

Hagel, McHugh address concerns on gov. shutdown

KAREN PARRISH

American Forces Press Service

SEOUL, South Korea — The Defense Department and other government agencies responsible for national security will carry out their missions despite the government shutdown, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said, here, Tuesday.

While in the Asia-Pacific this week for high-level meetings, both here and in Japan, the secretary sat down with reporters traveling with him to explain what is known, and what isn't, as nonessential government services are temporarily mothballed.

The secretary said he left Monday night's state dinner honoring the U.S.-South Korea

See SHUTDOWN, A-6

RELATED STORY

• See page A-2 for a listing of what's open or closed.



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

OCT 01 2013

To the men and women of the United States Army:

It is with deep sadness that I write you regarding the government-wide shutdown, and the actions the Department of the Army must now take to come into compliance. This great disruption of our operations was made necessary after Congress failed to enact either a FY 2014 budget or a temporary funding measure that would have allowed normal operations to continue after the 2013 fiscal year ended on September 30.

While Congress and the President have taken prudent steps to protect military pay for our men and women in harm's way, our civilian workforce will likely be deeply and personally impacted. A large number of our civilian workforce will be temporarily furloughed beginning today. As Secretary of Defense Hagel noted recently, decisions about who will be furloughed are dictated solely by law. Please know that if you are furloughed, it in no way diminishes the importance of your work to the Army or our mission.

Coming so soon after a six-day furlough required by budget sequestration, this furlough will create a tremendous hardship on both our workforce and their families. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers, and that we hope for a speedy resolution to this impasse. Thank you for all you have done, and will continue to do, for the United States Army.

Sincerely,

John M. McHugh
John M. McHugh

Warriors compete for EIB; 12 earn title of 'True Blue'

Story and photo by
SGT. DANIEL JOHNSON

2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — More than 900 Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team and 3rd BCT competed for the Expert Infantryman's Badge (EIB), here, the week of Sept. 27.

The EIB is awarded to Soldiers who have mastered the requirements of being an infantryman, which include completing 30 different tasks and a 12-mile foot march.

Those who complete this trial without a single failure or restart earn the title of "True Blue."

"A total of 935 started this quest, and 158 finished and were awarded the coveted Expert Infantryman's Badge," said Command Sgt. Maj. Benjamin Jones, senior enlisted adviser, 25th ID. "Of those, only 12 earned 'True Blue.'"

Soldiers named "True Blue" belong to the 1 percent, the elite of the Infantry.

Those Soldiers, such as Spc. Paulo David, an infantryman with 1st Battalion, 14th Inf. Regiment, 2nd SBCT, have shown that they are truly proficient experts in their field and have proven themselves to be the best there is.

"The EIB sets us apart. There are not a lot of junior enlisted who have earned the EIB," said David. "It makes us look more professional in our career field."

"It sets a Soldier up as a leader," added 1st Sgt. Derrick Garner, first sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd SBCT.

"That's what a young Soldier needs to see — leaders who have been there and done that, so they can push those personal experiences down to the younger Soldiers," Garner stated.

While Soldiers in other military occupations can compete and earn the EIB, only Infantry Soldiers may wear the award.

"Everyone can go out for the EIB, but only a select few will actually earn it," said Garner. "It sets the tone for young Soldiers. If they can complete this, the sky is the limit."

The EIB isn't just another award for the Soldier, nor is it something merely to add to a record. The EIB is an integral part of the Infantry life and shows Soldiers are prepared to lead fellow Soldiers into combat with the skills they have learned.

"The Expert Infantryman's Badge is more than just a piece of iron that sits upon your chest," said Jones. "It is a symbol of excellence and a testament of a true infantryman."



Senior leaders and officers from 8th TSC and the 25th ID's 2nd SBCT, 3rd BCT and 25th CAB will provide presence and help enforce good order and discipline to strengthen communities, beginning Monday. (Photo by Sgt. Matthew Ryan, 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs)

Courtesy patrols to enforce Army regulations, standards

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION PUBLIC AFFAIRS
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The 25th Infantry Division is scheduled to begin courtesy patrols, here, and on Wheeler Army Airfield, Monday, to increase safety awareness and enforce Army regulations, policies and standards.

The courtesy patrol is an extension of Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller, senior commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, and commander, 25th ID, and Command Sgt. Maj. Benjamin Jones, senior enlisted adviser, 25th ID, to straightforwardly enforce regulations and policies outlined in the Army Regulations, the Commanding General's Standards of Conduct Memorandum and the 25th ID Blue Book.

The courtesy patrol will inform and educate leaders, Soldiers and their families to the policies provided in these publications, and establish a safe environment conducive to good order and discipline.

"The courtesy patrol will help build the resiliency by showing what right looks like and providing a greater presence, making our military community stronger," said Sgt. Maj. Robert Parker, provost sergeant major, 25th ID.

"Soldiers need the right example to become better leaders, and this will spread to within their ranks, units and, ultimately, to the community," Parker added.

Courtesy patrol teams will consist of senior leaders and officers from the 25th ID's 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 3rd BCT, 25th Combat Aviation Bde. and the 8th Theater Sustainment Command, who will patrol high-traffic areas. These areas will include facilities, family housing areas and common areas, such as the commissary and Army Exchange stores, here, and on WAAF.

"The presence of a patrol in military housing will definitely deter anyone from trying to commit a crime, and that makes me feel safer, espe-

cially when my husband is out working," said Tiffany Andrews, wife of Spc. Ratiguel Andrews, Military Police, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery, 2nd SBCT.

Andrews is looking forward to seeing the patrols start, here, and the effects it will have on the community.

While on patrol, the teams will look for discrepancies in uniforms and civilian dress codes, Soldiers not in compliance with haircut regulations, loud music being played and use of profanity in family and common areas, all in accordance with garrison policies and the 25th ID Blue Book.

Courtesy patrollers will stop the offending party and make on-the-spot corrections and explain the discrepancy.

"It will be good to see Soldiers, families and civilians adhering to the policies and standards concerning the dress codes within the commissary," said Sgt. 1st Class Kendrick Bryant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd BCT. "It will be good to see Soldiers helping Soldiers building a stronger community for our families."

"I have been to other installations that have a courtesy patrol and seen the success," Parker added. "You could see a positive effect within the communities."

Parker also noted he has had civilians on previous posts say that Soldiers are staying out of trouble and following the standards.

"It will have a positive effect that you will be able to start to see within the first 30 days of being activated," Parker said.

Courtesy patrol teams work in conjunction with the MPs, the Provost Marshal Office, the Directorate of Emergency Services and USAG-HI.

The patrol also plans to work with community neighborhood watch programs for a greater effect on the community.



Command Sgt. Maj. Benjamin Jones (left), senior enlisted adviser, 25th ID, awards the EIB to Spc. Paulo David, infantryman, 1-14th Inf. Regt., 2nd SBCT, 25th ID, during an awards ceremony, Sept. 27. David also received an Army Commendation Medal for being "True Blue."



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U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII SERVICES, PROGRAMS IMPACTED BY GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII
Public Affairs Office

About 44 percent of the installation's employees are on the job providing essential life, safety and health services and programs throughout the government shutdown.

Specifically, fire and emergency services; law enforcement; Directorate of Public Works contracts that impact life, safety and health; and most of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities are continuing.

However, some family programs and Army Community Service will offer a reduced level of service.

