

HAWAII VETERAN

Lawelawe i nā koa kahiko me ka ha'aheo: "Serving veterans with pride"

Vol. 3 No. 4

State of Hawaii Office of Veterans Services

Winter 1994

vet news

Hale Koa parking rates set

The Hale Koa hotel has established parking rates for its new parking structure which opened Nov. 12. The rates for **DOD personnel** (active duty, retirees, reservists, National Guard, GS/NAF civilians) are:

- \$1 up to two hours,
- \$.50 each additional hour or fraction thereof,
- \$5 maximum for 24 hours.

For **active duty E1-E5**, the maximum is \$2 up to eight hours.

For Hale Koa functions, parking will be validated as follows:

- \$1 up to two hours,
- \$.50 each additional hour,
- \$2 maximum up to eight hours.

Parking will be open to the **public** on a space-available basis. Non-DOD/public rates are:

- \$3 up to one hour,
- \$1.50 each additional hour,
- \$24 maximum for 24 hours.

Registered guests of the Hale Koa are charged \$3 per day for parking.

The lost ticket charge is \$5 for DOD personnel and \$24 for non-Dod personnel.

(More *vet news* on page 6)



U.S. Navy photo

A tradition of remembrance

Pearl Harbor Survivors Donald Howell (left) and Robert Kinzler toss flowers into the waters beneath the USS Arizona Memorial in remembrance of their fellow sailors lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941. Newly-elected Gov. Benjamin Cayetano looks on. Each year, members of the military, veterans and other invited guests gather at the memorial to reflect on this significant event in our nation's history. The exact moment of the attack is marked with a minute of silence broken by a missing man flyover of Hawaii Air National Guard F-15s.

Hawaii to be site of V-J Day anniversary celebration

The State of Hawaii has been selected by the Department of Defense World War II Commemorative Committee to host the national anniversary celebration of the end of World War II.

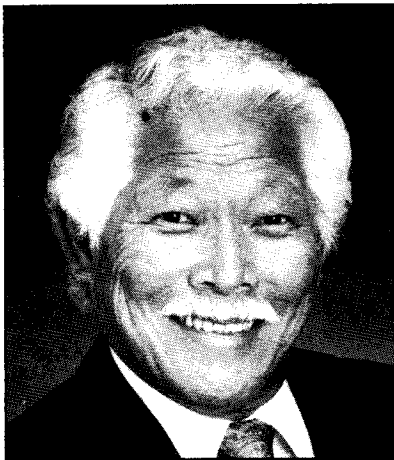
A World War II commemorative working committee has been set up to coordinate the celebrations. The committee is chaired by retired Vice Admiral Robert K.U. Kihune. Committee members include: Maj. Gen. Edward V. Richardson, state adjutant general; Col. Bill Franta, representing Commander in Chief Pacific; representatives of the Governor's

office, the State Department of Defense, the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, and the City and County of Honolulu.

Commemorative activities will take place throughout 1995, culminating in activities marking the official Japanese surrender Sept. 2. The events will honor those who died during WWII, recognize the veterans who fought and the sacrifices and efforts required to end the Pacific campaign, and instill an awareness of the economic, social and political impacts of the war.

Office of Veterans Services

State of Hawaii Department of Defense



A grateful director bids Aloha

From the Director
Larry Lee

"OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE; THEY JUST FADE AWAY" -- an excerpt from General Douglas MacArthur's remarks to the graduating class at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

As I prepare to close another chapter in a very exciting and fulfilled life, I cannot help but reflect on what General MacArthur was thinking when he

quoted those words. He had lived a full life as the consummate soldier and warrior, and was now taking his leave to fade away with his memories.

As I look back on a career which spans 52 years, beginning at age 12 as a dishwasher, to this extremely satisfying assignment as the director of the Office of Veterans Services, I cannot help

but be thankful for being an American, and for having been so blessed in this life.

I am eternally grateful to the United States of America for having given me the opportunity to have served my country and enjoyed a life of freedom and independence. I am grateful to the State of Hawaii for having allowed me to serve my fellow comrades and their families. I am grateful to the City and County of Honolulu for having allowed me to provide for our Kupuna. To my staff: thank you for your loyalty, dedication, professionalism, and caring. But most of all, I am grateful to a loving Creator who made it possible for me to be here on earth to accomplish these acts of love for my fellow men and women.

To all of you who have been such an important and significant part of my life, to all of you who contributed so much to making my life such a pleasure, to all of you who allow me to call you "my friends," I say aloha pumehana and mahalo nui loa.

