



HED environmental engineer named Federal Employee of the year 2000

Story and photos by Alexander Kufel

Among thousands of selfless employees of the federal government, there are always a few who stand head and shoulders above the crowd. This year the judges panel of the Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board directed their attention to HED and found what they were looking for. At the annual awards luncheon June 8 at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, environmental engineer Dan Nakamura was named federal employee of the year 2000 in the professional, administrative and technical category.

Nakamura is being recognized for his efforts to protect human health and the environment in a manner that established precedents for others to follow. The citation notes that he saved the government \$15 million in fiscal-year 1999 and is being recognized for forming "strategic alliances in building environmentally conscious technologies that bring Hawaii closer to self-sustainability."

While the immediate response throughout both the Division and the District was jubilant, those familiar with Nakamura expressed satisfaction at his recognition rather than surprise.

"This is a wonderful moment for all of us," said POD Chief of Staff Col. Donald Pawlowski.

"I'm delighted that Dan was selected," said HED commander Lt. Col. Wally Z. Walters. "He truly exemplifies the type of employees of whom we

See "HED employee," page 8



The flower leis and the smile on Dan Nakamura's face clearly tell the story moments after his selection as Federal Employee of the Year (Professional, Administrative, Technical).

Final phase of HED office relocations begun

In retrospect, no one expected people to actually enjoy moving out of their long-term offices into different and decidedly decrepit spaces in a building scheduled for demolition. But, despite all the extra work involved, people from Emergency Management Division (EMD), Office of Counsel (OC), and Public Affairs (PAO) were heard saying that building T-1 had a "nice feel" about it, that they were enjoying the wide-open spaces of their temporary quarters, that they found themselves discussing more things with co-workers simply because it was easier to do so, and that it was too bad they had to leave.

Before this, moving for six to eight weeks had all the makings of a disaster about to happen. With two moves on the books for three workgroups before the middle of August, the potential

was intensified.

"Look at it this way," said deputy HED commander Maj. David Goddard, "A little inconvenience now will spare everyone from major inconvenience later. It's much better to avoid the dust and noise of construction and be already packed to move into the final spaces when the time comes than to suffer through the experience every day for several months."

And so it was that the ongoing game of "musical chairs" that required moving into building T-1 was necessary to allow for renovation of existing spaces in buildings 230 and 214 and also permitted efficient scheduling of the work to be done.

This time when the dust settles, Division offices will have

See "Final phase," page 9

Inside
Inside

**High School Uses
Old Computers In
Curriculum**

Page 4

**Organization
Day Is A Day
At The Beach**

Page 6

**District Bids
Aloha to
Commander**

Page 8

**Productive
People**

Page 11

Courage: *As for courage and will—we cannot measure how much of each lies within us, we can only trust there will be sufficient to carry through trials which may lie ahead.—Andre Alice Norton, American writer, 1912 -*

HED Commander's Comment

Thank you for your service



*By Lt. Col. Wally Z. Walters
HED Commander*

As this time of year brings the 225th Anniversary of the Army, Independence Day and the end of my command of the Honolulu Engineer District my thoughts turn toward the gratitude I share for those who have made our country great. My thanks especially extend to those who have contributed to the District's work and with whom it has been my privilege to serve.

It is easy to see the evidence of the District's work in the buildings, roads, harbors and environmentally protected areas of our military and civilian communities. However, aside from temporary signs during construction and a few civil works plaques, there is little direct recognition of the District or its people. Further, at ribbon cutting ceremonies I also find a tendency toward celebration of users and occupants, not the designers, managers, builders and the many others whose skills are needed to complete any project. Few newspapers celebrate their numerous achievements.

I believe this lack of recognition springs more from lack of understanding than from lack of appreciation. For many decades, the habit of the Corps has been to do the work out of view of those we support and to focus celebration on the recipient. It is also an American political habit to claim that federal civilian workers are clock-watching bureaucrats. Nothing could be further from the truth.

My experience as a District Engineer has given me new insight and appreciation for the Corps of Engineers' great civilian workforce that is a vital part of the Army in serving the Nation. The dedication to high

standards of performance and service that I have observed in the District staff is unequalled by those of any other organization in which I have been a part. I have been greatly impressed by the extraordinary lengths individuals go to solve problems, often at great sacrifice to their time and without compensation.

I have also been impressed by the difficulties that must be overcome to accomplish any significant project.

That much is accomplished is not because the work is easy. I extend my personal and professional thanks to everyone in the District for their service and dedication.

