

## 201000617 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@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:retireenews@hawaiiantel.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.**



- **TRICARE SMART Website: One-stop Information Portal for Guard, Reserves.** Falls Church, Virginia - National Guard and Reserve members who may not live near a military treatment facility or TRICARE Service Center no longer have to rely on printed publications as a main source of TRICARE benefit information.

In the six years since its launch, the TRICARE SMART – Standardized Materials and Research Technology – website has been a one-stop, online information portal full of accurate, up-to-date information about TRICARE benefits that members and their families can easily access in the comfort of their homes. View the website at [www.tricare.mil/smart](http://www.tricare.mil/smart).

By using the TRICARE SMART website, National Guard and Reserve members can stay informed about the latest TRICARE programs created just for them and their families. These programs include TRICARE Reserve Select, as well as benefits that are only available while serving on active duty.

The “TRICARE Choices Guide,” which can be found under “Handbooks” on the website, makes it easy for a guardsman or Reserve member to make informed decisions about programs such as TRICARE Prime and Standard for his or her family. For easy navigation, all publications on the website are organized by regions and publication type and there is a search feature. Publications are also printer-friendly.

A guardsman or reserve member can go one-step further and subscribe to TRICARE alerts to receive updates on new benefits and programs. Subscribing to TRICARE e-alerts is easy. Visit [www.tricare.mil/subscriptions](http://www.tricare.mil/subscriptions), enter an e-mail address and choose a beneficiary category and topics or TRICARE products of interest. Subscribers can receive, via e-mail, the latest benefit updates, the “TRICARE Beneficiary Bulletin” weekly podcast, as well as TRICARE news releases.

National Guard and Reserve members are encouraged to stay informed about TRICARE benefits during activation and deactivation periods. The TRICARE SMART website and e-mail updates are easy ways to do just that. For more information on TRICARE SMART, visit [www.tricare.mil/SMART](http://www.tricare.mil/SMART).

- **Lawmakers Urge Major Cuts in Defense Spending.** The following article appeared on the *Government Executive* website on June 11, 2010. The article, by Katherine McIntire Peters, reports on the potential areas this congressional committee wants to consider for reductions.

Pay attention to "reforming the military's health care system" - TRICARE costs comes out of the annual DOD budget.

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A bipartisan group of House lawmakers on Friday urged the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility to take a hard look at military spending as the panel weighs options for reducing the nation's growing budget deficit.

Specifically, the legislators backed a list of cuts outlined in a new report by the Sustainable Defense Task Force, a diverse group of experts the lawmakers convened.

The task force report identified \$960 billion in savings that could be generated over the next decade by reducing unneeded weapons systems, cutting personnel and infrastructure, and reforming military health care, among other proposals.

In a letter to members of the fiscal responsibility commission, Reps. Barney Frank, D-Mass.; Ron Paul, R-Texas; Walter Jones, R-N.C.; and Ron Wyden, D-Ore.; noted that while they hold different views about the course of operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, "none of us propose in any way to give our troops in the field anything less than everything they need."

At a press conference Friday, Frank said, "The four of us strongly believe that unless there is a substantial reduction in American military spending over a 10-year period -- close to slightly over a trillion dollars -- you simply cannot deal with deficit reduction in a way that is economically and socially responsible."

The task force made recommendations in six areas: strategic forces; conventional force structure; procurement, research and development; personnel; maintenance and logistics; and infrastructure. Task force members focused their analysis on programs judged to be based on unproven or unreliable technologies, missions with poor cost-benefit ratios, assets and capabilities that over-match existing threats and management reform.

Specific recommendations include:

- Reducing the nuclear arsenal to 1,000 warheads deployed on 160 Minuteman missiles and seven nuclear submarines
- Cutting 200,000 troops, resulting in a peacetime active-duty force of 1.3 million
- Capping the peacetime military presence in Europe at 35,000 and in Asia at 65,000
- Reducing the size of the Navy fleet from 287 battle-force ships to 230 and naval air wings from 10 to eight
- Cutting the number of active-duty Army brigade combat teams from 45 to between 39 and 41
- Retiring four of the 27 Marine Corps infantry battalions
- Retiring four Air Force tactical fighter wings
- Halting or delaying major weapons programs -- including the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, MV-22 Osprey, KC-X Aerial Refueling Tanker and Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle -- and fielding less-expensive alternatives
- Changing how military compensation is calculated
- Reforming the military's health care system

The task force report noted that federal discretionary spending has nearly doubled since 2001, and more than one-third of that increase is attributed to the Pentagon budget, excluding the costs of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"At a time of growing concern over federal deficits, all elements of the budget must be subjected to careful scrutiny," said Carl Conetta, co-director of the Project on Defense Alternatives, which coordinated the task force's efforts. "The Pentagon should be no exception."

