



Pau Hana Koa

Retired Warriors

The Retired Officers Association P.O. Box 1185 Kailua Hawaii 96734

Volume 16 No 4

WEBSITE <http://home.att.net/~troa-hi>

April 2001

Hawaii Chapter Supports Resumption of Makua Training

RESOLUTION

“Be it resolved that Hawaii Chapter TROA continue to support the Army in regard to resuming live firing at Makua Valley under the conditions stated in the Army’s presentation to the Legislative Affairs and Veterans Affairs Committee on March 13, 2001; furthermore, that the Chapter make every effort to educate key people in the State Government on this issue, and, when requested by the Army, assist them directly in contacting said individuals.”

Executive Committee

16 March 2001

see page 5

Hawaii Chapter Community Service



Hawaii Chapter presents \$1,000.00 Check to RADM Conway Chapter’s Annual Donation to a Component Command



“Veteran’s Informational Exposition” - 24 March 2001
Phillipa Davidson - TRICARE/ Kathy DeLong , Chair ,Community Services

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I was pleased to see such a fine audience from TROA for the Mardi Gras fund raiser in March. Thank you for attending and supporting this charity event. Hawaii Chapter TROA was appropriately recognized and the girls in the show really liked George Montague. Jack Miller now has three winners out of three in 2001. I think we all owe a round of applause to Jack and Carita for fun events at a fair price. The Pau Hana Koa is improved (or about to be) by shifting to a new printer who will provide improved photo quality. Our new bulk mail post office is a major improvement in service to you, our members. Receipt the day after delivery to the Post Office is now expected. We all owe Duke Frey our thanks for Editing and publishing and all these service improvements. THANKS to Duke, Jack, Carita and everyone serving on the Board, Excom or in any Office. YOU MAKE TROA a success.

Our April program is in keeping with April being the Submarine Month. In April 1900 the USN bought its first submarine and the Submarine Birthday Ball held in every port with Submariners is a major event. We shall give you a full dose of SUBMARINE. The USS Bowfin "The Pearl Harbor Avenger" commissioned on Dec 7, 1942 is open for you as is the Submarine Museum. Our speaker is RADM Al Konetzni the Commander, Submarine Force, US Pacific Fleet since his change of command is April 25th. Then he pins on VADM and becomes Deputy, CINCLANT Fleet. I do not know whether RADM John Padgett his relief will attend or not. The tickets for this great meeting are selling very quickly, and they include both the bar and dinner. Food at the Bowfin is always great.

May is the month for Military Appreciation and Armed Forces Day. RADM Paul Lacy is the Chairman of the selection committee to determine the winner of the year 2001 DOLEMAN Award. Only those members who were nominated are being considered, so I hope you took the time to Nominate the Member you consider most deserving of this Award from the Hawaii Chapter. The BEST Retired Officer you nominated will be recognized in May.

My continuing theme is Membership, Recruiting and Retention. I was gratified by the response to my letter to those who did not renew in December but now we need to convince anyone who did not renew to rejoin the Hawaii Chapter. I need YOUR help to urge every Member to ask every Retired Officer you know whether he or she is a Member of TROA and to please join. We all encounter retired officers everyday. RECRUIT THEM!

Our Directory for 2001 should be in your hands soon. I know we owe our thanks to Duke Frey, George Montague and Richard DeLong, but to ALL who made the Directory possible OUR THANKS. Read the LAVA column closely this month. George Sullivan led an active discussion and taken action in support of our ARMY in Hawaii. Aloha John

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Member of the Month
Hawaii Chapter recognizes MG James M. Dubik
Member of the Month for April

MG James M. Dubik is no stranger to Hawaii, having previously served as the 25th ID's Inspector General and Commander of the 5th Battalion, 14th Infantry. Assuming Command of the 25th Infantry Division(L) and United States Army , Hawaii in the fall of 2000, the Army could not have selected a better qualified Commander to meet today's current challenges in Hawaii.

General Dubik received his commission as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Gannon University in 1971. A truly Renaissance Man, he has served in the trenches with his fellow Infantrymen—in Ranger and Airborne units, has run a gamut of the tough deployments from Northern Haiti to Bosnia—Herzegovia.



He holds a Masters Degree in Philosophy from Johns Hopkins, a second Masters Degree in Military Arts and Sciences, held a fellowship with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and attended the Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government's Executive Program for National and International Security.

Besides teaching at the United States Military Academy, he has served in every dimension of the Army's high level staff, and been at the leading edge in the development of the future of the U.S. Army.

General Dubik is an avid golfer, has competed in numerous marathon/ ultramarathons, lives with his lovely wife, Sharon Basso, on Schofield Barracks.

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Coming Events

7 Apr (Sat) - TUG Meeting - Bishop Museum

10 Apr (Tues) - LAVA Meeting - Pikake Room
Hickam O-Club

10 Apr (Tues) - Kona Satellite Meeting—Beach Grill -
Waikaloa Resort

20 Apr (Fri) - Executive Committee—Lahaula Room
Hickam O-Club

20 April (Friday) - USS BOWFIN

MUSEUM

21 Apr (Sat) - Hilo Meeting - Sandalwood Room
Naniolo Hotel

21 Apr (Sat) - Board of Directors Meeting-Hickam

28 Apr (Sat) - Party Bridge -Reservation-Call Robbie
255-4558

5 May (Sat) -Army Military Retiree

Appreciation Day -Schofield Barracks

5 May (Sat) - TUG Meeting - Bishop Museum

8 May (Tues) - LAVA Meeting - Pikake Room
Hickam O-Club

17 May (Thurs) - "The Future Strategic

Environment"—BGEN Dick

Vercauteren - Hickam O-Club

17 -26 May - Military Appreciation Week

Activities (24 May)—Doleman

Award -Hilton Hawaiian Village

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newsletter are not necessarily Hawaii Chapter policy.

Legislative Affairs Veterans Affairs (LAVA)

Captain George Sullivan USN

TROA Urges Healthcare Funding

General Joe Hoar, USMC (Ret), Chairman of TROA's Board of Directors, wrote the Secretary of Defense March 22, requesting urgent action to address the \$1.4 billion healthcare shortfall. "This shortfall already is imposing negative effects on active duty and retired families," said Gen. Hoar, "and the...situation will worsen...if additional funding is not forthcoming soon. Our top concern remains timely and fully funded implementation of TRICARE For Life (TFL) on October 1," stated Gen Hoar in his letter. "We know the Department will... make this happen, but worry about the long-term readiness and quality-of-life impacts of absorbing these costs without additive funding. I urge your special attention, as a matter of priority, to redressing the FY2001 Defense Health Program shortfall."

Editor note: The March issue of the TROA magazine contained a postcard to sign, stamp, and mail to your Washington legislators. These post cards are a simple means of letting your representatives know how you stand on the issue; however, a more effective way is to rewrite the postcard, by as little as changing "happy to glad", and mailing it as a letter.

TROA Presents VA Testimony

On March 22, Deputy Director of Government Relations COL Bob Norton, USA (Ret), presented TROA's legislative agenda on veterans issues before a joint panel of the Senate and House Veterans Affairs Committees. Norton applauded the House Committee's March 21 approval of a 12% VA budget increase, aimed at reducing the huge backlog of veterans benefits claims.

He also endorsed H.R. 801, which would: make the new \$50,000 increase in Servicemen's Group Life Insurance coverage retroactive to October 1, 2000, to cover survivors of the USS Cole and other recent accidents; authorize SGLI coverage for active duty family members; increase GI Bill benefits; and expand VA outreach services to eligible dependents of deceased veterans. (The House Committee approved H.R. 801 on March 21.)

But Norton expressed TROA's strong opposition to

an administration proposal that would force disabled military retirees to choose either VA health care or the military health care system (TRICARE) as the source of their health care. Retirees earned their military coverage through their decades of service to the country, he noted, and disabled retirees also need the VA's unique services for the disabled community.

Flag-Protection Amendment Introduced

Identical bills have been introduced in the House and the Senate that would create a constitutional amendment prohibiting the physical desecration of the flag of the United States. During the last Congress a flag-protection amendment passed overwhelmingly in the House by a vote of 305-124. In the Senate, however, the amendment fell four votes short (63-37) of the two-thirds majority required for passage of a constitutional amendment. American Legion commander Ray G. Smith said. "Here we have an amendment supported by 49 state legislatures and 80 percent of the American people. I urge Congress to heed its own advice and pass this amendment now," he said.