Many others also contribute to the work of the District as well, as they serve as part of other government organizations, as suppliers and contractors, or take action as motivated citizens. As technologies and processes become more team focused and cut across boundaries, the support of those beyond the formal organization will become ever more important. We should welcome and appreciate our relationships with those outside the District and take advantage of their participation in our work not only to achieve more, but also to better familiarize them with our work's many challenges.

I will take many memories with me from my tour in the District of the staff's accomplishments — completing many great projects, overcoming financial crises, conducting reorganization, initiating new processes, achieving success in every mission area, bringing District performance to a much higher level — but none will be as powerful or as lasting as those of the dedication, talent, and warm ohana of the people with whom it has been my privilege to spend the past two years. Mahalo nui loa.

“My experience as a District Engineer has given me new insight and appreciation for the Corps of Engineers' great civilian workforce that is a vital part of the Army in serving the Nation.”

—Lt.Col. Wally Z. Walters

The Pacific Connection, an unofficial publication authorized by AR360-81, is a bimonthly newspaper produced by the Public Affairs Office, Pacific Ocean Division and Honolulu Engineer District, US Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440. Telephone(808) 438-9862. This command information newspaper is for employees and others who request it in writing. Contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. Circulation: approximately 1,300.

Pacific Ocean Division Commander.....Brig. Gen. Randal R. Castro
Honolulu Engineer District Commander.....Lt. Col.Wally Z. Walters
Chief, Public AffairsDouglas S. MaKitten
EditorAlexander Kufel



Computer Crashes: *You always hear how computers free up our time. They do. Every time your PC crashes, it frees you up to take care of errands. —Bob Hirschfeld, American cybersatirist*

Opinion

Rhymes with GUI? Um...Let's see....

During this past month or so, no one was more attentive than I to the news that surgery to CEFMS, the Corps' electronic financial management system, was a success and we would soon be privy to an updated program. A GUI (Graphical Users Interface) and the use of the Internet for access to CEFMS processes (instead of an unpredictable computer file server) were going to solve all our problems and allow us to get back to doing our various specialties rather than struggle with vaguely related processes.

Silly me. Although I will say that nowadays CEFMS does look better. And I'm really "wired" now that I can use the world-wide web instead of a dedicated line for access to the financial management system. And it doesn't stop there. I can use the computer "mouse" to click on boxes and move through the menus without typing in numbers. But, and forgive me for saying this, other than that, I don't see a whole lot else happening. In fact, it seems there are some things that I used to be able to do but no longer can.

But it's my problem, isn't it? I know I should drop the subject, admit defeat, keep asking for assistance and wearing out friendships, and get on with the bigger business of pointing out that these things are small potatoes compared to deeper computer-related problems such as viruses that have become part of the working day. The last time I made fun of CEFMS, I got an indignant e-mail saying that if it took me four hours and three phone calls to complete a single 15 minute CEFMS action, there must be something wrong with me. I never said there wasn't. The sender also said that I certainly wasn't making anyone's life easier by making such comments. Obviously, I was rubbing up against what clearly is an open wound. But, as the saying goes, "Hope springs eternal." Maybe the next iteration will be the answer to my prayers. Maybe I'll be able to move on to other things.

Right now, I'm in trouble because I'm behind on the work I was hired to do, certain credit card bills haven't been paid, the phone's ringing off the hook, and this morning I received more than 50 virus-related messages on my computer. And that's just at work. However, I'm not afraid to go home to see what's waiting for me there. No matter what's in the mail or on my personal telephone answering machine,

I know I'll be able to resolve it without logging on to CEFMS.

While I have my doubts that if I don't mention them, such "problems" will simply go away, I'm just as skeptical that airing my grievances makes a difference. However, there's no question in my mind that occasional CEFMS users like myself are not tolerated by this system. In fact, the system seems to have no tolerance for individuals that might need prompting (prompting, that is, beyond freezing the screen) to successfully complete any operation nor, heaven forbid, for anyone who makes a mistake somewhere along the way. And that is the basis of my constructive criticism. One of the colossal ironies of this system,

is that it's still paper driven and if certain manual operations are not completed in a timely manner along the way, the whole process grinds to a halt. Meanwhile, the credit card bank's clock keeps ticking away.

