The Pacific Connection

Volume 31 Number 1

> Circle, Fort Shafter's original parade ground, circa

> 1920, with the flag pole visible just to the right of top center. Nearly all of the structures surrounding the circle

today trace their roots to the

early days of the Army in

Hawaii.

January 1997

US Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division

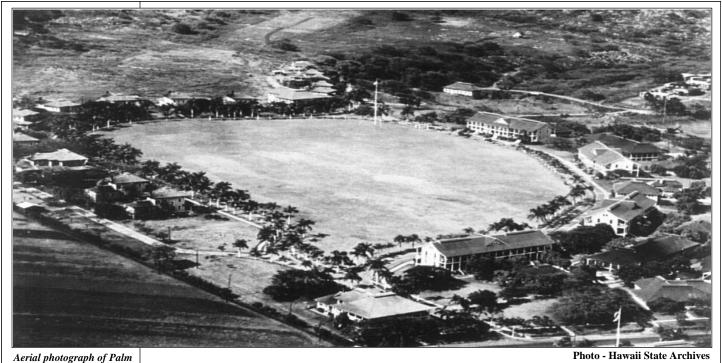


Photo - Hawaii State Archives

Interiors may change, exteriors remain the same

Historic Fort Shafter still visible

Story by Alexander Kufel

uring the 91 years since groundbreaking, Fort Shafter, Hawaii, has had several names and served many functions, including that of the Army's logistical planning center to wage the final Pacific battles of World War II. It was a time when building 100 was known as the "Pineapple Pentagon."

Today, a half-century later, sweeping changes have altered many structures; yet an earlier Fort Shafter is still recognizable through its many military historic properties, World War II defensive sites and undeveloped lands.

Fort Shafter Military Reservation achieved its place in history in 1905 by being the first permanent American military post in the recently annexed territory of Hawaii, according to available literature. Its name was formalized in 1907. With

statehood in 1959, neighboring lands became increasingly urbanized and the city of Honululu grew up around it as its boundaries expanded

See "Historic Fort Shafter," page 5.

JED couple honored by Japan government

n a ceremony at the famed Meiji Shrine in Tokyo, Bob and Pat Knollenberg received the prestigious government-of-Japan sponsored Good Deeds Commendation award.

The Knollenbergs have been assigned to Japan Engineer District since 1992 and were two of only 14 foreigners to receive the award for 1996. They were honored for their volunteer

See "JED couple honored" page 4.

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Truth:

There is nothing so powerful as truth and often nothing so strange.—Daniel Webster, U.S. lawyer, statesman



By Lt. Col. Ralph Graves HED Commander

Commander's Comment

Jump-starting the new year

appy 1997 everyone! I hope you enjoyed celebrating the arrival of the New Year, whether downtown at First Night, in your front yard setting off that massively parallel 100k assembly of firecrackers, or as I did, with a glass of sparkling cider with the children at 10 p.m. and bed soon after.

The holidays are a great time to relax and spend time with family and friends, but this year, some POD employees are spending more time at work and less time off than they might have hoped. Many people are dealing with hot suspenses that won't wait for holidays, but I particularly want to mention those involved in CEFMS transition and the ongoing Oahu flood disaster response mission.

What with the fielding delay, the preparations for deploying CEFMS in POD began over two years ago. But, with blackout looming in January, a tremendous effort is required to load the tables and the accounting data into the network file servers to get us started. Almost everyone has some tasks to accomplish (I managed successfully to register for my smartcard), but some groups are

putting in overtime and missing annual leave they otherwise would have taken. The burden has fallen particularly on Resource Management, Information Management and Programs and Project Management. We all appreciate the load you are carrying this holiday season and look forward to a successful CEFMS transition in the first months of 1997.

A second group

putting in long hours and extra days this year are those who have helped FEMA and the State and local governments respond to the heavy rains that hit Oahu in November. We recently published a new POD Regulation 500-1 outlining the procedures for selecting and committing people to disaster response missions, and I think the process worked well in its first trial. But that doesn't diminish the extra effort and personal inconvenience of those tapped to go. Under the capable coordination of Emergency Management Division, we sent out Harry Aoki, Bert Kaneshiro, Ryo Nakamoto and Lori Sorayama the weekend of Nov. 16-17.

At about the same time, Stan Wakumoto traveled to Guam to check out damage from Typhoon Dale.

