

Seeking Good for the Land, 9th RRC Earth Day 2007

By Amanda Barbier

From Alaska to Guam, American Samoa to Saipan, and throughout the Hawaiian Islands, The Pride of the Pacific celebrated Earth Day 2007 with a cultural sensibility. "Imi Pono no ka 'Aina" translated *Seeking Good for the Land* was the headline for HQ 9th Regional Readiness Command (9th RRC) Earth Day exhibit which covered four environmental program areas. The 9th RRC Command supported a message of mission sustainability through conservation and resource use reduction, with highlights of our energy program, affirmative procurement, and sustainable development. Kahauiki Stream Cleanup Day preceded Earth Day by several weeks, followed by post clean up on Ft Shafter Flats.



Celebrating Earth Day in American Samoa - Fa'afetai Lava (Thank You Very Much) to PV2 Reid and PV2 Fala from 8285th Team A for distributing the gifts.

The display boards incorporated environmental programs with Hawaiian ecosystem concepts, providing patrons with an introduction of Pacific island ecological heritage. Hawaiian customs and practices demonstrate the belief that all portions of the land and environment are related, like members of an extended family. Each environmental zone is named, and their individual attributes were known. For example, terms "ahupua'a" watershed, and "mālama" mindfulness all stem from a Pacific Island tradition of "mālama ka 'āina" respect for the land from "mauka" mountains to "makai" ocean. This cultural appreciation for the fragile Hawaiian ecosystem allowed for 9th RRC Hawai'i residents to associate Hawai'i's culture with an environmental consciousness the 9th RRC strives to promote.



American Samoa - SGT Doris Pulu (8285th PSD, Team B) and her son, Darin.

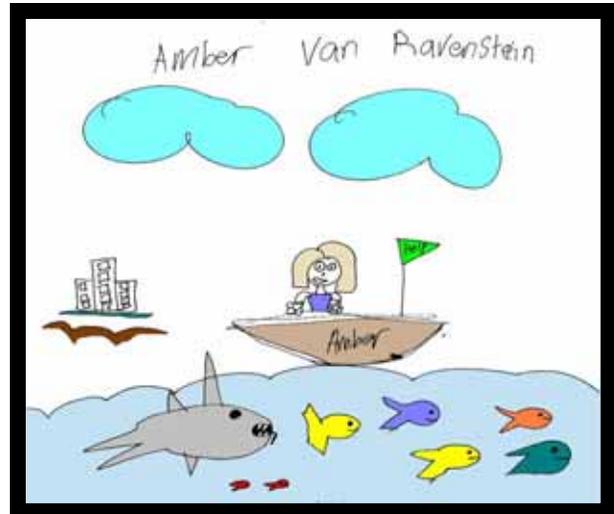
The Environmental Management System site acted as the official promoter of 9th RRC Earth Day activities. Through much encouragement and inspiration, children of Army Reserve personnel provided art and other creative pieces to display.

To promote the purchase and use of recycled products at all facilities throughout the command, the display was entirely made of recycled material



Earth Day's Environmental Hero, E-Man, once again completes a successful mission as Earth Day Ambassador.

and the Green Purchasing presentation made available. We also provided energy and water saving techniques for the home, free gifts and handouts (printed on 100% recycled paper) all of which contributed to a wonderful and creative Earth Day display.



Mahalo and Thank you to Amber Van Ravenstein,
Daughter of MAJ Edward Van Ravenstein for this winning
picture.