Open

- ACAP Services
- Airfield Safety
- Army Emergency Relief
- Arts & Crafts Center
- BOSS
- Bowling
- Child Development Centers
- College Courses
- Educational Testing
- Employee Assistance
- Family Advocacy
- Family Child Care
- Family Housing

- Golf
- High School Completion
- Kennels
- Leisure Travel
- Official Mail
- Personnel Processing
- Physical Fitness Centers
- Postal Operations
- Post Exchange
- Religious Support Office
- Restaurants
- School Age Care
- SHARP
- Shoppettes
- Soldier and Family Assistance Center
- Suicide Prevention
- Tropics Warrior Zone
- Tuition Assistance
- Victim Advocacy

Reduced/Minimal Services

- Airfield Operations
- Army Community Service, Bldg. 2091, Schofield
- Auto Skills Center, Schofield Barracks
- Command Information, Public Affairs Office
- DEERS/ID Cards
- Defensive Driving
- Emergency Operations Center

- Exceptional Family Member Program
- Fort Shafter Library (weekends)
- Installation Operations Center
- Legal
- Photo Support
- Radiation Protection
- Schofield Library (weekdays)

Closed

- Army Community Service, Bldg. 647, Schofield
- Army Community Service, Fort Shafter
- Auto Skills Center, Fort Shafter
- Commissary
- Computer Labs
- Education Counseling
- Equal Employment Opportunity Office
- Garrison Administration
- Information & Referral
- Internal Review Office
- Plans, Analysis & Integration Office
- Public Affairs Office
- Religious Education
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- School Liaison Services
- SKIES
- S-6/Information Management Office

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BACKTObASICS

Leader shares advice on Army drawdown

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JAMES WADSWORTH

1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment
2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team
25th Inf. Division

Over the past 13 years, the Army has changed from an Army at peace to a force fully engaged in two theaters of war.

During those years, the Army has increased its numbers to maintain the momentum of fighting an elusive enemy.

Now, with the success in Iraq and the timeline for pulling U.S. forces out of Afghanistan, our government and military leaders are looking at combating a new threat — the budget.

The Army will drawdown from 570,000 to 490,000 active duty Soldiers over the course of the next four years. The apprehension many leaders may have about who will go and who will stay certainly raises many concerns.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler has stated, "The No. 1 thing I want people to understand about the drawdown is that this is going to affect one in 10 people in our Army."

Leaders must accept and embrace the reduction; this will facilitate communicating its importance while creating a unified coalition.

The Army has gone through force reductions in the past and survived. This presents an opportunity to trim the troublemakers and Soldiers who are comfortable with barely meeting the standard.

The Department of the Army will provide the strategy as translated from a statement made by Chandler.

"The privilege to serve will become more difficult. Standards will increase," he said. "And to drawdown the force, the Army will use multiple tools, including fewer new recruits, tougher retention standards and early retirements."

Leaders at the organizational and tactical levels must incorporate this strategy into counseling, conveying the message that, despite an individual's desire to serve, they must stay competitive to continue serving.

As leaders evaluate a Soldier's potential for continued service, they must use a holistic approach: Evaluate the whole Soldier on their ability to adhere to standards, potential, competence, character and duty performance.

Since the Army primarily operates at a brigade-centric level, tactical leaders will have the biggest impact on influencing those who stay and those who go. Squad leaders, platoon sergeants and first sergeants will play an instrumental role in advising commanders on determining the best qualified for promotion and retention. Their knowledge and invested interest in the Soldiers they lead will prove paramount to the future of a maintaining a quality force.

Leaders will have the ability to focus on training those who really want to serve for all the right reasons, as opposed to dealing with those with substandard performance.

For the Army, the desired end-state is a smaller, quality force with a change in culture. The new culture is an ideology that service in the Army is a privilege, not an entitlement.

The parallels between the business world of leadership and the Army have many similarities in the methods of affecting change. When a business must reduce its workforce to meet requirements to survive in the economy, business leaders look at what is best for the company.

The Army, too, needs to accept this approach. It is nothing personal; it is purely professional.

Those currently serving have an obligation to continue the legacy of passing on a force that is the best in the world. As alliances grow with the conduct of operations done on a combined and or joint force level, the importance of a quality force representing the U.S. Army is paramount to mission success.



Wadsworth

7 STEPS in FAITH

Who is your moral guide?

CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.) DONALD EUBANK

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii



Eubank

On a recent family trip, I noticed my briefcase was unusually heavy.

Sitting at the airport while waiting for our flight, I took the time to do a quick inventory of my overweight bag; the evidence was overwhelming that I was carrying around plenty of "clutter" that needed to be dumped.

As I cleaned out my briefcase, I found three different envelopes and one napkin with scribbled directions, in my handwriting. These old notes were the telltale documentation that I hate getting lost.

I prefer to have clear guidance of where I am going, especially when I am doing the driving.

No one has recently called me "directionally challenged," but the truth is, I do not have an innate sense of which way is north. I frequently find myself looking for geographical landmarks to orient myself to north, south, east and west.

Not only do I want to know where I am going, I hate asking for directions. It may be a "guy thing" for me, but I think that depending on my wife to always know the "way" to where we're driving is a sign of weakness. Therefore, I take the initiative.

In recent years, MapQuest had become my friend — until my first Android phone. Now, Google Maps and I are best buddies. I type in my destination address, and off I go, with my cell phone announcing "in one-quarter mile, turn right on Middle Street." Thanks to my Droid, and its navigation software, I almost never make wrong turns anymore.

In a similar way, I often check my spiritual compass as I navigate through life.

A wise proverb says, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end, it leads to death."

Simply put, I am not always the best judge of the direction I should take in

life. I don't think any of us are. That is a sobering reality, one that my accountability partners and I often reflect on.

Another ancient proverb says, "A man who trusts his own advice is trusting a fool, but those who walk in the wisdom of counselors are safe."

We all need an objective source of accountability to keep us on track, morally and spiritually.

I meet each week for one hour with six men who I consider trusted brothers. We've been meeting for five years. These men often provide a sanity check on the moral and spiritual issues of my life related to my marriage, family and profession. Together, we have established honesty, openness and transparency in an accountability relationship.

"We all need an objective source of accountability to keep us on track, morally and spiritually."

In this relationship of accountability, I've found a great source of encouragement and confidence.

Who are you accountable to? Do you have trusted friends with whom you regularly meet to get a "reality check" on the big issues of your life?

Is there anyone who has your permission to speak words of correction into your life to prevent you from making horrible mistakes?

It is a wise man or woman who has cultivated such trusted relationships.

If you don't have someone who is checking your moral compass, I encourage you to take steps this week to recalibrate your personal integrity.

We will all benefit by considering how such virtues as integrity, responsibility, compassion and forgiveness could impact our personal decision-making processes.

We might even find ourselves writing some key ideas on the back of an old envelope.

USE YOUR HEAD



WEAR A HELMET

Voices of Ohana

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 6-12.
"How can people prevent fires from starting in the kitchen?"

Photos by 500th Military Intelligence Brigade Public Affairs

RELATED STORY
• See p. B-1 for more on fire prevention.



"People can prevent fires in the kitchen by just being aware of what they're doing and not being complacent"

Spc. Ian Duprey
Chaplain assistant, 715th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.



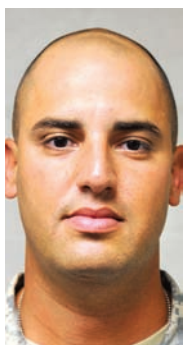
"People can prevent fires in the kitchen by watching their food while they are cooking."

Spc. Porshea Harrell
HR specialist, HOC, 715th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.



"Don't leave the kitchen unattended."

Sgt. Ming Ng
Signals intelligence analyst, HOC, 715th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.



"Don't use your phone while you're cooking."

Sgt. Carlos Perez
Supply specialist, HOC, 715th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.



"By being aware of the food that's cooking and checking their food every five minutes."

Spc. Jordan Scott
HR specialist, HOC, 715th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.

USAG-HI, ohana of fallen commemorate sacrifice

Ceremony unites Gold Star mothers, family members

Story and photos by
JACK WIERS

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

HONOLULU — After a rainy beginning to the morning, Sunday, the skies over the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, here, suddenly cleared, just in time for the start of a lei of honor and remembrance ceremony at the bottom of the Punchbowl stairs.

The invocation offered by Chaplain (Col.) Peter Mueller, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, summed up, for many, the sacrifice and purpose of the Gold Star mothers and families remembrance gathering.

"These Gold Star family members will never forget the tremendous cost this day represents," said Mueller.

Families of the fallen had gathered for the annual commemorative ceremony and lei offering through the efforts of USAG-HI's Survivor Outreach Services program.

