

COLONEL LELAND A. NAKAI CLASS 19-69

Colonel Nakai served as a Fire Control Platoon Leader and Executive Officer with the 61st Air Defense Artillery prior to a tour in Vietnam where he served as Executive Officer of the 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division and later the Assistant Chief, Biochemistry at the 9th Medical Laboratory.

After transferring to the Chemical Corps he served as the Assistant Division Chemical Officer for the 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis Washington. His next assignment was Chemistry Instructor/ Assistant Professor at the US Naval Academy, followed by duty at the Letterkenny Army Depot as the US Army Depot System Command Surety officer. After Attending the US Naval War College, he served as the Deputy G3 and Brigade Chemical Officer of the Berlin Brigade. He next served as Commander of the US Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory in Frankfurt, Germany.

His next assignment was with US Army Pacific where he served as Chief, Nuclear Chemical Division, Chief, Operations Division, and ADCS for Plans and Operations. His career culminated as the ADCS for Chemical and Biological Matters at the US Army Material Command. He is the 2008 recipient of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Pacific Southwest Region Lifetime Achievement Award for Leadership in Emergency Prevention and Preparedness.

Colonel Nakai's decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star and the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.