



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Honolulu District

The Pacific Connection

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Honolulu Welcomes 65th District Commander

Commander's Comments



**Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge
District Commander**

I want to first thank you all for the very warm welcome you gave me and my family into the Honolulu District Ohana. And special thanks to all of you who made the change of command and reception a first-class event.

I am very proud and honored to be the commander of such a great organization. The Honolulu District has a wonderful reputation and that is because of you. I continue to be impressed with the positive attitude, competence and professionalism displayed throughout. Please know that you all are making valuable contributions to the Soldiers, Airmen and people of Hawaii and throughout the Pacific Region.

I also want to thank Lt. Col. Dave Anderson for all that he did for the District during his tenure and for making this a truly seamless transition for me and my family. Dave – we wish you, Kara and your family all the best and know our paths will cross again. Mahalo Nui Loa!

As I continue learning about the District, our people, processes and customers, I am reassured to discover that we are focused on the right priorities and headed in the right direction. We will maintain the momentum of our previous successes while we work to enhance areas where we can use some improvement. We will publish our FY07 Operations Plan

shortly which will detail our three focus areas and supporting objectives. These focus areas and supporting objectives are nested in the USACE Vision and Pacific Ocean Division's Campaign Plan. I ask that you read the OPLAN so you have a clear understanding of the direction of our District and can help us achieve our goals with a focus on execution of quality projects.

We recently marked the five-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 9/11. The mission of the Corps of Engineers is a vital part of the Global War on Terror (GWOT) and support to the GWOT remains our #1 priority. Additionally, the role of the Corps' response teams is critical to disaster relief and recovery efforts as evidenced by the unprecedented devastation along the Gulf Coast last year. I ask that you consider volunteering for one of these important missions.

The Honolulu District

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

Last, but not least, I want to address safety. There is inherent danger in many of our day-to-day activities. We work on job sites with heavy equipment, around utilities, and at elevated heights, to name a few of the dangers. Nothing that we do is worth a serious injury or death. Please

continue to make safety paramount in everything that you do.

Again, thank you for the tremendous welcome to the District. I look forward to work with all of you as we support our great Soldiers, Airmen and the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Region.

Essayons and Mahalo!

On the Cover



Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. John W. Peabody (center left) passes the colors to Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge (center right) symbolizing the official change of command for the Honolulu District. At left is outgoing Commander Lt. Col. David E. Anderson and at right is James Bersson, Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management. Klinge became the 65th Honolulu District Commander during a ceremony at Fort Shafter, July 21.
Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

The Pacific Connection

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Honolulu District Commander..... Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge
Chief, Public Affairs Joseph Bonfiglio
Media Relations Specialist Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor Sarah H. Cox

Outreach to State of Hawaii:

District Provides Model for Improving State Business Procurement Procedures



Rick Totten, an attorney from Honolulu District's Office of Counsel, delivers his formal presentation at the 2006 Hawaii Procurement Institute Conference held at the University of Hawaii-Manoa. Listening at left is Danielle Conway-Jones, Professor of Law and Director, Hawaii Procurement Institute. Courtesy photo

Story by Honolulu District Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District recently participated in a round-table discussion about the fairness of Federal and State procurement practices by government contracting officials at the 2006 Hawaii Procurement Institute (HPI) Conference held at the East-West Center on the University of Hawaii Manoa campus.

Honolulu District's Rick Totten, an attorney in Honolulu District's Office of Counsel, discussed the statutory requirements that govern the Corps of Engineers obtaining needed professional architect and engineering services under the Brooks Act (40 United States Code §§ 541-544). His presentation stressed that the federal system for selecting architect-engineering (A-E) firms is fair, open and competitive.

"My goals (for the conference) were to educate the private sector on how the Corps of Engineers system works, about its inherent fairness and to encourage more companies to get involved in the federal acquisition system," Totten said.

HPI, which is a part of the University of Hawaii, Richardson School of Law, was established by the State of Hawaii legislature to educate, train, research, and report on procurement matters affecting the State of Hawaii and those with whom the State does business for its required goods, services and construction needs.

As the State of Hawaii is currently looking to transform its present procurement system into one that somewhat mirrors the federal government process, the conference focused discussion topics on how Professional Services Contracts were obtained in both the Federal and State sectors, how Suspension and Debarment are handled differently by each sector and included workshops dealing with small business matters.

HPI's long term goal is to assist in the transformation of the way the State of Hawaii performs its procurement functions from its current patchwork procedures to one based on competition. This would be a new system with established contracting procedures, a system open to everyone and that is not dependent on political favoritism or affiliation.

Totten, who was the only federal sector representative invited to participate in

the sessions, told an audience of distinguished legislators, State and County of Hawaii procurement professionals, academics and private sector contractors, that the federal procedures used to obtain professional architect and engineer services is a "qualification based system."

"All firms who wish to perform A-E work in the federal sector can submit their qualification in the competitive process used," Totten said. "It's a process based on announced selection criteria and the criteria relate to qualifications possessed by private sector A-E firms."

Totten's presentation stressed that the federal system for selecting A-E firms is fair, open and competitive. Individual firms who are not selected can request a debriefing so it might become more competitive in the future.

"I encouraged more companies to get involved in the federal acquisition system and stressed the fact that the Honolulu District has a dedicated deputy to the commander whose sole job is to work with small, disadvantaged, minority owned, and women owned businesses, and ensure that these firms receive a fair portion of the Federal acquisition pie. This initiative is based on mandates from Congress, which are contained in numerous statutes, regulations and policy statements."