From the OVS staff

A fond farewell to Mr. Larry Lee

How do you say goodbye to your boss, especially when he's the only boss there has ever been? Do you talk about his smile, that twinkle in his eye, his devotion to doing the right thing? Or do you mention his administrative skills, his fiscal management, leadership, and such things?

Do you share stories that give you insight into his being? Do you tell how this family man treated his kin? And what about the day-to-day tales of what he did for us, veterans, families, and staff. Well that's not for us because we all know that Mr. Lee has class.

It's really tough to say goodbye without saying so long, for you really don't want this old soldier to just sit at home. He's been a part of OVS from the beginning and now he's at the end. How do you find the words to say -- fond farewell?

We wish you the best no matter where you stay, whether it be in Vietnam or Hawaii. Please remember the days and years you spent with us, and smile that great ol' smile. For we all know that you will be enjoying yourself, in third retirement, and not thinking too much about us.

"Keep the Spirit"

Bill Staton
Veterans Services Counselor, Maui

As the holidays begin to draw near,
And we begin our lists for those held dear,
Our world is wondrously brightened
with that special holiday cheer.
It's a cheer from more than hype & glitter,
More than gifts whose wrappings turn to litter.
It's found in smiles, songs, kind deeds, and love:
lightening hearts even once bitter.

Though my heart aches seeing folks pay unfair dues,
Helping homeless Vets, solving daily SNAFUs,
That pain is soothed by this seasonal joy,
by each carol sung by my little boy,
by each visit with friends who've touched my life,
by each special moment shared with my wife,
by each disabled Veteran bathed in Yuletide mirth,
by each chorus of combat Vets singing "Peace on Earth,"
by each "good will" deed done by all who choose --
These seasonal sharings earn my heartfelt thank-yous.

You see the real gifts aren't under the tree:
They can't be bought -- some you can't even see.
But as we share them and take them to heart
they can put a twinkle in your eyes,
lift your spirits to brand new highs,
and hold that special cheer for you and me ... perpetually.

Old soldiers reunite in Waianae

By Manuel P. Cabral

The 5th annual Old Soldiers Reunion held at Waianae Army Recreation Center Sept. 16-18 was a great success, with over 400 old soldiers attending the fellowship night and luau. About 80 old-timers participated in the golf tournament held at Leilehua Golf Course, and 40 competed in the bowling tournament at Fort Shafter Bowling Alley.

Many of the old soldiers came with their families from the mainland and the neighbor islands to share in great fellowship.

The 6th annual Old Soldiers Reunion is scheduled for Sept. 15-17, 1995, at the Waianae Army Recreation Center. Plan now and pass along the word to others who have not attended the previous celebrations. The 1995 event should be a special one. It will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II (May 8, 1945 -- VE Day) and the surrender of Japan (Aug. 15, 1945).

To be put on a mailing list, send your name, address and phone number to: Sgt. Maj. Manuel P. Cabral, P.O. Box 476, Aiea, HI 96701 (488-7126).



SOLDIERS AND FRIENDS -- Front row (from left): Forunato Lagapa, Nelson Atina, Peter Cabral, William Umi. Back row (from left): Henry Kawamura, (unidentified), Robert Makaiwi, Vernon Broad, John Baker, James Kaupe.

Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery



Spc. Jan T. Tanimoto

VETERANS DAY -- Representatives of Hawaii's veterans' organizations gather at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe, Oahu, for the annual massing of the veterans colors, Nov. 11.

HSVC Christmas decorations policy

Fresh cut flowers may be placed on graves anytime at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery (HSVC).



Christmas decorations, including potted plants such as Poinsettias, may be placed on graves ten days prior and ten days after Christmas Day or from Dec. 14 through Jan. 4.

Please do not place wires, glass, or any type of breakable objects at the cemetery. Remember that the cemetery is open to the public and you should not leave anything of personal or sentimental value that you do not wish to lose. Cemetery personnel cannot be held responsible for lost or stolen objects.

Thank you for your kokua and Happy Holidays.

Kauai veterans build 'a plac

Story and photos by Nancy S. Chappell

It was a satisfied crowd of turquoise-shirted veterans that packed the front half of the new Kauai Veterans center, Nov. 12.

With a sense of accomplishment and well-being, they settled in at round tables to finally enjoy the fruits of many months of labor with a dedication ceremony and luau.

