

Go for Broke

BULLETIN 442nd VETERANS CLUB

VOLUME XXXII NO. 1 JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1979



1979 OFFICERS, 442ND VETERANS CLUB

Standing L. to R: ERNEST UNO, 2nd VP; ROBERT NITAHARA, 3rd VP; ROBERT SASAKI, Executive Secretary. Seated L. to R: EDWARD TAMANAHA, 1st VP; THOMAS TANAKA, President; and RICHARD OGATA, Treasurer.

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Anti-Tank.....Kaoru Watanabe
Cannon.....Henry Kuniyuki
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Medics.....Alexander Oka
Service.....Hichiro Matsumoto
232nd Engr./Band.....Robert Fujimoto
522-B.....Masayoshi Yoneda
522-C.....Toki Toyama
Kauai.....Kazuma Oyama
Rural Chapter.....

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Editor's Note

REMINDER

This column is a REMINDER to Associate Members, since we have just entered into a new year, 1979.

All Oahu residents (Life & active members) please remit the \$2 publication dues.

All Associate members (mainland & neighbor islands) who are now receiving the bi-monthly publication, please mail in your membership & publication dues (\$4 a year).

A note to Associate members: when remitting checks please make your monetary figures in multiples of \$4 (example, 1 year \$4; 2 years \$8; 3 years \$12 and so on) as this will greatly simplify our bookkeeping.

This editor while screening the records of Associate members find that many are still in arrears in their payments. These findings were brought before the Board of Directors meeting on February 1979. The Board moved and passed a motion that all delinquent members to be dropped from the mailing list. This Jan/Feb issue will be their last Bulletin.

To all Associate members; remit your payment for 1979, that you may continue to receive the Bulletin and keep in touch.

END

NEEDED: YOUTH MEMBERS

A credit union is no different from other groups when it comes to the need for young members. We at the credit union encourage young people to come join our organization. If we are to continue as a viable financial institution, we will need your help.

Your credit union encourages young people to be more than just an account number. Take an interest in what is being done. Attend board meetings and annual meetings. Voice your opinion. At your credit union each shareholder has a vote, no matter her or his age. Be a leader.

By becoming involved, and perhaps starting a youth program, you can help steer more members, assets and potential leadership to your credit union. So if you're not a credit union member, join; if already a member, play an active part in its operation.

1979 NISEI VETERAN REUNION Honolulu, Hawaii June 23 - 28, 1979 Schedule of Events

Saturday, June 23 Major arrival day.
Afternoon--Registration and Group Travel Unlimited, Inc. (GTU) desks will be opened at 1:00 pm. in the second floor lobby of the Sheraton-Waikiki Hotel. Reunion packets will be available for pick up at the registration desk. Optional scenic tour, travel, housing and other services will be available at the GTU desk.
Evening--Free for individual activities.

Sunday, June 24 Morning--Memorial services at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl beginning at 9:00 am. Free bus transportation leaving the Sheraton-Waikiki Hotel at 8:00 am. will be provided for all Mainland participants.
Afternoon--Free for individual activities.
Hosted welcome reception in the Molokai/Lanai Rooms of the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel from 5:00 to 6:00 pm.
Evening--Free for individual activities.

Monday, June 25 Morning--First leg of 36-hole golf tournament at the Pearl Country Club. Transportation by private automobiles. Play begins at 7:00 am from the 1st and 10th tees.
Free day for non-golfers for optional local scenic tours and individual activities.
Evening--Chapter night. Free evening for those not having chapter affiliation.

Tuesday, June 26 Morning--Final leg of 36-hole golf tournament at the Hawaii Kai Golf Course. Transportation by private automobiles. Play begins with shotgun start at 7:30 am. Golf play will be followed by a hosted 19th hole get-together at the Club 100, located at 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu.
Free day for non-golfers for optional local scenic tours and individual activities.
Evening--Aloha banquet. Hosted reception at the Second Floor Foyer of the Sheraton-Waikiki Hotel from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. followed by dinner, program and dancing in the Hawaii Ballroom from 7:30 pm to 12:30 am. Music by Ebb Tides.

Wednesday, June 27 Morning--Free for individual activities.
Afternoon and Evening--Depart Sheraton-Waikiki Hotel at 1:00 pm. for Polynesian Cultural Center tour and dinner show.
Free afternoon and evening for others.

Thursday, June 28 Depart for home or neighbor island tour.



by Terry Ihara

The New Year has come and gone. Easy has one more of its members on retired status. He's none other than ever reliable Glenn Nakasone, the perpetual treasurer of the Chapter. Now with so much time on his hand we hope he's not getting too fidgety. If ever that happens the golf bug should get him despite his moonoo leg. Talking about golf, Naka Matoi recently got himself a hole-in-one, an ace, playing in company with Roku Imaoka. It came only a year or so after he took up the game on the par three, hole No. three at the Navy Marine Course near the Airport. Being a natural born athlete golfing must have come easy to Naka tanking an ace in so short a time after taking up the game.

Registrations for the 1979 Nisei Reunion are coming into headquarters. Thus far the following have committed their reservations. From Calif. the Mas Tsudas, Kiyo Yamates, Ed Goyas, Ed Okkis and Elaine Ito. From the L. A. area; Rusty Urasakis, Jou Okitsus, Tok Shimomichis, Ben Aiharas, Frank Kizukas and Shige Iwamasas. From San Francisco area; the Mas Kariyas, Tom Sakatas, Hiroshi Horis, and from Seattle area, Seichi Yamamoto; from Denver, the Joe Sakatas, and from Chicago, the Tom Crowleys, and from Okinawa, the Danny Yamauchis and from Hilo the Tsune Takemotos and our Senior Senator Danny and Maggie from D.C. This listing is as of the first week in January and there may have been others since than which will be reported in the next go-around.

Tom Kataoka will be coming for the Reunion also, and he sent club members a case of almonds which were distributed at the January meeting.

Easy's Christmas Party was held on the 16th of January at the clubhouse. Attendance at the shindig was very good with food plentiful, prizes galore and a spirited Bingo game in which the right numbers never came up for most. Particularly delicious of the evening meals was the barbecued beef prepared by none other than Roku Imaoka who husbanded the extra soft pieces of meat from an unnamed market. Besides the meat, there was a cake noodle dish, a dish of ginger chicken, five pounds of Chinese Roast Pork, and other delicacies donated by the members. Pakala Takahashi, as always, brought the squid pupus. An invitee for the evening, President Kats Nakamura of the mother club brought along some smoked salmon pupus which of course went like hot cakes.

As for the Bingo prizes, the big winner with the luckiest numbers were our guest of the evening, the Nakamuras.

The Easy Dance Club has a new member--Al Planas and of course his friend. Having joined so

late he has the unenviable task of catching up with those who have been with the club for a year. Because he has had some dance experience it shouldn't take him long before he'll be swinging along with the group. The dance club incidentally has been meeting weekly for over a year now and no one would believe that some of the members of the group who thought they had two left feet then are now pretty sure that there is a left and a right foot. The Club is now taking up, or rather sharpening up, the Latin Hustle, the Samba, the Cha-Cha a new step the name of which escapes the writer and of course, the Waltz and the Swing. Periodically club members take in a dinner/dance at a Service Club or a discotheque in town. Attendance at these functions have numbered from 18 to 28 individuals, or 9 to 14 couples.

The writer who was campaign manager for Representative Gerald de Heer is now an aide in his office in the Capital Bldg. Any Easy members around the Capital are invited to Room 309 to share coffee or tea and rest their dogs. Quite a few Easy members did door-to-door campaigning for Rep. de Heer and he welcomes the opportunity to meet with his supporters.

The "ShinenKai" dinner for Easy is scheduled for February 17 at the Inn of Sixth Happiness in Kapalama.

Lefty and Kay Sugihara took off for Guam where Lefty will be doing Federal Audit work for the next six weeks. Both of them will miss the dance classes but they'll make that up at the discos in Guam.

A recent visitor to Rep. de Heer's office was Mrs. Tadaso Ono, Tadaso's better half. She was in the Legislative Halls pushing Legislation which will provide some financial help to families and children afflicted with Hemophilia. To keep an adult Hemophlic alive for a year cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000 a year, a cost that the afflicted person or his family must underwrite. Tadaso has two sons and has forced him to work at two sometimes three jobs to pay for the costs. That is a terrible burden no one man should be forced to accept. It is hoped that some Legislative Aid will be forthcoming during this session of the Legislature.

END

PATRONIZE
OUR
ADVERTISERS

VETERANS A

GI INSURANCE RECORD DIV

A record \$485 million paid during 1979 to four GI life insurance policies Cleland announced today

Of this total 22,000 receive over \$3-1/4 million

GI insurance divisions years because the funds earning higher interest policies represent a return pay the cost of the insurance

No application is holders who have kept from either World War I Korean Conflict will automatically on the anniversary, Mr. Cleland said.

Benefitting most rates are those veterans insurance plans to penetrate than continuing the or

Approximately 100 World War I will receive a raise of \$32 over the million World War II veterans of \$128, an increase One-half million Korea average payments of \$1





by Charles Watanabe

January 1979 HQ3rd had it's first meeting of the year at the club house. The usual gang, no older or younger looking but more retirees. They all look like they had a wonderful holidays.

As usual more time was spent in social bull then in business affairs. The business affair were the upcoming trip to outer or rather neighbor islands and the reunion in June. "That's about it" and the bulls were who and who have the pakalolo. The bulls didn't last too long because a certain party arrived late just in time for the coffee hour. Next time better be early Pappy.

Meeting ended at the -no! not the chop suey house, but at the McDonald's for a change. Why? I don't know, a Mr. Eddy was complaining about having full stomach so just coffee and french fries and a very big Mac for a Max Isara. Should have eaten won-ton, the way they ate the french fries.

Now for some chicken manure and less talking to the plants and if everyone goes for a walk like Mr. Eddy does every morning, we all could be pretty healthy.

Bill Kuwata must be enjoying his retirement must have adjusted well because I don't hear him complaining.

What happened to Mr. Sam Sasai, missed him at meetings, must be away or traveling. Must say "Thanks" to Sam for the luncheon at the Bank of Hawaii cafeteria, special room for executives only. Ernie called Sam to have lunch and to plan the agenda for the year 1979 and gets invited to lunch with him at the executive lunch room, with the works, that includes cocktails and all. If you like cocktails, are you a two martini executive. It was a day Ernie and I felt like Executives, being up there and looking down. So now we know where the Executives are. The treatment was terrific, but after lunch was over and getting down into the parking lot in the basement the feeling gets pretty dismal, because it's back to reality, back to the work I come from. Instead of going back to work in our Cadillac or Continental, we got into Ernie Datsun Pickup, looked at each other and somehow our thoughts seem to say, "What's wrong with a Datsun pickup". Well, that is life, we all can't join the same club. Anyway, "Thanks" again to Sam, they don't come any better.

Harold Mikuni must be feeling fine these days, see him at the meetings. Takeshi Nakamura says to pay your dues for 1979, collectable, put

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by Harold Fukunaga

Charlie Komoda, our very dependable Treasurer, was hospitalized recently at Queen's Medical Center, following surgery. We were glad to hear that he is at home, recuperating.

Recently, Bun and Mrs. Eguchi were in town, visiting the George Furukawas, as mentioned in the last issue by Fred Ida. Al Amii called our Chapter members and we had a very enjoyable dinner at Asian Garden. It was a good turnout, considering the short notice. The following members and wives were able to make it: Al Amii, Jimmy Komos, Yoshi Yoshiwas, Speed Tannas, Taketo Kawabatas, Harold Fukunagas, George Furukawas, Bun Eguchis, Eddie Tamamaha, Seikatsu Kikuyama, Bobby Ito, Mac Sewake and Eddie Ochiai.

Al Amii, who knows the owner of the restaurant, was able to arrange for a delicious Chinese dinner. It was nice to reminisce with Bun Eguchi. We also want to thank him for giving all of the Hawaii fellas some Mainland fruits.

We all enjoyed chatting with George and Mrs. Furukawa, whom we haven't seen in ages. Also in this same category was Mac Sewake, who is a photographer in Waipahu. If anyone needs to have some nice portraits taken, just look him up at George-Dean Studio in Waipahu.

Our usual second Thursday nite of the month Chapter meeting was held on January 11th at the Clubhouse. Only 6 brave souls showed up. Remember, how rainy and cold that nite was? I guess most of the members preferred to remain in the warm confines of their homes, rather than brave the cold, and blustery wind and rain that nite. Al Amii, Jimmy Komo, Bobby Ito, Harold Tokeshi, Harold Fukunaga and Eddie Ochiai were there. I don't know if "Matsu" Matsumoto and Taketo Kawabata trooped in later as they usually do, because I left a little early, shortly after the business meeting was over.

We had our annual "Shinnen Kai" get-together on January 27th at the Clubhouse. As usual, in such an event, we had an excellent turnout. The following members and wives attended: Al Amii, Jimmy Komo, Taketo Kawabatas, Fred Idas, Eddie Ochiai, Mike Shiraishis, Speed Tannas, Seikatsu Kikuyamas, Yoshi Yoshiwas, Francis Ishiis, Hitoshi Matsumotos, Billy Yokochis, Harold Fukunagas, Peggy Komoda, Bobby Itos and Guy Tokeshi and his daughter. In addition, we had "Kats" Nakamura and his wife and Tom Tanaka, as guests. They represent the outgoing and incoming Presidents of the 442nd Mother Club.

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ALOHA BRUYERES

By John Tsukano

When KHET -- Hawaii Public Television -- airs "Aloha Bruyeres" next month, be sure to see it from the beginning.

The first five minutes are so absorbing that you will sit transfixed before the television screen wishing that the film would go on and on and never stop. It is guaranteed to transport you back into time, lift you soaring through the gamut of emotions and send cold chills through your entire body.

