

HAWAII VETERAN

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

Vol. 4 No. 1

State of Hawaii Office of Veterans Services

Spring 1995

vet news

Korean War Veterans needed

In light of the upcoming dedication of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., July 27, the American Legion is compiling a list of Korean War Veterans who are willing to talk to the media about their experiences.

Already media interest is great. If you would like to participate, please send your name, address, and telephone number, the names of battles or actions you were involved in, and up to one paragraph of background on your experiences to: The American Legion, National Public Relations Division, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind., 46206.

New Congress has fewer veterans

The 104th Congress, which began work in Washington, D.C., in January, has six fewer veterans in the Senate and 21 fewer veterans in the House of Representatives than in the 103rd Congress. The total number of veterans in the Senate is 54, and in the House, 158.

(More vet news on page 6)



Nancy S. Chappell

Maxene Andrews embraces some familiar-looking figures. Larry Hoe (left), Norman Wong (center), and Mike Wee (right), of the Hawaii Historic Arms Association, model authentic WWII uniforms at the state's WWII 50th anniversary kickoff dinner, Feb. 22.

For the boys once more

Maxene Andrews entertains vets at WWII anniversary kickoff dinner

By Nancy S. Chappell

"So, what did you do during the war, ma'am?" the fresh-faced reporter asks.

"You're very young, aren't you?" she replies.

The interview proceeds, but Maxene Andrews isn't interested in a media appearance. She's here, once again, for the boys.

And, for them, now aging veterans, she tells the story of how she and her sisters, Patty and LaVerne -- together the Andrews Sisters singing trio who entertained thousands of troops during World War II -- faced the sourest-looking soldiers in Europe during a show in Italy. The glum troops were to leave shortly to join the fighting in the Pacific.

As they tried to elicit smiles from the group, an insistent young messenger kept interrupting. Finally, in exasperation, Maxene took his message and gave it to her sister, Patty, who read it between sobs of joy. It was from the commanding officer. "The war in the Pacific is over."

"It was an echo from the past," said Stephen Marvin, a Navy veteran, on seeing Andrews at the kickoff event for the anniversary of World War II's end, where she was presented with a certificate of appre-

ciation on behalf of Secretary of Defense William Perry. The dinner and ceremony at the Japanese Cultural Center Feb. 22 also featured a clip of the Andrews Sisters singing their hit, "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," and a video narrated by William Paty, WWII veteran and POW.

Receiving a similar certificate was Jack Kraus, a veteran of the 4th Marine Division, for creating a memorial park at the Division's training site, "Camp Maui," to honor his fellow veterans of the battle of Iwo Jima.

Organized by the Hawaii Army Museum, the evening also featured a silent auction and displays of WWII memorabilia.

The entire nation will join in the celebration of the war's end, which will culminate in a weekend of activities in Hawaii, Sept. 1-3, surrounding the anniversary of the Sept. 2 signing of the peace accord aboard the USS Missouri.

The grand finale is being organized by Hawaii's World War II Commemorative Committee, chaired by retired Vice Adm. Robert Kihune. Scheduled events include: a parade of ships, military aircraft flyovers, a 25th Infantry Division review (Sept. 1); ceremonies aboard the USS Vincennes and at Punchbowl, a parade from Fort DeRussy to Kapiolani Park, a series of hangar dances (Sept. 2); and an ecumenical service and musical salute (Sept. 3). President Clinton is expected to attend some of the events.

Office of Veterans Services

State of Hawaii Department of Defense



*Working together,
we can meet the
challenges ahead*

*From the Director
Robert C. Viduya*

As the new director of the Office of Veterans Services (OVS), I am privileged to convey to you what my hopes, expectations, and priorities will be. The challenges OVS faces are significant. Along with the other executive departments, we must do more with less in serving the needs of Hawaii's more than 117,000 veterans. Added to this unique population are veterans' survivors, families, and dependents. The task we face is a formidable one, but we can fulfill our mandate with the support of our numerous veterans groups, the legislature, and other community advocate groups.