The lawmakers' letter to the commissioners noted the United States operates 460 military installations in more than 38 countries, excluding those in Afghanistan and Iraq. "Given that every incremental federal dollar spent today is being financed with borrowed funds, maintaining that collection of overseas bases results in a perverse daisy chain of borrowing money from foreigners, spending those borrowed funds overseas, then sending never-ending interest payments back overseas as we roll over that debt again and again," the House members said.

"It is not realistic for a nation with limited resources to be expected to shoulder the defense burden of the entire planet. Yet American military spending today makes up approximately 44 percent of worldwide defense expenditures," the letter said.

- Air Mobility Command Space "A" Limitations. **Lt Col Martin "Marty" Moerschell** sent an email concerning the current limitations of interisland Space Available – Space "A".

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Although retirees are entitled to ride on military aircraft on a Space Available basis, they can only do so at embarking locations that have an Air Mobility Command (AMC) representative who can properly manifest them onto the aircraft. The Big Island, Maui and Kauai do not have AMC terminals for retirees to process through and board military aircraft, only Hickam AFB has this service. From time to time, a retiree shows up at the GSU requesting to be placed on an aircraft rotating between the islands. To say the least, there is frustration when they are turned away. I fully understand the retirees view on this, as the aircraft is right there and they want to take advantage of the opportunity. However, AMC has their rules and we must follow them.

- Restricted Area Badges in the HIANG Compound – Part Two. As reported in the last *Retiree News* issue, there is a requirement to wear restrictive area badges (RAB) in the 154<sup>th</sup> Wing fenced compound at Hickam AFB. The 154<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron and the 201<sup>st</sup> Combat Communications Group facilities are outside the fence line. The requirement for wearing a RAB is a result of the Navy policy as part of the consolidation into Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam.

This new requirement creates a challenge for retirees and family members coming in to get a car decal from the 154<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron. **Lenora Lee** emailed that she is still issuing car decals to retirees and family members. You should call her (448-7260) prior to coming down. She will coordinate an escort for you from the "supply gate" upstairs to the Security Forces office. Currently the "supply gate" is the only unlocked gate during operational hours.

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](mailto:retireenews@hawaiiintel.net) if you can share them.

**Victor Ioli**  
**Norman Chang**  
**Chris Wilson**  
**Tom Gresch**  
**Edward Uyeda**

**Roberto Carlos**  
**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](mailto: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.

**Andy F. Ruiz**  
**Timothy Hurley**  
**Roy J. Macaraeg**

**Tony Constantino (at NGB)**  
**Edward Correa (update)**

**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....

**Michael L. "Mike" Maldonado Sr.**, 58, of Hilo, passed away on May 24, 2010. A security guard and Army and Hawai'i Army National Guard veteran who served in the Vietnam War. He was born in Honolulu. He is survived by mother Alice Oliver; companion Dawn "Momi" Whitney; sons Michael Jr., Gordon and Jordan Maldonado and Elisha Whitney; daughters Tina, Wendy, Alyssa and Taylor Maldonado and Danielle Santos.

**John Ahping Kalākaua "Busta" Aiona, Sr.**, 67, of Pahoia, Hawai'i, passed away on June 11, 2010 in Hilo Medical Center. an employee of Orchids of Hawai'i, Golden Fruit Papaya, Kapoho Land and Development, Sanford's Service Center Inc. and Keaau Middle School and a veteran of Army and Hawai'i Army National Guard. He was born in Olaa, Hawai'i. He is survived by wife Sophie; daughters Laverne Hess, Judy Aiona and Shawn Aiona-Hauanio; hanai sons John-Ben "JB" Hauanio, Jordan Aiona-Waipā, Dean Hess Jr., Haili Puerto, Kawika Haili, Kaumana Tokelau, Stanley "Sadao" Kajiyama, Daren Sakoda and Charles Jr. and Edward Aiona; hanai daughters Michele Tokelau, Melissa Hess, Jovy Hauanio, Jadelyn Aiona, Meleana Haili, Isabella Tokelau, Jubilee Aiona-Hauanio, Barbara Haili, Ella Manuel and Idaly Isom.