These were the Kauai Veterans Center volunteers -- the determined group of former soldiers, sailors and airmen who, with a rekindled spirit of teamwork and dedication, set their sights on an objective and once again fought to see their mission accomplished -- establishment of a center for Kauai's veterans.

"When you wore the uniform, you answered the call to serve your country," said Maj. Gen. Edward V. Richardson, state adjutant general, during the dedication ceremony, "Today, by building this center, you still serve your country, your community and your fellow veterans."

The push for a veterans' center on Kauai began back in the '80s with the dreams of veterans like Ed Kawamura and Billy Fernandes to have a place to gather, socialize and provide mutual support.

Fernandes' daughter, State Sen. Lehua Fernandes Salling, got the ball rolling with a funding request that resulted in a \$650,000 appropriation.

Meanwhile, a group of veterans led by Billy Fernandes met with Rod Wilson, president of Amfac/JMB, who agreed to donate nearly three acres of land for the center along

Kapule Highway in Lihue.

Even with donated land and the help of Sus Kato, design consultant, trying to squeeze the veterans' vision into a \$650,000 budget proved difficult, and costs eventually surpassed \$1 million. Again Fernandes Salling rallied the legislature and secured further support. Gen. Richardson provided assistance by assigning a liaison to work with the veterans on the project.

Work began in 1992, but the project suffered a devastating setback due to Hurricane Iniki. Without insurance, the veterans turned to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help them rebuild. After an uphill battle, FEMA came through and the project was back on track.

Money was still tight, however, and to help offset building expenses veterans turned out in force to help complete the project.

"We did everything," said Larry Sakoda a veteran of World War II's famed 100th Battalion, "cement, electricity, clean-up ..."

The facility consists of a large hall that can seat 1,000 people, conference rooms, and office space for the Office of Veterans Services. It will also house a museum with displays of veterans' memorabilia. The center will be open for community use, but priority will be given to veterans. The Kauai Veterans Council will oversee management of the center.

"The pride and glory in this building is something," said Fernandes, "Some of us have been waiting for 50 years."

Parade unites Kauai veterans of all e



Spc. Jan T. Tanimoto

A veteran of World War I rides in a dune buggy during the Kauai Veterans Parade Nov. 5.

PAO Staff

Veterans from World War I to the Persian Gulf participated in the annual Kauai Veterans Day parade on Nov. 5th, for the annual Kauai Veterans Day parade.

"This is the best parade I've come to," said Larry Sakoda, who served with the 100th Battalion in France and Germany during World War II. "It has been a long time since I've seen a parade."

"This is my first parade and I'm excited," said Spc. Jan T. Tanimoto, who served in Operation Desert Storm. "I feel like I'm back in the service."

Each year the parade initiates a series of events throughout the state. The procession of veterans, Boy Scouts, and fire engines, marching units, bands, and fire engines will proceed to the Kauai County Building.

This year's parade included veterans from World War I, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf.

"Makes you feel proud!" beamed Larry Sakoda, who served with the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry, and the 501st Central Postal Directory in France.

At the end of the parade route, the gate will be open for food, craft booths and band music.

"This gives me a chance to see my buddies and relive my memories," said Johnny Rabasa, 59, of Hanalei.

Build 'a place to call their own'

way in Lihue.

donated land and the help of Sus Kato, design trying to squeeze the veterans' vision into a budget proved difficult, and costs eventually million. Again Fernandes Salling rallied the and secured further support. Gen. Richardson stance by assigning a liaison to work with the the project.

in 1992, but the project suffered a devastatue to Hurricane Iniki. Without insurance, the ned to the Federal Emergency Management (A) to help them rebuild. After an uphill battle, through and the project was back on track. s still tight, however, and to help offset build-veterans turned out in force to help complete

everything," said Larry Sakoda a veteran of I's famed 100th Battalion, "cement, electric- ..."

y consists of a large hall that can seat 1,000 rence rooms, and office space for the Office of rvices. It will also house a museum with eters' memorabilia. The center will be open ty use, but priority will be given to veterans. eters Council will oversee management of

and glory in this building is something," said Some of us have been waiting for 50 years."



The newly-completed Kauai Veterans Center on Kapule Highway, Lihue.

veterans of all eras

PAO Staff

Veterans from World War I to the Persian Gulf gathered in Lihue, Kauai, Nov. 5th, for the annual Kauai Veterans Day parade.