Later, Alfred Carvalho, Ronald Fong, Wayne Hashiro, Dave Kern, Nadine Miyahira and Grace Nakaoka volunteered to assist with preparing Damage Survey Reports for Oahu. Disaster response work always seems to be a bit unpredictable, and the POD volunteers have had to deal with some initial confusion in sorting out roles and procedures, as well as with the unpleasant news that the mission would last some twice as long as first anticipated. Nevertheless, I am pleased to report that they are doing outstanding work that is highly appreciated by FEMA and the local citizens and governments.

We belong to an Army with widespread responsibilities that do not take breaks for holidays. For example, Maj. Kevin Elliott recently returned to POD from six months in Croatia. My sister, Maj. Emily Graves, and her colleagues in the 1st Armored Division returned to Germany from Bosnia in time for Christmas, but others have replaced them to continue the Army mission in that troubled part of the world.

We in POD also encounter urgent requirements: they indicate our importance as an organization. I am proud that we meet them promptly and professionally.



Lto R: Volunteers Ron Fong (seated), Wayne Hashiro, Dave Kern and Grace Nakaoka in the FEMA disaster field office located in the Hawaii Army National Guard tunnel at Diamond Head crater.

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a group	and professionary.
Division Commander Col. Robin R. Cababa	
Chief, Public Affairs Larry Hawthorne	
Editor	
Photograpl	her James Dung

Song: Poetry is music written for the human voice.—Maya Angelou, writer

Opinion

Up to my ears in words

have a confession to make: I don't particularly like to read. It's probably surprising, given what I do for a living. Or, perhaps it's to be expected. Yet, I do love words and still cannot resist reading something when it comes close enough to be decipherable—labels, bumper stickers, food packages, newspapers held by street vendors, any book, any magazine, any piece of paper with marks on it.

Maybe what my mother said during my childhood, when I read everything I could get my hands on, has come true-my brain is full of trashy stuff and there's no more room for anything good.

Maybe it's just that thing that happens as one ages that causes type on a page to shrink to a level just below one's threshhold of vision. Or, maybe I've just grown jaded over time and lose interest when it appears to me that the author isn't that interested either and whatever it is reads like it was generated by a computer according to some sure-fire formula.

That doesn't mean I've stopped trying. Perhaps what I should be saying is that because I don't like wading through tons of words to get to a few good ones, the reading that I most enjoy is poetry.

I love poetry in all its forms—rhyming, nonrhyming, short, long, clear, symbolic, happy, sad, competent or not. I love it for its economy, for its ability to trigger images and other ideas, for its ability to carry meaning on so many levels at the same time. When I'm reading a poem that I like, I enjoy it the way one enjoys eating a mango, immersed up to my ears. If I don't like it, well maybe the next one will be better, and that keeps me going.

I particularly like Robert Frost's Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening, maybe you do too. I find it surprising in these times of 'sound bites' and 'quik pics' that more attention is not paid to this type of writing. It is considered writing, to be sure, for the words do not fall magically onto the page; they are placed there one at a time, a labor intensive, skill intensive, creative process that cannot be measured by minutes, foot-pounds or in terms of cost-effectiveness. While some publications pay writers by the

> word, no poet, least of all Robert Frost, would ever consciously, skillfully add one more word than is absolutely necessary to communicate intended ideas.

> To me, the words of a poem are like the bullets of a gun, each loaded with energy and so high powered as to be restless on the page. I don't believe there's such thing as an ugly word, but there are inappropriate uses of words that, in effect, create ugliness.

> When I'm reading something new, it's as if I've just picked up another pebble from the ground and am now holding it up to the light to see if it glows, to see if it approaches gem quality. In this era of sensory overload I feel like I don't have time to waste on fillers, copies, near-misses or pretenders. I don't have time for duds.

And thus, I've come to prefer the type of writing where the author has done the work of separating the tailings from the treasures, of using only the words necessary to communicate, of writing in a style in which every element supports intention. It is something I aspire to in my everyday work.

In the world of choices for my own reading enjoyment, I've come to prefer poetry. Singly, a word can command attention. Collectively, they can change a person's mind, can open up a new world, can change history.



Just Thinking by Alexander Kufel

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know. His house is in the village though; He will not see me stopping here To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer To stop without a farmhouse near Between the woods and frozen lake The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake To ask if there is some mistake. The only other sound's the sweep Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep.