The real issue, of course, is that I don't think that either my memory or my percentage of good decisions versus bad decisions is any worse than its ever been. It's just that I feel that in this "information age" I find myself so besieged by a constant flow of mostly trivial information that it's increasingly difficult to separate the desirable from the undesirable. To keep my house and my life from being buried in paper, I now stand over the trash can to sort mail. Electronically, I do the same thing. If I have to concentrate on the steps required to complete a task, it's as if suddenly the process is of more importance than the product and I lose interest. I want to accomplish something with my life; I find myself craving simplicity and skill of navigation, and tangible outcomes.

So, for what it's worth, if anyone wants me to be an enthusiastic participant in this "information age" and reduce the risk to myself, others, and the system as a whole, I think the answer is increasingly clear. It has been right there in front of us all along: make desired outcomes a part of the equation. CEFMS? Create a menu screen that asks "What do you want to do?" Then, by using the time-honored "If...Then..." construct, guides me through all the necessary components on the road to completion. And when I make a mistake, permits me to "undo" it. When the job is finished, I won't even mind sharing the glory and saying "Thank you, I couldn't have done it without you."



Just Thinking
by Alexander Kufel



Experience: *Experience is not what happens to you; it is what you do with what happens to you.*
—Aldous Huxley, English author, 1894-1963

High school uses old computers to build curriculum

Story and photos by Alexander Kufel

With an eye toward technology and a helping hand to education, Army Corps of Engineers officials viewed first-hand Wednesday, May 17, the impacts their computer donations were making on area public schools. At Kaimuki High School, representatives from Honolulu Engineer District visited computer and electronics labs and classrooms and saw that the equipment provided in a federally administrated "computers to the schools" program took on a renewed life once it reached the high school and actually were used in several different ways.

"I'm delighted to see that equipment that was otherwise headed toward the scrap heap has been used so innovatively," said Deputy District Engineer Maj. David Goddard. "Donating these computers so they could be continued to be used was definitely the right thing to do."

"Our students work with donated equipment to learn the basics of computer repair," said computer teacher Johnathon Griffiths. "From there they acquire enough skill to build all of the computers that are used in A Plus Certification training and in the CISCO Networking Academy," he said. CISCO is a nationwide program designed to integrate technology, economics and environmental studies into the academic program while reflecting community needs.

Electronics teacher Harold Kogasoka, Kaimuki High's LAN-systems administrator, said that the opportunity for students to learn these kinds of computer skills while still in high school is quite unique and that they have been very proud of how well the students have done on the professional certification tests.

Student Kris Morimoto, a senior headed toward computer studies in college, said that the donated equipment provided her with "hands-on" experience working with computer hardware that she might otherwise not have had and that because of this she is interested in learning computer networking on a professional level.

Besides providing experience to the students, in some cases once the computers have been taken apart and put back together again, they see service in typing classes where students can learn the fundamentals of typing and word-processing without requir-

ing the latest technology and are even at work in the school's science labs. Kogasoka also said that whenever they have surplus machines, those computers are offered at no cost to students who otherwise would not be able to acquire one of their own.

"It's gratifying to see that since the federal program was expanded from only math and science to include whatever a school needs, public schools like Kaimuki High have been able to create new curriculums that directly prepare students for employment," said Honolulu Engineer District property disposal specialist Francis Tonaki. He said that in the past several years, the District has donated more than 40 computer sets that include processors, monitors, keyboards, and mice as well as printers and scanners that originally cost more than \$100,000.

Eligibility for receiving this equipment is open to public and private schools and community organizations that have received a identification number from the U. S. Department of Education. However, not every school is willing to accept older technology, and in some cases where the schools invested heavily in Apple Macintosh computers,



Senior Kris Morimoto and junior Chad Fujimoto at a workstation in the Kaimuki High School electronics lab.



Visitors tour the high school's CISCO Networking Academy classroom in the company of teacher Johnathon Griffiths while students work on computers they built themselves.

IBM-compatible equipment won't work with their existing systems. Schools that have been able to work with the items made available range from Hawaii to Guam. Recipients also include a Boy Scout Troop in Guam. Approval for all transfers of equipment comes from the Defense Information Systems Agency headquarters in Arlington, Va.