The powerful, heartrending docudrama opens with a bird's eye view of the fog-shrouded Vosges Mountains and forests, looking so menacing and foreboding. The rare, black and white war time film discovered in the National Archives in Washington D.C. then proceeds to show the 100th and 442nd in action in and around Bruyeres, France, in October of 1944.

You'll see a young Chaplain Higuchi waving goodbye to his men as they disappear into the dark forest, for many, forever. You'll see the animal-like reflex action of the men of the 100th and 442nd as they charge from one tree to another, the entire AJA experience etched in their faces. You'll see the medics attending their mangled bodies, some of them so torn by shrapnel that the officials of the Public Television were compelled to delete them. One of the saddest parts of the 5 minute segment shows the men of the 100th and the 442nd searching for the names of comrades on the temporary, wooden white crosses after a memorial service. Recognizable in the film are many who, themselves, died in subsequent battles.

With Copeland's masterpiece "Fanfare for the common man" as musical background, the flashbacks firmly establishes what "Aloha Bruyeres" is all about and sets the tone for the next 55 minutes of the docudrama.

The stark war time film shows a squad of 442nd soldiers gazing down on war ravaged Bruyeres from the top of a hill. This acutely painful scene gradually turns into color and shows the Bruyeres of 1978 from the very same spot. The transformation is dramatic and startling, and so is the message of the docudrama.

From something horrible something beautiful emerges.

Of particular interest to 100th Battalion veterans will be the segment showing Young Oak Kim where he describes the feelings, emotions and spirit of the men of the 100th and the 442nd who fought in the battle of Bruyeres and Biffontaine.

Sandy Holck tells about the beginning of the sister city relationship between Bruyeres and Honolulu. The Kailua High School Madrigal Singers pay tribute to the 100th and 442nd by their superb performances at church, at a concert in Epinal and at the 442nd memorial in the forest. The Madrigals, composed of the many races that make Hawaii, have now become a fixture in Bruyeres every summer where they are considered "family".

Don't miss seeing "Aloha Bruyeres". It will make you proud. And there are other surprises!

This year, European World Travel Service has added something new and exciting to the annual pilgrimage to Bruyeres - the majestic scenery of the Norwegian Fjord country, the rugged coastline of Sweden, the towering beauty of the Austrian and Swiss Alps and the fertile plains of France. Such glamorous cities as Oslo, Copenhagen, Berlin, Munich, Paris, Amsterdam, and London are included. Also the quaint charms of Bergen, Gothenburg, Innsbruck and Lucerne. Of course, the highlight of the tour will be the sojourn and visit with the wonderful and hospitable people of Bruyeres.

The tour will be led by Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Holck. One of the interesting sidelights will be when Sandy tries to seek his roots in Drammen near Oslo, Norway. One of his ancestors came to Hawaii in 1881 from there.

Once in Europe, you will also be under the tender loving care of an European tour manager who is proficient in all of the languages of the countries to be visited.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN 1979!!!

JOURNEY INTO THE PAST
EUROPE 1979

July 05 to July 28, 1979

24 DAYS. \$2198.00 plus \$18.75 tax

VISITS: NORWAY, SWEDEN, DENMARK, GERMANY, AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND, FRANCE, BELGIUM AND ENGLAND.

Bergen, Fjord Country, Oslo, Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Berlin, Munich, Innsbruck, Lucerne, Bruyeres, Paris, Brussels and London.

Hosted by: Mr. and Mrs. Wilber "Sandy" Holck

FOR DETAILS CALL:

EUROPEAN WORLD TRAVEL SERVICE
3175 Waialae Avenue, Suite 302
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
Tel: 732-5587

RURAL CHAPTER NEWS

by Kazuma Oyama

Joe Usui was promoted from V.P. to serve as prexy for Rural Chapter in 1979. In the wing to take over in case Joe can't make the meetings is new vice president Francis Yano. "Drafted" to continue in office in 1979 are Nobuo Takamori, treasurer; Kenichi Sakumoto, corresponding secretary; and Shiro Matsuoka, recording secretary. Our outgoing president is Charles Kubota.

Speaking of Joe Usui, if you want to catch him during the week days visit Jack-in-the-Box in Wahiawa between the hours of five and six in the morning. He wams up there for his golf games by keeping the place spic and span, including "policing" the surrounding area where thoughtless litterbugs seem to enjoy creating additional work for Joe.

Spending their retirement time trying to improve their golf are retirees Joe Nakamura and Futao Terashima. Other Rural golfers are Gary Yamaguchi, Edward Imamura and Yutaka Kajiwara. Others who joined Joe and Futao into the retirees classification during 1978 are Kenichi Sakumoto and Sam Imamoto. Sam did it the hard way by laboring in private industry.

An avid early morning jogger is Shiro Matsuoka. Wimpy Matsushige still has his "reserve seat" at Dot's in Wahiawa but like most everyone else his consumption of libation (found this nice word in the dictionary) has decreased. Retiree Raymond Kataoka "moonlighting" by working part-time in the office of Service Motors in Wahiawa.

Rural Chapter has a genuine TV personality. That's Tsutomu Fujioka and his wife that appears in the Hawaiian Insurance commercial in front of the family owned Fujioka Store in Waiialua. Although Hasegawa General Store in Hana, Maui, has the fame I think Fujioka Store in Waiialua has more "atmosphere" of a country store and the surrounding area is more picturesque (had to check the dictionary for correct spelling).

One sad note - we lost member Yutaka (Harold) Sakamoto in 1978. I knew Yutaka from the "days of our youth" when he lived just below the Higashi (Hongwanji) Japanese school in the plantation camp in Waipahu. He early perceived a future in the electronics-communications field and ventured to the mainland U.S. before WWII to learn the radio maintenance and repair field. Many Rural Chapter members attended Harold's services and shared in the grief with Katherine Sakamoto and their children.

END



by Larry Ishida

BEST WISHES for a successful 1979 to you all!

KAZU TOMASA along with his fellow officers of 1978 wish to extend their Aloha and salutations for a healthy and joyous 1979. As Prexy for the past year, KAZU says "it wasn't so bad eh?". However, he wished that more members participated in the events for 1978. Hopefully, 1979 officers will have better luck in getting more members to participate in chapter events. And speaking of officers, the nomination committee came up with the following slate of officers for 1979: President-TOSHIO HAYAMA, elected outright no competition. VP-LARRY ISHIDA, also elected outright, no opposition and his excuse being that he no wanna be Prexy cause maybe he'll be away on a trip to the mainland just about the time of the Nisei Vets reunion. Secretary-KAZU TOMASA. This office was most difficult to nominate because there were no other candidates available from Kapahulu/Kaimuki area, so somebody had to be selected. Treasurer-BOTCHAN OKEMURA, nobody can do the job better than this member, so let well enough alone. Here's the best of luck to you lucky officers for 1979.

Would you believe that after three of his bambinos got married and moved out of his Pearl City casa, JIMMY SAKAMOTO says he is retiring? Yes, that is correct, JIMMY retired in December 1978, and is going to take it easy and let MITSUE be the bread winner. And what was MITSUE's reaction? That's what he thinks! JIMMY says he is pooped-up with supervising people and now wants to be supervised for a change--MITSUE, GIVE UM!

VIOLET ISHIDA underwent cataract operation on Dec. 14th and is doing very well as of this news letter. She is also in the retired ranks due to closure of Lewers & Cooke. Presently she is looking for a job and says she won't be retired for too long.

Made a trip to Kauai on Dec. 23rd to attend STEVE & NORA TAKENOUGH's daughter JAN's wedding to HAMILTON AHLG, JR. Setting for the wedding was at STEVE's casa overlooking beautiful Wailua River valley and the reception was held at Wailua Marina. Met only one other HQ2 member, DUKE WATAYA and his family. Boy, didn't realize he had such good looking daughters, sorry I failed to remember their names cause I got carried away. At any rate, they're still not married and they both look like their mother. No offense DUKE. Also met an old friend of mine, ROSCOE HARUKI (former 232nd ENGR and winner of A Flight 442nd Invitational 1978). Discussed the upcoming 1979 Kauai 442nd Invitational tournament and me trying to be helpful requested he reserve more than five rooms

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by Allen Nakamura

"To Bee or Not to Bee", the mystery of "disappearing disease" in honey bees. One problem is that disappearing disease is hard to identify--if it exists at all--because no dead bee bodies are left in the hives as evidence.

Another is that it is difficult, perhaps impossible to diagnose accurately the onset of disappearing disease in living bees. That may be because they have not disappeared. The Agriculture Department has provided thousands of tax payers dollars for scientific sleuths to see if they can solve this mystery.

The January meeting notice definitely stated "Please notice change of meeting date. It's a get-together with the Maui boys". To greet in, "The Year of the Ram" in the ancient Chinese tradition of making sacrifice to their gods, the members came out in full force like sacrificial lambs in acceding to the meeting notice. Then we waited, waited and waited.

Finally it was time to start the LIKM chapter meeting. Commander Jichaku lowered the \$18 gavel and after the proper pre-opening ceremony and a prayer by Chaplain Aoki the meeting officially began. Commander Jake always the epigrammatist, broke the silent night with his opening remark, "Hey, where's all the Maui boys? Aren't they supposed to be here?" Suddenly laughter burst out in the pavilion. We know we were at the right meeting then!

Of course no one would take the blame for the missing Valley Isle's boys. Rightfully so, that no one should be blamed, for after all like disappearing bees, hard to place guilt on anyone without evidence. But unlike the Agricultural Department, after careful scrutiny of our much needed budget we sensibly decided (economic factor) not to provide funds for amateur sleuths to investigate who's to blame. However, it was agreed, shame on you Maui guys for no show. Afterall, these visits and meetings over the past years has become a traditional custom we look forward to attending.

Notwithstanding this inauspicious beginning. President Tad Sakai a old hand (figuratively speaking of course) in experiencing these situations, came thru admirably--by passing the buck. ha! Robert Sasaki made his presence known and probably saved the evening by presenting a beautiful red carnation lei to President Tad. As Robert said, "This is to commemorate Tad's reaching the medicare age, the first to do so amongst us". Many happy returns to you Tad. Guess a handshake must suffice for the second

and third and the rest of us? Somehow Robert always seems to come up with spectacular ideas at the most appropo time and now that he is the new chapter treasurer he has vigorously taken up this role of collection. I know because he collected from me before I even had a chance to sit down and quench my thirst. So all you active and non-active members, better to pay your \$3 chapter dues and \$2 subscription dues for the Go-For-Broke Bulletin, pronto!

Wally Kawamura was appointed chairman for the important social committee. We can look forward to a thrilling and fun-filled time this year as there's never a dull moment with Wally in charge.

Hideo Nakayama will continue as the welfare chairman, a position which could be a permanent one for him. Give him all information on welfare cases so that he'll be able to deal appropriately in each case.

Not enough can be said for the calling committee. Some of them as far as I can remember has continued and served on this committee for many years. Loads of kudo's and mahalo for your untiring devotion and effort for a job well done. The committee has been increased this year to lighten the calling load. The committeemen are as follows: Isa Takiyama, Jiro Watanabe, Hideo Nakayama, Doc Miyamoto, Fumio Ohashi, "Donkey" Nakahara, Bill Hagio and Richard Furukawa.

The NVR '79 registration from the mainland is coming in steadily according to Robert S. Kenneth & Masako Inada of Williamsville, N.Y., and Jun & Beverly Yamamoto of L.A., will be coming from the latest info received. Since our last chapter meeting, much progress has been made towards our planning. Correspondent Yoshiji has mailed to all available known address of members and friends of members, the tentative itinerary and questionnaire form for the various activities they wish to take part in. Altho' this is the first time that we are doing this, we are expecting good results from it. Needless to say, we need your TIME and MONEY to carry out the many different activities. We need your full support--so sign up now!

Now that P.K. Matsumoto is eminently qualified to be Commodore, guess you'll have to move over Wally to make room for him to be seated in his proper place of rank. Sorry 'bout that Wally.

P.K. is recipient of a certificate for the successful completion of the Boating Skills and Seamanship course by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. It is quite an impressive schedule of courses: Seamanship; Piloting Marine Engine; Marlin

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by Kaoru Watanabe

The Reunion fever is spreading on the mainland and so far we have tentatively identified a total of ten who will attend the Reunion in Hawaii. John Kashiki, Shig Hinatsu, Tom Hanami, Tooru Kanazawa, Sam Yoshinari, Wally Nunotani, George Burkle, Tooru Taguchi, Hazime Yoshizawa and George Otsuka. They will be accompanied by their wives except for George who is still single. Incidentally, Tooru and his wife were only recent visitors to Hawaii but promised that they will return. Plans are beginning to take shape for the event June 23 thru 28. President Charles Oda will appoint a committee to plan the time available for Chapter events. A Hospitality Room at the Sheraton Waikiki where all the visitors will room has been confirmed for our Chapter.

On a more sombre note, we were saddened to learn that Sam Isamu Fujikawa who left us early in Italy due to an injury passed away at Tripler on January 2nd, 1979. Charles Oda participated in the services.

END



by Bruno Yamada

PRESIDENT'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

Former House Speaker Tadao Beppu and K Co.'s guest, Masa Horikawa shot sensational 65s at the Pearl Country Club on December 30 to win the final tournament for 1978. Tadao who plays with a seventeen handicap, fired a weak 44 for the front nine but came in with a very strong 38 for an 82 gross. Masa who carries a thirteen started well with a one over 37 and came in with a 41 for a 78 gross. Tadao was awarded the President Nakamura's Trophy while Masa went home with the Francis Sugai's Jumbo award.

In the runners-up spot it was co-winners again when Richard Yorita and Nobu Iha were three strokes back with 68s. They were followed by Kobe Shoji, Cooper Tanaka and Bill Tanaka who had very respectable 69s. Jack Kaguni, Halo Hirose, Kats Nakamura and Bob Hirayama were the other prize winners with 70s.