Anticipation: Hockey players skate to where the puck is going to be. You have to play the game that way. —Vance Coffman, president of Lockheed Martin

JED couple honored...

Continued from Page 1

work with the Tamagawagakuen University English Speaking Society (ESS). Each week for the past two years, the Knollenbergs have hosted group meetings of 25-30 ESS members in their Sagamihara Family Housing Area home, providing American food and glimpses into the American way of life.

"I really believe that it is a privilege for us to live in Japan and that each of us who is fortunate enough to be here should make the effort to reach out to our hosts, share our differences and delight in our similarities," said Pat Knollenberg. "We are all American ambassadors and it is up to us to show the Japanese that Americans are good, decent people that are worth knowing."

Their awards were presented by the former

mayor of Tokyo, Shunichi Suzuki, who is the president of Nippon Zenkokai Inc., the Japan Association of Good Deeds Commendation.

The Knollenbergs are the second JED couple to receive the award. Donald and Elizabeth Kaneshige were recognized in 1993 for their volunteer work with Tokyo's homeless and with animal welfare organizations.

The Good Deeds Commendation Awards were instituted in 1951 by the Japanese government to officially commend individuals and groups who have done good deeds. The scope of the awards include contributions to public life, accident prevention, environmental beautification, working with youth groups, social welfare activities, life saving and other heroic activities. Foreigners became eligible for the award in 1955 and since then nearly 600 have been so honored. Information reported by Doug MaKitten, JED Public Affairs Office.

Electronic bid sets imminent in POD

Traditional practices of disseminating solicitation documents, or bid sets, to contractors are a classic study in the Corps of Engineers' ability to move mountains... of paperwork, that is, with packages of plans easily exceeding 10 pounds apiece and sometimes approaching 50. This is particularly true toward the end of each fiscal year when funds for projects become available and an increased number of both contracts and amendments have to be processed

"This era is about to change, however," said Joe Swift, director of Contracting, with decisions being made and training being conducted this month within POD to expedite the introduction of electronic bid sets on CD-ROM.

within a very short period of time.

In a recent presentation, Swift said that electronic bid sets will yield advantages in sheer maneuverability, all but eliminating the labor and physical space required to handle tons of drawings. Costs, once past startup, will go down. Timeliness and competitiveness will increase to more than offset the growing pains experienced now.

Swift said that to stay competitive, concerns interested in bidding for Corps contracts will need, as a minimum, a computer with a CD-ROM drive. Eventually, it will be to the contractor's advantage to have Internet access as well.

"With costs for postage of paper documents exceeding production costs of CD-ROMs, not to mention costs for printing and reproduction, the government will be among the first to benefit from streamlining the way information is handled," said Michael O'Leary, Procurement Technician.

"The future doesn't stop at CD-ROM," said Kit Lee, project manager. Plans are underway for utilization of the Internet as an even more economical alternative to paper, significantly reducing costs by a factor of 15 compared to CD-ROM.

Difficulty with use of the Internet has to do with the length of time it takes to 'download,' or transfer, the amount of information containable on a CD-ROM (up to 650 MB), said architect Dave Marquardt. For example, to get all the data from a single disk via a 28.8-Kbps telephone

modem, the telephone lines would be tied up for three and a half days!

"As technology catches up with requirements, the costs will come down," said Duane Inoue, procurement analyst.

Among the most intriguing aspects of the new media, however, are that changes will be able to be made quickly and easily, and information will be able to go out and be responded to quicker as well. Given the appropriate equipment, anyone will be able to consider bidding on a project.

As improvements in communications continue to shrink the globe, it's everyone's bet that qualified firms that were, up until now, too far away to be competitive, will have their equipment loaded and be ready to go to wherever POD needs them. And, at the right price, too.

America:

American dreams are strongest in the hearts of those who have seen America only in their dreams. —Pico Iyer, travel writer



Continued from Page 1

along the southern shore of Oahu.

The current installation was preceded in 1903 by the temporary infantry post of Kahauiki, which took its name from the Hawaiian ahupuaa, or land division stretching from the mountains to the sea, on which it was located. On old maps, Kahauiki, in the traditional district of Kona on the island of Oahu, nestles between the two larger land divisions of

Moanalua and Kalihi.

