

SECOND ANNUAL

REUNION

EDITION

ON THE
LINE

442nd Association

Vol. I, No. 4

New York, N. Y.

June, 1952

VETERANS CONVERGE ON CITY FOR
ASSOCIATION'S SECOND REUNION

Fun-bent caravans of veterans and their families were arriving here from practically every eastern state for the Second Annual Reunion of the 442nd Association on June 21 and 22.

Reunion headquarters is the Hotel Vanderbilt, 34th Street and Park Avenue.

Featured event of the two-day affair is the semi-formal dance at the Vanderbilt's spacious, air-conditioned Della Robia Room.

Highlighting the ball will be the crowning of Michiko Iseri, a featured dancer in the Broadway musical hit, "The King and I," as Reunion Queen. Climaxing the coronation ceremony, last year's queen, television songstress Courtenay Wright, will place a crown of orchids on Miss Iseri's head.

The dance will be complete with surprise bits of entertainment, colorful table pieces and favors. A Hawaiian theme will be carried out in the ballroom decorations.

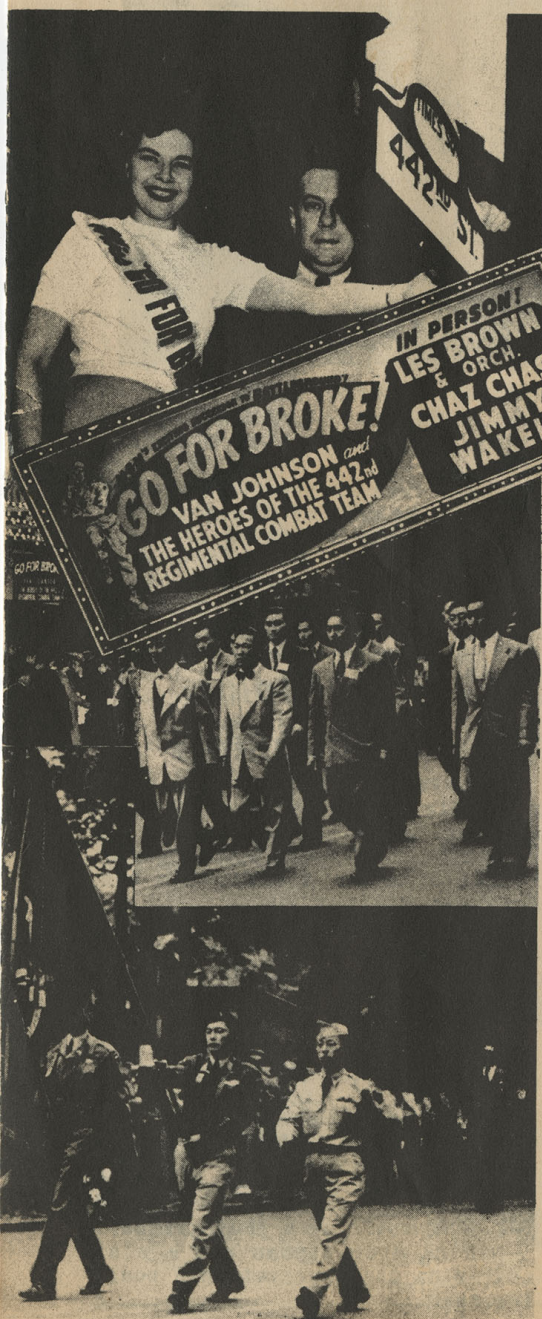
At a luncheon-business meeting at the Miyako Restaurant, 20 West 56th St., plans for the coming year will be made.

A distinguished person is scheduled to address the assembled veterans. At press time, a speaker had not been selected. Commissioner John McCloy is among

Continued on Page 8



Lovely Michiko Iseri, dancing star in the Broadway musical hit, "The King and I," who will be crowned 1952 Queen of the 442nd Association's Second Annual Reunion Dance.



Candidates for 1952 Cabinet Posts Announced

Write in petitions signed by ten members and nominations from the floor at the business meeting to be held at the Miyako luncheon on June 21, 1:30 p.m., will fill out the slate of candidates for office that was announced by the nominating committee last month.

