

20100428 Retiree News

1. **The Promise.** *Retiree News* contains 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 another *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.**

- **Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors.** The 2010 Edition of Department of Veterans Affairs' Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors booklet is available online at http://www1.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

This booklet provides a general summary on the many areas administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. It is a good starting point when you have questions about VA benefits and services. The index of the booklet follows.

- Introduction and Acronyms
- Chapter 1: VA Health Care Benefits
- Chapter 2: Veterans with Service-Connected Disabilities
- Chapter 3: VA Pensions
- Chapter 4: Education and Training
- Chapter 5: Home Loan Guaranty
- Chapter 6: VA Life Insurance
- Chapter 7: Burial and Memorial Benefits
- Chapter 8: Reserve and National Guard
- Chapter 9: Special Groups of Veterans
- Chapter 10: Transition Assistance
- Chapter 11: Dependents and Survivors Health Care
- Chapter 12: Dependents and Survivors Benefits
- Chapter 13: Appeals of VA Claims Decisions
- Chapter 14: Military Medals and Records
- Chapter 15: Other Federal Benefits
- VA Facilities
- Phone Numbers and Web Sites

Thanks to the many *Retiree News* readers who forwarded this link.

- **Official Urges Gulf War Vets to Seek VA Care.** The following article written by Lisa Daniel of the American Forces Press Service outlines the Department of Veterans Affairs efforts to encourage Gulf War veterans to seek treatment.

Washington, April 22, 2010 - Gulf War veterans with medical symptoms should seek treatment through the Department of Veterans Affairs in light of a recent study that says Gulf War service is a cause of post-traumatic stress disorder, a senior Military Health System official said

yesterday. In an interview, Dr. Michael Kilpatrick, director of strategic communications for the Military Health System, said that if Gulf War veterans seek care through VA, rather than private doctors, researchers can continue to track their data and search for causes of their symptoms.

Congress has ordered that Gulf War veterans still qualify for high-priority care through the VA, and Kilpatrick urged them to use it. "For Gulf War veterans who think they may have symptoms and they are undiagnosed, we still encourage them to seek care," he said.

The National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine found in its most recent study on the health effects of the Gulf War, released April 9, that military service in the war is a cause of post-traumatic stress disorder in some veterans and also is associated with multiple other medical symptoms. The VA-funded study said researchers found sufficient evidence that service in the Gulf caused PTSD. The study did not find a cause-and-effect relationship between a host of other illnesses found in the veterans, but acknowledged sufficient evidence of an association between their service and other psychiatric disorders such as anxiety and substance abuse and gastrointestinal problems.

The study found "limited evidence" of an association between Gulf service and ALS -- a disease of the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord also known as Lou Gehrig's disease -- as well as a widespread pain condition called fibromyalgia and sexual difficulties. The study found insufficient evidence to link Gulf service to any cancers, blood diseases, respiratory illness, multiple sclerosis, neurological disorders, cardiovascular disease and other ailments. The study found no evidence of a link between Gulf War service and peripheral neuropathy and decreased lung function and heart disease deaths in the first 10 years after the war.

Kilpatrick said the findings do not change the Military Health System's approach to treating the symptoms of Gulf War veterans without knowing the causes. "From the [Defense Department] standpoint, we've always believed that Gulf War veterans' symptoms were real," Kilpatrick said. "Not knowing the cause didn't make them not real. They are deserving of treatment for their symptoms and, medically, we frequently treat symptoms without knowing the reason for the symptoms."

Many factors complicate knowing the cause of the veterans' symptoms, which may never be determined, Kilpatrick said, echoing the comments of Institute of Medicine officials. The United States sent nearly 700,000 servicemembers to the Persian Gulf between August 1990 and July 1991. Of those, 147 were killed in combat and 233 died from noncombat causes. More than 250,000 "suffer from persistent, unexplained symptoms," the institute said in its release of the report.

