

## HEADQUARTERS HAWAII WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY PO Box 29417 Honolulu, HI 96820



18 Feb 08

- FROM: Lieutenant Colonel Thomas P. Brehm, Vice Commander, Director of Operations (CAP)
- TO: Colonel Theodore S. Kyle, Oregon Wing Commander (CAP)

## SUBJ: Letter of Appreciation for Captain Scott Bakker 409151 and 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Jim Metcalfe 181088

1. The Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol conducted an airborne test of an upgraded (Power Sonix) speaker system on a Honolulu based CAP aircraft at 1300, January 19, 2008. The aerial test would not have taken place without the coordination and assistance of Captain Scott Bakker and 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Jim Metcalfe of the Oregon Wing CAP. Their personal interest and initiative in this venture was inspirational and the key in the overall success of this event. Captain Bakker and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Metcalfe came to Hawaii in advance to assist in the installation and ground test of the speakers before the flight evaluation.

2. Hawaii Wing has been conducting Tsunami warnings in our state for over 60 years. A key part of our Tsunami warning is the speaker systems mounted on our aircraft. For the past several years, the state and Hawaii CAP have been searching for a improved system. This new system not only increases the output of our current speaker system, but provides clarity in all transmissions as attested by the State Civil Defense officials and observers on the ground that were on hand to personally witness the successful test. In addition, the CAP National Executive Director, Don Rowland, was in the aircraft during the flight test.

3. The airborne test was conducted above Hickam AFB at 1000 feet above the ground in a racetrack pattern. The profile was coordinated with PAO Hickam AFB, Pearl Harbor Naval Base, and appropriate Air Traffic Control/FAA agencies. Captain Bakker, utilizing the Power Sonix equipment conducted the test in the aircraft which included a verbal message in the form of a test pattern, followed by some taped music. Ground observers that were standing outside were able to easily identify the voice message and the music. In addition, some residents living on Hickam AFB reported being able to hear and identify the message and music while inside their quarters. Harold Buckle, a representative of City and County of Honolulu, observed the aerial test from a vantage point on Hickam AFB. He indicated that he was able to hear the audible message clearly and could easily understand the test message and identify the music that was played.

4. This successful aerial test met the requirements for our State to acquire the funding to retrofit our entire fleet of aircraft. We anticipate State funding to be provided in the near future to start the upgrade of our speaker systems. Captain Bakker and First Lieutenant Metcalfe made this test possible. Their initiative and extraordinary drive to achieve was

noteworthy and serves as an example to all Civil Air Patrol members. On behalf of our Wing Commander, Colonel Earl Greenia, please offer our sincere appreciation and thank you for a job well done.

5. We greatly appreciate the superb support and resources rendered by the State of Oregon and Oregon Wing Civil Air Patrol. Our readiness to provide this critical warning support to our citizens of Hawaii has improved because of the efforts of these members and their superb desire to go above and beyond the call of duty.

Semper Vigilans,

LTCOL THOMAS P. BREHM Vice Commander Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol