



# Pau Hana Koa

Retired Warriors

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

Volume 16 No 5

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

May 2001

## Doleman Award for 2001 Goes to LCDR Stan K. Nicholls

**The Doleman Award is the most significant Award from the Hawaii Chapter TROA. It is named in honor of the late LTG Edgar Doleman, US Army. Retired; one of our own. General Doleman received the award in 1995, The criteria for the award are simple and straightforward *Be a Retired Officer, Be a Member of National TROA, and Have made significant voluntary contributions to the local community since retiring.***

Stan epitomizes the rare individual who never seeks recognition, but is always working in the background for his fellow man. Unlike those who provide their title for a letterhead, or seek to be the titular leader without having to do the real work, Stan works in the trenches. He is always first to volunteer when needed, and always there when needed. He is the organizer, the doer, and the detail man that sees the difficult task through to completion, but does not seek credit or recognition for the accomplishment.

Stan joined the U.S. Navy on March 17, 1941 (well before Pearl Harbor was attacked). Building on 50 years of practice serving the men and women of the U. S. Navy; Stan immediately continued serving the local community without remuneration. One example from the thousands which could be cited let you appreciate this years winner.

Stan was a fulltime volunteer at the Institute for Human Services, a 24-hour emergency shelter for the homeless from 1990 to the present. Stan drew on his years of Government service experience to manage the Personnel Aspects of these shelter programs. As in all such programs, "the devil is in the details." The I.H.S. operates two shelters on Oahu. One is for homeless or destitute families or women with children and the other for homeless men. Each shelter feeds 3 meals per day to between 200 and 300 people. Additionally those served can request shelter and are given a place to sleep, clean up, and subsist. It is important to recognize that these shelters serve both low-income families who may have lost their job, source of income, or otherwise be in a period of hard times between subsistence level work, and the destitute. It has been said: "the homeless are always with us" but too often that means they are underfoot but ignored. Everywhere in Hawaii, at the airport, in the bushes, at Waikiki, on park benches but only those who look see these homeless and destitute people. Stan Nicholls is one of those who looks. These people are Korean and Viet Nam veterans, in addition to others who have lost the capability to care for themselves. They cannot work due to mental or other handicap, have no ability to earn nor handle money, and frequently cannot care for themselves.

Stan Nicholls has been the one who deals with these desperate people as individuals. By taking a personal interest in the individual, Stan has determined that the person is a VET and entitled to social security and other support, then managed the application process to obtain that support for the homeless individual and had it sent via I.H.S. Then the I.H.S. manages the money for this person unable to manage it himself and does it out to him or her at \$10 or \$20 each day plus the meals, clothing, and life support he or she requires. No matter how poor, Stan Nicholls treats them as valuable human beings in need of assistance; and personally provides that assistance. These are the people on the lowest rung of the "Local Community" who need service the most. Stan has been Volunteer of the Year three times in I.H.S. Stan, TROA Thanks YOU!



**Executive Committee****Elected Officers**

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**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

I may sound like a tape loop or a broken record, but I was pleased to see such a fine audience from TROA for the "Submarine Night" at the Bowfin Memorial/Museum in April. RADM Al Konetzni, Commander U.S. Submarine Force Pac was an interesting speaker and the food and bar were fine. Good to have so many friends out for a fun evening.

The Executive Committee and Board of Directors have done a mid year review of the HI Chapter and found our operation this year sound and fiscally responsible. We have 813 current members, and approx 82 who did not renew at the end of year 2000. Please be sure to ask all your retired officer friends to join if they are not already members. The PHK is much improved in 2001. The new printer is providing better photo quality and black ink is easier to read. The main Post Office at the Honolulu Airport provided much better mail service. Duke Frey has taken your suggestions and made all these improvements in the PHK, AND, the consistent size is holding the line on cost. We all need to THANK Duke for his hard work as Editor of the PHK and 1st VP.