Kilpatrick noted other factors that complicated research. Combat operations lasted only 100 days, and many Gulf War veterans left service before their symptoms appeared. Also, little was known about PTSD in the early 1990s, there were no pre- or post-deployment health exams, and no electronic records.

"There are a lot of nuances that are hard for people to understand," he said. "Our biggest difficulty when we're looking at 700,000 people is to say, 'What is the cause?' Was it the deployment, the combat, or something not related to their combat life? "We're working hard today, starting with new recruits, to understand that."

Kilpatrick called the institute's research methods "the gold standard," and said the department strongly supports its suggestion for more study of what has become known as Gulf War Illness. "We continue to focus on the health of Gulf War veterans and we owe a lot to them today for their self protection and readiness to protect today's forces," he said. "The health of individuals as they deploy is extremely important to us and we want to know that they are as healthy when they come home as when they left."

"Even the palest ink is better than the best memory." - Chinese proverb

The military continues to learn from the health experiences of Gulf War veterans and then apply that knowledge to today's troops, Kilpatrick added. "There are many medical lessons learned from the Gulf War," Kilpatrick said. "We've learned a lot about deployment and its effect on individuals."

Biographies: Dr. Michael Kilpatrick

http://www.health.mil/About_MHS/Leadership/details/Michael_Kilpatrick_M_D.aspx

Related Sites:

Institute of Medicine Report, "Gulf War and Health": <http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2010/Gulf-War-and-Health-Volume-8-Health-Effects-of-Serving-in-the-Gulf-War.aspx>

Military Health System: <http://www.health.mil/>

- First USERRA case to go before Supreme Court. This April 22, 2010 article written by Karen Jowers, a Military Times staff writer, provides an overview of a Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) case going before the Supreme Court. The Court's decision will be a benchmark for USERRA and all the Guard and Reserve members.

The Supreme Court has agreed to hear its first-ever case involving an alleged violation of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. Army Reserve Sgt. Vincent Staub claimed that Proctor Hospital, of Peoria, Ill., violated his rights under USERRA when it fired him from his job as an angiography technologist in April 2004. He contended that the reasons given for the firing — insubordination, shirking and attitude problems — were a pretext for discrimination based on his military duties.

Staub won his case in the U.S. District Court for the central District of Illinois, when the jury found that the firing was motivated at least in part by his military service. But he lost when Proctor Hospital appealed the decision in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit. In its ruling, the appeals court stated: "The question for us is whether a reasonable jury could have concluded that Staub was fired because he was a member of the military. To that question, the answer is no."

The Reserve Officers Association "is pleased to see this important issue being taken up by the Supreme Court," retired Rear Adm. Paul Kayye, ROA's president, said in an April 22 statement about the court's April 19 decision to hear the case. "USERRA is a critical law for service members, their families, and employers. It ensures America's citizen warriors are not adversely affected by their service, and employers have the legal support they need to employ our reservists and Guardsmen."

ROA will file a brief with the Supreme Court in support of Staub. ROA contends the appeals court's decision is "contrary to the Supreme Court's commandment to construe the reemployment statute liberally for the benefit of those who have laid aside their civilian pursuits to serve their country," according to the announcement. "We believe that the panel cherry-picked certain evidence that seemed to support the employer's arguments, rather than viewing the evidence as a whole, as the jury did and the law requires," said retired Navy Capt. Sam Wright, director of ROA's Servicemembers' Law Center, in the announcement.

In passing USERRA in 1994, Congress revamped the Veterans' Reemployment Rights Act, which can be traced back to 1940, ROA said. The Supreme Court heard 16 cases under VRA.

- Six Enlisted Dining Halls to Get More Patrons. Early bird dinner anyone? Military retirees will soon be able to eat at enlisted dining halls at six bases, the Air Force announced Wednesday. The dining halls will be transformed into base restaurants, open to all airmen, retirees, civilian

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employees, family members and their guests, said 1st Lt. Gina Vaccaro-McKeen, a spokeswoman for the Air Force Services Agency. The change will not occur until after contractors are identified to overhaul the establishments, she said.