Irvine Akahoshi, Tooru Kanazawa and Conrad Kurahara were named by the committee to run for the office held by Bill Kochiyama, the club's first president.

Up for vice president are Roy Green, Walter Mackey and James K. "Bones" Taono, the winner to succeed incumbent Arthur Munch.

Applicants for Norman Kurlan's secretary job are Gene Herbert and Dick Itanaga.

In the running for the treasurer's office now held by Yosh Ito are Min Arita and Rod Matheson.

Ballots carrying the complete slate are to be mailed out after the Reunion, with the results to be announced when all returns are in.

MEMBERS' PICTURES NEEDED FOR MORGUE

ON THE LINE would like to have all members send in their pictures for the morgue.

Don't get us wrong. We're not looking for death masks.

In newspaper jargon, the morgue is where information and pictures are kept. This to prevent digging frantically at the last minute for biographical matter.

Let's see you in the next mail.

ON THE LINE

442nd Association

Published by the 442nd Association, 28 East 39th St., New York 16, N.Y.

STAFF

Publicity Committee
DICK ITANAGA, Chairman; JIM DUNN;
JOHN FEELEY; TOORU KANAZAWA;
BILL KOCHIYAMA.

Photographers: SAT ANZAI; GENE HERBERT; TITO O'KAMOTO.

Business Manager: DICK HATA.

NEWEST MEMBER

FOLLOWS GIFT INTO CLUBROOM

ED. NOTE: Artist-writer Frank Ochs presented the Association with an original scroll honoring the 442nd Combat Team. A full-color reproduction appeared in a six-page article on the 442nd in the "Royle Forum." Last month he became a member. He gives his impression of the Association and what he thinks about being "one of the boys."

The story of the 442nd inspired me to paint the illuminated scroll which now hangs in the Association meeting room.

The 442nd in Honolulu wanted the scroll. However, the fellows in New York said it should be theirs. With their combat record fresh in my mind, if you think I was going to say no, you have no idea of how fast I can figure out what is best for me.

My first contact was Tom Hayaishi, National Vice President of the JACL, who brought about my meeting Bill Kochiyama and Tooru Kanazawa.

Arrangements were made for the presentation at the Association's dance February 23 at the Vanderbilt. Mrs. Ochs and I have spoken many times of that evening. We have been around a bit but never have we had a more pleasant time, due to the warm, cordial way in which we were received. Caution advises that I say not too much about the beautiful girls at the dance.

Upon the invitation of Bill Kochiyama I have attended meetings preceded by dinner with some of the members at their club house. This meeting night is one night I am out with the full consent of by better half.

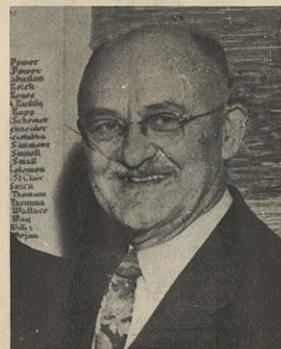
For its age and size this is one of the most active associations I know of. Its various committees are hard working and energetic, and in a pinch there are always members jumping in to help. It is this spirit, the spirit of their motto "Go For Broke" which still prevails, that makes for success.

I know these men, associate with them, and am indeed proud to have them as friends. They are of the highest type of loyal American. Serious in their thought and ac-

Tommy Howells Wins Hairstyling Prize

Tommy Howells, former K Company officer, recently won first prize at a hairstyling competition in Harrisburg, Pa.

Last month, Howells was installed president of the Hawley, Pa., Parent-Teachers Association. In addition, he is now scheduling educational programs for several hairstylists' groups.



FRANK OCHS

tion. When they get together as an organization, it is bound to succeed.

I have been invited to, and have become a member of the Association. That is something I treasure - to be one of this group. With it comes the resolution that I shall endeavor at all times to live up to their high ideals.

Jack Feeley Joins ON THE LINE Staff

Jack Feeley, a Bronx product, recently joined the editorial staff of ON THE LINE.

He served with the Army's Chief Fiscal Director's Office in the European Theater.