The next club tournament will be the fabulous Kauai Invitational followed by the Anniversary Tournament which will be played at the Pearl Country Club on March 24th.

END



by Mino Suzumoto

Club Item happily acknowledges the many Holiday Cheers and Greetings heaped upon us by our former comrades-in-arms, from all over. Picking the cards from the top of the stack and listing the names with no particular order in mind: ISHUP & SETS TANDO (Chicago); KAZ & YO MUTO (Suisun City, Ca.); SHIRO & LOU KASHINO (Seattle); Dr. VIC & MICHIE IZUI (Evanston, Ill.); EDDIE & TOMI YAMAGUCHI (Torrance, Ca.); HANK & KIYO OTSUKI (Livermore, Ca.); BOB M. ISO (San Jose); FRED & BEA MATSUMURA (Gardena); WILSON & MARGA MAKABE (Reno).

JIM & MARIAN YAMASHITA (La Habra, Ca.); STEVE & PAT NEMETH (Garden Grove, Ca.); FRANK SHIMADA (San Jose); SAM & JEAN BLACK (Santa Clara); CAP UTSUNOMIYA (Santa Clara); TAK & MARY SENZAKI (L.A.); NICKY & YOSHIE IMAI (Koloa, Kauai); HARRY & ROSE KATAOKA (Seattle); SADAICHI & AMY KUBOTA (Hilo); GEORGE & MARGARET OSHITA (Kapaa, Kauai); U.S. Sen. DAN K. & MAGGIE INOUE (Washington D.C., Honolulu); And really, a host of "local mail" I reluctantly have to overlook (again!). For the record, this latter list is as long as the one above! Maybe, some day.

To ISHUP and KAZ MUTO, for their continuous support at every year's end, a great big "MAHALO!" Confidentially, it's been so long, that I've not recall how far their generous gestures dates back. And to BOB ISO, for his surprise package from "Hickory Farms," "...MAHALO!" to you too!

That MASA "Nakamoto" referred to in the prior issue, relating to the Co. I "Aloha (reunion) Committee" co-chairmanship, you, of course, knew it should've been NAKAMURA. And I'm embarrassed no end! Me, who've been programmed to think along the political line that says "You can call me an S.O.B., but, damnit, spell my name right! Hokey! So sollee, NAKAMURA-san.

Remember the fellow Itemite who searched that old "Brown Bottle Club" area in Waimah, for our dinner meeting site, trying to find the "Primo Village of the Pacific"? And all the time we were located a mere few hundred yards just makai of him, along the waters edge, leading into the Pearl Harbor perimeter? Well, since he was sheepishly admitting to a few others, of being "it", at our CHAMP SUZUKI--NVR oriented New Year's bash, I suppose I'm permitted to publicly expose him. And the name is,....DONALD KAMEDA! As a sequel to that incident, he tells yours truly he and BARBARA went looking for a samian stand (compared to our Hawaiian luau) and went home immediately thereafter, thoroughly disgusted with himself...Now, you didn't think, even for one moment, that I had made up this story, did you?

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Am taking this means to inform whomever, that one of the dozen anthuriums sent to TOM & ROSE KINAGA (L.A. address) by BRUNO YAMADA on behalf of the Item Golf Club, back there during Sept.-Oct., have been returned marked "recipient moved". BRUNO expressed regrets it had to happen this way, and if anyone could convey the message to the KINAGAS, wherever they are, he'd more than appreciate it.

The first of what promises to be a series of pre-reunion committee meetings, relating to the coming NVR was held at the 442 clubhouse on Fri., Jan. 5 and presided over by ICHIRO-san. Others who were there: STAN, MASA NAKAMURA, BOZO & LIZ, TERRY, BRUNO, KAZU, plus yours truly. C.B. and MITS OSHIRO too were asked to show but couldn't make it. Ground rules, committee jurisdictions, etc., were laid out by the general chairman. BRUNO distributed limited copies of his Co. I post-reunion itinerary (subject to changes) which promises to become more exciting as the days go by. Take a look for yourself:

THE 1979 "I" COMPANY POST REUNION--TENTATIVE PROGRAM IS LISTED AT THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Switching from a Christmas party to a New Year get-together instead, as suggested by Prexy TERRY ARATANI, proved to be a WINNER! It was standing room only, at the J.C.C. No, the men-folks weren't being stoic, or even gallant this time. There just weren't enough chairs to go around. Not that it was unexpected. The "call-in" response from the general membership was the best in years, to begin with, and all indications were that the number of people attending would surpass our reservation of 60 to 65. A progress report was being fed to the Chairman SUZUKI who "decreed" in the end that we leave it at 65, unless that figure turns out to be ridiculously low at some stage. Being held, too, on a Thursday evening with all that parking facilities left to ourselves alone, helped, I'm sure.

Seen at the scene: BRUNO & ELLEN YAMADA; STANLEY YAMAMOTO; CHAMP SUZUKI; BILL GONZALES; BOB MIYAJI; MINO, DOT & ARNOLD SUZUMOTO; MITS & YUKI YAKUMA; BOZO & LIZ NISHIOKA; TED & DIANNE OGATA; DALE PECK; SMITTY & ELSIE KOGA; KENNETH HIGA; TOMMY UEDA; KAZUMA OYAMA; MOTOMI SHINDO; DANNY & MARY YAMASHITA; MANO SHIROTA; FUTAO TERASHIMA (amazing!); KIICHI KATO; C.B. & GAY SAKAMOTO; with son KEITH; KOPPE YAMAMOTO; AKI & BARBARA KAMEDA (hey!...they didn't get lost this time); TAD FUJISHIGE; FRANCIS SUGAI; JOE HANZAWA; CAL & NANCY LUM; HIRAM DOI; GEORGE AOYAMA; KAZU SHOKA; BILL, PEGGY, ERIC & GAY NAGANUMA; YASO ABE (let's make it a habit!); KAZU, WINI & GIVEN TAKEKAWA plus cousin DONA NAGAKI; KENNETH & BETTY OKUMA (looking vivacious as ever! BETTY, I mean. Not KEN); TERRY & ELSIE ARATANI; LARRY, MARIAN & FAYE ISHIKAWA; MASA & HELEN NAKAMURA; CLARENCE TARA; JOE and daughter CINDY OKUMOTO (taking a breather from her studies at Williamette U., Oregon); ANDY & MAE

YAMASHIRO with sons ERIC & DEAN plus mainland guests TOM TAGGART, Shelbyville, Ill., & BRAD GRAY, Louisburg, Penn. (The latter two being school buddies of ERIC who himself had graduated from Westminster College, Fulton, Mo., DEAN matriculated at Bradley, Peoria, Ill.); RALPH ARASHIRO; TOGO NAKAGAWA; MITS & SUMI OSHIRO....'No shows' included TERUMI KATO; MASA KIKUCHI; HAROLD WATASE & TOM NAKAMURA.

With interest in the Nisei Veterans Reunion steadily mounting, as per phone calls from Hilo (SADA KUBOTA), Kauai (MARGARET OSHITA) and Chicago (VIC & ISHUP) plus mail from far away as New Jersey (MARY ITO) and yes even from a place called Ambler, Penn. (ALLEN you-know-who) lets post additional names of those more or less committed to being here come June 23--28, 1979: JIM & MARIAN YAMASHITA (I was about to give up on them); KAZ & YOSHIO MUTO plus son DONALD (19). FELIX & MARGARET DAVIEAU (and daughter DEBRA, 22, and it's high time the DAVIEAU got to Hawaii). Also JOHN & TSURUKO SADANAGA (AF Col., ex-"I" Co. with son DEAN, 12). TOMIO & EMIKO ICHIKAWA (MIS); JACK & JANET TERUKO SULLIVAN (VFW Post 2333, Fairfield, Suisun,.... Remember the Glen Ellen picnic in 1964?); TONY & HELEN HARABURDA (Boise, Idaho, Aloha and Welcome back); FRANK SHIMADA and his gang, SYDNEY (14), TODD (11) SHIMADA and PAUL (15) and CAROL (11) SAKAMOTO. 2 nieces and 2 nephews of his; NOBO & ROSE KUTIA with guests JOY (ROSE's brother) and BETTY USHIO plus KIMIKO (15) and TAMIKO (12); FRED TAKENAKA; BILL & JUNE TERAGAWA and CAROLYN, WILLIAM & JONATHAN (17 years of age); HARRY & MAY YOSHIMURA (Bellflower, Ca.); DICK & SETS SHINTO plus brother-in-law ALLAN & FRANCES KOBATA. (DICK admits it'll be a first time in Hawaii for him); STEVEN & SUSANA OKADA, Chino, Ca. (STEVEN being ENRO's son)...That's it for now. We'll keep you informed if they're anymore additions to be made.

Our reunion programs are progressing as well as can be expected at this stage in time. Will get in touch as soon as the committees firms things up.

Meantime, TAD FUJISHIGE says, "Don't forget your Co. 'I' dues!"...See you all at the coming 442nd Veterans Club Anniversary Banquet at the Ilikai Hotel, Pacific Ballroom, FRIDAY, March 23, 1979.

SELJI NAKAHARA, reportedly in Queen's Medical Center, the aftermath of a car accident on Kunia Road.

KAZUMA OYAMA, rushed to the same facilities after suffering a serious heart attack, as this goes to press.

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1979

"I" COMPANY POST REUNION - TENTATIVE PROGRAM

- THURSDAY, JUNE 23 10:10 AM---First wave depart for Molokai. (Preparation Group.) Aloha Flight 70.
10:28 AM---Arrive at Molokai and head for Sheraton-Molokai.
2:55 PM---Main group leave Honolulu on HAL 300.
3:20 PM---Main group arrive at Molokai. Board bus for tour of the east end of Molokai, stopping at Pohakuloa for refreshments then proceed on to Halawa Valley lookout. Stop at Kaunakakai for mid-afternoon snacks and other knick-knacks before returning to hotel.
7:30 PM---Moonlight Picnic on Kepuhi Beach (near hotel).
- FRIDAY, JUNE 29 7:30 AM---Breakfast prepared by the Item Golf Club at Hospitality Room.
9:30 AM---Golf tournament at Kalua Koi Golf Course. Fishing, swimming, surfing and sight-seeing is permissible at this time.
7:00 PM---No host banquet at Ohia Lodge. (Music and dancing.)
- SATURDAY, JUNE 30 7:00 AM---Coffee, juice and Molokai Bread in hospitality Room. Have baggage packed for departure.
8:00 AM---Depart for Kalaupapa Lookout for short picnic.
9:15 AM---Depart for airport.
10:30 AM---HAL 276 depart for Maui.
10:45 AM---Aloha 70 depart for Maui.
10:48 AM---HAL 276 arrive on Maui.
11:01 AM---Aloha 70 arrive on Maui.---Board busses for Maui Beach Hotel for lunch and accommodations.
1:00 PM--- Short tour to Maui Veterans Cemetery for Memorial Services. Rest of afternoon and night free.
- SUNDAY, JULY 1 4:00 AM---Depart for Haleakala to witness beautiful sunrise. Proceed to Kihei Beach for Brunch.
10:00 AM---Brunch at Kihei Beach Park.
11:30 AM---Bus to proceed to Lahaina to spend rest of day. Golfers will stay back and play 18 holes at Wailea Golf Course.
4:30 PM---Everyone return to hotel.
7:00 PM---Joint no-host dinner in Kahului. (walking distance from hotel)
- MONDAY, JULY 2 -----Morning will be free for shopping, more golf, swimming or sight-seeing.
1:15 PM---First wave back to Honolulu on Aloha 413.
1:45 PM---Second wave back to Honolulu on HAL 351.
Rest of the day will be free to meet friends, last minute shopping and anything else upon request. (Private transportation will be provided upon request. Accommodations will be at the Pagoda Terrace Hotel.
- TUESDAY, JULY 3 9:00 AM---Golf at the Honolulu International Golf Club.
Tours to anywhere on Oahu upon request.
7:00 PM---Farewell Banquet at Pagoda Ballroom.
- WEDNESDAY, JULY 4 -----DEPARTURE DAY.....ALOOOHA.

522-B CHAPTER NEWS

Robert Fujimoto

How was the Silent Majorities yultide season? The 522nd Baker Chapter "activists", plus those who has no place else to go, had a Xmas party, Saturday 23rd December 1978, at the Tripler Officers Club, Crystal Room. It is overlooking the beautiful Western Pacific, city lights of Honolulu and Honolulu International Airport. Other significant areas can be identified but after a few cocktails under the belt, any specific major area can be distorted or out of focus. Also, the altitude and thin air of the night can contribute to the adverse effect. To the initiated few who may recognize the Tripler Army Medical Center, after visiting their relatives or sick friends during the evening, may recall the serenity of the evening.

Invariably, the bar seems to have a certain attraction, that a few will never be further away than their arms length, as you may see in the photo, the revelers, Allen Mekaru and Toshi Nishizawa and unknown third person. The 2nd photo as you may have noticed, is the collection of "pay before you eat" is conducted by our faithful and accurate bookie, Masaru Nakakura and Mike Hara, who is paying for his dinner. The 3rd photo, Fred Hirayama, chewing the fat with Charles Matsumoto and Kiyoshi Ozaki.



No sooner than 1½ hour later dinner was served by the waitresses, of Steak & Crab, potatoes and beans. For dessert it was sherbet, I think. During the course of the dinner, Fred (X-Pres.) made a suggestion to the members that a motion is desired to subsidize the party cost per individual (paid up members only). One of the attentive member, Richard O. immediately made it to a motion and seconded by Mike H. and no sooner the majority agreed. Also, he presented the Board of Directors nominees for the year of 1979. The names, positions and unit were: Stanley Kaneshiro-President, (service); Charles Matsumoto-Vice President, (HQ); Daniel Tada-Secretary (Baker); and Hiromi Fujiwara Treasurer (service). The motion to accept the nominees as presented was confirmed by Don S. and seconded by Ted T. The photos listed below from left to right: The 1st photo with newly elected officers; Hiromi F. and Charles N.; the 2nd photo reveals Ellen Kunihiro and Richard Ogata carolling some of the Christmas songs; the 3rd photo shows Joseph O. and Walter I. in action.



