

2010914 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 to 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.**



- **Obtaining a Certificate of Eligibility for a VA Home Loan.** Before qualifying for a VA loan, veterans and active duty military personnel must first obtain a Certificate of Eligibility. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs put in place certain protocols for acquiring a COE that can make obtaining the document simple and straightforward. Read more at:

<http://www.military.com/finance/homebuying/obtaining-certificate-of-eligibility.html?ESRC=mr.nl>

Got questions about VA loans?

Buying a home can be pretty confusing, especially if you're trying to purchase with a VA Home Loan. Military.com, in partnership with Direct VA Loans from iFreedom Direct(R), has a new VA Home Buying video series to help you cut through the clutter and the process. The videos clear up the qualification process, fees that are charged and just about all the questions you have. Take the first step in homeownership now.

<http://www.military.com/homebuying/ifreedom/ifreedom-direct-video-library.html?ESRC=mr.nl>

- **Social Security Information.** **Preston Nishie** sent the links to two articles featured in *Kiplinger Personal Finance* magazine. "I have attached two articles on how some may benefit from Social Security "Do Overs." It may not be possible for all to benefit in the same way, but for those how can it could be nice." Both articles are written by Mary Beth Franklin, the magazine's Senior Editor.

Secrets to Maximizing Social Security. Despite a temporary shortfall, the nation's primary retirement system continues to pay full benefits. We show you how to make the most of yours. Read more: <http://www.kiplinger.com/features/archives/secrets-to-maximizing-social-security.html#ixzz0y8YcYEuJ>

Social Security Payback Option May Disappear. A proposed rule would eliminate the chance to hike benefits via the "do-over" strategy. It's not for everybody. But consider your options now. Read more: <http://www.kiplinger.com/features/archives/social-security-payback-option-may-disappear.html>

Preston served with the 169th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron, and retired as a Chief Master Sergeant and the NCOIC of the Operations Branch. Thanks for sharing the information.

- New Pass and ID Procedures. **MSgt Namoca Ricardo**, 154th Security Forces Squadron, send out the following information about their office issuing car decals. This a slight change from what was reported earlier. Service will now be offered on Tuesday and Thursday only. For more information, call the 154 SFS at 448-7260.

Due to the new security measures in place, effective 1 Aug 2010, the 154 SFS pass and ID office will be serving members of the HIANG and retiree's at FSS service counter on Tuesday and Thursday from 0900 -1200. This will allow retirees to obtain installation decals without having to access the controlled area. Current HIANG members will still be allowed to obtained decals during normal duty hours (aside from the aforementioned times) and on UTA weekends at the current 154 Security Forces Office.

- A Taste of Home In Foil Packets and Powder. Meals Ready to Eat – MREs – are a part of military life. MREs are a long way from C-Rations of earlier years, but that's another story. **WO1 Roman Lim** shared the following article about MREs. Be sure to click on the "here" in the last paragraph to see MREs from other countries. Then click on each picture to see what the other countries have in their MREs. Go to:
http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/05/weekinreview/05gilbertson.html?_r=1.

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.

Donna Hoadley
Barbara Lee
George Lumives
Victor Ioli
Jeffrey Okazaki
Norman Chang
Chris Wilson
Tom Gresch

Joe Spatola
Mark Waddell
Francis Kawahara
Roberto Carlos
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.

Ralph Apo (update)
Grant Ichikawa
George Brown (CT ARNG)

Terry Shima
Alison Stewart

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....

Roy Yukio Tanahara, 67, of Honokaa, Hawaii, passed away on August 15, 2010 at home. A GTE Hawaiian Tel retiree and retired Hawai'i Army National Guard major. He was born in Haina, Hawaii. He is survived by brother Larry; and sister Priscilla Iwasaki.

David Kiyoshi Umeda, 87, of Honolulu, passed away on August 20, 2010 in the Tripler Army Medical Center for Aging. A retired National Guard administrator, Army veteran and

member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Company M. He was born in Honolulu. He is survived by wife Janet, sons Steven and Bruce, daughter Audrey Hane, sister Rose Maruoka, caregiver Juliana Yamada and five grandchildren.

Robert Melville Moncrief, 71, of Kailua, passes away on August 25, 2010. A marine biologist and Hawai'i Air National Guard veteran. He was born in Honolulu. He is survived by wife Trudy; sons Scott Ray Kealamahi and Robb Russell Kaleo O Hawai'i; brothers David Ray, James Douglas and Guy Phillip; and two grandchildren. Visit www.bobmoncrief.com.

Charlotte L.K. Wong, 72, of Honolulu, passed away on August 28, 2010 in Kaiser Medical Center. A retired U.S. Postal Service clerk and National Guard veteran. She was born in Hilo. She is survived by husband Allen; sons Michael G.K. and Jonathan K.; brothers Archie, Harold, William, John and Charles Kama; sister Roberta Kama; and two grandchildren.