Faith: *The reason birds can fly and we can't is simply that they have perfect faith, for to have faith is to have wings.*
 —J.M. Barrie, Scottish playwright (*Peter Pan*), 1860-1937

HED Safety Day full of classes, health awareness activities



(Clockwise from above) Representing the HED Safety Office, geologist Eric Bjorken hands out tee-shirts prior to the Fun-Run/Walk; Brad Lasater, EC-E, talks to a standing-room only audience about Ordnance Safety; Bjorken leads a class on Lifting Safety; the Tripler Army Medical Center Dept. of Community Health Nursing conducts a blood pressure screening; and a speaker from the Honolulu Police Dept. talks about office and residential security. Photos by Alexander Kufel



'Hole-in-the-wall' taken literally at building T-214



During the tenure of Public Affairs in Fort Shafter's building T-214, more than once it was accused of being a 'hole-in-the-wall' in the parking lot adjoining the POD/HED headquarters building 230. Denials to the contrary, the description came true in late May and, if once was not enough, again in early June.

The first was from the outside to allow for routing of optical communications cabling in a Fort Shafter Garrison-wide DOIM (Directorate of Information Management) construction project that is seeing much of the post dug up and parking spaces disappear.

Next, the wall between the recently vacated Public Affairs (PAO) offices was opened up to provide an interior doorway between both halves of the building as part of the renovation plans related to the relocation of many of HED's offices as POD moves into building 525 and the deadline approaches for the demolition of building T-1. Project Manager Gerald Young, EC-CF, said that ultimately Civil Works Technical Branch is expected to take up residency in T-214 and the PAO will be relocated next to the executive offices on the third floor of building 230. --Alexander Kufel

Hero: *A hero is one who does what he can.* —Romain Rolland, French novelist, essayist, 1866-1944

On the beach at Bellows remains District favorite

HED returns to Bellows for Org Day 2000

If it's raining in town, its got to be raining in Waimanalo. The windward side of Oahu is the rainy side. These thoughts were expressed by many as they left their homes on normally dryer sides of the island on the morning of Friday, June 16, and drove through scattered showers to reach HED's Organization Day 2000 picnic on the beach at Bellows Air Force Station just outside Waimanalo. The rain, however, appeared to have other plans and stayed away. Everyone was greeted by a beautiful sunshiny day once they crossed the mountains. Bellows was as beautiful as everyone remembered. Last year the decision was made to have the picnic closer to home. Many people said it was great to be back.

Activities started with a formal awards ceremony with HED Commander Lt. Col. Wally Z. Walters and Deputy Commander Maj. David Goddard recognizing length of service and other accomplishments with plaques and medals. Afterwards, everyone quickly settled into the business of receiving door prizes with engineering technician Lynette Serrao of the Fort Shafter Resident Office winning the \$100 grand prize gift certificate. It was a day for relaxing and people also settled into enjoying the children's games, crafts fair, swimming, eating, volleyball, tennis and other activities. A highlight of the day was a rousing game of softball between the Division and the District.



*Story and photographs
by Alexander Kufel*



(Above left) HED Commander Lt. Col. Wally Walters, in a uniform slightly different from the one in which he's normally seen, begins the formal part of the program. (Center) Everyone was welcome at Organization Day 2000, including "Pili Aloha," Anna Tarrant's (IM) pet Senegal parrot

seen here hitching a ride from Michelle Guda, Tarrant's roommate. (Right) EMD's Katie Tamashiro and her sister Carol Lock set up their table at the Craft Fair and displayed jewelry made by Tamashiro and woodcarving made by Lock and her husband. Photos continued on page 7.



Lots of fun for everyone was a spirited softball game between Pacific Ocean Division players and Honolulu Engineer District. Winning was secondary, wasn't it?



Commitment: *I'd rather be a failure at something I love than a success at something I hate.*
—George Burns, American comedian, 1896-1996

Org Day 2000 photographs continued from page 6



Civil engineers have to start someplace and there aren't many beaches nicer than Bellows where you can learn the basics without interference.



Eating and socializing are what picnics are all about and Bellows provides the ideal setting for both. (Above) Information Management folks. (Below) Part of the team from Logistics takes a break.



Joint promotion party shares joy with Division and District



(Above) Logistics building 223 proves a good site for the party. (Below left) Alumni such as recently retired Joe Swift came to share in the fun. (Below right) The flower lei POD's Karen Tomoyasu is wearing attests to her status.



