

20100325 Retiree News

1. **The Promise.** **Retiree News** will contain information about benefits, National Guard events, and news about current, former, and retired members. There will be no chain e-mail, cute pictures, or sales pitches. Publication of **Retiree News** is on a random schedule – as topics come up and time permits. If you change your mind about receiving issues of **Retiree News**, send an e-mail at retireenews@hawaiiintel.net and you will be off the **Retiree News** mailing list.

2. **Rules of Engagement (ROE).** Periodically, someone e-mails a request for contact information for a **Retiree News** reader. We forward that e-mail to the reader for their action. This preserves the privacy of the reader and their e-mail address.

3. **Business.**



Your Military Health Plan

- **Retiree Dental Coverage Available for Purchase.** Falls Church, Virginia – Good oral health is an important part of maintaining overall health and a military retiree's access to dental coverage doesn't end when they hang up their uniform. With the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program, retired service members can purchase affordable dental coverage for themselves and their eligible family members.

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program is available around the world to retired service members who receive retirement pay, "gray area" retired National Guard and Reserve members who are entitled to (but not yet receiving) retirement pay and Medal of Honor recipients. The spouses and children up to 21, or 23 if they are full-time students, of these retirees are also eligible for the retiree dental program.

Participants in this voluntary plan can get dental care from any licensed dentist within the program's designated service area. However, visiting an out-of-network dentist may require participants to pay higher out-of-pocket expenses and file their own claims.

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program is a premium-based plan administered by Delta Dental and it has cost shares for certain services after beneficiaries reach their \$50 per-person deductible. Most preventive, diagnostic and emergency dental services are covered or available for cost-sharing immediately after enrollment, but some services including orthodontics, dentures and crowns are available with a cost-share only after 12 months of continuous enrollment.

The monthly premium rates vary based on the retiree's location and the number of people covered by the plan. These premiums are automatically deducted from retirement pay. The rates are available at www.trdp.org and adjust Oct. 1 for the next year.

Those interested in the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program may enroll online, by telephone or by mail. Visit www.trdp.org and click "Prospective Enrollees" for more information on rates and benefits.

TRICARE Management Activity, the Defense Department activity that administers the health care plan for the uniformed services, retirees and their families, serves more than 9.6 million eligible beneficiaries worldwide in the Military Health System (MHS). The mission of the MHS is to enhance Department of Defense and national security by providing health support for the full range of military operations. The MHS provides quality medical care through a network of providers, military treatment facilities, medical clinics and dental clinics worldwide. For more about the MHS go to www.health.mil.

- Guard Launches "Minuteman Report". The "Minuteman Report" is a new source of information for news about the National Guard. The roughly one-minute video segment highlights news, current events and items of significance within the National Guard. The program is featured on the Pentagon Channel, Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS), the National Guard Website, and other outlets throughout the Department of Defense.

To view "Minuteman Report," visit the National Guard website at <http://www.ng.mil/>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

- Next Retiree COLA Could Be Tiny, Analysts Say. The cost-of-living adjustment for retirees next year could test the idea if something really is better than nothing. After getting no COLA this year in military and federal civilian retired pay, veterans disability compensation and Social Security because of the weak national economy, congressional economists are estimating that the pay adjustment this Dec. 1, which will take effect in January paychecks, will be just 0.1 percent.

That forecast was issued March 12 by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office in relation to a bill that would increase veterans disability and survivor benefits. While Social Security and military and civilian retired pay are automatically adjusted each December 1 based on the change in the Consumer Price Index, a Labor Department measure of the cost of goods and services, increases in veterans benefits require a change in law. Legislation pending in the House and Senate would give veterans the same increase, if there is one, that goes to Social Security recipients.

Steve Strobridge of the Military Officers Association of America said the 0.1 percent COLA forecast could easily change, noting that earlier this year, congressional analysts were predicting no increase in the Consumer Price Index for three years. "We just have to see what happens," he said.

