

PREMIER SIGNAL

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE 311TH SIGNAL COMMAND (THEATER)

PANDEMIC IN THE INDO-PACIFIC: ENABLING MISSION COMMAND



***TEAM SIGNAL-CYBER PACIFIC OPERATES SAFELY,
INNOVATIVELY TO SUPPORT COVID-19 RESPONSE***



PREMIER SIGNAL

VOLUME 10 | 2019-2020 EDITION

Publisher

Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris Commanding General

Board of Directors

Col. Trent Smith Deputy Commander

Kenneth Ishimatsu Civilian Deputy to the Commanding General

Managing Editor

Liana Kim Public Affairs Specialist, 311th SC (T)

Associate Editors

Marc Agalin Public Affairs Specialist, 311th SC (T)

Capt. Christopher Kim Public Affairs Officer, Support Unit, 311th SC (T)

Capt. Antonia Salvitti Aide-de-Camp, 311th SC (T)

Sgt. Steven Close Public Affairs NCOIC, 1st Sig. Bde

Sharon Losalio Executive Assistant, 311th SC (T)

Graphics and Layout Design

2nd Lt. Kenan Guinto Multi-media Illustrator, HHC, 311th SC (T)

Ursula Silva Creative Director, Trade Publishing

Contributing Writers

1st Lt. Jonathan Showman 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

1st Lt. Sara Albertson 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

2nd Lt. Tyler Hubbard 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

1st Lt. Druanne Sutton 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

2nd Lt. JM Skyrll Kadava 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

Spec. Ian Merryfield 30th Signal Battalion

Staff Sgt. Gene Gilbert 30th Signal Battalion

Capt. Alycia Genao 30th Signal Battalion

Shawn Sullivan Pacific Signal University

Mike Grimes Pacific Signal University

1st Lt. Blake Toth 78th Signal Battalion

Sgt. DeAnte' Brown HHC, 516 Signal Brigade

Sgt. Young Jip Kim 1st Signal Brigade

Sgt. Steven Close 1st Signal Brigade

Lt. Col. Burchell Porter Former Director, USACISA-P

Maj. Jeffery Schimizza USACISA-P

Pvt. 1st Class Desiree Meadows 311th SC (T)

Capt. Christopher Kim 311th SC (T)

Mark Agalin 311th SC (T)

Liana Kim 311th SC (T)

Premier Signal is an authorized Army publication of the 311th Signal Command. The views expressed herein are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Army. Unless otherwise stated, material in this magazine may be reprinted without permission; please credit the magazine and author. Premier Signal can be found online at <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication>.

Printed in the U.S.A

311th Signal Command Public Affairs Office,
Building 520, 3rd Floor, Ft. Shafter, HI 96858

Check us out on the web!



Search on Facebook for:
311th Signal Command



youtube.com/311thsignalCommand

Contents

PREMIER SIGNAL MAGAZINE

4 Command Group Messages

Notes from the Commanding General, Command Sergeant Major, Chief of Staff, and Command Chief Warrant Officer

8 Q&A on Enabling Mission Command to Support Pandemic response

Enabling Mission Command for pandemic support – What's it all about?

14 DODIN-Army Pacific

Improving our secure network, extending support to the tactical edge

36 People First

Highlighting our Soldier and Civilian heroes

40 Phoenix Rising

Celebrating Signal Excellence

48 Homefront

Supporting the communities where we live and work

54 Enjoying the Pacific

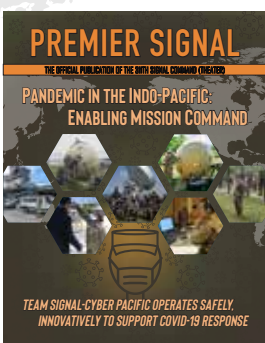
Unique opportunities in our region, on and off duty

56 Salutations

Welcome / Aloha - new command teams, key leaders
Farewell / A Hui Hou - Outgoing leaders, retiring civilians
In Memoriam – Honoring our fallen teammates

58 Command Group Messages

Notes from the Deputy Commander and Civilian Deputy to the Commanding General



On the Cover

Front and back cover
photo illustrations by
2nd Lt. Kenanlouis Guinto,
311th Signal Command

*What's your story about Signal equipment or support, exercises, volunteering, or enjoying the Pacific?
Ideas welcome! Contact us at USARMY-311SIGCMDPAO@mail.mil / DSN 315-437-4095 / COM 808-787-4095.*

Team Signal-Cyber Pacific,

This volume of Premiere Signal, “Pandemic in the Indo-Pacific: Enabling Mission Command,” speaks to the incredible efforts made by our team of Soldiers, Department of Army Civilians, Contractors, DoD and industry partners to increase capacity and capabilities on the network in response to the impacts from COVID-19 and increased telework. Signal-Cyber leaders across each local/regional Network Enterprise Center, Regional Cyber Center, Expeditionary Signal Battalion, and the Pacific G6/S6 community all played a critical role. These efforts continue to make a difference in daily operations as the pandemic lingers. The increased reliance on the network and use of collaborative tools (like MS Teams) will certainly persist in what will become the ‘new normal’ moving forward. While COVID-19 forced many planned events to be canceled or postponed, and our work force sheltered in place or were restricted on movement, our Army Pacific Network never paused or rested, but instead expanded significantly to meet Commander’s requirements in every corner of our Theater.

We’re in the business of ‘connecting people’ by providing continuous access to and defending the Cyber Domain while competing for a free and open Indo-Pacific. By connecting people, we enable mission command for our supported Joint Forces. This makes for challenging and exciting work as Signal-Cyber warriors, ever finding new solutions to be more agile, efficient and resilient.

As the Army continues to develop its multi-domain task force concept in the Pacific with future MDTF stationing actions planned in the coming years, integrating agnostic sensor to agnostic shooter networks and enabling new capabilities such as telemedicine and distributed resupply for our fellow war fighters are drawing ever closer and ties directly to building a Joint All Domain Command and Control (JADC2) system. The Mission Partner Environment in the Indo-Pacific continues to expand and evolve as a critical enabler with our Coalition Partners and will be an important part of Defender Pacific 2021. As we push for an increased forward posture and presence in the South Pacific, extending reach of the DODIN both strategically and tactically will be imperative for ‘Setting the Theater’ properly.

This volume will also demonstrate our continued drive to recognize our greatest asset, our People, and how we continually strive to improve our operating posture across the vast 311th footprint in Korea, Alaska, Guam, Japan (Honshu/Okinawa), Kwajalein and Hawaii. We are an amazingly close-knit family for being the Army’s most geographically dispersed Signal command. You are living proof that challenges do bring us together! Across oceans and 16 time zones, through pandemics, natural disasters, fiber cuts, rain fade, latent and low bandwidth, you always find a way to keep ‘Connecting People’.

I hope you enjoy this tenth edition of “Premier Signal,” our official publication of the 311th Signal Command, which features your own stories of unit victories and accomplishments in 2019 and 2020, across the Indo-Pacific and around the globe. This year we celebrated 160 years of the Signal Regiment, and all of you continue to contribute to our rich and storied past by making history every day and Winning!

Let’s remember to treat everyone with dignity and respect as a diverse team of valued professionals.

**Thanks for all you do in support
of the Army Pacific and our Nation!**

One Team! Theater Voice!

**BRIGADIER GENERAL
JAN C. NORRIS**
Commanding General
311th Signal Command (Theater)
AO, U.S. Army, Pacific



Aloha Team Signal,

First, I want to say thanks to the entire Pacific Signal Team for welcoming me into this ohana last May. This past year as your Command Sergeant Major was awesome because we have the very best Leaders, Soldiers, Civilians, and Families across the Army. Without you, we cannot be successful; thanks for all of your hard work and support to this great team!

This past year was jam packed with many new, exciting, and great things within our Army and the Pacific Theater. However, challenging events such as the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Civil Unrest across our Nation changed how the Army operates and opened doors to get us on a path to extinguish discrimination across our ranks to treat everyone with dignity and respect.

Now let us talk about the great things that have happened over the past year. The Army received a new Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. McConville, and a new Sergeant Major of the Army, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Grinston. Immediately, the Army began to make a positive change as Gen. McConville's philosophy shifted to a "People First, Winning Matters" concept, and the Army Priorities of Readiness, Modernization, and Reform remained. I believe this is an awesome concept, as we cannot effect Readiness, Modernization, and Reform without our People, which are our Soldiers, Civilians, and Family Members.

In the fall, Brig. Gen. Norris and I conducted battlefield circulation across the Theater, and we were impressed with all of the great things everyone is doing to support the Army and our Joint Partners. The COVID-19 Pandemic created some new mission requirements that everyone within our Team provided outstanding support.

In the meantime, continue to get ready for the upcoming Army Combat Fitness Test as its approaching fast. All of our units received their ACFT equipment over the past few months and we can now train and get ready. I challenge everyone to get out and train your hardest to ensure you are ready physically, and mentally ready to execute the ACFT.

Here lately, everyone may be hearing something called TIMS and most may not know what this is. TIMS or This is My Squad, is one of SMA Grinston's initiatives to help build cohesive teams. TIMS is about creating a mindset to educate, empower, and inspire a culture of ownership and empowerment throughout the Army. Some believe TIMS is only a Squad Leader thing, but it is not. TIMS is about Leaders affecting people within their sphere of influence. Your squad could be the group of people you work with every day, your family, or anyone that you can positively effect. TIMS will empower leaders at the lowest level to take charge of their team to strengthen cohesiveness and to reduce negative things such as sexual assault, suicides, and other negative behaviors that destroy our Teams. I ask every Soldier and Civilian to embrace this concept and help make a positive change to our Army.

In conclusion, so far 2020 has given us some challenges, but I know this resilient Team will continue to provide the best Signal support to our customers across the Pacific Theater. I ask every Leader to make sure you continue to take care of your people (your "squad") and I challenge you to do something to make your team better by the end of this year. Finally, remember to treat everyone with dignity and respect.

One Team! Theater Voice!



**COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR
RANDY W. GILLESPIE**
311th Signal Command (Theater)

Aloha kākou po'e hoa nui a me nā hoa hana! (Aloha to my friends and co-workers)

I am excited to share this volume of Premier Signal Magazine with you. Inside these pages is our collective story of overcoming the emergence of an unprecedented global calamity and how we continue to excel at our mission as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. While the Army minimized its daily routine, the Soldiers and Civilians of the 311th Signal Command answered the call of 'service to our Nation' and provided truly world-class capabilities in an unprecedented fashion.

I'm proud of everything that you have accomplished in this crisis. Because of you, our Army was able to rapidly respond and support the critical needs of our local, state, and National governments. Your tenacity and expertise at running complex networks facilitated our Army Leaders to maintain Mission Command and Readiness of our forces should we be needed. Because of your sacrifice enduring movement restrictions, your families and community stayed safe and we got the message through.

The year 2020 has been unquestionably challenging. Each month seems to come with its own new and paradigm shifting events that question our perceptions of the world around us. The World and Nation are starting to slowly return to some normalcy. During this return we all, undoubtedly, will face more adversity in our duties and at home.

I challenge each of you to be a "Leader of Adversity" through this period. Adversity, if not handled properly, can stop an organization from excelling, put persons under extreme emotional stress, and be destructive to relationships. Not everyone handles adversity the same and as a "leader of adversity" I challenge you to support each other to overcome, be resilient, and help each other. Listed below are few ideas to get you started:

Be Adaptable. Whatever comes your way don't worry and don't anticipate the worst outcome. Look for the best ways to move forward. Recognize how you respond and react to unforeseen events and control your emotions before they begin to influence your actions.

See the Long Game. Persevere toward goals that you have set in your work and home.

Avoid Discouragement. Adversity is not like a setback. Adversity could require a constant, focused approach to overcome and even your best efforts could go wrong. Abraham Lincoln lost eight elections but persevered before becoming president. Be the motivator.

Make new goals. In work and home make new goals for yourself. A goal provides you with a motivation for an accomplishment. Improving your health or diet, improving your running, or completing a new work project are all examples of goals we can set to keep us mentally challenged and sharp.

Engage the power of appreciation. Gratitude is a powerful emotion. Reach out to your coworkers and family. As we return to work walk around a bit. Showing appreciation improves health, reduces stress, and motivates everyone.

Adversity itself does not build your character; it reveals it. We are living in unprecedented times but I'm confident that we are up to the challenge.

Mahalo for your service and leadership to our Soldiers and to our great Nation. I'm proud to be standing with you.

One Team! Theater Voice!

COLONEL KENNETH HAYNES
Chief of Staff
311th Signal Command (Theater)



Aloha Team Pacific,

On Jan. 13, 2020, Brig. Gen. Norris established the Charter for the 311th Signal Command (Theater) Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO) position, which I sincerely accepted and proudly took on. As your CCWO, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you and thank you for your warm welcome. It is a privilege to be part of this wonderful Pacific Ohana.

The COVID19 pandemic compelled us to take a hard look at how best to use our current information technology systems to collaborate, conduct day to day operations, meet mission requirements, and most importantly, keep ourselves and our families safe. In a matter of weeks, our Pacific Team shifted most of its workforce into a virtual teleworking environment, fundamentally changing how we utilize our networks and applications. Our ability to quickly adapt to and overcome these challenges while continuing to provide uninterrupted communications are a testament to the professionalism and innovative spirit of our Pacific team.

At the height of the pandemic we continue to press on, fielding several new systems, improving our current networks, and adopting new technologies. We added the Transportable Tactical Command Communication (T2C2) heavy to our formation and have already begun to integrate this expeditionary communications capability into USINDOPACOM exercises and in support of COVID-19 medical support missions. Planned upgrades to the Regional Hub Node on Guam, the Large Extension Gateway on Okinawa, and facilities in Korea and Alaska will also bring additional transport capacity for our tactical systems as well as provide strategic reach-back into the Army Department of Defense Information Network (DoDIN-A). We also expanded our Virtual Private Network (VPN) capacity to accommodate our workforce by providing secure and protected access to our network as we shifted to a mostly teleworking environment. Additionally, modernization efforts across the Pacific brought significant infrastructure resiliency to our day to day operational and coalition networks with increased capacity and responsiveness.

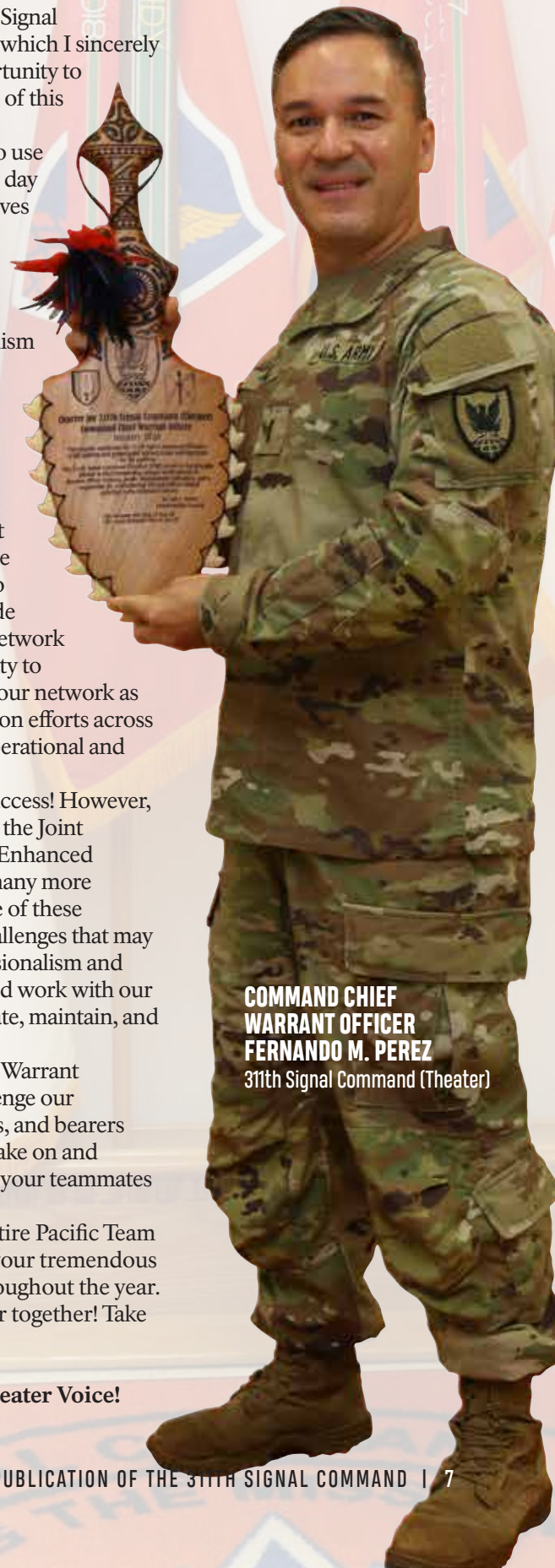
Our many accomplishments this past year has postured the Pacific for success! However, the next few months will be filled with greater challenges as we prepare for the Joint Regional Security Stack (JRSS) migration, Expeditionary Signal Battalion- Enhanced fielding, Theater Holistic Enterprise Network Modernization effort, and many more modernization projects as we continue to battle through COVID-19. Some of these projects will undoubtedly introduce our team to new technologies and challenges that may require additional skillsets. However, I have great confidence in the professionalism and technical proficiency of our Pacific Team to meet this challenge head on and work with our program executive office partners to obtain the necessary training to operate, maintain, and troubleshoot these systems.

