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Army Surgeon General completes Asia-Pacific tour

March 3, 2014

By **Ana Allen (PRMC)**Like 12 people like this. [Sign Up](#) to see what your friends like.

The Surgeon General of the U.S. Army and Commander, U.S. Army Medical Command (MEDCOM), Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho, wrapped up a two-week tour of the Asia-Pacific region to discuss top Army Medicine priorities, conduct key leader engagements with DoD and partner nations, and visit MEDCOM Treatment and Research Facilities. The trip afforded Horoho the opportunity to better understand the health care requirements for this critical region of the world, and how Army Medicine capabilities can be used to strengthen alliances, enhance diplomacy, and improve the health and security of the Asia-Pacific area of responsibility.

Horoho, along with Command Sgt. Maj. Donna A. Brock, Command Sergeant Major for the MEDCOM, kicked off their tour in Hawaii, followed by stops in Guam, Japan and Thailand before returning back to Oahu.

Horoho conducted town halls at medical treatment facilities and the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS) with Army and Department of Defense medical and medical research professionals where she discussed the four priorities of Army Medicine: combat casualty care, readiness and health of the force, a ready and deployable medical force, and meeting the health care needs of families and retirees.

"Not only are these [priorities] important for what we are doing today, they are important to ensure that we are preserving the right capabilities in the future," said Horoho during a town hall at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii.

Additionally, Horoho discussed the strategic landscape facing Army Medicine today and said that despite challenges such as a sluggish economy, rising health care costs and a decreasing Army end-strength, that it would not stop Army Medicine from achieving its end state.

Horoho discussed Army Medicine's shift from a healthcare system to a system for health and the focus on personal responsibility for adequate sleep, increased activity, and better nutrition.

"The decisions we make today impact our ability to continue to have improved health. All of those together are really helping us as we transition to a system for health," said Horoho.

During the trip, Horoho and Brock also participated in several key engagements and cultural exchanges with foreign military medical leaders across the region that included