I am encouraged and enthusiastic that through collaboration with other state agencies faced with similar budgetary constraints, we will be able to provide the best service possible to the sons and daughters of Hawaii who have always responded to our nation's call in time of need. That is our hope, our challenge, and our commitment.

As an advocate of Hawaii's veterans, OVS provides information dissemination, referrals, and assistance in preparing for entitlements, benefits and claims. If necessary, we will also represent you at appeals and hearings conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Our intent is to reach veterans through counseling services that address eligibility for education, medical services, burials, and other concerns.

Among the top priorities for OVS is providing testimony in support of legislation affecting Hawaii's veterans. We

follow the bills closely and can respond to related questions or concerns.

Bringing to fruition the Spark Matsunaga VA Medical Center remains a top priority for OVS. We have been working with our congressional delegation and the VA to seek the federal dollars necessary for its completion.

Upgrading the state veterans cemeteries on the neighbor islands of Maui, Kauai, Molokai, and Hawaii is another top priority. Also, new veterans cemeteries for West Hawaii (Kona) and Lanai will soon become a reality.

We are optimistic that the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe will be completed in the next few months. At that time, OVS will assume responsi-

bility for the operation and maintenance of the entire 123 acres. We are seeking innovative ways of finalizing our maintenance responsibilities through the help of the Department of Public Safety inmate work lines and other voluntary efforts.

To address the medical needs of an aging veterans population on the neighbor islands, we have requested funding to build nursing homes on Hawaii, Maui, Kauai and Molokai. We hope that these nursing homes will provide faster access to quality care and address the special needs of neighbor island veterans.

The burial needs of World War II Filipino-American veterans is an ongoing priority for OVS. We have asked the Legislature to extend the funding benefits for another year to assist this select group of veterans. We have also conveyed to Hawaii's congressional delegation our strong support of federal legislation aimed at providing equity rights comparable to those of other U.S. veterans.

The job ahead will not be easy. But I am confident that working together with the State Department of Defense, the OVS Advisory Board, veterans groups, the VA, and other community groups, OVS will be able to meet the challenges ahead. OVS seeks your cooperation, counsel, and support, to help us serve Hawaii's veterans.

Robert Viduya: a record of service to state and nation

The new director of the Office of Veterans Services is Robert C. Viduya. Prior to his appointment, Viduya served as the deputy director for administration with the Department of Public Safety, executive assistant to the State Director of the Department of Public Safety, and administrative assistant to the State Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

In these positions he was responsible for the general supervision of personnel, labor relations, budgeting, contracting, capital improvement projects, management information systems, and civil

rights compliance/equal employment opportunity. He served as the legislative and administrative rules coordinator and as a representative for the After School A+ Program, Governor's Committee on AIDS, ASK-2000, Pearl Harbor Home Porting Task Force, and the Advisory Board on Veterans Services.

Viduya served 26 years in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of Colonel. He served as Chief, Southeast Asia Branch of the Strategic Planning and Policy Directorate, U.S. Pacific Command, and in the Political-Military Office, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Pentagon, and various (continued on page 3)

VA Secretary Jesse Brown talks to local vets

Story and photo by Deborah M.S. Murray

It wasn't a normal day at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) by any means—the boss was in town.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown toured the VA Medical and Regional Office Center, Feb. 10, to offer kudos in the form of red roses for a few staff members and to evaluate files to determine if area veterans are receiving all their entitlements.

"Whenever I travel, I like to take advantage of the opportunity to look at records to see how well we are treating our veterans," he said explaining why he delayed his tour of the VA facility for almost an hour.

After sorting through the files and asking his staff to brief him on further developments in the cases, Brown spent his time shaking hands and "talking story" with VA staffers and even a few patients in the in the VA Outpatient Medical Clinic.

Since becoming a member of President Clinton's cabinet two years ago, he has initiated programs to assist homeless veterans, improved VA services for Persian Gulf War veterans and succeeded in informing veterans with VA-Guaranty loans that they would save money on their mortgage by refinancing at a lower interest rate.