Finally, this year marks the 102nd anniversary of the United States Army Warrant Officer Cohort - Congratulations! As leaders and technical experts, I challenge our Pacific Warrant Officers to lead the way as early adopters, trainers, mentors, and bearers of the utmost professionalism. More than ever we are counting on you to take on and solve our most complex problems. Continue to work and collaborate with your teammates and industry partners to offer innovative solutions.

I want to thank the entire Pacific Team for all that you do and your tremendous accomplishments throughout the year. We are truly stronger together! Take care and keep safe.

One Team! Theater Voice!

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE 311TH SIGNAL COMMAND | 7



**COMMAND CHIEF
WARRANT OFFICER
FERNANDO M. PEREZ**
311th Signal Command (Theater)

Enabling Mission Command for Pandemic Support – What's it all about?

An interview with the Commanding General Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris



“Our weapon system fires the zeroes and ones 24/7, 365 days a year. No cease fire on the Area Pacific network domain.”

Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris

Q - Are there new or emerging capabilities, practices adapted during this pandemic, or other new factors of operating in the Indo-Pacific that our Soldiers and Civilians should be aware of, or that may affect our priorities of work, as communicators in the business of connecting people?

A – Well, there is no doubt that telework (work from home-WFH) has taken on a whole new dynamic as a result of this Pandemic, as has the use of collaborative web based tools and use of the network. Whatever the new normal looks like post COVID-19, it will undeniably rely on the internet to connect people in new and more innovative ways in the future. But our priority of work will essentially remain the same — Connect People by providing continuous access to the Cyber domain to enable mission command for a free and open Indo-Pacific.



Q - What can we as Cyber professionals, our Fellow Warfighters, and Family members do to realize the lessons learned during or as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?

A –While we’re still learning lessons from this ongoing Pandemic, some quick takeaways to date are emphasis on following military command and local community rules to protect ourselves and remain healthy even as the pandemic wanes over an enduring period of time, learning to encourage and motivate one another through the fatigue and frustration experienced

and cancellation of many routine and valued traditional life events (graduations, ceremonies, etc.). And finally, learning to value and cope with family, who are typically brought closer together with restriction of movement and stay at home orders, which can evoke positive and negative outcomes.

Q - As we continue to establish a “new normal” alongside our industry partners and neighboring nations of the Indo-Pacific, are there any particular efforts or upcoming events

you would like to highlight?

A – Many planned events and strategic goals of the 311th Signal Command and U.S. Army Pacific in the near term will be influenced by the on-going COVID-19 Pandemic until it is brought under control and allows for safe travel and engagement to extend presence and influence across the Indo-Pacific area of operations. Regardless of when, demand for access to the cyber domain will only increase and our mission will remain constant, never a cease fire on the Area Pacific network domain. Our weapon system fires the zeroes and ones 24/7, 365 days a year.

Theater Voice!
One Team!

Pandemic Support in the Indo-Pacific: Operational Planning Excellence Enables Mission Command

Soldiers of the 311th G33 prepare Signal team for Success

BY LIANA KIM,
311th Signal Command (Theater)
Public Affairs Team

Helemano Military Reservation, Hawaii – Months before military and local government leaders began enacting precautionary and preventative measures for the COVID-19 pandemic, a Current Operations team conducted an exercise that proved critical to successful Signal support across the Indo-Pacific.

The 311th Signal Command (Theater) Current Operations team, led by Maj. Herman Montescarrillo, led the command headquarters staff in conducting a Continuity of Operations (COOP) exercise, essentially a simulated deployment which validated and prepared all to work remotely, Mar. 9-16, 2020.

“The COOP was only a success due to the efforts of many,” said Chief Warrant Officer David Bradley who planned and led the event. “Little did we know the overall impact the combined joint training between the 311th SC (T), 307th SIG BN, and the 30th SIG BN, would play in the events that have now encompassed all of the elements of the COOP due to the COVID-19 pandemic.”

IMO

Our team was greatly ahead of the TELEWORK curve for VPN and



work from home operations due to training and working through the technical issues with the hard work and efforts of our IMO team led by Mr. Kenneth Reid. Despite his shortage of manpower his team provided exceptional support: While completely wiring an entire room to provide services to accommodate forty plus individuals from two different support systems on

two different enclaves, providing technical support for connectivity at the COOP data and voice, they also provide technical support for VPN WIFI and software installation for Telework connectivity, while also providing unsurpassed support for the 311th at bldg. 520 on Ft. Shafter.

307th SIG BN – JNN, T2C2 support (JNN set up Mar. 3-6, 2020)

The 307th SIG BN Maj. wRebecca J. Cooper's efforts were essential in providing a location at their Motor Pool for the 311th SC (T) to execute 24hr operations in the second COOP exercise and their first tactical exercise by providing tactical voice and data connectivity. 1st Lt. Druanne J. Sutton's (307th A CO XO) team provided two different support systems to support over forty personnel, the JNN team and the newly fielded T2C2(H) tireless efforts were exceptional. With the help of the 307th NETOPS team led by Capt. Gabriel A. Sanchez (307th NETOPS Team) and Capt. Nicholas B. Harrell (From the 311th CUOPS) were able to navigate technical issues to provide connectivity back to critical strategic systems allowing work to be seamlessly conducted from the COOP location.



30th SIG BN

Staff Sgt. Guy L. Baxter (311th SC CUOPS BTL NCO) was successful in coordinating High Frequency (HF) support on short notice from the 30th SIG BN and providing expertise. Capt. Alycia R. Genao's (30th SIG BN HHD CO. Commander) radio team provided outstanding HF communication as a redundant means of support for the COOP exercise. Sgt. Jeremy D. Stephens (30th SIG BN HF Team Lead), despite being injured and on convalescent leave (not duty related), guided and instructed his team to establish two lines of communication. The team was able to make connectivity to both Japan and to Ft. Huachuca during the COOP exercise.

Sgt. 1st Class Reekie (311th SC) assisted the HF team in setup and had worked many hours prior to the COOP preparing the 311th HF equipment to support the COOP exercise. Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris was able to communicate to Ft. Huachuca while he inspected the COOP exercise.

Brig. Gen. Norris awarded the 30th SIG BN HF team with coins for their outstanding support.

"I think what really made the team successful was the expert knowledge on High Frequency radio, and the motivation of Sgt. Stephens' team members: Spec. Timothy Wages, Spec. Cory Jones, and Spec. Patrick Lockridge," said Capt. Alycia Genao, Commander, HHD, 30th Signal Battalion. "Also, they were able to transmit voice/data point to point over incredibly long distances. From Oahu to Japan is 3,900 miles."

HHC

The establishment of the COOP exercise would not have been possible without the support of the 311th SC HHC and staff. Sgt. 1st Class Brandon A. Whitesell (311th SC HHC) coordinated personnel, equipment and transport support via HMMWV and trailer to move equipment vital for COOP setup during on and off duty hours.

The success of the COOP exercise



was dwarfed in comparison by the exceptional cross training that was coordinated between all echelons to fulfill the mission and to overcome challenges and barriers to establish cross domain and continental communication.

Enabling Joint-Coalition Engagement and Partnerships: USARPAC G6 soldiers prepare, facilitate virtual Indo-Pacific Land Power Conference

BY LIANA KIM,
311th Signal Command (Theater)
Public Affairs Team

Fort Shafter, Hawaii – This spring, ten newly-trained Signal Soldiers arrived in Hawaii for their first assignment in the Army and got to work making history.

In just over a month, Soldiers of the United States Army Pacific G6 team re-fit an aging conference center with the communications equipment needed to host the very first virtual Indo-Pacific Landpower Conference, May 19–20, 2020.

“We just got here, hit the ground running, and started learning the jobs we’ll do day-to-day,” said Pvt. Kayshawn Mizell, Information Technology Specialist assigned to the USARPAC G6 team. “I’m just helping out, and learning a lot.”

Participated by 90 participants including Army Chiefs of Staff and Consul Generals from 23 nations, and broadcast live to a wider audience of subordinate leaders, this virtual event ensured critical coordination among these partner nations that the traditional Land Forces Pacific amid travel restrictions and minimum mission essential manning orders due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“I was impressed with how quickly these Soldiers who are brand new to the Army and the Signal Corps were able to build the capability we needed in an older facility without the





necessary infrastructure,” said Maj. Timothy Walsh, of the USARPAC G6 team, who led the set up and facilitation of the event. “Compared to a large staff that has been planning year round an event the past ten years, we are providing a new service in a new location, in a new format.”

This virtual event was conducted in lieu of the Association of the United States Army’s Land Forces Pacific (LANPAC) Symposium & Exposition, a professional development forum typically is held in Honolulu, Hawaii, which AUSA canceled due to the pandemic.

“The intent was to meet strategic objectives in the information en-

vironment by replacing the annual LANPAC symposium,” Walsh said. “We received the task in less than five weeks prior to execution, and the Soldiers executed it flawlessly.”

LANPAC is a world-class, international event highlighting the role of land forces in the Indo-Pacific theater and their contributions to the Joint Force in peace and war.

“This event has given our team the opportunity to hone in our crafts,” said Staff Sgt Ricky Lal, Noncommissioned Officer in charge of the team. “Real-world training for our Soldiers on tasks such as managing cables, router configurations, and securing routers and switches.”



Signaleers find key to successful joint communication: Soldiers of the 304th Signal Battalion build trust to “Kapchi Kapchida”

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY
1ST LT. JONATHAN SHOWMAN**
Alpha Co., 1st Platoon Leader
304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

Camp Humphreys, South Korea – Shoot, move, and communicate. It is said that warfare in the modern era boils down to these three basic elements. As Army Communicators, our role on the modern battlefield is to focus on the third element by making sure that the message gets through. But what does achieving this objective look like when seen alongside another aspect of the modern battlefield: that we, the United States Army, do not stand alone? How can we achieve our mission of communication when members of our team speak another language and communicate on the battlefield by different technological means? For Alpha Company of the 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion in Camp Humphreys, South Korea, this modern challenge is confronted through the timeless and authentic means of building relationships.

In November of last year, Alpha Company participated in an Interoperability Field Training Exercise with the Republic of Korea Defense Communications Command in the vicinity of Camp Casey. This training event consisted of five days of combined field training in which 40 Republic of Korea Communicators observed and learned about our equipment and capabilities. The demonstration focused on our



Spec. Lillian Gonzalez (center), a Multichannel Transmission Systems Operator-Maintainer assigned to the 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, demonstrates the operation of a Command Post Node Nov. 6, 2020, during the Interoperability Field Training Exercise with Republic of Korea Soldiers assigned to the Defense Communications Command at Training Area North Star in the vicinity of Camp Casey. (photo by Capt. Ady Audain, 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion)

Warrior Information Network Tactical (WIN-T) communications equipment with emphasis on both satellite and terrestrial methods of data transport. This training event was a continuation of an earlier Interoperability Field Training Exercise in which Alpha Company Soldiers were able to observe and learn about various Republic of Korea Military communication systems. Strategically, these systems are designed to offer communications durability by relying on terrestrial line of sight links to a redundant network of microwave sites throughout the Peninsula.

However, these training events are

not merely about showing off gear and communications strategies to our Republic of Korea counterparts. As the name implies, the objective of Interoperability Training is to improve communications interoperability between U.S. and Republic of Korea forces. But this cannot be achieved apart from a foundation of strong relationships and learning.

And the training has made clear that such new methods and capabilities cannot be built unless that foundation of trust and understanding is very sturdy.

The opportunity to build this trust is a treasured experience for Alpha Company Soldiers. The Republic

A Republic of Korea Soldier Augmented to the U.S. Army (left), assigned to the 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, translates operating instructions for a Satellite Transportable Terminal to four Republic of Korea Army Soldiers Defense Communications Command Nov. 6, 2020, during the Interoperability Field Training Exercise with Republic of Korea Soldiers at Training Area North Star in the vicinity of Camp Casey. (photo by Capt. Ady Audain, 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion)

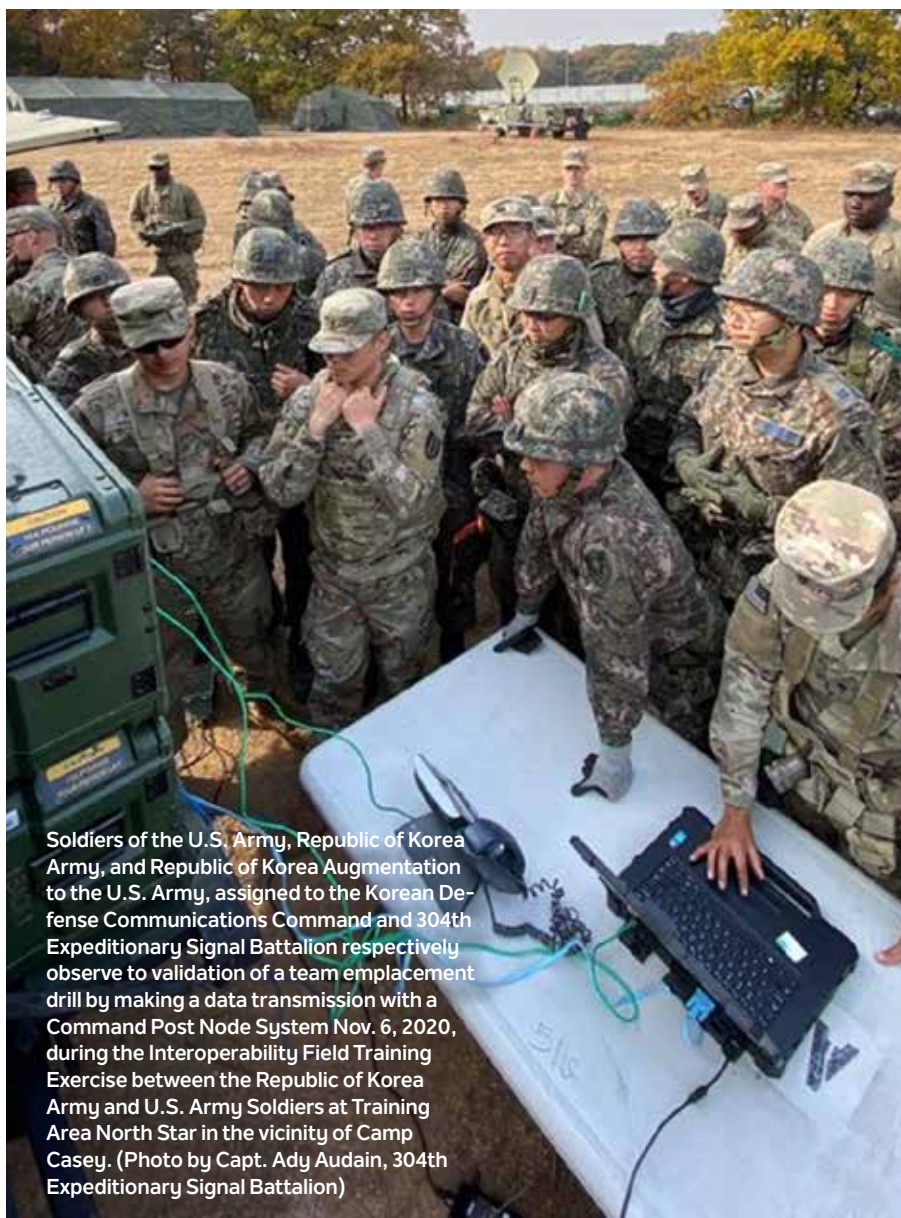


of Korea Army communicators approach their duties with the utmost professionalism and eagerness. They earnestly seek to learn everything they can and voraciously consume all information put before them. This training also highlights the critical importance of the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army program. The attached Korean Soldiers not only perform duties as interpreters for the instructors, but are also able to serve as emissaries between Republic of Korea and U.S. military culture in order to help build shared understanding.

Altogether, the communications interoperability training that Alpha Company focuses on is an irreplaceable component of the U.S. Army's commitment to stand alongside our Republic of Korea Army comrades. And although this particular aspect of the alliance presents a technological challenge on the surface, the key to overcoming this challenge remains timeless: strong relationships built on trust and understanding. "Kapchi Kapchida ... we go together."



