

Major General Edward V. Richardson

Retired Effective December 31, 1999.

Major General Edward (Rick) V. Richardson served as the adjutant general of the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense. He served as a member of the governor's cabinet and was the military commander of the Hawaii Army and Air National Guard and director of State Civil Defense. He also served as the Chairman of the State Anti-terrorism Task Force.

General Richardson graduated from the Kamehameha School for Boys, Honolulu, , and attended the University of Hawaii from . His military education includes Squadron Officer School, , Air Command and Staff College ; and National Security Management Course .

General Richardson began his military career when he joined the Hawaii ANG in February 1956. He entered the U.S. Air Force Aviation Cadet Pilot Training in May of the same year, and was commissioned a second lieutenant at Bryan AFB, Texas in October 1957.

Upon returning to the Hawaii ANG, he flew a variety of aircraft for the 199th Fighter Interceptor Squadron.

From February 1962 to July 1965, the general served as the assistant operations officer for the 199th FIS, performing duties as an instructor pilot, standardization/evaluation flight officer, and functional test pilot. From July 1965 to June 1966, he served as the flying/ground/nuclear officer for the 154 Fighter Group. He then returned to the 199th FIS assistant operations officer until August 1968. In December 1968 the general volunteered for active duty in Southeast Asia, and was assigned to the 64th FIS in Thailand, and DaNang Air Base, Vietnam. He returned to the 199th FIS as operations officer from October 1970 to October 1974.

General Richardson was selected as Commander of the 199th FIS in August 1974. He was assigned as Chief of Staff at Headquarters, Hawaii ANG, in September 1978. The general was appointed as the

Commander, Hawaii ANG, in February 1982 and promoted to brigadier general in December 1982. He served as commander until February 7, 1991 at which time he was selected as the State Adjutant General.

During his tenure as State Adjutant General he improved relationships with the Commander and Staff of the Pacific Air Forces, the Commander, US Army Pacific, the National Guard Bureau, PACOM and the Air and Army Staff at the Pentagon. He was also served on the strategic planning team for the National Guard Bureau.

He also worked with his commanders and units to improve their effectiveness and combat capabilities. This resulted in outstanding scores during inspections and evaluations.

As a result, the Hawaii ANG was chosen to receive the US Air Force's premier fighter the F-15 Eagle. The unit was also given two additional flying units – the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron (KC-135R's) and the 204th Air Lift Squadron (C-130H's). The Hawaii Army National Guard was also chosen in a highly contested competition as the recipient of one the US Army's 15 Enhanced Brigades. The Hawaii Army National Guard also received 14 new CH-47 and 6 new UH-60 helicopters.

He worked with State Civil Defense to improve its response to natural disasters. He institutionalized training exercises with all agencies, including the US military, to improve preparations and response actions during disasters. As a result, the State's response during Hurricane Iniki was handled professionally. General Richardson was awarded the National Governor's award for Distinguished Service to State Government in August 1995 for his actions during that disaster.

He also improved the State's counter drug program by securing federal funds to increase the manning of the State Counter-drug Program. He secured personnel for the marijuana eradication program and also secured two new helicopters for that effort. He also provided additional personnel to assist DEA at the harbors and airports. He improved relationships with the Police departments of all counties, the US

Attorney General's office, the State Attorney General, the Office of the FBI, the DEA, and the Secret Service.

General Richardson is a command pilot with over 3,660 flying hours in the T-34, T-28, F-86E, T-33, F-86L, F-102A, T-38, and F-4C aircraft. His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Combat Readiness Medal with four bronze oak leaf clusters, National Service Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with one silver and two bronze oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two hourglass devices, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Air Force Training Ribbon, Hawaii National Guard Medal for Merit, Hawaii National Guard Commendation Medal and Hawaii National Guard 30 year Service Bar.

His civic affiliations included the Order of the Daedalian, National Guard Association of the United States (Life Time Member), Adjutants General Association of the United States, Hawaii Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve; Air Force Association, President, Friends of Iolani Palace, Prince Kuhio Hawaiian Civic Club, Holy Nativity Church, Spinkler Isle Association, Kamehameha Alumni Association, Oahu Country Club, Honolulu Pacific Federal Executive Board, and Hawaii Chapter of the American Red Cross.

General Richardson retired as the State Adjutant General on December 31, 1999 after more than 43 years of service.

Since retiring he has been employed by Athna, the Northrup Grumman Corporation and Oceanit. He has since retired from these companies.

He now serves on the executive committee of the Military Affairs Council of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; Vice president Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor; Director, Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy Foundation and member, Mamaka 'Aialo.