Pharmacy Benefits Began April 1st

TRICARE Senior Pharmacy benefits are now available to retirees 65 and older. Be sure to read the literature that DOD sent to all eligible beneficiaries. If you have not received correspondence, you should check with DEERS or the office that issued your military or dependent ID card or call 1-877-363-6337.

Chimps Get It Too

Military retirees were not the only ones that got lifetime health care enacted by the 106th Congress. PL 106-551 establishes a national sanctuary system that provides permanent retirement and health care for federally owned or supported surplus chimpanzees that are no longer needed for research or breeding purposes by the US government.

LAVA Committee Meeting

The LAVA Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be April 10 in the Pikake room at the Hickam Officers' Club at 1130.

TAPS

Robert T Wilson, Major AUS

Why the Army is not required to do an Environmental Impact Statement
 By CAPTAIN George Sullivan
 Chairman, LAVA

There have been a stream of articles and letters to the editor in our local newspapers criticizing the Army for not performing the process that would culminate in what is known as an Environmental Impact Statement. In most cases the opponents of resuming live firing in Makua Valley are using this as a delaying tactic. They know the EIS entails a very expensive, resource consuming process taking three years to complete the studies and reviews. The combat readiness of the 25th Infantry is all too important, not only at the Brigade or Company level but also for the safety of the individual soldier, to further delay resumption of live firing. Fundamental to this is that an EIS is not required by law.

In complying with the National Environmental Protection Act the Army conducted the required Environmental Assessment. In doing so, one of the first steps taken was to meet with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Historic Preservation Office. The Army presented its plan for resuming live firing at a reduced level from previous training and in a more confined area. Fires are a concern to all so the Army will no longer use illumination rounds, tracer ammunition, aerial rockets nor anti-tank missiles, and will limit training to the Company level. Both government agencies responded in writing stating, respectively, “no jeopardy” to endan-

gered species and “no adverse effects” for cultural properties.

The EA did reveal a number of issues, several of which were concerns expressed by the community, e.g., possible underground water contamination, transporting ammunition on Farrington Hwy, etc. These issues have been addressed by a Supplemental Environmental Assessment and the results presented to the community over the last few weeks.

Neither the EA nor its Supplement has revealed the need to do an Environmental Impact Statement using the guidance of the NEPA. Critics continue, however, with much rhetoric while the Army rigorously adheres to the NEPA’s process. Furthermore, there is a precedent that could be set if an EIS were required for Makua Valley which is exactly the goal of some critics. Conceivably, the Army could be required to do an EIS at every installation on the main land where live firing is conducted.

It is no secret that there is a segment of the community that would like to see the military totally removed from the state of Hawaii. The actions taken by this small minority in the case of Makua Valley are being supported by Earthjustice, which formerly was the legal arm of the Sierra Club but is now independent. Litigation by Earthjustice to require the Army to conduct an EIS has been placed on hold by the court pending the Army’s submission of the Supplemental EA. We trust that the wisdom of the judge will result in a favorable decision to the Army.

Hawaii Chapter recognizes Lucille and Nelson Shreve

Once upon a time, as the saying goes, two very special people joined Hawaii Chapter — and from that day forth Lucille and Nelson Shreve have played a significant role in the life of our chapter. As long as I can remember, Nelson had the enviable task of publishing our Pau Hana Koa. It took a case of pneumonia in January 2000 for him to relinquish this duty. What many do



not know, is this dynamic duo wrote and directed Lanikai Mortgage Players Productions. On the 18th of last November, the Mokulua Fishing Club presented a plaque to both for their 25 years of effort to their community, which read “ The Hero and Heroine of Lanikai”, which is now permanently mounted in their Community Center. Mahalo Lucille and Nelson for your support of Hawaii Chapter.

Editors Notes

1. Hawaii's Congressional Delegation.

Congressman Neil Abercrombie has been chosen to serve as Ranking Member (senior Democrat) on the Military Research and Development Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee for the 107 Congress (2001-02). Democratic members of the Armed Services Committee selected Abercrombie for the post at a meeting this afternoon.