He received his B.S. in Journalism from Long Island University.

Jack is employed by United Parcels Service.

Photographer Sat Anzai Joins Staff

New member Sat Anzai, formerly of Kaaawa, Hawaii, joins the ON THE LINE staff as a photographer.

Sat is a draftsman and a star kegler on the Association's bowling team.

BROADWAY DANCING STAR TO BE CROWNED 1952 REUNION QUEEN

Michiko Iseri, a dancing star of the Broadway musical hit, "The King and I," will be crowned the 1952 Queen of the Association's Second Annual Reunion during the dance at the Hotel Vanderbilt on June 21.

Courtenay Wright, TV singing star and Queen of the first Reunion, will place a crown of orchids, to be presented by Kei Yamato, on Michiko's head.

Arrangements are being made for that night to have her escorted after the performance at the St. James Theatre to the dance.

Michiko reports that June has been a rough month. Celeste Holm is taking Gertrude Lawrence's starring role in "The King" on June 30 for six weeks. Michiko, who is the only dancer to appear with Miss Lawrence, has been rehearsing daily with Miss Holm while the latter masters the role. Michiko, at the same time, gives her usual evening performances.

Born in Phoenix, Ariz., Michiko was taken to Japan. At the age of four she was studying Japanese classical dancing. On her return to the U.S. she continued her studies with the famous Kabuki teacher, Nakamura Tomofuku.

Following appearances in the Hollywood Bowl, the Greek Theatre in Los Angeles and in films, she turned to Far Eastern dances and was with the Teiko Ito group at the outbreak of war.

From the Heart Mountain Relocation Center she resettled in New York. After a cross-country tour with Davidja and her Bali Java Dancers she was signed to her present role.

She is a stage designer as well as a dancer. She made the Hindu head pieces for "Alive and Kicking," and assisted Jerome Robbins on the background for "The King and I."



MICHIKO ISERI

Japanese Banks...

Like Men Making \$50 Spending \$75

ED. NOTE: Kelly Kuwayama writes that between a lot of hard work and a bad cold he has had a rough time. The weather is now good and he is really starting to enjoy Japan. In his next letter, he plans to give more personal sidelights.

Life is a bit strange here. Some things which are cheap in the states are expensive here and vice versa. Hotels run from \$10 a day, but Japanese food is cheap. "Udon" costs about 25 cents.

There is still much to be done. They tell me that the standard of living has returned to about the pre-war level.

At the present time Japanese banks are in a so-called over-loaned state. They have made loans to business beyond their capacity. In short, they are like men spending \$75 when they only make \$50 a week.

Japanese business is in a somewhat like state. In order to buy money they must pay a high interest rate. Banks are lending at 10% or so and venture capital at about 12%.

The inflation here, I think, has aided business in that it acts as a psychological stimulant. Getting more money, the average person believes his real income has increased when it hasn't. He spends more and that causes more goods to be produced.

Regards to the gang. Tell them to write and I shall try to reply.


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Frank Ochs



Steve Shimizu, Association member, was married to Dorothy Sugawara on June 8 at Riverside Church in this city.

Shimizu, a transplanted Hawaiian, is a dental technician.

Manabu Hongo, Association member, was wed to Helen Nishimoto on June 7 at the Harris Memorial Church, Honolulu.

Both worked actively for the Association while here.



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Shigeru Inouye, who received, his M.A. degree from New York University this June, left early in the month with his wife to return to his home in Honolulu.

"We'll see you at the big Reunion in Hawaii next year," were his parting words. He was an original member of the 100th Battalion.

GREETINGS and BEST WISHES

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Spirit of Little Inch Line Acclaimed

A problem which confronts many organizations is the inability of members to attend meetings regularly.

The 442nd Association also has this problem.

To encourage increased activity, certain structural changes in the club room should be made. The old-fashioned idea of club rooms with austere surroundings breeds stuffiness and boredom. What is needed is an atmosphere of comradeship and fun.

It would be impractical to build a completely new meeting place. With the use of a little ingenuity, however, the old can be improved on.

