

The first edition of the 442 paper.



ON THE LINE

442nd Association

VOL. I, No. 1

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New York, N. Y.

442ND ASSOCIATION FORMED IN NEW YORK

They Lead New Vets Group

"Go For Broke" Reunion Lunch Is Scene of Birth



-- Photo by Tito O'Kamoto

Pictured are the first cabinet members of the 442nd Association. They are, left to right: Yosh Ito, Kei Yamato, Art Munch, Bill Kochiyama, Kelly Kuwayama, Norman Kurlan and Dick Hata.

Bill Kochiyama Elected First Prexy

Bill Kochiyama was elected the first president of the 442nd Association.

Serving with him will be: Art Munch, vice president; Norman Kurlan, secretary; Yosh Ito, treasurer; Kelly Kuwayama, Kei Yamato, Dick Hata, board of governors.

Nominations were received from the floor and through write-ins. Votes were cast on ballots mailed to members.

Chic Aoyama was in charge of tabulating returns.

The new president chaired the temporary 442nd Committee which was instrumental in organizing the Association. He was a member of Company K.

His wife, nee Mary Nakahara, was a leader of the Aloha USO in Hattiesburg, Miss., and the teen-age Crusaders club of Jerome, Ark.

At a mass luncheon-business meeting in the Miyako Restaurant during the "Go For Broke" Reunion in May, the local 442nd Association was born.

Temporary officers were elected to carry out the formation of the club and given carte blanche powers to organize.

In September the first officers and board of governors were installed.

IDEA WAS THERE

Prior to the MGM "era" of "Go For Broke," the idea of a 442nd organization in New York City was seriously discussed by local veterans.

Nothing definite happened until the 442nd Committee was formed to handle details of the reunion. At the business meeting, committee members spoke out for a permanent organization.

Their plan got unanimous approval.

DELUXE HEADQUARTERS

The problem of a meeting place was solved when arrangements were made with the 77th Division veterans to use their headquarters at 28 East 39th St., in Manhattan. This central location is complete with cocktail lounge, dining room, library, recreation room and other facilities.

Association Flag Has History of Courage, Grief

The American flag which is displayed at all meetings of the Association, and on special occasions such as the Nisei Memorial Service, has a story of heartbreak and honor behind it.

It was one of the flags presented by the Belgian government to families of American soldiers buried in Belgium's cemeteries.

This flag was given to Miss Flora Fifield (who has taken her maiden name) in honor of the memory of her husband, Rupert White. A member of the 92nd Chemical Warfare Service, he was killed in action at Aldenhoven, near the Roer River.

Miss Fifield, knowing of the 442nd's record, presented the colors to the Association through her friend, Kelly Kuwayama. Kelly was best man at their wedding.

"Rather than tucking the flag away, I would prefer to see it used by such an organization as yours," Miss Fifield said.

BRING A BUDDY!

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS
HELD SECOND FRIDAY
OF EVERY MONTH

ON THE LINE

442nd Association

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STAFF

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE
Dick Itanaga, chairman;
Bill Kochiyama; Jim Dunn;
Tooru Kanazawa.

Photographers: Tito O' Kamoto; Gene Herbert.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends:

Without preliminaries, my sincere thanks to all of you for electing me to the presidency of your Association. I feel grateful and humble by this trust, and will do my best to fulfill the duties of this post.

We have an exceptionally enthusiastic organization, and we hope to stay this way. We can and we will. This is not said just to be said. It is a fact.

Our meetings are comparatively well attended and our many committees just recently formed are already functioning and working hard.

I have no doubts that the 442nd Association will grow and expand with the years, if we can, by our behavior and attitude, welcome all newcomers, discourage any cliquishness and incite the same kind of oneness that prevailed on the front lines.

We have a potentially "great" club, and with your help and continued interest we will be able to say that the 442nd Association is here to stay.

Fraternally yours,
Bill Kochiyama, President

ATTEN-SHUN!

What Should EM Call Ex-Officers?

"What should the ex-EM call their former officers?"

This was the question put up to the ex-officers, all of whom emphasized the "ex."

The question came up because some of the members were a little uncertain as to how they should address their former leaders, particularly the haole ones.

"You should have heard what they called me," was the way Norman Kurlan sounded off. "I was a captain, mind you, but it was, 'Hey, Kurlan, how about a pass?' My jeep driver was polite as all GI's are to officers, but he treated me like another guy. That's the way I think it should be now."

According to Kei Yamato, "You hear people calling former officers General or Colonel. That's a lot of baloney. You know how it is. We're all ordinary guys."

Arthur Munch wanted "to be accepted as another member. Like a lot of other guys, we

were in the Army because we had to be. The service should be in the background. What we're all trying to build is a democratic organization."

All the other officers that could be contacted, Roderrick Matheson, Walter Mackey, James Dunn and Norman, Howard expressed similar sentiments.

