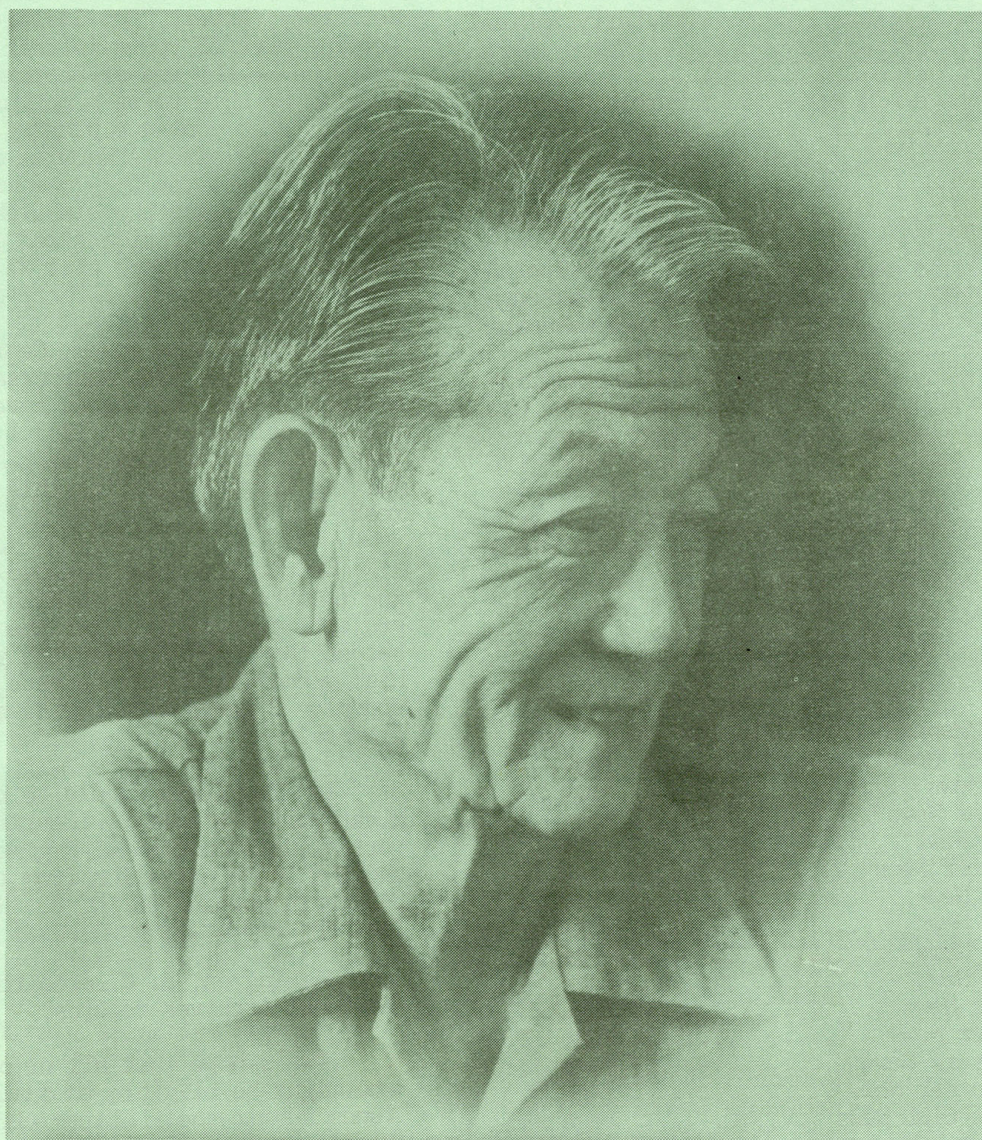


# Go for Broke

**BULLETIN** 442nd VETERANS CLUB

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JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 1991



TADASHI "TAD" SAKAI

1914 - 1991

Editor, "Go For Broke" Bulletin



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## President's Message

Recently we lost two of our members who contributed greatly to our club. Akira "Sunshine" Fukunaga, our immediate past President, provided us with his soft spoken leadership as President two years ago. He was our first Executive Secretary many years ago. Tad Sakai, our Go For Broke Bulletin editor for many years, was another soft spoken person who did his job without any fanfare. He was a "one man gang" in getting the chapter reporters to submit their articles on time and putting everything together so that we could get our "Bulletin" quarterly. He was truly an unsung hero. We will miss both of them very much.

We will also see our current Executive Secretary, Robert "Bob" Sasaki leave us after serving over 25 years in that position. He will leave us at the end of September. He says that he will be able to be a better grandfather then. He will also continue playing with his golfing buddies more often. We will miss him greatly, because he was the only one with such wealth of information about the club, thus making it easier for the President and other officers of the club. Let's hope that we can find a replacement, who will be as effective as Bob.

As the months go by, George Nakasato, our chairman of the 50th Anniversary Reunion Committee, is busy trying to have everything set up for the celebration in 1993. His monthly meetings reflect how much effort his committee is putting forth in getting this project on the road.

We need to thank Katsugo Miho for coordinating the Hawaii and Japan High School Baseball project, especially after the late Tom Kiyosaki headed this project over the years. The Japanese high school team will be here in early September and play 2 games with our Hawaii high school players.

Ted Tsukiya should be commended for coordinating the effort to identify and catalog historical data on the 442 Regimental Combat Team and the 100th Battalion from the National Archives in Washington, D. C. He was able to enlist the aid of several Nisei veterans living in

the Washington, D. C. area to search through National Archives records.

Let's hope that all of our local 442 members who might be eligible to qualify for redress funds submit their claims with the redress office. Please contact the 442 office if you need more information.

END

## IN MEMORIAM AKIRA "SUNSHINE" FUKUNAGA

Akira "Sunshine" Fukunaga, an active member of Anti/Tank Chapter, 442nd Veterans Club, passed away on June 25, 1991.

## IN MEMORIAM RALPH TAIGO ARASHIRO

Ralph Taigo Arashiro, an active member of Item Chapter, 442nd Veterans Club, passed away on July 13, 1991.

## IN MEMORIAM TADASHI SAKAI

Tadashi Sakai, an active member of Love Chapter, 442nd Veterans Club, passed away on July 23, 1991.

## IN MEMORIAM HARRY SHOICHI KONNO

Harry Shoichi Konno, an active member of George Chapter, 442nd Veterans Club, passed away on August 5, 1991.

## IN MEMORIAM HIDEO MATSUMOTO

Hideo Matsumoto, an active member of Item Chapter, 442nd Veterans Club, passed away on August 28, 1991.

## IN MEMORIAM OTTO S. HORI

Otto S. Hori, an active member of Service Chapter, 442nd Veterans Club, passed away on September 7, 1991.

## Japan-Hawaii Baseball Goodwill Series By Ron Oba

The first contingent of High school baseball all stars traveled to Japan in 1953. In 1955, the Japan all stars returned the compliments, according to Kazuyuki Matsui, Vice President of the Japan High School Baseball Federation. Kats Miho in addressing both teams stated that both Japan and Hawaii had visited each other a total of ten times each during a period of 38 years.

The 442nd Veterans Club and the Asahi Shinbun together with the Japan High School Baseball Federation under the presidency of Naotaka Makino have nurtured this goodwill series throughout the years. One of the 442nd stalwarts of the series was Tom Kiyosaki who was honored by a visitation by both teams by the laying of a wreath and flowers at his gravesite at the National Cemetery of the Pacific.

Masa Yonamine, former Athletic Director of Waipahu High School coordinated the selection of the local coaches and Hawaii High School All Stars. Lilly Yonamine planned and arranged for the lunches and potluck dinners during both games.



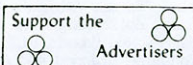
The Japan All stars came fresh from participating first in the 4,000 prefectural baseball teams and then in the 48 prefectural champions' play offs before traveling to Los Angeles and Hawaii. Hawaii's ballplayers have been idle for nearly 6 months. Don Murayama, coach of the Mid Pacific High School baseball team, pitted the Hawaii All stars against a sharply honed Japan team. It can be said that Hawaii committed itself toward the goodwill games and kept the opponents honest by flashes of good play -- Hawaii lost both games.