While the last time someone was promoted to a new job in POD or HED isn't that long ago, it really has been a while since the event was celebrated. (Below left) David Lau and Helen Stupplebeen call out the names of door-prize winners. (Below right) Winner Duane Inoue is not going home empty-handed. (Bottom) The lawn is an ideal spot for a picnic. Photos by Duane Inoue



Persuasion: *One of the best ways to persuade others is with your ears—by listening to them.*
—Dean Rusk, American statesman, 1909-1994

District bids Aloha to outgoing Commander

Nearly 80 people turned out for lunch at the Hale Ikena on Fort Shafter on Wednesday, June 28 in an enthusiastic outpouring of farewells for Lt. Col. Wally Z. Walters upon completing a two-year tour of duty as the 61st District Engineer and Commander of Honolulu Engineer District. Gifts were presented by members of the various District work groups and Walters took the opportunity to recognize the achievements of some of HED's key players. Architect Gary Nip, EC-D, was master of ceremonies and project engineer Jerry Cornell, PP-C, led the invocation.--*Alexander Kufel*



HED employee...

Continued from page 1

are most proud."

Nakamura has been with the District since 1993. Projects he has been involved with include the Army's establishment of water treatment plants wherever the chemical "trichloroethylene" is found in the local water supply, disposal of chemical waste at Johnston Island, and the establishment of a partnership between HED, the Pacific International Center for High Technology Research and the Univ. of Hawaii for developing sustainable technologies for Hawaii and the Asia Pacific Basin. He said that any successes he has had are largely as a result of his supervisors who gave him the opportunity to take chances and risk failure.

"Actually," said Nakamura. "You learn the most from your failures, but nothing feels as good as getting something right; especially if you can do that in concert with other people."



Dan Nakamura, EC-E, receives his award from Navy Capt. G.P. Caldwell, FEB Chair, and keynote speaker Larry Embley while HED Commander Lt. Col. Wally Walters looks on.

Concern for the environment plays a very important part in the decisions that Nakamura makes. He said that as a youngster growing up in Mountain View on the Big Island of Hawaii, nearness to Volcano National Park was an enormous influence.

"I got interested in nature by park-ranger friends and participated in bird surveys and plant surveys. I spent many wonderful hours counting endangered birds and plants," he said. It's no coincidence that earlier this spring, Nakamura gave up some Saturdays to participate in a DPW (Division of Public Works)-sponsored Earth Day trail improvement project in Poamaho near Wahiawa, and rallied co-workers to do the same. Twenty-five years later, Nakamura still keeps in touch with his ranger friends.

Debbie, Nakamura's wife, who also was at the awards luncheon, said that she knows how strongly Dan feels about things and is very aware of the extra time he takes to get things right.

Nakamura also was recipient of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' National Environmental Engineer of the Year award in 1998.

Knowledge: *It is the tragedy of the world that no one knows what he doesn't know—and the less a man knows, the more sure he is that he knows everything. —(Arthur)Joyce Cary, Irish author, 1888-1957*

Regional Roundup

Kuhr assumes command of Far East District

Story by Gloria Stanley, FED

Seoul, Korea—Change of command ceremonies for the Far East were held Tuesday, June 6. Col. Gregory S. Kuhr assumed command from Col. David Rehbein, to become the 27th commander of FED. Brig. Gen. Randal Castro, Pacific Ocean Division Commander, presided over the ceremony.

As FED commander, Kuhr will be responsible for the military construction activities for all U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) activities throughout the Republic of Korea. District construction projects in Korea have ranged from mountaintop communications sites to harbor complexes and include the Dragon

Hill lodge, DoD schools, a trans-Korea pipeline and the creation of entire military communities.

Kuhr's previous assignment was as an Assistant Director for the Deputy Commanding General for Military Programs at USACE headquarters.



Soldiers from 249th Engineer Battalion hook up a 35 kilowatt generator outside of the Corps' Emergency Operations Center in building 230 during the statewide Makani Pahili hurricane preparedness exercise May 8-12. Photo by Alexander Kufel

Feighny Receives Prestigious Arrowhead Award

Story by Doug MaKitten

Michael Feighny, Pacific Ocean Division counsel and acting Honolulu District counsel, has been selected for the Corps of Engineers prestigious Spirit of Arrowhead award.

The award is the highest presented by the Corps' chief counsel. It goes annually to the legal manager who, in the judgment of the chief counsel, best exemplifies excellence in service to clients and leadership, and who has made significant contributions to Corps-wide legal services.

Feighny's selection was announced at the division counsels annual meeting in June. He will receive the award from Corps Chief Counsel Robert M. Andersen later this year.

"I was very surprised and humbled and particularly touched to be selected," said Feighny. "This same award was received by Bert Pettinato (a former POD chief counsel who died in 1993), who was one of my mentors. The Arrowhead award means a lot to me because I know and respect many of the previous recipients who, like Bert, are outstanding representatives of our profession."