Enlisted airmen's meal cards will still be as good as cash at the revamped restaurants. Other patrons will pay the same prices as enlisted airmen and can use cash or a credit card, Vaccaro-McKeen said. The change is part of the Air Force's Food Transformation Initiative to increase the use of dining facilities and offer airmen more choices.

The six bases were selected as test sites and other bases could follow, Vaccaro-McKeen said. Another part of the initiative lets enlisted airmen use their meal cards at other places on base, including the snack bar. Base dining halls have been struggling to compete with commercial restaurants and home-cooked meals. Some dining halls have attracted less than 50 percent of eligible airmen, driving up the costs to prepare the meals to about \$20 each in 2008.

The increased costs have forced the Air Force to consider ways to draw more customers or close some dining halls. Many bases that had two dining halls, such as Joint Base Andrews, Md., and Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, closed one of their halls to save money.

The six bases serving as test sites:

- Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.
- Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington
- Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas
- MacDill Air Force Base, Florida
- Patrick Air Force Base, Florida
- Travis Air Force Base, California

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.

Luke Octavio
Leslie Asada
Norman Chang
Chris Wilson
Tom Gresch
Edward Uyeda

Edward Correa
C. Hutton Smith
Patrick Casey
Steve Ware
Katherine Asato

The addresses now total **1300** 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.

Doug Hill
Henry Choy
James Kahalehoe (update)
Milton Oshiro
Neal Nakayama

Walton and Adele Auyong (update)
Ernest Tonaki (update)
Bert Hamakado
Craig Oshiro

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....

Frederick Takamoto, 71, of Pearl City, Hawai'i, passes away on March 31, 2010. Born in Honolulu. Retired Central Pacific Bank banking administrator; Hawai'i Army National Guard retiree who served in the 1968 Callup. He is survived by his wife Tomiko; sons, Eric, Mark, Neal and Ivan; daughter, Mona Kurashima; six grandchildren; brother, Robert; sisters, Jean Takase and Ruth Kawai.

Robert Nishioka, 65, of Hilo, Hawai'i, passed away on April 20, 2010. Retired from the Hawai'i Army National Guard where service included the G1 Sergeant Major and Recruiting Retention Sergeant Major. He is survived by his wife, Osun, children Debbie N. Jitchaku and Darren H. Nishioka. His memorial service is set for Friday, May 7, 2010 at Dodo Mortuary in Hilo. Visitation begins at 1530 with the service starting at 1700.

Myles M. Nakatsu, 71, of Honolulu, Hawai'i, passed away on April 21, 2010. Born in Hilo, Hawai'i. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, children Shenann Goya and Lance Natatsu. His memorial service is set for Friday, May 7, 2010 at Hosoi Mortuary. Visitation begins at 0830 with the service starting at 1000. A private, family only inurnment follows at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl in the afternoon.

6. Retiree Update.



• Memories of BG Myles Nakatsu. Those who worked and served with **BG Myles Nakatsu** all have memories of him. The following article "Nakatsu Remembers Challenges" appeared in the November-December 1994 issue of *pupulahi*. The article provides a short summary of the positions he held, but more importantly, his personal philosophy that he applied to life and those who served with him. Thanks to **Stephen Lum** of the Public Affairs Office who searched the archives for this article.

For BG Myles M. Nakatsu success has come from having a supportive wife (Nancy Nakayama), family and dedicated, committed staff members in the Hawaii National Guard. This theme was reiterated throughout the deputy adjutant general's commend during an interview with the *pupukahi*, prior to his December 31 retirement.

Nakatsu retired after over 33 years with the Hawaii National Guard.

"I think this is a tremendous organization. The department has come a long way in the last four years," he said, adding, "It is not going to be easy to do the thing we have been doing with the current cutback of state and federal funds, and the caliber of people we have in our organization, we will find innovative ways to meet the challenges and maintain readiness for state and federal missions."