At one time, the lowlands were planted in taro, and the uplands are believed to have been heavily forested with sandalwood and trees suitable for the firewood much in demand by 19th century



The main entrance of Fort Shafter reflects its history.

whaling ships. Kahauiki was designated 'Crown Lands' during the mid-19th century land distribution known as the mahele and leased to rancher James I. Dowsett in 1888. Subsequently, parts of it were used as grazing and pasture land, as stockyards and slaughterhouse, as a dairy farm operated by C. T. Gulick, as storage and living quarters by the Pacific Guano and Fertilizer Company, and as a quarry. Much of the lowland area was leased to rice farmers

In 1899, two major tracts of former Crown and government lands, U.S. property after annexation, were assigned to the War Department: Kahauiki and Waianae-Uka (today known as Lualualei). Forts Kamehameha and Armstrong came later.

In 1903, Kahauiki became the site of the principal infantry post for the islands and was headquarters for the U.S. Army. In addition to the land mass of 1,344 acres, at that time the seaward area of Keehi Lagoon still contained remnants of ten large fishponds, ranging from eight to 332 acres in size.

In 1905, construction began on the installation which, in 1907, was named for Maj. Gen. William R. Shafter who had distinguished himself during the Civil War and the Spanish-American War. He had been commanding general of Hawaii until 1901 but actually was based in California.

Fort Shafter Military Reservation grew in stages. The initial construction was around Palm Circle and

included officers' quarters, battalion barracks and support facilities dating from 1907-10. Many of the permanent structures seen on post today were constructed nearby as support facilities. Building 214, currently in use by the POD public affairs office, dates from this period and is one of only four concrete structures built then. It first served as an ordnance warehouse. Building 715, the Roundhouse restaurant near the golf course and officers' club, was built in 1930 and is said to originally have been a stable.

The Hawaii Ordnance Depot followed, and was developed as a self-contained post with a headquarters building, housing, theater and small-arms manufacturing shops and warehouses. Most of the buildings are still intact and occupy the 300 and 400 areas of Fort Shafter at the corner of Middle Street and the Moanalua freeway.

Prior to its current function as logistical offices for POD and site of the HONEA (Honolulu Engineer Area Office) federal credit union, building 223 housed the autocrafts shop.

"That building was built as a cavalry stable," said Alfred Caires, former manager of the Community Recreation Division autocrafts shop. "It was several things before we moved in."

Building 230 was constructed in 1964, during the Vietnam era, and initially housed USARPAC (U.S. Army Pacific), DCSLOG (Deputy Chief of Staff Lo-

gistics) prior to becoming POD and HED headquarters. POD was located at Fort Armstrong until 1974 when it moved to Fort Shafter.

Post hospital facilities ed on the site by Civilian

were constructnow occupied

Personnel and housing. When it moved to its current site in 1947, it became Tripler Hospital.

In 1983, the inland 750.28 acres, over 55 percent of the original site, was conveyed to the state of Hawaii as part of the return of ceded lands.

Close inspection today reveals that while its lowlands are now used for commercial purposes and its uplands have been returned to the state of Hawaii, Fort Shafter's boundaries largely reflect its descendency from the Hawaiian land division of Kahauiki. Fort Shafter is unique for being so closely linked with its origins.



Today Palm Circle still serves ceremonial functions. Building 112 is visible on the right.

Football:

You're a hero when you win and a bum when you lose. That's the game.

-Johnny Unitas, former Baltimore Colt

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday Jan. 20

he national holiday Jan. 20 is the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., noted American civil

rights leader. Excerpt from the speech given Aug. 28, 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C.:

"

...and when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and from every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of that old Negro spiritual "Free at last! Thank God almighty, we are free at last!"

"

The Electronic Library

By Ruby Mizue

AR's, ER's, DA FORM number whatever...the official regulations, publications, and forms we need to perform our tasks and meet our missions are changing and increasing daily. At the same time, the Department of Defense is moving rapidly toward exclusively electronic products so that users may obtain required documents quickly and economically from their desktops.

Several options are available for finding needed publications and forms, and in the months ahead will be presented in this space.

The Army Electronic Library is currently available on CD-ROM and consolidates the Army Electronic Forms Library and the DA PAM 25-30 (Consolidated Index of Army Publications and Blank Forms) and adds the brand-new Army Electronic Publications Library, containing about 800 electronic forms

and 117 electronic publications.

This useful CD-ROM product will be updated quarterly and is accessible to you on your desktop through the POD network. Simple instructions for your first-time installation on a PC are posted in the ccmail Bulletin Board, under E-Library Connection. There is a basic tutorial on the main menu that will walk you through searching procedures. Try it out the next time you need to know whether that AR or DA Form in your hand is the current version, obsolete, or superseded by another!