The official part of the program were completed within a few minutes and continued our dinner. I guess its better to satisfy the stomach first than to shove down nitty gritty official appetizer.

There were much singing for each person was issued a reproduced copy of songs so they could keep up with the words. Songs were selected at random by the members and guests suggestions.

Now that our consumed food had partially digested and few additional drinks in our veins, exercising or larynx and the blood pressure rising. BINGO! came into reality, where all have a chance to win. Oh! some may do win more than one prize than others but the majority appeared to be satisfied of their winnings. The prizes were in the category of edibles to non-edibles and were selected with care (cost wise) by none other than our reliable Walter Inouye and aides. Yes, he is always in demand for handling the programming and also made additional contribution of liquors at most of the festivities, this was informed me by Fred H. Hats off for contribution well done.

Somehow, between the singing and Bingo, I have a vague knowledge when it happened, the Grab-Bag drawing for all attending were drawn. Before long, the evening activity began to wane, and we all headed for home, some may have stayed to enjoy the music by the guitarist in the main dining room.

New subject; on Friday, 26 January 1979, Baker Chapter conducted the first general meeting of the year, presided by Stanley Kaneshiro and the board members. Initially, he welcomed the year by acknowledging the past Prexy and his staff (Board of Directors) past performances and being able to do comparable work reflective of the needs and interests of the Chapter membership. The fresh perspectives and vitality which Stanley has will enable us to move closer together as the months go by.

The proposed and anticipated program for 1979 are: Feb., 23rd, Shinen-Kai (Stag/dinner meeting), we, the members present, paid in advance the sum of \$5; March 23rd, Anniversary Banquet; May, dinner/meeting (wives included), special speaker, Eddie Ichiyama, subject on Social Security benefits; August, picnic; October, dinner/meeting (wives included again); December, (Wives, sweetheart, young adults and children); all other months not mentioned is open for general meeting. I would like to add at this time, for the few who cannot recall dates, to jot it down in their personal calendar and make it a point that it would not be in conflict with their family affairs. Over heard a small rumbling that Xmas party should be held at an earlier date, not

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like the past, it was on the 23rd of December. My opinion and suggestion would be the first complete week of December should be an acceptable time for the celebration. After all many are obligated to attend their family and business obligations first. If all of you out there have a good and acceptable suggestion, please contact your respective Battery, membership committee, he in turn will present it to the board for confirmation of acceptance and may have a slight modification to satisfy all.

The membership committee and their respective batteries are: Masaru (Biggie) Nakamura (HQ); George (Rocky) Tanna (Baker); Toshio (Bulldog) Nishizawa (Baker); Hideo Nakamine (Baker) and Henry Ishida (Serv.).

Other major important date to remember is; June 23 thru 28, Veterans Reunion at Sheraton-Waikiki Hotel. The Registration/Reservation form for Hawaii residents is currently available to members at the clubhouse or contact your respective membership committee representatives. The activities a person desire to be included must be submitted before May 9, 1979. One of the item for an identifier will be the Men's Aloha Shirt, manufactured in colors of brown and/or blue, sizes from small, medium, large and extra large. Note the conservative desire of the individual members, they are trying to save some hard earned cash because of the cost for one shirt is \$15. The other has a medium large shape (physique) that he may have to purchase the larger size what he is accustomed to wear.

At this time, George (Rocky) Tanna informed the reporter that James and Toshi Mizuno and Lefty and rose Adachi, will be coming from L.A. (smog) to attend the reunion. Also, from Seattle (Rain forest) will Ted and Maiko Watanabe. For the Silent Majorities, if you desire it to have it printed, please contact your respective membership committee representative.

The general meeting ended within the prescribed hour (not like the governing body of legislature). To accelerate the adjournment, the Windward breeze (Kailua) and Leeward (Waipahu) members expressed their concern of the game table action is ready to roll.

In behalf of Baker chapter, our sympathy to George Marumaru, his father passed away, recently.

Pau for now until the next time, eh!-----
By, Robert (Sugar) Fujimoto. Photo credit by AV Images.

END

The following newsletter written by JERRY ISHIMOTO, who is stationed in Camp Butler, Okinawa.

Today's topic is titled "How to travel economically while silently enduring all the inconveniences not associated with first class commercial conveyances". Or, "Go Space 'A' but don't lose your cool even though a 1000 & 1 thing can and will befall a military space 'A' traveler", who, hereafter will be known as S.A.T. Ruth and I were two such SAT's during New Years. We thought it would be interesting to see how my kinfolks in Yamaguchi-Ken celebrate New Years. We found out how interesting.

After inquiring at passenger information, Kadena AFB on Christmas Day, we were informed that there will be an aircraft from the Philippine passing thru Okinawa to Iwakuni, Japan and points east on the 30th of December. Terrific! That should get us there before New Years Eve and we can ring in the New Year with hot sake on the rocks. Now this is the tricky part so pay close attention. You don't want to book-in too early and be called to go out on an earlier flight. You won't be there, consequently they'll remove your name from all flights unless you book-in again. By then you'll be low man on the totem-pole and won't be able to leave on the desired date. After checking further, we found that there were no earlier flights than the 30th. So armed with our travel orders, passports, leave forms and I.D., we proceeded to book-in at the passenger service counter. We pause here to inform all you uninformed that all travel in the military is handled by the Air Force. During the holidays every SAT wants to go everywhere so the traffic is heavy. The harried A/C starts to stamp, scribble and staple our space 'A' application and at the same time answer questions from other would-be travellers. "Is there space on such and such flight to California, etc.etc?" "No, if there were, I'd be on it." After reflecting a bit the A/C adds, "That's a little joke I slipped in, ha, ha!" "Okay, take these papers over to Border clearance next office." Border Clearance checks our passports, scribbles some more and "Take these back to Passenger Service." Again, A/C scratch, scratch. Report back 2 hours before departure time "Hai", we shout and "Merry Christmas."

On the 30th, we are there 3 hours before the 1630 departure time and are informed that the flight has been moved up to 1430. To check in, we go thru the same ritual as the first day. Show our travel orders, passports, leave form and I.D. Then over to Border Clearance and to baggage check. Here, another Airman makes out our boarding passes and we pay \$10 each. It's not free anymore. We wait and wait and at 1430 the P/A blares that the flight is delayed to 1600 due to

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non-arrival of the aircraft. If this didn't happen, I'd be forced to change my concept of the old "hurry-up and wait" military system. But true to form they did not disappoint. The Flying Tiger military charter arrives at 1630, 2 hours late. We line up to go thru the metal detectors manned by the Air Police, file into a waiting room where the hand-carry bags are searched. We are exempt from this search because we are only leaving the Japanese Province and not the country. When every one had passed the scrutiny of the AP's we then file out to board the aircraft. Seat belt fastened and all ready to take off? Oh no! We are not to slip the surly bonds of earth yet. The stewards go up and down the aisle counting heads over and over. They count but still come up with one extra head. Finally, everyone must show their boarding passes and lo & behold, there's a Marine stowaway who is sitting in the plane nonchalant about the furor he's causing. They quickly escort the no-SAT off the aircraft and one-half hour after boarding the aircraft, we go off into the wild blue yonder.

We reach Iwakuni, Japan, about 2130 after a 1½ flight. Oh, but that 1½ hour trip took us 8½ hours from the time we checked in. So what did you expect? I told you earlier that its cheap, didn't I?

Well, too late to catch the train for an hour's ride to Iwata where my uncle lives. Besides its too cold to stay outside--temperature being in the low 40's. We check into the Hostess House on base for \$4 a night. Hey--now that's my idea of travelling economically.

The following day Dec. 31 being Sunday, we couldn't find any place on base to eat breakfast. We catch the train and head for my uncle's, sans breakfast. We get off about 2 stations before Iwata at the city of Yanai. The idea is to stay at a western-type hotel because the last time we were at my uncle's Ruth couldn't use the flush toilet (flush with the floor). Me too, I get the awful fear that my wallet will drop out of my hip pocket and fall into the hole. On the last day of our visit, it fell. Not my wallet. My second cousin dropped her slipper. It was recovered but for obvious reasons, I didn't ask for details. Well, anyway we jump into a cab and ask to take us to a western-type hotel. He couldn't find any that is open. The Japanese people have closed business for the 3 days of New Years. The cabbie radios back to the dispatcher but they couldn't help either. Akishamio! We're in the cab already so "take us to Iwata." When we got there the fare was \$21 give or take a few yen. Imagine spending \$21 and Ruth never got to use a western-type toilet.

New Year's eve in Japan should be a rousing time with all the kinfolks gathered together and partying-up, so I thought. Ruth and I spent the night huddled around the Kotatsu watching "Uto-daigassen" on the TV. This thing about Kotatsu. The feet and hands are warm alright but the back is cold. Also my back ached. From sitting on the floor so much. The program ended about midnight and by then everyone was off to bed and the house was quiet. No firecrackers, no shouting "Happy New Year," no goodies on the table.

New Year's day the whole family got together and that's when we got hit by the young people. The kids really make out if they got lots of relatives and this year there were two more from Hawaii. The Japanese call it "Otoshi Dama". I call it something else which is not as polite.

Afternoon was spent by going to the Omiya and lighting some incense, reading fortune written on tissue papers and tying them onto a tree branch. Finally rang a great big gong and took leave to visit the Kintai Bridge at Iwakuni.

The Kintai Bridge is a tourist attraction and the place was crowded even with the chilly weather. The young people were all out promenading in their finest--especially the young girls all dressed up in kimonos. Very pretty sight. The kimonos were pretty too. The bridge? Oh, about 200 years old, built in 5 arch spans without nails. Did they have magic glue during those days? On both banks of the bridge were countless cherry trees with buds ready to bloom in a few weeks. That's when we should be there, we're told. The cherry blossom admirers will be out by the droves for Hana Matsuri, picnics under the cherry blossoms, drink sake and fight. Towards dusk, we got home and spent a quiet night.

On the 2nd day, it was time to take leave of the rural life and head back to Iwakuni Base to catch an early flight the following day. That is when the goodies came out. Kinda spartan compared to what we're used to back home. Roast chicken, turkey, tempuras, fish, sashimi, etc. Compared to the fares here, I'm convinced that the American people eat so much better to a point where what's commonplace to us, is a feast to these people. As a gesture of appreciation, for their hospitality we took 3 of the young second cousins and treated them to steak dinner at the NOO club on Base. Seeing the appreciative look in their eyes was a feast for our soul too.

The trip back to Okinawa was routine and uneventful. "Routine" is riding in a C-141 cargo jet along with the cargo lashed down in the same compartment. The jet noise is so unbearable, they give each SAT's wax to stuff into the ear.

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by Ron Oba

The year of the Ram promises to be as thunderous as the clashing of the horns when Fox Chapter flexes its muscles to do its share in promoting the Annual Banquet and the 36th Reunion of the 442nd Vets Club. Fox Chapter has inherited the assignment for coordinating the Annual Banquet on March 23rd by virtue of having its member, Kats Nakamura, as its outgoing President. It's only proper that the outgoing President arrange for the installation of the incoming officers.

As if the Foxites don't have enough to do, 30 Foxes and Foxettes are planning to visit Kauai for another George Nakasato conducted safari into Waimea Canyon and a weekend of golf. Not to be outdone the Cha Cha's are frantically memorizing new steps to try them out at the Beach Boys.

REUNION PLANNING

The Big Reunion is scheduled for June 23-28. During this minor invasion of our friendly shores each chapter will be having their own beerbusts, chapter nights and mini pot lucks. A great deal of planning and preparation will have to be done for each happening. Kats Nakamura has been appointed reunion chapter chairman assisted by Ron Oba. The following members and spouses will be responsible for the chapter functions starting on June 23: Grace Nakamura and Sharon Tanaka for the Saturday Night pot luck at the DAV Clubhouse; Joe Tanaka for the Sunday Night Aloha Shindig at the Queen Kapiolani Hotel's Chapter hospitality room; Kats Nakamura for the Monday Night Dinner at Hotel's Banquet room; Fox Chapter for the Tuesday Night Reunion Banquet in the Pacific Ballroom of the Ilikai Hotel; and Wednesday night will be a catch as catch can for those not trekking over to the Polynesian Cultural Center for the evening's program.

George Nakasato will arrange interesting side tours as well as be in charge of transportation with Shige Higa. Harry Shimada has been stocking up the spirits and other beverages but he's worried sick that someone just might ask for Primo when Schlitz is closing the brewery. I still have a gut feeling that we'll have to have a toast reunion get together for several days to eat and drink up the left-overs.

Speaking of post reunion activities we have word from Sadao Nishida of Hilo via Kats that the Hilo Chapter is inviting all interested parties to join them at the Pohakuloa National Camp as an extension of the reunion from Oahu to the Big Island. Write him for details if you are interested.

RECUPERATING

Get well wishes to Masa Hokama, a December visitor to the Kuakini Medical Center for 6 days to remove something or another. He appreciated the nurses so much that he had to visit Ron Oba in his hospital pajamas to complain about the good treatment and how the nurses were spoiling him. Ron just happens to be in charge of patient services and hopes that Masa has recovered sufficiently to run his music store and udon shop. Understand that every customer who purchases a T.V. gets a free bowl of udon.

YOU WANT TO KNOW

That Cupie Tanaka met Frank Sotelo while visiting Las Vegas. Frank presently resides in Vegas and enjoys the night life.

Congratulations to Mark Yorita and Glenn Ikeda, December graduates of the University of Hawaii.