Feighny also was quick to praise his staff.

"We have a very strong office and credit is due to all the people who work in this office, not just to me, for this award," said Feighny. "We try our best to help the commander, the project managers, Contracting and everyone else find legal ways to accomplish our mission. And I think we have been successful."

Pacific Ocean Division commander Brig. Gen. Randal R. Castro nominated Feighny for his outstanding service in supervising the legal activities of both POD and HED since 1995. The nomination notes Feighny's inspiring leadership, through times of constrained resources and reorganization, and the successful integration of the Alaska District's legal office into the Division's legal services system.

The Spirit of Arrowhead award dates back to the Corps' first worldwide legal services conference held in Lake Arrowhead, Georgia in 1984. The award celebrates and reaffirms the commitment to leadership and excellence that arose at that conference. The award inscribed with each recipient's name and year of selection remains on permanent display at the Office of the Chief Counsel at Corps headquarters.

Final phase...

Continued from page 1

moved completely out of building 230 and into the third floor of building 525. The District Commander will move from the second floor of building 230 to the third floor. EMD will move with the Division and into new EOC (Emergency Operations Center) facilities for the Division and for the District also on the third

floor of building 525. OC will return to its newly renovated offices on the ground floor of building 230. PAO will move into offices formerly occupied by the Provost Marshall on the third floor of building 230, and Civil Works, Technical Branch will take up residency in a newly renovated building T-214. Human Resources and Division EEO (Equal Employment Opportunity) will follow suit to building 525 and the District EEO will occupy a new office in building 230. And then everyone can rest.--Alexander Kufel

Journalism: *A profession whose business it is to explain to others what it personally does not understand.*
—Lord Northcliffe (Alfred Charles William Harmsworth), English news publisher, 1865-1922

Project Management Business Process **Teamworker**

Team Building Training. Five one-day (8 hour) sessions on team building will be conducted July 19, 20, 21, 24 and 31. Sessions will cover two major concepts in team building: Teamwork and communications skills. Participants will learn how each individual has a personal responsibility to the success of the work-group and that by helping the team effort, employees are really helping themselves. They also will gain information on tools used to achieve better communications with peers, customers, superiors, family, and friends. For additional information please contact Laurie Minami at 438-8476.

The "Leadership Skills for the 21st Century" course will be conducted Aug. 22, 23 and 24 and again Aug. 25, 28 and 29. The two three-day sessions will concentrate on skills necessary to manage and implement continuous improvement. Topics will include understanding change and becoming part of the solution, not part of the problem; improving individual accountability; and responsible empowerment. For additional information please contact Laurie Minami at 438-8476.

View The Pacific Connection on the Internet at <http://www.pod.usace.army.mil/news/news.html>

PRODUCTIVITY CORNER



Advice For Our Times, Even If The Original Attribution To Kurt Vonnegut As A 1997 MIT Com- mencement Speech Is Untrue

"Wear sunscreen. If I could offer you only one tip for the future, sunscreen would be it. The long-term benefits of sunscreen have been proved by scientists, whereas the rest of my advice has no basis more reliable than my own meandering experience.

"Enjoy the power and beauty of your youth. Oh, never mind, you will not understand the power and beauty of your youth until they've faded.

"You are never as fat as you imagine.

"Do one thing every day that scares you.

"Sing.

"Don't be reckless with other people's hearts. Don't put up with people who are reckless with yours.

Floss.

"Don't waste your time on jealousy. Sometimes you're ahead, sometimes you're behind. The race is long, and, in the end, it's only with yourself.

"Remember compliments you receive. Forget the insults. If you succeed in doing this, tell me how.

"Keep your old love letters. Throw away your old bank statements.

"Stretch.

"Don't feel guilty if you don't know what you want to do with your life. The most interesting people I know didn't know at 22 what they wanted to do. Some of the most interesting 40-year-olds still don't."

Actually written by Chicago Tribune columnist Mary Schmich who said, "People often ask me why my little speech is so popular. I always say it's because it was way too short to ever have been a speech. Ninety percent of speeches that are actually spoken are too long," she explains.

—Speechwriter's Newsletter

The Hawaii hurricane season continues through November. Stay prepared.