During his visit, Brown also met with Hawaii's veterans advisors to update them on local projects such as the proposed Veterans Hospital and nursing home at Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) and to conduct a Rating Process and Service Connection seminar at the Veterans Benefits and Services workshop attended by the staff of the Office of Veterans Services, Feb.

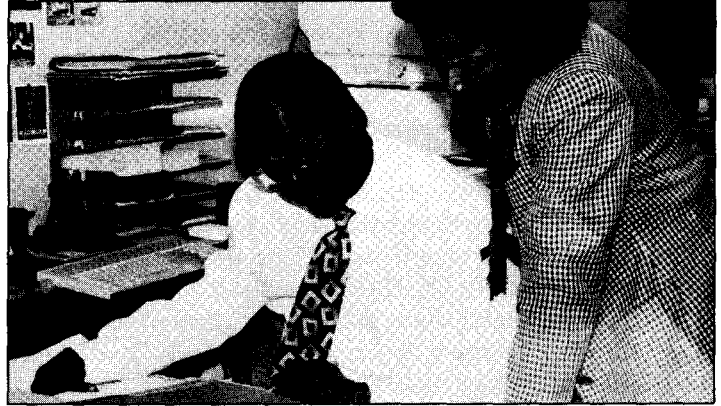
Help others honor Hawaii's veterans

Herman Salz, of the Oahu Veterans Council, is developing a list of veterans memorials in Hawaii to assist fellow veterans in seeking out remembrances of fallen comrades.

If you know of a memorial, plaque or other structure honoring Hawaii's vets, please contact him at 423-7200 or 423-1155 (fax).

Memorial cleaners had help from vets

Regretfully, we neglected to mention a group of volunteer veterans who helped State Department of Defense workers clean spots from the Korean and Vietnam memorials in September. The volunteers were: William Castro, Frank Roddin, Ed Bailey, Donald Raven, Jim Rowland, Dan Ota Maria, Gene Teves, Prince Perriera, Geraldo Gapol, Leonard Lover Jr., Jesus Lagueras, Jeff Bernier, Keala Perriera, Duke Akina, Joe Taitano, Jack Hirai, Jamai Keanu, and David Kaneshiro.



VA Secretary Jesse Brown and his assistant, Patricia Carrington, examine a benefits claim at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

13-14, at Hickam Air Force Base.

While addressing the workshop participants, Brown said that he is worried about Hawaii's proposed veterans projects because the chairman of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee asked him to provide a list of projects for which funding is currently uncommitted.

"You really have a strong congressional delegation," he said, emphasizing that the local congressional delegation must monitor these projects and continue to push for the funding to complete them.

"The battle is going to be to keep it (proposed funding of \$1.3 billion) as we go through the legislative process," he added.

WWII homefront volunteers needed

As Hawaii entered into World War II, some thirty thousand volunteers joined the civilian defense ranks to bolster the safety and security of neighborhoods and communities. They came from all walks of life: soldiers, professionals, laborers, homemakers and children.

As part of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense's participation in World War II commemoration activities around the state, State Civil De-

fense is preparing an exhibit to recognize the homefront of World War II. The exhibit will be open to the public in the latter part of the year.

We need your help! If you have photos, written materials, or other memorabilia which may be used for display, or you know someone who would be interested in the homefront commemoration activities, please contact information officer Barbara Hendrie, 734-2161.

Viduya -- continued from page 2

other command and staff positions. His decorations include: Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star for Valor and four devices, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two devices), Air Medal (9), Army Commendation Medal (3), Vietnam Cross of Gallantry (one each with Gold Star and Silver Star) and Vietnam Honor Medal. While serving in Vietnam, Viduya was decorated for heroism for rescuing a helicopter pilot shot down during combat operations.

He received a master's degree in business administration (MBA) from Chaminade University, a master's in public administration (MPA) from North Carolina State University, and a bachelor of arts in political science from the University of Hawaii. He is married to the former Sidnetta Daniels of Honolulu. They have two grown daughters, Anne and Ruth.