Lis Olsen heads the garrison program and is, herself, a Gold Star mother of a son, Cpl. Toby Olsen, who died while serving in Iraq in 2007.

"It's the service members' service that we are honoring, and the families grieve," Olsen said. "This offers a time for healing."

The ceremony began at the base of the Lady Columbia statue, itself a symbol of sacrifice representing all grieving mothers of the armed forces, watching over the fallen.

"Each year on this special day, families and friends come together to honor and remember their loved ones, and know that they will never be forgotten," said Col. Daniel Whitney, commander, USAG-HI.

The Gold Star symbol was first officially approved by President Woodrow Wilson during World War I when family members began displaying blue stars at homes, places of business, churches and schools to denote active duty military family members.

Gold stars were displayed to signify family members who had made the ultimate sacrifice while in service for their country.

Survivor Outreach Services

Learn more about the Army's SOS at (855) 707-2769 or www.sos.army.mil.

In 1936, President Franklin Roosevelt designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mother's Day. In 2012, Gold Star Mother's Day was changed to become Gold Star Family's Day.

As part of Sunday's ceremony, here, family members of the fallen led a procession up to the fountain base of the Lady Columbia, where they presented a long maile lei, along with boots from fallen family members and gold flowers during a ceremonial blessing.

As the ceremony came to a close, portions of Mueller's invocation remained fresh in the minds of those assembled.

"Bless these families," Mueller said. "Be with them in their sorrow, be with them in their solemn pride, and be with them in our gratitude for what they have given us."



Tia Briggs, wife of fallen Air Force Staff Sgt. Raymond Briggs, presents her husband's boots at the feet of the Lady Columbia as son Kai looks on.



Family members of the fallen, along with USAG-HI leaders, pause at the base of the Lady Columbia statue, the site of the lei presentation at the lei of honor and remembrance ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Sunday.



Col. Daniel Whitney, commander, USAG-HI, offers comments in his speech to Gold Star mothers and families during the ceremony.



A lei wreath, studded with gold flowers, along with boots of the fallen, sit before the Lady Columbia statue as a tribute to sons and daughters lost during combat.

Registration open for marksmanship competition

Story and photo by
MICHAEL MOLINARO

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs

FORT BENNING, Ga. — The U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit (USAMU), in conjunction with the Maneuver Center of Excellence, will host the 2014 U.S. Army Small Arms Championships, here, Jan. 26-Feb. 1, 2014.

The “All-Army” competition is open to all Soldiers, active and reserve component, of all ranks, including West Point and Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets.

The USAMU hosts the annual event in order to raise the standard of marksmanship across the force and increase overall Army combat readiness. There is no cost to compete in the championship, and ammunition is provided to all competitors.

USAMU Soldiers will conduct small arms firing schools and hands-on training prior to each match. Instructors include Olympians, as well as world, national and interservice champions.

As the Army’s critical intent is to develop combat firing skills at the entry and intermediate level (as well as recognizing superior skill at the

Resources

For additional information and to register, contact Michael Behnke, the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit chief of competitions, at (706) 545-7841, or visit the USAMU website at www.usamu.com.

highest levels), Soldiers will compete in separate Cadet, Novice, Open and Pro classes, based on their competition experience.

Soldiers will fire M-16 or M-4 service rifles at distances between 25-500 yards and M-9 pistols between 7-35 yards in a variety of courses of fire. There also is a combined arms match, where competitors employ the rifle and pistol in a number of exciting stages of fire that simulate close-quarters marksmanship.

During the pistol and rifle matches, there will be an Excellence-in-Competition (EIC) match, where all Soldiers can earn points toward their EIC Marksmanship Badges. The prestigious EIC badge takes precedence over standard qualification badges.

In addition to individual awards, battalion-



Soldiers from across the force compete in the EIC rifle match during the 2013 U.S. Army Small Arms Championships, earlier this year. The military’s premier training event consists of rifle, pistol and combined arms matches, testing Soldiers’ marksmanship ability against their peers and providing them the tools to take back to their units to enhance overall combat readiness throughout the Army.

level and up teams can compete for team awards and unit recognition.

Range capacity for this event is 240 partici-

pants; early registration is encouraged. Once registration exceeds that number, Soldiers will be placed on a stand-by list for the competition.

CPX strengthens military bonds

STAFF SGT. SEAN EVERETTE

2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

LAPANGAN TERBANG CAMP, Malaysia — The nations of Lanuland and Struland have a fragile peace, and they have been separated by a demilitarized zone (DMZ).

Malaysia borders these countries on the north and east, and has combined with the U.S. to form the 6th Multinational Brigade (MNB) in order to perform peacekeeping operations between the two countries.

Just as a plan has been formed to end the conflict and phase out the DMZ, a terrible earthquake strikes Malaysia. The Malaysian military has to pull out of the 6th MNB, and the U.S. commits to helping its Malaysian partners.

Thankfully, there really is no earthquake or conflict, or even countries called Lanuland and Struland.

This scenario is just what the U.S. and Malaysian militaries worked through for the Command Post Exercise (CPX) during Keris Strike 13, here, recently.

Keris Strike is an exercise of the U.S. Army-Pacific-sponsored Theater Security Cooperation Program conducted annually with the Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF).

This year marks the 17th time the two countries have partnered for this exercise.

The main purpose of Keris Strike is to strengthen the military-to-military ties between the U.S. and MAF while conducting peace support operations and humanitarian assistance/disaster relief, as well as medical first responder and counter-IED training. The CPX acts as the capstone for the entire event.

“This is just one step in our evolution, making us a better combat force,” said Maj. Colin Davis, civil affairs officer, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.

“Being that the 25th ID is in the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility, it only makes sense to work with the Malaysians,” Davis continued. “They’re a very strong,

capable military, and if anything were to happen in the Pacific area, the U.S. and the Malaysians would both react.

“Anything we can do to build that relationship — know how each other works, build that partnership — is only going to benefit us in the future,” Davis added. “If something unfortunate happens and we’re forced to use our military might, we know that we have our brothers and sisters from Malaysia on our left and that they are a competent force we can work with and succeed with.”

During the CPX, both countries had the opportunity to observe how the other country worked through various issues that arose.

“From one country to another country, we should have this kind of exercise to enhance our knowledge, especially in a military way,” said Capt. Nur Izanny binti Iyni, intelligence officer, 6th Inf. Bde., 2nd ID. “Even though we are not using the same doctrine as you, we can still learn from each other, and the doctrine is not too different, so we get an overview of how you do things, and you see how we do things.”

The CPX was more than just a chance for Americans to learn from Malaysians; it also was a chance to brush up on working with the United Nations, something the U.S. hasn’t done much over the past decade of war.

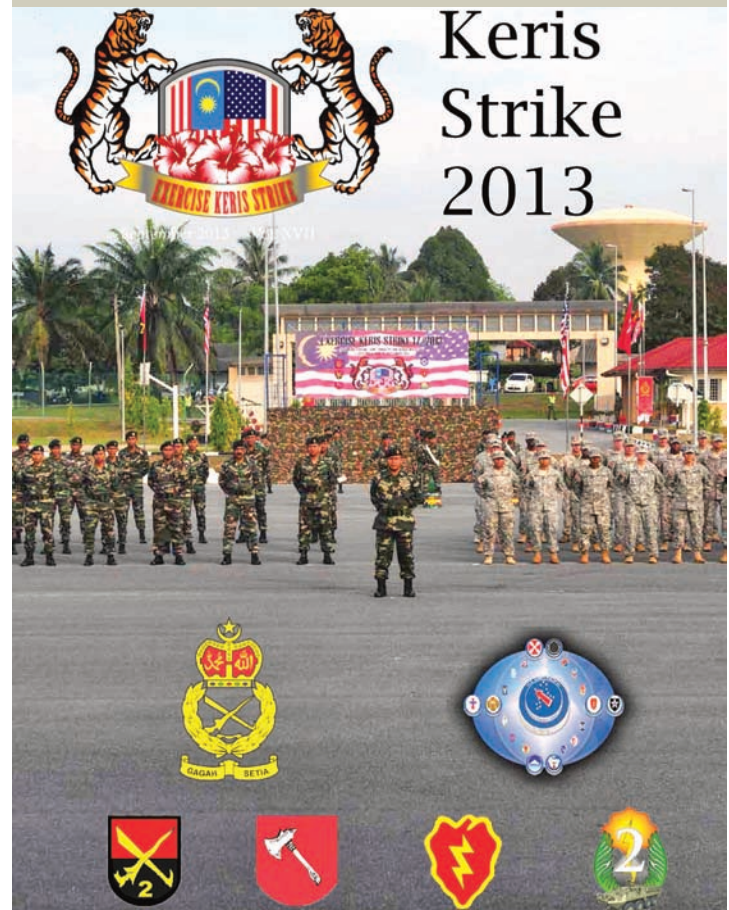
“Many of the Malaysian officers have experience in Timor and Lebanon and bring a knowledge of UN peacekeeping operations and how the United Nations works,” Davis said.