No COLA was approved for this year after the formula for determining the federal adjustment revealed that consumer prices had dropped by about 2 percent between the third quarter of 2008 and the third quarter of 2009. Inflation during the third quarter of each calendar year is the basis for the annual COLA. In instances when consumer goods and services actually fall — which has not happened for more than three decades prior to last year — federal law includes a provision that prevents benefits from dropping in this situation. Instead, there is simply no increase.

"You cannot really say that a 1/10th of a percentage point increase is better than nothing because when it comes to COLAs, it is what it is," Strobridge said. "You could argue that having no change in your retired pay at a time when prices had fallen was better than getting a small increase that matches the CPI. It is all in your perspective."

This **Military Times** article published on March 17, 2010.

- Special Social Security Earnings for Military Service. Many **Retiree News** readers sent in information about extra earnings from military service in your Social Security retirement. This plus up for military service has been around from many years. Most of the e-mails going around have a statement - "You must bring your DD-214 to the Social Security Office and you must ask for this benefit to receive it." Reviewing the website information, only retirees who have qualifying duty periods between 1957 and 1967 have to prove their duty with DD 214s.

The following information is from the Social Security website:
<http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm>.

Special Extra Earnings for Military Service

Since 1957, if you had military service earnings for active duty (including active duty for training), you paid Social Security taxes on those earnings. Since 1988, inactive duty service in the Armed Forces reserves (such as weekend drills) has also been covered by Social Security.

Under certain circumstances, special extra earnings for your military service from 1957 through 2001 can be credited to your record for Social Security purposes. These extra earnings credits may help you qualify for Social Security or increase the amount of your Social Security benefit.

Special extra earnings credits are granted for periods of active duty or active duty for training. Special extra earnings credits are **not** granted for inactive duty training.

If your active military service occurred:

- From 1957 through 1967, we will add the extra credits to your record when you apply for Social Security benefits.
- From 1968 through 2001, you do not need to do anything to receive these extra credits. The credits were automatically added to your record.
- After 2001, there are no special extra earnings credits for military service.

How You Get Credit for Special Extra Earnings.

The information that follows applies **only** to active duty military service earnings from 1957 through 2001. Here's how the special extra earnings are credited on your record:

- Service in 1957 through 1977. You are credited with \$300 in additional earnings for each calendar quarter in which you received active duty basic pay.
- Service in 1978 through 2001. For every \$300 in active duty basic pay, you are credited with an additional \$100 in earnings up to a maximum of \$1,200 a year. If you enlisted after September 7, 1980, and didn't complete at least 24 months of active duty or your full tour, you may not be able to receive the additional earnings. Check with Social Security for details.

Change in special military service credits.

In January 2002, Public Law 107-117, the Defense Appropriations Act, stopped the special extra earnings that have been credited to military service personnel. Military service in calendar year 2002 and future years no longer qualifies for these special extra earnings credits.

- Schofield Barracks POV Resale Lot (Lemon Lot) Relocation to Wheeler Army Air Field (WAAF). The Schofield Barracks POV resale lot (Lemon Lot) will relocate to WAAF near the Kawamura Gate entrance in the large parking lot next to the 25th CAB Helicopter/Aircraft Memorial. Transition period to the new location will be from March 19, 2010 – March 31, 2010. Effective April 1, 2010, the WAAF site will be the only authorized location to position POVs for resale. To register vehicles for the resale lot, contact or visit the Oahu North Community Director's Office at Building 690, 3rd floor, Room 3B, or call 655-0497. (This article came from the Schofield Barracks bulletin.)

- Bank of Hawaii Offering Online Coupons. **Calvin Chow**, a Hawai'i Air National Guard and Bank of Hawai'i retiree sent in this information about a new Bank of Hawai'i website that offers

coupons. The following Honolulu Advertiser article, written by reporter Robbie Dingeman, appeared in the March 9, 2010 issue.

Bank of Hawai'i this week launched a free, virtual coupon book available to the public on its Web site. The site already had more than 100 coupons from nearly 100 businesses across the state, and plans to add more regularly.

