

# U.S. Pacific Command

*Presence with a Purpose*

June 2012

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*"We are going to take a steady, deliberate and sustainable approach, we're going to continue to work on our military-to-military relationships with China because it's so important that as China emerges, that we understand each other, that we prevent miscalculation as we go forward."-- ADM. Samuel Locklear, Commander U.S. Pacific Command, DOD Pentagon News Briefing, June 13, 2012*

This product is designed to inform our audiences about U.S. military activities that support U.S. Pacific Command's mission of protecting and defending, in concert with other U.S. Government agencies, the territory of the United States, its people, and its interests. With allies and partners, U.S. Pacific Command is committed to enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific region by promoting security cooperation, encouraging peaceful development, responding to contingencies, deterring aggression, and, when necessary, fighting to win. Items below provide key examples of the ongoing engagement and presence the United States has in the Asia-Pacific region.

## **STRENGTHEN ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS**

- Lt. Gen. Duane Thiessen, Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific was accompanied by the Marine Corps Forces Pacific band and approximately 50 Marines and Sailors from I Marine Expeditionary Force in Wellington, New Zealand, June 14, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Marines arriving to defend New Zealand during World War II. The band remained in New Zealand to conduct performances at various locations throughout June. <http://www.dvidshub.net/image/607311/new-zealanders-and-us-marines-commemorate-70th-anniversary-arrival-us-forces-during-wwii>
- U.S. Marines and the New Zealand Army made history 15 June - 2 July during Exercise Galvanic Kiwi, the first reciprocal U.S. - New Zealand reciprocal training exercise in at least 27 years. Approximately 50 Marines from I Marine Expeditionary Force traveled to the Waiuru Training Area, New Zealand while approximately 35 New Zealand Army engineers traveled to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. to participate in GK 12. The reciprocal training was primarily focused on artillery, engineer support to artillery units and mobility support to tactical units. The Marines and Kiwi soldiers also conducted weapons and equipment familiarization training and cultural exchanges. <http://www.dvidshub.net/news/90339/new-zealand-gunners-introduce-us-marines-big-guns-during-exercise-galvanic-kiwi>
- South Korean Airmen and Pacific Air Forces trained to respond to chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) attacks June 7 and 8 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The combined workshop gave the allies a chance to strengthen their partnership through demonstrations of the equipment each side uses during CBRN attacks. In addition to the Republic of Korea Air Force 38th Fighter Group and 8th CES from Kunsan, there were also attendees from several other PACAF bases, including Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. Throughout the training, one point from both sides was emphasized: working together helps the partnership grow and ensures we are prepared to respond to any situation. <http://www.pacaf.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123305592>
- Recognizing that the United States and China have more areas of convergence than differences, the top U.S. officer in the Pacific said he's more convinced after his recent visit there that the two countries can build on common ground as they strive to get their military-to-military relationship back on track. Navy Adm. Samuel J. Locklear III spent four days in China in late June, meeting with Chinese Defense Minister Gen. Liang Guanglie of the Central Military Commission, Gen. Ma Xiaotian, deputy chief of the general staff, and other senior military leaders. <http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=117074>

## **PROTECT ACCESS TO THE COMMONS**

- Royal Thai Army and U.S. Army Pacific Soldiers joined forces June 27 for Bilateral Army Exercise 12 near the Royal Thai Army Infantry Center, Pranburi, Thailand, for a U.S. Army Pacific exercise that ends July 6, 2012. The exercise is designed to improve humanitarian assistance and disaster relief capabilities, enhance military-to-military relationships and mission readiness, and improve the quality of life in rural communities. Thai and U.S.

Army efforts include humanitarian assistance and engineering projects designed to improve quality of life by building a district community center and library to support 11,000 citizens, and a three classroom for more than 150 students. <http://www.army.mil/news/jumparchive/116/USARPAC>

- At the hearing, the Generals and Admirals spoke unanimously asking for Senate ratification of UNCLOS. Adm. James Winnefeld, the Vice Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified that joining “will fortify our credibility as the world’s leading naval power and allow us to bring to bear the full force of our influence on maritime disputes.” The other panelists, including the Chief of Naval Operations, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, and the heads of US Northern, Pacific, and Transport Commands, all agreed. The military, business leaders, environmentalists, and labor groups all support ratification. <http://www.democraticunderground.com/1002829468>

## **MAINTAIN MILITARY READINESS**

- Company G, Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, arrived in Shoal Water Bay Training Area, Australia, 17 June, to support 1st Brigade, Royal Australian Army during Exercise Hamel 12. The month-long exercise focuses primarily on ground offensive and defensive maneuver operations with the U.S. Marines serving in an opposition force role. The exercise also includes New Zealand and Canadian defense forces and is scheduled to conclude 23 July. <http://www.dvidshub.net/news/90376/31st-meu-marines-arrive-australia-exercise-hamel-2012>
- More than 100 aircraft and 2,500 personnel from Poland, Germany, Japan and U.S. military bases participated in RED FLAG-Alaska June 7-22 at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. The tactical air combat exercise is designed to replicate the stresses warfighters must face during their first 10 combat sorties. The Pacific Air Forces-sponsored, Joint National Training Capability accredited exercise, allows participating units to exchange tactics, techniques and procedures as well as improve interoperability. This Red Flag marks the first time the Polish air force and German air force Eurofighter Typhoon has participated in RED FLAG. <http://www.pacaf.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123306211>

## **U.S. LEADERSHIP FOCUS ON THE ASIA-PACIFIC**

*“We will of necessity rebalance towards the Asia-Pacific region. We will also maintain our presence throughout the world, we were there then, we are here now and we will be here for the future.”* **Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, Eurasia Review Article “Shangri-La Dialogue: Reflections on Leon Panetta’s Address Analysis” June 16, 2012**

*“I think that as China rises as a power, like any rising power, it has a number of decisions and choices it can make, and our objective for them, is to rise as a productive partner with us”* **ADM. Samuel Locklear, Commander U.S. Pacific Command, New York Times Article “U.S. Reaches Out to China, But Not for Naval Maneuvers” June 29, 2012**