**6. Retiree Update.**

● **John Chun**, a retired senior master sergeant who served in the 154<sup>th</sup> Wing's engine shop, sent in this article from the *Polk County Itemizer Observer*, written by Craig Coleman. The article details **Col James Ashford's** early military career. Jim Ashford was born and raised in Honolulu, and graduated from Punahou School. After his World War II military service, he returned to Hawaii and joined the 199<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, Hawai'i Air National Guard. He retired as the then 154<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group commander in 1978.

Both John Chun and Col Ashford reside in Oregon. Mahalo to John for sharing this article.

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**Proud of his service to America** by Craig Coleman

INDEPENDENCE -- When Jim Ashford was flying P-47 Thunderbolts during World War II, instructors and experienced fighter pilots would frequently preach to airmen to "check your six."

"Six o' clock," Ashford says, motioning behind him.



Left: Jim Ashford holds the original sketch of art that was painted on the front of the P-47 Thunderbolt he flew during his service in World War II. "Okole Maluna," as written in the sketch translates from Hawaiian to "bottoms up." Above the art painted on the plane is a rendering of the then 21-year old Ashford, who now lives in Independence.

"And you had better check," he continues, leaning forward, "because there might be somebody behind you doing the same thing you're trying to do to the guy in front of you."

Namely, targeting them.

As part of the Army Air Corp's 379th Fighter Squadron, Ashford found himself in that position while soaring above the Haute-Normandy region of Northern France

one day in 1944.

"I checked six and there was a Bf 109 (a German aircraft)," he recalls. "I broke away from there ... energetically, to put it mildly."

Ashford's plane ended up with two bullet holes.

And "fortunately, no damage to me."

Ashford flew 99 missions with the Army Air Corp's 379th Fighter Squadron, 362nd Fighter Group in 1944 -- including D-Day, when the then 2nd Lieutenant helped support ground forces during the Invasion of Normandy.

"That was the proudest moment of my life," Ashford, 86, says from his home in Independence's airport. "I am thankful to have been part of it.

"I was just short of 21, halfway through my combat tour during the invasion," he adds. "At that age, you're bulletproof ... that's what a lot of fighter pilots felt like."

Ashford had longed to fly since his childhood in Oahu, Hawaii. He filled his room with model airplanes and read stories about World War I aces.

In 1941, he was 18 and an apprentice aircraft mechanic, impatiently awaiting his 21st birthday so he could enter military flight school. Then came Dec. 7.

Ashford said he was awakened in his Mānoa Valley home by a commotion just miles away at the Army's Hickam Field. What many had thought was maneuvers turned out to be the Japanese attacking Pearl Harbor and nearby installations.

In the aftermath, the Army lowered their requirement for aviation training to 18 and a high school degree.

"Guess who volunteered?" Ashford says with a laugh.

Ashford went through the Army Air Corp's basic training the following year and then to flight school in Southern California. He earned his wings in May of 1943.

The 362nd Fighter group was sent to England in 1944, serving as escorts for bombers. Ashford describes his first mission as relatively easy, or a "milk run."

Ashford says commanders kept things quiet on the upcoming invasion, though everybody knew it was coming. His initial role in that undertaking involved escorting paratroopers into France.



Above: A young Jim Ashford stands in front of his plane at an airfield in southwestern England, where he was based.

There was low-altitude tactical work afterward -- "splitting railroad tracks, trying to nail trains and bombing bridges." The 362nd also supported the 4th Armored Division on the ground.

"They appreciated what we could do and we appreciated how they had their butts on the line for us all of the time," Ashford says.

Being a pilot was a risky venture; the 362nd had a casualty rate of about one-third. Ashford says of his 99 missions, he had three plane-to-plane encounters with the enemy.

Besides his close call, one ended with a possible hit. Another incident saw him shoot down a German Messerschmitt.

"That there's a person in that other plane doesn't enter your mind," he says. "The object is to live and fight another day -- and get the other guy so he can't fight another day."

With enough operational hours completed, Ashford was sent back to the United States in the fall of 1944. He was teaching new pilots how to fly P-51 Mustangs in Florida as a 22-year-old -- when the Japanese surrendered in 1945.

He married his wife, Anne, afterward, returned to Hawaii and joined the National Guard. He retired as a colonel from that military branch in 1978, and flew commercial planes for three years.

Ashford ended up in Independence in 2003, after Anne passed away, to be closer to family. He's also a tour guide at the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum in McMinnville.

Ashford says he doesn't often do anything special during Memorial Days; "it's not like it's a birthday or Christmas."