Three Republic of Korea Army Soldiers, assigned to Korean Defense Communications Command conduct a team validation of emplacing a Command Post Node System which includes a Satellite Transportable Terminal and 10 Kilowatt Generator Nov. 6, 2020, during the Interoperability Field Training Exercise between the Republic of Korea Army and U.S. Army Soldiers at Training Area North Star in the vicinity of Camp Casey. (photo by Capt. Ady Audain, 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion)



Soldiers of the U.S. Army, Republic of Korea Army, and Republic of Korea Augmentation to the U.S. Army, assigned to the Korean Defense Communications Command and 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion respectively observe to validation of a team emplacement drill by making a data transmission with a Command Post Node System Nov. 6, 2020, during the Interoperability Field Training Exercise between the Republic of Korea Army and U.S. Army Soldiers at Training Area North Star in the vicinity of Camp Casey. (Photo by Capt. Ady Audain, 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion)

Pacific Signaleers deploy on short notice to support TFI8 (Guam)

Transportable Tactical Command Communications

BY 2ND LT. JM SKYRLL KADAVA

Yona, Guam – On Apr. 13, 2020, Soldiers assigned to Alpha Company, 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 516th Signal Brigade rapidly deployed to Guam, in response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), with the 18th Medical Command (MEDCOM) Deployment Support team. The 307th ESB provided tactical NIPR, SIPR, voice, and data satellite communication capabilities to the Task Force 18 Headquarters using the Transportable Tactical Communications Command (T2C2). This capability enabled the Task Force Headquarters to smoothly relay time sensitive and critical information throughout the operation, with the available high-bandwidth tactical network extension.

In preparation for the rapid deployment, the teams conducted a mandatory COVID-19 testing at Fort Shafer Flats, Hawaii. 18th MEDCOM conducted a drive-through system which enabled a smooth and expeditious testing process in which the results were given within a twenty-four-hour timeframe.

Throughout the duration of the mission, besides continuing to monitor the network, the T2C2 team established their own help desk operations to assist with any additional requests or issues that may have arose from the supporting customers. The visual aspect of the system attracted some curious



From left to right – Spc. Lee Sweeney, Sgt. Jonathon Isaac, and Sgt. Mason Kaufmann assemble their T2C2 equipment at the Task Force 18 Headquarters at Yona, Guam. Not pictured is 2nd Lt. JM Schryll Kadava, the leader/LNO for the team and liaison with senior leadership at 18th MEDCOM.

minds. The traditional trailer with a satellite dish is what most service members are accustomed to seeing. In return, the team was able to show the capabilities and how rapidly this system can deploy.

Even though the COVID-19 pandemic brought upon tribulation to our Nation's way of life, the

combined efforts of every member of the Task Force West Deployment Support team is something to be deserving of a notable credit for its success on supporting the overall mission in Guam. The efforts of the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion team for their rapid response to administer tactical communication

Spc. Rebecca Clark assembles the T2C2 enclaves during initial setup in Yona, Guam.

capability to the Task Force 18 Headquarters and adding a strategic solution to different grounds by extending the Army Pacific Domain to other sites in the island.

"The team did a fantastic job rapidly deploying to support the 18th Medical Command Headquarters. We've trained and stressed the importance of an Expeditionary Signal Company in the Pacific Theater," said Capt. Jonathan Sills, Commander, Alpha Company, 307th ESB. "The successful preparation and execution from the team, set the standard for others to emulate."



Capt. Gabriel Sanchez and Chief Warrant Officer Kyle Roudebush 307TH ESB NETOPS team prepare the Cisco switch to be used on extending AP NIPR domain at Task Force West.

Established AP Domain

Santa Rita, Guam - The 307th ESB Network Operations team collaborated with the 78th Signal Battalion Network Technician to extend the Army Pacific domain to multiple locations on the island in order to provide a strategic solution to the Task Force West operations. The team utilized an existing fiber infrastructure at the Regional Hub Node in Guam to extend the Army Pacific domain to the existing fiber connection at Task Force West Building 4175 and Joint Region Marianas Headquarters Building 200. This solution created a tunnel on both sites and enabled access to the Unclassified Army Pacific domain.

Grand Opening of Local Network Enterprise Center – Schofield Barracks, Hawaii



Schofield Barracks, Hawaii

– Community members, military officials and Signal Soldiers from all across Oahu joined the United States Network Enterprise Center – Schofield Barracks (USANEC-SB) for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new Local Network Enterprise Center- Schofield Barracks (LNEC-SB) on Jun. 19, 2020.

For the past 6 months, LNEC-SB Soldiers have dedicated countless hours to the transformation

of building 6042 and ensuring conditions are set to provide rapid and reliable Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Information Management (C4IM) services to the United States Army Pacific, 25th Infantry Division, Garrison and other Oahu customers. Prior to the establishment of LNEC-SB, all customer support requirements were shared between Local Network Enterprise Center- Fort Shafter (LNEC-FS) and the

Regional Network Enterprise Center – Schofield Barracks (RNEC-SB). The opening of the new LNEC-SB, now allows for LNEC-FS to focus primarily on supporting USARPAC and the new Command and Control Facility (C2F) located on Fort Shafter. Additionally, RNEC-SB will be able to center their efforts on becoming an Army Enterprise Data Center (AEDC) for the Pacific Theater.

The ceremony began with an introduction from the USANEC

Commander, Capt. Santiago, and an invocation from the 30th Signal Battalion Chaplain, Capt. Bazal. Capt. Santiago presented Certificates of Achievement (COAs) to Pfc. Smith, Pfc. Bethel, Spc. Merryfield, Spc. Feliz, Spc. Wheelock, Spc. Armendariz, and Sgt. Maloy for their outstanding effort. The 30th Signal Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Diaz, highlighted operational impacts and the historical significance of establishing the new LNEC-SB. Mrs. Talca Dawson was also recognized by Lt. Col. Diaz for the incredible training she provided to all LNEC-SB Soldiers. The ceremony concluded with the cutting of the ribbon by the company and battalion Command Teams. Upon completion of the ceremony, Spc. Armendariz provided distinguished guests Col. Smith and Command Sgt. Maj. Baker of 516th Signal Brigade, Brig. Gen. Norris and Command Sgt. Maj. Gillespie of 311th Signal Command with a tour of the LNEC-SB facility

In the near future, establishment of the LNEC-SB will not only enhance customer experience, decrease response times for outages and resolving VIP tickets, but it will also enable Army Directive 2016-38 efforts in the Pacific. In accordance with the Secretary of the Army and Chief of Staff, the 30th Signal Battalion is ensuring we are capable of providing “first-class service while reducing vulnerabilities and potentially saving resources.”

**Trusted. Empowered.
Accountable.
Mission Focused.**



A ribbon cutting ceremony was conducted to celebrate the opening of the new Local Network Enterprise Center- Schofield Barracks (LNEC-SB) on Jun. 19, 2020. The opening of the new LNEC-SB, now allows for LNEC-FS to focus primarily on supporting USARPAC and the new Command and Control Facility (C2F) located on Fort Shafter.



Expeditionary Signaleers build Tactical Network Interoperability at JRTC

Soldiers augment Japanese Ground Self Defense Force for Joint Readiness Training Exercise

BY: 1ST LT. SARA ALBERTSON,
Executive Officer, Charlie Company,
307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

Helemano Military Reservation, Hawaii – Soldiers of Charlie Co. in Alaska, 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion experienced several unique training opportunities during the 20-03 exercise at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, LA, in Jan. 2020.

Firstly, they set up and integrated their Increment 1 equipment into the 25th Infantry Division, 4th Brigade Combat Team's Increment 2 network.

"Currently the Tactical network has two fielded iterations of equipment," said Eric Smith, a CECOM Senior Technical Representative. "Increment 1 is now called 'At the Halt,' and Increment 2 is called 'On the Move'."

"Bridging the systems together does have some limitations and problems," said Smith. "Opportunities to learn on every level how to run them together."

"You guys were also required to use your Network Centric Waiveform modems that you typically don't have to use when you are staying at the halt," said Smith who specializes in networking and security and was on the ground helping the teams find solutions. "It's a learning curve for your hosting unit using Increment 2, and it's a learning curve for you to use equipment you haven't used traditionally."

The CPN teams also integrated with

and supported teams from partner nations of Canada and Japan.

"JRTC was the premier opportunity for the Canadian Army to further their tactical interoperability with our U.S. allies." Said Capt. Ken Bunting the Signal Officer for 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment (3RCR). "For having not exercised with us before, the speed at which the team could set up and tear down was really, really impressive."

The team also experienced interoperability issues relating to multi-nation network building, while their partners faced other challenges, such as not having access to the U.S. signal equipment.

"(U.S. Forces) do business a little bit differently than we do, so it was good to see that different perspective and take the opportunity to learn from one another," Bunting said. "The silver lining was that, all the limitations we identified brought opportunities to come up with innovative solutions, and we did it - figured out together how to solve it."

A second CPN team from Alpha Co., 307th ESB, was augmented to the 39th Infantry Regiment of the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force.

"This was the first time JGSDF trained at JRTC," said 1st Lt. Ryo Nakano, Intelligence Officer and HHC Executive Officer, 39th Inf. Reg.



1st Lt. Sara Albertson works on JBCP during Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear drill



Sgt. (Promotable) Dickerson works with her team to set up their Command Post Node in support of 3RCR.

"JGSDF has a lot of interaction with foreign militaries including the U.S., however, JRTC challenged us at another level. We had to operate and run while separated from the U.S. units."

"Not being able to touch the hardware resulted in a delay for us to send and receive information from the U.S.," said Nakano. "But we were able to learn each other's capabilities, gaps and challenges we faced with communications."

"Soldiers must understand that they must be self-sufficient, and be prepared to make changes to their baseline to meet the mission," Smith said on how small CPN teams can prepare for similar missions. "We developed our teams and made connections across the globe. Interoperability will continue to be challenging on a global scale. We will continue to grow and develop from experiences like these, to build stronger signal assets within the Army."

Bravo Company, 307th ESB, Supports U.S. Army Japan

Team maintains readiness during COVID-19 outbreak

BY 2ND LT. TYLER HUBBARD
1st Platoon, Bravo Company
307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

Camp Zama, Japan – In part of a bi-annual mission rotation from Jan. 24 to Jul. 11, 2020, B/307th ESB deployed one CPN team, one JNN, one Phoenix, three T2C2 (Transportable Tactical Command Communications) terminals and three mechanics in support of USARJ G6, and provided tactical NIPR/SIPR communications to USARJ operations. B/307th's Japan team deployed prior to the unforeseen outbreak of COVID-19. As COVID-19 spread across the region, many missions the team would support became postponed. The team shifted focus to maintain readiness while complying with safety guidelines.

Although operating during a time of reduced mission posture, our team demonstrated the rapid deployment capability of one of the Army's latest tactical communication systems in the form of the T2C2 as they transported it from Hawaii to Japan and had it in a deployable status in theater within 17 hours. As a result, it was determined that the T2C2's compact size and modular design provides 307th ESB the ability to provide a tactical communications link anywhere in the Pacific easily within twenty-four hours. The team conducted maintenance on systems weekly while wearing masks and maintaining social distancing guidelines. The team took their extra time to train on the new T2C2 systems and to validate teams for missions in the future. The T2C2's compact nature allowed for a minimum of operators to successfully utilize the system and as

a result stands as an excellent option to safely train, and deploy anywhere despite any COVID-19 restrictions. A T2C2 team is standardized at two personnel to deploy and operate on any given mission, and can easily provide support to any Battalion TAC, or Company CP.

The team also took the extra time to cross train personnel on non-MOS specific equipment. The team enforced that no more than two personnel would work on the equipment at a time and wear masks to follow COVID-19 safety guidelines. This training was primarily amongst 25B and 25Q MOSSs, on the CPN system assigned to them. The cross training opportunity allowed team members to better understand SATCOM as a whole and enhance their proficiency as a team. The Japan team's initiative in continuing safe and effective training during COVID-19 restrictions has developed junior Soldiers into versatile assets that will



T2C2 Feed Horn Assembly

B/307th ESB Japan Team 25Q, SPC Christopher Johnson assembles the feed horn to the 2.4M Antenna and subassembly radome as a part of T2C2 deployment training. The training was conducted on U.S. Army Camp Zama, Japan, where the Japan Team operated on a daily basis to maintain readiness, Mar. 20. Army photo by Sgt. Christopher Morgan, B/307th ESB.



Soldiers of Bravo Company, 307th ESB Demonstrate T2C2 Deployment before COVID-19 Restrictions

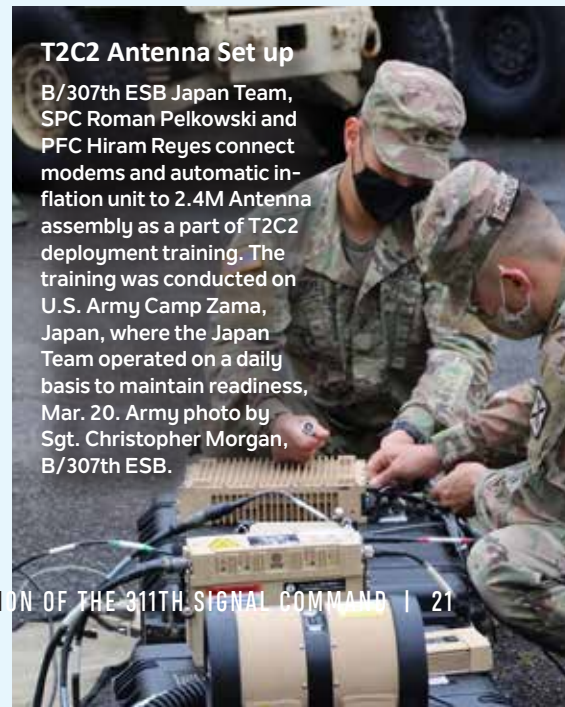
USARJ Commanding Officer, Maj. Gen Viet Luong, recognizes B/307th ESB Japan Team for their proficiency in deploying their T2C2 system. The display was held at Sagami Depot, Japan. The display was Maj. Gen Luong's first time seeing the system deployed, Mar. 12, Army photo by Lt. Col. Lan Dalat, USARJ.

greatly enhance team capability while on overseas missions. B/307th ESB's Japan team has maintained effective training under safety guidelines for the entirety of their rotation and continues to do so today.

The teams that we send to support USARJ are some of the best that 307th ESB has to offer. The NCOs and Soldiers that go over possess the desire to put their technical proficiencies to great use in support of whatever mission comes their way. As COVID-19 took the world by storm, the team did an exceptional job operating within the safety guidelines to answer the call if needed. The team's leadership and comradery embodies 307th ESB's motto: "Providing the best."

T2C2 Antenna Set up

B/307th ESB Japan Team, SPC Roman Pelkowski and PFC Hiram Reyes connect modems and automatic inflation unit to 2.4M Antenna assembly as a part of T2C2 deployment training. The training was conducted on U.S. Army Camp Zama, Japan, where the Japan Team operated on a daily basis to maintain readiness, Mar. 20. Army photo by Sgt. Christopher Morgan, B/307th ESB.



Fort Shafter Network Enterprise Center Marks a Year of Progress

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY
STAFF SGT. GENE GILBERT,**
Fort Shafter LNEC/ USANEC-SB,
30th Signal Battalion

Over the past year, the Fort Shafter Local Network Enterprise Center has drastically overhauled the network that it supports tenfold. Technicians supported the upgrade of over 200 devices across Hawaii to allow for a major bandwidth increase. The LNEC itself received a more versatile network monitoring system, an updated server, multiple network devices, and a state of the art cooling system that replaced an aging infrastructure.

The 30th Signal Battalion's USANEC Company operates across the Indo-Pacific region of the globe. One of the entities that operate within the Battalion is the LNEC Fort Shafter. It serves as a counterpart to the USANEC Network Enterprise Division (NID), providing multi-vendor Information Technology (IT) support to over 40,000 service personnel including United States Army Pacific (USARPAC), 25th Infantry Division, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, 18th Medical Command, and other tenant units located within the region.

The Fort Shafter LNEC employs 15 personnel: Seven DA Civilians and eight Active Duty Soldiers. Their daily mission includes Desktop Support, Network Services, Cable Management, and Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) support. Technicians are on call around the clock to respond to high profile outages and areas of concern. The LNEC facility provides services to over 150 buildings, 90 senior ranking personnel, including 15



ACS Cable Management – Staff Sgt. Gene Gilbert studies an equipment rack to update cable wiring diagrams.

General Officers.

During the Risk Management Framework (RMF) inspection for the Fiscal Year 2019, the Fort Shafter LNEC revised and hardened its security procedures and policies to shape and combat evolving cybersecurity threats. The efforts of the Fort Shafter LNEC along with the Schofield Barracks NID resulted in a positive impact on the United States Army's mission in the domain of Cyberspace.

The LNEC facility has seen significant progress over the past twelve months. Back in May 2019, the LNEC improved its facility vastly by removing over 21 cubic yards of unused office debris that cluttered the data center for decades. The cable team assisted in the overhaul of the cable arrangement which had not been performed in a decade or

more. Desktop Services has offered their support with the upgrades to computer workstations and the fielding of brand new multifunction printers. Today, the data center operates more smoothly as a result of the combined efforts of the LNEC.

The improvements had a direct impact on the LNEC's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The LNEC is the front line support for network communications for not only the main post of Fort Shafter but for other major locations such as Tripler Army Hospital and Shafter Flats. When the time came for the LNEC to respond, they were ready and able to successfully establish network connections for a testing center that provided testing and relief for medical units in the region. Without these capabilities, the medical units would not be able to send up accurate



Pfc. Keith James on his last day working at the Shafter LNEC.

communications on time. The LNEC takes pride in what they do and remains ready to handle any and every network issue that arises.

