

First Edition!

# Kekūhaupio

The warrior who trained Kamehameha

Hawaii Army National Guard

## Welcome to your Kekuhaupio!

Welcome to the first edition of the Hawaii Army National Guard's (HIARNG) newsletter, the Kekuhaupio. The name Kekuhaupio is a powerful one and is synonymous with military excellence. It is said that this great Hawaiian warrior could deflect spears by the hundred and still have the strength to kill each of its throwers. He guided a young Kamehameha through his journey to become king of the Hawaiian islands. Kekuhaupio was a tactician, a mentor and a veteran of many battles. It is a strong name to live up to, but the Hawaii Army National Guard is the perfect organization to take on that challenge.

With information at everyone's fingertips, the HIARNG leadership wanted to be sure that they were a part of it. This monthly newsletter is a step in that direction. The goals of this publication are to inform the Soldier, highlight HIARNG accomplishments and to give each Soldier a voice. Submissions by leaders, "full-timers" to the drill-status private are all welcome. If there is anything that you would like to see in upcoming issues, if you would like to submit photos from drills, exercises, deployments, unit activities or Family Readiness Group events, please send them to [hiarng\\_kekuhaupio@gmail.com](mailto:hiarng_kekuhaupio@gmail.com).

Please enjoy this first issue, but take into account that if any information printed here conflicts with what your believe to be true, verify it with your immediate chain of command.

### In this issue:

- HIARNG Soldier & NCO of the Year
- Leaders' Notes
- Suicide Prevention Classes
- Environmental Announcements



Photo by Spc. Oda

Specialist Hau T. Huynh, Charlie Company 29<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion has fun assembling the Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System man pack radio during the Warrior Task portion of the Soldier of the Year/Non Commissioned Officer of the Year state level competition. Spc. Huynh is one of seven Hawaii National Guard Soldiers competing for the SOY title on Hawaii.

### Future Drill Dates

| JFHQ       | 29 <sup>th</sup> IBCT                   | 103 <sup>rd</sup> TC                     | 298 <sup>th</sup> Regiment, MFTU, RTI |
|------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| May 14-15  | May 14-15 (487 <sup>th</sup> May 20-22) | May 7-8 (1-207 <sup>th</sup> May 6-8)    | May 14-15                             |
| June 25-26 | June 4-18 (AT)                          | June 4-5 (3-140 <sup>th</sup> June 25-2) | June 4-5                              |
| July 9-10  | July 9-10                               | July 9-10                                | July 9-10                             |

# Hawaii's finest face off

## in Soldier and NCO of the Year competition

By Spc. Stephanie Cassinos  
117th MPAD 

A small formation of Hawaii Army National Guard Soldiers stood at ease in the 5 a.m. darkness, dressed, prepped and determined for victory in the 2011 state-level Soldier of the Year (SOY) competition March 12 and 13.

During the strenuous two-day event, competitors faced off in seven events: the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT), Army Warrior Tasks (AWTs), land navigation skills, a road march, night land navigation, an appearance board and a written exam.

The selected seven Soldiers had already proven their excellence in individual unit-level SOY competitions, and now faced a bigger challenge: Each other.

Following the APFT push-up and sit-up events, Soldiers arduously sprinted to cross the finish line, one completing his 2-mile run in a remarkable 11:22. Next, the Soldiers geared up for the AWT portion of the event. Tromping through Kalealoa with full body-armor, weapons and backpacks, competitors encountered various stations where they would be tested on fundamental warrior

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Photos by Spc. Matthew Oda

Sgt. 1st Class Dillon Ching, Hawaii's newest Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year, requests a nine-line medical evacuation during the state-level Soldier of the Year/Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year competition. His grader, Sgt. William Lum, Bravo 777 Aviation Support Battalion, watches to ensure all the proper steps are taken. Ching is one of seven Hawaii National Guard Soldiers who competed for the SOY title in Hawaii.



Treating a wounded casualty for the warrior task portion of the Soldier of the Year/Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year state level competition, Specialist Mark Failauga, 103rd Troop Command, puts a bandage on a simulated leg wound to stop the bleeding at the "Perform First Aid to Prevent or Control Shock" station.