U.S. Army transport *Royal T. Frank* surv

As a young soldier fresh out of basic training, George Taketa, of Hilo, wasn't afraid of playing against the odds in a dice game. Unfortunately, the events that took place the morning of Jan. 28, 1942, were even more than he gambled on.

That day, Taketa, with a pocketful of earnings and the intention of treating his fellow soldiers to breakfast in Hilo, found himself floating in the Alenuihaha Channel in the middle of an oil slick. The ship that he was travelling on, the U.S. Army transport *General Royal T. Frank*, had been torpedoed by a Japanese submarine.

Before the torpedo cut his trip and his friends' lives short, the newly-recruited Army soldiers were anticipating a rendezvous with Hilo's 299th Infantry. They had boarded the *Frank* in Honolulu en route to Molokai, Maui and the final stop, Hilo.

The survivors, "Torpedo gang"

No matter how you look at the incident, luck was clearly on Taketa's side. He survived the attack along with eight of his army buddies. Seventeen other soldiers, however, weren't so lucky. These 17 island-born men, federalized Army National Guard soldiers, died when the ship was attacked shortly after dawn.

Taketa and six other survivors, Yoshio Ogomori, John R. Souza, Takimaru Takamoto, Shizuo Toma, Shigeru Ushijima and Haruo Yamashita, met at the K K Tei Restaurant in Hilo, Jan. 27, for the 53rd observance of the tragedy.

The other two survivors of the attack were

Susumu Yoshioka and Tsutomu "Mac" Wakimoto. Wakimoto is deceased, and Yoshioka did not attend the reunion.

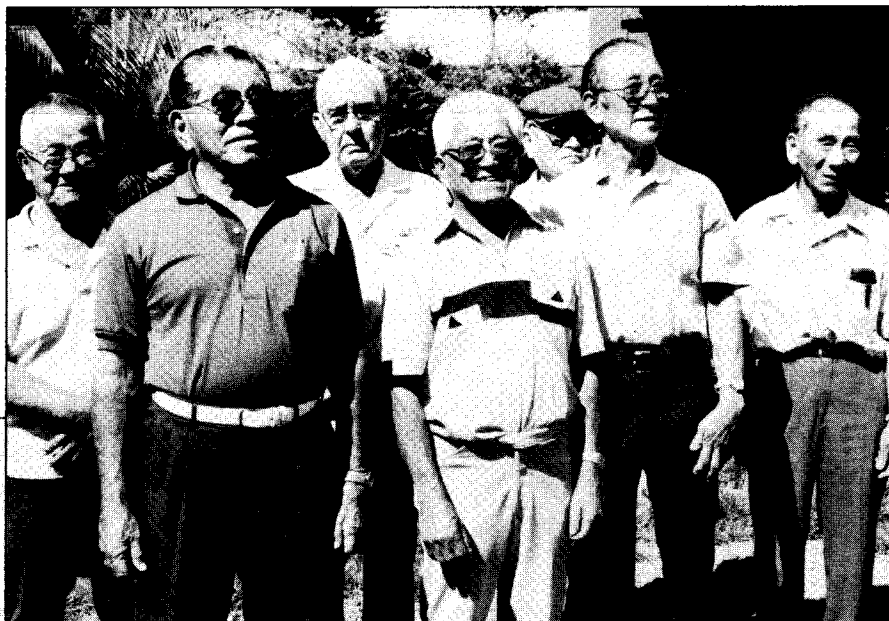
From the time the first soldier arrived, it was evident that a sort of camaraderie still existed among them. The "Torpedo Gang" was clearly back in action. This time their mission was not to play war games, but to pay tribute to their buddies who died, celebrate life and renew their friendship—a friendship that has lasted since they were assigned to basic training at Schofield Barracks in the early 40s, witnessed the tragic deaths of their peers, and served together in the 298th Infantry on Oahu.

Mailbag delivers Taketa

Seconds before the torpedo blew up the *Frank*, Taketa remembers hearing someone say, "Wake up. I see some big fish coming."