Within the year, the Fort Shafter LNEC has bid farewell to their fair share of personnel. Within the past year, the Fort Shafter LNEC has said Aloha to Sgt. Tyler Maloy, Spc. Eric Smith, Spc. Joshua Ortiz, Pfc. Keith James, Pfc. Oscar Lozoya, and Staff Sgt. Randell Thompson. Their dedication to duty has helped shape the LNEC as it is today.

The section also hailed its newest



Staff Sgt. Randell Thompson receives his farewell gift before leaving for his next assignment.

members, Pfc. Trinity Williams, Spc. Brandon Davis, and Mr. Jorge Bonilla. These individuals will continue a legacy that has been passed down to them from the previous technicians

before them. Today, the Fort Shafter LNEC continues its ongoing mission to support the Army's mission and its mission essential tasks ushering in another year of progress.



Spc. Eric Smith begins the progress of removing debris from the equipment floor in day one of Operation Clean Sweep.



Spc. Smith and Spc. Cruz are recognized for a job well done on Operation Clean Sweep.

Dark Knights Support Pacific Cobra Gold Exercise

An unforgettable training exercise during a global pandemic

BY 1ST LT. DRUANNE SUTTON,
307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

Phitsanulok Province, Thailand

— As the world faced a worldwide pandemic, Soldiers of Signal-Cyber Pacific did what they do best: find innovative solutions to unique mission requirements.

Soldiers of Alpha Company, 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, deployed a Command Post Node team to Thailand to provide tactical Secure Internet Protocol Router/Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router voice and data services for Pacific Pathways 20-1 Cobra Gold exercise led by the 25th Infantry Division and their partners.

“We got a massive amount of training in, and the team was able to troubleshoot our CPN system as well as other nodes across the host nation,” said Sgt. Scott Schelenberger, the Alpha Co., 307th ESB Noncommissioned Officer in charge of the CPN team while deployed. “Supporting the 3rd Brigade allowed us to exercise the use of our Network Centric Waveform modem, which we don’t typically use with our Increment 1 equipment.”

To protect the Soldiers supporting medical relief efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, new safety protocols were implemented for both U.S. Army and Royal Thai Soldiers.

“Safety is always the first thing on your mind during a mission,” Schelenberger said of the additional preventative measures taken due to the pandemic. “The 25th Infantry Division implemented daily temperature checks, mandatory face

masks, and a separate sick hall for Soldiers with flu-like symptoms.”

Due to the team’s exceptional communications support to the exercise, six Soldiers of the CPN team assisted the G6 shop to provide help desk capabilities, resulting in more than 300 resolved trouble tickets.

The team was responsible for managing all Microsoft Office 365 accounts across the division, and maintaining a list of all government laptops and cell phones to ensure all remained on the network and had

international plans. The team also helped troubleshoot 3rd Brigade’s CPN and STT equipment.

“The RTA Soldiers are very professional and well-disciplined, easy to work with,” said Schelenberger of their Thai counterparts. “They understand the mission and how important relationship-building is. They were excited to share a part of their culture with us, such as local cuisine, and historical sites.”

During the exercise, the U.S. Soldiers worked alongside the RTA



Soldiers of the Alpha Company from the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion CPN team 64615 and Soldiers of the ARFOR HQ after a basketball game with the Royal Thai Army.

Soldiers, collaborated on training and shared cultural experiences. The RTA Soldiers took the CPN team to visit the Chan Royal Palace Historical Center.

“We learned how public opinion can affect the way we operate on missions,” Schelenberger said of deploying tactical support during a pandemic. In summary he said the exercise was a unique and exceptional platform for the Alpha Co., 307th CPN team to train and work alongside service members of a partner nation.



Contracting Amidst a Pandemic

STORY BY THE USACISA-P TEAM,

Photos by the 1st Signal Brigade PAO Team



Soldiers and Civilians of the 1st Signal Brigade bade a fond farewell to Lt. Col. Burchell Porter, outgoing director of U.S. Army Communications Information Systems Activity-Pacific, and welcomed the new director, Lt. Col. Tilisha Lockley, during a Change of Directorship Ceremony at U.S. Army Garrison, Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea, Jun. 9, 2020. Photos by Spc. Elliot Richardson, 1st Signal Brigade



Tier-1 and Tier-272 support provided at the customers location. Other Functional tasks the contract will perform consist of Future Technologies / Advanced Technical Solutions Support, System Administration, Software and Operating Systems Support, Network Administration, Unified Capabilities, Internet Protocol and Video Service, Cybersecurity, Configuration / Change Management, Project Management Services, and Enterprise Maintenance Acquisition Support.

SAIC's two months phase in with the incumbent contractor, General Dynamics Information Technology, began on Feb. 13, 2020. As this was in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic there were added consternation as to whether or not SAIC would be able to fill all their positions, given that people were becoming infected with the virus.

U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, Republic of Korea – Lt. Col. Burchell Porter, outgoing director of U.S. Army Communications Information Systems Activity-Pacific, welcomed the new director, Lt. Col. Tilisha Lockley, during a Change of Directorship Ceremony at U.S. Army Garrison, Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea, Jun. 9, 2020.

Prior to that on Jan. 24, 2020, in the midst of the Coronavirus 19 (COVID-19) Pandemic, the United States Army Communications Information System Activity-Pacific awarded its Cybersecurity, Network Operations & Maintenance of Information Technology Support contract to the Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). The contract is valued at \$68 million

dollars over a period of four years and will provide non-personal core Mission Command Information Technology, Cybersecurity, Network Operation and Maintenance services for the USACISA-P. The contract will also provide the overall IT expertise and personnel support for the Mission Command Network Operation and technical support in the implementation of the Network and Network Operations capabilities.

Some Functional tasks the contract will perform include, Service Delivery Support tasks with two functional areas, Service Desk, which is comprised of all on-site Tier-1 and Tier-2 support provided to customers through telephonic and email; and Field Service Support, which is comprised of all off-site



Building a Resilient Korean Theater Network in 2020

BY MAJ. JEFFERY SCHIMIZZE,
USACISA-P

Consequently, not too many people wanted to travel to the Republic of Korea so SAIC was having a hard time filling the USACISA-P position even from within the SAIC organization. However, SAIC was able to hire over seventy percent of the GDIT employees, and by the time SAIC fully took over from GDIT on Apr. 13, 2020, they were able to hire more people than GDIT had at the end of their contract.

USACISA-P is a re-designation of Joint Communication Information Systems Activity as of Oct. 1, 2010 at United States Army Garrison Yongsan, Republic of Korea. USACISA-P mission consists of operating, maintaining and defending the CENTRIXS-K mission command network in support of United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea to ensure reliable availability of C4IM service to the forces within the Korea Theater of Operation. USACISA-P is currently a Directorate under the operational control of the 1st Theater Tactical Signal Brigade, in the Republic of Korea. With this new contract and the recent modernization of CENTRIXS-K datacenters, USACISA-P is uniquely positioned to operate, maintain and defend the mission command network in support of UNC, CFC, and the USFK and to ensure C4IM service capabilities within the Korea Theater of Operation.

U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, Republic of Korea – In the summer of 2017, tensions on the Korean peninsula were at a recent high, and renewed effort was placed on the tactical network to improve readiness. Army Signal Leadership addressed this with a massive push to get SMART-Ts, DKETs, WIN-T, Iridiums, and Tropo assets to Korea, quickly bringing in equipment to address requirements. Tensions were eased in early 2018 with the PyeongChang Olympics and diplomatic measures, which quickly changed the short-term outlook for South Korean posturing. The Korean Theater Signal team now had to readjust from a planned tactical mission, to the pre-crisis strategic network.

United States forces in Korea had long suffered from an outdated strategic network that resulted from a quick turnover of personnel, and a consolidation of posts and camps on peninsula. Construction delays on the move from Yongsan to Camp Humphreys also led to communication facilities operating far past their planned end of life. Power, HVAC, aged equipment, and outdated transport led to multiple outages throughout 2018 that became disruptive to daily operations. Equipment failures, communications rooms overheating, condemned facilities, and planned redundant systems not failing over all played a part in these constant outages. The recurring theme was failing old equipment that was past their life cycle causing supposed redundant systems to not fail over as expected. In Dec. 2018, Army Signal Leadership from CIO/G6, NETCOM, and ARCYBER gathered in Korea to address the strategic network. Teams were also brought in to assist in

developing a plan to fix communications in theater.

The first issue in assessing the problem was that personnel on ground in Korea were unable to simultaneously engineer and implement a new architecture while keeping the existing network running. It was quickly identified that off-peninsula assistance from NETCOM, DISA, and ARCYBER was needed to help modernize. After a two-week assessment, including representatives from all stakeholders, courses of action were developed and presented to leadership. The majority of the hands-on labor was contracted out, with a total price of \$42 million to address all issues identified across three networks. Although a solution using assigned signal units in Korea may have been cheaper, previous attempts at short term fixes were historically unsuccessful.

The next challenge was implementing a massive equipment and facility overhaul without shutting down any existing services. The plan took over one year to complete, and required multiple shifts in primary and alternate data center locations. While one site was renovated, all of the data was moved to alternate locations around the Korean peninsula, then moved back to the newly updated site to allow additional upgrades. Property accountability, TACLANE support, contract delays, and unexpected requirement changes were all dealt with over the past year to complete the installations.

All projects are nearly completed and scheduled to be complete in the summer of 2020, to provide U.S. Forces Korea with a reliable and resilient network that is more capable of supporting combat operations.

Pacific High Frequency Military Gateway: an instrumental asset

Soldiers of the 30th SIG BN pave the way for essential mission command

BY CAPT. ALCIA GENAO,

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment,
30th Signal Battalion

Schofield Barracks, Hawaii – As our Signal Soldiers in the Indo-Pacific are increasingly aware, the Army continues to focus its training on the ability to operate in an electronically degraded environment over extremely rough terrain. Therefore, the tactical employment of High Frequency radios brings multiple advantages in navigating complexities of the current strategic environment.

High Frequency voice and data capabilities have become a viable method of communication if VHF, UHF, and SATCOM communications are degraded or disrupted. HF provides steady, beyond line of sight communications and due to its sky wave propagation is much harder to target.

According to an article on the posture of the United States Army by Secretary of Defense M. T. Esper and Gen. M. A. Milley, the difficulties of implementing HF result from a lack of regular training, maintenance, and usage.

The main lines of effort that the HF Military Gateway team has been focused on to combat atrophy of skills includes quarterly training events; regular maintenance procedures; and consistent training and usage; which in turn have developed extremely competent, capable HF operators.

The HF Military Gateway Team currently consists of eight 25Cs (Radio Operator-Maintainer). The HF Gateway Station is located on Schofield Barracks and consists of x6 NVIS antennas capable of long range communications. The current



Soldiers of the HHD, 30th Signal Battalion High Frequency Gateway team assisting external contractors with grounding of the antennas, an extremely important project for the safety of personnel and equipment.

Photos courtesy of the entire High Frequency Military Gateway Team: Staff Sgt. Joseph Meek, Sgt. Jeremy Stephens, Spec. Cory Jones, Spec. Timothy Wages, Spec. Patrick Lockridge, Spec. Olivia Heng, Spec. Cassidy Hasenzahl, Spec. Austin Davis, Spec. Odie Moses, and Sgt. Robert Martin.

mission is to provide emergency and disaster relief support throughout the Pacific Region by maintaining HF communications with FEMA and the NETCOM HF Gateway. The future vision of the 30th Signal Battalion's HF Military gateway is to enhance mission command capabilities within the Pacific area of responsibility with eventual capability to integrate with Joint and Army units using a secure military grade radio platform.

The HF Military Gateway team in Hawaii has actively been involved in RIMPAC (Jun. 2018), Operation Lightning Shock 3 and 4 (2018), Poseidon's Valor (2019), quarterly HF exercises, Armed Forces day HF exercise, and Operation Cartwheel in Guam and Palau.

Sgt. Jeremy Stephens, the NCOIC of the HF Military Gateway and subject matter expert, trains and challenges his team daily, particularly during HF exercises throughout the year. Sgt. Stephens has also instructed and briefed several external units within the Special Operations community, 8TSC and 25th Infantry Division. Three Soldiers within the team, Moses, Jones, and Wages were recently promoted to Specialist, while Spc. Lockridge and Spc. Hasenzahl recently attended the promotion board and earned their promotable status. Both Spc Davis and Sgt. Martin are new arrivals to the HF Military Gateway team. Not only is the team training on HF, but building the team professionally to succeed at the next higher grade with greater responsibilities.

"The HHD, 30th Signal Battalion HF Military Gateway capabilities and competent HF operators make this an invaluable resource and asset within the Pacific," Stephens said, "and I am honored to be a part of this organization and team."



Soldiers from the HHD, 30th Signal Battalion High Frequency Gateway team transmitting long distance with low power, honing in on their skills during this training event.



Sgt. Stephens from the HHD, 30th Signal Battalion High Frequency Gateway team gives a capabilities brief to the 25th Infantry Division S6 team.

Pacific Signal University Remains Committed to Delivering Training

BY SHAWN SULLIVAN AND MIKE GRIMES

Pacific Signal University

Helemano Military Reservation, Hawaii – The leaders and instructors of Pacific Signal University adapted to online modality to continue to teach and certify United States Army Pacific (USARPAC) service members and civilians amid COVID-19 restrictions.

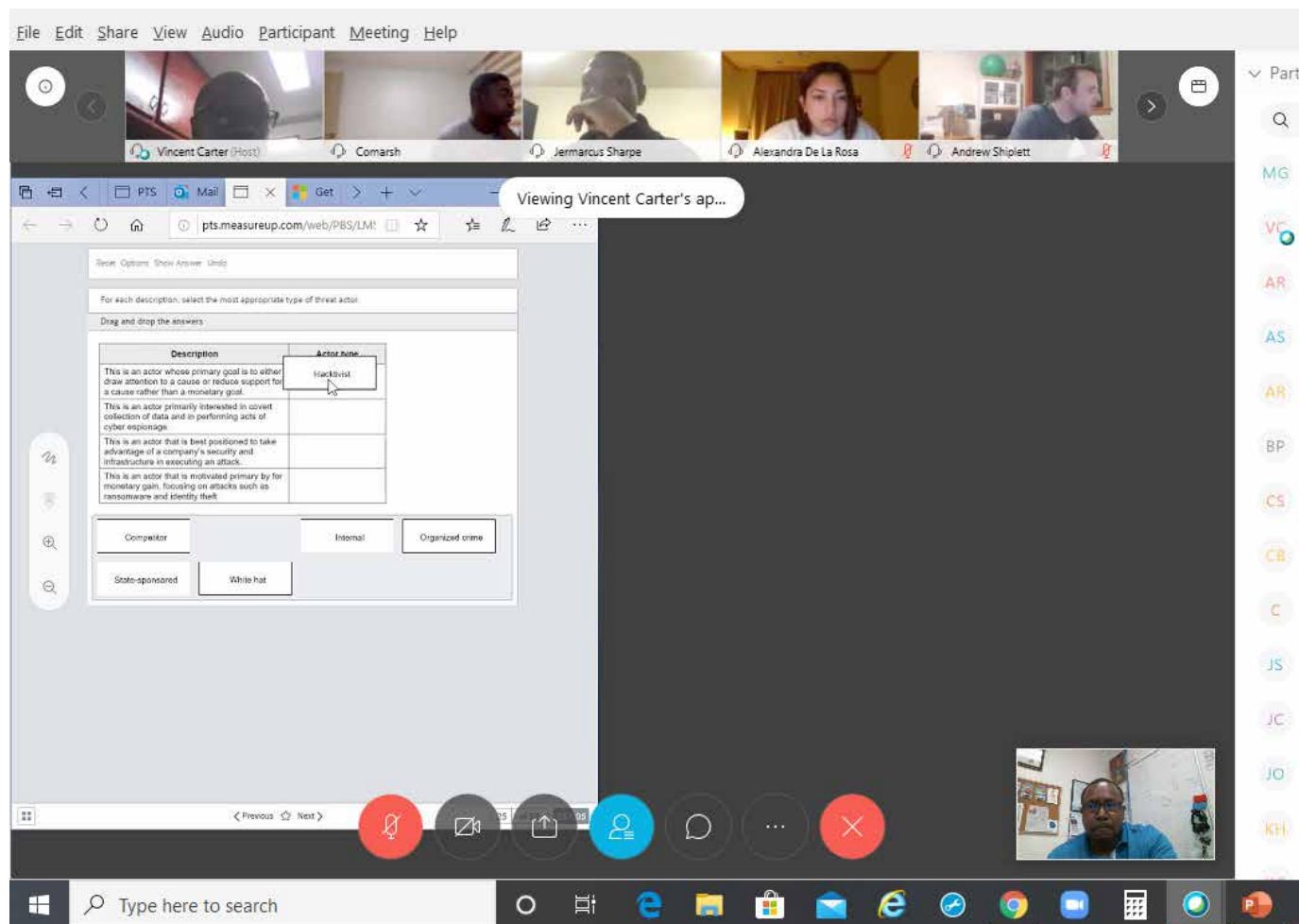
“I am grateful for the PSU team for doing a great job and exploring innovative yet secure options to continue distance learning and maintaining readiness,” said Col. Lisa

Whittaker, USARPAC Deputy G6.