During one of the warrior task portions of the SOY competition, Sgt. Valentine Roberts, Alpha Company 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, dons his protective mask to examine and identify chemical agents using the M256A1 Detector kit.

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SOY**

tasks – anything from identifying chemical agents to requesting a medical evacuation.

“All the tasks are pretty challenging,” said Sgt. First Class

James Jennings, one of the non-commissioned officers in charge of the event. “The Soldiers have no insight on what the task is going to be ahead of time, so they pretty much have to study all the tasks. We give them the conditions and standards, and they have to do it second-nature, from memory.”

One of the tasks competitors were required to complete was “Performing First Aid,” a level-one skill.

A Soldier lied motionless in the grass with latex “wounds” strapped to his uniform.

“You’re gonna be okay, buddy. You’re gonna be okay,” assured Spc. Hau Huynh as she approached him. Within minutes, she had assessed the situation and treated the casualty, reciting steps in order from the manual from which she’d studied.

After finishing several warrior task stations, the competitors were issued compasses, maps and protractors with the objective of locating different points on a land

navigation course, an event they would later complete without the luxury of sunlight.

If these events weren’t enough to challenge the seven Soldiers, they were also required to dress in Class-A uniforms for an inspection, as well as answering questions on a written exam.

Soldiers with a pay-grade of E-4 who are interested in rising to the challenge for future SOY competitions should be confident in knowing materials from the Army’s Skill Level One Warrior Training manual, and E-5s and above should be knowledgeable in both Army Warrior Skills Levels One and Two.

They also might want to heed the advice of Sgt. First Class Roger Goodwin, one of the non-commissioned officers who coordinated the event.

“I would advise them to be physically fit, strong in their PT, strong in their land navigation – just their basic skills,” said Goodwin. “Study hard. Be professional. Be motivated.”

His co-worker, Jennings, concurred.

“If the Soldier trains from day one, Basic Training, and stays above the standards given out throughout his career, then this should fall into place.”

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**Sgt. 1st Class Dillon K. Ching, OTB, RTSM  
Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year, HIARNG**



**Spc. Montgomery E. Panui, 298th RTI  
Soldier of the Year, HIARNG**

# State of the Guard (Guards of the State)



Brig. Gen. Gary M. Hara  
Commander, HIARNG

**“...we are clearly positioned for future success as an organization.”**

**“MOS producing courses is our training priority.”**

**Previous Director of the ARNG... indicated to me that he was "impressed with the professionalism and confidence in those presenting the briefings"**

The HIARNG recently completed a very successful State of the State briefing to the director of the Army National Guard and his staff at the ARNG readiness center in Arlington. The HIARNG Chief of Staff, COL Kurt Jackson briefed our previous deployment history and personnel strength profiles and transitioned to the current status of the HIARNG. We can all be proud of our previous accomplishments as we are clearly positioned for future success as an organization. We must continue to focus on unit readiness and everyone must continue to do their part to ensure we continue to improve in this area. As an individual in this great organization your requirement is to maintain your proficiency in your duty Military Occupational Specialty (MOS). If you have been recently re-assigned and are not MOS qualified, please complete this requirement as soon as possible. Every Readiness NCO in the organization understands that MOS producing courses is our training priority.

Earlier this month our O5 and above Commanders briefed their Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 training plans and objectives. I can report that the Battalion Commanders in the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) developed Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) aligned training plans that are Mission Essential Training List (METL) focused and provides a clear path to attain or exceed the required ARFORGEN aim points. The 103d Troop Command training plan were also ARFORGEN aligned and provides a sound path for their units to also achieve their ARFORGEN aim points. This includes the reset of their engineer unit (230th EN Co.) that returned from a deployment in Afghanistan, de-mobilizing and resetting their deployed CH-47 unit (B/1-171 Avn) currently supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and to also mobilize and deploy their UH-60 unit (C/1-207th Avn) and the 117<sup>th</sup> MPAD in support of Operation New Dawn and finally, B/777<sup>th</sup> Aviation to Kosovo. The HIARNG staff is currently in the process of preparing our request for resources to National Guard Bureau to support these plans so we can begin to lock in FY 2012 training.