Perhaps the Association should install a photograph of the congenial tap tender of the 77th Division House directly above the seat of the 442nd president. This would serve as a stimulant, much the same as an oasis helps the weary traveler onward to his destination.

Another sound idea might be to have Jim McDermott, manager of the 77th Division Association, inaugurate a private "little inch" pipe-line, straight to the club room. To be known as "McDermott's Elbow Bend," the "little inch" would send a direct flow of amber to the members, preventing them from leaving the meetings under the sly pretext of "having to get some air." The atmosphere downstairs must be mighty good, for only a few of the more hardy individuals ever return.

Of course, the ideal situation would be to hold meetings on the ground floor. Ideas would flow like water (Scotch and, that is,) and the brilliant discourses of the membership might be recorded in the Association's history.

To keep everything in the realm of parliamentary procedure, the president and his entourage would travel the almost insurmountable barrier of stairs to the clubroom and by way of an intercom system conduct the meeting.

This would be the zenith in successful functions...the membership in 100 per cent attendance gathered around the bar...the president's voice over the intercom asking for the treasurer's report amid a chorus of "Auld Lang Syne," "Go For Broke" and "Fill 'er Up!"...Hic!...Lesh Adjourn. --JP

Akahoshi Places in Weightlifting Tourney

Irving Akahoshi placed second in the 148 3/4 pound lightweight division in the statewide weightlifting tournament sponsored by the New York State YMCA.

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Noted Father of Col. Miller Dies

Upon receipt of the news that the father of Col. V. R. Miller had died in Oshkosh, Wis., May 21, a message of condolence was immediately sent by the Association to the wartime commanding officer of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Dr. Paul Gerard Miller, Commissioner of Education in Puerto Rico from 1915 to 1921, was widely known as an author and Spanish scholar.

While serving as a private with the U. S. Army in Puerto Rico during the Spanish-American War, he developed such a liking for the country that he remained as an educator for 10 years.

After completing his education at the University of Wisconsin, he returned to Puerto Rico as Commissioner by nomination of President Woodrow Wilson.

Dr. Miller wrote voluminously in both Spanish and English. His textbook in Spanish, "History of Puerto Rico," was his most noted effort.

From 1921 until he retired in 1947, he was employed here by Rand McNally & Co. as an editor, author and sales executive.

York Iguchi Passes State Bar Exams

York Iguchi, ex-member of the 442nd Combat Team, was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York last month and joined the law office of Harry Brenner, New York Ave., Huntington, L.I.

A native of that city, he received his LL.B. from St. John's U. Law School in 1951.

EXPECTING

Bill and Mary Kochiyama are expecting their third child in July

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Fifth Army Vets to See Italy Again

Veterans of the Fifth Army will soon see action again... but this time on a special 40-day Reunion Pilgrimage which will take them to the scenes of their wartime victories in North Africa and Italy.

New York City will be the P.O. E., and the date of sailing is September 12. The "troopship" will be the luxurious S.S. Conte Biancamano, which will land in Naples September 26 after stopovers in Casablanca, Gibraltar, Oran, Algiers, Palermo and Sicily.

Official receptions have been arranged at Naples and at Rome, where a banquet will be extended the Fifth Army veterans and their wives by the Italian Government. Other receptions have been scheduled at Florence, Venice, Milan and Genoa. The S.S. Constitution, which will carry the returning celebrants, will arrive in New York October 26.

Among the familiar towns, cities and areas the veterans will visit are: Capri, Salerno, Naples, Pompeii, Rome, Anzio, Monte Cassino, Florence, Pisa, Leghorn, Bologna, the Po Valley, Venice, the Gothic Line towns, Milan and Genoa.

The complete Fifth Army Reunion Pilgrimage costs per person, via round-trip steamship, are: \$1.-059. First Class; \$874, Cabin

Class; and \$689, Tourist Class. Air travel costs are slightly higher.

Interested readers may secure further information by writing to: Fifth Army Reunion Pilgrimage Committee 38 East 57th St., New York 22 or by calling Plaza 9-7892.

The Fifth Army trek to North Africa and Italy will be the first reunion ever held by a U.S. Army overseas.