Mr. Matsui stated that approximately 900,000 fans came from all over Japan to see one of their High School baseball teams perform in the Koshien Stadium in Osaka. He happily confided that the proceeds from the play offs allows the Federation to continue with the Japan-Hawaii Goodwill Series. Bob Sasaki reported that Japanese tourists kept calling the club to find out the time and location of the games. Harold Fukunaga, George Nakasato and I were in the stands but were outnumbered 100 to one.

Those on the planning committee were as follows: Chairman Kats Miho, who coordinated the enlistment of host families, hotel arrangements, courtesy call to the Mayor's office, and the reception at the Japanese Consulate; Lilly and Masa Yonamine for lunch and after game meals, shirts, school visitation, flowers for

the cemetery, leis and guest lists; Shadow Kurozumi for transportation for the players, visiting dignitaries, T.V. crew, and host families; Bob Sasaki for box lunches, plaques and gifts; Masa Yonamine for getting the coaches and game arrangements. Host families were: Ernie Uno, Ronald Oba, Doc Shigeo Kawamoto, Kats Miho, Masa Yonamine, Kenneth Saruwatari, Sam Sasai and Yukio Hirose. Others who provided transportation or helped were: George Nakasato, Milton Takenaka, Tom Gushiken, Mike Sugai, Hideo Nakayama, Dyna Matsuda and Harold Fukunaga.

END



By Larry Ishida

June Monthly Meeting held at the Clubhouse was hosted by HAYAMA and ISHIDA. Present were OKEMURA, ISONAGA, NISHIMURA, TANIGAWA, SUGI, HIGUCHI, NAKAMURA, WATANABE, SUGAI, SAKAMOTO, TERAOKA, SARUWATARI, SHIMIZU, TOMASA and THOMPSON.

TOKU KANESHIGE underwent heart by-pass surgery in June and as of this news report, he is in excellent health. Fact is, he's in such good condition that STELLA and TOKU began their routine visit to Las Vegas.

Many thanks to SUE/HERBIE ISONAGA and JANE/BOTHAN OKEMURA for their tireless effort for the Flower Bouquets placed at the National Cemetery for our HQ2 members. Thanks also to H. YAMAMOTO, T. HAYAMA, QUANTO WATANABE, BOTCHAN OKEMURA, LARRY ISHIDA for donating the flowers.

July 12th Meeting hosted by TOSHI HAYAMA and JIMMY SAKAMOTO at the Clubhouse was attended by B. NISHIMURA, M. SUGAI, QUANTO WATANABE, Y. SUGI, LIPPY HIGUCHI, SCULLY SHIMIZU, K. TOMASA, J. SAKAMOTO, H. ISONAGA, M. YAMAMOTO, T. HAYAMA, K. SARUWATARI, BOCHAN OKEMURA and L. ISHIDA. As usual, TOSHI served some very delicious puppus, (made and prepared by JANE).

KATOON TANIGAWA/BILL THOMPSON hosted the August Meeting at the Clubhouse. Attending were: YAMAMOTO, TERAOKA, OKEMURA, ISONAGA, SHIMIZU, TOMASA, HAYAMA, HIGUCHI, SARUWATARI, and ISHIDA.

KENNETH SARUWATARI in charge of next month's (SEPTEMBER) DINNER/MEETING announced that PAGODA will be our meeting place on SEPTEMBER 13 at 6:30 P.M.

Several members of HQ2 after years of getting together at meetings and parties and bull sessions often wondered what happened to KATOON TANIGAWA after WWII. So, to quell our guessing of his ventures, I asked him if he would talk about his experience after most of us returned home from Europe. He obligingly consented and the following "A KOREAN ODYSSEY" is submitted by KATSUKI "KATOON" TANIGAWA:

#### A KOREAN ODYSSEY

After the cessation of hostilities in Europe in the Spring of 1945, a few of us, self-exiled expatriates, decided to do a bit of sightseeing instead of going home to Victory Parades. The decision proved to be an excellent one, as what followed were two years of very light duty and very heavy sightseeing, to include Switzerland, France, England and

Germany. We were very privileged tourists. In January of 1947, when I was assigned to the 88th Blue Devil Division in the Tyrolean Alps, still the consummate tourist, our Personnel Office decided to transfer me and a few others back to CONUS before we became too ITALIANIZED.

After three months of Terminal Leave in Hawaii, I reenlisted for the Far East Theater and was sent to do Occupational Duty in Japan. In typical military fashion, my Military Occupational Specialty of "Platoon Sergeant Infantry" was completely ignored and I was assigned as an "Economic Investigator" with the Kanagawa Military Government Team where I was placed in charge of "Crop Collection and Distribution", "Fisheries", and "Blackmarket Activities" for Kanagawa Prefecture. Assigned to me were three very astute Japanese Nationals who proved to be very knowledgeable in the problems that plagued Japan at that time, and were largely responsible for the success of that office.

After three years of this strange but interesting occupation, the North Koreans invaded the South on June 25, 1950. This was an auspicious event as the Army finally recognized the utility of my MOS of "Platoon Sergeant, Infantry", and assigned me to the 1st Bn, 19th Infantry, of the 24th Division commanded by Maj. Gen. William F. Dean who also had the misfortune of being captured by the North Koreans. In the 19th Infantry I was assigned to a non-TO & E position as Battalion Security Sergeant, and my duties were to organize a security force to defend the perimeter of the Battalion Hq. area. The group assigned to me consisted of about a dozen American GI's and two dozen ROK Troops who did not pass muster with the ROK Army----ROK REJECTS. I assigned them to Guard Duty by night and weapons training by day, all through September, 1950.

On November 1, 1950, the Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) hit the Fifth and Eighth Cavalry Regiments, and on November 4, attacked our position as well. At the first sound of rifle fire I lost contact with all our ROK Troops and all but two of the GI's. One Corporal and one PFC were the only ones left with me. We held our positions from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M., when we expended all of our ammunition, inflicting casualties of about fifty killed and wounded among the enemy. We surrendered to the enemy at 1 P.M. near the city of Anju, North Korea. They marched us North for about fifteen days, and on November 19, 1950 we reached the city of Pyoktong on the Yalu River, which was to become PW Camp #5. The Yalu is on the border between Korea and Manchuria. In Camp 5, I was assigned to the hospital with one British and three American doctors, who were also captives and two

North Korean doctors. No medications were available except a few mercurochrome swabs and some aspirin powder. We had neither beds nor bedding for the sick and wounded, and in the winter of 1950-51 when the temperature dropped to as low as 50° below zero, F, a total of 682 prisoners died of wounds as well as exposure and malnutrition. At that time the estimated population of Camp 5 was 2,500 prisoners.

In the Spring of 1951, the CCF initiated their indoctrination lectures on Communism to which attendance was mandatory. During that time we were fed two meals a day, consisting of a bowl of either millet, sorgham seed or cracked corn. Nothing else--not even salt. After the summer of 1951, the propaganda lectures were intensified and our bland diet was supplemented with some pork and turnips. Once they brought in some salted fish which was rife with maggots. They made some fish soup and scooped off the maggots as they floated to the surface. However, we considered this an improvement over our previous rations. But there was method to their madness--unknown to us, the Armistice Talks at Panmunjon had begun and the CCF increased their propaganda lectures to match.

On August 12, 1952 all of the sergeants in Camp 5 were loaded on boats and taken to Camp #4 which was located further up the Yalu River near the city of Wixon.

Living conditions were much improved and we even had eggs for breakfast about twice a week. The Peace Talks continued and their lectures on the Talks were increased.

In August of 1953 we were moved by trucks to Kaesong in preparation for repatriation. Each day about 150 men would be transported to the boarder of Freedom Village at Panmunjon to be exchanged. The prisoners remaining would strike the tents that had been vacated. This procedure would be repeated daily until the last day when there were only about fifty of us left, we had to strike our own tents before we left, and on September 5, 1953, after 1067 days, the gates clanked shut behind the last man.

FINIS





By Ron Oba

Sunshine dims and fades  
In the shadow of Eclipse  
Two stars shine no more

August means to inspire awe or greatness. On this August month I can think of two important people who passed away recently, leaving their legacy on the history of the 442nd. The two were Akira Fukunaga and Tad Sakai. Sunshine is history of the 442nd. Three months before he died he continued to attend the Board of Directors meetings and in his quiet way influenced many good decisions.

On the other hand Tad Sakai was the backbone of the 442nd Go For Broke Bulletin. Few people knew of his work - unimposing, quietly efficient, and always in the background. We will sorely miss these two lovable, dedicated, affectionate people who leave us with an indelible memory of their August legacy.