Brig. Gen. Hara gets briefed by Capt. Johnny Wandasan, Cdr B/1-171<sup>st</sup> Aviation Regiment during a visit in Afghanistan

Photo by CMSgt Lee

MG (Ret) John D'Araujo Jr. a previous Director of the ARNG sat in as a guest on these briefings and indicated to me that he was "impressed with the professionalism and confidence in those presenting the briefings". It was readily apparent to all present that our Commanders at all levels were completely engaged in the training preparation process and they are fully prepared to execute their demanding individual and collective training events in FY 2012. Good job!

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## State of the Guard cont.

On a cautious note we barely escaped being hit hard by a tsunami generated by the 9.0 earthquake in Japan. As we responded to the events that followed the earthquake in Japan we identified some gaps in our notification and tracking process but we also realized great initiative of our Soldiers, many who voluntarily reported to duty and stepped forward to ensure our facilities and equipment were protected and would be available for use if called upon. I ask that all sections in the HIARNG ensure that their alert rosters remain updated so we can improve our notification process. Assigning and equipping a specific location for the HIARNG Operations Center is another near term requirement we need to resource. It would be beneficial if this location could also serve as the backup location for the current Joint Operations Center (JOC) in event that location is not available. Our previous mindset of a mobile operations center is not conducive to this type of emergency.

Finally, I am humbled and honored to be able to serve as your Commander. We have assembled many great Officers and NCO's who are always looking out for the best interest of their Soldiers and have extended this level of concern to our family members. I ask that all of you continue to strive to assume positions of greater responsibility in this outstanding organization to ensure that this level of leadership and responsibility will continue in the future. Mahalo.

# Suicide Prevention

## *Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)*

ASIST is a 2-day interactive workshop in suicide first aid.

Training will be conducted on the following Islands: Oahu, Maui, Kauai and the Big Island

### **Future Training Dates: 14-15 APR 11( Thu, Fri) Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam**

Participants learn to recognize when someone may be at risk of suicide and respond in ways that help increase their immediate safety and link them to further help. ASIST aims to enhance a caregiver's abilities to help a person at risk avoid suicide.

Goals and objectives: It is intended that ASIST participants will be better prepared to:

- reflect on how their attitudes and beliefs about suicide affect their intervention role;
- discuss suicide with a person at risk in a direct manner;
- build a collaborative approach to intervention focused on safe outcomes;
- review immediate suicide risk and develop appropriate safe plans;
- demonstrate skills required to intervene with a person at risk of suicide;
- identify resources available to a person at risk of suicide;
- make a commitment to improving community resources; and
- recognize that suicide prevention is broader than suicide first aid and includes life-promotion and self-care for caregivers.

*safeTALK Training and Youth Suicide Prevention Skills Workshop*  
safeTALK, helps to create suicide-safer communities. Training lasts about three hours. safeTALK is for everyone in the community and is designed to ensure that persons with thoughts of suicide are connected to helpers who are prepared to provide first aid interventions. safeTALK is designed to be used in organizations and communities where there are already ASIST-trained caregivers.

**For more information or to register for a class please call or email MSG Redding at 291-5098 , email: [tyrone.l.redding@us.army.mil](mailto:tyrone.l.redding@us.army.mil)**





Photo by Spc. Lillian Park

Sgt. Isaac Moreno, Charlie Company 29<sup>th</sup> Brigade Special Troops Battalion configures his patch panel on his JNN cases during March IDT training.

## The Profession of Arms – The Professional Noncommissioned Officer

Aloha Hawaii Army National Guard Soldiers and Families. I am Command Sergeant Major Ronald Oshiba, I am honored and enthusiastic as I take point as the Command Sergeant Major of the Hawaii Army National Guard. Bottom line up front: my job is taking care of Soldiers and Families while supporting the missions of this organization.

As you all know, we have the best noncommissioned officers (NCO) in our ranks within the Hawaii Army National Guard. Our enlisted leaders are combat-proven and they possess skills that are beyond reproach. These leaders are our base and the future senior NCO's of this organization. I am counting on you to provide challenging training and groom your Soldiers to sustain our combat capability.