Wilfred K.T. Siu, 78, of Honolulu, passed away on September 7, 2010. A National Guard veteran and retired Hawaiian Telephone Co. mechanic. He was born in Hawaii. He is survived by wife Elaine; sons Bruce, Wilfred Jr. and Wesley; daughters Sheryl Reynolds, Dionne Siu and Glorine Cordeiro; brothers Milton and Donald; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

6. Retiree Update.



★ TAG's Retirement Lū'au. The Hawai'i National Guard cordially invites you to the retirement lū'au in honor of **MG Robert G. F. Lee**, The Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii. The specifics follow:

When: Sunday, November 7, 2010

Where: [Hale Koa Hotel](#), Luau Garden
2055 Kalia Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96825

Time: 1700: Cocktails
1830: Dinner and program

Menu: Traditional Hawaiian lū'au

Cost: Officer/Civilian: \$45.00
Enlisted: \$35.00
Checks payable to "[DoD Retirement and Service Award Fund](#)"

Attire: Aloha attire

RSVP: Monday, October 11, 2010

Retirees: contact **Col Randy Tom**, 672-1226 or randy.tom@us.army.mil

● New 154 LRS Commander Named. The 154th Wing commander, **Brig Gen Joseph Kim**, recently announced that **Lt Col Taison Tanaka** will assume command of the 154th Logistics Readiness Squadron. Lt Col Tanaka currently serves as the 154th Wing Comptroller. He replaces **Lt Col David Molinaro** who is now the Director of Staff at Headquarters, Hawai'i Air National Guard. Another opportunity for Taison to excel!

Send congratulatory e-mail: taison.tanaka@hihick.ang.af.mil

● A & B Troop, 1st Squadron, 299th Cavalry History. **Milton Yee**, a retired Sergeant Major, send me the e-mail addresses of 18 Hawai'i Army National Guard retirees. These retired

Soldiers all served in A & B Troop, 1st Squadron, 299th Cavalry sometime in their careers. Along with the list of retiree e-mail addresses, he provided a history of the unit. Special Thanks to the Sergeant Major for sharing this history.

The unit was re-organized several times since the 1970's. Along with the reorganization, the unit designation and equipment changed as well.

1970's:	Combat Support Company, 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry
Mid 1980's Reorganized to:	Company D, 1st Battalion, 299th Infantry
Mid 1990's Reorganized to:	Company D, 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry
2006 Reorganized to:	A & B Troop, 1st Squadron, 299th Cavalry

These soldiers are all retired from HIARNG, and served together at some point in their careers within this unit.

Julian Asuncion
Al Cabras
Dayton Kelii
William Liboy
Robert Myers
Haines "Buddy" Rego
Avelino Sevilla
Soo Tufaga
Vernon Watanabe

Michael Batagan
Timothy Galbiso
Martin Keohokapu
Jimmy Mills
Dean Norwood
Ray Resurrection
Tom Tanaka
Melvin Vinson
Al Witzell

It was predominantly a motorized infantry heavy weapons company which has evolved into today's agile, hard hitting, A & B Troop, 1st Squadron, 299th Cavalry. At various times in its history, additional elements were attached to it from various other units within the battalion; rifle platoons, mortar platoon, etc. At one point, there was a detachment on the island of Moloka'i, known as the "the Moloka'i Scouts."

It has seen drastic changes in equipment since the 1970's. Needless to say, the unit possesses tremendous firepower and mobility on the battlefield today as it did back then.

Transportation: from the old M151 "Jeeps" and M561 "Gama Goats" to the armored HMMWV's of today.

Mortars: it has seen the old 4.2 Inch, 2 versions of the 81mm, 60mm, and today's 120mm Mortars.

Anti-Tank: it transitioned from the 106mm Recoilless Rifle to the latest version of the Tube-Launched, Optically-Tracked, Wire-Guided (TOW) Missile System. It has also seen the medium range Dragon Guided Missile replaced by the modern Javelin Guided Missile.

Air Defense: at one point, the unit had a "Redeye" Air defense Guided Missile Section (forerunner of today's Stinger Air Defense Missile).

Machine Guns: it has seen its M60 Machine Guns replaced by a wide variety of modern (light to heavy) automatic crew served weapons (5.56mm M249, 7.62mm M240B, Cal.50 M2, and 40mm MK19).

● 293 CBCS Commander Leaving. **Maj David Lowery**, the commander of the 293rd Combat Communications Squadron will leave Hawai'i in October. He will become the next executive officer for the ANG Deputy Director – **Maj Gen Donald Fick**. As the 293 CBCS commander, he faced the challenge of managing a squadron with split locations – half at Barking Sands, and the

remainder at Hickam AFB. Per Dave's e-mail, **Capt Dane Minami** will serve as the commander until the new commander is selected.

In his e-mail, Dave said, "this will be a 4-year stat tour, which will take me beyond the 16-year active-duty mark. It's very bittersweet leaving the HIANG, but a good move for Sarah and the kids to be much closer to extended family back on the East Coast." Know Dave will do an outstanding job in Washington.

