



The Dental Corps Bulletin

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Dental Specialist Supporting Arctic Operations

SGT Junam Kim serves as the Dental NCOIC for 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) (SFG (A)) at Fort Carson, Colorado. Recently, SGT Kim supported 3rd Battalion, 10th SFG (A) during Cold Weather Training (CWT) at Fort Harrison, Montana. As the sole dental asset supporting training, he was tasked with facilitating care via the Active Duty Dental Program network for Soldiers experiencing dental disease non-battlefield injuries. Additionally, SGT Kim completed CWT requirements to validate his readiness as a member of 10th SFG(A), capable of supporting operations in austere Arctic environments.



This year, CWT took place at Fort William Henry Harrison, Montana. Fort Harrison has a unique history, originally serving as the home for the First Special Service Force (FSSF). The FSSF, or Devil's Brigade, was an elite joint American - Canadian commando unit originally composed of a diverse multitude of individuals such as lumberjacks, game wardens and gold prospectors. The unit was designed to conduct special operations in a variety of environments to include the high North.

10th SFG (A) had the privilege and honor to share the same ground where FSSF, who the modern day Special Forces units trace their heritage to, trained. Historically, 10th SFG (A) has been heavily involved in CWT due to being regionally aligned with Europe and conducting

frequent raining in Scandinavian countries. With the majority of the missions having transpired in a harsh, austere cold environment limiting movement for operations, CWT encompassed a wide spectrum of winter operations and primarily outlined the survival techniques required in cold weather environments. Furthermore, the training emphasized the capability to conduct movement and maneuver over terrain as one of the most critical skill sets in winter survival.

Tactically, operating in a cold environment presents challenges not encountered in other climates. CWT highlighted the





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importance of survival techniques in cold weather and mountainous environments such as identifying avalanches, building a proper snow shelter, and preventing cold weather related injuries. Being able to move through the rugged terrain became the most important skill set during the training. Strategic mobility with snowmobile operations and advanced skiing techniques were critical for mission accomplishment in the harsh environment. Over the course of training, SGT Kim was challenged to build and utilize snow shelters to overnight in the Montana winter, conduct long-range movements in an Arctic environment, and triage, stabilize and evacuate patients via rotary platforms.



Though 10th SFG (A) calls the predominantly mountainous state of Colorado home, training in the subzero temperatures was still challenging for all Soldiers involved. Needless to say, the medical team came prepared to treat a variety of possible injuries, including the most common cold weather related injuries like hypothermia and frostbite. As part of healthcare provision, the medical team maintained 24-hour operations with sick call and emergency care. As part of the team, SGT Kim helped develop a medical evacuation plan for every training and exercise the units participated in. Fortunately, only minor injuries from physical activities like skiing and snowmobiling occurred during the training. The most important takeaway was to be alert and prepared for anything and everything possible.

Serving as a Dental Specialist, 68E, has been a growing experience for SGT Kim. During the course of his career, challenges have included being the only dental specialist supporting a role 2 medical unit, serving as the Operations NCO for the Fort Carson DENTAC, to facilitating care for Servicemembers of 10th SFG (A). Working within the Special Operations Forces (SOF) community is an unparalleled and rewarding opportunity to develop oneself as a Soldier and member of the healthcare team. Recently, SGT Kim graduated Fort Benning's Basic Airborne Course. Future operations include participating in U.S. Army Medical Material Development Activity modernization efforts in Honduras, challenging the Expert Field Medical Badge, and supporting 10th SFG (A) as it continues to carry out operations across the globe.





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FIVE TIPS TO PREPARE YOUR FILE TODAY

By: MAJ Martin Smallidge

The month of May brings a transition to the summer months. For service members it also brings the beginning of PCS season and a new cycle of boards. Consistent review of our career documents are important to maintaining our readiness for promotion boards and the AIM market place. Below are six steps to help you prepare for the season.