#### Fox Reunion, Kahului, Maui

Good food, raw food, bountiful fruits and pastries. That was the theme of the Maui Reunion. It was replete with good humor, huggings, more huggings, good and bad jokes, missed directions, a docile German Sheppard, oblong golf ball, and a bunch of ailing golfers.

Babe Ginzo Morino tried desperately to uphold the mainlander's reputation by himself because people like Matt Mikami and Sam Misashi preferred socializing then golfing with intrac-table senile golfers who can't hear each other nor see where their balls disappeared. If you subtract the time spent looking for lost balls, they really played fast, 5 hours. Fortunately for us, Babe was paired with an escort and partner who lost his way to Ma-chans for breakfast and by-passed Silver Sword CC. Ginzo was fit to be tied. He was in such a frazzle he could barely stroke a putt. He doubled his bet with Ron at the Honolulu CC hoping to recoup. When Ron threatened to change partners so he can play with his favorite friend, he went completely bananas. Now I know how to psyche him out every time.

The Maui golfers really know how to set a trap. They gave us wrong directions so we couldn't find Ma-chans for breakfast. "Oh, just go to two traffic lights and turn left, no, turn right, Right? Ron finally found Ma-chans on the second morning after making 3 U-turns in front of a watchful officer. In order to appease the observing officer, I asked pleadingly, "Sir, how

the hell do we get to Pukalani?" He was some nice officer. He told me to stick to Hana Highway then turn right 2 times - even gave me a map. We almost ended up in Hana until I U-turned to get back to Haleakala Highway.

The golf games were incidental. Everyone had an excuse: Ron complained of a stiff neck and shoulder, Mich Takata forgot his golf glasses and had to play with his trifocals (just putt for the middle hole, Mich), Ginzo had problems with his players. He said they were senile and imagine, Ginzo is 73 yrs young. Ouch! Ever see a man on his back kicking a tantrum? According to one of the foursome, Yoshio Shibuya encountered a leaping German Sheppard while retrieving his lost ball. He ran backwards so fast he fell sideways, his legs still running in the air. What a sight. His friends insist that it was a small Pekingese with a loud bark. Shige Higa pretended that he had a bad back and came dressed in his wife's corset - no sympathy there. So, the Oahu guys all played junk. Ken Inukai was quacked away by an indignant duck as he took his stance at an oblong ball next to the lake. He almost had egg on his face when he realized he was about to mesmerize a duck egg. Local knowledge in getting to Ma-chans had a lot to do with the scores. And the winners at Honolulu CC were: overall first, Doc Iritani, net 65; Ron, net 69, and Dan Horikawa, net 71. Closest to pin, Bill Tanaka, Maurice Okita and David Iritani. Front nine, Dan; Back nine, Roy Iritani, Jr. Bob Matsushita will write all about the reunion. However, Maui No Ka Oi, you folks did a tremendous job.

#### Thank You Los Angeles

They popped the question! "When do you want to come for the 1992 reunion in Vegas?" Wrote to Hiro Takusagawa that the 3rd and 4th weeks of June would be fine. Now we wait for their acknowledgement. They also offered a 2-3 days postreunion in L.A. after Vegas. Many of our members are grateful for the post since there are many children and relatives in L.A. Thank you, L.A.

#### Sick Call

On Aug 6th Matt Mikami, Michi and Ron visited with Roy Kubo in his Kailua Condo. Roy lost a lot of weight but was looking better for it. He's taking daily walks and watching his diet - just looking. Then we visited with Warren Iwanaga who was able to see the colors of my shirt with his right eye. His left eye is coming along. He told us that his daughter tapes all the Fox Fables for him to listen and he especially likes to hear the names of people participating in

chapter activities. Matt also visited Hisashi Fujiyama who has thinned and his knee problems continue to plague him so that he can't move about too easily. Hank Oyasato had his hands operated to loosen his fingers so that he can grasp things easier. Heard through the rumor mill, Oupie Tanaka broke her leg; not so, it was a broken hip. That is, until I saw her at Misuzu's coming in with a cast up to her knee. She was running up the stairs when her Achilles tendon popped. I told Bill, "too bad", replied Bill, "yes, now she can't mow the lawn for awhile".

For Warren, those attending the Maui reunion from Oahu were: Richard and Dorothy Murashige, Mich and Shinako (She got rid of her dizzy spell - case of over medication. Mich had to carry her off the floor. He said, "Boy, was she heavy - a mere 85 lbs.) Takata, Ken and Joy Inukai, Goichi Suehiro, Barney and Phyllis Miyaji, Dan and Helen Horikawa, Paul and Clara Yamashita, Yoshio and Clara Shibuya, Shige and Rose Higa, Ron and Michi Oba, George and Myrtle Nakasato, and Tom and May Tamagawa.

Tom Kawaguchi, Treasurer of the National American Japanese Museum Society was here to inaugurate the "Strength and Diversity" exhibit at the Castle Memorial Building, Bishop Museum. Many remember Tom who was stationed in Hawaii for several years. An enjoyable evening with Tom and his wife was attended by: Mich & Shinako Takata, Paul and Clara Yamashita, George and Myrtle Nakasato, Robert Katayama, Ron and Michi Oba, and Richard Murashige.

#### Maui News

By Bob Matsushita

#### Mother Chapter News:

#### Flag Day

According to President Toshio Endo, the Flag Day parade and program on June 14th was a huge success, with 12 members participating. The "12 strong" were clad in the 442nd Vets white shirt with the insignia on the back and rode on military vehicles. Even though our contingent was small, it was greatly recognized by the older and younger generations. The National Guard marching unit gave a spontaneous applause from the bleachers as we passed by to take our respective seats. These members participating were: "E" - Charles Arakaki - WWII Grand Marshal; "F" - R. Matsushita, Morito Otake and Toshio Endo - 442 Vets Grand Marshal; "K" - Clarence Matsumoto & Shigeru Nakamura; "L" - Yasu Okinaka & Kiyoshi Kishimoto; Tutto - Willard Matsumoto, Earl Tanaka, Jerry Ojiri & Buster Tsuchiyama.

#### Club Social

The Club social scheduled for November 22nd has been moved to an earlier date - Friday, November 8th, to coincide with the Maui visit by the Oahu 442nd Veterans Club UTA NO KAI GROUP. The group is led by a former Mauiian, Kenneth Okuma with 30 men and women who will be performing dances and skits. They will be participating in the MAUI HASHIMOTO KANDOKAN, or KARI (persimmon) SAFARI. The November 8th social will be held at the KAUNOA SENIOR CENTER beginner at 1800 with "F" Chapter as hosts.

#### Nisei Veterans Memorial Center

The Council unanimously voted to endorse the project. In March, 1989, club ear-marked \$10,000 plus interest earned, for a Certificate of Deposit Account, renewable every six months, for the project initiated by the Maui Sons & Daughters of the 442nd.

#### Maui County Fair Project

BBQ Chicken concession chairman, Charlie Arakaki, announced plans to have members sign up for work on October 3-4-5 & 6. The work schedule sign-up sheets will be available at the annual picnic August 4th. The next dinner/social will be on September 27th at the Kahului Community Center at 1800. Those who did not sign-up will be asked to fill in on shifts that need manpower. Charlie feels members are willing to come out on a volunteer basis rather than the assigned days for 1991. Assigned dates 10/3 - E, F & Tutto 10/5 - I, K, L & M. 10/4 & 6 - Sons and Daughters.

#### 1991 "F" Chapter's Maui Reunion

It was held on July 24, 25 & 26, 1991 at the MAUI BEACH HOTEL. A total of 72 members, spouses, guests of KIA and guests participated.

Registration and Hospitality Room commenced from 1200 Wednesday for the visiting buddies and friends. Ocean Miyake came in on Tuesday and spent time with the Maui Buddies. The Welcome Banquet was held at the RED DRAGON ROOM with a Chinese Buffet. The last checked in party comprised of two former MAUIIANS, George Nakasato & Yoshio Shibuya. I was told they went HAKA MAIRI which is a very good gesture on their part. (It is forgiven since we waited and waited at the registration desk.)

#### Golfers

This event took place Thursday, the 25th at the PUKALANI GOLF COURSE at 0804 TEE TIME and also at the SILVERSWORD GOLF COURSE at 0804 on the 26th.