Send congratulatory e-mail:

david.lowery@hihick.ang.af.mil

dane.minami@hihick.ang.af.mil

- Hawai'i Air National Guard on Facebook. The Hawai'i Air National Guard Facebook page continues to expand. **MSgt Kristen Stanley** would like you to log in and "LIKE" the page. When you "LIKE" the page, periodic updates will show up in you News Feed. Go To: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Honolulu-HI/Hawaii-Air-National-Guard/121689041205840>

Questions – contact Kristen at 448-7292 or kristen.stanley@hihick.ang.af.mil

- Retiree Connections.

- Got an e-mail from Retiree News reader **Gary Nakata**, who served in the 293rd Combat Communications Squadron in the 80s. He left the Guard to pursue his education and professional goals. He is currently at the Hickam Federal Credit Union. Great hearing from Gary.

- Thirteen years ago, the **results of the 1997 ANG Majors Promotion Board** were announced. The Hawai'i Air National Guard had an unusually large group of officers promoted at this board. There are many familiar names who are still serving in the HIANG as well as some who have retired or left the HIANG for other opportunities. Several of these officers are now serving as the senior commanders in the HIANG. Time flies by....

Earl Alameida, Jr., 203rd Air Refueling Squadron

Kenneth Bailey, 203rd Air Refueling Squadron

Daniel Boyle, 203rd Air Refueling Squadron

Raphael Carreiro, 154th Maintenance Squadron

Douglas Ernst, 204th Airlift Squadron

Peter Fata, 203rd Air Refueling Squadron

Reynold Hioki, 297th Air Traffic Control Flight

Adrian Kinimaka, 199th Fighter Squadron

Daniel McLaughlin, 154th Medical Squadron

Myles Moriguchi, 154th Air Control Squadron

Braden Sakai, 199th Fighter Squadron

Stanley Sato, 154th Medical Squadron

Dean Shaw, 199th Fighter Squadron

Roland Smith, Headquarters 154th Wing

Gary Teed, 154th Civil Engineer Squadron

Ian Tsuchiya, 203rd Air Refueling Squadron

Diann Wright, 203rd Air Refueling Squadron

Deric Wong, 204th Airlift Squadron

- Checking Out Old Photos. **Stephen Lum**, a HIARNG retiree who works in the Public Affairs Office, found this photo in their historical files. The photo is shows the old Department of

Defense Building, probably taken in the 1960s. The building was on Diamond Head Road, right across the street from current the Kapi'olani Community College bus stop and fountain. The Department occupied this facility until they moved to the current building around the bend in 1970.



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

★ DoD Retirement and Service Awards Luncheon. Friday, September 24, 2010 is the date for the next DoD Retirement and Awards Luncheon. The Adjutant General's Award and State Manager of the Year Award will be presented during the program.

Invitations have gone out to the following retirees and service award awardees. The names of the honorees attending will announced as their RSVPs are received.

When: Friday, September 24, 2010

Where: [Hale Koa Hotel](#), Banyan Tree Showroom
2055 Kalia Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96825

Time: 1100-1300

Cost: \$26.00 (includes gratuity)
Checks payable to "[DoD Retirement and Service Award Fund](#)"

Menu: Hale Koa salad with house dressing; grilled skirt steak with shiitake mushroom sauce, paired with broiled mahi-mahi fillet; garlic mashed potatoes; sautéed zucchini with tomatoes; coffee or tea and red velvet cake.

Retirees: contact **CMSgt Deb Brownhill**, 672-1233 or debra.brownhill@us.army.mil

Retirees who will be at the luncheon.

LTC Jeffrey Protacio
CSM Charles Pieters
MSgt Ben Robles
MSgt Kenneth Aoki

MAJ Mateo Geronimo
MSG Samuel Makaiwi
MSgt Ross Hoopai

30 Year Service Awardees who will be at the luncheon.

Lt Col Martin Moerschell
CMSgt Irvin Yoshino

CMSgt Douglas Awana
MSgt Malcolm Chun



- Retirement Luncheon for SFC Scott Nomura. Please come and join the Human Resources Office as we give a fond farewell to **SFC Scott Nomura** and celebrate his 37 years of military service. The specifics follow:

When: Friday, 1 October 2010

Time: 1130-1330

Where: [Hale Ikena](#), Ft Shafter, Hawai'i

Cost: \$21.00 per person; gift only: \$5.00

Attire: Military: uniform of the day; Civilian: Aloha attire

RSVP: Monday, August 16, 2010; checks payable to **Cash**

POC: **MSG Maria Durham**, 844-6291 or mariavictoria.durham@us.army.mil

Send congratulatory e-mail: scott.nomura@us.army.mil



- 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 374th 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/>

8. Website Links.

Past issues of *Retiree News* are on line at the Hawaii State Department of Defense's website. Go to: <http://hawaii.gov/dod/staff-offices/public-affairs/retiree-news>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

The 2010 issues of the 154th 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 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.

★ HIANG's Flickr photo sharing site. This site is accessible from any computer with no "registration" required. Go to: www.flickr.com/photos/hiang for photo for recent HIANG events. Photos are continuously updated.

★ The **September** 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 **September/October** 2010 Issue of *Airman Magazine* is online. View the current issue of *Airman Magazine* at: <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.