The Army's Campaign of "The Profession of Arms", by former Sergeant Major of the Army Preston, added "The Professional Noncommissioned Officer". To empower the NCO's we must be just that, professionals. To be a professional we must be the expert, the *Subject Matter Expert* both technically and tactfully. We must have duty to service, we must have character and uphold the Army values, our leaders and subordinates must have trust in us, and we must provide leadership. This is what our NCO corps will be perfecting; after all we are the "Backbone of the Army".

We need to get back to the basics of being a Soldier in today's Army. We have been in combat for nine years and we must sustain our combat skills and teach Soldiers to be Soldiers both in combat and in garrison.

We must enforce standards and to do this we must be rigid, we must train hard and we must lead by example. We will move forward and be prepared to adapt and succeed in an era of persistent conflict. I am looking forward to working with our leaders to build and maintain a reliable, relevant and mission ready force. I am the voice for our enlisted Soldiers and their Families.



# 103<sup>rd</sup> Troop Command

The 103<sup>RD</sup> Troop Command remains the most diverse and versatile unit in the Hawaii Army National Guard; supporting the state and nation with combat support and combat service support units. The command has seen constant deployments of its units over the last 8 years to support local and national contingencies. With that we give a warm “Aloha” to the 230<sup>th</sup> Engineers following their successful deployment to Afghanistan. Their year-long mobilization and deployment marked their second deployment to Afghanistan and their success in providing critical engineer support is noteworthy.



We continue to keep our Guard men and women from B/1-171<sup>st</sup> Aviation, who are currently deployed to Afghanistan, in our thoughts and prayers. The CH-47D aircraft that they operate are critical for providing logistics to remote combat outposts throughout the country. The aircrews, maintainers and support crews are working endlessly to complete their mission. Spring will mark an increase in military operations and their workload. We are busy preparing C/1-207 Aviation and the 117<sup>TH</sup> MPAD for their upcoming deployments. These two units will deploy for the second time in the last six years. They are focused on the tasks ahead and their skills and abilities are improving daily. We also have a contingent from B/777<sup>th</sup> Aviation preparing for deployment to Kosovo. This is not the first deployment for this unit but the Hawaii Army National Guard’s first unit deployment to Kosovo.

The 103<sup>RD</sup> Troop Command Staff is busy preparing for a joint exercise with the Indonesian Army called *Garuda Shield*. We are excited about standing up the B/1109<sup>th</sup> Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group (TASMG) which will be the newest unit to join our Troop Command Ohana.

The Army is a very dynamic organization: constantly changing to meet new threats and accomplish new missions. The 103<sup>rd</sup> Troop Command is the same: new units, new missions, new equipment, and new challenges. As we continue to take on more and more missions and continue to operate at an ever increasing pace it is important that all Soldiers take personal responsibility for three things: maintain the highest levels of personal readiness possible, take care of your families, and practice safety.

Kupa’a!



*Soldiers of Bravo Company, 1-171<sup>st</sup> Aviation Regiment proudly stand in formation during their deployment ceremony in August, 2010.*

Photo by Cpl. Liau



Photo by Spc. Lillian Park

WOC Ivan Avilla (left) and Spc. Evan Parubrur of Charlie Company 29<sup>th</sup> Brigade Special Troops Battalion install Cisco Call Managers on their WIN-T laptops.

## SAFETY MESSAGE FROM HIARNG Safety Office

Happy April!! Spring Season is here in Hawaii. As warm weather arrives, it's essential we reinforce the importance of safety and risk management. The increased activity and participation of beach activities, outdoor sports and recreation will mean more vehicles on the road and may be directly linked to traffic accidents & numerous life threatening mishaps.

This safety message encourages everyone to have fun with family, friends and highlights ways to minimize risk, such as avoiding reckless behavior by using the right protective equipment and practicing sound risk management techniques.

If family parties and other gathering are in your plan use proper judgment when traveling from place to place and never drive impaired. At beaches never swim or go fishing alone. Enjoy the beauty and excitement Hawaii has to offer, but respect its power. When operating a motorcycle, wear all your personal protective equipment, slow down, be aware of your surroundings and when approaching an intersection or curve, drive defensively and watch closely the actions of other drivers around you. In many motorcycle fatalities in Hawaii, drivers are quoted as saying, "I never saw him."