“We haven’t participated in operations like that in many years,” Davis added, “so, as they learn about our staff processes and how we operate, we’re absorbing their knowledge about other types of missions in the world.

“It’s a learning experience on both sides,” Davis noted.

This sharing of knowledge and strengthening of bonds is what makes the CPX and Exercise Keris Strike a success, year after year.

COVER SHOT



The 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, depicts the events of Keris Strike 2013 with photography and news articles in this magazine. Visit www.facebook.com/25thid/ for link. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sean Everette, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division)

Exercise Keris Strike 2013 proves successful, again

MASTER SGT. RODNEY JACKSON
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

LAPANGAN TERBANG CAMP, Malaysia — Keris Strike, an annual, bilateral U.S. Army-Pacific exercise between the U.S. and Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF), and a very important event for the Asia-Pacific region within the U.S. Pacific Command's area of responsibility, came to an end, here, Sept. 27.

This exercise was the 17th iteration of the U.S. and Malaysian joint exercise, which contributes to a regional peacekeeping capability in Asia, and in turn helps both groups grow closer each year.

During the final ceremony of the exercise, Maj. Gen. Gary Hara, deputy commander, Army National Guard, USARPAC, spoke on behalf of Gen. Vincent Brooks, commander, USARPAC.

In his speech, Hara thanked the 2nd Division of the MAF for setting the bar high for this event, and for its hospitality, professionalism and friendship.

"Your combined efforts over the last two weeks, and really, over the last 17 years, underscore that," Hara said. "Keris Strike makes a vital contribution every year to building capacity for



Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Leota (left), senior enlisted leader, USARPAC, and Staff Sgt. Christopher Kidd (right), trainer at the Asia-Pacific C-IED Fusion Center, observe Malaysian soldiers as they go through one of the STX lanes as part of C-IED training during Keris Strike 13, Sept. 26. (Photo by Staff Sgt. William Sallette, U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs)

the spirit of partnership. I remain confident in the trust and professional expertise shared between our countries."

The two-week exercise focused on three major components: Medical First Responder (MFR) training, counter-improvised explosive device training and a Command Post Exercise (CPX).

Thirty paramedics and seven doctors participated in the MFR training,

and 120 MAF Soldiers took part in the counter-IED training, which culminated with a challenging lanes test that tested participants' newly learned and polished pre-exercise skills.

"In addition to the regularly scheduled training, the MAF medical team identified training on advanced medical skills that are not normally taught, but learned from experience," said

Capt. Yolanda Benson, commander, Company C, 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Bde. Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.

"The MAF has established our own mobile training team in order to train our Soldiers to prepare them before they go on a mission," added Maj. Lani Suraihan, chief of instruction, MAF Engineering School, 8th Squadron,

Royal Engineer Regiment, 3rd Div.

"Our military is still involved in peacekeeping operations, so we will have the capability to train our own soldiers," Suraihan said. "However, we still need partner nation training programs."

A brigade- and battalion-level staff exercise, the CPX was equally challenging, as participants focused on peace support operations and training based on UN training standards, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

"The exercise mission gives us the opportunity to look at problems that aren't in high-combat operations," said Col. Thomas Mackey, commander, 2nd SBCT. "It gives us realistic concepts that we may face, like natural occurring events."

Mackey added that this exercise is the perfect opportunity to learn from Malaysians who have more experience in humanitarian disaster response.

"The exercise has gone extremely well, and not just based on performance in terms of combined staff," Mackey said. "The MAF and U.S. are truly working as partners and with teamwork. I'm mostly proud of the teamwork between the two Armies."

Warriors train Malaysian medics in latest procedures

STAFF SGT. WILLIAM SALETTE
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

LAPANGAN TERBANG CAMP, Malaysia — Trainers from the U.S. Army certified 37 medical personnel from the Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF) in the Medical First Responders (MFR) course during the Keris Strike 13 exercise, here, Sept. 23.

The MFR course is modeled after the Army's Combat Life Saver course and is a major part of the MAF training program during Keris Strike, a U.S. Army-Pacific and MAF bilateral Theater Security Cooperation Program event that strengthens the two countries' capabilities in military-to-military cooperation while focusing on international peace support operations.

Each year, the MAF selects a differ-

ent unit and sends the best medical personnel from that unit to attend the course.

The course is similar each year, but with changes in technology and practices, the training allows new students the opportunity to gain the most current knowledge and then transfer that information to the Soldiers in their units.

"Combat medicine is ever-changing," said Capt. Yolanda Benson, commander, Company C, 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Bde. Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. "We adapt procedures all the time to ensure that we are providing the best care possible, and that is what we want to provide the MAF soldiers with each year."

MAF soldiers deploy on multiple peacekeeping missions every year, and because of their position in the Pacific, they must always be ready to provide disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.

In MFR training, MAF soldiers learn how to control bleeding, open and manage a casualty's airway, and other tactical casualty combat care.

The consolidated, 40-hour course culminated with the soldiers conducting testing lanes, where they would have to react to a number of situations and use what they had been taught to assist the casualties before them.

"Even from the first day of instruction, we quickly realized that there wouldn't be any barriers to overcome," said Benson.

"The students immediately picked up on the course material, and all had a good time during the course," Benson added.

Following certification, Army Soldiers conducted additional training on burns, hot- and cold-weather injuries, snake and insect bites, and then discussed case studies from Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Many of our deployments are under the United Nations, and they require us to partner with many nations, including the U.S.," said Capt. Nor Hidayah, with the MAF Sick Center.

"This training will better prepare us for those missions, because we now have the knowledge and techniques that are used to better manage the patient care," Hidayah concluded.



MAF soldiers carry a patient by litter after a simulated attack during the MFR course. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sean Everette, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division)

25th ID's Ramirez, son honor their Hispanic heritage

SGT. MATTHEW RYAN

25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Every year, from Sept. 15-Oct. 15, the U.S. recognizes the contributions and the cultural heritage of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

"It is great that we can recognize the contributions and sacrifices that have been made by Hispanics who help shaped the United States to what it is today," said Staff Sgt. Carlos Ramirez Jr., headquarters commandant, Operations Company, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 25th Infantry Division. "I am very proud of my culture and to be serving in the Army."

Recently, Ramirez and his son, Carlos Ramirez III, volunteered to help lay some of the hundreds of new brick pavers that expanded the courtyard adjacent to the "Unified Through Sacrifice Memorial" at the 25th ID Headquarters building, here. The memorial consists of bronze statues of four Soldiers, each in a uniform from a different wartime era, and honors the men and women who have served in World War II, the Korea and Vietnam conflicts, and Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The first statue represents the Global War on Terrorism and is modeled after Sgt. James Rivera, who served with Co. A, 2nd Battalion, 35th Inf. Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th ID. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with valor, the Soldiers Medal and the Purple Heart for his contributions while serving in the Tropic Lightning Division.

"I felt a lot of pride to have helped with the memorial, knowing I was able to give something

back to our past heroes," Ramirez said. "Knowing that Sgt. Rivera gave so much to the Army and that the memorial has his face as part of the statue is a great feeling."