Jack and Carita Miller also deserve our praise. They have consistently provided programs which are interesting, entertaining, and with good food and drink. THANK them too, and they have many more splendid events in store for you in year 2001. If you miss a meeting, you miss a lot. The month of May is a busy one for Veterans and Retired Officers. In May the many Memorial Day services, the Armed Forces Week observances, and the HI Chapter TROA meeting are all worth your time. The highest Award bestowed by the HI Ch is the "Doleman Award" which will be presented in May. RADM Paul Lacy USN (ret) and a fine selection committee with representatives from every service chose the best from the fine members who were nominated. WELL DONE to Paul and the committee and our winner. You have the opportunity to hear the Chairman of our Board, BGEN Dick Vercauteran USMC (ret) speak at our May meeting. Jack Miller has many other interesting programs planned in 2001 so be sure to read his section of this PHK.

I want to thank all those who donate to our programs, and a special THANKS to the TROA Computer Users Group for a \$1,000 donation to Scholarships. We depend on you for our ability to provide Scholarships, Awards to ROTC in College, High School in HI and Am Samoa, and our other community service programs. For example support of the USO, and the MWR programs of the active forces. If you fly Space-A (and if NOT, why NOT?) you know how important the USO is at the AMC terminals. For this year, the service which will received a check to MWR is the United States Army.

I thank every member for attending events, writing to your members of CONGRESS, and simply for joining TROA. I especially want to thank every member of our Chapter. WELL DONE. YOU MAKE TROA a success. 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. Aloha John

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**Member of the Month**  
**Hawaii Chapter recognizes BG Robert G F LEE**  
**Member of the Month for May**

There is a new general in town. While a familiar soldier to many of us, Bob Lee as Commander of the 9th Regional Support Group was promoted to Brigadier General on 7 April.

Bob is a graduate of the University of Hawaii with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Master's Degree in Business Administration. He is a licensed professional engineer in mechanical and nuclear engineering. He is a graduate of the Army War College, the Command & General Staff Officers Course, the Infantry Officer Advanced Course, and the Air Force Ground Operations School.

He received his commission through ROTC at the University of Hawaii in May 1971.



With the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 442d Infantry, he served in successive assignments as mortar platoon leader, company executive officer, company commander, assistant battalion operations officer and battalion operations officer (S3). In 1982, Bob was reassigned as ground liaison officer, corps operations staff, IX Corps (Reinforcement), before returning to the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 442d Infantry as its Commanding Officer. Following command, General Lee served as ACofS, G3, IX Corps (Reinforcement) / 9<sup>th</sup> Army Reserve Command and in 1996, he was appointed Chief of Staff, 9<sup>th</sup> Army Reserve Command/ 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Command.

Bob—a golfer resides in Aiea, Hawaii with wife Judith (Judi), son Bryan, and daughter, Alison.

**Board of Directors**

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**Coming Events**

**5 May (Sat) - Army Military Retiree  
Appreciation Day -Schofield Barracks**

- 5 May ( Sat) - TUG Meeting - Bishop Museum
- 8 May (Tues) - LAVA Meeting - HAFB O'Club
- 8 May (Tues) 11:00 Kaloko Cloud Forest Study Center  
Kona Satellite Meeting
- 9 May (Wed) - Personal Affairs Meeting—HAFB O'Club
- 17 May (Thurs) - "A TRIPLE HEADER"**
- Social Evening at HAFB O'CLUB**
- 18 May (Fri) - Executive Committee Meeting—Hickam O-Club

**19 -26 May - Military Appreciation Week**

**24 May—Doleman Award  
Hilton Hawaiian Village**

26 May (Sat) - Party Bridge-Reservation-Call Robbie  
255-4558

2 Jun ( Sat) - TUG Meeting - Bishop Museum

12 Jun (Tues) - LAVA Meeting - Pikake Room  
Hickam O-Club

Jun (Sat) - Hilo Meeting - Sandalwood Room  
Naniloa Hotel

Call Bob Said 982-5970 for details

25-29 Jun - Korean War Air Power Symposium—Hilton  
Hawaiian Village

30 Jun (Sat) - Party Bridge -Reservation-Call Robbie  
255-4558

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 newsletter are not necessarily Hawaii Chapter policy.