1. Conduct a review of your Soldier Record Brief found on [AIM 2.0](#). Ensure that all information is correct and update any changes with your S1.
2. While you are on AIM 2.0, update your AIM Resume.
3. For dental officers between 2 and 9 years of service, select your team on the [Dental Corps Career Development Board](#).
4. Re-read your last three evaluations and have a senior officer review them with you. By taking time to read your previous evaluations, you can reflect on where you have been trying to take your career and understand how your raters see your performance and potential for future assignments. Be sure to show your raters how you have improved from your last evaluation so they can articulate your potential to boards for residency training, professional military education, and promotion.
5. Communicate with the Dental Corps branch at HRC. We have a great team at HRC to assist with understanding AIM and career planning. Take advantage by reaching out for their expertise.
6. Finally, find and speak with a mentor. Have an open discussion with your mentor about the first four items. Good mentors will have the knowledge to identify short-comings in your documents or plans. Mentors can help by expanding your horizons and focusing your efforts.



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- PACIFIC (DHC-P) UPDATE

Spring 2022 Senior Leader Symposium

From March 02-04, DHC-P conducted its Spring 2022 Senior Leader Symposium at the JBLM American Lake Conference Center. The intent of the symposium was to build relationships across the command, receive and acknowledge critical information regarding resource management, performance planning, patient safety, MHS Genesis/ DENTRIX, and Military Health System/ Dental transformation. Guest speakers included: Commanding General, Regional Health Command - Pacific ; Deputy Chief, Dental Corps; Deputy Commander, Dental Health Command - Pacific; DHA-HI Dental Solution Support Consultant/CDIO JBLM DENTAC; Health Statistician/ QPP Lead, DHA J8 Business Integration Division; and Chief, Dental Systems Division, Dental Directorate, MEDCOM G3/5/7. The command also conducted its semi-annual Joint Patient Safety and Safety & Occupational Health Council. Each DENTAC was presented with the FY21 Army Safety Excellence Streamer. Congratulations to DENTAC-JBLM and Presidio of Monterey Dental Clinic for also earning the Army Safety & Health Management System Star! Additionally, the command celebrated the 111th Dental Corps Birthday during the social event at Bowl Arena Lanes.





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- PACIFIC (DHC-P) UPDATE

2022 Best Warrior Competition

Congratulations to SGT Richard Nicolas (DENTAC Alaska) and SPC James Wilfrom (DENTAC Alaska) for achieving the DHC-P FY22 NCO and Soldier Year! From February 28 through March 02, DHC-P conducted its FY22 NCO and Soldier of the Year Best Warrior Competition at JBLM. Over the three day event, NCOs and Soldiers from DENTACs Alaska, Hawaii, Japan, JBLM, and Korea were tested on their ability to perform a variety of combat related tasks under stressful conditions. The competition comprised of day and night land navigation, Army Combat Fitness Test, an Engagement Skills Trainer Event, Army Warrior Task Skills Course, Confidence Obstacle Course, Mystery Event, Aquatic Event, Weapons Qualification, Essay, Written Exam, Oral Board, and 12 Mile Road March. The command is extremely proud of all competitors!





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND– PACIFIC (DHC-P) UPDATE

Spring 2022 Executive Officer Workshop

From February 28 - March 02, DHC-P conducted its Spring 2022 Executive Officer Workshop at the JBLM American Red Cross conference room with representatives from all five subordinate DENTACs. The theme of the workshop was the “Executive Officer Role in Financial Management” with focus on the sharing of best practices. The robust agenda of budget related topics included: workload management and reporting, civilian personnel hiring practice, supply and equipment, travel, and hands-on training on available financial systems. The briefing on Life-cycle Equipment Management and CEEP Process received accolades from the group. Mr. Brian Delfs, Chief, Dental Systems Division, Dental Directorate, MEDCOM G3/5/7, provided an in depth overview of QPP/Productivity Role in Establishing Budget, DENTRIX Reports, and Pivot to Readiness. This is DHC-P’s second Executive Officer Workshop, which was highly successful. The command plans to continue executing a Regional Executive Officer Workshop on a semi-annual basis.

