

# Liberty Call

## Renovations complete at Big Island's KMC

By **JCS(SW) Phil Eggman**  
Navy Region Hawaii

Military patrons are in for a treat at the Kilauea Military Camp (KMC) on the Big Island of Hawaii with the completion of a \$6 million renovation project at the popular resort.

"Our renovations look great!" beamed KMC Director Randy Hart. "It took longer than originally expected, but now that everything is complete, the camp couldn't be better."

KMC is a joint services recreation center atop Kilauea, on the brink of Halema'uma'u, the world's most active volcano.

According to Hart, renovations, which included the cafeteria, dormitory, cafeteria, general store and headquarters building, and new interiors in 11 cabins, were originally expected to take about five months.

However, historical preservation concerns expanded work to 15 months Hart said.

"I am so grateful that the camp staff hung in there during the renovation period," said Hart. "We couldn't have done it without their support and cooperation."

"It was tough, but we survived in good spirits," said KMC Lodging Administrative Assistant, Brenda Tacardon.

"We had to work in close quarters while the work was being done, but the guests did not suffer and operations were pretty smooth considering."

To commemorate the

completed renovations, KMC held a ribbon cutting ceremony Dec. 1.

Colors were provided by the Waiakea High School JROTC, the first of its kind on Hawaii. Lisa Roberts-Kauka provided a blessing at the KMC Headquarters front entrance.

"We are doing well and the camp is here for the military community to enjoy," said Hart.

"I know that people visiting us for the first time will enjoy their stay and returning visitors will appreciate the changes made in the camp," he added.

Exclusive to military members and DOD employees, KMC offers tasteful lodging in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

Many of the cabins have kitchens and jacuzzis bathrooms. All have cable and baseboard heaters in addition to fireplaces in all of the camp's 78 units.

Guests at KMC range from single Sailors (some with friends or family members they bring along) to couples and families to retirees who enjoy a private and relaxed setting on the volcano at affordable prices.

For more information, visit the camp's web page at [www.kmc-volcano.com](http://www.kmc-volcano.com). Commercial phone is (808) 967-8334.

From Oahu, call 4386707. Fax number is (808) 967-834, or write: KMC Lodging, A Joint Services Recreation Center, ATTN: Reservations Office, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii 96718.



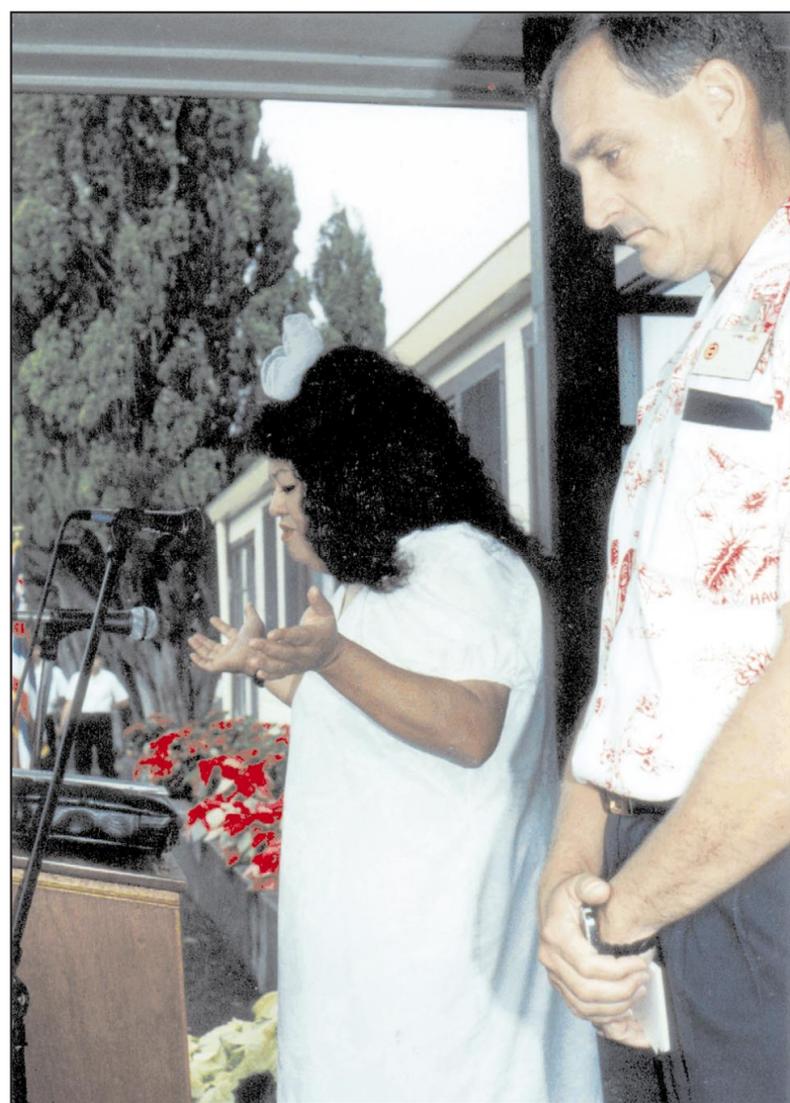
Above: Colors for the ribbon-cutting ceremony commemorating the completed renovations at KMC were provided by the Waiakea High School JROTC, the first of its kind on Hawaii. The \$6 million renovation project took 15 months to complete and included a renovations to the general store, headquarters building, cafeteria, dormitory and 11 cabins.



Above: Diane Kaplan (left) and Malia Keawekane (right) serve customers at the newly-renovated Kilauea Military Camp (KMC) cafeteria.

Far right: Lisa Roberts-Kauka offers a Hawaiian prayer blessing. Randy Hart, KMC director, is shown at right.

Right: Untying of the traditional maile lei is part of the ceremony at KMC.



Photos by Nan L. Kaneshiro, KMC