PROGRAM

Every month employees are chosen as Honolulu District Employees of the Month. In addition to being immortalized on the "Plaque of Fame" in Bldg. 230, they receive a special reserved parking space and a choice of *Lokahi* gifts.

The Employee of the Month program is managed by the Awards Committee which is empowered to act on behalf of the District Commander.

The Committee, manages a number of award programs including: *Lokahi*, Top 60, On-the-spot, The District HED annual awards and other special commendations.

November



MAYDEAN MARTIN

Was recognized for her contributions in support of the successful renovation of many USAG-HI historic buildings. These structures include Quads C and E at Schofield Barracks, the Fort Shafter Aloha Center and Schofield's Soldiers Chapel. Her calm hand at the helm helped navigated the team in difficult historic preservation.

November



BRIAN CHUNG

Was recognized for his outstanding service in assisting Far East District (POF) with an unexpected heavy AE workload in the first quarter. While TDY, his assistance contributed greatly to POF meeting its milestone. His dedicated, pro-active nature was appreciated and helped strengthen our relationship with POF.

December



LANCE SHIROMA

Was recognized for his outstanding service in completing flood damage economic analysis in support of the Ala Wai Watershed and Waialeale Stream Flood Risk Management projects. The Ala Wai model was highly complex incorporating 27 damage reaches, with an inventory of 5,000 structures that he created for this project.

December



JODY YOSHISHIGE & LYNETTE SERRAO

During the past several months, Jody and Lynette have tenaciously pursued signature and acceptance of interim DD Form 1354s for completed projects at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). With the change-over to Joint Base, documents are now routed through the 647th Civil Engineer Squadron, JBPHH to Navy Region, Hawaii for signature by the Real Property Accountable Officer. The form is now prepared using Navy Category Codes. Jody and Lynette personally worked with Navy personnel to respond to questions/comments and to ensure revisions were made to get the forms approved and signed. These efforts allowed Construction Branch to make progress towards close out of projects.

December



January



ERIC LI

Was nominated for outstanding performance during from Apr. to Sep. 2011. Eric completed the civil/site design for the FY12 Training Support Center (TSC), Schofield Barracks, which is the largest (PA=\$25 million) and most complex DBB project completed by Design branch in FY10. Eric's positive attitude and diligence helped to achieve RTA goals for the TSC.

February



KAY CHIN

During December 2010, Kay planned and arranged the January 2011 Pacific islands familiarization trip for the District Commander, DDPM, Chief Civil Works branch and Chief Counsel plus a trip to FSM for the POH team conducting an assessment of the FSM's Program Management Unit organization during February 2011. Kay completed the flight itinerary planning and meeting scheduling with precision such that the trip missions were a success.

February



MIRIAM KOYANAGI

Miriam researched/provided pertinent asbestos information on a recent allegation made by a local contractor (INS) employee. The complaint was sent to Hawaii State OSHA regarding the possibility of exposure to asbestos during the demolition work at the restrooms in mid-January. Her outstanding leadership helped close out the findings.

District Earns Platinum CFC Award for Second Consecutive Year

Honolulu District's generous actions and donation collection efforts raised more than \$68,000 in pledges during the 2010 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) season.

Honolulu District's final donation tally, which was confirmed by the Hawaii CFC Headquarters, stated the District's 266 donors pledged \$68,955, for a per capita donation of \$199.

The charity drive was keyed by rigorous donation collection efforts by 2010 CFC Campaign Project Chairman Joseph Bonfiglio and his team of motivated CFC keypersons.

Corps of Engineers Holding Annual Workshop

The 16th annual Honolulu District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers workshop for architects and engineers, construction contractors and others in related fields, interested in doing business with the Corps will be held May 5, 2011 from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki.

This year's theme is "Quality Design and Construction for a Stronger Future in the Pacific" focusing on informing private sector companies about what they must do to successfully execute work with the Corps. The agenda will include an update on upcoming Corps projects.

Most of the day will be devoted to a wide range of breakout sessions covering various government initiatives and technical subjects. Corps functional area specialists will participate, and there will be ample time for questions.

For more information, call Gary Nip at (808) 438-8872.

In Memorium

Sarah Kekela Ili, age 94, of Kaneohe, Hawaii, a retired librarian who worked for many years for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Fort Shafter, died Jan. 10 at Castle Medical Center on Oahu.

She was born in Piihonua, Hawaii and is survived by son Ellsworth; daughters Mary Jane Makua, Mary "Mele" Ah Ho and Maydeen Bailey, 14 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

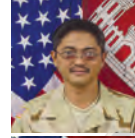


Marsha Phillips (left) and Sarah Ili (right) enjoyed the festivities at the District's 2009 Org Day at Bellows Air Force Station on Oahu. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

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

Aloha

Aloha to our Overseas Contingency Operations volunteers who are deployed to Afghanistan:



Ike Borja



Fred Nakahara



Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka



Calvin Mashita



Steve Cayetano



Nelson Lee

TRANSITIONS / 2nd Quarter FY11

Welcome

Randall Chun	Tricia Macon	Terri-Ann Hironaka
Shawn Naito	Tristan Matsuki	Josh Mueller
Okan Nalbant	Maj. Sally Hannan	Robert Rapp
Justin Stevens (ACE-IT)		Steven Prudence
Patrick Bruse	David Nishimura	Han Duong
Derrick McGee	Timothy Griffin	Alan Avery
Maj. William Hannan		Diana LaVigne (ACE-IT)

Welcome Back

Maj. Evan Ting (Pakistan) Russell Amina
Katie Tamashiro

Goodbye

Kwang Coh	Chelsie-Ann Mow	Joel Hendrix (SAD EM)
Lolly Silva (POD EM)		Fred Nakahara (AED-N)
Maj. Evan Ting (POD)		Lt. Col John Henderson
		Thomas Reese