Dental Health Activity – Joint Base Lewis-McChord and Presidio of Monterey Dental Clinic achieved the Army Safety and Health Management System “Safety Star.”

DENTAC-JBLM and Presidio of Monterey Dental Clinic (POM) achieved the Army Safety and Health Management System (ASHMS) Safety Star in December 2021. The ASHMS Safety Star is the highest achievement in safety from the DoD.

To earn this distinction, Service members and Civilian employees had to demonstrate a culture of safety and knowledge of DENTAC-JBLM’s Safety and Occupation Health program. In September 2021, two safety professionals from the DoD Safety Management Center of Excellence inspected all six dental treatment facilities on JBLM as well as a stand-alone inspection of POM. In addition to looking for best practices, the inspectors interviewed employees about the Army Safety Program. All clinics passed inspection with no significant findings.





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- PACIFIC (DHC-P) UPDATE

Dental Health Activity - Hawaii

DENTAC Hawaii participated in Patient Safety Awareness Week (PSAW) from March 13-19. PSAW is an annual recognition event intended to encourage everyone to learn more about and promote patient safety practices. DENTAC Hawaii kicked off the PSAW with fun educational activities such as PS crossword puzzle and TeamSTEPPS Challenge and a Color Walk/Run.



A Color Walk/Run event was held on March 18th at Watts Field, Schofield Barracks. COL Johnson provided opening remarks emphasizing the importance of patient safety and promoting ready reliable care. Approximately 100 staff members participated in the Color Walk/Run. The educational activities included 4 stations (Ready Reliable Care, DHA Dental Universal Protocol, Hand Hygiene and Wheel of Patient Safety). Names of everyone who attended were entered in a drawing for Starbucks gift cards. Simultaneously, senior leadership volunteered to sit in the Dunk Tank. The festivities ended with COL Johnson's closing remarks. It was great to see everyone laughing, enjoying and showing off their colorful shirts.



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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- PACIFIC (DHC-P) UPDATE

Dental Health Activity - Hawaii

On November 20, 2021, jet fuel was found in the Red Hill Water Shaft, one of three water sources that supports Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). Hickam Dental Clinic was forced to close its doors for routine dental care due to the water contamination. Annual dental exams were conducted using only disposable exam packs and bottled water. In addition, all dental instruments sterilized with the contaminated water was deemed unsterile.

In December 2021, Hickam Dental Clinic and Bhaskar Dental Clinic (Fort Shafter, HI) partnered to support Air Force Personnel throughout the Red Hill Water Crisis. The Bhaskar Dental Clinic OIC, LTC Kimberly Inouye, and team coordinated with Lt Col Diosdado Pangilinan, Chief of Dental Services, to ensure that Hickam Dental Clinic personnel had the capability to provide comprehensive dental care to their patients.

Sterilization is a critical function within dental clinics. Ms. Megan Zuelke partnered with her Air Force sterilization colleagues to ensure this no-fail mission was met. The water crisis sterilization collaboration between the services has allowed for new procedural changes and partnerships to take place between the clinics.

Bhaskar Dental Clinic leadership and staff members created long-lasting friendships and collaborations between the Army and Air Force dental clinics within the Military Health System Hawaii. In the words of Lt Col Pangilinan, "They helped during the water crisis...housing our hygienist. We should be forever grateful for Bhaskar."