Group Owns Movie Version of Banner

The replica of the 442nd Regimental insignia banner, which is displayed at meetings, was made by Metro Goldwyn Mayer Studio.

It was displayed in the lobby of the Capitol Theater during the first run of the picture, "Go For Broke," in New York City.

The banner was given to the Association at the end of the Capitol showing.

Vets Give Blood to Armed Forces

Twenty members gave their pints of blood to the Red Cross at the "Blood for Korea" night sponsored by the Association October 25.

Mrs. Norman Kurlan, who accompanied her husband, earned the distinction of being the sole woman donor in the group. She was a repeater; but for many of the others it was the first time.

Those who gave blood were: Mr. and Mrs. Kurlan, James Dunn, Bill Kochiyama, Tad Kanzaki, Chic Aoyama, Roy Green, Dick Itanaga, Mas Nakata, Norman Howard, Shiro Nochisaki, Harry Abe, Kei Yamato, Irving Akahoshi, Ken Saruwatari, George Kajiura, Tooru Kanazawa, Tito O' Kamoto and Kelly Kuwayama.



-- Photo by Gene Herbert

Blood Bank Planned

Possibilities of the Association having its own blood bank was discussed at the group's monthly meeting on November 9.

Art Munch, who was chairman of the "Blood for Korea" night, will check further with the Red Cross.

GEN. PENCE SHIFTED TO ALASKAN POST

Gen. C. W. Pence, former commanding officer of the 442nd Combat Team, recently sent greetings to the Association from his new command in Alaska.

"I am strongly in favor of your Association which perpetuates friendships formed during the war years, and which is capable of doing much good during these troubled times," he said.

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NISEI MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES LED BY ASSOCIATION, JACL

Nisei Memorial Day services, jointly sponsored by the Association and the N.Y. JACL Chapter, were observed in local churches on Sunday, October 28.

A worship service was held at the Japanese Methodist Church in honor of the Nisei soldiers killed in World War II and the present Korean conflict.

Participating in the program were Conrad Kurahara, 442 vet, and Kei Inai, MIS vet and JACL representative; soloist Irving Akahoshi; and ushers Sunao "Smiles" Sakamoto and Tito O' Kamoto.

Uptown, Kelly Kuwayama spoke in behalf of the Association at the Japanese Reformed Church.

Memorial rites were also held at the Buddhist Church.

Members Tell of War Experiences on Radio

Arthur Munch, Tito O' Kamoto and Bill Oshiro received a big hand from the show crowd at Howie's Restaurant when they appeared on Sam Gyson's midnight radio show over Station WPAT recently.

Each one told of his experiences during the war.

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Keiji and Edith Kawakami and daughter Patty, recently arrived from Hawaii. Keiji is enrolled at New York University where he is studying for his Masters degree in retailing.

Tom and Sue Kiyosaki are now in New York. Tom, a former University of Hawaii grid star, is studying at Columbia.

Yosh and Claire Shibuya here from Hawaii. Yosh is studying at N.Y.U.'s School of Business Administration.

Sunao "Smiles" and Margie Sakamoto, also from the Islands, are here to continue their social work. Both are sociology majors.



Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sugimoto became the parents of a baby girl, Judy, on July 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Najio Yoshinaga celebrated the Fourth of July with the birth of a baby boy, Henry.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Okamoto of Abington, Pa., welcomed a baby girl October 16.

Big Semi-Formal Dance Slated for Hotel Vanderbilt

An Association dance will be held at Hotel Vanderbilt, 34th St. and Park Ave. from 8:30 p.m. on February 23.

The Social Committee is making arrangements for the affair which will be semi-formal.

Committee members are: Kelly Kuwayama, chairman; Irving Akahoshi; Chic Aoyama; Conrad Kurahara; Rod Matheson and Bones Taono.



Helen Nishimoto's betrothal to Manabu Hongowas announced recently.

Artists Lend Talent

Column head illustrations on this page were drawn by member, Leo Summers.

Lettering for the column heads were by Ed Valgursky.

Russell Roman designed the front page masthead.

All three men are artists with the Ziff-Davis Publishing Company.

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HOP IN DECEMBER

Athletic Committee Fund-raising Dance, Dec. 22, 8:30 p.m., at Whitehall Hotel, 100th St. & Broadway. Informal. Donation \$1 per person.

77th DIV. PLAYS HOST

Wilson Makabe and Bill Oshiro and their escorts, represented the Association as guests of the 77th Division at that group's annual dance in the Hotel Roosevelt on November 10.

FIRST OUTING

More than 75 Association members and guests attended the group's first social, a boat ride on the Hudson and an outing at Indian Point.

Courtenay Wright, TV starlet and 442nd Reunion Queen, featured the affair with her singing.

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