## Legislative Affairs Veterans Affairs (LAVA)

Captain George Sullivan USN

### Work Our Congressional Delegation

The coming two month period is critical to the formulation of the legislative bills that will become law in this session of Congress. A successful outcome for the bills that affect our membership and other veteran's organizations will require the efforts of all TROA members. This year the primary focus is on three measures:

- Funding for TRICARE for LIFE for FY '02*
- Full Retired Pay for Disabled Military Retirees*
- Restore the 55% Annuity to all Spouses in the Survivor Benefit Plan*

Whether you have sent in your post card, letter, or E-mail to your congressman and senator, you can always send a telephone message using the Toll-Free Hot Line. Call 1-877-762-8762 and ask the Capitol Hill operator to connect you with your legislator's office.

Here's a verbal message to give the legislator's staff:

"I want (Rep. or Sen.) \_\_\_\_\_ to work to preserve Senate-proposed budget increases in two areas:

First, support the increased funding for military health care;

Second, support the proposal to fund full retired pay for disabled military retirees;

And furthermore, I want him/her to support the restoration of the 55% annuity for all spouses contained in the Military Survivor Benefits Improvement Act."

### Save Those Health Care Receipts!

As the year progresses, more and more new benefits to the TRICARE health care program will be phased into the system. Some new benefits include coverage of school-required physicals, reimbursement for long distance travel expenses for TRICARE prime beneficiaries, and *reduction of retiree catastrophic caps for TRICARE Standard participants.*

Until all of the new programs are phased in, re-

ceipts and other claims-related information should be saved so that reimbursement may be obtained. The date upon which beneficiaries can submit claims with receipts will be published at a later date. Tricare administrators also suggest saving receipts for covered services and benefits from Oct. 1, 2000 for application to the fiscal year catastrophic cap.

### Government Appeals Col Bud Day's Win

A three-judge federal appeals court decision on February 8 was a step forward for free lifetime medical care and back payments for certain military retirees, but the Bush administration is trying to give it a step backward. Government lawyers have now requested a re-hearing of the case before the full 11-judge federal circuit court of appeals. At issue is as much as \$15 billion that the government would have to pay retirees who entered the service before June 7, 1956, and served 20 years or more. Although the three-judge decision would have limited individual claims to \$10,000, a subsequent class action proceeding would involve up to 1.5 million retirees. Even if the court denies a re-hearing, retired Air Force Colonel George "Bud" Day, a Medal of Honor recipient who is the attorney for the retirees, said he expects the U.S. Attorney to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

### Bill Would Change SBP Paid-Up Date

Rep. Jim Saxton's (N.J.) H.R. 699 would change the effective date for 30 years of paid-up coverage under the military Survivor Benefit Plan from 1 Oct. 2008 to 1 Oct. 2002. The bill has 17 cosponsors and was referred to the House Armed Services Committee.

### TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Update

The TRICARE Senior Pharmacy program kicked off April 1 with prescriptions quickly topping the 150,000 mark, and with few reported serious glitches. TSP, with choices of local retail or mail order purchases, offers most generic drugs for \$3 and brand names for \$9, with a 30-day supply from the local pharmacy or a 90-day package from the National Mail Order Pharmacy. If experiencing problems with TSP at a pharmacy, call 1-877-DOD-MEDS (363-6337) for on-the-spot assistance.