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- PACIFIC (DHC-P) UPDATE

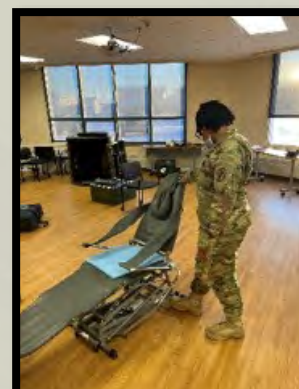
Dental Health Activity - Alaska

In a recent ceremony at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska, SSG Carlos Alejandro was honored as the Fort Wainwright Soldier Volunteer of the Year for calendar year 2021. Present at the ceremony were MG Brian Eifler, USARAK CG and COL Nate Surrey, US Army Alaska Garrison Commander and their respective CSMs. During calendar year 2021, SSG Alejandro has logged over 2,400 volunteer hours with various organizations both on and off the installation. Agencies served include: USO, BOSS, Soldiers Against Drunk Driving, Fairbanks Rescue Mission, and Toys for Tots. SSG Alejandro has served as an example of engagement with outside organizations and has motivated others in the unit to serve. Also recognized in the ceremony was CPL Daneille Bryan for completing over 100 hrs of volunteer service to the Ft. Wainwright BOSS program in 2021. Fort Wainwright has one of the most robust volunteering cultures in the Army for an installation of its size with over 16,800 hours of volunteer service recorded in 2021.



Individual Critical Task Training

On January 19 and 26, DENTAC-AK conducted Individual Critical Task (ICT) training with the focus on dental field equipment. The dental team from Charles Company 25 Brigade Support Battalion 1-25 Stryker Brigade Combat Team on Fort Wainwright, made their assigned dental equipment available for this event. Soldiers had the opportunity to get hands on the dental chair, field sink, operating unit, and the portable radiograph unit.





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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND- PACIFIC (DHC-P) UPDATE

Dental Health Activity - Japan

Starting March 28, DENTAC-Japan celebrated Dental Assistants Appreciation Week. We expressed gratitude to all the hard work the staff does each day for our patients. The staff enjoyed their special week.



PFC Shanika Moore and Jim Holbert are located at Torii Station Okinawa, Japan. PFC Moore completed 127 Hand Release Push Ups in 10 minutes. In doing so, she won the best female in the CSM Challenge that month. She is physically fit and willing to take on some of the toughest challenges. PFC Moore's next challenge is Air Assault before she leaves Japan.