Superlatives to young John Tamagawa, McKinley High student who contributed to the school's weekly point standings by getting perfect scores in math during the 5th week of the interscholastic contest.

Happy Days to Harry Shimada who took an early retirement on December 1, 1978. He's a casualty of the asbestos dust--not serious. But what can we say in behalf of Chikako Shimada who's going to have Harry hanging around the house all day. Buy him a fishing reel? Ask Shinako what she does with Mich. Suggestion: come take dance lessons with us every Monday night. Gosh, that takes care of only one night.

A toast to Frank Fukuzawa who was elected President of the 442nd Vets Club of Southern California, L.A.

RINGING IN THE NEW

To end the year right and greet the new year together, the following people experienced New Year's eve at Roy and Ramona Iritani's: Joe and Sharon, Tommy and Mae, George and Myrtle, Bill and Cupie, James and Jean, Bolo and Frances, Kats and Grace, Shige, Yoshio, and Doc's three sons Roy, Jr David and Stewart. Kudo's to Bill who chuffed and broiled the steaks to everyone's delight.

END



by Ed Sakai

After a little arm twisting, Anti-Tank Chapter elected HALO HIROSE as President for 1979. It's going to be a busy year...the Anniversary Banquet is coming around the corner in March; the Nisei Veterans Reunion will occur in June; and the Chapter will be having its get-togethers throughout the year. Have a good year, HALO!

Our Treasurer is JACK KAGUNI. He's keeping accurate records of those paying up...so those of you who wish to join in with the Anti-Tank activities should pay up soon.

PRESIDENT HALO asked ED SAKAI to continue with the news reporting...so send in the news...from the Aloha Islands as well as from the Big Island which we sometimes call the mainland. We all want to know what's happening here and there.

PRESIDENT HALO also appointed KO HATA and ED SAKAI to coordinate the Anti-Tank Chapter's activities for the Nisei Veterans Reunion in June. KO and ED have started planning already. We have sent out letters to Anti-Tankers regarding the fund for the Reunion and so far these Tankbusters have contributed to the kitty: ROY EBATA, AKIRA "SUNSHINE" FUKUNAGA, SABURO HARADA, HALO HIROSE, LIZO HONMA, RICHARD "RUGGED" MIYAKAWA, HERBERT MIZUNO, GEORGE MORIMUNE, SHIGERU NIKALDO, ED SAKAI TAKAYUKI "CHILLY" SASAKI, HIDEO TANABE, MINORU TATEISHI, HARRY TOKASHIKI AND LINCOLN "CAMEL" YOSHIMASU. JIMMY SAKIMOTO from Los Angeles made a big contribution to the Reunion kitty. We're expecting more to be added to the Reunion kitty; so you "kotonks" from the Big Island, make your plans to come over and have fun in paradise.

JUDGE MASATO DOI recently retired from the bench. Three different groups had a retirement party to honor MASATO and SACHI...from the Bar Association, there were judges and lawyers; from the Business Community, there were a good number; and from the Anti-Tank group, there were: "SUNSHINE" and SACHI FUKUNAGA, KO & JANET HATA, HALO HIROSE, JACK & MARGARET KAGUNI, YUKI & NORA NAKAHIRA, HARRY & JANET TOKASHIKI, KENNETH "FIDUKI" & HELEN YOKOYAMA, "CAMEL" AND RUTH YOSHIMASU. There were others who wanted to attend, but they had prior commitments. MASATO still plans to be active in law...and we don't want a good man to retire permanently.

Want to go where the American dollar is still worth something? KIYOMI HIROSE just returned from India...she went with her sister MRS. ALICE PARROT and son TIMMY...and she wants to go back there again! The PARROTS who live in Santa Fe took care of some guests from India and when KIYOMI, ALICE and TIMMY visited India, these

people reciprocated in grand style. In New Delhi they saw the Red Fort, Gandhi Park, 14 different kinds of transportation, animals wandering on the streets. In Varanasi they saw few beggars...they do not hassle people...they wait for alms. In Agra one of the wonders of the world is located there...the Taj Mahal...it is a masterpiece and beautiful...20,000 persons took 17 years to develop the world wonder. In Jaipur they tried the elephant ride and were enthralled with the Pink Palace. In Aurangabad, on the outskirts of Bombay, is the wonderful religious city under the mountain...there are 25 temples or monasteries built under the mountains and Tourists enter through a cave in the mountain...It was started in the 1st century before Christ and was completed in the 8th century, and was re-discovered in the 19th century. The people in India are really nice and are rich in arts and crafts...beautiful jewelry, beautiful fabrics, and many other beautiful handcrafted things. If you're a good observer, you'll note 22 states in India, and each state has slightly different ways of preparing food, wearing of clothing, and kinds of craftwork...the women's saris and the men's turbans can indicate what state they're from. The children begin working from a very young age...even 6 years olds are using the looms. But the people are lovely...the women beautiful...the male cattle is put to work, but the female cows are sacred and are fed by the people. There are tourists from all over the world in India...guess tourists are smart too. And if you want to know more about the beautiful things of India, check with KIYOMI...the Indians from India may be a little reticent to boast about their historical and beautiful people.

Received some news from Southern California, from JIMMY SAKIMOTO. "37 Tankbusters, wives and friends gathered at the Regency Restaurant in Downey for a prime rib dinner. The dinner chairman MINORU (CHAPPIE) KISHABA did fantastic job with door prizes and all. Besides the usual bull session about old times, the main subject was the 442nd Reunion in 1979.

Those who "expressed going to the Reunion are: DAVID (BOW WOW) OGAWA from Sanger, TOM & KAY NAKATA of Manteca, ALBERT & YOSHIKO KIZUKA, MINORU & MOLLIE KISHABA, KIYO (ONION) & MARY FUJIMOTO, JIM & AMY SAKIMOTO, MASANORI & GERDA OTA, YOICHI (GUTCH) & YUKI ICHIKAWA, FRANK & EVELYN SETO, TYKE & SUMI HATTORI, HARRY & MAY YOSHIMURA, SEIYA TANAKA of San Luis Obispo.

"Others in attendance at the dinner are: HOBI & KAZUMI FUJII and daughter CAROL, JOE & DOROTHY INOUE, KUNE (88) & KIMI HISATOMI, Honorary Anti-Tankers FRED & HELEN (CHILLY SASAKI's sister) OKAWA, RICHARD (CARRADINE) & BETSY TAKAHARA.

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FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

The 442nd VETERANS CLUB
933 WILLOW STREET HONOLULU HAWAII



GO FOR BROKE

1978 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP, 442ND VETERANS CLUB FCU

Once again, your Board of Directors is pleased to report new records were achieved in 1978:

1. The Treasurer's Reports show that our loan balances, savings accounts, reserves, and net operating profits were at all-time high.
2. The Credit Committee Report indicates that new loans made in numbers and dollars were almost as good as our record 1977 year.

One unfortunate occurrence in 1978 should be disclosed to you. In June, our Credit Union office was vandalized and most of our records and documents contained in the safe were destroyed. However, our Treasurer was able to reconstruct all required records from our computer data file and from various other sources. We are now fully operational and foresee no obstacle in our compliance with FCU record-keeping requirements. All costs to restore stolen equipment, forms and files have been reimbursed by our Credit Union bonding company. No loss, except the Treasurer's time was suffered.

We are pleased, on the other hand, to report that two loan writeoffs totalling \$2,990.00 in 1977 were almost fully recovered in 1978. Our schedule on delinquent loans is minimal and so we foresee no special collection problems.

Our 25th Anniversary takes place in August 1979 and we look forward to your participation in celebrating this special occasion. As we reflect on these past years, we want to thank those fellows who have devoted so much of their time to make this 25th year possible:

Tad Sakai and his Supervisory Committee
Saburo Takayasu, Credit Committee
Managing Treasurer Clarence Taba
Assistant Treasurer Robert Sasaki
Office Clerk Elaine Ebesu

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Katsugo Miho

KATSUGO MIHO, PRESIDENT

Directors:

Walter Matsumoto, Togo Nakagawa, Minoru Suzumoto, Shigeru Goto, Wallace Kawamura

January 22, 1979

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

The 442nd VETERANS CLUB
933 WILLOW STREET HONOLULU HAWAII
GO FOR BROKE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGING TREASURER
TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP, 442ND VC FCU

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET FOR VARIOUS YEARS				
	1975	1976	1977	1978
ASSETS OF FCU MEMBERS:				
Loans to Members.....	286,076	363,809	428,483	442,940
Less Allowance for Loan Losses.....	(1,653)	(2,691)	(2,947)	(3,762)
Cash in Bank.....	1,646	4,367	4,732	10,802
Savings Accounts in S&L/Bank.....	93,160	119,813	162,487	184,003
Common Trust Investments, ICU.....	179,025	163,613	173,746	187,817
Furniture/Equipment, Net	786	526	686	607
TOTAL ASSETS OF MEMBERS.....	559,040	649,437	767,187	822,407
OBLIGATIONS & EQUITY OF MEMBERS:				
Unapplied EDP Credits & Other Payables....			813	1,082
Savings Accounts of Members.....	527,163	615,602	729,920	772,693
General Reserves.....	21,352	22,672	22,672	22,672
Undivided Profits & Earnings.....	10,525	11,163	13,782	25,960
TOTAL OBLIGATIONS/EQUITY.....	559,040	649,437	767,187	822,407

COMPARATIVE PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENTS

	1975	1976	1977	1978
OPERATING INCOME FOR THE YEAR:				
Interest on Loans to Members.....	25,657	30,601	36,440	41,567
Dividends/Interests on Savings Accounts...	3,987	6,951	9,932	12,002
Earnings on Common Trust Investments.....	10,944	9,588	10,133	14,071
Other Income.....	14	9	8	90
TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR.....	40,602	47,149	56,513	67,730
OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR:				
Borrowers'/Savers' Insurance Premiums.....	3,447	3,858	3,886	4,019
Examination/Supervision Fees.....	614	647	727	195
NCUA Insurance on Savings.....	351	433	513	600
Fidelity Bond Premium.....	459	455	513	673
Hawaii Credit Union League Dues.....	345	465	583	617
Provision for Loan Losses.....			2,935	
Data Processing Csts.....	867	981	1,050	1,068
Expense Allowances.....	1,200	1,200	1,198	1,550
Conferences-Seminars: Directors/Officers..	933	802	253	1,048
Other Miscellaneous Expenses.....	1,055	846	935	477
Office Expenses and Supplies.....	1,025	1,079	1,198	1,258
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR..	10,296	10,766	13,791	11,505
NET EARNINGS BEFORE DIVIDENDS.....	30,306	36,383	42,722	56,225

Respectfully Submitted,

Clarence T. Tabata

CLARENCE T. TABA, MANAGING TREASURER
Robert M. Sasaki, Assistant Treasurer

January 22, 1979

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

The 442nd VETERANS CLUB
933 WILLOW STREET HONOLULU HAWAII
GO FOR BROKE

REPORT OF THE 1978 CREDIT COMMITTEE
TO THE GENERAL MEMBERS: P, 442ND VC FCU

Your Credit Committee takes pleasure in presenting the following comparative summary of our loan activities for the past year, as well as, for the preceding three years:

PURPOSE OF LOAN	1975		1976		1977		1978	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Auto/Boat Purchase/Repairs	19	67,588	25	105,740	38	136,277	28	118,590
Vacation & Travel.....	18	43,400	43	101,450	32	65,900	30	56,780
Investments: RE/Stocks....	4	16,000	3	9,300	7	23,566	9	23,500
Home Improv/Furn/Eqpt.....	10	17,646	14	34,449	14	28,000	18	33,000
Medical/Dental Expenses...	3	3,600	3	1,420	1	1,900	2	2,628
Taxes & Insurance.....	9	19,268	9	13,005	16	21,921	12	16,619
Business.....	4	9,500	1	2,500	2	10,800	3	9,000
School & Education.....	2	4,500					2	2,400
Anniversary/Weddings.....	3	5,500	3	5,500	4	7,700	3	5,500
Refinance & Miscellaneous.	4	8,400	2	2,045	10	11,750	10	15,032
TOTAL LOANS MADE.....	76	195,402	103	275,409	124	307,814	117	283,049

AVERAGE PER LOAN..... 2,571 2,673 2,482 2,419

1978 may not have been a record-setting year, but it certainly was almost as good. Auto loans continue to be our prime loans followed by vacation and travel.

We are pleased to note that none of our 1978 borrowers are classified as delinquents. Consequently, there was no need to provide for bad debt reserves.

Respectfully submitted,

Saburo Takayasu
SABURO TAKAYESU, CHAIRMAN
Yoshitaka Kuwaye, Member
Masao Sugihara, Member

January 22, 1979



by Hichi Matsumoto

1979 Chapter Officers

We know darn well that we sound like one "furui borokku natta" phonograph record when we say this but no can help, "mata" we have the right man for the right job. All willing and capable men waiting for the first meeting so they can start and "Go For Broke." If any of them have any flaws "me tsubutte" we never notice. So here are Our Leaders:

PRESIDENT: RODNEY TAMOTSU YAMASHIRO

Our new president is as good as any man for the top position. He has all the tools--ability, integrity, charisma and whatever more praise you wanna heap on him and he's one smart guy too. He's not a loud or boisterous person at anytime or anywhere. At small gatherings or in a crowd. He's the reserved type that most likely you'll never notice the first time but one can't help from noticing him before too long. The more you get to know him, the more highly you think of him. "Akamai" and a humble person but when he speaks he has the knack of captivating the audience that's why everybody listens. He was either class or student body president in his senior year at high school. Debate "demo" he was good, ask any of his three kids. They tell you he's now better than ever.

For most guys after they have a couple of beers they want another round but not our new president. What he likes or you can say craves, is coffee and "nanbo attemo minna nonde shimau." What we're trying to say is his capacity for coffee is beyond and average person and besides "nokotta-ra poho" eh. Only one man's opinion but maybe the chapter can "gibaru" a coffee maker. Lotta guys would go for that.