The winners were: PUKALANI GOLF COURSE

OVERALL LOW NET:

1st place - Morito Otake	- 65
2nd place - Babe Morino	- 67
<u>1st Nine:</u>	
1st place - Hideo Murakami	- 31.5
2nd place - Steve Sato	- 32.0

<u>2nd Nine:</u>	
1st place - Kats Matsumura	- 34.0
2nd place - Takao Ito	- 34.5

The winners were: SILVERSWORD GOLF COURSE

OVERALL LOW NET:

1st place - Daggie Tanaka	- 69.0
2nd place - Takao Ito	- 70.0
Tie - Tom Tamagawa	- 70.0
<u>1st Nine:</u>	
1st place - Y. Inukai	- 35.0
2nd place - Shige Higa	- 36.0

<u>2nd Nine:</u>	
1st place - Michiko Oba	- 31.0
2nd place - Ron Oba	- 34.0

2 DAYS OVERALL LOW NET:

1st place - Morito Otake	-140.0
2nd place - Takao Ito	-141.0
Tie - Dan Horikawa	-141.0

GUEST Y. Inukai had a shock of his life while playing at the SILVERSWORD GOLF COURSE. After almost completing the front nine and heading to the 9th green - Tom Hiranaga, driver of cart, a very polite golfer took Inukai to about where his second shot landed and he noticed an object similar to a golf ball. He waited in his cart to have him come up the hill so they could both ride to the green. He waited and waited but no Inukai. He decided to walk down hill and noticed Inukai looking all over for his ball. He pointed at the object he noticed earlier. Mr. Inukai's remarked, "BIK KURI SHI MASHI TA - AREWA TAMAGO DESU." Tom realized that the 1st and 9th hole has a pond and generally the ducks swim and bathe in it and in the past found many duck eggs in that area. It is a good thing that he didn't use his wedge to loft it on the green. It's for sure we must take him to the restroom to get him cleaned. Now, I'm assured, Mr. Inukai shall not forget this the next time he plays there.

Comments received why pick this kind hard course by those who weren't successful although the winners were very pleased.

That evening was the IMPERIAL BUFFET NIGHT with Teppan yaki, Tempura - shrimps, ika, sweet potato, salad bar, kinpira gobo, shirai, kuro mame (Make man kaukau) which is health food for us seniors. After the dinner was over we assembled at the Hospitality Room for more booze and refreshments and kaukau. Again the bull session continued to the late evening although the golfers had another day of golf planned for them.

THURSDAY - July 25, 1991: Golfers got up early and had breakfast at MA-CHAN's, Int'l. House of Pancake, etc. Tour members were up early to be in time for the 6 hour tour. Saw Dan Horikawa ordering Tripe Stew for breakfast - he says this is good for golfing.

Golfers were back about 1:00 P.M. and they enjoyed the lunch prepared for them by our capable wives. We even had cha zuke for lunch after the many delicious varieties they had prepared as OKAZU.

The tour group returned about 1500 all tired from traveling the Central to Upper Kula & Ulupalakua and work their way through Makawao. Naturally, had to stop at the OLD KOMODA BAKERY and picked up "THE EVER POPULAR CREAM PUFFS" and headed to the MAUI VETERAN'S CEMETERY and placed leis on the former "F" Company member's graves.

FRIDAY - July 26, 1991: Again golfers got up early had their breakfast at Ma-CHAN's. We did encounter problems since both Ron Oba's and Tamagawa's group were missing. After awhile when we were almost done with our breakfast, they came driving in escorted by some courteous Maui people since they were lost. Again, I noticed Dan Horikawa eating Stew. Since, he ate it so deliciously Hide and myself ordered it too. It was good!!! Dan says it improves his game but to my disappointment it didn't work on me.

Sayonara Banquet

This was held at the MAUI BEACH HOTEL POOL TERRACE. This time it was an American Dinner with Prime Rib Roast, Sauteed Fish, Salad and Dessert Bar. (ALL YOU CAN EAT) We wished we had the stomach we had in SHELBY. The older we get we generally eat moderately or watch our diet.

Fun Nite - Maui Room - Maui Beach Hotel

A very entertaining evening was enjoyed by all on the final night with Japanese dancing, hula numbers and of course, KARAOKE singing. Everyone was pleasantly surprised at the abundance of talent within our chapter. From the Capital city,

hula numbers performed by Mich Takata and George Nakasato and their better halves Myrtle and Shinako. Jokes and stories by Ron Oba which was some good fun. Clara Shibuya surprised everyone with her Karaoke rendition of SUBARU, her first public appearance after ??? years. Shige Higa teamed up with Masae Murakami to sing the ever popular KOKO NI SACHI ARI, Robert & Sadako Honda sang a duet and Sadako entertained with a beautiful solo Karaoke number. From Kauai, Wally & Yuri Tasaka prepared very appropriate Obon towels hand screened with the Fox Chapter Logo publicizing the Maui Reunion. Yuri Tasaka, Elaine Okutsu and Masa Hokama led the group in dancing TANKO BUSHI and FUKUSHIMA ONDO. Yuri Tasaka, Tom Hiranaga and Shige Higa teamed up and sang several Karaoke numbers. BIG George Kawakami entertained with beautiful songs and some naughty jokes. As all good things must come to an end, the Fun Nite concluded with everyone joining hands and singing HAWAII ALOHA. Thanks to all of you good sports for an evening of fun and superb entertainment.

Words cannot be expressed at this time of writing for the wonderful support, good sportsmanship, assistances and help given by the members who attended this reunion. No other way except ATAMA WO SAGETE ARIGATO MO O SHI MASU. In other words, thanks a million for attending this reunion and it made us sponsors worth the efforts we put into it.

ARIGATO AND KARADA WO TAISETSU NI - MA TA AU MA DE - TA SHA DE NE.

Kauai News

By Yuri Tasaka

It took Wally and Yuri a trip to Las Vegas to meet Richard Higa of Hilo again. We bumped into each other at the Nickel slot machines located at the bottom of the down escalator at the California Hotel. It was a pleasant surprise to be reunited with him. Wally and I recalled that he was a mainstay in the Hospitality Room for the Big Island Reunion. I don't remember that either of us managed to "break the bank" at the California. Perhaps next time. Maybe next year! At the Fox Chapter Reunion at the end of June!

Maui No Ka Oi

It started with the goodies in the Hospitality Room, appropriately named "Maui Room", on Wednesday afternoon and continued each day from noon to 11:00 P.M. with more goodies and different varieties. The Maui hosts and hostesses went all out to provide terrific hospitality in their room.

Thursday's Educational Tour started with a visit to the Botanical Park in the midst of a pineapple field in Wailuku. Yuri learned that there is a variety of Papaya called the "Kaniya Papaya". Then off we headed past Pukalani on Haleakala's slopes to the Tedeschi Winery at the former Ulupalakua Ranch on the southern slope of Haleakala. We were further "educated" with samples of the wines and champagnes made there. There were four types and most of the "testers" agreed that the Maui Blush was our favorite. We had lunch on their grounds near the Australian Kauri tree which may be the only existing one in the State.

Our next stop was a return to the western slope of Haleakala to the University of Hawaii Botanical and Research Facility where experiments and research are conducted with plants. Protea is a family which is receiving much attention. The Roses and the patch of new hybrid flowers were interesting and also gorgeous.

The second to the last stop on Haleakala's slopes was at Komoda Store where we stopped for the famous cream puff which we enjoyed at the Makawao Veterans Cemetery. Then back to Kahului after an enjoyable and educational tour of Central Maui.

Also learned that "IKE" is the recipient of a certificate from the U.S. Patent Office.

Thank you, Maui, for a "NO KA OI" Reunion. Masa Agina, Mamo Hiranaka, George Kawakami, and Wally Tasaka and their better halves say, "MAHALO" and "ALOHA".

Hilo News

By Sadao Nishida

For those fortunate guys and gals who attended the annual Fox Company get together at Kahului, Maui from July 24 to the 26th came home with gratitude and stories of all the "good times". Seemingly our get together gets better each year. We thought we put on a dandy last year in conjunction with the Nisei reunion in Kailua, Kona but guess we have to accept the bragging of "Maui No Ka Best" for now. Thanks Maui for all the hard work to give us a wonderful time of fellowship.

