

# **Tripler Army Medical Center**

## **Public Affairs Office Media Release**

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**Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs Office**

## **10 nurses graduate from Tripler's obstetrical-gynecologic nursing course**

by Leslie Ozawa

### **Ready for life's precious moments**

Ten nurses graduated from Tripler Army Medical Center's Obstetrical-Gynecologic (OB/GYN) Nursing Course Jan. 21 in a ceremony at the Tripler chapel. The 16-week course, including eight weeks each of academic and clinical training, prepared them for assignments in labor and delivery, postpartum, and clinical work in obstetrics and gynecology. Back row, from left are: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Marcia Rhoden-McCatty, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jamie Wood, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Nicole McKenna, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Laurie Kwolek, and Capt. Melody Kongndoumbe.

Front row, from left are Maj. Julie Lomax, nursing course assistant director; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Preata Jackson; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Lisa Gaskin; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Ashley Sisson; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Monica Whiteside; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Brenda Ploof; and Lt. Col. Ann Hochhausen, nursing course director.

by Leslie Ozawa

## **Outstanding Nurse**

1st Lt. Laurie A. Kwolek is awarded an Army Commendation Medal Jan. 21 by Col. Vicki Odegaard, Tripler Army Medical Center's assistant chief nurse, while Lt. Col. Ann Hochhausen, obstetrical/gynecologic nursing course director, looks on. Kwolek was named the honor graduate of her graduating class of the nursing course. She was also cited for helping to organize her fellow students to "adopt" four families through the Salvation Army's Christmas Adopt a Family program, and to participate in Hawaii's "Race for the Cure" 5K Run fundraiser for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation last October.