Nakatsu's tenure with the Hawaii Army National Guard goes back to 1961 when he enlisted. In 1963, he completed Officer Candidate School, receiving his commission in 1964, and was assigned as an infantry platoon leader. He later served as company executive officer. After making the rank of captain in 1969, he served as the assistant S-3 (operations & training officer) for the 29th Infantry Brigade from 1971 to 1973. Other positions held by Nakatsu include training

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officer for the G-3 (operations and plans) office, operations officer of the adjutant general's joint staff and chief of Post Mobilization State Headquarters.

While pondering over his accomplishments, Nakatsu said that the raff has made his career with the Guard a very worthwhile experience and that his successes have resulted from the labors of a dedicated staff. He characterized some of his accomplishments as winning the designation of outstanding Office Candidate School for three consecutive years 1969, 1970 and 1981, when he was the senior tactical officer at the Hawaii Military Academy; establishing the State Department of Defense Mobilization Plan and developing the HING's Youth Challenge Program.

"It's has been a tremendous honor to serve in this department and work with dedicated and committed people."

In order to be successful, Nakatsu believes that an individual must be loyal to the organization, and willing to spend extra hours to accomplish the mission.

During his career in the guard, he learned a lot from such mentors as **BG Edward Yoshimasu** and **LTC Manual DeMello**. From Yoshimasu, Nakatsu said he learned to show concern for the young soldiers and junior officers and that everyone is important. He looked up to DeMello because he always took the time to train the people under him. For these reasons, Nakatsu has incorporated similar qualities into his own management style.

Retirement plans for Nakatsu include resting and traveling.

- HIARNG Commander Change. **BG Gary Hara** will assume command of the Hawai'i Army National Guard from **BG Joseph Chaves**. BG Hara currently serves as the Assistant Adjutant General, Army. BG Chaves is projected to become the Deputy Commanding General, United States Army Pacific. More details to come.

Send congratulatory e-mail:

gary.hara@us.army.mil

joseph.james.chaves@us.army.mil

- HIARNG Soldier and NCO of the Year Competition. The Hawai'i Army National Guard recently held their annual HIARNG Soldier and NCO of the Year competition. The events of the competition include:

- the Army Physical Fitness Test
- 10 Army Warrior Tasks, Day and Night Land Navigation
- weapons qualification
- a 50 question written exam of topics taken from the Army Study Guide
- an appearance board

As usual, it was very competitive selection process and the winners are:

- ★ The HIARNG Soldier of the Year is **SSG Jeffrey S. Neal**
HQ & HQ Company, 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion
- ★ The HIARNG NCO of the Year is **SPC Daniel J. Crowley**
Company C, 29th Brigade Support Battalion

Send congratulatory e-mail:

jeffrey.scott.neal@us.army.mil

daniel.j.crowley@us.army.mil

- Updating the Former HIANG Commanders. **Maj Gen Darryll Wong** hosted an update briefing for former Hawai'i Air National Guard commanders. The attendees were **Clinton**

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Churchill, Robert Maguire, Allen Mizumoto, Edward Richardson, and Kenji Sumida. Lt Col James "Saw" Sage briefed the former commanders on the F-22 Raptor arrival and activation timeline. General Wong then briefed the attendees on current HIANG activities and future developments. Great talking to these former HIANG commanders!

- HIANG Officer Promotions. The Hawai'i Air National Guard's Military Personnel Flight provided the names of the following officers who were recently promoted. Congratulations to all!

Capt Krystelle Kenney, 293rd Combat Communications Squadron
Capt Larin Wong, 109th Air Operations Group
Capt Marvin Wong, 199th Fighter Squadron

Send congratulatory e-mail using this format: firstname.lastname@hihick.ang.af.mil

- "Aloha to Our Military Ohana Then and Now". The Hawai'i National Guard will participate in the "Aloha to Our Military Ohana Then and Now" events on Saturday May 22, 2010. There will be a parade down Kalākaua Avenue from Fort DeRussy to Kapiolani Park starting at 0900. There will be military marching units from all services, veterans groups, and civilian organizations. Both the Hawai'i Army and Air National Guard will have marching units in the parade.