The new expansion doubles the size of the previous footprint of the memorial, allowing for more room to pay tribute to Soldiers, past and present.

"Honoring our past heritage is very important for me and my family, and seeing my son take part in this gave me immense gratification," Ramirez said, adding that his son has a great appreciation for the military and felt a great honor in helping with the expansion of the memorial, as well.

"Knowing that the memorial (will) be around one day for his children to come and look at gives him a sense of belonging to the 25th ID and the U.S. Army," Ramirez said.

A replica of the memorial is scheduled to be dedicated at the Walk of Honor, next to the National Infantry Museum in Fort Benning, Ga., Oct. 17.

National Hispanic Heritage Month began in 1968 under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded under President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a full 30 days.

The observance starts Sept. 15, because that date is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile's independence days are on Sept. 16 and Sept. 18, respectively.

Also, within the 30-day period is Columbus Day, or Dia de la Raza, which is Oct. 12.



Staff Sgt. Carlos Ramirez Jr., headquarters commandant, Operations Co., HHBN, 25th ID, and his son, Carlos Ramirez III, lay new brick pavers at the 25th ID Headquarters to expand the courtyard adjacent to the "Unified Through Sacrifice Memorial," recently. (Photo courtesy 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs)

Shutdown: 'Priority' to call back DOD civilians, Hagel says

CONTINUED FROM A-1

alliance, at which he spoke, "a little early" for a teleconference with Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter, comptroller Bob Hale and acting general counsel Robert Taylor.

During that conversation, he said, the four discussed possibilities for minimizing the shutdown's effects on some 400,000 civilian employees who will be furloughed.

"Our uniformed military are taken care of" and will be paid, because President Barack Obama signed that exemption, the secretary said.

Hagel said most DOD civilians who will be furloughed will have received official notification when they reported to work Tuesday, and "will be asked to go home."

Those who are exempt from the shutdown will remain at work and will be paid, he added.

Hagel said, Tuesday, that the department is working to identify whether some civilians may be called back from furlough based on the nature of their duties, but he cautioned the question might not be answerable immediately.

"Our lawyers are now looking through the law that the president signed ... to see if there's any margin here, or widening in the interpretation of the law of exempt versus non-exempt civilians," Hagel said. "But, it's a priority that we have, that we're working on right now. It's, in fact, the priority in our general counsel's office."

Hagel, this week, called the action irresponsible, and he said, Tuesday, that it affects "our relationships around the world."

"It cuts straight to the obvious question: Can you rely on the United States ... to fulfill its commitments to its allies?" he said.

"Here, this great republic and democracy, the United States of America, shuts down its government," Hagel continued. "The Pentagon, even though we are exempted — our military — has no budget. We are still living under this dark cloud of uncertainty, not knowing what's going to happen."

The shutdown affects missions around the world, the confidence of the nation's allies and planning for pending budget cuts, he said; however, core missions will be carried out.

(Editor's note: This article was the last available on the shutdown at press time. Read the full story at www.hawaiiarmyweekly.com.)



Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel answers questions regarding the government shutdown during a press conference, Tuesday. (Photo by Erin Kirk-Cuomo)



Eighteen Soldiers from the 25th ID stand on stage to be recognized during a retirement ceremony at Sgt. Smith Theater, Sept. 18.

25th ID honors most recent retirees

Story and photo by
SGT. BRIAN ERICKSON

3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division said farewell to the division's 18 most recent retirees during a retirement ceremony at Sgt. Smith Theater, here, Sept. 18.

"Today marks the transition point in their lives, these leaders and their families," said Col. Brian Eifler, commander, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, and guest speaker of the ceremony.

"Many (of the retirees) will continue to serve our nation in DOD (Department of Defense) agencies," Eifler continued. "Some will be pilots, some will start their own business, some will simply start or continue to raise their families. We even have a novelist.

"(But today) they step out of uniform for the last time and into a new chapter in their lives," Eifler concluded.

Each retiree received a retirement award and certificate, as well as a certificate of appre-

ciation signed by President Barack Obama, a retirement pin and a U.S. flag.

And while many have already decided what they are going to do postretirement, there are some who will take their time in deciding their next move.

"I haven't completely decided what I am going to do after retirement," said Sgt. 1st Class Randy Von Magnus, a retiree from 325th Bde.

Support Battalion, 3rd BCT.

No matter where their path may lead, Eifler best summed up what these Soldiers' careers have meant in a few short words of encouragement.

"These patriots have clearly left their mark on the force," said Eifler. "You (the retirees) have sacrificed much and have earned the right to be proud."

Retirees

25th ID retirees "stepping into the next chapter" include the following:

- Chief Warrant Officer 3 Roger Armstrong Jr.,
- Staff Sgt. Rocky Cadabona,
- Sgt. Maj. Joseph Camacho,
- Staff Sgt. John Crowder,
- Sgt. 1st Class Rafael Feliciano Figuera,
- Sgt. 1st Class Eric Fields,
- Sgt. 1st Class Saifoloi Filisi Jr.,
- Sgt. 1st Class Shannon Greeno,

- Sgt. 1st Class Jack Griffith Jr.,
- Staff Sgt. Stefani Haga,
- Maj. Danie Montano,
- Sgt. 1st Class Billy Ortizotero,
- Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mark Pearce,
- Sgt. 1st Class Terry Salley,
- Chief Warrant Officer 4 Lauren Sampson,
- Master Sgt. Micheal Sommer,
- Chief Warrant Officer 3 William Swoveland, and
- Sgt. 1st Class Randy Von Magnus.

PVTs save 3 from SUV

SGT. KARENLEE AXE

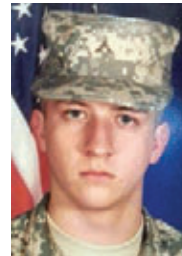
2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment
3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf. Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — It was 5:45 p.m. at the end of the workday, here, Friday, Sept. 13.

Drivers and passengers were sitting in their vehicles, but traffic wasn't moving.

As cars slowly began to move forward, the reason for the delay came into view: A sports utility vehicle had just flipped over in an accident, en route to the H-2.

"Oh my gosh, did that really just happen?" said Pvt. Tyler Kleinow to his friend in the passenger seat, Pvt. 1st Class Dalton Reidel.



Kleinow

With no official officers to address the accident, Kleinow, assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, and Reidel, Co. A, 225th Bde. Support Bn., 2nd Stryker BCT, exited their vehicle without hesitation and ran to the overturned vehicle.

The Soldiers noticed that the vehicle was notably smoking, indicating the chance it could catch on fire at any moment. They knew they had to hurry.

"My father is a firefighter, and it just felt like the right thing to do," said Kleinow.



Reidel

Kleinow and Reidel pulled two small children from the rear seats of the SUV. Once the children were safe, they returned to help the mother out of the vehicle.

Kleinow explained that his military training has instilled in him the responsibility to assist and to always protect those in harm's way, no matter who they are.

"We ask our Soldiers to take action and make a difference in whatever that situation is," said Lt. Col. Barrette Bernard, commander, 2-27th Inf. Regt.

"That's exactly what he (Kleinow) did," Bernard continued. "He saw people in need, and he didn't hesitate. He went to the problem, and he took action, and in this case, he probably saved lives."

ERMC notifies patients of cancer screening error

EUROPE REGIONAL MEDICAL COMMAND
News Release

SEMBACH, Germany — Europe Regional Medical Command (ERMC) is notifying beneficiaries who received an incorrect prostate cancer screening blood test between August 2009-May of 2012 at military medical treatment facilities in Germany, Italy, Belgium, Kosovo and U.S. Central Command, which are supported by the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center laboratory.

Approximately 3,280 patients have been identified and should have received a letter informing them of the error and to facilitate a retest to best meet their needs.

“We are working diligently to notify every person who did not receive the correct screening test,” said Col. John Collins, commander, ERMC. “Our patients are our No. 1 priority, and we sincerely apologize for any stress this error may create for them.”