He says he views it strictly as what it is: "a recognition of what the armed services have done for the country."

● Coach Okita Continues to Win Titles. As the Hawai'i Pacific University won its first NCAA Division II women's softball championship over the Memorial Day weekend, the name Howard Okita came to mind. **CMSgt Howard Okita** was a full time technician with the then 154<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron for most of his Hawai'i Air National Guard career. During all those years, he coached youth baseball and softball teams to league championships and titles.

In checking the Hawai'i Pacific University website, he remains an assistant coach for the HPU softball team that just won the Division II title. Congratulations to the Coach!

The HPU website provides a concise summary of Coach Okita's coaching career - a career of continuing achievements.

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Coach Howard Okita begins his 17th season with the Sea Warriors, and his second as Assistant Coach. Okita is regarded as the most successful skipper in Lady Sea Warrior softball history.

Now as the Assistant Coach, he will work with Head Coach Bryan Nakasone on the various aspects of the program.

Prior to his Sea Warrior coaching days, Okita led the Hawai'i Loa College program for five seasons, and, in 1991, recorded his greatest triumph as a coach when the Mongoose won the NAIA National Championship. Okita was also named the NAIA Softball Coach of the Year. In his five seasons as Head Coach at HLC, the Mongoose were 125-65 (.658).

Okita joined HPU as an assistant in 1993 after the University merged with Hawai'i Loa College, and helped guide the program to their first NAIA National Tournament appearance. Okita was handed the reins in 1994, and guided his team to the National Tournament for four consecutive seasons. His 1997 team posted a school-record 49 wins during which time they held an NAIA #1 ranking. Okita produced 12 NAIA All-Americans and six All-America Scholar-Athletes along the way.

In the Fall of 1998, Hawai'i Pacific University became a fully sanctioned NCAA II institution. That spring, Okita captured his first Pacific West Conference Championship and finished second in the NCAA Division II West Regional. His team posted the nation's best fielding percentage (.981). In his combined 20 years of college coaching, Okita holds a 633-279-3 record.

Winning championships is nothing new for Okita. At Kailua High School (Kailua, Hawai'i), he created a monster program that dominated the Hawai'i state prep leagues during the 1980s. His Surf Rider teams won six state titles (1981, 1982, 1983, 1986, 1988, and 1989), eight OIA championships, and every OIA East Division crown from 1981 until his retirement after the 1989 season. His overall record at Kailua was a phenomenal 181-24 (.883). In addition to his softball titles, Okita also posted two Little League Baseball Major Division State Championships.

Coach is coming off one of the most successful seasons of his career, looking to make yet another run at postseason play and add to his historic coaching career.

Send congratulatory e-mail: [hokita@hpu.edu](mailto:hokita@hpu.edu) (e-mail address taken off the HPU website)

- HIARNG Officer Promotions. The Hawai'i Army National Guard G1 Branch staff provided the names of the following officers promoted in May and June 2010. Congratulations to all!

**WO1 Shirley Bryant**, HIARNG Element, Joint Force Headquarters

**CW2 Joshua P. Kim**, 103<sup>rd</sup> Troop Command

**CW2 Charles K. Eckart**, 103<sup>rd</sup> Troop Command

**CW3 Balentin Meza**, HIARNG Element, Joint Force Headquarters

**MAJ Kenneth K. Uedoi**, HIARNG Element, Medical Command

Send congratulatory e-mail:

[shirley.n.bryant@us.army.mil](mailto:shirley.n.bryant@us.army.mil)

[joshua.kim@us.army.mil](mailto:joshua.kim@us.army.mil)

[charles.eckart@us.army.mil](mailto:charles.eckart@us.army.mil)

[balentin.meza@us.army.mil](mailto:balentin.meza@us.army.mil)

[kenneth.uedoi@us.army.mil](mailto:kenneth.uedoi@us.army.mil)

- 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!

**Maj Colette Ching**, 169<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron

Send congratulatory e-mail: [colette.ching@hick.af.mil](mailto:colette.ching@hick.af.mil)

- Another 15<sup>th</sup> Wing Intramural Volleyball Championship. **MSgt Marcus Della Sala** reported the Hawai'i Air National Guard volleyball team won another 15<sup>th</sup> Wing intramural championship. Part of his e-mail announcing the championship follows:  
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Victory! It was a close one, but last night your HIANG Intramural Volleyball team brought home the First Place trophy once more, beating a very, very talented and experienced team. It went to all 3 games. The Active duty team won the first game, quite decisively and putting us on our heels. The HIANG came back in the second game and dominated, winning quite easily. The 3rd and final game showed the true grit, maturity, and competitiveness on both sides, as proved in the very close final score of 15-13. Stress! Well done to our coach **TSgt Stephen "Keoki" Lorenzo** of the 169<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron, and to the fellow teammates for pulling out the win. Thanks to those of you that came out to watch. Hopefully this trophy will remain with the HIANG for a very long time.