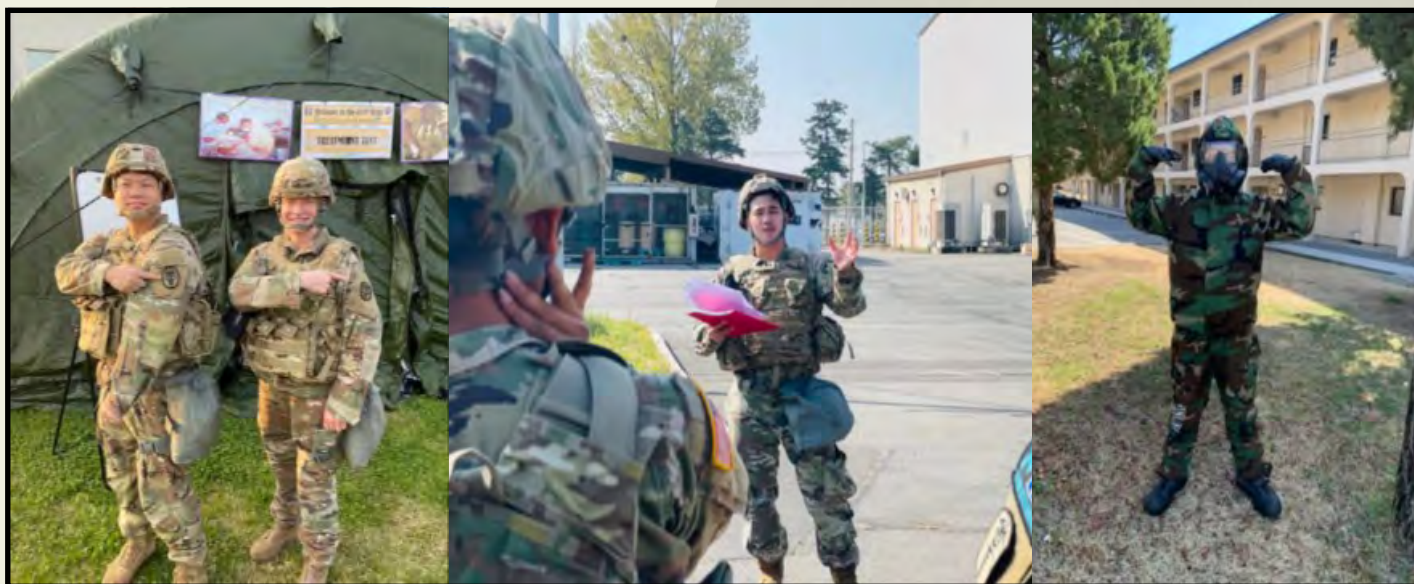


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DENTAL HEALTH COMMAND– PACIFIC (DHC-P) UPDATE

618th Dental Company (Area Support) (DCAS)/Dental Health Activity - Korea

On April 18 and 19, 618th DCAS/DENTAC-Korea executed Pacific Medic Focus 22-1/Operation Bite Tonight. The unit remains focused on maintaining a “bite tonight” posture across the peninsula while ensuring training is the number one priority for a mission-ready team. Soldiers conducted pre-combat checks (PCCs) / pre-combat inspections (PCIs) prior to conducting convoy operations and establishing a field dentistry site. While executing the exercise, 618th DCAS/DENTAC-Korea conducted dental readiness examinations to support the readiness needs of 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division during a rotational brigade training on the peninsula. 618th DCAS/ DENTAC-K also attached two 68Es to the rotational brigade from Fort Bliss to provide subject matter experts to their Role 2 treatment facility.





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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63F Prosthodontics

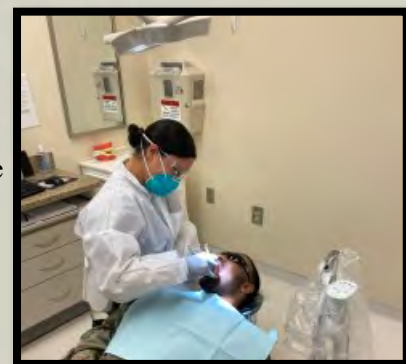
Army Dental Laboratory (ADL)

The ADL supports the dental readiness of the force through the production of dental prosthetics. For the Soldier in the unit, the ADL is a training platform to gain and maintain skills to be a part of the ready medical force.

Maintaining a Ready Medical Force

SGT Rodriguez volunteered to provide dental hygiene support to improve dental readiness and wellness for patients at Redstone Arsenal during COVID-19 related staff shortages. As a new 68E20X2, this opportunity was very valuable in gaining experience and validating her individual critical tasks (ICTs).

ADL soldiers regularly train to cover the full spectrum of Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills to enhance their ability to fight, survive, and win on the battlefield while building Esprit de Corps. The training included land navigation training, casualty care skills, donning nuclear, biologic, chemical gear, water survival training, and weapons qualification.





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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63F Prosthodontics

Army Dental Laboratory continued

Leading through Achievements

SSG Le competed for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge (GAFPB) achieving the highest level badge (Gold). His achievement demonstrates his high level of fitness and commitment to be the best Soldier he can be. MSG Graham and SSG Le show pride in the accomplishment and 'Pride in the Patch!'



Additive Manufacturing

MG Michael Talley, Deputy Commanding General for Ops, MEDCOM, visited Fort Gordon garrison on April 01. We were honored he took time out of his very busy schedule to visit the ADL. LTC Sloan McLaughlin, ADL Deputy Commander, briefed MG Talley on the ADL 3D printing capabilities.