After the parade, there will be free entertainment for everyone at Kapiolani Park. The Honolulu Zoo has an open house event at no charge to the military members and their families via Gate #6, along Monzarat Avenue.

The 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team will conduct a change of command ceremony following the parade. The starting time for the ceremony is not set as we go to press.

- Calling All 29th Infantry Brigade Retirees and Veterans. If you were assigned or affiliated with the 29th Infantry Brigade at one time or another in your military career, here is your chance to be recognized for your dedicated service with the 29th Infantry Brigade. Join your fellow brigade retirees and veterans in the "Aloha to Our Military Ohana Parade" on Saturday, May 22, 2010, and march with the current 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team's units and Soldiers.

Although planning is still on going, the current plan is to have the retirees and veterans arrive at the Fort DeRussy start point by 8:00 am. The parade starts at about 9:00 am and ends at Kapi'olani Park, with a 29th IBC T Change of Command Ceremony to follow at 1100. Other details are still being worked out; i.e. – transportation for those unable to march, meals, and the uniform for the Retirees and Veterans.

If you are interested, contact:

CSM (Ret) Robert N. Inouye at 844-6550 or robert.n.inouye@us.army.mil
SGM (Ret) Milton Yee at milton.yee@qdit.com
CPT (Ret) Henry Choy at henry.kwai.choy@us.army.mil

The deadline for the first headcount is Tuesday, April 27, 2010.

- DoD Retirement and Awards Luncheon. It was another outstanding luncheon at the Hale Koa Banyan Tree Showroom. Another great event chaired by **CM Sgt Debbie Brownhill** and the Human Resources Office.

I got to see some Hawai'i National Guard retirees were at the luncheon – **MSgt Robert Finley, TSgt Gary Saito, MSgt Leonard Tam, 1SG Dave Wallace, and CM Sgt Alwyn Yoshimura.**

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- Retiree Connections.

- I had an e-mail conversation with **Doug Hill**, who served in the HQ 201st Combat Communications Group. He just retired from Leeward Community College, where he was the Auxiliary Services Officer. He worked for Xerox Corporation for a few years before starting at the college. Great catching up with Doug!

- I had the opportunity to meet **Lon Persea**, a new *Retiree News* reader in person recently. He retired from the Hawai'i Army National Guard a few years ago. In civilian life, he serves as the Assistant Sgt-at-Arms for the State House of Representatives. He found out about *Retiree News* from another HIARNG retiree, **Larry Sagaysay**. Larry is a staffer for Rep Michael Magaoay, who represents the North Shore from Ka'ena Point to Lā'ie. Two smiling retirees!

- 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.



This photo (circa 1987) shows some members of the Comm/Nav Shop. From the left: **Jesus Bolosan**, **Theodore Salmon**, **Jeffrey Namihira**, **Zalen Arakaki**, and **Geoffrey Buss**.

Jeff "Sumo" Namihira later received his commission and completed flight school. He remains a F-15 Eagle pilot and currently serves as the 154th Maintenance Squadron commander. Zalen Arakaki received his commission and served as a communications officer with the 201st Combat Communications Group before retiring several years ago. Sumo and Zalen are among the many officers who started out as enlisted members in the 154th Maintenance Group.

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Special thanks to Zalen, **George Kaneshiro** and **Ronald Muronaga**, who helped identify those in the photo.

7. Upcoming Events. The events listed are by the event date. The red star ★ denotes new postings since the last issue of *Retiree News*.



- 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

★ The 298th Regiment, Multifunctional Training Brigade Change of Command Ceremony. The Hawai'i Army National Guard Commander, **BG Joseph Chaves**, will host the change of command ceremony for the 298th Regiment, Multifunctional Training Brigade. **COL Arnold Iaea** will assume command from **COL Keith Tamashiro**.