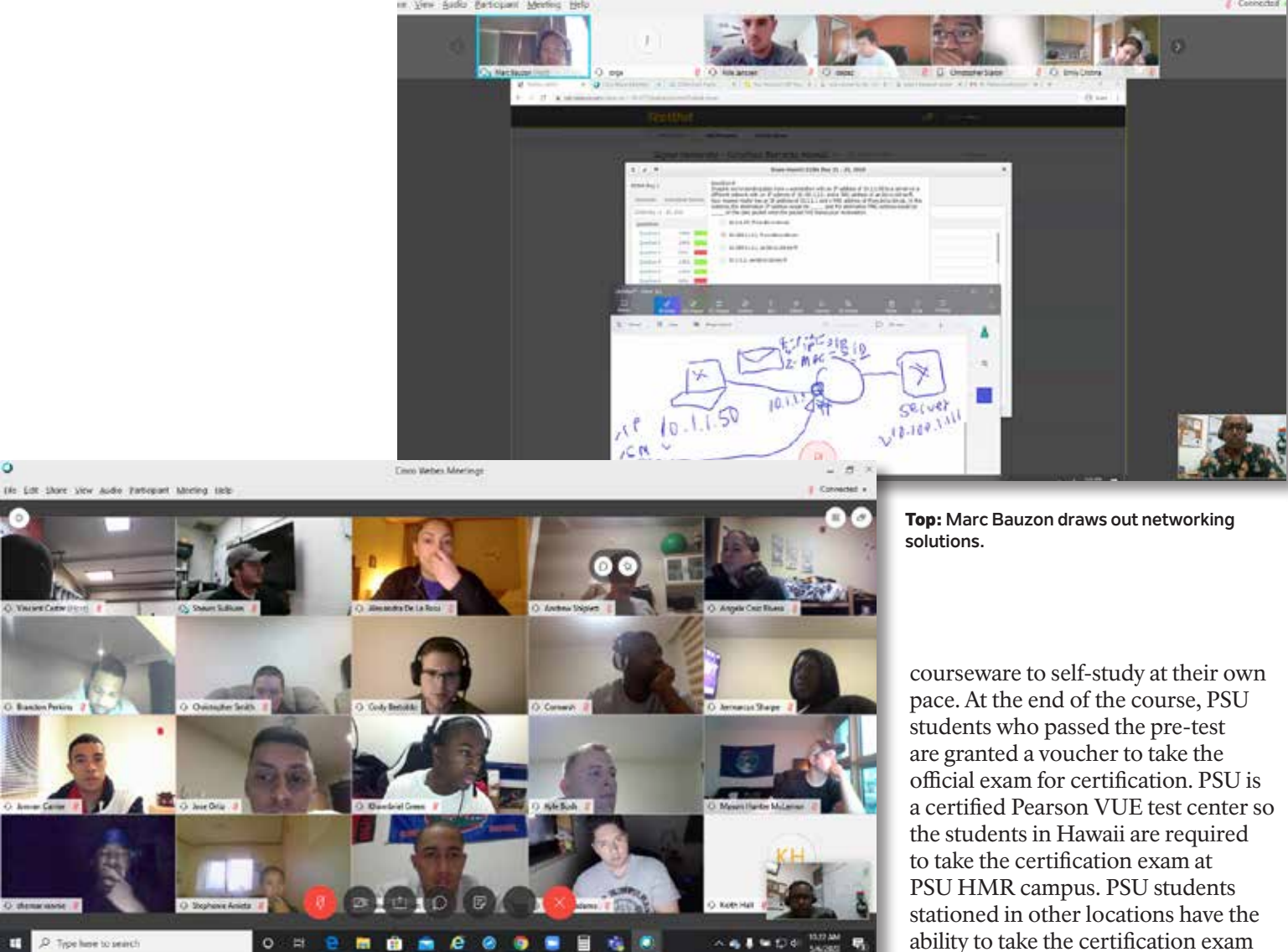
PSU is one of eleven Regional Signal Training Sites (RSTS), of which mission is to train, educate, and develop multi-disciplined Signal Soldiers and Civilians across the Pacific theater to support the full range of Signal operations. PSU offers courses such as: Security+, Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA), Fiber

Optic Installer (FOI), and various information technology (IT) related courses to include tactical radio systems.

PSU is located on Helemano Military Reservation (HMR) in Training Area Four (TA4), with panoramic views of Mt. Ka’ala and Kolekole Pass. Normally, courses are physically facilitated on campus at HMR and other OCONUS locations such as Republic of Korea (ROK),



Vince Carter conducts a check on learning.



Top: Marc Bauzon draws out networking solutions.

Japan, and Alaska.

Prior to COVID-19, PSU was exploring ways to provide online courses to make it more accessible to students while reducing cost of travel and shipping of hardware in OCONUS locations. Various online course aide applications were researched; Zoom and Cisco WebEx were strongly considered for teleconferencing and TestOut was considered for self-paced online education courseware.

USARPAC teleworking guidance was published 25 March and PSU quickly adapted to the online lecture using Zoom and TestOut for an IT Fundamentals course held 23-27 March. Unfortunately, PSU had to postpone scheduled fiber optic and tactical radio courses which couldn't effectively transition to an online forum. The first online IT Fundamentals course went well.

"Students were more attentive during the online sessions." - WIN-T instructor, Marc Bauzon.

Due to growing concerns with Zoom's privacy vulnerabilities, PSU quickly switched to WebEx to provide online lectures. PSU has completed five online courses using WebEx to include a Security+ course dedicated to Soldiers and Civilians stationed in the ROK. The cost savings were enormous as the cost to execute a Security+ course in the ROK is approximately \$20K.

PSU instructor, Vince Carter stated, "It was refreshing to see that the students were highly motivated to participate in an online learning environment opposed to having training canceled, with no date in sight of being cleared to travel."

PSU online lectures are held using WebEx and each student is provided with an account to use TestOut

courseware to self-study at their own pace. At the end of the course, PSU students who passed the pre-test are granted a voucher to take the official exam for certification. PSU is a certified Pearson VUE test center so the students in Hawaii are required to take the certification exam at PSU HMR campus. PSU students stationed in other locations have the ability to take the certification exam at home per Pearson VUE's policy published on Apr. 15.

Many PSU students have completed the online course and successfully passed the certification exam. Mr. Zachary Tocci, United States Army Japan was able to take the CCNA course amid travel restrictions in Japan. Overall, students have expressed their gratitude regarding course accessibility from home.

The COVID-19 situation has been fluid, and PSU has adapted to the changes to provide continuous and quality training for the USARPAC Theater. PSU director, Mike Grimes and three PSU instructors are committed to evolve and transform courses to accommodate those eligible to partake in PSU. Please contact your local PSU coordinator for more information on PSU courses. If you would like to take a pure self-paced IT course, please contact Mike Grimes for access to Pearson's on-demand online IT training.

U.S. Army Network Enterprise Center – Okinawa Stretches out safely in new, state-of-the-art facility

BY 1ST LT. BLAKE TOTH,
78th Signal Battalion

Okinawa, Japan - The United States Army Network Enterprise Center – Okinawa (USANEC-O) under the 78th Signal Battalion, executed a facility move into a new state of the art, \$35 million Network Enterprise Center (NEC) on Torii Station, Okinawa, Japan. Since 2019, the NEC has conducted extensive planning and preparation to relocate Army enterprise services for the Army community throughout Okinawa. Additionally, the “Rough NEC” operates and maintains the Joint Warfighter Inter-base Telecommunication Network (JWITN), which supports all Marine, Navy, Air Force, and Army bases on the island of Okinawa. The USANEC-O operated out of four buildings, sprawled throughout three installations across the island. As a result, the move consolidated multiple enterprise branches under a single facility which will ultimately foster improved collaboration and interoperability to better support the warfighter.

“The move from the old center into the new center was smooth. Support from USAG – Okinawa had a large impact on ensuring the move was organized and completed in a timely manner,” said Sgt. Aaron Nobuo, Supply and Maintenance Team NCO. “The new supply room has ample space to efficiently store, issue and conduct all supply and maintenance related actions.”



The 40,000 square foot United States Army Network Enterprise Center – Okinawa footprint with sister unit, USASA – Okinawa (DSCS) Radomes, set in the background. Torii Station, Okinawa, Japan. (Photo by 1st Lt. Blake Toth)

The supply and maintenance section relocation was by far one of the largest muscle movements for the USANEC-O and initiated the entire relocation process. During the preparation phase, Sgt. Aaron Nobuo and Spc. Kenyatta Lane of the Supply and Maintenance Team conducted an initial inventory of all property items, turning in any excess items within the supply cage and coordinating transportation assistance through the United States Army Garrison – Okinawa (USAG-O). Throughout the entire move to the new facility, the Supply

and Maintenance Team practiced proper supply discipline by maintaining an accountable manifest during each iteration of supply movement into the new facility. After moving the supplies and organic property, the team conducted a second inventory and organized and labeled the new space. The team maintained 100% accountability of all property book items throughout the relocation. In addition to transporting and maintaining the property, the Supply Team was also tasked with key custodial duties, issuing hundreds of keys to



Soldiers of the Army in Okinawa were able to attend the 8th Army's Wightman NCO Academy Basic Leaders Course at the United States Army Network Enterprise Center – Okinawa's new classroom. The space and technological resources at the new facility allowed for distanced learning, given the COVID-19 environment. (Photo by 1st Lt. Blake Toth)



USANEC-O Soldiers from the Network Support Branch, Pfc. Carlos Garcia (left) and Spc. Victor Nguyen, learn how to install and configure switches during the telecommunications installation of the new Network Enterprise Center. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Monge)

USANEC-O personnel as they moved into the new facility to commence a new era of telecommunications support with an already established history of excellence.

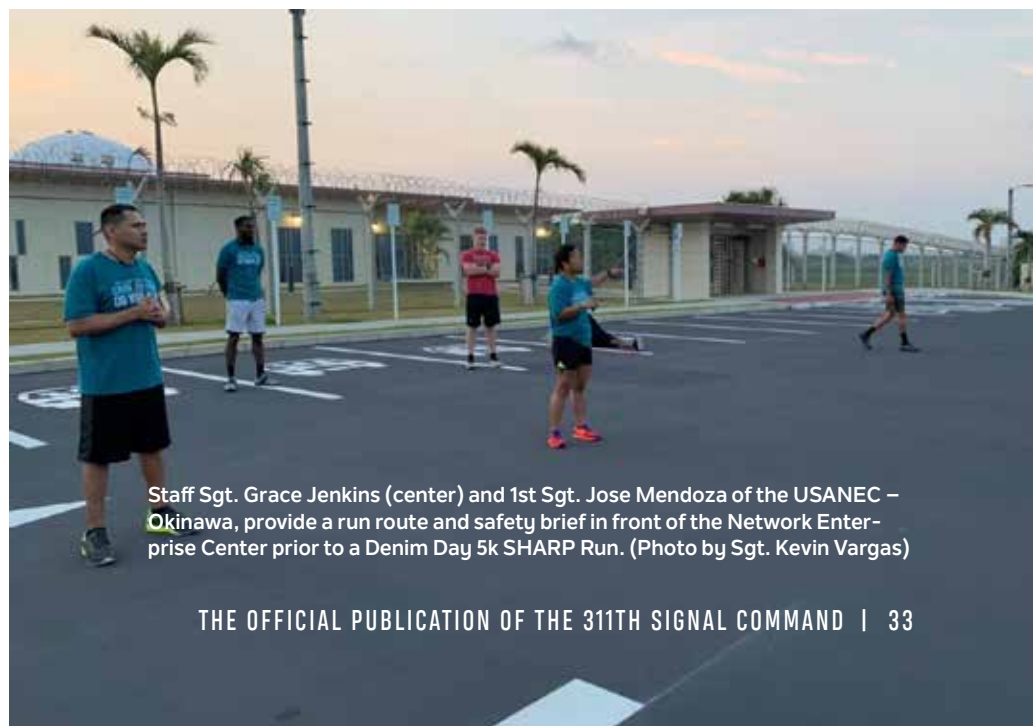
While the Supply Team led the charge into the new facility, the USANEC-O Command Team was close behind, but no closer than six feet to meet social distancing guidelines. Company Commander Capt. Taumaloto To'o, 1st Sgt. Jose Mendoza, Executive Officer 1st Lt. Blake Toth and Program Director Mr. Jason Parker were eager to work together under the same roof to facilitate enhanced coordination and management of the extremely impactful USANEC – Okinawa USANEC-O mission while maintaining customer support as the number one priority. The plethora of health preserving COVID-19 restrictions certainly added a level of difficulty while moving nearly 100 personnel and relevant equipment, and implementing technical adjustments for communications service continuity.

Throughout the NEC relocation, a crucial aspect of the mission was keeping everyone safe from the threat of contracting COVID-19, while also striving to maintain scheduled timelines. Given these environmental circumstances, the seven support branches within the NEC adjusted to an altered telework schedule; shortly before relocating. Between telework for Department of the Army Civilians and alternate duty location for Japanese Master Labor Contractors, the USANEC-Okinawa managed to continue the relocation at a reduced but safe and efficient pace. This schedule ultimately allowed for proper social

distancing while relocating branches on their scheduled week by moving one person per day to minimize contact between members of the USANEC – Okinawa. Once situated in their new space, the ample size of the facility enabled the USANEC-O in adhering to social distancing guidelines from USAR-J, furthering the protection of the force from potential COVID-19 exposure.

“More than 300 hours of planning, rehearsing and executing went into our move into this new facility, said Capt. Taumaloto To'o, USANEC – Okinawa Commander. “We have such an excellent team of Local Nationals, DA Civilians and Soldiers who provided strict oversight to maintain the health and safety of our workforce during the transition under COVID-19 restrictions. Consolidating our workforce from three separate geographical locations will drastically improve the efficiency of USANEC – Okinawa.”

With nearly the entire USANEC-O centrally located on Torii Station, the company now shares a garrison environment with the 78th Signal Battalion Headquarters adding another level of support for both the unit and the customer. The NEC has historically been split across numerous locations but now all assets to include JWITN supported DoD entities are able to visit the same facility for all of their telecommunication support needs. The USANEC-O will continue to provide state of the art DoDIN C4IM capabilities, contingency communications, and COMSEC support to the Warfighter, Installation Commanders, Mission Commanders, and United States Army Japan tenants.



Staff Sgt. Grace Jenkins (center) and 1st Sgt. Jose Mendoza of the USANEC – Okinawa, provide a run route and safety brief in front of the Network Enterprise Center prior to a Denim Day 5k SHARP Run. (Photo by Sgt. Kevin Vargas)

Enabling Mission Command for COVID Support





Soldier Spotlight: Sgt. 1st Class Young

In recognition of outstanding performance by a
Senior Noncommissioned Officer, Jan. 2019 – Present

BY SPC. IAN MERRYFIELD
USANEC-SB, 30th Signal Battalion

Schofield Barracks, Hawaii – Sgt. 1st Class Young of the 30th Signal Battalion is one of the Army's finest Noncommissioned Officers currently serving and deserves to be recognized for his outstanding performance as both a Soldier and a Leader.

For over a year, the 30th has been going through the historic decommissioning of the Field Station Kunia Satellite Communications (SATCOM) Facility outside Schofield Barracks. Sgt. 1st Class Young has been the man at the front of this endeavor since its conception over 15 months ago.

Closing a facility may be easy to say, but the actual execution is no small task. It involved the organizing, deconstruction, transportation and disposal of a 50-foot antenna weighing over 5000 lbs. There was also the reallocation of 4 trailers of communications equipment, and demolition of five buildings.

Between the months of planning and waiting for authorization, Sgt. 1st Class Young ran point. He coordinated efforts and headed off unnecessary complications. He planned around unexpected issues such as the height limit of cranes in a military construction zone. He found solutions on how to dispose of excessive amounts of unclaimed equipment that could not be repurposed.

When approval was finally granted, Sgt. 1st Class Young wasted no time,



Sgt. 1st Class Young

having boots hit the ground on Sep. 16, 2019 and finishing on Oct. 3, 2019. The entire time he managed the project and was side-by-side with his team whenever possible.

After the removal of the SATCOM equipment, he then had to organize the dismantlement of 4 of the 5 remaining buildings constructed from welded conexes. To depose of them, he needed to locate certified construction technicians. With local resources nonexistent in a strategic signal battalion, he had to outsource to another unit.

Currently, he is preparing to go into each building to clear out all of the foundation materials, drywall, and electrical wiring. His goal is to be able to turn in the conexes for repurposing before signing the property over to the Directorate of Public Works (DPW).

What makes Sgt. 1st Class Young an extraordinary NCO is that he maintained a clear and methodical



Day 1

Taken on the first day of the decommission. This sad but beautiful picture marked the end of Kunia SatCom and the beginning of one of the largest undertakings 30th Signal Battalion had seen in almost ten years.

approach to this entire process while also serving as the 30th Signal Battalion's Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, performing duties as a section leader, organizing a company field training exercise, enrolling in college courses, and maintaining his personal life as a husband and father.