Home survival & evacuation kit

Ice Chest (Large enough for year-round storage of imperishables)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portable radio (Check batteries) | <input type="checkbox"/> 5-day non-perishable food supply |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight (Check batteries) | <input type="checkbox"/> 5-day water supply (2 qts/person/day) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra batteries (Store in freezer) | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal toilet articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candles <input type="checkbox"/> Matches (check condition) | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of clothing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit (check expiration dates) | <input type="checkbox"/> Blankets, sleeping gear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medications (Keep current) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel for stoves, hibachis, lanterns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manual can opener | <input type="checkbox"/> Masking tape for windows (fresh) |

Vision: *The limits of the possible can only be defined by going beyond them into the impossible.*
—Arthur C. Clarke, British science fiction writer, 1917 -

PRODUCTIVE PEOPLE



Harold Nakaoka

Hometown: Honolulu

Years with Corps: 19

Works in: PPM (Civil and Public Works)

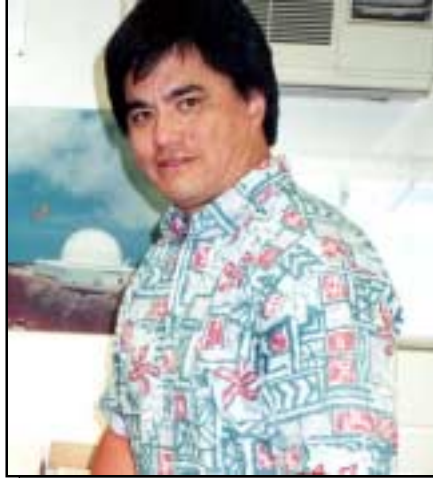
Raised in Kapahulu, civil engineer Harold Nakaoka graduated from Kaimuki High School and got his engineering degree from the Univ. of Hawaii. Initially he worked for the Dept. of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service. He then took a job with FED in Korea before coming to HED where he has always worked as a project manager.

"I like what I'm doing," said Nakaoka. "Although I wouldn't mind learning to do things on the technical side."

HED is a family concern, he said, as his wife Grace works as an engineering technician in Cost Engineering. With two people working, and two children—Jayson, 8, and Kristen, 4, Nakaoka said that his life outside of work is oriented toward the youngsters' school and sports activities. Things have been worked out so that he does grocery shopping and a lot of the cooking, and picks up Jayson after school. He said that whenever Grace goes TDY he becomes Mr. Mom and they all survive.

"Actually, just about everything we do has the children in mind," he said. As a family, Nakaoka said they've been to Disneyland twice, Chicago, Disney World in Orlando, Fla., and the San Diego Zoo. However, Nakaoka does have an interest in sports and said that lately in the evening he has been finding out just how much information is available on the Internet. He said that he used to be an avid golfer, and now is waiting for his son to be old enough so they can take lessons together.

Harold is making HED more productive.



David Lindsey

Hometown: Waimea, Hawaii

Years with Corps: 15

Works in: PPM (Army Branch)

The solidness and stability that seems to surround project manager David Lindsey falls comfortably into place with the realization that a great source of pride in his life is the skill he possesses in planning and building lava rock walls, both dry and mortared, a skill he learned from his father while growing up on the Big Island of Hawaii.

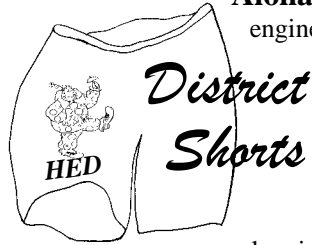
"I love stone work," he said. "And I love to see any kind of job done well and with a note of permanency about it."

Lindsey is an alumni of Hawaii Preparatory Academy and got his civil engineering degree from the Univ. of Hawaii. In between, he attended Whittier College in California. He said he was headed toward chemical engineering when lack of funds interrupted his plans, so he cut short his education after his first Bachelor's degree and worked in construction for a couple of years. That job helped him understand how work is done in the "trenches," he said.

Lindsey said that his life is fairly routine and describes himself as a "homebody." Daily, there's work, racquetball with co-workers, then to his girlfriend's house where he helps her children with homework, has dinner, then goes home to shower and sleep and get up the next morning to do the same thing over again. Weekends, he said are spent playing "catch-up" with chores. Unsaid is that much of his day is spent doing things with and for other people. Unsaid too is that his efforts have earned repeated recognition and a place in the District's Emerging Leaders Program.

David is making HED more productive.

Music: *Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent.*
—Victor Marie Hugo, French author, 1802-85



Aloha means Goodbye to electronics engineer **Kit Lee, IM**, who left HED

June 16 following 15 years in the Division and District for a position with GSA (General Services Administration).