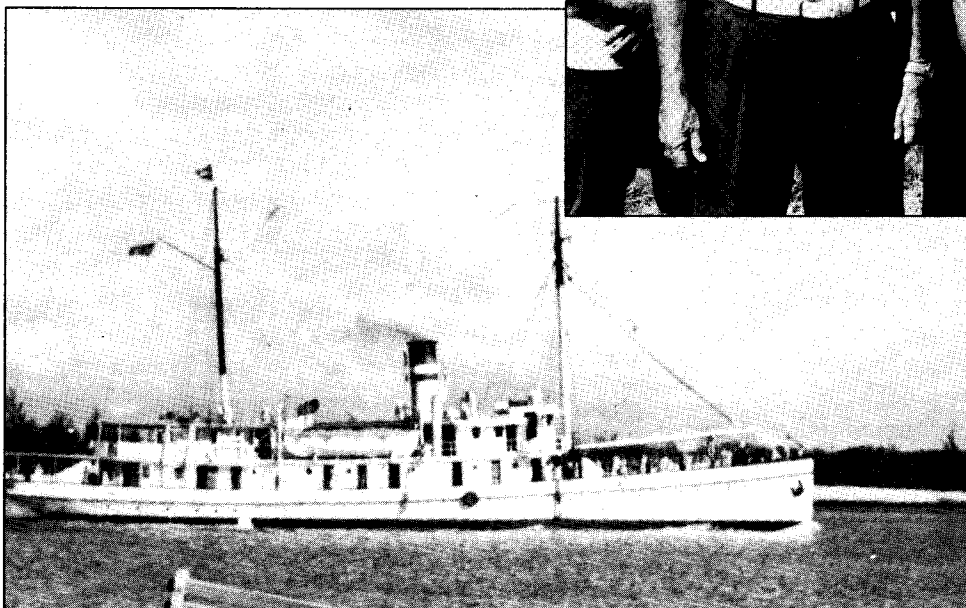
What someone thought was a big fish was a torpedo. In his account of the story, Taketa says that three torpedoes were fired.

He was able to survive the attack by holding on to a U.S.



Deborah M. S. Murray

(Above) "THE TORPEDO GANG-- (Front row left to right) George Taketa, Yoshio Ogomori, Shigeru Ushijima, Haruo Yamashita, (back row) Shizuo Toma, John R. Souza and Takimaru Takamoto pose for photo in the courtyard of the KK Tei Restaurant in Hilo.



Courtesy of U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii

(Left) U.S. Army transport General Royal T. Frank Hilo bound.

Survivors remember tragedy at 53rd reunion

mail bag that he had been sleeping on. Taketa was grateful that the mail bag was buoyant. It kept him afloat until he was rescued by a Young Brothers tugboat. He unfortunately lost all of his gambling earnings while attempting to remain afloat.

Like all of the other soldiers who survived, Taketa was sleeping above deck. He said the survivors were rescued by a tug boat and taken to Maui, a trip that took approximately four hours.

Close calls

"I'm thankful that I'm still around," said Souza, who was below deck shortly before the torpedo hit the *Frank*. Souza said he slept all night above deck because he could not tolerate all the smoke and gambling below deck. Waking up shortly before 7 a.m., he went below to get his mess kit in anticipation of breakfast.

While he was there, he heard the sound of metal scraping the bottom of the ship and he decided to return to the upper deck to see what was happening. Seconds later, the torpedo hit, and the impact threw him against a chain railing.

Souza is grateful that he had a life jacket on since he didn't know how to swim. He jumped overboard, kicking and struggling to get away from the sinking vessel. He was rescued last because he had drifted so far away from the other survivors. Souza says he still has a piece of the cork he cut from the life jacket.

All information about the incident was placed under strict censorship by the U.S. Army. The survivors could not talk or even write to their families about it until after the war.

When Souza's fiancée, Ruth Luiz, received a letter he had written shortly after the *Frank's* sinking, key passages were marked out. Despite the blacked-out passages, Ruth said she was relieved to know that her boyfriend was alive.