Totten said that telling the Corps story and providing information and initiative to such a diverse professional-laden audience was a rewarding experience "that I would gladly repeat."

"I enjoy telling the public about the fair acquisition system used by the Federal Government and the Corps vital role in building great projects and delivering related engineering services by our dedicated people for our Nation's defense and the prosperity of our country."

To learn how to do business with the Army Corps of Engineers, the following website provides a step-by-step approach to the Department of Defense Marketplace: http://www.acq.osd.mil/osbp/doing_business/DoD_Contracting_Guide.htm.



Computer Aided Drafting & Design (CADD) Functional Manager Deborah Solis (standing) conducts a class for employees in July. Solis and Geographer Justin Pummell conducted a series of classes to introduce employees to Technical Integration Group's new website, eGIS, which puts online mapping tools at employees' fingertips.

TIG Leading the District, Pacific into the 21st Century

Story and photo by Sarah H. Cox
Pacific Connection Editor

Although most anyone can build a website these days, the professionals of Honolulu District's Technical Integration Group (TIG) haven't just "built" a website, they've packaged 21st century Geographic Information System (GIS) and Computer-Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) technology, attached handles and urged District employees to grab a handle and hold on.

The eGIS (enterprise Geographic Information System) incorporates online mapping tools that require no specialized GIS software for the user. Before the implementation of eGIS, the District's geospatial data was loosely organized. This made finding global data difficult and often resulted in costly data duplication.

TIG created eGIS as a user-friendly mechanism to store, distribute and manage its geospatial holdings.

All an employee needs to access the site is an internet connection and access to the District's intranet. In July, Geographer Justin Pummell and CADD Functional Manager Deborah Solis conducted a series of classes introducing eGIS to District employees.

GIS applications are limitless. Any

District employee can quickly print out a topographical map before going to the field or can access a nautical map pertaining to an upcoming harbor project.

The site contains a massive amount of information such as tutorials, briefings and a map library.

A metadata browser will soon be available to make the user's geospatial data search even easier.

TIG, the brainchild of the former Honolulu District Engineering & Construction Division Chief Sam Song, began in 2002 with just two employees - Santiago Mor and Benton Ching. Song foresaw GIS' possible applications for the District early in 1997.

Today TIG has nine employees, including a geographer, a hydraulic engineer, a CADD Functional Manager, a cartographer, several engineers and one GIS technician who are working to execute a variety of traditional and non traditional projects integrated with the latest geospatial technology.

GIS is much more than a cartographer's tool. TIG is using GIS in numerous ways: to assist in locating the best possible route for a new road from Banda Aceh to Meulaboh, Indonesia after the tsunami destroyed the previously existing road; to detect shoreline changes and sand gain/loss along Oahu's coast; to determine if a new building constructed near Tripler Army Medical Center would degrade the

landmark's historical viewshed; to identify and delineate wetlands on military installations and to identify utility and electrical power generation requirements in Guam after a typhoon.

Making GIS easy to understand is an ambitious undertaking which has resulted in far-reaching improvements for District projects. GIS has found its way into almost every District mission including civil works, environmental, emergency management and real estate.

The District's efficiency has increased by reducing costs associated with acquiring duplicate data and by improving the project managers' decision making processes by simplifying cumbersome data.

TIG is serving as good data stewards as it charges forward with its innovative technology. It has continued to standardize the GIS data, software and the common coordinate system to comply with Department of Defense guidelines.

Honolulu's TIG has started developing a digital version of all maps produced for district projects and is currently working with Hawaii's GIS community to geo-reference 2,000 aerial photographs taken by the Army Air Corps in 1927. The geo-referencing will allow archaeologists, biologists, economists, engineers and other scientists in Hawaii to study the history and trends of the area.

Technical Integration Group Accepts GIS Award

Story by Sarah H. Cox
Pacific Connection Editor

Honolulu District's Technical Integration Group (TIG) received a Special Achievement Award (SAG) in Geographic Information System (GIS) August 9 for their outstanding geospatial contributions to the Pacific Region and their ability to implement a sustainable enterprise GIS (eGIS) system.

GIS is a collection of computer hardware, software, and geographic data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information. With GIS, users can link information to location data such as people to addresses, buildings to parcels, or streets within a network. This innovative technology enables users to layer the information and present a visual representation for analysis that leads to more informed decisions and a better understanding of their communities, businesses and the environment.

The SAG award is presented to companies or organizations which have used GIS in extraordinary ways to solve business problems, to improve customer service and to benefit the community. The award also recognizes how the organization has used new technologies to implement GIS into its problem solving missions.

Honolulu District's TIG was selected from among 100,000 agencies and corporations around the world. Only the Corps' Mobile (Ala.) District and Engineering Research and Development Center (ERDC), Vicksburg, Miss., have previously won this award.

According to Deputy Chief Engineering and Construction Division Curtis Yokoyama, the award is a true reflection of the efforts of the people in TIG.

"This award is a great honor for the District, it recognizes work which has benefited the community as well as work within the organization," Yokoyama said.

The award also recognized TIG for its innovative eGIS, a user-friendly mechanism to store, distribute and manage geospatial data. The eGIS incorporates online mapping tools and requires no specialized GIS software for the user.

Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) presented the annual award at the 26th Annual International User Conference in San Diego, California.

Honolulu District's TIG has recently introduced and utilized GIS and eGIS for District projects in a variety of ways: to assist in locating the best possible route for a new coastal road from Banda Aceh to Meulaboh, Indonesia after the devastating December 2004 tsunami; to detect shoreline changes along Oahu's coastlines; to identify and delineate wetlands and to help international partners prepare and respond to natural disasters.