As of yesterday's debut, the coupons from bank clients included a Zippy's restaurant Zip Omelette for \$5.95, free dessert at Big City Diner and 20 percent off at two Fantastic Sam's salons. Coupons include dining, retail, automotive, entertainment, groceries, travel, health and beauty, and home and garden. The bank said some offers are only available at the Online Marketplace.

There is no charge for the businesses to set up and distribute the coupons on the Online Marketplace, said Senior Vice President David Oyadomari of the bank's Internet Department. "With the current economic challenges, we wanted to use technology and the Internet to help our clients generate more business, while also providing the public a way to conveniently save money," Oyadomari said. While the coupons come from bank clients, they go to anyone who prints them out, he said.

What's in it for the bank? "The main driver was to help our businesses while at the same time providing a consumer benefit. We anticipate that this would also promote interest in our Web site but the immediate goal is to help generate traffic for our customers," Oyadomari said.

He said the coupons can be e-mailed to friends and family or used by visitors. People can subscribe to receive e-mail updates when new coupons become available, he said.

For businesses, he said access to this service is free to certain Bank of Hawaii business clients. And those businesses can add, edit and delete coupons whenever appropriate. Real-time reports show businesses how many coupons have been viewed and printed.

The direct link to the coupons is www.boh.com/coupons.

- Bases Get New Names in Realignment. Washington, March 24, 2010 (AFNS) - Some military installations are consolidating and getting new names as joint basing becomes a reality. The 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission's directive to consolidate 26 stateside military installations into 12 joint bases has brought names such as Lewis-McChord, Langley-Eustis, and even the trilateral McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst into the lexicon of military installations.

Settling on new names was but a fraction of considerations undertaken in the four-year joint-basing process, which produced 12 agreements that range from 600 to 1,000 pages and cover everything from billeting to signage to services, said Air Force Col. Michael "Mickey" Addison, the Defense Department's deputy director of joint basing.

While each joint base has its own unique challenges and experiences, Addison said, the process created much-needed uniformity in directing 49 like functions for each base. "The Department of Defense now has common output level standards," he said. "Not having those standards was largely why we had difficulty doing this in the past." Without common standards, Addison said, some services would, for example, measure unaccompanied housing by the number of beds, while others would measure space.

"One of the benefits of joint basing is in learning how to talk to each other," he said. "We all had different languages. If you say 'emergency response' to a soldier, sailor, airman or Marine, you may get four different ideas of what that means." Joint basing isn't new, Addison pointed out. The military has used it for years in Iraq, Afghanistan and Bosnia. Still, he said, the concept met

with some resistance stateside. "We know how to fight jointly," Addison said. "We've gotten really good at that in the past 10 or 20 years. What we aren't as good at yet is living together back in the [continental United States]."

As commander of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., Army Col. Tommy Brittain is motivated by his experiences with successful joint basing overseas as he works to meet the BRAC deadline to become fully operational by October. The start of joint basing, he said, can be traced back to the 1986 Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act.

"We've been training and fighting together ever since," he said. "So, it was a natural progression to come to this conclusion at these certain locations to take care of mission commanders, warfighters and their families. "I'm very proud to be a member of this team and leading this team in this direction," he added. "Honestly, I believe this is going to be historical."

Brittain called the transition "a very complex process" that succeeds through teamwork at every level, outreach to stakeholders and "100 percent transparency in what we're doing." Like a city manager overseeing an annexation, Brittain had to study how the support functions of Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base would merge, where they would collocate, how jobs would change, and much more.

"What was managed as two separate cities now is managed as one city," he said. "We have maintained our appropriate storefronts at the right location for where all those customers live, work and train." Brittain said his job was made easier by the appointment of Air Force Col. Jerry K. "Kenny" Weldon II as the deputy base commander at Lewis-McChord. Weldon served in the Pentagon's installations and environment office and was well-versed in joint basing before going to Lewis-McChord.