Those making the shindig from down South were M/M Robert Honda, M/M Wataru Kohashi, M/M Kats Matsumura, M/M Yukio Okutsu, Kimie Miyashiro and Tomoe Nagata. Due to prior commitment, the Deguchis joining the group in Honolulu for the scheduled post get together at the Kanraku Tea House hosted by the Honolulu chapter. It was anticipated a good time would be enjoyed by all.





By Harold Fukunaga

# Tales of "G" Co.

Dorothy Matsuo (wife of Ted Matsuo of Medics Chapter) has been meeting with our chapter members over a period of several years, to record our experiences in the military service and some post-war period. She has been able to write some interesting personal experiences of our members and will incorporate them into a book of other 442 members from other chapters. She plans to have the book published before the 442 RCT 50th Anniversary in March of 1993.

She was able to finish a preliminary draft of "G" Company's experiences for review by the members. After making necessary corrections and other adjustments, we were able to return the draft to Mrs. Matsuo. Because most of the contents were written several years ago in the first write-up, much of this final review did not require too many adjustments. A review and adjustment was done at that time also. But Mrs. Matsuo wanted to expand "G" Company's experiences, so this second review and adjustment was made for the additional experiences she recorded.

She wanted to get as much experiences as the boys could give her, so she sat down with many of our members. We think that the final product will be very interesting to read. The following members participated: Speed Tanna, Taketo Kawabata, Fred Ida, Eddie Ochiai, Bobby Ito, John Kikuyama, Satoru Gota, Whitey Nakayama, Takeshi Onuma, Hiromi Suehiro, Eddie Tamanaha, Harold Fukunaga and Ray Handa.

It was unfortunate that our Mainland "G" Co. guys couldn't have participated, but we couldn't get her to sit down with our Mainland guys when they were here last year, following the Kona Reunion. She was able to get some input from "Rocky" Matayoshi through mail and telephone after some of our members told her how much of a hero "Rocky" was. Some of our members were able to fill in some information about "Rocky", because they were close to him in training and combat.

## Fishing in Alaska

By S. Nakayama

My name is Sekiji "Whitey" Nakayama of "G" Chapter. A few weeks ago with Takeshi Onuma, also of "G" Chapter, we went to Alaska for a week of fishing. Our destination was an island called Shelter Island, near Juneau, Alaska. The name of camp was Alaska Quality Lodges. It has nine rooms, a large kitchen, dining room and four wash rooms. No television, no telephones and no place to shop. Our group had seventeen people, which included three women.

Friday - June 28th - We left Honolulu for Juneau with stops in Los Angeles and Seattle. We spent the nite (Sat. 29th) in Juneau and were met by the people from the Lodge Sunday morning at 8:30. Our first stop was a super market for one week's supply of liquid refreshments, then on to the pier where we boarded our 24' cabin cruiser. The trip to Shelter Island is about 20 minutes.

After a short meeting at the Lodge, the next 4½ days is all fishing. King (Chinook), Silver (Coho) were the salmon we were after. Also available was some Pink Salmon, Dolly Varden, Halibut and Rockfish. King Salmon must be 28" or longer. Bag limit for King Salmon is 2 each per day and all other salmon is 6 each per day. One day is set aside for Halibut (2 each) and Rock fish (5 each per day). The people from the Lodge clean, freeze and pack the catch for you.

If you should get up early (sun is up by 5:00), you can take a short walk to the point to spin for Dolly Varden or Pink Salmon. As you walk along the shore line you can see on the tree tops these large and beautiful bird called Bald Eagles.

After breakfast, you board one of the 24' cruisers (4 people to each boat) and troll for Kings or Silver the whole day. The group that you are a member of, will stay together for the whole trip. Lunch is bento or sandwich and coffee. I took my own liquid refreshment. Each person is assigned a number. Each fish you catch is tagged with this number. All the boats return to the Lodge about 4:30 in the afternoon. The people of the Lodge clean and bag the fish that is caught each day. The catch is then placed in the freezer, ready to be packed. On Friday the fish is packed in wax lined box, ready for the trip home. Each person takes home all that he or she catches.

If you like fishing as much as I do and if you don't mind outdoor life, then a trip such as this can be very enjoyable. One other thing - I had the pleasure of having sixteen wonderful people as companions. The people of the Lodge were just great.

I can't wait for my next trip - 1992.

## AJA Golf

The 20th Annual AJA Veterans Golf Tournament will be held at the Honolulu Country Club on Monday, October 7, 1991. Tee time is 8:00 a.m. Entry fee, \$37.00.



By Terry Ihara

In the last report eight members were named as responding to the call for assistance in placing Memorial Day flowers at Punchbowl National Cemetery for Saturday, May 25, 1991. Actually eight calls were made with one person excusing himself due to conflict of personal needs and another for health reasons. As it turned out ten members plus a visitor from the Los Angeles Easy showed up for the Chapters semi-annual chore of placing flowers at the headstones of our beloved comrades who gave their all and moved on. The three extra who showed up were MAUI OKAMURA who plans changed, LARRY IWASHI who was informed of the chore by the person who couldn't make it because of health, KOZUN NAKATA and TOK SHIOMIHI.

It didn't take long to get going but the point this writer made in the last report of something lacking in the appreciation of EASY CHAPTER which fought together as a unit through the difficult campaigns in Italy and France during WW II was very evident that afternoon. This matter is brought up here to illustrate what a disorganized group of EASY members can do to a simple task of placing flowers on the cemetery plots. In the first place there was really no one in charge. This writer thought he was but his directions meant nothing. We must remember that we are now all equals and because of this it happens that whoever is the loudest and quickest often gets the nod regardless of the virtues of his case. This is true even with our Chapter meetings and the real fault is with the individual members who are too often silent.

In this connection again to illustrate; during the tea house dinner hosted by Senator Dan at Kanraku, there was a period when the late DAN AOKI who was visibly inebriated began a ceaseless attack of the Senator casting all kind of aspersions on the Senators performance. The Senator took it all quietly and the attack could have gone endlessly. But in stepped STOOKA who in no uncertain terms told DAN AOKI to shut up and that was it. It took courage to do what STOOKA did as well as a spirit of fairness. As we enter our autumn years we maybe are overly fearful of the winter that follows. In any event it does mean that one person can make a difference as was the case reported above. It also should follow that one person can do much to develop the camaraderie and the spirit of togetherness that will bring EASY CHAPTER members working towards a common goal with rewards for all. The key here is to submerge our individual wishes for the overall good of the Chapter and that is the essence of our Democratic way of life

Received in the mail today, August 26, a complete list of the names of former members of the 442nd RCT who served with EASY Company and who attended the recent reunion of the WW II battle unit. The reunion was held at Seattle, Washington from August 7 through the 11th. The list also included the names of many friends and associate members of the several chapters located throughout the country and was prepared by SUMA YAGI who is the sister of the late HARUO KATO. Many thanks to SUMA.

Because material written up of occasions as this Reunion will become historically important as we pass on, the writer will try to first list the EASY veterans who were at the Reunion, what geographical area they came from and lastly the many associate members and friends of EASY who assisted in the celebration. In all, the 7 page list includes a total of 210 names.

Since Hawaii was the first place where volunteers for the 442nd RCT were signed up en masse, this writer will list the Hawaii EASY veterans first. Traveling over 2000 miles of water to the Reunion were the following from the State of Hawaii. Attending the Reunion from the Island of Maui were TOSHI (Pop) & RUTH ANSAI, CHARLES ARAKAKI, MASANAO & SHIGEO HASEGAWA, SHIGEO IWANASA, HAROLD & WINNIFRED KISHABA, HIDEO MIZUKI, HIDEO (Pakala) & BETTY TAKAHASHI and BEN C. & DAISY TAKAYESU. The City and County of HONOLULU was represented by TERUO (Terry) IHARA, JUNO & AMY KANESHIGE, ROBERT (Bobby) MAEDA, NAOTOMO (Neka) & HAZEL MATOI, KOZUN & MILDRED NAKATA, TOSHIO (Maui) & HAZEL OKAMURA, THOMAS (Stooka) & JUNE OOKA, SABURO & TOKUE OUCHI, EDWARD PESTANA, RAYMOND SHIGENAGA, MASAO (Lefty) & KAY SUGIHARA, WAICHI & CHIYONO TAKE-MOTO, SHIGEO (Fly) & ELLEN TAMASHIRO, GEORGE & DORIS TANDO, CHIKATO & PATSY TESHIMA, TOMO & MARY UYEDA, MITSUGI (Chicken) & ROSE YAMADA, NOBUO & BETTY YONEDA and SHIGE & SALLY YOSHITAKE. The Big Island of HAWAII was represented by KAZUTOSHI (Cabby) FUJINO, JAMES & SETSUKO HAMASAKI, HIDEYUKI & TAMIKO NAGAI, HARRY TACHIBANA & friend NORA MAYEDA, and TSUNE & YAE TAKEMOTO. In all there were 56 from Hawaii at the Reunion.