Like all past chapter presidents, he'll no doubt do an outstanding job. Time he has, being a retired civil service worker. He was connected with the Signal Corps at Fort Shafter. But in full retirement, he found out that too much loafing is hard on the body and the mind deteriorates so now he's working for his son, Alvin, a wholesale candy distributor. Rodney says working time Alvin the boss, but after "pauhana" he's the boss. And while on the job, Rodney says Alvin can scold him (and usually does), but once they get home, Alvin gets it from Rodney. Rodney is a down to earth person and gets along with everybody and his "kodomo to" close. Wife Nora "ni yoo shite yaru" too.

It was only a couple of years ago that "Tamo" (that's how Nora calls him) was our vice president

and the fine work and the impression he made that keeping him under wraps any longer was unfair to him and for the chapter too. In our 232nd Engr/Band chapter, we honor the men not the money or gift (not that we "piilare") but let them do what they enjoy most and do best--work.

VICE-PRESIDENT: WALTER "JUJU" NAKASONE

This guy Juju, in a way is something like Fred "Dang Dang" Arashiro, chapter president a few terms back. They both were way late in joining the chapter. Not because they didn't want to but once joining up, they didn't let any grass grow under their feet.

Dang Dang was in the active service (Army) for a long time. All the hash marks sewn together could pretty near reached his shoulder--that's how long. As for our new vice-president, he was working for Uncle Sam and was stationed in Okinawa. That was the best thing the government did for me, he says, because it was there that he met his wife. We dunno if the "okusan" calls him "anata." Juju reports the "Punjab" Shimabukuro (remember him? the best jeep driver and singer in the company) is still in Okinawa and maybe he no going come home having it so good over there.

The Chapter's new vice-president and president in one respect have the same thing in common their sons are more well known than them. Alvin (Rodney) Yamashiro was consensus Prep All Star running back at Iolani High School and rates with the all time great broken field runners in Hawaii Prep Football history. Keith (Juju) Nakasone is only the NCAA, AAU, US and Pan-Am Games Judo champion in the 139 lbs. class. The champion's "fadda" says, (not bragging but telling it like it is) that my boy win so many trophies, that house "ni oku tokoro ganai."

Juju is retired too but try and get hold of him at home, next to impossible. Him "teppo no tama yohna." But please don't get the impression that he neglects his family because with him, it always has been and always will be the family first, last and always.

He plays golf regularly with the Engrs. Golf Club members and carries a respectable bogey or better handicap. This guy "karadaga" strong and muscles "etto aruke" he hit the ball outa sight and "palahu" too. But what his fellow golfers rave most about is the divot--so deep and so long. Just like one plow went through.

SECRETARY: MASAO YAMASAKI

This going be his third term as secretary of

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the chapter. Nearing the end of his first term (1977) in office, he said "only one more meeting."

But he did such an outstanding job that the chapter rewarded him with another term. "Ancora" nearing the end of his second term he said, "dis and pau"--meaning I did more than my share so now give the other guys chance and in no way come back for another term in office--so he thought.

But when Walter Matsumoto of the election committee (Joe Sato is co-chairman) called him on the phone and asked "How about one more time?" Masao said, "No can say no to him (Walter), eh." So Masao will be in office for the third consecutive year. Second only to Monte Okamoto our treasurer in longevity. Monte "to kurabetara" (consecutive years in office in the same capacity) short but two long years more than anybody else in the chapter.

Being an old pro now, he's a smooth operator at meetings. Listens intently and takes the minutes in shorthand "dohka shiran" but no need to humbug and interfere the president about "dis & dat."

Going off the track a bit but this we gotta let you in. The most unique secretary yet was the one that took the minutes on the brown package that he brought the pupus in. Anyway, by the next meeting, it was usually lost. If not the minutes was so crumpled up or the pencil writing was so lite, no can make out.

Those days you had to attend meetings if you wanted to know what was going on. Miss one and you all jam up. With our three year veteran you can play hookey and still be up to date. It's all in the book--"chanto kaitoru."

Masao is the only one in the chapter with an oak leaf and two clusters.

TREASURER: MONTE SHUJI OKAMOTO

This is Monte's we don't know how many years consecutively in office as the chapter's treasurer. "Is he good at his profession, you ask?" We ask you, "Can a fish swim?" Or in more convincing words "Can Harry Fujii drink beer?" Our distant relatives describes him best when they say, "kono ossan wa semmon ja." "Semmon" is the "mutsukashii kanji" word we learned from his (Monte's) sister, Jane (Joe) Sato.

Monte's been in office for a long time and "boo-coo" good things have been written of his outstanding work to which he rightfully deserves. He's all that have been said of him and more, much more. Were the chapter to honor Monte with

a scroll (or something like that for his work) for every year that he served, he could just about wall paper his house, and his house is no match-box either.

We wanna elaborate more with some fancy words but no can, us guys "atama armari" smart "janai" and the vocabulary very limited too. In fact, we vividly remember Kalihi Japanese School days the number of times us "guru" boys had to march up to the principal's office and face the feared "kocho sensei" for disciplinary action (academic and conduct) and those inevitable famous last words "Oya no kao mitai." Amazing, boy, "iikagende" we all graduated (the main thing was pay your gessha) and turned out to be first class citizens. Frankly speaking, we were the good "warui" kids. Anybody told us to jump, we no ask how high and just jump.

Like having a piece of the "Rock"--the club is in good hands with the afore-mentioned at the helm. To the last man, they make sacrifices and "kurabu no tame" that's why no more any kind "monju and yo gaman dasu."

The best summarization of our 1979 chapter officers would be "Quiet but Effective."

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Chief Liaison Man: Juju Nakasone--A new position created by our new energetic and aggressive president. The job is like the "nakahodo" or go between, between the president and the members. In other words, Juju is supposed to know all the happenings going on at all times within the chapter.

Welfare and Memorial: Walter Matsumoto & Joe Sato. Then two again, ever since the inception of the club.

Reunion: Walter Matsumoto--Again, like all past Reunions.

Primo Night: Hide Nakashige--"Mata Nakashige no boi-san."

Stag Night: Richard Murakami & Masao Yamasaki--Again "kono futari" like the past we don't know how many Stag Nights.

Christmas Party: Juju Nakasone & Hide Nakashige--Hide is a fixture but we have a new one in Juju.

Sgt. At Arms: S.T. Fujioka--He must like the sound--the sergeant part..

Refreshment: Gary Kawate--Kono ossan ni kanawan."

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Fishing: Ben Ono--Him the biggest, strongest and owner of the boat too.

Golf: Pilute Miyashiro--He's one guy that doesn't say much, but.....

1979 REUNION

"Mada hakkirito Kimattoran" because still get some minor loose ends. That's the way we stand as of now. No need to make "iran shimpai" because it's not as bad as it sounds. We just want to be certain that everything is so-so. The Reunion Committee will be meeting several times more should the need call for it. We'll try and keep you posted the best we can so you can plan things accordingly. As of this meeting night (1/24/79) held at General Chairman Walter Matsumoto's home, only six people have turned in their application. So, you guys that are sure of coming, get your okole moving now and take a walk to the nearest mail box and mail in your application. No wait for "bambai."

Following is the list of chairmen of the various committees. General Chairman: Walter Matsumoto: "Da oyabun" or Commander in Chief. He'll run the whole show with kokua from everybody. Vice Chairman: Hide Nakashige--"Da oyabun's mugi no te" or Chief of Staff. Finance: Monte Okamoto--In charge of "Ft. Knox." Where all the money coming from and where going, noting it all down in the "chomen." Gifts: Eddie Kawamoto --Getting something appropriate, "dekiru dake" Hawaiian motif for the guests "oniage." Eddie's been doing this since the very first Reunion. Chapter Night: Bull Namba--This is going to be the Big One. The Reunion's main event as far as the chapter is concerned. With Bull in command, you can expect something very entertaining. Hospitality Room: Tommy Kiyosaki & Harry Fujii --To us the Hospitality Room is The Reunion. That's why for the best, we have the best. "Sgts" Kiyosaki & Fujii will run it with iron fists besides posting K.P. details daily. And you know them two fair and square all the way. You no can "okintama" them and play dead head either. The refreshment portion, they going "makasu" to Gary Kawate. Entertainment: Joe Sato--This is one department that's ready all the time. "SAC" needs something like all of three minutes to get a plane off the ground. With Joe, just give 'em the word. Why, the "shobai-dohgu" (guitar) has a place set aside in the trunk of his car--same with the golf clubs. Then if room "ga attara" the spare tire stays, if not too bad. No need tell you who the other guy going be, eh. No need to go into any details because "kono ossan shiran mon nai. Dis guru rukin man rive in Erue."

Transportation: Richard Urada & Edmund Ezuka--Chauffeur the guests. No matter where or what time of the day or night (amega furu himo, kaze ga fuku himo) as long as between the hours of 0001 hours, June 23 to 2400 hours June 28. The co-bosses guarantee that enuff vehicles will be on hand at all times so no need to worry about running through airport....you can walk. Golf: Paul Watanabe--Making all the necessary arrangements and maybe have refreshments too for the "sugu nodo ga kawaku" guys. All you need do is show up and try play some golf. We get the sneaking hunch that there'll be more than just clubs and balls in the golf bags. Corsage: Kazu Yasuda--Providing corsages (orchid most likely) for the lady guests and kiss them too. Other committees may fall short of men volunteers but not this one. Speaking of orchids, did you hear the one of what the elderly Japanese "oba chan" said when she saw a beautiful orchid? "Maa maa oketsu (orchid no kireina koto)." Memorial Service: Rodney Yamashiro--The job is something different from the ordinary but with Rodney in charge, no sweat. The hard ones he does right away, the harder ones take a little longer. Donations: Calvin Yasuhara--"Sekaiju sagashitemo" you no can find anybody more suited for the job than Calvin. "Areni tanonde nakashitara shimpai nai." No Name: S.T. Fujioka--This is a tough assignment and that's the only kind S.T. would accept. Like the old saying "When the going gets tough, the tough gets going." His job will be sort of a trouble shooter. Like for instance, should anything comes up "hyokotto" which the committee didn't anticipate or have overlooked. Clean-Up: Everybody and every day.

Just a reminder and a very important one to all 232nd Engr/Band Chapter members and you wives too. Maybe we said it before but "emryonashi" we'll say it again. All the committees will be needing help one way or another so you'll be asked time and time again for your services. We know you'll kokua 100% so for that, thank you very much. To simplify matters, if you have any preference as to what committee or better yet, what committees you wanna be on, notify the chairman and leave your name, rank and serial number and your telephone number too, and you're in business (up to the neck) just like the rest of us....lucky you.

CHRISTMAS PARTY & DANCE

Like last year's Christmas party that was held at Victoria Inn out at Kaimuki, this year's (1978) was held at the same place and at the same time too. Also, 1979's party again will be held there. Reservations all made "signed, sealed and delivered" by the on-the-ball committee. Notice that we have party and dance because "imagoro"

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whatever parties ends up with dancing.

Party Boss Hide Nakashige got the ball rolling (the program for the evening that is, because cocktail hour was in full blast for a long time) by introducing outgoing president Edmund Ezuka and before turning over the reigns to the incoming president, Ed thanked his fellow officers, club members and wives for all the kokua given him and asked them to do the same for the new administration. 1979 chapter president Rodney Yamashiro, after his inaugural speech introduced his fellow officers; Vice-President, Walter Nakasone; Secretary, Masao Yamasaki and Treasurer, Monte Okamoto.

Kaukau was good. "Boo-fay" style and all what you can eat. Was the "ryoya" type of food and had other like kalua pig. The "nishime" we take notice now days "yo ureru," must be the "toshi." And the guys "mada genkina." Man, they still can put 'em away with quite a few of them going back for "ancoras." No, not nice to point finger because next time, the sensitive ones might make "enryo."

One would think that there were name cards for the sitting arrangement. The Wahines on one table and the menfolks the same on the other table. It was something like this from way back but not this complete. The wives "nareta" (of this sitting arrangement) that's why now they wouldn't want it any other way. But "nareru made okotte" some of them accused the husbands of "samurai," no more class to mention a few of their choice remarks.

By far the game that everybody enjoyed most was the one that made Tommy Kiyosaki an instant star. What the participants had to do was run about 20 feet and item by item put on a bagful of clothing (whatever ladies wear under their dress--"shitagi" brassiere, "sarumata" etc.) and "sunda ato hemo" one by one and put 'em back in the bag and return to the starting point. The only difficulty that guys like Juju Nakasone, Mo Miyasato and Paul Watanabe had was what goes where and which goes on first otherwise not sweat because them "karada" wise, Tommy "to kurabetara hanbun shika nai." But Tommy "meniota, nandemo kandemo haku yutemo kiru yutemo" only half fit. "Minna hara kakaete warota." Bursting at the seams, after all these years we've seen it actually happen, Tommy "no okagede." Good thing, Primo Kikukawa no was around. Then would have been "oh -sohdo."

Everybody must have paid their chapter dues and was on their best behavior too because Santa Claus had a gift package for every member and also their wives. No, he wasn't there in person but went "tanomu" his friendly 232nd Engr/Band

Chapter members to pass it out. Had "boo-coo" door prizes too that had the committee busy most of the evening. The grand prize was a ring donated by the Bull Nambas and the lucky winner was Gladys (Masaru) Kotake. They've been donating something of this sort for a number of years. Incidentally, the Nambas returned from the mainland that very day of the party.

Door prizes donated by members were just as many as past years even though the chapter allotted the committee a very generous amount of dollars to work with. Got to mention Calvin Yasuhara for all the hardwork and time he put in buying and lugging the goods up to the party site. We like to acknowledge Gary Kawate too, for setting up the bar. For the most of us we are spoiled and expect it.