As stressful as the time was, facing the end of the home of SATCOM here at Field Station Kunia, Sgt. 1st Class Young never once lost his temper. He made the best of a bad situation for his Soldiers, and chose to turn this sad event into one of the best learning experiences possible; using the brief periods of downtime as moments to impart wisdom from his years of experience. There are very few words that can describe Sgt. 1st Class Young, but exceptional is perhaps the closest.

As a mentor, as a section leader, as a Soldier, and as a friend, Sgt. 1st Class Young is one of the best of us all.



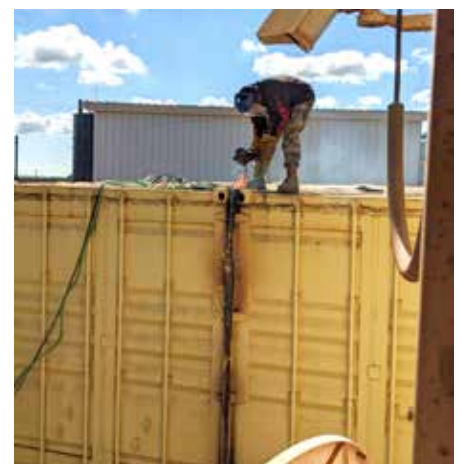
Day 16

Here government contractors are craning done the high power amplifier room from the pedestal of the antenna.



Day 21 75% 1-2

Take from day 21 after most crane works had been done and were just awaiting transportation.



Conex Deconstruction 1-2

Here shows the cutting in half of two of the offices comprised of two welded together conexes.

Behavioral Health Team Combats Isolation with Fun and Games

Soldiers attend Virtual Game Night during Social Distancing

BY SGT. DEANTE' BROWN,
Strength Team / S1
HHC 516th Signal Brigade

Honolulu / Fort Shafter, Hawaii
– With the goal of giving Soldiers a sense of togetherness in a time that keeps them physically apart, The Fort Shafter Embedded Behavioral Health Clinic hosted a night of friendly entertainment, May 8, 2020.

“Basically, Game night is about keeping everyone connected in this time of social distancing,”

said event organizer Sgt. Brooke Cardinali.

Friday Nights beginning at 1900 HST, The StayConnected Discord Server opens up for competition across a myriad of games, such as Uno, Mobile Legends, Mario Kart Tour, and more! Some of the real life prizes up for grabs for the winners are gift cards, bragging rights, and other unit specific incentives.

“It was really fun, competitive, and builds great comradery,” said prize winner Spc. Jordan Ryals.

The mainstay game of the evening tends to be Uno, a popular choice among players, and the prize pools are designed around the number of participants each week. Discord, the mobile/desktop application used to host the forum for the games, is free to use and user friendly to set up. A simple invite from the event organizer and players are on their way to play!

“We mostly play Uno. It’s an easy game to pick up and most people enjoy it,” said Sgt. Ben Victoriano. “We also wanted to get with our command



Capt. Kerry Metcalfe, HHC, 516th Commander, presents Spc. Jordan Ryals with the gift card he won on game night.

team to make sure some of the prizes would be enticing to the Soldiers and encourage participation within limits of what we’re able to do. We want to make this an ongoing thing to continue into the future.”

As the Game Nights are run by the Embedded Behavioral Health Clinic, it also serves as a great avenue to showcase the accessibility of their team and get the word out of other events such as the Relaxation Tips sessions held over Facebook Live Tuesdays at 1500 HST, most recently featuring water color painting tips, to add other ways to destress during the week.

“Our specific clinic services all

of south Oahu. We want everyone to know as much as they can about the resources and events available to them,” Cardinali said.

“I believe Game Night is very important, especially now for several reasons; it gives Soldiers something safe and entertaining to do, it helps build relationships within the unit, and it staves off isolation, said HHC 1st Sgt. Mary Cooper. “This is a trying time for us all, and it is much harder to overcome things or bring yourself out of a dark place alone. Giving Soldiers a way to be together is paramount to taking care of the family that we are.”

311th SC (T) Headquarters “Team Tri” stays fit, leads the way in fitness events

The 311th Signal Command (Theater) is an athletic and physically fit Warrior Team. Our trusted professionals hold diverse positions across our force, and challenge one another to maintain a high level of fitness in order to accomplish any mission.



Pacific Team Signal earns Army Superior Unit Award (ASUA)

Soldiers, Civilians assigned to units of the 311th Signal Command (Theater) authorized to wear the ASUA

BY PFC. DESIREE MEADOWS,
311th Signal Command (Theater)

Honolulu – In celebration of having been awarded the Army Superior Unit Award (ASUA), the Soldiers of Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 311th Signal Command (Theater) held a streamer presentation ceremony at the historic Palm Circle Gazebo on Fort Shafter, Friday Jul. 24, 2020.

More than 45 Soldiers, Department of the Army (DA) Civilians, and their guests attended the ceremony with Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris presiding as the speaker. During his remarks, Norris recalled the historic footprint the Soldiers of the 311th had in the Indo-Pacific.

“We’ve been in this theater a long time and have always been aligned to the Indo-Pacific,” Norris said. “This is great that the unit is finally getting some well-deserved recognition for what we do every day, and that is to enable mission command by providing continuous access to the cyber domain - an important mission for the Army in the Indo-Pacific.”

According to the award citation, the command’s efforts were recognized during the period of Jan. 1, 2017 to Sep. 30, 2018, in which the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 311th Signal Command and all assigned units demonstrated outstanding meritorious service enabling mission command through effective strategic communication infrastructure and information security throughout the Pacific theater for operations during All Things Pacific for fiscal year 2018.



The 311th Signal Command (Theater) held a streamer presentation ceremony for having been awarded the Army Superior Unit Award. The event took place at the historic Palm Circle Gazebo on Fort Shafter, Friday Jul. 24, 2020. (Official U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Bishnu Bhandari)

According to DA Pamphlet 670-1 Table 20-1 Notes, Soldiers may wear the unit award temporarily if the individual was not present with the unit during the period cited but was subsequently assigned to the unit. Soldiers may wear the unit award only while assigned to the cited unit. For elements of regiments organized under the new manning system, only personnel of earning unit wear the emblem temporarily. Temporary unit awards will not be worn for official photographs or for promotion/selection boards.

A Soldier may wear the unit award permanently if the individual was assigned to, and present for duty with the unit any time during the period cited; or who was attached by competent orders, and present for

duty with the unit during the entire period, or for at least 30 consecutive days of the period cited. When a Soldier is permanently awarded a unit award and is subsequently assigned to a unit that has received the same unit award, the Soldier will wear the permanent award in lieu of the temporary unit award.

Additionally, Norris highlighted the efforts of DA Civilians for Pacific Team Signal and praised their professionalism and dedication in helping to garner the ASUA.

“Over 50 percent of this team are dedicated civilians – experts that we cannot match on the military side,” Norris said. “So I really want to highlight the efforts in all that they’ve done and emphasize that the civilians get to wear this award just



Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris, the 311th Signal Command (Theater) Commanding General, provides remarks during a streamer presentation ceremony for having been awarded the Army Superior Unit Award. The event took place at the historic Palm Circle Gazebo on Fort Shafter, Friday Jul. 24, 2020. (Official U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Bishnu Bhandari)

like the military.”

The ASUA Lapel Pin is authorized for issue and wear by DA Civilians assigned to the decorated unit. Those individuals employed by the unit during the cited period may wear the lapel pin permanently.

How will the award be added to the Soldier’s record? The G1/S1 personnel will scrub all personnel assigned to the unit from Jan. 1, 2017 to Sep. 30, 2018 to see who is eligible. A list of names will be generated with all assigned personnel. The permanent order will be uploaded into the Soldier’s records based on who was assigned during the referenced time period. After the documents are uploaded into the Soldier’s record the ASUA will be added to their Soldier Record Brief or Automated Record Brief. Soldiers that are no longer assigned, but eligible to wear the ASUA, can email the following inbox, usarmy.shafter.311-sig-cmd.mbx.g1-pmb@mail.mil, providing the information to include their previous or current rank at the time along with name, phone number, and an email address.

Meanwhile, Norris discussed the continued challenges that the Soldiers of Pacific Team Signal face as they lean forward towards future efforts.

“As we continue to maintain a free and open Indo-Pacific, we should look at a more enduring forward posture,” Norris said. “In that where the forces go, we have to be there to connect them.”



The 311th Signal Command (Theater) Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Gillespie, place an Army Superior Unit Award streamer during a presentation ceremony at the historic Palm Circle Gazebo on Fort Shafter, Friday Jul. 24, 2020. (Official U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Bishnu Bhandari)



The 311th Signal Command (Theater) Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Gillespie, place an Army Superior Unit Award streamer during a presentation ceremony at the historic Palm Circle Gazebo on Fort Shafter, Friday Jul. 24, 2020. (Official U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Bishnu Bhandari)

Team Yeti Celebrates Barbara Flynn, NETCOM's 2019 Civilian of the Year!

BY MARC AYALIN

311th Signal Command (Theater)
Public Affairs Team

Fort Greely, Alaska - The U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command awarded Barbara Flynn as their 2019 Civilian of the year.



Flynn is a Telecommunications Specialist and was the Secured Communication and Satellite Communications Chief. While working for NETCOM, Flynn provided assured secured communication, operations, maintenance and SATCOM connectivity for a critical 24/7 ground-based midcourse defense mission for more than 10 years.

"At Team Yeti, we truly feel the meaning of, 'The Army goes rolling along,'" said 2nd Lt. Courtney Earle, USANEC Commander, 59th Signal Battalion. "To Barb Flynn, thank you for carrying a 200-lb Rucksack while you served the 59th."

Under Flynn's leadership, Fort Greely, Alaska's SATCOM facility was named Defense Information Systems Agency Pacific Facility of the Year seven out of the last ten years, and earned the 2019 Global Facility of the Year award and the DISA Commander's Cup.

The Delta Junction, Alaska native has administered several multimillion-dollar operations and maintenance contracts, including preparing and executing three Base +4 service contracts and multiple

yearly service contracts during her career. Lastly, she managed the installation and upgrade of critical communications systems in remote and austere locations, including assisting with the removal and replacement of three SATCOM systems while coordinating systems software upgrades to sustain cybersecurity at Fort Greely.

For Flynn, working for NETCOM allowed the opportunity to gain a wide range of experiences.

"The NETCOM team allowed me to work on a wide variety of different projects, gaining knowledge in multiple areas encompassed in Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Information Management," Flynn said. "In addition, the people who support our missions around the globe have been extremely supportive and encouraging."

Additionally, Flynn's leaders have

been very appreciative of her efforts as she moves on. During her farewell event, the USANEC Commander spoke more on the legacy Flynn leaves for others to follow.

"As we reflect upon (Flynn's) significant contributions, we remember that she has left Yeti Nation in a better position than they found it," Earle said. "We are extremely grateful for her and her family's service."

As she reflected on her time with NETCOM, Flynn provided some key insights in gaining success in the workplace.

"I would say, 'Build positive relationships with your coworkers, tenant units, and be open to learn from those around you. Learn everything you can! If you take the time to pursue professional development, and learn more than just your part of the mission, you will be successful.'"



Barbara Flynn, Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris, the 311th Signal Command (Theater) Commanding General and Col. Craig Smith, the 516th Signal Brigade Commander conduct a virtual meeting using Microsoft Teams to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Pacific Team Signal Officer Earns Army Leadership Award!



Capt. Emily Bye (right) poses for a photo with her husband Cody Bye (left) shortly after she assumed command of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 311th Signal Command (Theater) on Apr. 2, 2019 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. Capt. Bye has had the distinct privilege of recently earning the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Army Leadership Award. Photo by Spec. Kenanlouis Guinto

Capt. Emily Bye, the Commander for the 311th SC Headquarters and Headquarter Company, recently had the distinct privilege of earning the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Army Leadership Award.

“Capt. Bye represents the best

of our Army's current company grade officer corps, said Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris, the 311th SC (T) Commanding General. “She possesses exceptional leadership, energy and executes with an innovative mindset. We're lucky to

“Capt. Bye represents the best of our Army's current company grade officer corps, said Brig. Gen. Jan C. Norris, the 311th SC (T) Commanding General. “She possesses exceptional leadership, energy and executes with an innovative mindset. We're lucky to have her in our formation.”

have her in our formation.”

“We are a multi-component unit made up of both Active and Reserve Soldiers and Civilian team members,” Bye said, “and this combination of personnel creates a team with unreal abilities; the diversity and skills provide advantages and perspectives not typically found in an everyday unit.

The Gen. Douglas MacArthur Army leadership award is presented to a few select company grade officers annually across all Army components for outstanding performance, emulating the characteristics for which MacArthur stood: duty, honor and country.

“Here at the 311th Signal Command (Theater) we pride ourselves on being an 'Ohana,' [a Hawaiian term] meaning a Family that supports each other to perform at their best.”

“For those given the opportunity to join 311th Signal Command (Theater), I would say be ready to join an ‘Ohana’ that is dedicated to helping you be successful. We are One Team, One ‘Ohana’ of Soldiers and Civilians with the goal to take care of people and make those around us better each day.”



Col. Mark Miles former commander of the 516th Signal Brigade congratulates Capt. Emily Bye as she assumed command of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 311th Signal Command (Theater) on Apr. 2 2019 at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. Photo by Sgt. Frank Herrera

Mercury Team Leader Academy Trains Future Leaders

1st Signal Brigade's Leadership Program takes learning to the next level

BY SGT. YOUNG JIP KIM

1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs

Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea – Fourteen senior Signal and Cyber leaders and specialists gathered at the Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Vandal Training Complex for the Mercury Team Leader Academy Kickoff, Apr. 20, 2020.

“Mercury Team Leader Academy starts with a focus on young specialists and sergeants as they are centers of gravity for this organization,” said Command Sgt. Maj Jay A. High, 1st Signal Brigade’s Command Sergeant Major and organizer of the leadership program. “These operators support our units, they are the face of the 1st Signal Brigade.”

The Mercury Team Leader Academy is a developmental course that aims to empower soldiers and noncommissioned officers to make decisions at their level. By providing

a forum for communication and mentorship.

According to High, the program focuses on leadership at different echelons so mission command can permeate throughout the entire unit.

“If everyone’s standards are a little bit higher, we can collectively take things to the next level,” High said.

“(Mercury Academy) gives us knowledge on what to expect when becoming an NCO and how to be a good one,” said Spec. Panel Bailey, a Human Resources Specialist with the 41st Signal Battalion. “I am soon to be leading Soldiers, and I’ve learned how to be a better leader, personalize my leadership, and treat others as a leader.”

Just as COVID-19 has affected training opportunities across Korea and the world, Mercury Team

Leader Academy has made changes to overcome and drive on. In a classroom that seats 30 people, the program has limited the number of participants to 14 to support social distancing efforts.

“This program is about building trust in an organization, and engaging with our youngest NCOs responsible for Soldiers,” High said. “While our current environment is not perfect, we found a way to operate under the physical constraints we are faced with right now.”

“Training Soldiers is the NCO’s business. If we train better NCOs, we get better Soldiers,” High said. “We can make leadership something central that Soldiers take with them, and pass on what they know to Soldiers at their new stations. Leadership is infectious.”



Command Sgt. Maj. Jay High, 1st Signal Brigade mentors Signal Soldiers during the Mercury Leader Academy, Apr. 20, 2020. Photo by Sgt. Young Jip Kim, 1st Signal Brigade



Army Spec. Bailey Pannell, from 41st Signal Battalion focused on the classroom instructor during the Mercury NCO Academy course, Apr. 20, 2020. Photo by Spec. Elliot Richardson, 1st Signal Brigade.

The 311th Signal Command (Theater) Holds the 2020 Best Warrior Competition

STORY BY MARC AYALIN

311th Signal Battalion Public Affairs

The 311th Signal Command (Theater) held its annual Best Warrior Competition, Jul. 27-29, in which eight of the command's Soldiers and Noncommissioned Officers vied for the top spots as this year's Soldier of the Year, NCO of the Year and Army Reserve Soldier of the Year.

The two-day event took place at Ft. Shafter and Schofield Barracks with Soldiers from the 311th SC (T) and the 516th Signal Brigade. The challenges included; an Army Combat Fitness Test, written exam and essay, a formal board, weapons qualification with both the M-4 service rifle and the M-17 pistol, a 12-mile rucksack/ combat run, radio communications tasks, urban orienteering and Army Warrior Tasks with a medical evacuation scenario, and lastly a mask confidence test inside a gas chamber.

The winners of the 2020 311th SC (T) BWC for the active components were Staff Sgt. Michael Johnson for best NCO and Spc. Jalani Sanders for best Soldier. Both winners are currently assigned to the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion. The runner up in the active component Soldier category was Spc. Nelson Feliz from the 30th Signal Battalion. The runner up for best active component NCO was Sgt. Deante J. Brown from the G-1 Office of the 311th SC (T). The Army Reserve Soldier winner was Spc. Raymond Rosier while the runner up in the same category was Spc. Mark-Ryan Visitation. Both Soldiers are currently assigned to the

G-1 Office of the 311th SC (T).

For Sergeant Major Randy Gillespie, the 311th SC (T) Command Sergeant Major, this year's competition was a bit different from previous events due to the current pandemic.