"This is the best parade I've come to," said Wallace Takemoto, 80, of Waiola Homestead, who served with the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry in Italy, Africa and Germany during World War II. "It has the most participants."

"This is my first parade and I'm excited," said Dave Miyasato, 24, of Lihue who served in Operation Desert Storm. "I feel proud that I served my country."

Each year the parade initiates a series of Veterans Day celebrations throughout the state. The procession of veterans, Boy and Girl Scouts, dune buggies, military vehicles, marching units, bands, and fire engines traveled from Vidinha Stadium to the Kauai County Building.

This year's parade included veterans from World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf.

"Makes you feel proud!" beamed Larry Sakoda of Waimea, 73. Sakoda served with the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry, as a machine gunner in Africa, Italy and France.

At the end of the parade route, the gathering was entertained with speakers, food, craft booths and band music.

"This gives me a chance to see my buddies and brings back my military memories," said Johnny Rabasa, 59, of Hanamalu, who served in Vietnam.



Tanimoto
Kauai



(From left) Ed Kawamura, Maj. Gen. Lehua Fernandes Salling, and Bill the Kauai Veterans Center before

e to call their own'



newly-completed Kauai Veterans Center on Kapule Highway, Lihue.

ras

Gulf gathered in Lihue, Kauai, Nov. 12, 1994, for the dedication.

Ed Wallace Takemoto, 80, of Waiola, Hawaii, served in the 442nd Central Postal Directory, 442nd Infantry in Italy, Africa and Europe. He was one of the most participants."

Ed said Dave Miyasato, 24, of Lihue who served in the 442nd Central Postal Directory, "I would be proud that I served my country."

The Veterans Day celebrations throughout the island included Girl Scouts, dune buggies, military bands, and planes that traveled from Vidinha Stadium in Lihue.

Guests from World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Pacific.

Ed Sakoda of Waimea, 73. Sakoda served in the 442nd Central Postal Directory, a machine gunner in Africa, Italy and Europe.

The evening was entertained with speakers, music, and a lei.

Ed said he will bring back his military medals and brings back my military medals. Ed Amalu, who served in Vietnam.



(From left) Ed Kawamura, Maj. Gen. Edward V. Richardson, State Sen. Lehua Fernandes Salling, and Billy Fernandes untie a maile lei to open the Kauai Veterans Center before its dedication Nov. 12.

Q & A:**Department of Veterans Affairs**

I am a veteran of the Persian Gulf War, and I am experiencing some health problems. Can the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) help me?

A Persian Gulf veteran with any medical problem found to be connected to his or her service has priority access to inpatient medical care. VA has urged Persian Gulf veterans with medical problems to come to VA for a free examination and to become part of a registry providing medical surveillance. This computerized data base assists in the detection of patterns that may offer direction for research or policy review. It will be used, if necessary, to recall veterans for further examination and to keep veterans informed of scientific findings and policy developments.

VA has established special Persian Gulf referral centers at its medical centers in West Los Angeles, Houston and Washington, D.C., to handle cases of unusual symptoms that evade diagnosis at a local VA medical center. VA is also testing Persian Gulf veterans from Alabama and Georgia at the VA Medical Center in Birmingham, Ala., for health problems that may be related to their exposure to chemical agents. The pilot program will help develop the best examination and treatment methods for use at other VA facilities. (Also, see *Persian Gulf compensation*, this page.)

For more information, contact any DVA office. In Honolulu, call 566-1000 or 1 (800) 827-1000 or write: VA Medical and Regional Office, P.O. Box 50188, Honolulu, HI 96850.

vet news**Former POW medals available**

Former prisoner of war (POW) medals are still available from the Department of Defense. The application must be made to the branch of service in which you were a member when you were a POW. An application must be submitted with a copy of the appropriate separation document confirming POW status (i.e. ED AGO Form 53-55 or DD Form 214). It is advisable to attach a copy of materials supporting POW status (i.e. notification to next-of-kin, POW ID card, newspaper articles). Applications are available at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Life insurance hoax

Veterans beware of bogus coupons or flyers advertising insurance dividends for anyone who has had a government life insurance policy.

All communications about changes in premiums or issuance of dividends are accomplished directly with you. Dividends are sent automatically, usually on your policy anniversary date.

For more information, call the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance 1(800)419-1473, or the Veterans Insurance Phone Service 1(800)669-8477.

Vietnam Veterans on-line

The Vietnam Veterans of America provides information on chapter activity and veterans issues over two information networks.