"There is great teamwork and leadership offered by Kenny Weldon and [the Air Force's 62nd Airlift Wing commander], Col. Kevin Kilb, and so I have tried to continue to move forward with the teamwork approach to solve any problems that arise," Brittain said. While the nature of the base merger forces compromises, Weldon said, teamwork grew out of the realization that joint standards for services and dual oversight of services would create a better installation. "There is a clear recognition in today's environment that you've got to have strong support to take care of warfighters and their families," he said. "It's a goal at every installation, but this is a concerted effort to try to put a definition to what that means."

The BRAC commission created the joint bases to bring efficiencies, common practices and cost savings to bases that were duplicating efforts, even while most shared a fence line, Addison said. One of the biggest challenges has been to assuage fears that joint basing strips services of their culture and heritage, he said. "That's the hardest thing for our base commanders to do is to assure people that nothing will be lost, then build a joint culture that preserves the cultures and what is special about each," Addison said.

Brittain said he has tried to do just that as he reaches out to soldiers and airmen. "We're getting out the message that this does not change our service culture, this does not change our service history, and this does not change our service mission," he said. Such outreach, he said, is part of the process in moving the installation toward being fully operational as a joint base by October.

"We're going 24 hours a day to make sure things happen," Brittain said. "There is a great team beneath us that wear both a blue uniform and a green uniform, and they're moving the ball toward the goal."

Seven bases received new names in January:

- Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base became Joint Base Lewis-McChord, led by the Army;
- The Navy's Anacostia Annex and Bolling Air Force Base here became Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, led by the Navy;
- ★ Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, became Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, led by the Navy;
- Charleston Air Force Base and Naval Weapons Station Charleston, S.C., became Joint Base Charleston, led by the Air Force;
- Elmendorf Air Force Base and Fort Richardson, Alaska, became Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, led by the Air Force;
- Lackland and Randolph Air Force bases and Fort Sam Houston, Texas, became Joint Base San Antonio, led by the Air Force; and
- Langley Air Force Base and Fort Eustis in Virginia became Joint Base Langley-Eustis, led by the Air Force.

Five others became joint bases in October when:

- Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek and Fort Story in Virginia became Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story, led by the Navy;
- Fort Myer and the Marine Corps' Henderson Hall in Virginia became Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, led by the Army;
- Andrews Air Force Base and Naval Air Facility Washington, in Maryland, became Joint Base Andrews, led by the Air Force;
- McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Dix and Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst, all in New Jersey, became Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, led by the Air Force; and
- Navy Base Guam and Andersen Air Force Base in Guam became Joint Region Marianas, led by the Navy.

4. The Wanted List. We are looking for these **Retiree News** readers because their e-mail addresses on file for them no longer works. Please forward their new e-mail address to retireenews@hawaiiintel.net if you can share them.

C. Hutton Smith
Edward Correa
Norman Chang
Chris Wilson
Tom Gresch
Edward Uyeda

James Kahalehoe
Patrick Casey
Byron Kim
Steve Ware
Katherine Asato

The addresses now total **1200+** members. Be sure to ask your fellow retirees that you meet if they receive **Retiree News**. If not, send their e-mail address to retireenews@hawaiiintel.net. Mahalo for your support!

Following are the new or updated e-mail addresses sent in by the individuals or **Retiree News** readers – Mahalo for adding or updating your e-mail address.

Dean Tasaka

Gary Nakata (update)

Pearl LaFaver (update)
Russell Ishizuka

Alvin Alana (update)
Kenneth Aoki

5. Condolences. These Hawai'i National Guard retirees and those who served with the Guard passed away recently. They all served honorably and added something to our unique culture here in the Guard. Aloha Pumehana to all....

None this issue

6. Retiree Update.

● HIARNG Celebrates the Arrival of Their New UH-60M Helicopters. **MG Robert G.F. Lee**, The Adjutant General, hosted an induction and blessing ceremony for the arrival of the Hawai'i Army National Guard's new UH-60M helicopters. The March 30, 2010 ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Hilo was a super event. Thanks to all those involved with the planning and execution this ceremony!