"The 2020 311th SC (T) Best Warrior Competition was much different than in the past as it was a two-day event to help mitigate COVID-19 exposure for our Soldiers," Gillespie said. "The end-state was to have a challenging competition to select a NCO and Jr. Enlisted Soldier to represent the Command at the USARPAC Best Warrior Competition. This year's event definitely met that objective as it was challenging and I know we have some outstanding Soldiers representing the command."

For Spc. Denise Ann-Marie Duque, G-1 Office, 311th SC (T), the long-distance marching and running was quite a challenge as it showed her mettle and persistence to win.

"The most challenging part for me was the rucksack marching because I rolled my ankle a few times," Duque said. "But I pushed through and I was able to make it to the end."

As this year's overall winner of the 311th SC (T) BWC, Johnson feels confident in competing in the 2020 U.S. Army Pacific's BWC this summer.

"I know the next step is the USARPAC level," Johnson said. "And I'm going to start preparing for it and win that one as well."



Army Spc. Denise Ann-Marie Duque, takes a written exam for the 311th Signal Command (Theater) annual Best Warrior Competition, Jul. 27-29, 2020



Soldiers conduct the Army Combat Fitness test during the 311th Signal Command (Theater) annual Best Warrior Competition, Jul. 27-29, 2020.



The 311th Signal Command (Theater) held its annual Best Warrior Competition, Jul. 27-29, in which eight of the command's Soldiers and Noncommissioned Officers vied for the top spots as this year's Soldier of the year, NCO of the year and Army Reserve Soldier of the year. During the two-day event, Soldiers conducted a medical evacuation drill during an urban orienteering and Army Warrior Tasks event at Schofield Barracks.



The Soldiers from the 311th Signal Command (Theater) celebrated with a cake-cutting event upon the final day of the 2020 Best Warrior Competition.

Pacific Team Signal trains for new Army fitness test

Army Reserve Soldiers of the 311th SC (T) Support Unit lead ACFT training

BY CAPT. CHRISTOPHER KIM,
311th Signal Command (Theater)

Tustin, California – As all Soldiers - Active Component and Army Reserve alike - are aware our comprehensive fitness helps ensure functionality and survival in the battle field.

The Army's newly-approved Army Combat Fitness Test, a gender and age neutral fitness test designed to improve combat readiness, reduce injuries and better predict a Soldier's ability to perform in combat, is scheduled to replace the current physical fitness test in Oct. 2020.

Sgt. Nicholas Cholula, an Army Combat Physical Fitness Level 3 instructor with the of the 311th Signal Command (Theater) Support Unit, trained more than 200 Active Component and Army Reserve Soldiers.

"As an Army Reserve Soldier, physical fitness is extremely important and the standard should be the same whether a Soldier is an Active Duty Soldier or an Army Reserve Soldier," Cholula said.

"Physical fitness is fundamental to sustained Army readiness," Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston said. "We must have highly trained, disciplined and physically fit Soldiers capable of winning on any battlefield. The ACFT, specifically linked to common warfighting tasks, will help us assess and improve the individual readiness of the force."

As the 311th SC (T) 2018 Reserve Soldier of the Year, Sgt. Cholula demonstrated the ability to adapt and excel. He has a passion for physical fitness and jumped at the opportunity



Sgt. Nicholas Cholula of the 311th Signal Command (Theater) Support Unit and fellow Level 3 instructors pause for a photo with their newly-trained ACFT Level 2 Instructors of HHC, 311th SC (T) at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, Sep. 20, 2019.

to attend the ACFT trainer course in order to qualify and train his fellow Army Reserve Soldiers assigned to the command in California and Hawaii.

"I think ACFT is a change for the better, not only the event itself, but the training Soldiers will have to endure to achieve a passing score," said 311th SC (T) SU HHC Commander Capt. Jeremy Navarre. "Overall, we will become a more fit Army."

The 311th SC (T) in Hawaii and the 311th SC (T) SU in California consists of Soldiers that are both Active Duty and Army Reserve Soldiers, all of whom are held to the same fitness standards.

"As a Level 3 ACFT instructor, I am confident that the ACFT will improve our Army by better preparing our

Soldiers with a more realistic, boots on the ground fitness gauge where they stand," said Cholula.

As the entire world is affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Army is no different. With safety being paramount during this difficult time, the ACFT will be implemented to Soldier readiness when it is safe to do so.

"I challenge my fellow Army Reserve warriors to make it a top priority to go through the entire ACFT diagnostic exam to familiarize and prepare for the new test," Cholula said. "We all must take the initiative to prepare themselves at home and at the gym when safe to do so."

Soldiers assigned to both HHC, 311th SC (T) and 311th SC (T)



Soldiers of the 311th SC (T) SU performing the second event of the ACFT, The Standing Power Throw, at the United States Army Reserves Center in Tustin, California on Feb. 9, 2020.

SU have access to the full set of equipment within their military installations to perform ACFT diagnostic exams.

“The ACFT will produce a platform for Soldiers to excel and show how Soldiers can adapt to change,” Cholula said.

With hard work and innovation, a new generation of Soldiers are adapting to this new test, another platform to showcase the Army’s grit and willingness to rise to the occasion.

“As with any training standard in the Army, the ACFT is going to take time,” said Brig. Gen. Jan Norris, 311th Signal Command (Theater) Commander. “Soldiers must be specific in their training and it will take practice and repetition.”



Soldiers of the 311th SC (T) SU perform a diagnostic ACFT at the United States Army Reserve Center in Tustin, CA, Feb. 9, 2020.



Capt. Emily Bye, Commander of HHC, 311th SC (T), performs the ACFT diagnostic with the Soldiers of the 311th SC (T) SU at the United States Army Reserve Center in Tustin, CA, Feb. 9, 2020.

Pacific Signal Officer Leads by Example, Prevents Suicide of Local Man

BY CAPT. CHRISTOPHER KIM,
311th Signal Command (Theater)

Fort Shafter, Hawaii – Being at the right place and the right time really can save a life, a lesson that one Atlanta native and operations officer will never forget.

“One never thinks that their routine day of physical fitness and drive home to conduct personal hygiene would result in talking to a complete stranger from jumping onto rush hour traffic of H1 West,” said Lt. Col. Kizzy Goss, an operations officer with the 311th Signal Command (Theater).

At approximately 7:30 a.m. Jun. 4, 2019, the Atlanta native took an alternate route back home from the gym taking Kaahumanu Street and noticed a man on the bypass bridge looking like he was about to take his last leap of his life.

“On my drive home that morning, I encountered a young man in his early 20s positioned over the rail barriers of the H1 overpass between two signs in Aiea,” said Goss. “He was literally over the rail leaned forward ready to jump.”

Goss noticed the man who appeared as though he was about to jump and without hesitation, intervened to do whatever it took to ensure that the man was safe.

“Nothing else mattered that day; if I had sat and talked with him for the rest of the day, I would have been okay,” said Goss, who instills in her Soldiers that it should become second nature to help others in need. “It could have been my Soldier, my relative, or even me.”

As a Soldier, Goss felt it was her duty to intervene and help a person in need. Her absence at work would have been felt; however, a human life

far exceeded that void.

“The fact that then-Maj. Goss stopped to intervene and help a total stranger did not surprise me in the least,” Col. Dan Brue, 311th SC (T) Director of Operations. “She is an awesome leader and shows genuine concern for others in the office and in the community.”

Goss shared that mission success is critical, but we can never undermine the greatest assets we have in the military, our people.

“As leaders, we sometimes overlook the human side of our Soldiers and ourselves due to the mission,” Goss said. “We cannot be so consumed with the mission that we forget about our people.”

The fact that someone is considering suicide may be difficult to recognize; however, there are warning signs to look for and should be taken extremely seriously. If you or someone you know are

Brig. Gen. Jan Norris, Commander of the 311th Signal Command (Theater), presents Lt. Col. Kizzy Goss with the 311th SC(T) Safety Award aboard the Logistics Support Vessel 3 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickham, Feb. 3, 2020.



Lt. Col. Kizzy Goss beams as her family affix her new rank insignia during her promotion ceremony aboard the Logistics Support Vessel 3 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickham, Feb. 3, 2020.

thinking about suicide, there are many resources available including: National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, Suicide Prevention Resource Center, NAMI, and NIMH.

“Lt. Col. Goss’ actions of assisting people in great need are a direct reflection of our command and the Army values,” said Brig. Gen. Jan Norris, Commander of the 311th Signal Command (Theater).

Due to her selfless and courageous act, Goss was awarded the United States Safety Guardian Award during her promotion ceremony, Feb. 3, 2020. While Goss recently moved on to her next assignment, her actions of selflessness and compassion will be long remembered.

“My message for those that have considered suicide, is to seek help,” said Goss. “We all have low points in life and learning to be resilient, seeking spiritual and mental help if needed should not be a stigma that present barriers to having a happy life.”

Brig. Gen. Jan Norris, Commander of the 311th Signal Command (Theater), attaches the Safety Award ribbon to Lt. Col. Kizzy Goss’ uniform during an award ceremony at Fort Shafter, Jun. 29, 2020.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY COMBAT READINESS CENTER
4505 RUF AVENUE
FORT RUCKER ALABAMA 36362-6363

CSSC-CG

NOV 15 2019

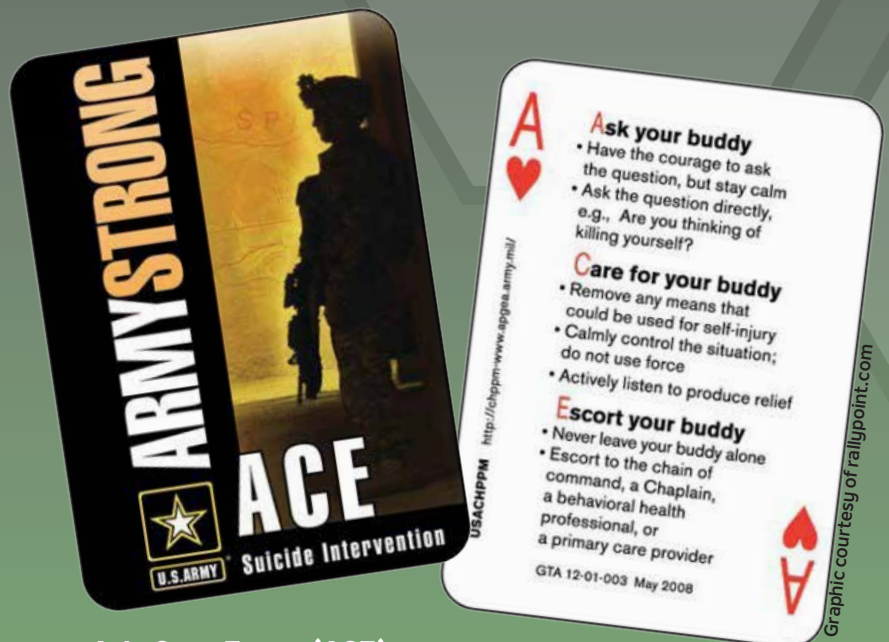
MEMORANDUM THRU Commanding General USARPAC, ATTN: Safety Office, Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858-5100

FOR Commander, 311th Signal Command, Building 520, 3rd Floor, Wisser Rd, Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858-5410

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Safety Guardian Award - Major Kizzy N. Goss

1. Congratulations on the selection of Major Kizzy N. Goss as a recipient of the U.S. Army Safety Guardian Award. MAJ Goss is being recognized for her immediate lifesaving intervention involving a fellow Soldier. The Soldier was contemplating suicide by jumping from a bridge onto a busy highway, some 30 feet below. On her way home after physical training, MAJ Goss noticed a person perched over a bridge's railing, poised to jump. Once recognizing that a person was attempting to take their own life, she immediately stopped the car in the middle of the road, got out of her vehicle and asked the young Soldier to come in from over the rail. The young Soldier responded to her request and came off the railing and spoke with MAJ Goss. While waiting for authorities to arrive, others came to the scene, and assisted by trying to get to the root of the Soldier's problem. MAJ Goss' actions of care and compassion, along with other concerned by-standers, saved the Soldier's life.
2. MAJ Goss' immediate lifesaving actions during this incident, demonstrates the highest standards of our Army Values and Warrior Ethos.
3. I would sincerely appreciate photos of the award presentation sent to usarmy.rucker.hqda-seccarmy.list.safe-awards@mail.mil to showcase as a significant safety accomplishment on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center's website.
4. Readiness Through Safety!


ANDREW C. HILMES
COL, AR
Commanding



Ask-Care-Escort (ACE).

ACE is a suicide prevention training course that provides an excellent opportunity to discuss and role-play realistic scenarios and practice communication and intervention skills.

Ask – If someone is thinking of suicide.

Care – Listen, offer hope, and don't judge.

Escort – Take action, don't leave the person alone, and escort them to assistance.

1st Signal Brigade's Unit Ministry Team travels to uplift Soldiers afar

BY SGT. YOUNG JIP KIM,
1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs

Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea – the 1st Signal Brigade Unit Ministry Team consisting of the brigade Chaplain, Equal Opportunity Advisor, and the SHARP team embarked on a day trip to visit Signal Soldiers at Daegu and Waegwan on May 7, 2020.

The purpose of the trip was to motivate Soldiers and lift their spirits amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic. In the morning, the UMT first touched down at Camp Walker, Daegu. Brigade Chaplain Lt. Col. Suk Kim sat down with 169th Signal Company Commander Cpt. Sarah Duncan as she elaborated on her company's hardships.

"We're the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak. The schools shut down, daycare shut down, we were strongly encouraged to be minimally manned. Everything got locked up pretty quickly," reminisced Capt. Duncan.

Morale has been low since movement off post is restricted, availability of on-post facilities is limited, and Soldiers are burdened with extra responsibilities. Soldiers not only have to fill in for the Korean National Civilians on furlough, but are also tasked with gate guard duty: checking temperatures of all personnel entering Camp Walker and asking background check questions to screen high-risk individuals.

"There are low points because Soldiers are working all the time, even on weekends. The NCOs of the company are trying to give the soldiers a break by organizing uplifting activities like barbeques and bike rides," says Staff Sgt. Phillip Dennis.

"I just got to Korea three months ago and I didn't get to explore the culture here. I'm in a different country and all... but there's too much going on" confesses

Pfc. Ezell Driyanna, a Human Resources Specialist (42A) working in 169th Signal Company Orderly Room. She came to Korea three months ago and dearly misses her family back in the U.S.

The closing of daycare centers and schools has made it particularly tough for those who have to balance work with family. To "working Soldiers that have to have a child at home, there is no work life balance — that's a myth. Don't beat yourself up if you feel like you don't have a good work life balance right now." Capt. Duncan added.

Leaders throughout the organization are struggling as well. "Most of our training is cancelled or is done in

small groups with social distancing."

Even though face-to-face counseling and mentoring is made difficult, Capt. Duncan is adamant that "she always tells her Soldiers that as a company, we are a family and we don't want to lose anyone in our family. Regardless of what's happened or what they've done, we're here for them and we try to get them the most resources they need. Assistance from the chaplain, the Behavioral Health Team, Substance Use Disorder Clinical Care, and Military Family Life Counseling program has been vital in these times."

In the afternoon, Brigade Chaplain Lt. Col. Kim visited the 275th Signal



U.S. Army 1st Signal Brigade Unit Ministry Team (UMT) makes a visit with Capt. Sarah Duncan, 169th Signal Company Commander, Camp Walker, Republic of Korea on May 7, 2020. The purpose of the visit was to lift the spirits of soldiers during the harsh times of the COVID-19 epidemic. Army photo by Sgt. Young Jip Kim, 1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs.

Company at Camp Carol, Waegwan.

“I think the Soldiers enjoy the chaplains coming over. It’s a different approach and a little bit more relaxed, so they can speak a bit more freely. Sometimes it’s just nice to sit there and vent, with someone giving you perspective that your chain of command might not be able to” added 1st Sgt. Sergeant Pierce. “The Chaplain Corps is vital for constant leader engagement providing relevant and fun ways to destress. We’re not doing formations and mass Physical Readiness Training, but we still have to focus on empowering junior leaders and how they can take care of their Soldiers.” The NCO support channel and the UMT act as the connecting bridge between Soldiers and their Families back home.



Pfc. Driyanna Ezell, Human Resources Specialist of 169th Signal Company, works diligently at her workstation during the COVID-19 epidemic at Camp Walker, Republic of Korea on May 7, 2020. Pfc. Ezell, a recent arrival to the Republic of Korea, speaks on the struggles COVID-19 has presented in the workplace. Army photo by Sgt. Young Jip Kim, 1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs.

U.S. Army 1st Signal Brigade Unit Ministry Team (UMT) along with service members and civilians of the 275th Signal Company, Camp Carroll, Republic of Korea, pose for a group photo in front of the SATCOM Facility Satellite on May 7, 2020. The purpose of the visit is to lift the spirits of the civilians and service members of the unit during the COVID-19 epidemic. Army photo by Sgt. Young Jip Kim, 1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs.



The 1st Signal Brigade's Comprehension Performance Team combats COVID-19

Leaders of the CPT support Soldiers, Families through social media

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. STEVEN CLOSE,
1st Signal Brigade Public Affairs

Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea – Leaders of the 1st Signal Brigade Comprehension Performance Team (CPT) gathered to speak with the service members and families on COVID-19 through social media platforms at Camp Humphreys on Apr. 22, 2020.