This is not the first ESRI award for Honolulu District. In 2005, Geographer Justin Pummell won First Place, Best Single Map Product for a map of the Federated States of Micronesia he created after Typhoon Sudal hit Micronesia in April 2004.



Justin Pummell (left) and Benton Ching (right) receive the Special Achievement Award from Jack Dangermond, president, Environmental Systems Research Institute. Courtesy photo



First Core-Loc Units Set in Place

Traylor Brothers Inc. (Pacific) workers watch the first 35-ton Core-Loc unit being moved into position Aug. 14, at Kaunalapau Harbor on Lanai. Traylor Brothers is constructing the new breakwater using approximately 800 of the units. Kaunalapau Harbor is the only commercial harbor on Lanai large enough to accommodate barges which deliver the island's consumer goods. Photo by Paul Mizue

Deployed to Afghanistan: Rebuilding the Future of a Nation

Story by Dino W. Buchanan
Media Relations Specialist

When Army Capt. Thomas Piazza departed the Corps of Engineers' Honolulu District on January 6, 2006 for a six month assignment in Afghanistan to support the Global War on Terror he was eager to apply his military engineering expertise to reconstruction efforts in the war-torn country. Piazza was also curious where his knowledge would be applied and what impact it would make.

After finishing his assignment and returning to Hawaii, he said the Corps' efforts are making lasting impacts.

"In my opinion, besides the use of cars and cell phones, Afghanistan is probably very similar to where the United States was a century ago," Piazza said. "Whatever infrastructure they had before the Russian occupation and Taliban rule was brutally taken away from them. We are essentially helping them to rebuild a solid base after many years of neglect. The Corps and other U.S. agencies are providing much needed assistance by building those things that we take for granted back home."

"I feel I was able to directly impact the Afghan people by offering the hope of a brighter future."

--Capt. Thomas Piazza

After a brief processing stint at the CONUS Replacement Center at Fort Benning, Ga., he arrived in Afghanistan on January 23.

Piazza was assigned to the Corps' Khost field office, approximately 25 km (15 miles) from the Afghanistan/Pakistan border and was given the role of Project Engineer for the \$85 million Khost Afghan National Army (ANA) Brigade Facility.

"My duties as Project Engineer were to monitor our general contractor, Fluor Corporation, and make sure that they met all contractual obligations to the Corps," Piazza said. "I monitored schedule, Quality Assurance activities, monthly payments and contract modifications."



Capt. Tom Piazza stands (left) with three of the five workers of the Corps' Khost (Afghanistan) office. Next to Piazza are Staff Sgt. Stu Kuehl (second from left), Maj. Bob Corrales (kneeling) and Master Sgt. Mike Sage. Courtesy photo

"We lived and worked on the construction site in K-SPAN buildings that our general contractor Fluor built for the Corps. The site was approximately 30 minutes away from Forward Operating Base (FOB) Salerno, which was the nearest military installation.

Construction of the ANA Brigade Facility included everything from a power plant, water system and waste water treatment plant to a brigade headquarters complex and helipad.

"Our office was also assigned multiple other construction projects which included three road projects - two of which led to the Pakistan border and one that runs from Khost to Gardez - plus an Afghan National Police (ANP) station in Khost, several border control points and a future ANA Forward Operating Base," said Piazza. "Since our office only consisted of five Corps personnel, everyone had to help out a little with each project."

Contrary to what is often reported in the press, Piazza said that the Corps' and U.S. reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan are creating economic opportunities.

"I definitely feel that the Corps is making a dramatic impact on the lives of the Afghan people," he said. "Because of

our projects, our contractors were forced to use many of the local vendors for materials and supplies. As a result, we began to see more businesses created in the area. The establishment of the ANA and ANP facilities and the upgrading of the roads throughout the country will allow for businesses to safely grow outside of the city limits and into the smaller more rural areas. Transportation will become much better and it is only a matter of time before the outside world begins to see the economic and social impact that the U.S. has throughout the country."

Piazza added that despite what people hear in the media, the Afghanistan people are willing and eager to begin improving their country. He cites an example of how the Corps and construction efforts were making a good local impact.

"Our site was located between two villages that have fought for years over the land we were building on. In order to maintain peace between them, we would routinely invite the village elders to a sit down and talk about the projects and ensure them that we hired equal numbers of workers from each village. Fluor, our

(Continued on page 12)

RSM Workshop Showcases Potential Demonstration Areas

Story by Sarah H. Cox
Pacific Connection Editor

Honolulu District recently rolled its annual Southeast Oahu Regional Sediment Management (SEO/RSM) workshop out of the conference room and into the real world.

Workshop participants spent most of Aug. 23 touring the demonstration project area from Mokapu Point to Makapu'u Point on Oahu's southeast coast by bus. Co-sponsored by the Honolulu District and its partner the Department of Land and Natural Resource's Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL), the SEO/RSM workshop road trip made a 12-mile tour of the four potential demonstration project areas including Kaupo, Kaiona, and Kailua beaches as well as Bellows AFS, Lanikai and Ka'elepulu Stream.

This is the third year the District has hosted the workshop that focuses on identifying sources of sand, defining sediment transport pathways as well as trends in wind and wave climate.

Project Manager Tom Smith said hosting an educational workshop in the region being studied is a logical and natural thing to do. He says "workshops such these are important because education, awareness and partnerships are key elements in a successful RSM program."