● HIANG Will Support Cop-On-Top Fundraiser. The Hawai'i Air National Guard will support the annual Cop-On-Top fundraiser. The HIANG will be on the roof of the Beretania Safeway for over 60 hours. **CMSgt Ray Duropan** sent the following e-mail requesting your support of this fundraiser for Special Olympics Hawai'i. Please support this fundraiser with your donation of dollars or your time at the event!

-----Original Message-----

From: CMSgt Ray Duropan 154 SFS/SFM

Date: March 17, 2010 7:55:50 HST

To: Retiree News [retireenews@hawaiiantel.net]

This year the Hawaii Air National Guard has committed to supporting the Cop-On-Top fundraiser for Special Olympics Hawaii. This event has officers from Hawaii's Law Enforcement Agencies sitting on the rooftops of your neighborhood Safeway Stores for three days.

This year's event will be held beginning at 6:00 A.M. April 29 and running continuously till 2:00 P.M. on May 1, 2010. Our store site is the Safeway Beretania store, located at 1121 S. Beretania Street. The goal for our site is to raise \$10,000 or surpass the record for any of the store site, which is currently \$21,000. Currently we have **Chief Ray Duropan**, **MSgt Steve Matsuda**, **TSgt Ryan Schreiner** and **SSgt Matthew Higa** committed to sitting on the rooftop for the entire time (60 hours). But we need your help.

Where we need your support is actually volunteering to split time on the rooftop of the Safeway store. The more volunteers we have the less time each individual has to stay up there. Remember we need to have someone on the rooftop the entire time the event is being held.

We also need your support as part of the ground crew. These are the individuals on the ground to help collect money and get people's attention as they enter the store, man our incentive table, fish net for donations in the surrounding intersections and other duties as necessary to make our site successful. Again this has to be manned the entire time of the event.

We are seeking support from local entertainers and celebrities that are willing to donate their time to perform or just be present (sign autographs for donations) to help promote the cause. If you know of any please make contact and see if they are willing to support the cause. We are also open to any suggestions that you may have to draw the public to our site.

A media blitz, radio, TV and newspaper ads will begin approximately 2 weeks prior to the start of the event so if we can get the names of those willing to support the cause i.e. performers and celebrities, we can add them to the media campaign for our site.

Please let us know if you are willing to assist with this fundraiser.

Ray G. Duropan, CMSgt, HIANG
154th Security Forces Squadron
Security Forces Manager
Comm: (808) 448-7262
ray.duropan@hick.af.mil

● HIANG Members Part of the Hickam AFB Bowling Team. Four members of the Hawai'i Air National Guard have made the 2010 Hickam AFB Bowling Team. Congratulations to all!

MSgt Gina Castilio - 297th Air Traffic Control Squadron - 1st year

SSgt Arthur Hamabata - HQ Hawai'i Air National Guard - 3rd time (2007-2010)

SSgt Rena Sunaoka - 169th Aircraft Control & Warning Sq. - 2nd time (2006, 2010)

SSgt Keola Gilmore - 154th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron - 1st year

Send congratulatory e-mail using this format: firstname.lastname@us.army.mil

Come out and support them and the Air Force team during the Hawai'i All Military Tournament, April 6 - 9, 2010 from 1000 - 1600. The tournament schedule follows:

Tuesday, April 6, 2010

Doubles event at Hickam AFB (Defending Champs: AF)

Wednesday, April 7, 2010

Mixed Doubles Event at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (Defending Champs: Navy)

Thursday, April 8, 2010

Singles event at Schofield Barracks (Defending Champ: AF)

Friday, April 9, 2010

Team event at Naval Station Pearl Harbor (Defending Champs: AF)

● Honolulu Star Bulletin Coverage of the HIARNG. There was a great article in the Honolulu Star Bulletin about the upcoming artillery training at Pohakuloa Training Area. If you did not get to read the article, go to:

http://www.starbulletin.com/news/20100323_Isle_Guards_big_guns_about_to_have_a_blast.html

● Retiree Connections.