“Equal Opportunity training is typically conducted face-to-face,” said Equal Opportunity Advisor, Sgt. 1st Class Keith Marshall of the 1st Signal Brigade, “but we can’t conduct proper EO training since we can’t have Soldiers sitting in classrooms together anymore.”

The CPT announcement consisted of the 1st Signal Brigade Command Team, Equal Opportunity, Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, Behavioral Health, Military and Family Life Counselor, and Unit Ministry Team leaders. Together the CPT is responsible for the health and welfare of the organization's service members and families. The COVID-19 Pandemic has taken toll across the nation limiting the way business is being conducted daily, in turn making it difficult for the

Army Sexual Harassment Assault Response Prevention coordinator, Mrs. Felicia Kasuba, planning the future events for the SHARP program during COVID-19 Pandemic at 1st Signal Brigade Headquarters, May 4, 2020. The SHARP program is looking for future events to stay active with the service members in 1st Signal brigade as travel restrictions are expected to be lifted.



Army Unit Ministry Team Brigade Chaplain, Lt. Col. Suk Kim, working diligently in the office planning upcoming visits to units across the peninsula at 1st Signal Brigade Headquarters, May 1, 2020. The Unit Ministry Team is planning for future visits to units in remote locations as the travel restrictions in the Republic of Korea are becoming more relaxed.





Army Equal Opportunity Advisor, Sfc. Keith Marshall, busy in a video conference with service members during an Equal Opportunity training session at 1st Signal Brigade Headquarters, May 4, 2020. The Equal Opportunity sections in the brigade have resorted to telecommunication and video communication applications to train and communicate with one another during the COVID-19 pandemic.

teams to interact face-to-face with the service members as usual. The 1st Signal Brigade command team decided on a new approach by reaching out to the organization on the way forward through the social media Facebook page.

“We have 24-hour hotlines as well as email and Facebook,” Sgt. 1st Class Marshall said. “The command team is allowing training to be conducted remotely through PowerPoint presentations and Facetime also.”

The announcement introduced each of the CPT’s current representatives within the organization and ensured that the resources are still available to the service members during this pandemic. The team’s efforts in reaching personnel by phone, email and Facebook ensures the organizations proactive approach to mission readiness.

“Although it hasn’t impacted our availability, it has impacted how we deliver our services,” said Cpt. Tea Kim,

Behavioral Health Officer of 1st Signal Brigade. “Instead of having in-person encounters, we have shifted to virtual encounters to maintain social distancing.

In the passing months COVID-19 has impacted Camp Humphreys causing the Health Protection Condition (HPCON) levels to reach HPCON C+, in terms stopping all movement and operations with extreme measures on the installation. It has directly impacted the CPT suspending the out-reach events to include newcomer orientations, signal week events, and visiting units in remote locations on the peninsula.

“Stress and anxiety levels increase when outbreaks occur, which means Soldiers are not only faced with normal stressors of everyday life,” said Cpt. Marquita Barr, Behavioral Health Officer of 1st Signal Brigade. “But now they are burdened with fear and worry about physical health conditions.”

In terms of supporting the signaleers

of the brigade through new means of communications, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, it remains a difficult task to train personnel within the brigade footprint. In many cases outreach activities and training sessions have been canceled due to the social distancing command directive, setting back a few overall mission readiness goals for the 1st Signal Brigade. With the mindset of keeping the foot on the gas and the new approach to combating COVID-19 through different means of communication, the brigade continues to stay positive and push forward on the mission to ensure overall success of the organization.

Dual-Army Reserve couple encourages healthy, rewarding activities for their children

Tugaoen family stays resilient with physical, mental, and emotional fitness

BY WARRANT OFFICER ALYSON TUGAOEN,
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
311th Signal Command (Theater)

Honolulu – Warrant Officer Alyson Tugaoen, her husband, Sgt. Maj. (Ret) AJ Tugaoen and their two children have always been a physically active family. From the time their children were small, the Tugaoens have incorporated physical fitness into their daily routine, believing that it plays a key role in mental resilience.

“Physical strength may get you to a start line, but its mental strength that gets you to the finish line, with anything in life,” said Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Alfred Tugaoen, spouse of Warrant Officer Alyson Tugaoen.

For most of their lives, the dual-Army Reserve couple’s children, Noelani and Kekoa, have participated in road running events, but more recently, they have ventured into the world of triathlon competition. Their mother believes discipline is the key to remaining physically, emotionally, and mentally resilient.

“Eating habits are a significant indicator of how our bodies react to physical training, so making sure we continue to eat healthy at a time when junk food seems so much easier has been a mental challenge,” Tugaoen said.

The Tugaoens have also tried to keep their at-home routines as close to whatever “normal” looked like before everyone’s work and school situations changed. They still get up at the same time, do what’s required for work or school, and intentionally

get out for some physical activity before dinner.

“It’s this disciplined routine and “knowing what comes next” in our day that has made for a smooth transition with the stay-at-home order,” Tugaoen said. “The extra time that has become available from the lack of office and school commutes has given them new goals to consider in open water swimming, new routes to ride on triathlon bikes, new paths to forge around the neighborhood as they get in a late afternoon run, and newfound space on the waves to practice different tricks while surfing.”

Staying physically fit helps the Tugaoens stay mentally and emotionally fit to deal with the challenges that accompany this COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic.



Noelani (age 17) participates in her first triathlon, Mar. 2020, as the bike person of a relay team. (Northshore Triathlon)



North Shore Triathlon Mar. 2020. We all participated in with different relay teams.



Dec. 2018. Kekoa (age 15) finishes his first Honolulu Marathon with a time of 3:53:33



Tugaoen family hiking on Maui 2019

Team Signal-Cyber Pacific hosts Pacific Signal Regimental Week, Celebrates 160 Years of Signal Excellence

Army Signal leaders, Soldier and Civilian professionals, and industry partners from around the globe including Army CIO/G6, INDOPACOM, NETCOM, I CORPS G6, USARAK G6, USARJ G6, 8th ARMY G6, and USFK J6, converged on Oahu, Hawaii, to participate in Pacific Signal Regimental Week, comprised of 30 events led by the 311th SC(T) and U.S. Army Pacific G6 for collaboration and professional development, Feb. 24-28, 2020.



Aloha!

(Welcome new leaders)



COL JAMES LEE
Command Chaplain
311th SIG CMD (T)



COL ANNE-MARIE WIERSGALLA
Commander
1st Signal Brigade



CSM JAY HIGH
Command Sgt. Maj.
1st Signal Brigade



MR. ERIC ALBERT
311th Forward &
Senior Civilian
1st Signal Brigade



COL CRAIG SMITH
Commander
516th Signal Brigade



MR. CLEODIS MAY
Civilian Deputy
516th Signal Brigade

A Hui Hou!

(Farewells)

CW5 CURTIS McDONALD
Command Chief Warrant Officer
311th SIG CMD (T)



*Team 311th,
It has been an awe-
some pleasure to serve
this command and the
USARPAC theater as
your CCWO for these
past three years. I have
enjoyed getting to know
and work with each of*

*you and working through the tough issues
we face here in the Pacific. It is with a lot of
sadness that Candi and I are leaving but the
Army calls so we are moving on to our next
adventure, Fort Meade, MD, on Feb. 13. I leave
you in the very capable hands of my friend,
CW5 Fernando Perez.*

*I wish the best for each of you and I hope to
keep in touch!*

See you on the high ground!

COL JOSEPH PISHOCK
Commander
1st Signal Brigade



Colonel Joe and Kris
Pishock relinquished
command of 1st Signal
Brigade on 19 June and
headed for their next
assignment at MacDill
Air Force Base serving as
the J63 for USSOCOM.

Joe and Kris's impact
on the command, the local community, and
overall Team Signal will be remembered for
years to come. Through Col. Pishock's col-
laborative leadership style, he leveraged the
greatest expansion and modernization effort
on the peninsula to date, but his true legacy
focused on the people and developing leaders.
He transitioned the brigade to actively seeking
problems and built a team of communicators
who overcame unit boundaries to focus on the
problems common to all. Most importantly,
he did it all with humor, humility, and a good
nature that made everyone who served in
the Signal Brigade a proud member of the
Mercury Family!

COL (RET.) CHRISTOPHER MORRIS
Command Chaplain
311th SIG CMD (T)



*311th O'hana,
Michelle's and my
retirement from the
military is a bitter sweet
moment. Being part of a
profound and profes-
sional 311th team, we
are saddened to leave
behind the people we*

*have come to know and cherish deeply these
past three years. Serving as your Command
Chaplain has been truly an honor and blessing
for us. It was the pinnacle and most profound
experience of my over 22 years serving as an
Army Chaplain.*

*Thank you for all your kind words during my
retirement ceremony in Kansas City, MO, July
12, 2020. It had a profound impact on me, my
family and friends, something I will always
remember and treasure.*

*We will keep you in our prayers as you continue
to serve as the "Theater Voice" serving our
Nation and impacting our world for the good.*

*We are excited to enter retirement looking
forward to continuing living our call by serving
others for the Kingdom of God. Take care and
God bless.*

*Faith over Fear,
Philippians 4:6-7*

MR. JAMES MALENKY
311th Forward & Senior Civilian
1st Signal Brigade



James retired in
September 2019 from
Federal Service after
more than 44 years of
service – a tremendous
accomplishment.
Leaders with whom
James served with
over the years know
him to be the quiet

professional. He consistently provided
invaluable input and advice, and always
watched out for our Soldiers and Civilians
while executing actions on behalf of the
Commanding General.

In Memoriam



SGT. CODY RANDALL

Oct. 11, 1991 – Apr. 3, 2020

Tactical Satellite Systems Team Chief
Charlie Co., 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion

Sgt. Cody Randall enjoyed leading Soldiers of the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, as the Tactical Satellite Systems Team Chief for 2nd Platoon, Charlie Company. He enlisted in the Army from Houston,

Texas in 2013 as a Satellite Communications Systems Operator / Maintainer. He attended Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

Sgt. Randall is survived by his wife Kelsie, daughter Parker, sister Kalli.



RICHARD A. HEARD

Sep. 15, 1945 - Mar. 10, 2020

Lead Information Technology Specialist
30th Signal Battalion

Richard's career spanned more than 50 years with service in the U.S. Army as a retired First Sergeant, including the past 15 years with the 30th Signal Battalion as an Army Civilian. Richard had a big

heart, a kind soul, and was loved by his church, coworkers, and family.

His passion and service will never be forgotten.



SGT. BRYAN PARKER

Jul. 26, 1992 – Mar. 31, 2019

Satellite Communication Systems Operator Maintainer
30th Signal Battalion

Sgt. Bryan Parker graduated from Cottage Grove High School in 2011 and enlisted in the Army in May 2013. He graduated Advanced Individual Training at Fort Gordon, GA, where he was

inducted into the Signal Corps as a Satellite Communication Systems Operator Maintainer. His first duty assignment was with the 414th Signal Company, 3rd Infantry Division's Sustainment Brigade at Fort Stewart, GA. His second assignment brought his family to Hawaii to serve with the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Center-Schofield Barracks under the 30th Signal Battalion where he served as the Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of both the Maintenance and Operations sections at Field Station Kunia. He was later attached to HHD, 30th Signal Battalion where he served as the Operations NCOIC and SATCOM Maintenance NCO.

Sgt. Parker is survived by his wife, Zoe Parker, their daughters Maci and Mattie, his mother, Dana Miller, and his sister, Courtney Parker.





Aloha, 311th Signal Command (Theater) Ohana!

As a multi-component unit, did you know that approximately two-thirds of the Soldiers in our Headquarters consist of Army Reserve Soldiers?

It is true, the majority of our headquarters are Active Guard and Reserve and Troop Program Unit (TPU) Army Reserve Soldiers. We even have a 311th SC (T) Support Army Reserve Unit in Tustin, California, that is specifically designed and operationally aligned to our Headquarters. When the flag goes up and we need to support our mission to enable mission command and provide continuous access to the Cyber Domain our Army Reserve teams are ready to “Fight the Fight.” These teams of great Americans are a key component to the operational success and readiness of our organization.

This year due to the Pandemic, our Soldiers performed numerous Soldier Virtual Battle Assemblies (SVBAs) in which we used a combination of media platforms to conduct training, give classes, give awards, promote Soldiers and even provide Chaplain services. It was a great accomplishment for both the 311th SC (T) and 311th SC (T) SU teams and proved our ability to connect people and sustain readiness during these challenging times.

This year, we are preparing to deploy the 311th SC (T) Contingency Command Post to provide a Dynamic Forward Posture and to “Set the Theater” for any conflict, crisis, humanitarian assistance or disaster relief mission. The mission of the CCP is ensure that we continue to “Connect People” and share information through Army Tactical and Strategic networks throughout the Pacific Area of Operations. The CCP is a true multi-component element consisting of Army Reservists, Active Guard and Reserve, Active Component, and Department of the Army Civilians.

I consider it a great honor and privilege to be your Deputy Commander! Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to supporting the 311th Signal Command and this great Nation of ours! Please make sure to take care of yourself and your families during these unconventional times.

May God bless you and keep you all healthy and safe!

Theater Voice! One Team!

COLONEL TRENT A. SMITH

Deputy Commander
311th Signal Command (Theater)



Aloha Team,

As the 311th SC (T) Civilian Deputy to the Commanding General, it is my honor and privilege to serve with you in support of the Signal mission in the Indo-Pacific theater especially during these demanding times. It has been amazing to see all the Soldiers, Department of Army Civilians (DAC), Local National Employees, Contractors, other DoD partners and industry partners make a “quantum leap” to adapt and respond to the unfamiliar order and the next normal. It attests to the highly diverse and talented personnel that are part of the 311th SC(T) team. We have seen how personnel are able to adapt to telework and continue to be very productive from home as they have been in the workplace and using new skills to adapt to new technology that has not been readily available in DoD and has greatly assisted with teleworking.

The adaptation of new skills falls into line with The Army People Strategy focusing on modernizing the approach to talent management. APS is the roadmap, with nested Civilian and Military implementation plans that define what the Army will do by 2028 to execute the vision.

The Civilian workforce plays a vital role in the Army’s effort to maintain and improve readiness. They bring leadership, stability, continuity, and most importantly technical competence across the Army. The APS notes that the Army Civilians are one of the largest, most critical elements of the Department of Defense and constitutes about 23 percent of the Army’s workforce. The 2020 Civilian Implementation Plan is designed to transform the Army’s dated approaches to civilian human resources management and replace with approaches focused on talent management. The plan describes the Army Civilian talent management vision, enabling infrastructure, and concerted unity of effort needed to acquire, develop, employ, and retain civilian talent in support of Army readiness. It will ensure that the Army Civilians are the readiest, professional, diverse, and integrated federal workforce.

Quantum Leap is not only used to describe how everyone has adapted and responded but also for the Signal community, as part of APS Civilian Implementation plan, it is an effort by CIO/G6 described as the adaptation for the future to data and cloud-centric and analytics-centric skillsets specifically for Civilians, that are already part of the cyber and IT workforce. For the civilian workforce, Quantum Leap will reskill and upskill the current 2210 series workforce to ensure they are able to work with emerging technology such as AI and cloud and transitioning from a focus on certification to focusing on proper skills. The initial goals for Quantum Leap are to reskill 1,000 of the 15,000 Army cyber and IT workforce by 2023 and have a better idea of what skills employees already have that are either unknown or underutilized by the Army.

It is truly an exciting time to be part of the Pacific Signal Team.

KENNETH ISHIMATSU

Civilian Deputy to the Commanding General
311th Signal Command (Theater)



311TH SIGNAL COMMAND (T) THEATER VOICE, ONE TEAM

VISION: ONE TEAM OF READY AND RESILIENT PROFESSIONALS DELIVERING PROVIDING JOINT FORCES CONTINUOUS ACCESS TO THE CYBER DOMAIN

MISSION: ENABLING MISSION COMMAND AND CONTINUOUS ACCESS TO THE CYBER DOMAIN WHILE COMPETING FOR A FREE AND OPEN INDO-PACIFIC



1ST SIGNAL BRIGADE

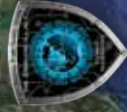


41ST SIG BN

KOREA



304TH ESB



6TH RCC-K

JAPAN



78TH SIG BN



**78TH SIG BN
RHN GUAM**



**30TH SIG BN
KWAJALEIN**



4RCC-P



516TH SIG BDE

HAWAII



**311TH SIGNAL
COMMAND (THEATER)
MULTI-COMPO**



307TH ESB



30TH SIG BN

CALIFORNIA



**311TH SUPPORT UNIT
PACIFIC (USAR)**



59TH SIG BN



307TH ESB

ALASKA



**CELEBRATING 160 YEARS
OF SIGNAL EXCELLENCE**

LINE OF EFFORT:

1. CONDUCT DODIN-OPS
2. SET THE THEATER: NETWORK MODERNIZATION
3. SUPPORT MULTI-DOMAIN OPERATIONS
4. SUSTAIN THE FORCE
5. ENABLING MISSION COMMAND