This year's workshop participants included stakeholders and representatives from federal, state and local agencies as



At a stop on the Corps' Regional Sediment Management Workshop tour, Project Manager Tom Smith explains potential erosion control projects to local geoscientists and officials. Photo by Samantha Young

well as members of the local academic, engineering and planning community.

Participants were provided with a wealth of technical information to facilitate discussions and help them better understand the issues, constraints and opportunities within the region. The workshop also included informal discussions, updates on coastal processes, status of previous RSM studies and poster sessions utilizing the bus as a billboard.

According to Smith, regional management of sediment is especially crucial in Hawaii as it creates healthy beaches for shore protection, increases environmental habitat for coastal wildlife and decreases costs through coordination of activities. It also allows use of natural

processes to solve engineering problems and helps prevent storm and flood damage.

Workshop facilitators explained that improper management of sediment can be detrimental to the islands. Too much sediment can smother a reef and hinder navigation, while not having enough sediment can cause wetlands to disappear and beaches to erode. SEO/RSM allows Honolulu District the opportunity to work together with local partners to manage sediment that is vital to maintaining a healthy natural environment.

For more information about RSM visit the Honolulu District website at: <http://gis.poh.usace.army.mil/rsm/pages/index.htm>



Jacksonville District Lauds Civil Works Technical Branch Team

Hydraulic Engineers Jessica Hays (left) and Tom Smith and Civil Engineering Technician Jessie Dobinchick were recently recognized for their work as members of Jacksonville's "Team of the Month." The trio worked "virtually" with Florida as part of the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency 2006 Team after hurricanes had damaged shore protection projects along Florida's western coast. The team prepared three Project Information Reports providing vital assistance to Pinellas and Dade Counties.

Photo by Sarah H. Cox

Lt. Col. Charles Klinge Becomes 65th

Story by Honolulu District Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge became the 65th Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Honolulu District July 21 during a military ceremony held on Fort Shafter, Hawaii's famous Palm Circle parade field.

Pacific Ocean Division (POD) Commander, Brig. Gen. John W. Peabody, hosted the ceremony during which outgoing Commander Lt. Col. David E. Anderson and Klinge passed the guidon symbolizing the official change of command. Klinge and his family were presented with fresh flower leis, a Hawaiian symbol of welcome, and the Anderson family received leis as a tribute to their service.

Klinge assumed command from Anderson who left to become the legislative assistant to the Secretary of the Army, in Washington, D.C.

Klinge came to the District after serving as the Deputy District Commander of the Corps' New York District.

The Honolulu District is an organization of about 375 engineers, scientists and support staff located in Hawaii, Palau,



Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge addresses the guests assembled for the Change of Command Ceremony. Photo by Sarah H. Cox



Former Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. David E. Anderson, Pacific Ocean Division Commander Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge salute the colors during the Honolulu District Change of Command Ceremony at the historic Palm Circle. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

Guam, American Samoa, Kwajalein and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas. The 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. The District's current active program is valued at about \$2 billion.

Klinge began his military career with the 307th Engineer Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, serving as platoon leader and company executive officer during *Operation Just Cause* and *Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm*.

After completing the Engineer Officer Advanced Course, Klinge joined the Engineer Brigade staff of the 3rd Infantry Division in Wurzburg and Schweinfurt Germany and later served as the Assistant

Brigade Engineer. He commanded 'A' Company, 10th Engineer Battalion, later reflagged as the 9th Engineer Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, to include *Operation Joint Endeavor* in Bosnia.

This is Klinge's third tour with the Corps of Engineers. From 1999-2002, he served as Chief, Real Estate Division, Project Engineer and Project Manager, and Chief of Military and Support For Others Programs for the Los Angeles District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Klinge also served as the Executive Officer of the 8th Engineer Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division and the Baghdad Area Office Commander in the Central District, Gulf Region Division during *Operation Iraqi Freedom II* from 2002-2005.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (1OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (2OLC), Army Com-

5th Honolulu District Commander



er Brig. Gen. John W. Peabody and Honolulu
of Command Ceremony July 21 at Fort Shafter's



Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge, his wife Laurel and son pose for their first family photo in Hawaii after the Change of Command Ceremony. Photo by Sarah H. Cox

mendation Medal (2 OLC), and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (with Arrowhead Device).

Klinge is a graduate of the United States Military Academy and the U.S. Army Ranger and Jumpmaster Schools. He holds a Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Purdue University.

Prior to the change of command ceremony, Anderson received the Army Meritorious Service Medal from the POD Commander. Kara Anderson, the outgoing commander's wife, was presented the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal by Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon, the commander of the 25th Infantry Division.

Mixon lauded Kara Anderson's selfless service to the Army community at Schofield Barracks and praised her husband's exemplary leadership in guiding the Corps' support of Army Transformation.

Mixon said Lt. Col. Anderson's proactive efforts in coordinating construction of Army Transformation projects for the 25th ID and Pacific Army units were paying giant dividends now and will continue to do so in the future effectiveness of 25th ID Soldiers.

Mixon said the Corps' completion of the Battle Simulation Complex at Schofield Barracks made a difference in the way 25th ID Soldiers train for combat.

During his tenure, Anderson met the challenge of successfully leading the District in executing all mission requirements: military construction (MILCON), civil works, international and interagency services, real estate, regulatory, environmental services and emergency management support.

Throughout his tour of duty, Anderson led a highly motivated staff in support of U.S. Army military construction and transformation initiatives at Hawaii Army posts including completion of barracks renewal on Wheeler Army Air Field, the Battle Command Training Center, Information Systems Facility and Aviation Brigade Headquarters for the 25th Infantry Division.