Three years later, they were married on May 19th. They will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year.

Ushijima was at the ship's stern when the explosion occurred. The impact knocked him on his back. After he realized the ship was sinking, he said, he jumped overboard and started swimming away from it.

"We just tried to save ourselves," he said, explaining the ship was sinking so fast he did not have time to think.

Ogomori shared similar sentiments. The veteran said that he went below deck to change his clothes because they were wet from sleeping above deck all night long. Like Taketa, he believes that two torpedoes scraped the ship before the final one exploded breaking it in two. Like the other survivors, Ogomori jumped overboard, swimming away from the boom to prevent getting tangled up in the wires and cables above the ship.

The survivors were taken to Hana, Maui, where they changed out of their oil and water saturated clothing and spent a few days with Maui's 299th Infantry. The group was later transferred to the 298th Infantry in Kaneohe.

When the 200-foot transport went down, it was part of a convoy

that included a four-stack destroyer and the *Kalae*, a small freighter loaded with heavy equipment. The *Kalae* was reportedly towing a barge.

The attack occurred at about 7 a.m. when the convoy was in the Alenuihaha Channel about 18 miles northeast of Kauhola Point, where the lighthouse is located in north Kohala.

Historic accounts of the sinking reveal that, "The ship did not seem to blow up or sink, she just disintegrated and disappeared in 30 to 40 seconds."

After the tragedy, the nine survivors served with the 298th Infantry on Oahu where they worked in the motor pool. All but Souza were transferred to the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry, where they became part of one of the most decorated units during World War II. Even then, Taketa never lost his zeal or spirit for gambling, or looking out for his friends. He explained that when they served with the 442nd he always traded for blue cards so the "torpedo gang" never had to sleep below deck. In those days, Taketa explained, soldiers who were issued red cards were required to sleep below deck and those issued the blue cards could sleep above deck.

Souza was transferred to the 298th Infantry Division, Company E, where he served out his enlistment.

In Memory

The victims of the U.S. Army transport General Royal T. Frank, January 28, 1942, tragedy were:

Hawaii

Pvt. Iwao Nakamura, Kealakekua, Kona
 Pvt. Yoshito Nii, Papaikou
 Pvt. Larry M. Oku, Kailua, North Kona
 Pvt. Reginald M. Osato
 Pvt. John Perreira, Hilo
 Pvt. John S. Rodrigues, Pepeekeo
 Pvt. Raymond H. Shirakawa, Waiohinu
 Pvt. Yeishun A. Soken, Wainkeauka
 Pvt. Bushichi Tani, Papaikou
 Pvt. Pernal C. Torrijos, Hakalau
 Pvt. Alfred Veriato, Olaa
 Pvt. Torao Yamamizu, Pepeekeo
 Pvt. Albert H. Yano, Kainaliu, Kona
 Pvt. Yonezo Yonemura, Keopu, Kona

Oahu

Pvt. Shoi Okido, Honolulu
 Pvt. Shinichi Shigi, Honolulu
 Pvt. Hook Y. Young, Honolulu

This story was written by Deborah M.S. Murray, an assistant editor of the Hawaii Veteran, as part of the Hawaii National Guard's tribute to veterans who served during World War II.

Q & A:

Department of Veterans Affairs

I am an honorably discharged veteran of the post-Vietnam Era. I plan to retire shortly and would like to buy a new home. I was entitled to a VA-guaranteed home loan when I got out of the service. Has the time limit expired on this benefit?

VA loan guaranty eligibility does not expire until it is used, except for eligibility based on service in the Reserves/National Guard. That eligibility expires Oct. 28, 1999.

I am the widow of a Persian Gulf War veteran who died from a service-connected disability. Am I eligible for his VA home loan entitlement?

You have entitlement in your own right as an unremarried, surviving spouse.

Who can receive a Department of Veterans Affairs Pension?