Although the "mai nen kuru" people like the George Kurios, Charley Ijimas and S.T. Fujiokas were no shows the "yo kuru mon" plenty went come. The likes of Yoshinobu Andos, Fred Arashiros, Ed Ezuka, Harry Fujii, Howard Hironos, Mitsuo Hondas, Yasuhide Ishikawas, Robert Ishikawas, Yusio Iwanes, Eddie Kanayas, Eddie Kamikawa, Doc Kawamotos, Gary Kawate, Tommy Kiyosakis, Masaru Kotakes, Hichiro Matsumotos, Walter Matsumotos, Yoshitomo Mitsukas, Morris Miyasatos, Yutaka Miyashiros, Richard Murakami, James Nakamura, Hide Nakashige, Walter Nakasones, Ryoji Nambas, Monte Okamotos, Ben Onos, Joe Satos, Mervyn Takanos, Richard Uradas, Paul Watanabes, Masao Yamasakis, Rodney Yamashiros, Kazuo Yasudas, Calvin Yasuhara and Barney Zenigamis.

If your names are not listed correctly or missing "gomen" because we no more da kine photographic mind and more so, party "hi ittara suguto" we check in with the bartender for a "hiai" one.

That Ben Ono, he get the nose for food and shows up at the right time. The cocktail hour can pau anytime, in half hour or can take a couple of hours but somehow he's right there when they "hirogeru" the food. The Uradas who usually are early was a little late due to somebody running into the rear of their car on the freeway. Fortunately, neither Richard nor Clara was injured.

We may have some dissenting votes when we say this but the bar is the place to be for news, they come fast and furious. All the "mukashi" stories plus the latest you hear "oboerang hodo. Man, what we would give just to remember only a small portion of what were said. Anyway, we found out that Rodney Yamashiro was on Kahuku High School football team. Linebacker on defense and guard on offense. Them days never get the platoon system and everybody went both ways.

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Kiyo reports that the L.A. group are "hot-hot" about the coming Reunion with a good number of guys, family "wo tsurete" coming for a real Hawaiian vacation. Meetings are held faithfully once a month going from district to district with the person living in that certain district act as host and makes all the necessary arrangements

Oh! for the life of a retiree. "Honto ka shiran!" but some guys tell you vehemently not to retire because after some six months or so, you go crazy with nothing to do. But not from what we overhear what some other retirees say. They tell you dis kind life no can beat. Do what you like, when you like, as often as you like, as long as you keep mama happy. And the secret is doing some "tego" here and there around the house. Nothing more. The best part is the check (no bounce kind) comes without any delay every first of the month. Quite a few of them "inkyosans" golfs as many times as 4 to 5 times a week without getting any kind of 'monku' or slack from the good woman. The main thing is to keep Friday open. As 'sa big day. You clean the house (sometimes 'sukoshi kapulu' no harm), wash the clothes and make everything 'paliki' and you're home free until the next Friday. That's about as fair as you can get--one day for her and six for you. Again, we like to mention how fortunate we are having the "wakatoru" and understanding wives.

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HERBERT KIMOTO OF LOS ANGELES (formerly of Hono.)

"Kimo" came alone for a short stay in mid January. Arriving late Thursday night and went back Sunday not giving the chapter a chance to entertain him. He surprised the boys by dropping in on them at the year's first meeting. We were told that he's looking good and a lot trimmer than in the past and with his family, will be coming for the Reunion. We missed the meeting, had another commitment.

"MLJIKAINO"

Sam Sakumoto is a man of his words. True to his retirement speech "I come see you guys when I can" he dropped in at his old working place to wish the boys Happy New Year.

Doctor George Goto, president of the Hawaii Medical Association recently underwent open heart surgery. A speedy recovery to you from all the boys.

Doc Kawamoto going to Reno, Nevada for a opticians seminar. Our only "shinpai" is Doc no strain his "daijina mentama" when he take in them lavish shows.

Saw long time no see Charley Ijima at the Murakami "no shoshiki." He moans his working schedule and chapter meeting dates still "bang-bang." Also the for "sewanin" sitted at the "uketsuke" were Yoshinobu Ando, Hideo Nakashige, Richard Urada and Masao Yamasaki.

Saw Fred Kanai the old recluse from over the Pali at Barney Zenigami mother's service.

The Honda's took a quickie trip to the West Coast. Son Jay drove down from the Pacific Northwest for a family reunion. They took in a show at the MGM and being a "Honda" was accorded VIP treatment.

FRANK SAGARA PASSES AWAY

Frank Sagara of Los Angeles passed away on January 25. Gengo Okura, who lives a short distance from Frank notified Walter Matsumoto of his death. He was a platoon (3rd) sergeant during Camp Shelby days and won a battlefield commission overseas. He also was a member of the Los Angeles 232nd Engrs. Veterans Club. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mrs. Dorothy Tatsukawa wishes to thank the 232nd Engrs/Band Chapter and the people for the

"koden," letters and the many kind words of encouragement given her and her sons during their bereavement of the passing away of her late husband, Yo.

CONDOLENCE

Deepest sympathy to Barney Zenigami and family and to Richard Murakami & family of the recent passing away of their parent. Barney lost his mother and Richard his father.

The chapter boys were out in full force even though the funeral services were held on consecutive nights. Being on a Wednesday and Thursday, only a small number of wives could make it.

THE 232nd ENGR/BAND CHAPTER LOSES A GOOD FRIEND-

by Walter Matsumoto

Robert "B" Goodman, haku-jin friend of L.A. Engineers passed away on January 3, 1979, after a prolonged illness. He was 62. He was a CPA and accountant for George Yamada's liquor business.

He and his wife, Dorothy, came here as the Yamada's guests to attend the first Hawaii Reunion (10th Anniversary of the 442nd RCT) in June, 1953. Since then, he attended every subsequent Reunion in Hawaii. He also played an active part in L.A. reunions. He was always friendly and congenial and generous in entertaining us. He opened his beautiful home on Miller Place to us. At every Reunion, in L.A. and Hawaii, he gave generously with gifts for all to enjoy. Despite the gravity of his illness, he had hopes of fulfilling a last wish, which was to visit Hawaii once more and see the boys. He had wanted to attend our Christmas Party, but couldn't make it. Then as he began to hold his own, he talked of attending the Reunion. This also was not to be as he expired on the 3rd day of the New Year.

We will all miss him in June, the first Reunion without his presence. We, Hawaii Engrs., are saddened and grieved by his demise. We send our deepest sympathy and condolences to his widow, Dorothy and family.

GOLF-----by Bob Ishikawa

BARBERS POINT GOLF COURSE/29 October 1978

A hot and humid Sunday for our turkey shoot smokes out 23 Engr/Band golf club members to flat

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Barbers Point. Most members came out a little early to shag a few buckets of balls before the tournament and we were lucky not to be side tracked and started off at our scheduled time. Play moved smoothly throughout the day with most everyone riding carts. Before you know it, the foursomes were coming in and adding up the scores. To the first seventeen "good players," gift certificates were awaiting. While checking on the scores and cooling off with liquid refreshments, the numbers begins to settle itself and the winners were tied. Bull Namba and Pilute Miyashiro had net 70's and Bull came out the winner on the toss. Third was L. Ishida, Francis Fujita came in fourth and I came in fifth. There were gift certificate winners all the way down and only a few didn't win. The beer was cold and the pupu's was good and finally we were chased out because they were ready to close the joint. November will be Kahuku and Fred Arashiro is gonna prepare the pupus for us. See you all there.

KAHUKU GOLF COURSE/26 November 1978

Cool, windy Kahuku Golf Course beckons us this beautiful Sunday morning. Fifteen shows up for our 9:30 am start and the soda and beer are cold, the hichirin ready for the cookout but we gotta play first. Fred Arashiro our journeyman cook and golfer tees off in the first bunch, shoots four over in the front nine and one under the back nine and nets 64 and beats Mo Miyasato by one stroke. Third was a tie between Ed Ezuka and Juju Nakasone with net 67's, and fifth was Pilute Miyashiro. All familiar names month after month. After all the prizes were given out, our cook the winner dished out a delicious shishkabob lunch. Many thanks to Fred for all the hard work he put into making our golfest enjoyable. We're close to the end of the year and next year's officers by the Kawasaki Point system will be none other than the rookie of the year Yutaka Miyashiro as President/tournament chairman, Ed Ezuka voluntary treasurer and collector, GOOD LUCK GUYS.

ALA WAI GOLF COURSE/17 December 1978

Windy Ala Wai, day after our annual Christmas Party at Victoria In draws a record number twenty-seven players for our December tournament. We were a few foursomes behind the Goodwill Tournament so the play was a little slow. The wind never did die down and strong players like big Howard Hirono was long and straight to garner first prize with a net 70. It was a very good score when you consider the tournament in front had scores in the high seventies. Jack Onosaki came in second with a net 71. Three were tied for third with net 73's. E. Ezuka won on the

coss and everyone including the last place finisher won at least a shoe brush, tees and towel. After giving away all the prizes at the Ala Wai Golf Course, we journeyed over to a place across the street from Kaimuki Park to quench our thirst. I don't know when the last bunch left but I went home way after the sun went down. It's a good thing there's only one more tournament this year. See you all New Year's eve day at Mililani Golf Course for our final go at chasing the white pill this year.

MILILANI GOLF COURSE/31 December, 1978

Well, well, the day finally came when my term of office will be finish. Nice seeing fifteen real die-hards show up on New Year's Eve day. Eight thirty tee time gives us lots of time to play plus enjoy the aftermath with good friends. Like Hichi says, Mata kita ka, from California is here and playing as a guest. Kiyo Kimura is "HOME" for the new year I guess. Four foursomes tee off with dew still on the greens and hard time get started because so cold. Makes some difference when you see the water slow down the ball. Four hours later, enjoying the cool bottle and counting up the scores, I can't help thinking that this is my last chance to count scores and be the first one to tee off every tournament. Pilute Miyashiro gonna need help so please everyone kokua any way you can. The guy who walks away with the prize is none other than Larry Ishida with a net 66. I came in second six strokes behind with a net 72. Hide Nakashige was third with a net 73. Juju Nakasone and Francis Fujita were tied at net 75's. A quiet golf day, nobody pushing, enjoying the aftermath with the "OLE CROWD", this is the kind of day we enjoy. To all the winners throughout the year and to all the non-winners who came out and tried like me, we can't say wait till next year cause next year is here. HAPPY NEW YEAR.

END

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up or shut up. Did you pay yours? otherwise we cannot put you up for president.

Don't forget the 442nd Anniversary Banquet in March.

Nothing much more, oh yes, Shig Matsufuji sends in associate dues and little for pupus. "Thanks Shig".

All Pau, no-mo, pio the light.

END

Permission granted by Mr. Ben Tamashiro of Club 100 to reprint this in the GO-FOR-BROKE Bulletin.

An Inquiry by a Sansei

THE PINE TREES OF ST. RAPHAEL

The tracks of the wheezy old electric train ran along the French coast of the Riviera, between St. Raphael and Toulon: along the curved beaches of fine white sand studded with brightly colored beach umbrellas and gaily decorated cabanas, great luxury hotels, palm-lined boulevards; past the airports and harbors and naval enclaves; and, in and out of the great pine tree forests which covered the entire coastline.

Then early one morning, an awesome armada of ships appeared off the coast and the 15-mile horizon between St. Raphael and Cape Benat (which lies about halfway between St. Raphael and Toulon) was blackened by over fifteen hundred Allied ships - for this was the 15th of August, 1944 - and Allied planners had picked this date, and the stretch of beaches between these two towns, as the jumping-off points for Operation Anvil, the Allied invasion of Southern France from the Mediterranean.

Allied aircraft had been softening-up the whole coastal area for weeks but the thick pine forests provided excellent camouflage for German batteries encased along the hills and beaches in anticipation of just such an invasion attempt. And to counteract landings from the air, the Germans had felled a number of pine forests whose tree trunks were about a foot in diameter. These were cut into 12-foot lengths, then one end filed into needle like pointed spikes. They were then set in holes dug in the ground to cover every bit of open field, designed to impale paratroopers and gliders alike.

All the beaches along the Riviera provided excellent landing points but the determination of the St. Raphael-St. Tropez area was for the reason that the cape west of St. Tropez contained a battery of four 13.4-inch guns capable of firing eight volleys a minute at a range of 20 miles. The batteries were encased in 10-inch armor plating and to knock out these guns before the start of any invasion would have entailed a most Herculean task.

Allied planners had anticipated that St. Raphael would become the main zone of action. And so it was. Long after the German guns along the other beach sectors had been silenced, the guns of St. Raphael continued to repulse the invaders; U.S. divisions which, from right to left, were the 36th, the 45th and the 3rd. So when the 36th Division hit the beaches in and around St. Raphael that morning, they were driven off by the counterfire from German guns still in effective operation. Despite this, General Dahlquist, the division commander, was the first division commander to set foot on the invasion beaches that morning.

(It was the 36th, it will be recalled, which took such a horrible beating at Cassino, along with the 100th and other units stuck in "Purple Heart Valley" through the winter and spring months of 1944.)

(You will also recall Senator, Daniel Inouye, in his book "Journey To Washington", telling of Gen. Dahlquist's reaction to the rescue of his "Lost Battalion" in Bruyeres. The general had called out the 442nd in a retreat parade to thank the men for their rescue efforts in the hills above Biffontaine. As he looked over the parade ground, he asked how come only so few were assembled. When told

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that this was all that was left of the regimental combat team . . . "Gen. Dahlquist looked at us for a long time. Twice he started to speak and choked on the overpowering feelings that took hold of him. In the end, all he could manage was an emotional, 'Thank you, men. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.' And the saddest retreat parade in the history of the 442nd was over.")