- Another Successful HING Marriage Retreat. **Chaplain Leah Boling** and the rest of the Hawai'i National Guard chaplain team hosted another successful marriage retreat. The Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program is open to all married members of the Hawai'i Army and Air National Guard. Twenty couples spent part of the Memorial Day weekend at the Double Tree Alana Hotel in Waikiki. There was no cost to any of the couples. Thanks to our HING chaplain team for keeping these Guard members marriages successful.



- SGM Charles Pieters Is Retiring. The Hawai'i Army National Guard Recruiting family hosted a luncheon for **SGM Charles Pieters** on June 2, 2010. He is retiring after 31 years of military service, most of his years in recruiting service. The luncheon was held at the Hale Ikena's Pikaki Room on Fort Shafter.

Happy Retirement goes to the Sergeant Major Pieters!

Selected to replace SGM Pieters is **SGM Ricardo "Rick" Santos**. He was the NCOIC of a successful recruiting team. Congratulations to Rick!

Send congratulatory e-mail: [ricardo.santos@us.army.mil](mailto:ricardo.santos@us.army.mil)

- Announcing the New 199<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron Operations Officer. The 199<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron commander, **Lt Col Christopher "Frenchy" Faurot**, announced that **Lt Col Mark "Odie" Ladtkow** is the new 199<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron Operations Officer. Congratulations to Odie!  
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Please join me in congratulating **Lt Col Mark "Odie" Ladtkow** as he takes over the job of Operations Officer for the 199 FS. Odie's dedication and consistent outstanding performance over the years made him an easy selection for the position and we look forward to greater things from him as we standup operations with the F-22 Raptor.

Chris "Frenchy" Faurot, Lt Col, HIANG  
COM: (808) 448-7230  
BB: (808) 220-1379

Send congratulatory e-mail:

[mark.ladtkow@hick.af.mil](mailto:mark.ladtkow@hick.af.mil)  
[christopher.faurot@hickam.af.mil](mailto:christopher.faurot@hickam.af.mil)

- Change of Command at the 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery. On Sunday, July 11, 2010 at 1300, there will be a change of command ceremony at the 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery. **LTC Roy J. Macaraeg** will assume command from **MAJ James A. Faleafine**. LTC Macaraeg recently returned from a tour at the National Guard Bureau. MAJ Faleafine will remain with the 1-487th FA.

Send congratulatory e-mail:

[roy.macaraeg@us.army.mil](mailto:roy.macaraeg@us.army.mil)  
[james.faleafine@us.army.mil](mailto:james.faleafine@us.army.mil)

- 103d Troop Command Leadership Change. On Sunday, August 8, 2010, there will be a Transfer of Authority ceremony for the 103d Troop Command's command sergeant major. **1SG Russell Ige** will become the Command Sergeant Major vice **CSM Ronald Oshiba**. More details to come.

Send congratulatory e-mail:

[russell.ige@us.army.mil](mailto:russell.ige@us.army.mil)  
[ronald.oshiba@us.army.mil](mailto:ronald.oshiba@us.army.mil)

- Checking Out Old Photos. This is a photo of the rock band called the Minutemen. They were from Hilo, Hawaii and played in the late 60s. They modeled themselves after Paul Revere and the Raiders, a very popular band of the time. The name Minutemen foretold the future because two of the band members became long time members of the Hawai'i National Guard. Second from the left is **Greg Navarro**, a chief master sergeant who retired from the 291<sup>st</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, Hawai'i Air National Guard, in Hilo. First from the right is **Wayne Yoshioka**, a lieutenant colonel who retired from the Hawai'i Army National Guard. Wayne served in several positions including the State Department of Defense's public affairs officer.



## 7. Corrections.

The last issue of *Retiree News* failed to mention the efforts of our Department's State employees in the annual Food Bank drive. Their efforts included a luncheon and bake sale that raised several hundred dollars to the overall monetary total. The food was great as usual and a sellout.