- Ran into **Richard Young**, the retired Property and Fiscal Officer, at Ala Moana Center one afternoon. He is another smiling retiree who continues making ukuleles with other HIARNG retirees like **Walt Kinoshita**.

- Exchanged e-mail with **Clifford Kobashigawa**, who retired from the 201st Combat Communications Group. He recently reached age 60 and needed some information about getting his retiree ID card. Cliff still works for Kamehameha Schools at the Kapalama Campus.

- **Kenneth Aoki** forwarded his e-mail address to Retiree News. He is retiring later this year after a long career in aircraft maintenance.

- Checking Out Old Photos. **Ted Merrill**'s last assignment with the Hawai'i Air National Guard was the 154th Wing's historian. He sent in a DVD with a lot of HIANG historical material. We are working to post some of the materials on the State DoD website. It will take a while and you will see an announcement in **Retiree News** when the uploading is complete. In the mean time, there will be a "teaser" photo in each issue.

Special Thanks goes to **Henry Machado** and **Byron Ariz**, who identified the Airmen in the photo.

"This picture was taken in 1985 at the Combat Sage Alert Barn in Clark AB, Philippines. We deployed there for live fire and DACT training. I had to get Byron Ariz's help on a couple of the guys. His memory is better than mine. It did bring back memories of some good times, especially since 6 of the guys in this picture that I know of have passed." Henry.



Top row: Paul Sato, George Ganeko, Rex Godinez, Miles Tanabe, Gregory Makishi, Douglas Doi, Fernando Mendoza, Joe Domingo, Mauricio Arreola, Ian Kaikaina.

Middle row: Henry Machado, Stanley Leong, Lawrence Sardinia, Al Kalani, Richard Gabriel, Francis Leandro, Tracy Alvey.

Front row: Malcom Tano, Joseph Rayray, James Suzuki, Everest Rawlins, Harold Hewitt, Paul Kealoha.

- Corrections. In the 20100315 Retiree News issue, **Lt Col Mike Guerrera** was incorrectly as the commander of the 204th Airlift Squadron in the Outstanding Unit of the Year Award portion. **Lt Col Greg "Woody" Woodrow** remains the squadron commander.

7. Upcoming Events. Events listed are by the event date.

- Retirement Luncheon for MSgt Fred Higa. There will be a retirement luncheon honoring **MSgt Fred Higa**. The specifics follow:

When: Friday, April 9, 2010
Time: Starts at 1100
Where: Bldg 3416, 2nd Floor, MXG Break room
Cost: \$15.00 per person, \$5.00 gift only
RSVP: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
POC: **CMSgt Noreen Lucuab** @ 448-7391 or Email noreen.lucuab@us.af.mil
CCM Willie Rafael @ 448-8431 or Email willie.rafael@us.af.mil

- DOD Retirement and Awards Luncheon. Friday, April 23, 2009 is the date for the next DOD Retirement and Awards Luncheon. Invitations have gone out to the following retirees and service award awardees. The names of the honorees who submitted their RSVP and are attending are notated with a ★.

Retirees:

Edward T. Omine	Dalwyn C. W. Wong
Peter S. Pawling	Ainsley H. Hori
Melvin M. Damasco	★ John Y. Gollero, Jr.
Glenn M. Hirata	George C. Lumives
Morris S. Miyose	Victor K. Murata
Colosse Eliapo Jr.	Stanley S. Nishimoto
Russell T. Abe	Fred M. Higa, Jr.
John T. Anderson	★ Pamela Goya
★ Jeanne Hamamura	★ Alika Watts
★ Dennis Shimabuku	★ Mario Tabaquin