From the Los Angeles/San Diego area the following were there at the Reunion. BEN & YUKI AIHARA, KAY & ROSE AKIYAMA, MINORU & FUKU FUJITA, TATSUO & MARY HIROKAWA, ROBERT & CHRISTIE ICHIKAWA, ELAINE ITO (widow of KOO ITO) and son Gary, GEORGE KANATANI, KAY KANESHINA (widow of HOPPY KANESHINA), HIDE & SADIE KAWARATANI, SAM KITAGAWA, SHIGERU & YONEKO KIYOMURA, RUTH KIZUKA (widow of FRANK KIZUKA), MITSUO & MARJORIE KUNIHIO, SAM & MARIE MIYASHIRO\*\*, JOU & KAYE OKITSU,



JAXSON & JANE ONO, ROY & MARGE OZAWA, TOKIO & CAROL SHIOMI, STERLING & KAY SUGA, MIKE & NANI TAKAMINE, FRANK & KIMIKO TAKEUCHI, PAUL USHIYAMA, HIDEO & SHIZUKO WACHI, FRANK M., JEAN & LAUREEN WADA, BEN & HISA YAMANAKA, KIYO & MITZI YAMATE and son LYLE, ROY & KATSUKO YANAI and GEORGE & RUTH YOSHIMARE. In all fifty four came from Southern California.

The farflung farms and cities of Northern California were well represented at this Reunion. From Turlock came HIRO & HISAKO ASAI; VIOLA HORII (widow of HIROSHI) from Foster City; KANJI (Ike) IKEGAKI from El Cerrito, JAMES & NATSUO ISHII, TOM & ROSE TAKATA and GEORGE & MICKY YAMADERA, HIDEKO (Deki) SETO\*\* and Sam & Sallys MURAKA\*\* from Sacramento; KUNI & EDITH IWO from Reddy; SHIZU KARIYA (widow of MASATO) of San Mateo; TOM & MAY KATAOKA from Selma; George & Mitzi MATSU-MOTO\*\*, Monterey Park; LAWSON & MINEKO SAKAI, Gilroy; Akira & Mary SASAKI\*, San Jose; WILLIAM SEIJI, Fairfield; WALTER & EMI SUGASAWARA, San Carlos; YUKIO & MOLLIE SUMIDA, Monterey; H. JON & YOSHIKO TOGASHI, Palo Alto and MAS & ANN TSUDA, Nevada City. Thirty three came from Northern California.

From Denver, Colorado came the following: WILLIE & MICHIE CHIKUMA, Charles (Chili) & Rose FUJISAKI\*\*, Masanori & Lili MASAMORI\*, GEORGE (Joe) & BESS SAKATO and YOSHIO & KYUNG YOSHIDA.

From Alliance, Nebraska came AKIRA (Skeets) & Jane NAGAKI.

From Washington, D.C., came YEI CHI (Kelly) & FUMI KUNAYAMA. Kelly invited her sister Aya KUNAYAMA\*\* from New York City, N.Y. 442nd RCT members who went to New York on passes during training in Mississippi as well as those who were able to stop over in New York City on their way home after the war should remember AYA because she was the tiny and cute Japanese girl who was the hostess at MIYAKO restaurant, 20 West 56th St. just off 5th Avenue in midtown. Also from New York's Brooklyn came EISAKU (Ace) & ALICE HIROMURA. This writer remembers well the extremely young replacement who joined the 1st Platoon in Italy. He looked like a young kid just out of high school though he says he was 19 years old then. The veteran soldiers of the platoon really worked on him putting all the fears of combat to him. From Beaverton, Oregon came JOHN MATSUNAGA, formerly from Denver, Colorado. The balance of the out-of-staters from Colorado, Nebraska, New York, Washington, D.C. and Oregon numbered Eighteen.

Now to tackle the very strong group of Nisei Veterans and their friends from Seattle who really assured the success of the Reunion by

their very active participation all around. The small group of EASY veterans like MACK, BILL, TOM and JOE could thank their friends and spouses and families for a most successful reunion. All of us "foreigners" who shared in your hospitality and good graces couldn't thank you more. ARIGATO GOZAI MASU.

Being the host City they came from all over the State, thirty two in all, to Seattle to help celebrate the Reunion. From Seattle proper the following attended the Reunion: Mas & Toshi FUKUHARA\*, George & (Fuzzy) FUNAI\*, HATS & PEGGY HANADA, SEIJI (Pata) HATA, Buggie MIYAHARA\*, GEORGE & JUDY IWASAKI, HENRY MASUI, JOE & MIYO NAKATSU, Mac NISHIMOTO\*, TOM & MAS OKAZAKI, MACK & AIKO SHOJI, NOBIE TAKAHASHI, SAB TSUBOI, Suma YAGI\*, SEIICHI YAMAMOTO & Ruth DUHON and BILL & RUBY YOKOBE. GEORGE & TEDI KANDA came from Auburn; KAY KATO, widow of the late HARUO KATO, Mercer Island; JOE & YURI MATSUZAWA, Lynnwood; AUGIE & MARIE TAKATSUKA, Vashon Island and George & Misuzu TANONAKA, Bellevue, Washington. Also there at the dinner at the Nisei clubhouse was the mother of KIA AKIRA KANZAKI.

In addition, MACK, JOE and the Reunion Committee invited some very special guests to assist with the Reunion. They were Harry and Rose KATAOKA, Ted & Marie KURIMURA, John & Frances IWASAKI, George and Hanako MIYAKE, Hiro and Dorothy NISHIMURA, Jim & Yuri SUZUKI, Dick TOCHIHARA, Joe & Hide YADA and Mas & Hisa WATANABE. Add these special Reunion guests to the list above and you have forty nine from the State of Washington involved in our Reunion activities which all who attended will attest as a most successful reunion. Again, our hats off to our Seattle friends.

Now to the program that was responsible for the success of the Reunion. Headquarters for the Reunion was the DOUBLE TREE INN located not far from the SeaTac airport. Most of the Reunion attendees were housed at the INN but a few had to be housed at the sister DOUBLE TREE INN located a block away. The HOSPITALITY ROOM was on the ground floor of the two story Hotel and was the most popular gathering place where the host Seattle group always had food on the table. EASY HONOLULU'S contribution to the Reunion was 27 pounds of AHI which was enjoyed by all. The MAUI delegation contributed some of the sweetest pineapples this writer has tasted. It was said that those pineapples came from MASANAO "Cowboy" HASEGAWA'S backyard. Macadamia Nuts were always available as puppuu and they likely came from the Island of Hawaii where the nuts are replacing sugar cane as their principal Agricultural crop. The thing that was missing this year were the crates of fresh fruits KIYO YAMATE and his L.A. group always brought to the Reunion in the past. The reason for this absence, this writer was told, was that the hosts felt they did not need it. This was unfortunate as fruits to the Hawaiians is like sashimi to our mainland friends. We can't get enough of it.

The two evening functions, the informal get-together at the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee Clubhouse and the Farewell Dinner at the Double Tree inn, were both capacity functions. The pot-luck dinner at the Nisei Clubhouse buffet table was packed with all kinds of goodies which the guests went through like a sweeping hurricane, an indication that the food was enjoyed by all. A party is never a success if there was much food left on the table. All of the visitors were transported to the Nisei Clubhouse on large buses which simplified the matter of transportation. Several from Hawaii entertained the gathering with karaoke renditions as well as Japanese folk dances. The Farewell Banquet at the Double Tree Inn was like a formal dinner with every one dressed to kill except the Hawaiians who seldom dress for any kind of affair, even at home. For a Hotel dinner the fare was good; both prime rib roast and chicken stuffed with (hard to locate) crab topped with asparagus sauce.

While the golfers were out on the courses for two days, Thursday and Saturday, others went shopping, city tours and the horse races. Friday a large group took the bus to Vancouver, British Columbia, on a shopping tour. Those who stayed back went to the races while others did more shopping and another group went to an Indian Reservation across the bay from Seattle to sample some traditional Indian foods as well as Indian culture.