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AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63F Prosthodontics

Army Dental Laboratory continued

Developing 'Best Warriors'

The ADL executed FY22 NCO of the 2nd Quarter Board. The competitors, SGT Juan Jaramillo and SGT Rogelio Alcala, set themselves apart from their peers by challenging their mental and physical capabilities during the competition. The board consisted of a six-mile ruck march, tactical medical lanes, water survival, land navigation, a written test, oral board, and a mystery event (NBC tasks). Both NCOs displayed vast knowledge and physical abilities in all areas of the competition. SGT Alcala was the winner.



Team Building

The enlisted Soldiers of the Army Dental Laboratory participated in a bowling morale building event hosted by the senior enlisted leader, MSG Brittany Graham. The Soldiers enjoyed lunch and bowling while focusing on team and personal relationship building. SSG Jevon Tinker (JT) bowled a 265 and plans to try out for the All Army Bowling team in the near future.





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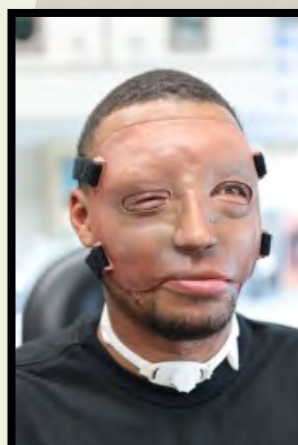
AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63F Prosthodontics

Life of a Maxillofacial Prosthodontics Fellow

Maxillofacial prosthodontics involves the rehabilitation of patients with defects or disabilities that were present when born or developed due to disease or trauma. Over the past year, MAJ Steven Handel and MAJ Jee Kim have been attending the Air Force and Navy Maxillofacial Prosthetics Fellowships. While training with our sister services, they have treated numerous wounded warriors, active-duty military personal, retirees, and their dependents. Their training has incorporated the full gamut of facial reconstruction, including intra and extra oral prosthetics ranging from the replacement of eyes and ears to stoma inserts. Their work is instrumental in providing support to numerous other medical specialties, especially oral maxillofacial surgery, ENT, speech pathology and radiation oncology. Their collaboration with a multitude of other specialties has provided awareness to the necessities of post-surgical prosthetics reconstruction. Some of the highlights from their programs are shown below.



Prosthetic ear fabrication



Soft Tissue Compression /
Esthetic Mask



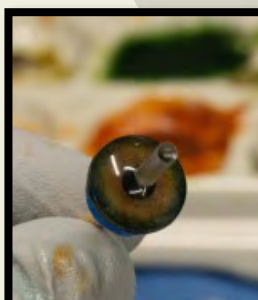
Final Obturator



Tongue positioning device
for radiation therapy



Fabricating a prosthetic eye



Implant-Supported Full Arch
Prosthetics



The Dental Corps Bulletin

AOC SPOTLIGHT - 63F Prosthodontics

Schofield Barracks Dental Laboratory

A new Schofield Barracks Dental Clinic (SBDC) was opened in 2021. Within this beautiful new clinic on the 25th Infantry Division footprint, is a state-of-the-art local dental laboratory with full prosthodontic production capabilities. The dental laboratory supports DENTAC-Hawaii's missions to provide dental readiness to Soldiers within the Military Health System Hawaii and to generate expert comprehensive dentists for the medical force.

The SBDC dental laboratory technology includes a intraoral cameras, 5-axis mill, 3-D printers, and Exocad design stations. On site access to this equipment reduces production time resulting in improved readiness for the units we support.

The AEGD-2 residents' training is dramatically improved through familiarization with dental laboratory production techniques. The full service dental laboratory provides residents with hands on experience with planning and prosthetic fabrication processes. Residents routinely design, manufacture, and deliver a broad range of surgical and prosthetic services using the work flow developed within the lab.

A final benefit of having these capabilities available locally is the ability to support sister services and other medical specialties. The DENTAC has been able lend support to Navy and Air Force colleagues on Oahu. We have also provided support service to Tripler Army Medical Center's ENT and Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Departments.