When: Sunday, May 2, 2010

Time: Starts at 1530

Where: SGT Deyson Cariaga Auditorium
298th Regional Training Institute facility in Waimānalo

RSVP: **SFS Edy Pagala** at 672-1812 or edy.pagala@us.army.mil

Attire: Military is uniform of the day; aloha attire for civilians

COL Iaea moves from his current position at the Joint Force Headquarters. COL Tamashiro will assume command of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in late May. Congratulations to both officers!

Send congratulatory e-mail:

arnold.iaea@us.army.mil

keith.tamashiro@us.army.mil

● Col Ann Greenlee Promotion Ceremony. **MG Robert G. F. Lee**, The Adjutant General, will host a promotion ceremony in honor of **Col Ann M. Greenlee** on her promotion to brigadier general. A reception will follow in Rooms 224-225 of the State Capitol.

When: Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Time: Starts at 1130

Where: Governor's Ceremonial Room at the State Capitol

RSVP: **Emmy Maikui-Grambusch** or **Carolyn Taketa** @ 733-4230

Attire: Military is uniform of the day; business attire for civilians

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Col Greenlee will retire from her technician position as the Director of Staff at HQ, Hawai'i Air National Guard. She will now serve as the Assistant Adjutant General, Air. Congratulations to Ann!

Send congratulatory e-mail: ann.greenlee@hihick.ang.af.mil

★ F-22 Raptor LO/CRF Groundbreaking Ceremony. **Maj Gen Darryll Wong** will host the groundbreaking ceremony for the F-22 Raptor Low Observable Composite Repair Facility. The main parking area will be located behind Building 3386 (Worcester Ave) and 154th Civil Engineer Squadron facility parking area (Gardner Ave). There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony.

When: Friday, May 7, 2010

Time: Starts at 0800

Where: F-15 ramp, Loko Drive, Makai Fuel Cell, Hickam AFB

RSVP: **Capt Jennifer Phillips**, at 448-8420 or jennifer.phillips@hihick.ang.af.mil

Attire: Military is uniform of the day; aloha attire for civilians

★ The 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Change of Command. Hawai'i Army National Guard Commander, **BG Joseph Chaves**, will host the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team's change of command ceremony. **COL Keith Tamashiro** will assume command from **COL Bruce Oliveira**. The change of command will be immediately after the "Aloha to Our Military Ohana Then and Now" parade down Kalākaua Avenue.

COL Tamashiro just completed his assignment as the commander of the 298th Regiment, Multifunctional Training Brigade. COL Oliveira will become the Assistant Adjutant General, Army.

When: Saturday, May 22, 2010

Time: Starts at 1100

Where: Kapi'olani Park, the area behind the Waikiki Shell

Attire: Military is uniform of the day; aloha attire for civilians

Send congratulatory e-mail:

keith.tamashiro@us.army.mil

bruce.oliviera@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

Send congratulatory e-mail: ross.hoopai@hihick.ang.af.mil

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★ Please join us as we celebrate the retirement of LTC Jeffrey Protacio. **LTC Jeffrey Protacio**, the Hawai'i Army National Guard's favorite helicopter pilot, MC, and standup comedian is retiring. Knowing Jeff, his closing comments should be well worth attending the retirement luncheon. The luncheon specifics follow:

When: Thursday, May 27, 2010

Time: 1100-1300

Where: The Willows Restaurant
901 Hausten Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826

Cost: \$29.00 per person, \$5.00 gift only

RSVP: Friday, May 19, 2010, checks payable to **HHC 103rd Troop Command**

POC: **MSG Domingo Tubana** @ 672-1760 or e-mail domingo.tubana@us.army.mil
SSG Hector Alegre @ 672-1761 or e-mail hector.alegre@us.army.mil

Send congratulatory e-mail: jeffrey.protacio@us.army.mil

★ Save the Date – F-22 Raptor Arrival. The much anticipated arrival ceremony for the Hawai'i Air National Guard's first F-22 Raptor is set for Friday, July 9, 2010. The ceremony will start at 1300 at Hickam AFB. More details to come.

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 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 May 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. 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.