Mac users with Internet access can see an html version of DA PAM 25-30 at: http://www-usappc.hoffman.armu.mil/

From the US Army Printing and Publications Command (USAPPC) Home Page, go to the Army Publications Ordering System and click on the DA PAM Extract.

Search to your heart's content, but let IM (Information Management) do the ordering. Make your requests through Ruby Mizue via ccMail or telephone at 438-8348 or 438-9496.

POD has launched its own home page on the World Wide Web. Find it at: http://www.pod.usace.army.mil



American myths

Thomas Edison didn't invent the lightbulb. That's an American myth. The man who invented the lightbulb was an English physicist. Actually there were about five or six people working on the lightbulb at the same time.

Edison invented the electric industry. Edison had foresight—that was his strength. While he worked on the lightbulb, he also organized the electric industry. He could string the cables because J. P. Morgan financed him. The moment that Edison had something that would burn for 20 minutes, he could deliver power.

-Peter Drucker, Wired interview

Asking the right questions

Think how different our lives would be if certain questions were never asked. Jim Collins of Stanford's Graduate School of Business has compiled the following list of "Questions of Wonder:"

Albert Einstein: What would a light wave look like to someone keeping pace with it?

Bill Bowerman (inventor of Nike shoes): What happens if I pour rubber into my waffle iron?

Fred Smith (founder of Federal Express): Why can't there be reliable overnight air service?

Godfrey Hounsfield (inventor of the CAT scanner): Why can't we see in three dimensions what is inside a human body without cutting it open?

Masaru Ibuka (honorary chairman, Sony Corp.): Why don't we remove the recording function and speaker and put headphones in the recorder? (Result: The Sony Walkman)

—Best of Bits & Pieces, Economics Press, Fairfield,
N.J.

Accidents

•In the 1970s, a Dr. Fyodorov of the Soviet Union treated a young man who had gotten slivers of glass in his eyes. After the cuts healed, the young patient not only fully recovered from the cuts, but his myopia was cured. Dr. Fyodorov studied this accident and perfected it. The procedure he perfected is called radial keratotomy.

•Around the turn of the last century, the French scientist Antoine Henri Becquerel left some photographic plates in a drawer, then placed a mineral that contained what he thought was only fluorescent material in the same drawer. Some time later, he found that the so-called fluorescent material had exposed the photographic plates in the drawer. Becquerel had discovered radioactivity.

—Jim Anton, Wise Wacky Proverbs: The Truth Behind Everyday Sayings

Miracles: There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.—Albert Einstein, scientist

PRODUCTIVE PEOPLE



Kevin Elliott

Hometown: Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Years with Corps: 13 Works in: Emergency Management

aj. Kevin Elliott, contingency operations planner with Emergency Management Division, was sure that following payback of his Army ROTC scholarship obligation after college, he would return to Pennsylvania and put his newly acquired architecture degree to work renovating and rehabilitating old buildings.

What he didn't count on was that both he, and his then new wife, Brigid, would like the Army and decide to make a career out of it. He thought he had seen enough of it as a military brat growing up near Carlisle Barracks and Gettysburg.

Following tours at Ft. Lewis, Wash.; Hanau, Germany, where he was commander of an engineering company; and Lehigh University where, as an ROTC instructor, he taught military history, Elliott warmed to the idea of a life in the Army, much to his Dad's delight.

Nowadays, Elliott finds himself quite careeroriented, and is newly returned from a 6-monthlong voluntary assignment with NATO forces in Bosnia. He has lots of war stories to tell (real ones) and a strong desire to spend as much time as he can with his wife, now expecting their second child, and daughter, MaKenna, 2.

"I was based in Croatia," he said, "but often went into Bosnia. It was quite an experience. I saw terrible things, but in the work we were doing I felt part of something important."

Kevin is making POD more productive.



Patricia Billington

Hometown: Detroit, Michigan Years with Corps: 10-1/2 years Works in: Office of Counsel

oments into a conversation, Patricia "Pat" Billington's love of life becomes undeniably evident as the listener gets caught up in her enthusiasm. An attorney, she brings to each project experience earned first as a criminal lawyer, then as a contract lawyer, and points out that she particularly enjoys environmental law.