ERMC has since conducted a comprehensive review of all prostate screening test procedures to ensure that the problem has been corrected. It has also implemented new guidelines to prevent future errors from occurring.

The problem occurred when health care providers ordered an incorrect prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test intended to help detect prostate cancer. The incorrect test was ordered due to how the PSA tests appeared in the Composite Health Care System (CHCS) medical database.

Patients should have first been screened with the “Total PSA” test used to detect elevated levels of PSA, a protein produced by prostate gland cells. Instead, their providers ordered the “Free PSA” test, which is sometimes used as a follow-on test, depending upon the results of the Total PSA test.

When doctors ordered a PSA test for a patient through CHCS, the Free PSA appeared as the first option, and Total PSA was option two. Some health care providers inadvertently selected the first option (Free PSA), believing it to be the comprehensive test they wanted.

The issue was detected in February 2012 by medical staff at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, where PSA screening tests are analyzed in the medical center laboratory for military medical treatment facilities supported by ERMC.

The problem was corrected in the CHCS medical database within a month, but the

scope of beneficiaries affected by the error was not recognized until May 2013, after an analysis of CHCS data for all tests was conducted.

This analysis was prompted by a patient who notified Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Patient Advocacy that his medical provider informed him that he had been given the wrong PSA screening test.

“After a thorough review of our laboratory ordering procedures, we can confidently say no similar problems were found,” said Collins. “Our main priority is the health and well-being of our patients, and we will continue working to notify those affected and offer any assistance we can.”

“The computer database has been corrected,” Collins continued, “and our providers have been made aware of how the discrepancy in the system led to the widespread error, so they can be vigilant in avoiding similar issues in the future.”

What to do

Beneficiaries affected by this issue who are still living in Europe are asked to discuss any concerns or questions with their primary care provider.

U.S. Army Medical Command has also notified Defense Department health care agencies to provide support for beneficiaries not living in Europe.

For more advice, beneficiaries can call the Europe Regional Medical Command PSA Advice Line:

- DSN 314-590-8889;
- 06371-9464-8889, within Germany; or
- 01149-6731-9464-8889, from the U.S.

Callers will reach an automated voice mailbox that will collect their contact information and record their questions.

Callers should receive a response within two business days.

Beneficiaries can also call the 24/7 stateside PSA Advice Line (Wounded Soldier Family Hotline) at DSN (312) 421-3700, or toll free at (800)-984-8523.

Beneficiaries may reach Army health officials by email at usarmy.landstuhl.medcom-ermc.list.psa-advice@mail.mil, or via a link on the U.S. Army Medicine website at www.armymedicine.army.mil.



Traffic Alerts report closed roads, limited routes and construction detours from Army and state advisories received by press time.

For the complete list of traffic advisories, visit www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/info/trafficalendar.htm.

Unless otherwise noted, all phone numbers are 808 area code.

7 / Monday

Utility Installation — Another full road closure will be implemented along Fort Shafter's Rice Loop for underground utility installation. This phase is the second of five.

10 / Thursday

Kawamura Gate — The entrance to Wheeler Army Airfield from Kamehameha Highway will be under construction, 6 p.m.-4:30 a.m. Traffic will be contra-flowed to allow access in and out of post during normal operating hours.

Lane striping is scheduled Oct. 15-22. Traffic will be one-way, eastbound, during lane closures, and there will be no parking along Santos Dumont.

14 / Monday

Phase 3 — One lane of Fort Shafter's Rice Street, between Rice Loop and Herian Place, will be closed for further installation of underground utilities.

21 / Monday

TAMC Closure — Island Palm Communities' contractor will begin demolishing existing housing units located in the Rainbow Village neighborhood of Tripler Army Medical Center. Following demolition, construction of new housing units and utility/road infrastructure will commence.

Jarrett White Road, north of Craig Road, will be closed. Also, Krukowski Road, north of Fisher House, will be closed.



Send announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to news@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

4 / Today

AFCEA Anniversary — The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association celebrates its 60th anniversary, 5:30 p.m., at Honolulu Elks Lodge 616, 2933 Kalakaua Ave., Honolulu. Attendance is free for AFCEA members, plus one guest; additional guests cost \$35, the price of a one-year membership. To register, call 356-6406 or visit <http://afcea-hawaii.org>.

AFCEA Luncheon — Join guest speaker Lt. Col. Michael Rich, commander, 352nd Network Warfare Squadron, for a buffet lunch, 11:30 a.m., at Fort Shafter's Hale Ikena. The topic will be privacy in electronic communications.

Cost is \$14 for AFCEA mem-

bers who preregister; \$17 at the door or for non-AFCEA.

Register at <http://afcea-hawaii.org>, or call 441-8565/8524.

5 / Saturday

Power Outages for WAAF — Testing of the micro grid on Wheeler Army Airfield will result in intermittent electrical power outages for Buildings 104, 105, 106 and 112, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Oct. 5-6. Call 656-3294.

11 / Friday

Army Emergency Relief — The migration of Samaritan data to netFORUM begins at 7 a.m. All access to the current Samaritan system will be terminated. AER sections will not be able to process assistance cases during the migration window, through Oct. 14.

During this window, all AER requests for assistance are to be referred to the American Red Cross for action at (877) 272-7337.

AER services resume Oct. 15. Call 655-0669.

16 / Wednesday

Scheduled Outage — Schofield's high-voltage shop has scheduled a power outage,

7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., in order to replace exposed wires within the rooftop of one of its concrete transformer enclosures. For safety purposes, DPW needs to shut down power during the replacement of those parts.

Housing areas affected during the outage are the 400 block of Jeal and Baldwin roads, from quarters 417-448.

Call 864-1022.

Ongoing

CID — Are you interested in a career as a special agent with the Army Criminal Investigation Command? If so, call 655-1989/0541. For additional information and prerequisites, visit www.CID.army.mil.

War Memorial — The state seeks design and location input of a planned memorial to recognize the sacrifices and contributions of veterans from Hawaii who served in the Persian Gulf War through Operation Noble Eagle.

An online survey is posted at www.SurveyMonkey.com/s/HawaiiMemorial.

The survey will remain online until Nov. 1.

"Get cookin' with fire safety"



SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A fire safety campaign firefighter tells a family how cooking is the leading cause of home fires, and to never leave the stove or oven unattended, during last year's Fire Prevention Week, here. (Photo courtesy of the Federal Fire Department) (Photo has been altered from its original form; background elements have been adjusted.)

Federal Fire reminds all to 'prevent kitchen fires'

FIRE INSPECTOR ANGELA SANDERS
Federal Fire Department

It's time for Fire Prevention Week, and from Oct. 6-12, the Federal Fire Department is joining forces with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to remind local residents to "Prevent Kitchen Fires."

During this year's fire safety campaign, firefighters and safety advocates will be spreading the word about the dangers of kitchen fires — most of which result from unattended cooking — and teaching local residents how to prevent kitchen fires.

According to the latest NFPA research, cooking is the leading cause of home fires. In two out of every five home fires, the fire begins in the kitchen more than any other place in the home.

Cooking fires are also the leading cause of home fire-related injuries.

For the majority of fires that have started in the kitchen, the residents indicate that they only left the kitchen for a few minutes. Sadly, that is all it takes for a dangerous fire to start.

The Federal Fire Department's goal during Fire Prevention Week is to reach individuals in the community before they are involved in a kitchen fire in their home.

Prevention Tips

- ✓ Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling or boiling food.



- ✓ If you must leave the room, even for a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- ✓ When you are simmering, baking or roasting food, check it regularly. Stay in the home, and use a timer to remind you when the food is done.
- ✓ If you have young children, use the stove's back burners, whenever possible.

- ✓ Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away from the stove.

- ✓ When you cook, wear clothing with tight-fitting sleeves.

- ✓ Keep potholders, oven mitts, wooden



SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Sparky the Fire Dog greets a child with a big hug at last year's Fire Prevention Week, here. (Photo courtesy of the Federal Fire Department)

utensils, paper and plastic bags, towels and anything else that can burn away from your stovetop.



