Gregory Hatfield and SGT Clayton Ratliff *Photos courtesy FWC DCD*

TRAINERS VISIT JTAGS PACIFIC COMMAND

By Larry Mize, FWC DCD

Gregory Hatfield and SGT Clayton Ratliff joined the 1st Space Company operations review at the Joint Tactical Ground Stations (JTAGS) in Korea and Japan May 2-14. The intent of the visit was to gather the most up to date operational information to ensure JTAGS operators receive the most realistic and operationally relevant training during their tenure at the JTAGS school. Visiting the forward JTAGS sites is a vital part of the training process that not only gives an azimuth check to the school, but allows the forward sites to have input and influence the training of the operators that will be assigned to them in the future.

To accomplish the task, Hatfield and Ratliff spent four days at each site interviewing all the detachment's personnel and sitting shift with the crews. The feedback was very positive and for the most part the consensus was that the school was on par and the newly arriving operators had the tools they needed to start their rigorous certification process. Additionally the team was able to provide products and mission related information that will greatly enhance and add more realism to the training.

This was only the first of two trips planned for the year. In July the team will travel to JTAGS-Germany and JTAGS-Central Command. Once the trip is complete and all data gathered has been analyzed, the School will make the necessary adjustments to the JTAGS training in order to meet the needs of the 1st Space Company.

Army Space Cadre Basic Course, JTAGS Detachment, Korea, Mar. 29 - Apr. 1, 2010

Army Space Cadre Basic Course, JTAGS Detachment, Japan, Mar. 22-25, 2010