The subcommittee exercises authority over all military research and development on programs, including activities conducted at the Pacific Missile Range Facility at Barking Sands, Kaua'i. Abercrombie will also continue to serve as a member of the Military Installations and Facilities Subcommittee, which oversees the military construction budget.

2. Pau Hana Koa.

a. As of the publication of our February Pau Hana Koa we have moved our bulk mailing from the Kaneohe Post Office to the Main Post Office at the Airport. This move was made to expedite receipt of the news letter to your doorstep. From all reports this appears to be a significant improvement, however, let the editor know if you are experiencing significant delays. However — our current assessment is — delays are directly attributable to the local Post

Office supporting your Zip Code.

b. Also in an effort to increase quality of our publication, this issue of the Pau Hana Koa is being printed by Island Printing — which we believe provides a better clarity to our pictures and print. If you judge this to be the case, please let the editor know your opinion.

3. Electronic Communication (E-Mail). As we have entered the Millennium, we now have 248 members with an e-mail capability. Accordingly, this alternate means of communication can be used for those with an on line capacity — for near term notifications and electronic receipt of the Pau Hana Koa. As of the 1st of the year we have sent out eight (8) Chaptergrams. If you have not received these Chaptergrams, we either do not have an e-mail address for you or the e-mail address we have in the data base is out - of-date or incorrect. Accordingly, if you wish to receive periodic Chaptergrams, you need to send an e-mail to :TROA-HI@world.att.net with copy to- duke06@hawaii.rr.com.

4. Directory. STOP! Please go to your address label and check its accuracy. Corrections should be called to Duke 361-2946/duke06@hawaii.rr.com, as our Directory will be going to Printers 13 April. Mahalo:)

UPDATE ON LUANA KOA CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT RESORT

This month the developers of "Luana Koa" are continuing to study the financing options which will best serve the project. Kenneth Chong, one of the principals of HVA, Inc. (the developers), has been adjusting the financial proforma to find the right number of units at the most reasonable prices for the military marketplace. This is quite an arduous endeavor. However, Ken can do a better job than anyone. He retired from Kaiser Development Company after 26 years of developing Hawaii Kai. We are most fortunate to have him as a member of our team - and he is a retired Colonel from the Army National Guard.

Please plan on coming to the Military Retiree Appreciation Day on Saturday, May 5th at Schofield to learn more about "Luana Koa". We look forward to seeing you as we present more information on "Luana Koa".

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR 2001

Our chapter will be continuing the long-standing college scholarship program this year. Subject to the generosity of our chapter membership through donations, we plan to offer grants of \$1000 each for high school seniors enrolling in a four-year college curriculum for the Fall 2001, and grants of \$500 each for high school seniors enrolling in a community college or trade school for the Fall. MG Sternberg and others, as in years past have set the Platinum Standard for this effort, but every donation helps, no matter the amount. So—if you are so inclined, put this subject on your front burner — as we will use to determine the number of total scholarships offered. Of special note to our TROA members, eligibility for these scholarships is also extended to dependent children or grandchildren of a Hawaii Chapter member. The deadline for applying is April 20, 2001. Detailed information can be obtained from **Chris Nintzel 484-1829/ canintzel@webtv.net** of the ROTC and Scholarship Awards Committee.

BRIDGE CORNER

The March 2001 meeting of the TROA Party Bridge group was hosted by Judith Breitwieser at her home in Kailua. Also attending were: Les and Shirley Ihara, Bill and Debby Martin, Craig and Gigette Caldwell, Wally Barker and Beverly Williams, Bob and Robbie Gee, and Marian Davis. Judith started off with a bang with Robbie Gee by bidding and making 6 No Trump, and went on to take first place with a score of 4990. Second place went to Bill Martin, and third place went to Bob Gee.

It's still early enough in the new year for regular attendees' great opportunities to win their share of the \$100.00 annual prize for the top seven months' scores. This allows for players' periodic absences due to travel or other commitments and gives everyone a fair chance to win a prize. All nonsmoking current Hawaii TROA Chapter members are welcome to join, and no partner is necessary. For further information call Robbie Gee at 255-4558 after 7pm."