Under Anderson's leadership, the District began military construction to support the new C-17s arriving in Hawaii

with the C-17 Squadron Operations Facility, the C-17 Simulator Facility, C-17 Maintenance Shops and the Hickam Air Force Base (Medical) Life-Skills Clinic.

In addition, the Honolulu District also provided significant civil works support to the State of Hawaii, specifically initiating reconstruction of Kaunala (Lanai) Harbor breakwater, completion of



Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon (left), the commander of the 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, presents the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal to Kara Anderson, the wife of Lt. Col. David E. Anderson (center), former Honolulu District Commander. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

dredging at the Kahului Small Boat Harbor, completion of the Moanalua Valley (Oahu) Rockfall Mitigation and an expansion to the ongoing Ala Wai Canal and Watershed Project study.

The District awarded more Civil Works and Interagency Service construction contracts during his tenure than in any comparable period in the past 10 years.

Through Anderson's leadership, the District's Emergency Management Division provided exemplary support for emergency response and interagency dam inspections for Hawaii after heavy rains in March 2006; Indonesian Tsunami support to USAID; support for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 and the Guinsaung, Leyte, Philippines mudslide in April 2006.

Corps Graduates First Class of UXO Technicians

Story by Honolulu District Public Affairs

Fourteen Island of Hawaii residents were recently graduated as level one unexploded ordnance technicians from the first-ever certified ordnance safety program class sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District. The class was held at Hawaii Community College in Hilo.

“The course was presented through a validated Department of Defense facility jointly developed by our Waikoloa contractor, American Technology Inc. (ATI) and the University of Tennessee,” said Honolulu District Waikoloa FUDS Project Manager Charles F. Streck, Jr.

All participants receive academic credit for the class through the University of Tennessee.

“We had great cooperative partnering from the Hawaii Community College/ University of Hawaii system, Parker Ranch and Strategic Solutions Inc., a non-profit Native Hawaiian advocacy group,” Streck said.

The training is paid for and sponsored through the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) program, administered by the Army Corps of Engineers for the Secretary of the Army. The training was presented as part of the institutional control program for the FUDS Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area project as a means to increase public awareness and sensitivity to the potential health and safety risks from unexploded ordnance on the Island of Hawaii and the Waikoloa-Waimea area specifically.

The six-week certified unexploded ordnance safety program results in students becoming certified level one unexploded ordnance technicians. Participants were encouraged to share all that they had learned from the class with their families and local communities in order to heighten public awareness and safety.

Before the current course was offered, training was only available at two certified ordnance safety programs located at Texas A&M University and the University of Tennessee. Because of the cost and time investment required, few local



A graduate of the first-ever certified ordnance safety program class sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District proudly displays his new level one unexploded ordnance technician t-shirt. The six-week program led students to become certified level one technicians. The graduation ceremony was held at Hawaii Community College in Hilo. Courtesy photo of ATI, Inc.

residents who expressed an interest in the UXO course had been able to attend. All graduates, if they choose, receive a certificate qualifying them to function as a UXO Tech I for unexploded ordnance projects.

The certification provides a journeyman-like status which qualifies a person to work on UXO projects, but provides no management-decision making authority. The class instruction program,



A student attending the ordnance safety program prepares his first shot on demolitions day. Photo courtesy of ATI, Inc.

however, was oriented towards satisfying the personal interest of local community members whether they wanted to use the education for vocational purposes or not. If people choose to continue this work as a vocation they can build up experience and expertise for advancement to UXO Tech job categories II & III, which affords management-decision making functions.

“Local training provided Hawaii residents an alternative from the associated travel costs and family separation and a somewhat expensive \$15,000, six-week training at Texas A&M University or the University of Tennessee,” said Clayton Sugimoto from Wil-Chee Associates, the primary contractor organizing the training.

“We were able to work with our local partners and ATI-UT in order to hold the training entirely on the Big Island, so lessening effects of absence on those participants with families and other urgent demands.”

The first class of UXO technicians is representative of a diverse local community including members of a variety of local ethnic communities including a large number of Native Hawaiians. Ages spanned from 19 to over 60 years. Graduates included a former fire chief from Waikoloa, a representative from the Hawaii County Police Dept. and Fire Dept.; homemakers; representatives from Native Hawaiian organizations; a small business owner and an airport security officer.

Engineers Provide Construction Quality Management Tips to Small Business Contractors

Story and photo by Sarah H. Cox
Pacific Connection Editor

Honolulu District engineers held an informational seminar in July for small business construction contractors on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Three-Phase Contractor Quality Control program.

Erick Kozuma, Chief, Technical Support Branch and Dickson Ma, Resident Engineer, Army/Civil Works Resident Office, conducted the session to assist small business leaders in removing some of the mystery surrounding the Corps' quality control program. The one-day seminar also provided details on the Corps' construction submittal preparation process.

"Good planning maximizes efficiency. Full and open communication is key to creating a win-win for the contractor and the government," Kozuma said.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers developed the three-phase quality control program which is mandated for use in all Corps and U.S. Navy Facilities Engineering Command projects.

Nearly 50 contractor personnel representing 17 small businesses attended the seminar and several contractors stated that they were grateful to have their more complex questions about the program answered in great detail.

According to Dickson Ma, each project is organized into three distinct phases for each definable feature of construction. The program makes sure all parties fully understand the requirement of the contract and assures that work preceding the upcoming work is compliant and that all materials to be incorporated and sample works are also compliant.

Ma says educating small business contractors is crucial because it helps develop a healthy competitive environment.

Kozuma has seen the success of the program.