30 Year Service Awards:

★ Edwin D. Biete	★ Marshall G. Harvest
Michael E. Vidrick	

When: Friday, April 23, 2010
Time: 1100, lunch served at 1130
Where: Hale Koa Hotel, Banyan Tree Showroom
Menu: Buffet: Tossed salad, sliced tomatoes and fresh mozzarella, potato macaroni, Greek salad and rainbow Jello, sliced tropical fruit platter, fresh vegetables with creamy dip, assorted cold cuts and a selection of domestic cheeses, house specialty smoked mahi-mahi, grilled skirt steak with Shiitake mushroom sauce, steamed vegetables, assorted rolls, French apple tart, Key Lime pie, assortment of French pastries, chocolate mousse, fresh brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee or tea.
Costs: \$30.00 (includes gratuity)

Checks made out to [DOD Retirement & Service Award Fund](#)

RSVP: Friday, April 9, 2010 Important Note: Because the Hale Koa Hotel uses an Invoice system, there are no "pay at the door" guests allowed.

POCs: HRO: [CMSgt Deb Brownhill](#), 672-1233
USPFO: [Ms. Jeanette Sturges](#), 672-6310
201 CCG: [TSgt Jackie Jakahi](#), 448-7608
154 WG: [MSgt Larnette Doi](#), 448-7441
HIARNG: [Ms Dora Ama](#), 672-1256
State DoD: [Ms. Ann Miyahira](#), 672-1206
State Civil Defense: [Ms. Ellen Murakami](#), 733-4300



- Retirement Party for COL Alika Watts. There will be a retirement party for [COL Alika Watts](#). The specifics follow:

When: Friday, April 30, 2010

Time: 1630-2100

Where: 103rd Troop Command
96-1210 Waihona St., Pearl City, Hawai'i

Cost: \$15.00

Menu: Ono pupus and refreshments

RSVP: Thursday, April 15, 2010; checks payable to [Elaine Whitlock](#)

POC: [Elaine Whitlock](#) @ 672-1249 or elaine.whitlock@us.army.mil

- Retirement Party for SMSgt Ross Hoopai. There will be a retirement party honoring [SMSgt Ross Hoopai](#). The specifics follow:

When: Sunday, May 23, 2010

Time: Starts at 1100

Where: Mililani Recreation Center 5 (Mililani Mauka)

Cost: \$25.00 per person

RSVP: Friday, May 7, 2010; checks payable to [Arthur Kaai](#) or [Wendell Au](#)

POC: [SMSgt Arthur Kaai](#) @ 448-8443 arthur.kaai@hihick.ang.af.mil
[MSgt Wendell Au](#) @ 448-8439 or e-mail wendell.au@hihick.ang.af.mil

★ Save the Dates. The Hawai'i Army National Guard has two change of command ceremonies planned in May. More details will be forthcoming, but save the dates.

Sunday, May 2, 2010: 298th Regional Training Institute
[COL Arnold Iaea](#) assumes command from [COL Keith Tamashiro](#)

Saturday, May 22, 2010: 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team
[COL Keith Tamashiro](#) assumes command from [COL Bruce Oliviera](#)

8. Website Links.

- The 154th Wing's External Website is Online. The 154th Wing's external website is accessible from any computer. Check it out at www.154wg.ang.af.mil. Be sure to check out the "photos tab". If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.
- The State Department of Defense's Newspaper, the **pupukahi**, is Online. The **pupukahi** is now totally electronic. The link to the current issue starts at www.hawaii.gov/dod - then click on the pupukahi link listed under the "What's New?" section.
- The Winter Issue of **On Guard** Magazine is Online. The new winter issue of the **On Guard**-online is out, go to: http://www.ng.mil/features/onguard-mag/pdf/Winter09/winter_09.pdf. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.
- The March 2010 Issue of **Soldiers** Magazine is Online. To view the current issue of **Soldiers**, the official U.S. Army magazine, just log on to: <http://www.army.mil/soldiers/>. You can view back issues (electronic issues only) by clicking on "back issues" on the scroll bar when you get to the website referenced. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.
- The March-April 2010 Issue of **Airman Magazine** is Online. To view the current issue of **Airman Magazine**, just log on to: <http://www.airmanonline.af.mil/>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser. You can view back issues (electronic issues only) by clicking on "back issues" on the scroll bar when you get to the website referenced.