Generally, a veteran with at least 90 days active military service, at least one day of which was during a period of war, and who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable may be entitled to a pension. A veteran also must have limited income and be permanently and totally disabled for reasons not necessarily related to military service. A pension is different from disability compensation which is payable only to veterans with service-connected disabilities.

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 -- continued from page 1

New information services available from VA

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown announced the opening of the VA Persian Gulf Information Center, Feb. 2. The center, located in St. Louis, operates a toll-free number to link Gulf War veterans and their families with trained specialists on issues which concern them.

The number is 1(800)749-8387. It offers recorded information 24 hours a day and can respond to callers with fact sheets, newsletters and other information. Specialists are available Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., to discuss specific cases and make referrals.

In a related effort, the VA-ONLINE bulletin board system is available to PC modem users. This service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and offers information on Persian Gulf issues as well as information on VA's other programs. It can be reached at 1(800)US1-VETS.

New Mexico Memorial honors Hawaii veterans

During the month of March, Vietnam veterans of Hawaii were honored at the Disabled American Veterans' (DAV) Vietnam Memorial in Angel Fire, New Mexico. A message from Gov. Benjamin Cayetano was displayed at the memorial.

The DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial dates back to the death of Victor David Westphall III on May 22, 1968, in Vietnam. Westphall's parents and younger brother began construction of what was then known as the Vietnam Veterans Peace and Brotherhood Memorial Chapel in late summer of that year.

During the past two decades the memorial has received photographs from the next-of-kin of deceased Vietnam veterans which are placed on display in the Memorial Visitor Center. Each month, twelve photographs are selected for display in the Memorial Chapel, and the next-of-kin are notified that their loved one will be honored that month.

Those who wish to send photographs or other memorabilia to the memorial should address them to: DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial, P.O. Box 608, Angel Fire, N.M., 87710.

Documentation needed for VA home loan eligibility

When Congress made Reserve and National Guard members with six or more years of service eligible for VA home loans, it also expanded the list of documents used to verify eligibility.

Acceptable proof that an applicant has completed six years of service is contained in: DARP Form 249-2-E, Chronological Statement of Retirement Points (Army); NRPC 1070-124, Annual Retirement Point Record (Navy); AF 526, Points Summary Sheet (Air Force); NAVMC 798, Reserve Retirement Credit Report (Marine Corps); CG-4175, U.S.C.G. Reserve Retirement Points Statement; or NGB Form 22, Report of Separation and Record of Service (Item 10a -- period of service, Item 24 -- character of service, Item 10c -- prior active federal service) (Army or Air National Guard).

In the past year, Congress has extended eligibility for VA home loans to widows of reservists who died while in training status and reservists who became disabled while on training and thus unable to complete the required six-year duty requirement.

Duck pin replacements available

World War II veterans who would like to replace their "Ruptured Duck" pins can now get one free of charge.

The Honorable Service Lapel pin was issued to every service member honorably discharged between September 1939 and December 1946.

The small badge was affectionately nicknamed the "Ruptured Duck" by the more than 12 million soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who returned to civilian life after World War II.

After the war, veterans wore it proudly as a symbol of service on their civilian lapels. Gradually, it was replaced by veterans organizations and service club pins.

Those who wish to replace their pins should write to: National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63132. For the Army, letters should be sent to the attention of U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center, DARP-PAS-EAW and, for the Army Air Corps, to Air Force Reference Branch, National Personnel Records Center.

Disabled veterans donate van to VA

By Deborah M.S. Murray

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) have successfully collaborated on a new transportation service for veterans.

With the goal of helping veterans get to their medical appointments at Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC), the VA Outpatient Clinic (VAOPC), and community medical providers, the DAV purchased the van and formed the DAV/VA Transportation Network.

The DAV transferred ownership of the van to the VA, Feb. 6, during a ceremony.

The VA will assume maintenance responsibilities for the van. Although it is officially considered part of the VA's fleet, the transportation program is still considered a Disabled American Veterans program.