In evaluating the Seattle Reunion, it can be said that they put a lot of work in planning the event and were able to marshal a work force to carry out the various responsibilities. EASY Seattle was extremely fortunate in that they got the entire Nisei Veterans involved in the affair as well as a bevy of honorary members belonging to the Veterans group. Leading the total effort were MACK SHOJI and JOE NAKATSU. As this writer closes this chapter of the 1991 reunion in Seattle, we want to again thank the Seattle EASY group and the supporting Nisei Veterans group for a Reunion that has had few equals. Hopefully LAWSON and the Northern California group can match Seattle's output next year at Oakland. See you in Oakland.

Following the Seattle reunion, the Hawaii group split with 12 taking a flying trip to Alaska, six going on the Alaskan Cruise, 2 couples going to Homer, Alaska to fish upon invitation of two nursing classmates of DAISY TAKAYESU and the balance from Hawaii mostly ending their tours at Las Vegas. The 12 flying to Alaska were this writer, JUNO & MAY KANESHIGE, MAUI & HAZEL OKAMURA, EDDIE PESTANA, SABURO & TOKUE OUGHT, WAICHI & CHINYONO TAKEMOTO and SHIGE & SALLY YOSHITAKE. The group spent five nights in Anchorage and while there took the City tour, the Portage Glacier tour and five men: this

writer, JUNO, MAUI, SABURO, WAICHI and SHIGE took the salmon fishing tour on the Kenai river. Bad weather hampered our Portage Glacier tour and the fishing venture was not as we expected. Instead of ocean fishing we did fresh water river fishing of salmon on their way up stream to spawn. For most of us fly catch fishing was a novelty and difficult. The salmon going up stream to spawn are not interested in food which meant the angler must put the fly at the fish's mouths. It is no mean accomplishment to do so. The group did bring home a box of six frozen salmon which JUNO and this writer will repare for the whole group when time permits.

LEFTY & KAY SUGIHARA, TSUNE & YAE TAKEMOTO and KOZUN & MILDRED NAKATA took the Princess cruise up the inland sea. PAKALA & BETTY TAKAHASHI and BEN & DAISY TAKAYESU went from Homer, Alaska for some fishing. Homer is at the western tip of the Kenai Peninsula. No reports as yet as to their success. TOSHI "Pop" and RUTH ANSAI have a daughter living in the Seattle area who with her husband are media buffs and recorded the happenings of the Reunion in sight and sound. It is hoped that we may be accorded the privilege of viewing their recordings sometime in the future so Pop, tano mi masu.

As to the others who found themselves at the gaming tables of Las Vegas, whatever transpired there will have to wait for the next edition of the Newsletter. Fini

#### END

#### Letter to the Editor from Ted Tsukiyama

Congratulations on the Jan, Feb, Mar 1991 issue of the "Go For Broke" Bulletin!

I am making special reference to the two excellent personal history narratives by Toshi Hayama of HQ 2nd Chapter and Isaac Ikehara of King Chapter relating their experiences and feelings about going into combat for the first time.

Stories like these are not found in the war history books. They are only known and heard for the first time when someone takes the trouble to sit down and tell the story firsthand and get it in writing. If not, that particular experience, recollection and perspective is lost forever.

Greater effort should be made to encourage the preservation and exposure of those stories. Fox Chapter has gathered and compiled a fine collection of personalized experiences of some of the Fox men, stories that have never been publicized before. That is how I found out when and how my friend Hiro Imitamet his heroic death.

Can we see and enjoy more of such personal 442 experiences in future editions?





By Charles Watanabe

Time to catch-up with the news and see what Hqs 3rd has been up to during the past few months.

You may think otherwise, but Hqs 3rd stopped the rocking chair and had a dinner meeting for the month of June with the wives. "Well, what is so different about that?" For one thing, we had to dress with a little more effort, shoes, of course, and the men and ladies were wearing something dressier. I must say everyone did look a lot nicer...much nicer than they usually look in their casual wear...the ladies in elegant muumuu and dresses and the men in aloha shirts usually saved for really special occasions. It's been a long time since I dressed to go anywhere like that.

The food and beverages were excellent, the service the best, and naturally, prices to match, which I dare not mention. The ladies were cooing and aahing the food served them throughout the evening. Finally, at the evening's end, Sam Sasai had to call the chef to take a bow and explain to the ladies a little bit about the various entrees and the scrumptious desserts they enjoyed. It was a wonderful evening as all arrangements were made by Sam and Michi Sasai. Besides the Sasais, those present for the dinner meeting were Takeshi & Irene Nakamura, Hajime & Hinayo Matsuura, Janet Matsuda, David Kaira, Frances Tsubata, Erni & Gracie Uno, Shigeru & Janet Goto, Sam & Harumi Furuya, Robert & Edna Kuniyuki, Charles & Clara Watanabe and also the guests for the evening Harry & Harriet Nakayama from San Jose. "Good seeing you again, Harry & Harriet. Hope you've enjoyed the fine dining as much as we have." All this took place at Alfred's Restaurant at the Century Center on June 21, 1991.

What else about Hqs 3rd. As mentioned earlier the members may be retired but the chair's not rocking all the time.

For the month of July, the members decided to have a family picnic at the DAV Hall, Keehi Lagoon on the 21st. Arriving early at the site with his family was Hajime Matsuura, who was in charge of all the arrangements. They were soon joined by other enthusiastic members and their families, and before long, the much anticipated fun time was underway. Erni Uno displayed his expertise in the area of games and had practically everyone participating one way or another. Some of the games played were water balloon, egg throwing, whip cream, etc., with each game accompanied by many prizes as give aways, and the young and old alike were enjoying themselves...really a fun-filled afternoon. Amid all this, a mishap occurred. Grace Ishikawa stumbled and fractured her right wrist bone and had to be driven to the emergency unit. It was an unfortunate incident; so sorry

this had happened. We all wish Grace a "speedy recovery" and hope you'll be able to join us very soon for the chapter's other scheduled events.

As it is with any picnic, the highlight of the afternoon was the potluck dinner. Like I said before, when Hqs 3rd wives prepare food, it ends up with more than one can handle...every dish so enticing...the tendency was to forget what ails you and to live for the moment. Didn't want to be counting calories when the desserts were exceedingly irresistible. The Goto's would have enjoyed the delicious desserts had they been there.

Lucky numbers were drawn about this time. Speaking of lucky numbers, there was something strange about them because Irene Nakamura had written the numbers in Japanese. That's telling who attended Japanese School and who played hooky for those who played hooky were slow to respond for their prizes. There were so many door prizes. The event was a huge success and those making it all possible were Sam & Michi Sasai; Takeshi & Grace Ishikawa; Erni and Gracie Uno; David Kaira; Charles & Clara Watanabe; Drs. Ross and Joyce Tanoue; Pappy, Doris and Patti Iwamoto; Janet Matsuda; and Delta Air Lines. Mahalo to all for the generous contributions. An aura of warm fellowship flowed as we bade each other good-bye."

Also, thanks to Hinayo & Hajime Matsuura and Irene & Takeshi Nakamura, who took the time to make sure everything went on smoothly. Thanks to Bill Kuwata and Sons for the shave ice machine. After all, what is a picnic without shave ice. Incidentally, that shave ice machine is a very classic one which is manually operated (still unaware of the facts of life.) It's kept in an excellent condition with the chrome still shiny that it belies its age.

What else? Hope I haven't missed anything. Otherwise, will get into some da kine stuff.

Called Erni for a report of his trip to San Francisco with his wife Gracie. He kindly responded with the following:

In planning our trip back in February to celebrate my brother's and his wife's 50th wedding anniversary, it occurred to me that we'd have some free time since we scheduled our trip for more than just going and coming back after the party; so I wrote to Ben Fukutome to suggest that we get together for dinner with some of the guys in the Bay Area. As it turned out, Ben and Dot opted to host the affair at their home in Lafayette - we took the BART to get there. Much

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By Mino Suzumoto

TRAGEDY dropped what ultimately would be its final mantle of death not once, but twice, around "I" Co., during the interim: Funeral services for RALPH ARASHIRO was held at the Hosoi Garden Mortuary at 12 noon, on Thursday, July 18. Seemingly in good health his demise came so suddenly, so unexpectedly, Itemites are still shaking their heads in disbelief. Inurnment, preceded by services with military honors were performed at the National Memorial of the Pacific, after the conclusion of the mortuary services. RALPH was 74. May his soul rest in peace. Our sincerest condolences goes to wife JEANETTE and to his next of kins.