"Lost Battalion" Man May Attend Reunion

Herbert Blum, a member of the "Lost Battalion," met two of the boys at the 36th Division Reunion last month and expressed an interest in learning more about the 442nd Association.

He lives in Yonkers. He said if his contracting business didn't call him too far from New York he would make every effort to be at the Reunion.

SUPER SALESMAN

Special plaudits go to Association Secretary Norman Kurlan who sold twenty ducats to the First Annual Dance.

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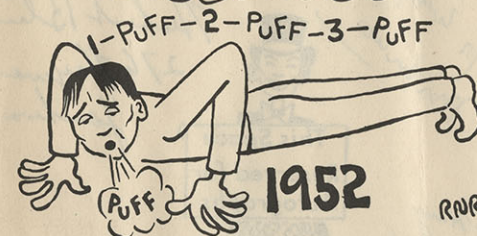
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FOUR FOOT TWO



CABINET THUMBNAIL SKETCHES

PRESIDENT BILL KOCHIYAMA... a native Manhattanite, he does all the work of a public relations director (without title) at the Japan Christian University Foundation... He was graduated from Long Island U. His wife, Mary, is the Nisei Service Organization dynamo. They have two children, Billy and Audree, with one arriving any minute.

VICE PRESIDENT ART MUNCH... another native New Yorker, Art attended St. John's U. Married. Wife's name: Dorothy. Kathryn, 8, and Ann Louise, 4, call him pop. Works in the Empire State Bldg. for Schenley Industries as a 100 proof profit analyst.

SECRETARY NORMAN KURLAN... hails from Carbondale, Pa. Now lives in Westbury, L.I. with wife Gerrie, a former ballerina, and two tots, Topy and Leslie Franchesa (note Italian influence, palsans). Received his B.S. from Columbia. Runs own business, Precision Mills, a wholesale underclothing firm.

TREASURER YOSH ITO... a native Gothamite with an acquired Hawaiian accent which would fool anyone. Graduate of Standard Watch Makers' Institute. A jewelry shop proprietor and manager of a local Hawaiian musical combo. He's single.

BOARD MEMBER DICK HATA... from Long Beach, Calif. Graduate of junior college there and Long Island U. Works in a Wall Street office and teaches Sunday School at the local Japanese Methodist Church. Another bachelor.

BOARD MEMBER KEI YAMATO... transplanted Hawaiian from Honolulu. An honor grad from U. of Hawaii. Also conquered Yale University's Law School. Married to Maude (nee Yamasaki). Is owner-representative of "Orchids of Hawaii," one of city's unique enterprises.

BOARD MEMBER KELLY KUWAYAMA... born and reared in New York. Holds B.S. and M.A. degrees in economics from Princeton. Is single. Recently left "sen-bei" business to work for Nomura Securities Co. in Tokyo.

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REUNION PROGRAM

Saturday, June 21

MORNING - Registration on the balcony, Della Robia Room, Hotel Vanderbilt, 34th Street, and Park Ave.

1:30 p.m. - Luncheon and business meeting, Miyako, 20 West 56th Street.

9:00 p.m. - Semi-formal dance, Della Robia Room, Hotel Vanderbilt.

Sunday, June 22

MORNING - Church services.

AFTERNOON - Informal socials and get-togethers.

More on

REUNION

Continued from Page 1
those who have been asked to speak.

Special services at local Japanese churches and informal socials will round out Sunday's activities.

Chic Aoyama is registrar and general chairman of the Reunion. Assisting him as committee heads are the following: Art Munch, program; Yosh Ito, Mike Tanaka, entertainment; Kei Yamato, decorations; Ed Hayashi, sports; Bill Kochiyama, luncheon; Dick Itanaga, publicity.

REMEMBER THE REUNION!

To Bill & Mary -

Two very wonderful people I'm proud to call my friends.

Courtney Wright

To Bill & Mary
may there be many
more reunions together

Kermit Blum

276 Hayward St
Yonkers NY

Thanks for everything
Mikiho



To Bill & Mary
Many thanks for
a wonderful time
with many swell
people. Will try to
make the next summer
Bill Blasko