Prodigy has a specific communications area for chapters and others. Type the word "veterans," select the subject "Vietnam," and then the topic "VVA chapter activity." Another topic option is "VVA chapter location."

America On-line also has a veterans bulletin board service. Type in the keywords, "Vets Club."

Persian Gulf compensation

The Veterans Benefits Improvements Act of 1994 authorizes VA to pay compensation to any Persian Gulf veteran suffering from a chronic disability resulting from an undiagnosed illness that

became manifest during Persian Gulf service or within a specific period of time following Gulf service. The law also authorizes VA to conduct an evaluation of the health status of spouses and children of Persian Gulf veterans, conduct a survey of Persian Gulf veterans' health problems, and conduct an epidemiological study of Gulf vets if recommended by the National Academy of Sciences.

Philippine liberation medals

The Government of the Philippines has approved the issue and award of the Philippine Liberation Medal to veterans who served in the Philippines for at least 30 days between Oct. 17, 1944 to Sept. 3, 1945, as well as several other awards. For information, contact the Defense and Armed Forces Affairs Office, Embassy of the Philippines, (Veterans Affairs), 1600 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C., 20036, (202)467-9409.

Veterans Commemorative Coins

The U.S. Mint has issued three U.S. Veterans Commemorative Silver Dollars honoring prisoners of war, military servicewomen and Vietnam veterans. Surcharges raised from the sale of the coins will support construction of the National Prisoner of War Museum and the Women In Military Service For America Memorial and repair of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. To purchase coins, call 1(800)777-VETS, or write: Customer Service, U.S. Mint, 10001 Aerospace Rd., Lanham, Md. 20706.

Ideas needed for VA workshop

The Department of Veterans Affairs is planning a benefits and services workshop for February 1995. The workshop is intended to assist service officers and others who serve veterans in the community. The VA is looking for discussion topics and ideas for the workshop. Send suggestions and an estimate of how many in your organization might attend to:

VAMROC
Mr. Lionel Parker
Box 50188
Honolulu, HI 96850-0001

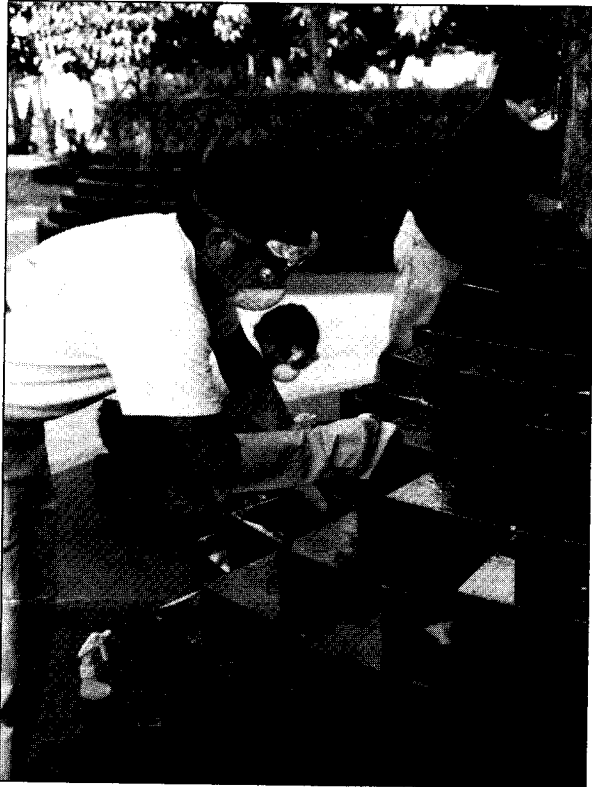
Memorial water spots wiped clean

Story and photos by Nancy S. Chappell

A three-step process was what it took for State Department of Defense (DOD) workers to eliminate the troublesome waterspots that appeared on the Korean-Vietnam Memorials after their dedication July 24.

The water spots resulted when hard water used to irrigate the surrounding foliage pooled on the memorials' pedestals, leaving mineral

deposits that were then baked into the granite by the hot sun. The stubborn stains resisted conventional in-stock cleaners used by the State DOD to clean the memorials.



State Department of Defense maintenance workers remove water spots from the Korean War Memorial Sept. 16.



A sealed and polished pedestal outshines its water-stained neighbors.

A search for a solution turned up four vendors who were asked to demonstrate their products. Schubert Sanitary Supply of Honolulu produced the best results.