THE SILENT SERVICE SPEAKS

REAR ADMIRAL AI KONETZNI
COMMANDER, U.S. SUBMARINE FORCES, PACIFIC

WHEN: Friday, April 20, 2001

TIME: 6:00 -7:00 p.m. Museum and Bowfin Open for tours
7:00 -8:00 p.m. Buffet on the Lanai
8:15 p.m. Program

WHERE: USS BOWFIN SUBMARINE MUSEUM & PARK
11 Arizona Memorial Drive
Pearl Harbor - next to the Arizona Memorial

COST: \$25.00 PER PERSON (Includes all beverages & gratuity)

RSVP: BY APRIL 9, 2001 OR EARLIER. WE ARE LIMITED TO
88 SEATS. FIRST ORDER, FIRST RESERVE!

----- Clip, Detach and Mail -----

I (we) will see you there!! Guests are most welcome! I enclose a check payable to Hawaii Chapter, TROA at the rate of \$25.00 per person.

Please reserve _____ places. Name Tags to read:
Donations _____ ROTC _____ Community Service _____ Amount _____

Mail not later than April 9, 2001 to: Jack Miller
135 Palapu Street
Kailua, HI 96734

Jack may be contacted at 261-4100 or e-mail: carita@pixi.com

THE FUTURE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT

BGEN (Ret) DICK VERCAUTEREN

WHEN: Thursday, May 17, 2001

TIME: 6:00 -7:00 p.m. Dinner
7:00 -8:00 p.m. Program

WHERE: Hickam Officers Club, HAB

COST: \$20.00 PER PERSON

RSVP: BY May 15, 2001 OR EARLIER. !

----- Clip, Detach

and Mail -----

I (we) will see you there!! Guests are most welcome!

I enclose a check payable to Hawaii Chapter, TROA at the rate of \$20.00 per person.

Please reserve _____ places. Name Tags to read:

Mail not later than May 15, 2001 to: Jack Miller, 135 Palapu Street, Kailua, HI 96734

Jack may be contacted at 261-4100 or e-mail: carita@pixi.com

Donations _____ ROTC _____ Community Service _____ Amount _____

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ROT C Scholarship 2001 Donation _____ Make Check Payable to Hawaii Chapter TROA P.O. Box 1185, Kailua, HI 96734
Amount Enclosed _____

Name: _____ Last _____ First _____ MI _____ Rank _____ Mr _____ Mrs _____ Ms _____ Other _____
Your Rank or if Auxiliary, Spouse Rank _____ Service _____ Birth Date ____/____/____ Soc Sec Act _____
Spouse's First Name: _____ Spouse Last Name, If different _____
Address: _____ Number and Street _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____
Mailing Address (If Different) _____ Phone Number _____ E-Mail Address _____
Office Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____
National; TROA Membership No. _____ Years Retired _____
Rotational Date (If on AD) _____ Optional: Interests in Chapter activities or Committees. Please indicate
Personal Affairs _____ Legislative Affairs/Merans Affairs _____ Public Affairs _____ Program/Social
Newsletter _____ Membership _____ Finance _____ ROTC Scholarship & Award _____ Fund Raising _____
Community Service _____ TUG(Computers) _____ Party Bridge _____ Golf _____ Tennis _____ Photography _____
Other Programs/Activities you'd like considered, or Chapter Office or Committee you'd consider serving in: _____

Date: _____
New Member _____ Renewal _____ Hawaii Chapter, Retired Officers Association _____
Membership Application _____
Annual Dues: Reg-14; Aux - 8; 2-3Yrs=No yrs x 14
(8 Aux); 5yrs=4x14; Life: Reg. Members - age 71+ =
125.00; 61-70=200; 51-60 = 250; 50 under=300

Detach and Save for Renewal and/or Give to a Prospective New Member

ATTENTION
Chapter E-Mail Address
TROA-HI@world.att.net
Social Programs
20 Apr - USS Bowfin Dinner Program
17 May - Armed Forces Week Kick Off

Chapter Members — are your dues paid up
Check the date on address label above