"In the past we would sometimes find deficient workmanship and require the contractors to tear out and redo at their own expense," said Kozuma. "This wasted the contractor's money and impacted the project schedule. But now with our QC program, we



Erick Kozuma (standing left) and Dickson Ma (standing right) conduct a class at Fort Shafter for small business concerns.

expend the effort up front and ensure that the contractor understands what's required. This way, tear out and schedule impact has been greatly reduced, and most importantly, we are providing safe facilities for our Soldiers."

The program also entails assigning a Contractor QC System Manager (CQCSM) who has a minimum of five years of related experience to provide quality assurance at every stage of the construction process as well as follow-up inspections to ensure that continued compliance is achieved. From the beginning of the projects, the CQCSM engages the right expertise and fosters communications among all participants.

OSADBU Has a New Name:

The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSADBU) is now officially called the Office of Small Business Programs. The name change is mandated by Public Law 109-163, Section 904.

According to Honolulu District's Deputy for Small Business, Monica Kaji, the new name is a welcome change. The new name accurately reflects the program without having a negative connotation.

The Small Business Program came into being in 1942 with

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization becomes Office of Small Business Programs

the Small Business Mobilization Act. Congress declared that "a fair portion of the total purchases and contracts for supplies and services for the Government shall be placed with small business concerns."

Congress established the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Utilization to implement the functions of the Small Business Act. You may contact the Honolulu District Deputy for Small Business, Monica Kaji, at 438-8586 or email monica.a.kaji@usace.army.mil.



Chief Emergency Management Division Chief Joel Hendrix explains the Corps' support to FEMA during natural disasters. The Special Emphasis Program Committee organized two seminars where Hendrix explained the deployment process. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

Josette Pullen recognized for GWOT support



Technical Integration Group's Josette Pullen received a commander's coin from then Afghanistan Engineer District Commander Col. Christopher Toomey in August.

Pullen is currently serving a four-month tour at the Qalaa House Compound in Kabul, Afghanistan where the Geographer (GIS Analyst) is developing infrastructure maps and databases to support engineers in the field.

This is Pullen's second tour in support of the GWOT. In 2003 she deployed to Iraq. Read more about Pullen's Afghanistan experience in the next *Pacific Connection*.

Deployed to Afghanistan

(Continued from page 6)

general contractor, also went so far as to get together with the U.S. Army Civil Affairs Team and coordinate the construction of additional projects that equaled \$50,000 per village. We also had friends and families (in the U.S.) send us school supplies from home that we would then hand out to children at the local schools."

Piazzе said working with Corps civilians in the field was a pleasure.

"The professionalism and dedication of the civilians in Kabul helped us to successfully accomplish our missions and kept the projects moving forward," he said.

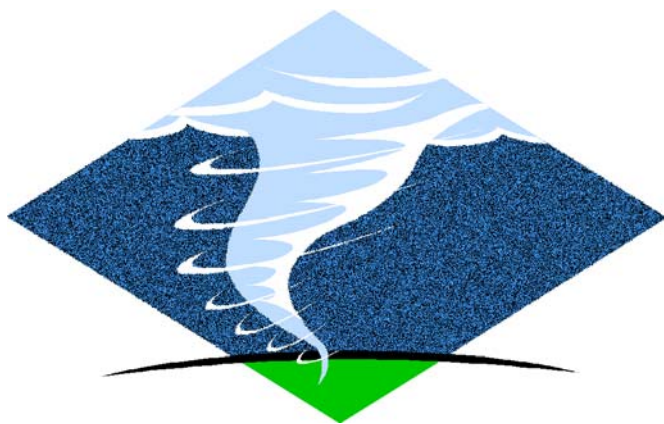
"We only had one USACE civilian working with us in the field. Since he was an electrical engineer, we valued his input throughout the site concerning electrical issues. We would often have to tap into the resources at the Afghanistan Engineer District headquarters in Kabul for help in specific areas."

Although the mission was stressful at times Piazzе said, "I would absolutely do it all over again."

"I am very proud of my service in Afghanistan," he said. "I feel I was able to directly impact the Afghan people by offering the hope of a brighter future. As Americans however, we can only build the foundation that is needed for growth. It's now up to Afghanistan to use the infrastructure we have provided and make the most of the opportunity. I am anxious to see how they will do in the future."

Piazzе encourages Honolulu District employees to take the opportunity to help make a difference and create economic and social opportunities where there have been none before.

"My deployment was an extremely rewarding experience that I am proud to have accomplished. I encourage each and every Corps employee to think about accepting the opportunity to represent the District in either Iraq or Afghanistan."



Hurricane Preparedness

Taking action in advance makes weathering the storm easier

Before Disaster Strikes

Although hurricane season is typically June to November, Hawaii's subtropical climate makes it susceptible to storms year-round. Officials from Hawaii Civil Defense recommend preparing for a storm well in advance:

1. Develop a family disaster plan
2. Prepare a disaster preparedness kit
3. Secure the inside of your home
4. Secure your home's outside items
5. Stay calm and informed

Honolulu District employees need to be sure to update their emergency notification information in ENGLink.

HiUSACE Program

During an emergency, Corps employees should call the following numbers for reporting instructions:

POH: 808-438-0385

USACE: 877-448-7223(HiUSACE)

Family Disaster Plan

Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Research your home's vulnerability to flooding and wind.

1. Locate a safe room in your home. The safest areas may not be your home but elsewhere in your community.
2. Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet.
3. Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact.
4. Make a plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate as most shelters will not accept pets.
5. Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones.
6. Make arrangements to safeguard your boats or watercraft.
7. Take photos of your valuables.
8. Take first aid, CPR and disaster preparedness classes.
9. Prepare a disaster kit and take it with you if you must evacuate.