"The law is constant and creates an interesting framework," said Billington. "I like the idea of working within an established tradition. The Magna Carta established certain navigation rights and property rights that are important. Property law goes back even before that. And, corporate law embodies democratic ideals. But, I find environmental law particularly fascinating because of its relative newness. The facts of each project change from situation to situation, making it very dynamic and exciting."

Billington's enthusiasm doesn't waver a bit when the conversation switches to talk of her husband, Taka, and children Laura, Rea and Memorina, or to jazz or books. She loves the music of John Coltrane, Zoot Sims and Duke Ellington, to mention only a few, and said that one of the attractions of her job is that it requires a lot of reading and she's always finding out new things. Off-duty when she isn't reading "escape" literature, she likes books that deal with the meaning of existence—"the ultimate question."

Pat is making POD more productive.

Gravity: We can lick gravity, but sometimes the paperwork is overwhelming.—Wernher von Braun, scientist

Practice makes perfect in teamwork

Story by Alexander Kufel

here is a lot of finger-pointing going on at the Schofield Barracks Resident Office. But instead of accusations of blame, these HED employees are busy pointing at and turning to each other for support as they continue to grapple with one of the District's busiest work schedules. It's a team effort all the way, says Bob Shimizu, OEB (Office and Engineering Branch) head.

"Our reputation for teamwork was established a long time ago," said Shimizu. "Way before the resident offices became so big. We've just tried to carry on the tradition."

"That's true," said Cyndee Oleyte, OEB secretary.

"This resident office is known to have good people." When I first came here I discovered that people really care about their jobs. It makes a difference."

"People really do look out for each other," said secretary Kathleen Chung.

Teamwork in action is not only seen on athletic playing fields, it's transferable to the workplace as well.

"One of the first things I want to say is that it's the boss," said civil engineer Roy Fujinaka. "Earl sets the tone for the rest to follow."

"That's not entirely true," said resident engineer Earl Hiraki. "If a person in this office is successful in even a small part, the whole office shares in their success. We're still pursuing the perfect project."

"We've learned to look out for each other," said Fujinaka, "so that people are not afraid to either

brag or admit mistakes."

Even in an informal discussion about teamwork, the cohesiveness of the unit is apparent.

"We're always conscious of being part of a larger organization," said civil engineer David Smith, "so we make an effort to help each other."

Synergism, or the action of two individuals to achieve a result that neither is capable of individually, is a part of the process.

> "You might say that synergism is very much at work here, "said Hiraki. "People always seem to share ideas, then

come up with better ones."

"Everyone has a specialty," said Smith, "but years of experience allow them perspective. In everyday discussions about the projects that people are working

on and the problems they're faced with, things come up from unexpected sources that help to resolve matters."

"Well," said Dilly Rapley, a civil engineer technician, "we have more than our share of people who take a lot of pride in what they do. And, when they look at each other, it isn't so much with sensitivity. It's more a question of caring. We all help each other."

"If we catch mistakes early in the project," continued Rapley, "we make it easier for the folks on the second floor who have to do the change orders. Each change order takes 3-4 weeks... not of time, but of effort."

"We're not competitive internally. It's nice to come to work and not have to worry about internal conflicts," said Oleyte.

"All of us get along well," said Rapley. "Some of us even like each other."

Someone called them the three wisemen: Donald M.S. Jay, ET-MI; Larry Muraoka,

Division

ET-P; Henry Nakashima, ET-TC. It must have been the before-Christmas announce-

> ment of their Jan. 3 retirement. "We're the three wiseguys,"

cracked Henry Nakashima.

Collectively, they have 112 years of federal service, nearly

Shorts all of it with the Army Corps of Engineers. Plans? After an initial period deliberately without plans, of concentrating on their families, they'll be making up for lost time.

Jay will travel to Scandinavia in August, following his daughter's wedding in June. Nakashima will renovate his condominium and become more knowledgeable about computers. Muraoka, who already prides himself on the number of ways he knows to cook Spam, wants to take some serious cooking classes at one of the community colleges. Aloha pumehana.

After skipping town for six months (actually going TDY to Bosnia) Maj. Kevin Elliott received a belated letter of appreciation from Kaewai Elementary School for his volunteer work in the Partnering in Education program. Congratulations!

Mark your calendar! The 9th Annual **POD Retiree Day** is scheduled for Thurs., March 13, 1997. Watch your mail for details.