**Continued on Page 6**

**Aloha to New Members**

<b>Gary</b>	<b>M.</b>	<b>Carlson</b>	<b>Lani</b>	<b>Vasper</b>
<b>Vincent</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Vernay</b>	<b>BG Clarence M</b>	<b>Agena</b>
<b>Robert</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Popp</b>	<b>Jimmie R</b>	<b>Lackey</b>
<b>Ronald</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Yonemoto</b>	<b>Jim</b>	<b>Hastings</b>
<b>Philip</b>		<b>Sansone</b>	<b>Craig</b>	<b>Whelden</b>
<b>Gina</b>		<b>Rivera</b>	<b>BG Albert P</b>	<b>Richards</b>

**.PROGRAM PLANS FOR 2001  
OR  
MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY!!**

Now is the time to look forward to the rest of 2001 for your TROA monthly programs. First, thank you for your support for the fun gatherings so far this year - January with Captain Coffee, February with a brunch for our National President Mike Nelson, March the Mardi Gras at Pearl Harbor, and April with Admiral Konetzni at the Bowfin Museum. So I think we are on a roll and let's keep it going for the best is yet to come! Here'tis:

May 17th - Thursday evening - A Triple Header event with dinner at Hickam O'Club followed by remarks from the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Dick Vercauteren, then a fabulous concert by the talented and famous "Sounds of Aloha Chorus," a men's chorus with Barbershop singers and comedians. All this for \$20, so sign up today!

June and July - A summer break - no activities planned.

August 25th - Saturday mid-day picnic at Bellows recreation area. The bar has been organized once again with the help of Bob and Nari Reed. (Help!! Your Program Chairman will be on the mainland, so I need an organizer to volunteer to take care of the food. Another option is to have it catered by Clambake Hawaii.) Details to follow in the June PHK.

September 15th - Saturday Lunch at Nehelani Club, Schofield Barracks. A lively program to be arranged. Suggestions for a speaker encouraged. Call Jack Miller - 261-4100.

October 12th - Friday evening at the Oktoberfest, Ala Moana Hotel. Admission tickets. \$10.00 or less. You buy your own drinks and food. Get ready for the Ompah music and practice up for the polka- a great work out.

November 11th - Sunday and Veteran's Day evening with the Lanikai Mortgage Players. The traditional pot luck with Bob and Nari presiding over the bar with their low-1960 prices. Lucille and Nelson Shreve will be on hand to explain the melodrama plot of another "Who Dunnit?"

November 16th - A noontime Friday lunch at Hickam O'Club followed by our annual business meeting.

December 13th - Thursday evening at the Hale Koa. The annual Christmas Party, so get your red and green outfits ready. A chance to see the beautiful Hale Koa decorations and downtown Honolulu City lights!! (Cost \$25 or less.)

That's it for programs to support our theme - Let's have some fun in 2001!.

**Continued from Page 4—LAVA**

Beneficiaries are military retirees, spouses, and survivors who are Medicare-eligible and participate in Medicare Part B (also those who were Medicare-eligible before April 1 who did not sign up for Part B).

**LAVA Committee Meeting**

The LAVA Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be May 8 in the Pi-kake room at the Hickam Officers' Club at 1130.

**New IRS Rules Make IRA Stretchout Easier**

The IRS began the year by publishing new rules on IRA distributions. These rules make it a lot easier to extend tax deferral. As in the past, minimum distributions must begin by April 1 of the year after you reach age 70-1/2.

Now, though, you do not have to make irrevocable decisions about IRA beneficiaries by that date. You can change your beneficiary designation later with no adverse tax impact. Also, there is no longer a need to make an irrevocable decision about distribution methods. You can forget about "recalculation," "term certain," "hybrid," etc. Instead, there is one distribution method for most people: *the 10-year rule*. You will assume that your beneficiary is 10 years younger than you are, for this calculation. That is, when you're 70 it will be assumed your beneficiary is 60. You'll have a joint life expectancy of 26.2 years, by IRS tables, so your minimum required distribution is 3.82% of your IRA balance (1 divided by 26.2). If you have a

\$100,000 IRA, for example, you must take out at least \$3,820. If you take out less, the shortfall will be subject to a 50% penalty tax.

