

U.S. Army Garrison, Pohakuloa

Public Affairs Office Pohakuloa Training Area P.O. Box 4607, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 Office phone: (808) 969-2411

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release number: 2009-05-08 May 8, 2009

## Public attends Mayor's breakfast fellowship

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii—Lt. Col. Warline S. Richardson, garrison commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Pōhakuloa, and Command Sgt. Maj. Lynice Thorpe, command sergeant major, U.S. Army Garrison, Pōhakuloa, were among the 100 guests who attended Hilo's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Breakfast Fellowship, at Naniloa Volcanoes Resort Crown Room, May 7.

Exchange Club of Hilo, the host of the breakfast, presented this year's breakfast theme as "We Support Our Troops."

After a warm welcome by Frank Lafita of the Exchange Club of Hilo (ECH), the honor guard of the Hilo Union High School's Junior ROTC cadets posted the American and Hawaii state flags.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Ivan Nakano, charter member of ECH, and a warm greeting from Rev. Richard Uejo, who also was an U.S. Air Force veteran.

The morning's highlights were inspiring speeches by Big Island Mayor Billy Kenoi and Lt. Col. Benedick Fuata, commander, U.S. Army Reserve on the Big Island, who both encouraged the audience to pray as a way of life.

The breakfast fellowship was concluded with aloha greetings from Michael Nagai, president of the ECH.

The Exchange Club of Hilo is a group of men and women who work to make our community a better place to through programs of service in Americanism, community service, youth activities, and its national project, the prevention of child abuse. The Exchange Club of Hilo has hosted the Mayor's Breakfast Fellowship on the first Thursday of May, the National Day of Prayer, since 1993.