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

★ Retirement Ceremony and Luncheon for Col William Petti. There will be a retirement ceremony and luncheon honoring **Col William Petti**. The specifics follow:

When: Friday, June 25, 2010  
Time: 0900-1100  
Where: 154<sup>th</sup> Wing Dining Facility, Building 3417, Hickam AFB  
Cost: \$15.00 per person; gift only: \$5.00  
Attire: Military: uniform of the day; Civilian: Aloha attire  
RSVP: Wednesday, June 16, 2010; checks payable to **Paul Maedo**  
POC: MSgt Shawna Gaskins, [shawna.gaskins@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:shawna.gaskins@hihick.ang.af.mil) or 448-8423  
MSgt Roxanne Bruhn, [roxanne.bruhn@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:roxanne.bruhn@hihick.ang.af.mil) or 448-8446

Send congratulatory e-mail: [william.petti@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:william.petti@hihick.ang.af.mil)

★ Retirement Ceremony and Luncheon for MSgt Buenaflor Robles, Jr. The 154<sup>th</sup> Operations Group will host a retirement ceremony and luncheon honoring **MSgt Buenaflor "Ben" Robles**. The specifics follow:

When: Saturday, July 10, 2010  
Time: 1300  
Where: Hanger 13, Building 2035, Hickam AFB  
Cost: \$12.00 per person; gift only: \$5.00  
Attire: Military: uniform of the day; Civilian: Aloha attire  
RSVP: Friday, July 2, 2010, checks payable to **Chad Ashida**  
POC: Commander's Support Staff at 448-8306 or [154\\_og\\_css@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:154_og_css@hihick.ang.af.mil)

Send congratulatory e-mail: [buenaflor.robles@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:buenaflor.robles@hihick.ang.af.mil)

● Retirement Party for Lt Col Scott Hoadley. There will be a retirement party honoring **Lt Col Scott "Rats" Hoadley**. The specifics follow:

When: Friday, July 16, 2010 (*The date was incorrectly listed as July 26 earlier*)  
Time: Starts at 1700  
Where: Natsunoya Tea House  
1935 Makanani Drive in Alewa Heights  
Cost: \$40.00 per person; gift only: \$5.00

RSVP: Thursday, July 1, 2010, checks payable to [Peter Ching](#)

POC: [Lt Col Peter Ching](#), [peter.ching@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:peter.ching@hihick.ang.af.mil) or 448-8331  
[Lt Col Merv Oyafuso](#), [mervin.oyafuso@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:mervin.oyafuso@hihick.ang.af.mil) or 448-7270  
[Mrs. Donna Hoadley](#), [donna.hoadley@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:donna.hoadley@hihick.ang.af.mil) or 655-7094  
[Lt Col Glen Nakamura](#), [glen.nakamura@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:glen.nakamura@hihick.ang.af.mil) or 448-7230

Send congratulatory e-mail: [scott.hoadley@hihick.ang.af.mil](mailto:scott.hoadley@hihick.ang.af.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 be at the 15<sup>th</sup> Wing Base Operations, Hickam AFB starting at 1300. The event is open to the public.

Later in the day, there will be a "by invitation only" cocktail/dinner celebration at the lū'au grounds at Lanikuhonua starting at 1800. Lanikuhonua is located near the J.W. Marriott Ihilani Resort and Spa in Ko 'Olina.

- Save the Date – Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Ball. This year's Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Ball is on Saturday, December 11, 2010 at the J.W. Marriott Ihilani Resort and Spa in Kapolei. This joint event celebrates the 374<sup>th</sup> Birthday of our National Guard's beginnings. The planning meetings for this annual event have already begun. Definitely more details to come.

To find out more about the Ihilani, go to <http://www.ihilani.com/>

## 9. Website Links.

- The 2010 Issues of the 154<sup>th</sup> Wing's newspaper, the Kūkā'ilimoku, is on the Hawaii State Department of Defense's website. Go to: <http://hawaii.gov/dod/hiang/kukailimoku/2010-kukailimoku-issues>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.
- The 154<sup>th</sup> Wing's External Website is Online. The 154<sup>th</sup> Wing's external website is accessible from any computer. Check it out at [www.154wg.ang.af.mil](http://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](http://www.hawaii.gov/dod) - then click on the *pupukahi* link listed under the "What's New?" section.
- The Spring 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/Spring10/Spring\\_2010.pdf](http://www.ng.mil/features/onguard-mag/pdf/Spring10/Spring_2010.pdf). If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser. This is a very slow loading website.
- The June 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.

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

- The May-June 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.