Aloha means Goodbye to chemist **Don Schlack, EC-**

E, leaving for FED to become chief of the environmental section. Schlack said that he and his wife, Young Sook, recently adopted their 15-month-old daughter, Nicole, from Korea, have been working to obtain U.S. citizenship for her and are delighted to be going to Korea as a family. Young Sook recently received a degree, also in chemistry, from the Univ. of Hawaii.

Aloha means Welcome Back to **Richard Okamoto**, chief of Quality Assurance Branch, Engineering and Construction Division. He returned recently after a three-year tour in a similar position at JED.

Aloha means Welcome Back to **Florence Nii, CT**, chief of Construction and Architect-Engineer Contracts Branch. She returned June 5 from a 3-year assignment in JED where she was chief of Contracts Branch.

Aloha means Welcome Back to **Olson Okada**, a civil engineer with the Tripler team at the Fort Shafter Resident Office. He returned June 19 from a 5-year assignment in FED where he was chief of the Civil and Specifications Section in Design Branch.

Aloha means Welcome Back to **Macky Catania**, a construction representative with the Fort Shafter Resident Office. He re-turned June 30 from JED, where he was a construction representative at Yokota Air Base for more than seven years.

Aloha means Hello to **Esther Cruz, RE**, a realty specialist. She transferred to HED on July 3 from a management assistant position with the Community Homefinding, Relocation and Referral Services (CHRRS) office in Honolulu.

Aloha means Hello to **Douglas MaKitten, PA**, District public affairs officer. He transferred June 5 from a similar position in San Francisco District and formerly was with JED.

Aloha means Hello to **Stephen Mora**, a construction representative in the Fort Shafter Resident Office. He joined the District from private industry.



***Congratulations** to hydraulic engineer **Sharon Ishikawa, PP-C**, and her husband **Mike** on the birth of their daughter **Kayla**, May 14. **Kayla** came into this world weighing exactly **8 lbs**, and was **19 1/2 inches** in length. *Photo courtesy Sharon Ishikawa.**

Elsie Smith Honored

Long-time POD and HED employee Elsie Smith was presented the Superior Civilian Service Award by Lt. Col. Wally Walters on June 28. The ceremony, attended by her family, PAO staff members, friends, and Lt. Col. Ronald Light, took place at Honolulu's Island Nursing Home, where Elsie is under care. She has been on convalescent leave since January, 1999.

Elsie was honored for her 58 years of outstanding federal service. She has been a Corps of Engineers employee since 1957 and has worked in a variety of public affairs positions since 1962.

In his comments during the presentation, Walters told how the "best day" of his District command was the day he spent in conversation with Elsie. He also noted Elsie's many achievements, including her selection (twice) as Hawaii's Outstanding Federal Woman of the year and unstinting efforts to further the POD and HED public affairs programs.

Printing part of modern 'miracle'— increased quality with decreased cost

Story by Alexander Kufel

Recent efforts to improve the print quality of *The Pacific Connection* revealed that a quiet revolution has been taking place within traditional means of communications in addition to the areas of World Wide Web sites, interactive television and electronic books. To be sure, it involves the computer, but the big change is that labor-intensive methods of preparing a document for printing have been supplanted by a digital process that takes bits and bytes from a computer disk and transfers them directly to a film negative. Gone are the days of providing the print shop with "camera-ready" type which was then copied onto photo film, placed into paper matrices, combined with half-toned photographs, and other artwork on its way to being "burned" with high intensity light onto a plate for the printing press.

Claire Terada, the customer service representative at the Pearl Harbor DAPS (Document Automation and Production Service, for-

merly Defense Automated Printing Services) said that the net result is a very high quality product with both cost and time benefits.

"Submitting a formatted newspaper to us on a 100 megabyte computer Zip-disk results in a finished product that is cheaper and quicker," said Terada. "And the quality is noticeably improved, especially the photos," she said.

Terada also said that another aspect of current technology is that services that were unheard of a few years ago are now within everyone's reach. She said that these include electronic ordering; document scanning and conversion; CD-ROM and "floppy disk" printing and duplication; high-speed color copying, and 24-hour turnaround times on some jobs. She said that in order to service their customers better, DAPS offers pick-up and delivery service and has extended its business hours until 11 p.m. weekdays. DAPS has an Internet site at: www.hawaii.wnbt.daps.mil.