- ✓ Keep a lid nearby when you are cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and then turn off the stovetop.
- ✓ Clean up food and grease from burners and stovetops.



- ✓ If you have a cooking fire, get out, close the doors behind you and call 9-1-1.

National Fire Protection Association
To learn more about "Prevent Kitchen Fires," visit the NFPA at www.FPW.org.



SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A fire safety campaign firefighter teaches a child how to "stop, drop and roll" at last year's Fire Prevention Week, here. (Photo courtesy of the Federal Fire Department)

Federal Fire Department Presentations

The Federal Fire Department will be at the following locations during Fire Prevention Week, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.:

- Oct. 7, Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange.
- Oct. 8, Schofield Barracks Main Exchange.
- Oct. 9, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Mokapu Mall.
- Oct. 10, Hickam Base Exchange.

The Federal Fire Department will also be at National Night Out at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Community Center, Building 1788, from 4-7 p.m.

Fire Station Tours

The Federal Fire Department will be hosting fire station tours at various military bases on Oahu. The station tours will be held, daily, 9-11 a.m., Oct. 7-11, at these locations:

- Fire Station 4, Ford Island;
- Fire Station 8, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay;
- Fire Station 10, Helemano Military Reservation;
- Fire Station 14, Wheeler Army Airfield;
- and
- Fire Station 15, Schofield Barracks.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCT. 6-12, 2013

PREVENT KITCHEN FIRES

GO TO FPW.ORG AND GET COOKIN' WITH FIRE SAFETY!

COME JOIN US

THE FEDERAL FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL BE HOSTING FIRE PREVENTION WEEK ACTIVITIES FROM 11:00-1:00 AT:

PEARL HARBOR NAVY EXCHANGE- OCTOBER 7TH

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS BASE EXCHANGE- OCTOBER 8TH

KANEOHE MARINE CORPS BASE MOKAPU MALL- OCTOBER 9TH

HICKAM BASE EXCHANGE- OCTOBER 10TH

Fire Station tours will be held daily Monday October 7th – Friday October 11th from 9:00-11:00 at:

Fire Station 4 Ford Island

Fire Station 8 Kaneohe Marine Corps Base

Fire Station 10 Helemano Military Reservation

Fire Station 14 Wheeler Army Airfield

Fire Station 15 Schofield Barracks

SEE OUR FIRE TRUCKS AND VISIT OUR INFORMATIONAL BOOTHS

National Night Out is Oct. 10

Event takes place at Aliamanu Comm. Ctr.

ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Another fun-filled evening is planned for families at Island Palm Communities' second National Night Out celebration, Oct. 10 at the Aliamanu Community Center.



The event is free, and festivities kick off with a parade of exhibitors at 4 p.m.; it ends with a movie on the lawn at 6:30 p.m., so bring your chairs and blankets.

National Night Out has been held across the country for 30 years to heighten safety awareness, to promote police-community partnerships and crime prevention, and to bring communities together.

Exciting exhibits, demonstrations and activities promoting safety at home and throughout communities will be presented by Island Palm Communities, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii and its Directorate of Emergency Services.

Kids are encouraged to ride their bikes to the event to test their skills navigating a cool bike rodeo course, and parents can get their keiki fingerprinted and introduce them to McGruff the Crime Dog, Eddie the Eagle and Bobber the water safety dog.

All can also learn about the Neighborhood Watch Program and take part in activities presented by the U.S. Coast Guard, the Federal Fire Department, Military Police and the Army's K-9 Unit.

Live entertainment by members of the Aliamanu Military Reservation Teen Center and SKIES programs, face painting, balloon twisting and inflatable bounce houses also will add to the fun.

Join IPC for a great evening with family, friends and neighbors.

'CAPIT' arrives to train law enforcers

Story and photos by
STAFF SGT. RICHARD SHERBA
8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs
8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A mobile training team from the U.S. Army Military Police School, located at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., traveled to Hawaii to teach a Child Abuse Prevention Investigative Techniques (CAPIT) Course, here, Sept. 18-27.

"The CAPIT Course is a core class that CID (the criminal investigation department) special agents need to have in order to perform their duties as a special agent. The course is important because it provides the techniques that agents need to look for in order to process a crime scene in which a child may have been a victim," said Sgt. 1st Class Marlene Charles, schools noncommissioned officer, 19th Military Police Battalion (CID).

"It's difficult for special agents to leave and travel to a school due to the cases that they're currently working and due to the courts-martial appearances that they need to attend," Charles added. "It makes it hard for them to go to Fort Leonard Wood, so we (19th MP Bn. (CID)) brought the course to them."

As important as the class is for CID special agents, it's equally as important for all law enforcement personnel to have. The 19th MP Bn. (CID) made the course available to other law enforcement agencies and military units, creating a very diverse classroom climate.

Attendees of the eight-day course were made up of Soldiers, Marines and local law enforcement personnel representing MPs, MP investigators (MPIs), CID agents and the Honolulu Police Department.

Don Hayden, course manager for CAPIT, U.S. Army MP School, spoke about the course and the importance of having a diverse group of students, not just investigators.

"If an MP goes on a call out to a house, they may arrive on scene and see a dirty house —



Spc. David Boone, MP, 552nd MP Co., 728th MP Bn., 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, writes down notes while investigating a mock crime scene, Sept. 25.



Staff Sgt. Tara Stanish (standing), MPI supervisor, 39th MP Det., 728th MP Bn., 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, looks on as Spc. Amber Mora, MP, 552nd MP Co., 728th MP Bn., 8th MP Bde., takes an inside establishing photograph of a mock crime scene during a practical exercise portion of the Child Abuse Prevention Investigative Techniques Course, Sept. 25.

not a messy house caused by children's toys and play things, but a dirty, trashy house. There may not be a crime there, but there is definitely something going on," said Hayden. "We emphasize to our road MPs that when you see something like this, you need to report that, because those are indicators of potential future neglect or physical abuse-type cases."

Staff Sgt. Tara Stanish, MPI supervisor at area operations in Fort Shafter for 39th MP Detachment, 728th MP Battalion, 8th MP Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, spoke about her opportunity to attend the CAPIT Course.

"The course helped with being able to identify child abuse, which can be a lot more difficult than you would think. It also helped us learn how to talk to children and to take their interviews," Stanish said. "You want to be real gentle with their psyche, because you don't want to unintentionally harm the child anymore than they have been harmed."

Stanish continued, "It's fantastic that they made the class available to so many, not just CID or MPIs, but also the road

MPs who don't get the chance to go to classes like this that often. It's really important, because the first responders are our road MPs.

"It's important for them to be able to identify child abuse, because they're the ones that take the initial reports," Stanish explained. "It's been an awesome opportunity for us all. It helped bridge the gap (between different agencies and units), and it helped us form relationships that make the working environment much better."

"Our instructors were phenomenal; you don't get much better than them," she added.

The mobile training team may only have been in Hawaii for a short while, but its impact on local law enforcement, Soldiers and Marines will be an everlasting one felt not only within the community, but throughout their students' careers.



POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA

TREE RESTORATION IN WEST HAWAII



KAILUA-KONA, Hawaii — Maj. Matthew Scher (right), operations officer, 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, packs soil around a tree he planted with a community member at the cemetery, Sept. 21.



Soldiers of 2-6th Cav. Regt., 25th CAB, 25th ID, along with community members and students from the University of Hawaii at West Hawaii, plant 500 trees at the West Hawaii Veteran's Cemetery, Sept. 21.



Soldiers of 2-6th Cav. Regt., 25th CAB, 25th ID, along with community members and students from the University of Hawaii at West Hawaii, plant 500 trees at the West Hawaii Veteran's Cemetery, Sept. 21. The 120-man volunteer tree-planting effort, organized by Richard Stevens, with the West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery Association, is part of a restoration project aimed at restoring dryland forests on the island. (Photos by Capt. Catherine McNair, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division)

8th STB recommits to community, Webling Elem.