As leaders in our unit and family, I encourage you talk about safety and find out what activities are planned and provide sound guidance and help them evaluate the risks they may face. Let's cover all the bases: cell phones, texting, seat belts, defensive driving, motorcycle issues, speeding, beach and water safety, sports safety and a responsible attitude when going to and from gatherings.

Finally, be an encouragement to others by having them do the same. Be a good role model for your family, your friends and your co-workers. You are accountable for your actions and those around you while on or off-duty. Have a wonderful Spring Season!

Lt. Col. Jason Matsumura, HIARNG Safety Officer

## Roger That!

*Notes from Around the Army*

### Army Service Uniform

On March 11<sup>th</sup> the Army announced big changes that will allow you more time to purchase the Army Service Uniform and a little more time to wear your "greens". The mandatory possession date for the new ASU has moved from July 2014 to October 2016. In 2008, the Army chose to phase out the green service uniform to reduce the number of uniforms Soldiers purchase and maintain. Soldiers can continue to take their official DA photos in the green service uniform until July 2015. (Army Times)

### Balad is Going Back to the Basics

American Soldiers in Iraq will be back to eating MREs and sleeping in tents during the last few months the Army is deployed there. All the comforts that Soldiers based out of Balad were used to, will be going away. Subway, Green Beans coffee, the dessert bars in the DFACs are all on the way out. By November, any Soldiers stationed there will be eating MREs. It has come full circle, those units that occupied Iraq during OIF I and II know what the conditions will be like. Soldiers will still have a PX, they will be able to buy toothpaste, they will still be fed and they will still be paid. (Army Times)

## April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

DoD has a new hot line for confidential, live one-on-one sexual assault support. Contact DoD Safe Helpline at [www.SafeHelpline.org](http://www.SafeHelpline.org) or 877-995-5247. Check out the fun runs and walks on the next page to show your support for the prevention of CHILD ABUSE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT IN OUR ARMY.

## Is There Anyone Downrange?

Remember to send positive thoughts or awesome care packages to fellow HIARNG Soldiers that are currently mobilized.

**Company B, 1st Bn, 171st Aviation Regiment (CH-47)  
JSOTF-P  
Members of Detachment 55 (C-26)**



## MODERN ARMY COMBATIVES



### Basic Combatives Level I

This course is a 5 day, 40 hour course. It is tailored for developing the instructor base necessary to teach basic Modern Army Combatives. Students enrolled in the course are first: trained and evaluated to master basic combatives techniques, skills, and applications, and second: encouraged to assist proponent-trained and certified Modern Army Combatives Program instructors as small-group / unit-level trainers. Successful completion of the course is required for students seeking to conduct Modern Army Combatives Program training in Modern Army Combatives Program proponent-driven schools and courses. The course is physically and mentally challenging, and will require arduous physical and mental attention, effort, focus, and exertion. During the course, all military students will wear their branch or service combat / utility / battle blouse and trousers without attachments, insignia, belt, or accessories.

For questions regarding the course contact your Readiness NCO first, then call SFC Ryan Taniguchi at 808-672-1827 or at [ryan.r.taniguchi@us.army.mil](mailto:ryan.r.taniguchi@us.army.mil) if you have any further questions.

The Compliance Branch is conducting Supplemental Environmental Officer (EO) training at selected HIARNG facilities, focusing on site specific environmental compliance requirements, issues and concerns. All HIARNG EO's must have current Army's ECO training, an EO appointment order and attend this annual supplemental EO course.

Be advised that NGB has scheduled an Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) audit of HIARNG facilities for FY2012. Standby for more details, as it becomes available.

Please remember to timely prepare and submit both the Quarterly Hazardous Material (HM) inventory reports and Monthly Hazardous Waste (HW) generation reports to the Environmental Office via their respective Reporting (Templates). Reports are submitted through HKO/Public Folders/HIARNG Staff/Environmental/HazWaste or HazMat folder. For assistance with report submittals, please contact Maria Christina Vicari, Environmental Project Specialist, HIARNG- ENV Office at 808-672-1276.

Please contact the Environmental Office at (808) 672-1013 or [nghienvcomp@ng.army.mil](mailto:nghienvcomp@ng.army.mil) should you have environmental questions or concerns.”