Note: You can take out more, if you wish. However, the more you withdraw, the greater the upfront tax bill and the less that's left in your IRA, for ongoing tax deferral.

The only exception to the 10-year rule: if your spouse, who is your IRA beneficiary, is more than 10 years younger than you are. Then you can use the actual joint life expectancy. If you are 70, for example, with a 55-year-old spouse, your joint life expectancy is 29.9 years. You can take out as little as 3.35% (1 divided by 29.9) of your IRA balance and avoid a penalty.

What happens after your death?

Your spouse is the beneficiary. In that case, your spouse can claim your IRA, name new beneficiaries, and start taking withdrawals under the 10-year rule. A non-spouse is the beneficiary. After your death, the beneficiary can stretch out distributions over his or her own life expectancy, without any 10-year rule. With a 40-year life expectancy, for example, the beneficiary can withdraw as little as 2.5% (1 divided by 40), penalty-free. Then the other 97.5% can remain in the IRA for continued tax-deferred buildup. Thus, the new IRS rules make IRA planning much easier. If you are already taking minimum distributions, check with your IRA custodian to see if you can slow down the pace of future distributions.

**TRICARE for Life Covers Under-65 Medicare-Eligibles Too**

When TRICARE For Life takes effect October 1st, it will benefit all Medicare-eligibles, not just those age 65 and over. Thousands of beneficiaries under age 65 are eligible for Medicare because of disability.

**Study Calculates Commissary Savings**

In a first true industry-wide survey published, the Defense Commissary Agency found that commissary patrons save 29.2 percent on their annual grocery bill. The survey, which included comparison data from overseas stores, civilian stores, and supercenters, suggests that a family of four will realize savings of \$2,300 by shopping at the commissary.

**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](mailto:canintzel@webtv.net)** of the ROTC and Scholarship Awards Committee.

# Hawaii Chapter TROA

## TRIPLE HEADER

**THURSDAY - MAY 17, 2001**

**\* \* \***

**HAWAII CHAPTER MEMBER THOM GUTHRIE  
PRESENTS AT 6:00 PM.  
A HICKAM O'CLUB BUFFET DINNER**

**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
BGEN (RET) DICK VERCAUTEREN  
PRESENTS AT 6:45 P.M.**

**“THE FUTURE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT”**

**CHAPTER MEMBER TOM McGLAUGHLIN  
and  
THE SOUNDS OF ALOHA MEN'S CHORUS  
CONCERT AT 7:30 P.M.**

**TOTAL COST: \$20.00 per person - It's a bargain!!!**

**RSVP: PLEASE BY - MAY 10, 2001**

----- CLIP, DETACH AND MAIL -----

I (we) will see you there! Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places. Name tags to read:

Mail check payable to Hawaii Chapter TROA at the rate of \$20.00 per person to: Jack Miller, 135 Palapu Street, Kailua, HI 96734  
Jack may be contacted at 261-4100 or e-mail: carita@pixi.com

Dr. Marvin Baum, L/C, USAF Retired  
*Optometrist*  
Eye Exams/Contact Lenses  
Tricare Prime Accepted  
*Fashion Eyewear (at PX prices)*  
*Laser Vision Correction*  
Phone 422-9411

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (If Different) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Office Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
National; TROA Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_ Years Retired \_\_\_\_\_  
Rotation 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 \_\_\_\_\_ ROT C 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_  
Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Mr \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs \_\_\_\_\_ Ms \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Status: Active Duty \_\_\_\_\_ Ret \_\_\_\_\_ Former Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ National Guard \_\_\_\_\_ Aux \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Rank or if Auxiliary, Spouse Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Soc Sec Act \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Last Name, If different \_\_\_\_\_  
(surviving spouse)

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Hawaii Chapter, Retired Officers Association \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership Application \_\_\_\_\_

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  
17 May - Armed Forces Week Kick Off

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 702  
Honolulu  
Hawaii

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