STAFF SGT. GAELN LOWERS

8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The 8th Special Troops Battalion, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, reaffirmed the strong relationship between the



Lt. Col. Mark Parsons, commander, 8th STB, 8th TSC, and Sherrylyn Yamada, principal, Webling Elementary School, reaffirm the strong relationship between the unit and school by signing a commitment contract, Sept. 25.

unit and Webling Elementary School by signing a commitment contract, Sept. 25, to kick off the 2013-2014 school year.

8th STB troops have partnered with Webling's students and faculty for more than five years, assisting in school projects and serving as mentors in community, physical education and tutoring programs.

"It's important to us to foster relationships within our community," said Command Sgt. Maj. James Shuman, senior enlisted adviser with the 8th STB.

The day started off with the 8th STB's commander, Lt. Col. Mark Parsons, and the Webling Elementary School principal, Sherrylyn Yamada, signing a document recommitting the unit's time, support and resources to the school and its surrounding community.

"This really builds a great relationship between the Soldiers, the unit and the Army with our kids, the school and the outside community," said Yamada. "We gladly accept the partnership and invite you and all the Soldiers onto our campus at anytime."

The 8th STB volunteers also helped the school's staff and faculty unload trucks full of food for the school's fundraiser to enable programs throughout the upcoming school year.

The day kicked off another year of STB troops partnering in school projects and serv-



Volunteers from 8th STB, 8th TSC, help Webling Elementary School staff and faculty unload trucks full of food, Sept. 25, for the school's fundraiser to support programs throughout the 2013-14 school year. (Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Mary Ferguson, 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs)

ing as mentors in community, physical education and tutoring programs.

"We have a lot of positive role models in the

8th (STB) who do the right things for the right reasons," Shuman said. "I'm very proud of our Soldiers."

Parent involvement in school is vital for the child's success

WENDY NAKASONE

School Support Services
Child, Youth and School Services
Directorate of Family and Morale,
Welfare and Recreation
U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

HONOLULU — Success. That's what every parent wants for his or her child — success in athletics, academics and life in general.

Many studies have been completed to research the impact of parental engagement on a child's academic success. Recent studies from North Carolina State University, Brigham Young University and the University of California-Irvine found parental involvement a more significant factor in their child's academic success than the qualities of the school itself.

Staying informed with your child's education is key to your child's academic success: checking homework, attending school events and parent-teacher conferences, and letting your child know the importance of education.

"It is extremely important that I am fully involved with their education. I am my child's advocate," said Jeri Duncan, who has a kindergarten and fifth-grader at Hale Kula Elementary. "The education system itself and teachers specifically have the tools, talent and knowledge to give my child an academic education, but my child is not their sole concern. Therefore, a partnership creates a better outcome."

Parent engagement is an important issue and is a topic of national discussion. The National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) strongly encourages family engagement and has tips and resources on its website for parents to get involved. For instance, establish a daily family routine, including healthy eating and sleeping habits, check on homework regularly and ask questions about your child's work. Also, set high and realistic standards for your child. These are all simple things that parents can do for their child's success.

Partnering with your child's teacher is

equally important. If you have a concern about your child's learning, speak with your child's teacher in private. Please be mindful and make it a point to never criticize your child's teacher in front of your child.

Duncan, who is also the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) president at Hale Kula Elementary, encourages all parents to get involved with their child's education.

"In the case of Hale Kula, with funding being a huge issue this year, the PTO can help fill in gaps," Duncan said, "but only with support and volunteer help from families. The PTO provides programs that enhance the educational experience and creates a link between the school and our community."

Your home also plays an important role in your child's success. In the morning, ensure that your child has a healthy breakfast, and give your child a hug before he ventures out the door. Look her in the eye and tell her how proud you are of her.

Parent to Parent

Get more details by emailing Stacy Cain at ptop.schofield@militarychild.org.

When he returns from school, create a predictable routine: Put your cell phone away, turn the TV off and spend 10 minutes talking to your child. When possible, create a specific space for homework and sit down with your child, when done, to review homework and check understanding. Lastly, sit down at the dinner table to have a meal as a family.

Many resources are available to help parents. The Military Child Education Coalition's Parent-to-Parent Program empowers parents to be their child's strongest advocate. The Hawaii Parent to Parent team facilitates workshops on topics such as early literacy, bullying, Internet safety, time management and the college application process.

What if mom ‘shuts down’ from household routines?

My kids forgot to put their dishes in the dishwasher. Again.

“That’s it! If you people can’t cooperate, then this government is shutting down!” I shouted while they stared at me from across the kitchen.

They had no idea what I was talking about, but with threats of government shutdown dominating the news these last few weeks, I couldn’t resist.

With my Navy husband at work much of the time, I am usually the sole governor of the household, the commander in chief of the homefront, the lord of the houseflies. I am the legislative, judicial and executive branches all rolled up into one spatula-wielding dictator.

When the masses defy my authority, I could, theoretically, stage a government shutdown of my own. Of course, the kids know my threats are completely idle; although, I can’t help but wonder, what if it really happened.



THE MEAT & POTATOES OF LIFE

LISA SMITH MOLINARI
Contributing Writer

Hayden stays home for a fifth hour of “Grand Theft Auto,” while Lilly emerges from her room dressed in booty shorts, spaghetti-string halter top, fuzzy slippers, knotted hair and two days worth of plaque on her teeth.

“Ready!” Lilly says.
After their shopping trip, the girls concoct an Ovaltine aperitif accompanied by a delectable

chocolate doughnut amuse bouche. The entrée was a lovely microwaved trio de fromage — fried mozzarella sticks, Totinos cheese pizza and Hot Pockets, with a generous side of tater tots.

Finding no clean utensils, dessert was a scrumptious brownie chunk ice cream eaten straight out of the carton with used Popsicle sticks and washed down with Monster drinks.

The party rages on for days. Bored with Jerry Springer reruns and punching buttons on the microwave, the novelty of anarchy begins to wear off around day three.

“When is Mom coming outta there?” Lilly whines.

“I don’t know, but this is starting to get serious,” Anna says. “My cropped jeans need to be washed, and ever since you blew a fuse mi-

crowaving that can of ravioli, my curling iron doesn’t work!”

Hayden, recuperating from his video game bender, chimes in, “Yeah, and Mom needs to go to the grocery. I actually had to eat a banana for breakfast. This is a crisis situation!”

Standing before Mom’s bedroom door, the kids beat, pound, wail and make promises.

When Mom finally emerges, the kids bombard her with desperate hugs and kisses.

“Mom!” they cry. “Don’t ever leave us again! We can’t live without you! We promise we’ll do whatever you want from now on!”

A mom can dream, can’t she?

(A 20-year military spouse and mother of three, Smith has plenty of humor to share in her column, “The Meat and Potatoes of Life,” at www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com.)



The “governor of the household” wields her weapon of authority. (Photo courtesy Lisa Smith Molinari)

My shutdown

The kids awake to a “slam!” of Mom’s bedroom door. Peeking through the keyhole, they see that Mom has dragged the coffee maker, a cooler, four cans of Pringles, three bottles of wine and a boxed DVD set of “Mad Men” into her room and locked the door.

A sign taped outside reads “Government shutdown until further notice.”

The three kids — Hayden, Anna and Lilly — stare groggily at the sign for a minute. As reality dawns on them, they turn to each other and grin.

“Cool!” Lilly exclaims. “This is gonna be fun!”

In their pajamas, they race to the kitchen.

“I call the rest of the Cap’n Crunch!” Anna shouts, sliding to a stop across the linoleum floor.

“Forget cereal,” Hayden declares. “I’m eating chocolate cake, and I might have a slice of left-over pizza for dessert!”

An hour later, the kids are stuffed and lazing the day away in front of the television, watching a marathon of “Jersey Shore” and sipping Coca-Cola through Pixy Stix.

However, the toilet clogs midday, the wet laundry in the washing machine starts to stink, and the milk runs out.

Discovering that the lunch money jar has more than \$20 in coins, Anna exclaims, “C’mon guys, let’s go to the store; I’ll make us a feast!”