Under the program, transportation is available for veterans who do not have access to or cannot afford public or private transportation. The DAV will primarily serve individuals who need transportation to Tripler, the VAOPC, the Vet Center, Honolulu International Airport and communities in these areas on Mondays and Fridays. Service is slated for the Ewa plain and Waianae coast communities



Deborah M.S. Murray

SERVICE WITH A SMILE -- Louis Kaiwi, DAV commander, turns over the keys of a brand new mini-van to the VA's Barry Raff, Feb. 6. The vehicle will be used to transport veterans to their medical appointments.

on Tuesdays, central Oahu on Wednesdays and windward Oahu on Thursdays.

Individuals who need a ride for medical appointments should call the DAV Hospital Services Coordinator (HSC), Ed Wise, 433-2477, at least 72 hours before the scheduled medical appointment.

For more information about the program, contact either Gary Nakamura, VA service officer, 566-1610, or Craig Oswald, VA volunteer coordinator, 566-1433.

VA inaugurates "team care" approach to health

By Deborah M.S. Murray

William Tredick believes that his life was saved four times as a result of medical services offered through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

For this reason, he is optimistic about a new initiative, based on a team care approach to health care delivery, adopted by the VA Outpatient Medical Clinic.

Under the team care delivery system, a patient's health care is provided and monitored by a team of staff physicians, residents, students, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, health technicians and clerical staff members. Patients are divided into two teams, either the Blue or He'e

team. Such an approach makes it possible for the team to provide personalized health care services.

Tredick joined the DVA Medical and Regional Office Center as they inaugurated the new health care delivery approach, Jan. 31. The ceremony included a traditional Hawaiian blessing, by the Rev. Tyrone Reinhardt, and maile lei untying ceremony conducted by the team care staff.

Tredick said that he is excited about the team care system because it will provide a personal touch to health care services; thus, patients will be treated by doctors that are knowledgeable about their medical history in comparison to systems where pa-

tients are seen by multiple doctors who might or might not be familiar with their patient's medical background.

"The program could serve as a model for all healthcare services worldwide," he said, adding, "you (the VA) never rest on your laurels, but are constantly trying to improve the system."

Barry G. Raff, DVA director, described the team care concept as a "win-win" situation because it gives team members the opportunity to improve their patients' medical, psychological and social needs.

"With a team effort, we all participate," Raff said.

calendar/notices

April 9

American Ex-Prisoners of War, Hawaii chapter, ceremony for those deceased in war -- Punchbowl, 10 a.m.

April 21

Military retiree golf tournament -- Kaneohe Marine Corps Base, 11:30 check in, 12:30 start. For more information, call 449-9896.

May 25

Memorial Day Picnic for all veterans -- DAV headquarters, Keehi Lagoon. \$5 per person, lunch included. Sponsored by National Order of Trench Rats, Dugout #248, and the American Legion. Contact: Donald Worobe, 455-8166.

May 29

Memorial Day, state and federal holiday. Ceremonies at Punchbowl and the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery.

June 9-11

Disabled American Veterans, Department of Hawaii, Annual State Convention -- Keehi Lagoon Memorial Complex. Contact: Dania S. Krawec, adjutant, 833-3746.

July 21

Military retiree golf tournament -- Hickam Air Force Base,

11:30 check in, 12:30 start. For more information, call 449-9896.

July 26-30

Activities surrounding the July 27 dedication of the Korean War Memorial -- Washington, D.C. For information, call (202)208-3561.

September 1

•Memorial Service honoring U.S. submarines lost during WWII - Submarine Memorial, Submarine 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.

September 2

•AJA Veterans Council wreath laying -- Punchbowl, 9 a.m.

•Veterans Parade -- Fort DeRussy to Kapiolani Park, time t.b.a.

•Hangar Dances -- locations to be determined, 6 p.m.

September 3

•Ecumenical church service -- location to be announced, 9 a.m.

•Musical honors/entertainment -- Aloha Stadium, 2 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 Summer '95 (June 15) issue is May 31.

V 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: 14,000.

Gov. Benjamin J. Cayetano

Maj. Gen. Edward V. Richardson

The Adjutant General

Robert C. Viduya

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.