Disaster Preparedness Kit

Prepare a box with:

1. Water - at least a gallon daily per person for up to a week.
2. Food - at least a week's worth of non-perishables.
3. Non-electric can opener.
4. Cooking tools / fuel.
5. Paper plates / plastic utensils.
6. Blankets, pillow, etc.
7. Clothing - rain gear, sturdy shoes.
8. First aid kit with prescriptions.
9. Items for babies or elderly.
10. Toiletries.
11. Flashlight with batteries.
12. Radio - battery-operated and/or NOAA weather radio.
13. Cash - banks may be closed.
14. Important documents sealed in a waterproof container or resealable plastic bag: insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.
15. Tools and
16. Pet care items including proper identification, immunization records, medications, food and water, a carrier or cage, muzzle and leash.

Plan Early For Evacuations

Gather information

Check the following websites for up to the minute information:

<http://www.fema.gov/plan/index.htm>

<http://www.scd.state.hi.us/>

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ocda/index.htm>

Have a place to go:

If you live in low lying areas or near the shore, try to stay with family or friends who live a safe distance inland.

If ordered to evacuate, follow orders from local officials. Leave early and be sure your car gas tank is filled with gas. Evacuation maps are located in the phone book or on the Civil Defense website: <http://www.honolulu.gov/ocda/maps.htm>

Secure your Home

Inside:

1. Tape glass windows with large X's to reduce shattering (this won't prevent breakage but may lessen hazard of flying glass).
2. Wedge sliding glass doors with a brace such as broom handle to prevent them from being ripped loose by the wind.
3. Close drapes and blinds for added protection.
4. Unplug all unnecessary appliances, shut off gas valves. If you are going to evacuate your home, shut off the main switches to electricity, gas and water.
5. Turn refrigerator to its highest setting.
6. Consider purchasing Federal Flood Insurance as flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.

Outside:

Before the storm arrives:

1. Take down or roll up and tie canvas awnings;
2. Board up windows with wood;
3. Check door locks to be sure they don't fail when high winds come;
4. Bring in all outdoor items and encourage your neighbors to do the same. Items can become dangerous projectiles during strong winds; and
5. Secure toxic or flammable items in a secure location.

Be Part of a Response Team

Prior to and after natural disasters, USACE is often called upon to assist in a disaster zone. Being part of a response team is rewarding and fast-paced. Update your Personal Data Sheet and medical screening in englinc. Contact Lolly Silva or Lincoln Gayagas, at 438-8367 for more information.

New Employees Get On-Site Orientation

Story by Sarah H. Cox
Photos by Debbie Alexander

New District employees spent three days in July learning about Honolulu District's many missions as part of the New Employee Overview Course.

The course, hosted by the Workforce Management Office, includes office visits, briefings, field trips and team building opportunities.

Workforce Management Specialist Debbie Alexander, said the course not only boosts camaraderie but helps employees acclimate quicker to their new jobs.

"It gives employees a chance to meet people from different offices and gives them an idea of how they fit into the organization," Alexander said.

Giving employees a well-rounded overview of the District's varied missions and projects requires a lot of work and coordination from the different offices, but according to Alexander, "it's worth it."

"Having such an intensive orientation sends a clear message to new employees that we have a sincere and vested interest in them," Alexander said.

Employees began the course by meeting the Deputy District Commander



RVC Park Ranger Garland Ireland (right) explains the Corps' Civil Works mission during the July POH Overview Course.



New employee Marc Murashige (left), Frank Ono, Allyn Tabata and new employee Jarrett Hara tour the Quad C renovation project on Schofield Barracks in July. The tour of ongoing projects is just one facet of the POH Overview course which gives new employees the opportunity to see some of Honolulu District's varied missions.

and Branch and Division Chiefs, visiting various offices and enjoying an entertaining *Learning Organization* presentation by Regional Leadership Development Program Advisor Gary Nip.

On the second day, employees learned about the Corps' past, present and future through a variety of interactive displays and state-of-the-art exhibits at the Pacific Regional Visitor Center in Waikiki. Located at historic Battery Randolph, the RVC serves as the Corps' museum hosting an average 1,200 visitors a month.

Employees toured several of the Corps' past and present projects on the last day of the course including Kaneohe-Kailua (KK) Dam on the Windward Coast and the Whole Barracks Renewal Project at Schofield Barracks.

Touring the District's current and finished projects leaves a lasting impression on new employees. Several commented that visiting KK dam was the highlight of the day.

"It's so beautiful, I can't believe I haven't been there before," wrote Department of the Army intern Jarrett Hara in an after-action survey. The dam,

completed in 1980, is estimated to have already saved millions of dollars in potential flood damage.

After viewing KK Dam, employees saw first-hand how the Corps is directly improving the quality of life for Hawaii's Soldiers. Employees traveled to Schofield Barracks to tour Quad C dormitory complex.

"It gave me a sense of how important our work really is," commented Jamie Adams, a new Real Estate Office employee.

Quad C is being renovated as part of the \$865 million Whole Barracks Renewal Program to upgrade more than 4,000 quarters for Soldiers at Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Airfield and Tripler Army Medical Center.

By the end of the course, most agreed it was a worthwhile three days. They not only made new friends and learned the different roles of the District, but also walked away with a sense of pride of knowing they've just joined an organization with a long, rich and successful history.