"I saw the news reports on T.V.," said Janet Walsh, a Schubert sales representative, "and I knew we could provide a simple, inexpensive solution."

State DOD workers began the clean-up Sept. 16. The first step was to remove the water spots with a cleaning solution. The workers had to bring in mineral-free water to prevent further staining while rinsing the memorials.

Once the spots were removed, the workers used a sealant on the memorials' surface. The sealant prevents minerals from penetrating the granite.

Finally, the memorial pedestals were given a coat of stone polish to restore their natural shine.

The total cost of the products was \$200, leaving enough for a second reapplication which may be needed in several years. Until then, the stones will simply have to be wiped clean with a damp cloth every few weeks. The Department of Accounting and General Services will be responsible for all future memorial maintenance.



Valentines for veterans



Every year Ann Landers encourages her readers to send valentines for veterans to their nearest veterans hospital. Last year, as the number of valentines received reached 10 million for five years, Secretary for Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown sent Ann his thanks and encouragement:

"In 1993 alone, your Ann Landers-Valentine Vet program resulted in every one of our 171 VA hospitals receiving an average of 3,000 valentines from your readers, school children and teachers. Another 600,000 were sent to the Hines VA Hospital in Chicago and were redistributed to other VA hospitals.

We are rounding off last year's total at 1.5 million valentines for a five-year total of 10 million valentines for grateful veterans. Your readers are tremendous -- caring and patriotic.

Thank you, Ann, for the first 10 million valentines for

hospitalized veterans. If you and your readers are ready to start on the second 10 million, so are we.

In Hawaii, valentines for veterans can be sent to:

VAMROC, Honolulu
P.O. Box 50188
Honolulu, HI 96850
Attention: Valentines for Veterans



Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown is tentatively scheduled to visit Hawaii Feb. 13-14 to participate in training for veterans counselors and service representatives. Other appearances and activities are still in the planning stages.

calendar/notices

January 2

New Year's Day observed. State and federal holiday.

January 16

Martin Luther King Jr. Day. State and federal holiday.

World War II

Iwo Jima commemoration

Commemoration ceremonies for the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima will be held at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Washington, D.C. Feb. 19. A memorial service will be held the evening prior at the Washington National Cathedral, followed by a banquet. For more information, contact the Combat Veterans of Iwo Jima, 2347 South Nash St., Arlington, Va., 22202, or Lt. Miller, (703)697-7371/7372. For information on events on the island of Iwo Jima, contact the Department of Defense World War II Commemoration representative, LCDR Deke Kennison, (703)604-0820.

February 20

President's Day. State and federal holiday.

February 22

Army Museum Society dinner/fund raiser for a "Repository of Military History in the Pacific" -- Japanese Cultural Center. Contact: Allan Palmer, 955-9552..

May 19-21

Seventh annual Kentucky Vietnam Veterans' Reunion -- Frankfort, Kentucky. Contact: Bill or Sandy Robinson, (502) 363-5296.

May 29

Memorial Day. State and federal holiday.

September 1

Rededication of submarine monument -- Sub-base Pearl Harbor. Contact: Stan Nichols, 422-0191.

25th Infantry Division review -- Schofield Barracks, 10 a.m.

Parade of Ships -- Fort DeRussy Beach, 4 p.m.

If you have a story idea or want to list an event for veterans in the *Hawaii Veteran*, please forward the information to the State Department of Defense Public Affairs Office, 734-8527 (fax), or call 732-1711. The submission deadline for the Spring '95 (March 15) issue is Feb. 28.



HAWAII VETERAN

The *Hawaii Veteran* is published quarterly by the Department of Defense, State of Hawaii, 3949 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96816-4495. All photos are Hawaii State DOD photos unless otherwise noted. Circulation: 13,000.

Gov. Benjamin J. Cayetano

Maj. Gen. Edward V. Richardson

The Adjutant General

Lawrence S. K. Lee

Director, Office of Veterans Services

1st Lt. Charles J. Anthony

Public Affairs/Education Officer

Nancy S. Chappell

Editor

Stephen M. Lum

Deborah M.S. Murray

Assistant Editors/Layout

3949 Diamond Head Road
Honolulu, Hawaii, Oahu 96816-4495
732-1711 (DOD), 734-8527 (DOD fax)
587-3000 (OVS)

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HONOLULU, HI
PERMIT NO. 1968**

If you are receiving more than one copy of the *Hawaii Veteran* or know someone who is not receiving a copy but would like to, please contact the Office of Veterans Services at 587-3000.