The 100/442 had been pulled out of Italy and arrived in Marseilles a month-and-a-half after the start of Operation Anvil. It was then trucked up the Rhone

River valley to the northeast corner of France to fight the battles of Bruyeres-Biffontaine. Afterwards, what was left of the combat team was pulled back, in mid-November, to the southern coast of France where it was engaged mostly in border patrol actions. It was the period of the "Riviera holiday" in the Nice/Menton areas.

It was during this prolonged period that members had time to explore other cities and town dotting the vacation-land seascape. The place names on the accompanying map should evoke many a memory; perhaps, even of St. Raphael. Why St. Raphael?

About 15 years ago, the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources began a program to establish pine tree plantations in many places in the islands as a method to stop soil erosion, but also for the purpose of determining whether the logging of pine trees could be developed into a new industry for Hawaii. In recent years, some of the forests of pine have become infested with predators. In its efforts to combat the predators, the Division of Forestry of the Department of Land and Natural Resources has, among its many contacts, received help from the European Parasite Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture whose offices are near Paris, France. The entomologist from that office has made several shipments of parasites to Hawaii and these seem to be doing a better job of combating the predators than antagonists brought in from other parts of the world. (In this respect, the Division of Forestry is not certain but has suspicions that the predators could have come to Hawaii through Japanese bonsai plants.)

The entomologist in France has offered this observation concerning the shipments of parasites to Hawaii: "They (the parasites) all come from St. Raphael, on the southern coast of France. Actually the trees were in the small park set aside as a monument at the invasion beach where the Americans landed in August 1944. Maybe it is somewhat fitting that the material from there should find its way back to the United States."

Enter Victor Tanimoto, forest entomologist with the Division of Forestry. (Victor had an uncle in the 442nd, Larry Tanimoto, who was killed in action.) In following up on the observation of his counterpart in France, he has come to the Club 100 and the 442nd Veterans Club wondering whether any of their members may have recollections of St. Raphael. If so, Victor would like to add a touch of human interest to his official reports on the progress of his office in combating the local pine tree infestation problem.

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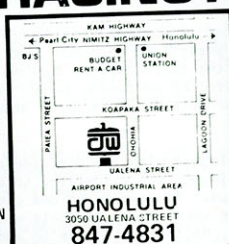
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CONSUMER TIRE

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

VA HELPS LOWER COSTS OF REMEMBRANCE

The Veterans Administration is now permitted to reimburse a veteran's survivors for part of the money they spend for an eligible veteran's headstone or marker in any private cemetery.

This is one of the provisions of the Veterans Housing Benefits Act of 1978 recently passed by Congress and signed into law by President Carter.

Survivors now have a choice of getting a VA-supplied headstone or marker or one they choose from a commercial supplier. The VA reimbursement, however, cannot exceed the average amount VA pays for the headstone or markers it supplies. Currently this amount is estimated at about \$43.00, far below the average cost of headstones or markers on the open market.

For those who choose to have a headstone or marker provided by VA, the agency now has the flexibility to provide headstones or markers of any material (marble, granite, bronze, slate or other) aesthetically compatible with the cemetery in which it is to be located.

Assistance in filing applications for reimbursement or for headstones or markers can be obtained at any VA office. Applications for reimbursement must be forwarded to the nearest regional office. Applications for headstones or markers must be forwarded to Director, Headstone Service, National Cemetery System, Veterans Administration Central Office, Washington, D.C. 20420.

Max Cleland, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, reminds survivors that VA may reimburse them also for part of the burial expense for an eligible veteran. The new amounts are \$1100 if the death is service connected and \$300 if it is not. These amounts are in addition to \$150 plot allowance if the veteran is not buried in any national cemetery.

ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED FROM PENSIONERS OVER 72

Benefits Counselors from the Honolulu VA office are standing by to provide any assistance requested by elderly pensioners who this year must complete a Veterans Administration Annual Income Report to qualify them for higher pensions.

Beginning January 1, 1979, about 813,000 pensioners--over the age of 72--must complete the full VA income questionnaire annually. The over

72 group was exempted from such reports in the past.

VA Chief Administrator Max Cleland said the agency is taking extra steps to provide any assistance to these older veterans and surviving spouses may need in completing the questionnaire.

One reason for the new reporting requirement is that the law permits those already on pension rolls to choose between the current and a new system of computing pension. Also, the income of both spouses is considered in determining pension eligibility. Among other changes the new law raises the amount a pensioner may receive from other sources and still qualify for VA pension.

Benefits Counselors in VA and veterans organizations will help individuals to choose the system that best suits them. VA is requiring its personnel to recommend to each pensioner the system that is most advantageous to them.

Administrator Cleland emphasized the importance that older veterans understand that they cannot receive pensions in 1979 unless the completed questionnaire on income is returned.

"We found through a survey," he said, "that some veterans were not taking advantage of certain allowable exemptions from income that might qualify them for higher pension. Others apparently did not understand that they were obligated to report changes in income."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed at Honolulu's VARO Outpatient Clinic located at the New Federal Building.

The clinic is a modern, well-equipped facility providing full outpatient services to many of Hawaii's 94,000 veterans.

Director William C. Oshiro of the VA Regional Office said veteran patients at the clinic need those extra pairs of helping hands to care for their needs. Volunteers will help in the reception areas, pharmacy, laboratory, Mental Health Clinic, X-ray Services and provide other personalized services.

Persons who want to help veterans by joining VA's Outpatient Clinic volunteer team are asked to contact Harold D. Saurer, VA Voluntary Service Room 2215, Federal Building, 300 Ala Moana, telephone 546-2195.

END

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

VA ADMINISTRATOR CITES 1978 SERVICE TO VETERANS

More emphasis on priority medical care for service disabled veterans, an improved pension plan for low-income disabled veterans, and an improved home loan program--these were some of the highlights of 1978 veterans benefits, according to Veterans Administration Chief Max Cleland.

Congressional action went far to make 1978 a banner year for veterans, Cleland said.

In the closing weeks of the 95th Congress, legislation was enacted improving the VA pension program for veterans and their survivors.

Beginning January 1, 1979, this legislation sharply increases payments to needy veterans with nonservice-connected disabilities, and their survivors, from the present subpoverty level to variable payments supporting income levels of as much as \$6,781 a year for a veteran and his wife, plus \$600 a year for each child.

At the same time the Act calls for eventual savings by limiting pension payments to the truly needy.

Other legislation with broad support provided a 7.3 per cent increase in VA compensation payments for more than two-and-a-quarter million veterans, a quarter of a million surviving spouses and 92,000 children of deceased veterans.

The year also saw:

** A special \$900 monthly allowance to allow certain seriously disabled veterans to employ a skilled health care practitioner whose aid and attendance in the home is necessary to keep the veteran out of the hospital;

** A special monthly payment of \$175 for veterans who suffered a service-connected loss of one extremity or its use, and who have subsequently lost the paired extremity from nonservice-connected causes;

** A new payment of \$45 monthly for surviving spouses receiving disability and indemnity compensation benefits and who are so disabled as to be confined to their homes;

** A broadening of the eligibility base for allowances to dependents of veterans with service-connected disabilities. The allowance will be paid to veterans with 30 per cent or more disability, whereas it formerly went only to veterans who had 50 per cent or more disability.

The GI Bill continued to be a major attract-

ion among VA's varied benefits program. More than 1.6 million veterans, their dependents and active duty servicemen and women pursued a variety of educational goals under the program.

In Fiscal Year 1978, VA spent \$3.2 billion on education benefits under what has easily been one of the most popular programs ever conceived by the Federal Government.

In another area, VA opened two new national cemeteries during 1978 with the dedication of Calverton National Cemetery on Long Island, New York, and Riverside National Cemetery in California, the latter on Veterans Day.

The two new cemeteries are the first in a VA program to expand the National Cemetery System, which currently consists of 105 cemeteries across the nation.

The agency has already acquired land in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Virginia for additional cemeteries, and is now considering sites in the Great Lakes and southeastern areas of the country for two more.

During 1978, VA took the first steps to computerize the agency's files on veterans. Regional offices in 13 cities were linked via a computer system called TARGET with Data Processing Centers in Illinois and Texas.

In 1979, VA hopes to place the remaining 45 regional offices into the computer network, which now contains about five million compensation and pension records and an index and locator file on approximately 30 million veterans.

Full computer processing of benefits claims is expected by the end of next year.

Cleland said he was particularly proud of the agency's special project to provide distinctive personal identification cards to more than two million service-disabled veterans.

"Veterans disabled in military service are of prime concern to VA," he said. "These special ID cards will expedite the care they receive at VA Medical Centers and will serve as a constant reminder to our employees as well as to veterans themselves that they are special people entitled to special care from their government."

The VA Administrator also cited the agency's "Operation Better Letters" and "May I Help You?" campaigns as examples of internal efforts at improving employee awareness of the unique role veterans and their dependents hold in the nation.

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Both projects involved major efforts to stimulate employee helpfulness and courtesy in dealing with veterans and their families and Cleland termed both of them as "outstanding successes."

VA and the Congress also cooperated in 1978 to provide more assistance to veterans in the area of home ownership.

The VA guarantee on home loans was increased to \$25,000 from \$17,000 and the active duty time needed by Vietnam Era veterans to qualify for VA home loan benefits was reduced to 90 days from 181 days.

Also, Cleland pointed out, VA is now permitting to guarantee loans on apartments converted to condominiums, where previously the agency could only guarantee loans on condominium units that were built as such.

VETERANS AUTHORIZED TO PAY DISCOUNT ON VA REFINANCING HOME LOANS FOR PURCHASE OF FEE SIMPLE ESTATE

Donald E. Austin, Loan Guaranty Officer, Honolulu Veterans Administration Regional Office, announced today that "where the veteran is an occupier and leaseholder seeking to refinance an existing mortgage or other liens and to buy the fee to the same property, and is otherwise eligible for a loan guaranty, he may pay all of the reasonable discount points required by the lender." Austin said he received approval from VA Central Office, Washington, D.C., on December 22, 1978.

Austin received approval on February 3, 1978 for a veteran-leaseholder who is purchasing the fee to have his entitlement restored conditioned on the existing guaranteed mortgage being satisfied or the Administrator otherwise being released from liability.

Both of the above exceptions are made specifically for the veterans in the state of Hawaii.

Veterans should contact a lender of their choice to make application for this purpose.

MR. MAX CLELAND SPEAKS

Veterans Administration chief Max Cleland today outlined the magnitude of the agency's assistance to Hawaii's 94,000 veterans in a speech to members of the Honolulu Rotary Club.

A triple amputee veteran of the Vietnam Era, Cleland said VA annually spends more than \$66 million in Hawaii -- a state whose veterans have wisely used the various benefits available through the agency.

For example, he said, more than 80 per cent of all Hawaiian veterans of the Vietnam Era have used their right to GI Bill training.

Nearly 7,000 of them are currently in training, he said, and more than 36 per cent of the state's Vietnam Era veterans eligible for the GI Bill have used it to go to college.

VA is currently spending more than \$2 million a month in Hawaii for GI Bill training.

A comparable amount, Cleland said, is being paid monthly to veterans and dependents in VA compensation and pension benefits.

Recipients are veterans -- or survivors of veterans -- who suffered disabling injuries or illnesses in service, or who receive assistance from VA because later disabilities have left them unable to earn a living for themselves.

Cleland also pointed out the fact that VA's loan guaranty program has been a popular and successful one in Hawaii over the years.

In the past year approximately 2,800 home loans were guaranteed in the state, bringing the total to date to more than 21,000 loans with a value of \$641 million.

Cleland said 25,000 Hawaiian veterans hold VA insurance policies with a total value of \$220 million. More than \$2.6 million in insurance dividends were paid last year.

The VA Administrator said excellent military hospitals in Hawaii provided care for 768 VA patients last year. He said the agency's outpatient clinic in Honolulu recorded some 36,000 patient visits last year and that VA paid for 6,500 treatment visits to private health facilities.

Of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Cleland said the agency's future development and improvement plans will protect what he termed "a national treasure" and promised that it would be preserved as "the lovely, useful place you know now."

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

NEW DISABILITY COMPENSATION PAYMENT

Veterans Administration Chief Max Cleland has alerted disabled veterans to a provision of a new law that could mean an additional \$175 a month in VA compensation payments to them.

The added payments are authorized by "The Veterans Disability Compensation and Survivors Benefits Act of 1978," which was recently signed by President Carter.

In general, veterans eligible for the additional payment are those who suffered the service-connected loss, or loss of use, of one extremity and who have subsequently lost the paired extremity from nonservice-connected causes.

The veteran must have been rated less than 100 per cent disabled by VA for his service-connected injuries to be eligible for the newly added compensation for nonservice-connected loss.

Currently, the average monthly VA compensation payment for a veteran with service-connected loss of a leg, or its use, is \$211.

Administrator Cleland said VA is issuing a special appeal for assistance from national veterans organizations in locating disabled veterans who may qualify for the new benefit.

"Our computers can identify veterans who have service-connected loss of extremities, but we have no way of knowing how many of them have subsequently lost a paired extremity from non-service connected causes," he explained.

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If you would like to share your St. Raphael experience with Victor, please call him at 548-2861 which is his office in the new state office building on Punchbowl Street.

As for the wheezy old train, it was blasted out of existence by the invasion gunfire. However, there must still be many a Frenchman of the St. Raphael - Toulon area who must miss that old train because it was affectionately called "The Pine Tree Special."

- Ben Tamashiro

Note: The information about Operation Anvil, St. Raphael, and the pine trees was extracted from the book, "The Second D-Day" by Jacques Robichon, translated from the French for the Army Times Publishing Company. The author does not give the population of St. Raphael during the war years but encyclopedias list its population, in the '60s, at about seven thousand.

End

The VA Chief also urged any disabled veteran who believes he might be eligible for the additional payment to contact the nearest VA regional office or one of the veterans organizations.

END



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To sum up the whole trip; the plane ride was an adventure. The New Year's being as such in Japan, why do they take off for 3 days when they hardly do anything?

END

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