Employees of the Month



June

Lenora Okubo, Budget Analyst
Ms. Okubo develops and monitors the operating budgets for four administrative offices. She is the primary Programs, Budget, and Accounting System Terminal Area Security Officer for the District. She ensured seamless retrieval, distribution, and processing of 909 direct funding documents since FY02 totaling over \$820 million. She meets all suspense dates ahead of schedule. Her dedication and selflessness are truly admirable qualities and make her a great District asset.



June

Selma August, Palau RO Secretary
In her four years with the Palau Resident Office Ms. August has greatly improved the efficiency of the office. In addition to handling anything and everything needed for our visitors, she effortlessly processes all our training and travel needs. She handles her duties in a quiet and professional manner. She recently assumed additional duties assisting the QA office in compiling new spreadsheets when a coworker left. Her efforts make sure the Palau Office runs smoothly.



July

Myran Higa, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Higa recently developed several Excel spread sheets to allow for better tracking of training and miscellaneous expenditures. She often works long hours and weekends to execute these efforts. She does her job exceptionally well, and continues to support IM in researching information technology products and assisting in purchasing equipment for all of POH. Her years of service make her an outstanding District asset deserving of this recognition.



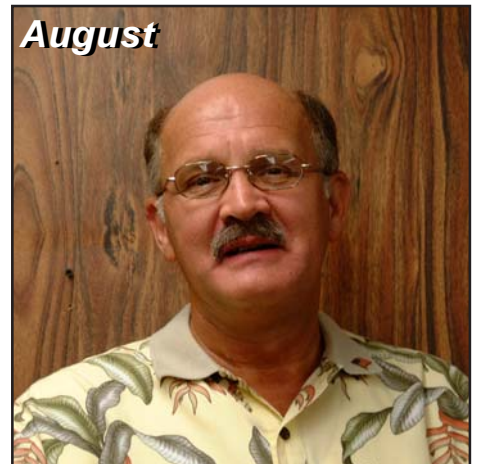
July

Beth Miura, Program Manager
Ms. Miura is the consummate professional of the PPM-D-NEPA Team. Her ability to form and lead multi-disciplined project teams has resulted in timely delivery of products and services. She also shares her wealth of experience by mentoring her fellow team members. This has greatly contributed to the success of peer projects and studies. Because of Beth's known value, she has accepted a job at our sister district in Japan. We are happy for her new opportunity and take comfort knowing she has return rights back to Honolulu!



August

Fran Kruse, Administrative Support
Ms. Kruse's outstanding administrative support for the Executive Office, Human Resources, Safety, Public Affairs, Equal Employment Opportunity and Small Business does not go unnoticed. Recently she accomplished the Executive Assistant's duties during her month-long absence. Ms. Kruse's role was also crucial to the success of the recent change of command. She created a database for the guest list which will be useful for a variety of requirements for years to come. Her many contributions reflect selfless devotion.



August

Richard Totten, Attorney
Mr. Totten's active involvement and efforts in examining and analyzing a potential Anti-Deficiency Act violation relating to the Wailoa River flood control project ensured that no fiscal law violation occurred. He gathered necessary facts needed to obtain additional funding from HQ, USACE thus preventing an over-obligation. His prompt, thorough and decisive actions helped the District team avert a serious fiscal law problem.

District Shorts

TIG Engineer Recognized by HGICC



Benton Ching, a Hydraulic Engineer with the Technical Integration Group was recently recognized by the President of the Hawaii Geographic Information Coordinating Council (HGICC) for his work in developing geospatial data sets for the State of Hawaii and the Pacific Basin.

His expertise was vital in producing geospatial products necessary for preparing and responding to natural disasters.

Ching also recently received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service for his extraordinary efforts in assuring the readiness of the District.

Aloha Means

Hello:

Kevin Khan, Nelson Lee, Barry Mishler, Rolf Ness, Rani Thomas, Alex Tseng and Allen Reyes

Good-bye:

Christi Shaw, Beth Miura and Nicholas Morikawa

Welcome Back:

Capt. Thomas Piazze has returned from Afghanistan and was recently lauded for his efforts in the GWOT and the response/recovery efforts for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Read about his tour in Afghanistan on page 6.

Congratulations:

Renee Kurashige has a new job with POD. Kurasige received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service for her exceptional service to the Logistics Management Office.

Chuck Streck was recognized by Patricia A. Rivers, Chief, CEMP-R, for his innovative approaches to clean-up at Waikaloa Maneuver Area on the Island of Hawaii.

Rich Carlile was lauded by Japan District Commander Col. Vasta for his recent legal support to JED.

25-Year Service Pins:

Brian Chung, Glenn Ishihara, David Kam, Sandy Kuioka, Randall Kurashige, Calvin Mashita, Jody Muraoka, Lawrence Onaka, Vecy Pascual, Clayton Sorayama, Francis Tonaki, Lawrence Uemura and Wayne Yamahsita.

Dave Tam Retires After 40 Years of Service



Congratulations to Information Technology Specialist Dave Tam, who retired Oct. 3. In his 40 years of government service he has been a part of a myriad of technological changes from teletype computers to the present digital age. He was instrumental in leading POH into the 21st Century.

Correction:

In the hardcopy version of the Fall Pacific Connection, we reported that John Briggs, currently assigned to the Louisville District, would be coming to the Honolulu District as the new Chief of the Engineering and Construction Division. This information was accurate when we went to press, but Briggs has since decided, for personal reasons, not to come to Honolulu. A replacement Chief will be selected and announced soonest.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
District, Honolulu
Building 230, CEPOH-PA
Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440

ATTN: Public Affairs Office