The chapel was filled to capacity with Co. I veterans, various friends and U.S. Firefighters Union members. At the family's request, Itemites taking an active part during the ceremonies were: BRUNO YAMADA, master of ceremony; KENNETH OKUMA gave the eulogy; KAZU TAKEKAWA (sho-ko) represented Co. I; MINO SUZUMOTO represented the 442 Club. Marring the cho-ba were: WALTER "Joe" OKUMOTO; CHAMP SUZUKI; HIRAM DOI; STAN YAMAMOTO.

Services for HIDE MATSUMOTO was held on Sunday, September 1 at the Nuuanu Memorial Park Mortuary. For 11 long years he battled his multiple illnesses, showing so much grit, so much stamina in the process that Itemites began praying for the miracle that never came. He was 67. May his soul rest in peace for evermore. Co. I take this means, inadequate as it may be, to extend to VIOLET and the next of kins, our sincerest condolences.

Here too, it was standing room only with the U.S. postal workers union members making the difference. Acceding to the wishes of the family, Itemites took active roles in the ceremonies: BRUNO YAMADA was M.C.; HAROLD WATASE did the eulogy; CHAMP SUZUKI, JOE OKUMOTO, HIRAM DOI and TOMMY HARIMOTO managed the cho-ba; KAZU TAKEKAWA represented the whole congregation during sho-ko.

Due to clashes in military scheduling, inurnment, preceded by services with military honors at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific were performed on Tuesday, September 3, for HIDE, with Co. I adequately represented. One of them being EDDIE YAMASAKI, Roppongi, Japan, who by coincidence happened to be in town in time for both memorial services, at the mortuary and Punchbowl.

FRED MATSUMURA, Gardena, CA. visiting us isn't exactly news, but, the guy went in and out of here so fast this time, we never got to know what he had come for in the first place. Let

alone whether BEA, his better half was with him or not.

For those of you who'd be interested; I hear tell plans for the 1993 442 50th Anniversary celebration is coming along just fine. Overall chairman, GEORGE NAKASATO oozes enthusiastic in giving off-the-cuff remarks such as marching school bands, 442 Reserve units, etc., parading along Kalakaua Avenue from DeRussy to the Kapiolani Park area. As long as you don't have us marching in them, GEORGE.

Time and circumstances compels me just about the stage to remind you that our 1991 Christmas Party will be held on the evening of Sunday, December 8 (2nd Sunday) at Victoria Inn (being held there consecutively since 1984).

Exercising my prerogative, or, put another way, finding an easy way out of a dilemma. For the past many months, yours truly have been plagued with one "mishap" after another. Afflicted with 3 types of cancer, a corneal transplant, 7 straight weeks of radiation therapy (in conjunction with the prostate) and a rather severe case of the shingles. Put them all together, mix them well and the combination have a tendency to knock you off your feet at times. Like having difficulty in breathing, for example. Such, being the shape I'm in, hopefully the guys and gals involved will all excuse my inability to respond individually at this time. So, to AL GOKAN (Lihue), "Thanks" for the goodies received in the midst of everything. My question: "What did I do to deserve such perferential treatment?" (I better thank this guy p.d.g. because my spies tell me he's planning to move to Oahu, one of these days).

To: MARGARET OSHITA (Kapaa, Kauai), GEORGE's better half, for being the "liaison" between a bereaved family involving a close relative of mine and myself (twice, over trans-Pacific phone). And I found it impossible to be there. "Thanks!" MARGARET. To RALPH ARASHIRO for keeping track of the attendance during the 4th of July meeting, in my absence (thanking him posthumously). To WALTER FURUKAWA, for all his home-grown fruits and veggies, delivered to my doorsteps by he himself. JIM YAMASHITA, for continuously keeping me (and everyone else) posted on the Mini Co. I Reno Reunion, this coming October, without even a thank you, let alone a peep out of me all this while. To the "Extended 19th Hole" gang who calls from our favorite watering hole every Sunday afternoon at about 4, urging me, no, that's not exactly right, maybe "encouraging" is a better word to start bending elbows again, picking up from where I left off, 3-4 months ago. To MASA NAKAMURA who calls up regularly to see what progress I'm making. I'm thankful. To all of you, thank you for listening me out. Now, that makes me feel better, Ha...



To all of you who's going to Reno to meet the boys "Have a good trip!" And to HANK & KIYO OTSUKI, who I understand will forego this one in order to take a later trip to Japan. Well, you have a dandy time there, too!

# "I" Co Reno Mini Reunion '91

Larry Arakaki, Terry & Elsie Aratani, Hiroshi & Midori Aruga, Hideo & Alice Asato, George & Esther Buto, James Chang, Shig & Yoshiko Doi, Warren & Millie Fencil, Kay & Betty Fujishin, Kenneth & Kimie Fukuda, Walter & Jane Furukawa, Gilbert & Yaeko Hakoda, Fred Hamaishi, Sam Handa, Joe Hanzawa, Tony & Helen Haraburda, Tom Harimoto & (Donna O'Day), Quentin Ikezoe & Betty (Minami), Nobe & Rose Ikuta, Yutaka & Junko Isefuku, Larry & Marian Ishikawa, Kikuye Ishitani, Masami Iso, Sab Itakura & Sam Hiranaka, Akira & Kiyo Ito, Arthur & Teri Iwasaki, Victor & Michi Izui, Barbara Kameda & Helen Kimura, Shiro & Louise Kashino, Gilbert Kato, Michi Kato, Jim & Saki Kawaminami, Muzzy Kimura, Frank & Tami Kino-shita, Susumu & Kiyoko Kishiba, Smitty Koga & Paul Nishimura, Hitoshi & Irene Kohara, Mike & Dorothy Kreskosky, Lloyd & Martie Kurihara, Harry & Edna Kuwahara, Calvin Lum, Wilson & Marga Makabe, Fred & Bea Matsumura, George & Reiko Matsushita, Ronald Minami & Ruth (Ikezoe), Robert Miyaji, Jim & Amy Miyamoto, Tony Miyamoto, George & Joyce Miyashiro, Ethel Mizumoto, Shig Monoda, Tomoe Mori & Ann Mori, George & Elsie Morihiro, Cal Morishige, Bill & Sada Morita, Richard & Toshiko Morita, Kim Jr. & Cheryl Muroto, Kim & Masako Muroto, Michael & Kathy Muroto, Kaz & Yoshiko Muto, Bill Naganuma, Yukio & Asayo Nagawa

Henry & Mitsu Nakada, Togo & Gloria Nakagawa, Mabel Nakaguma and (E. Mizumoto), Masa & Helen Nakamura, Richard & Liz Nishioka and Mrs. Yanagihashi, Ted & Diana Ogata, Dorothy Ohara, Charlie Okada, Enro & Yoneko Okada, Kenneth & Betty Okuma, Walter Okumoto and Daughter, Cindy, Richard & Nobue Oshiro, George & Margaret Oshita, Dale Peck, John & Tsuruko Sadanaga, Susumu & Yasuko Sakaida, Bob & Rosann Sakamoto, Frank & Toshiko Sakamoto, Kiyoshi Sakamoto and Gay-Helen Fong, Toni & Bettie Sakamoto, Dale & Theresa Sakuma, Kenji & Hiroko Segawa, Tak & Mary Senzaki, Fern Shigaki and Kim Hoshizaki, Frank Shinada, Junji & Betty Shiroyama, Kiichi & Nellie Sonoda, Ruth Speizio, Ichiro Suzuki and Bella Nagatoshii, Minoru & Dorothy Suzumoto, Hideo Takahashi, Kazuo & Winifred Takekawa, Fred Takenaka, Ganji Tanaka and George Tanaka, Eric Tash and Renee Iijima, Bill & June Teragawa, Tamotsu & Ruth Tomihara and Pamela, Tsutomu Tomihara, Tommy & Maria Umeda, Tom & Patricia Watanuki, Mitsuo & Yukie Yakuma, Henry & Ellen Yamada, Edward Yamaguchi, Betsy Yamanoto, Edward Yamasaki, Jim & Marian Yamashita and Minoru & Rinko Yoshioka.

END



## RENO

The K-3 continue to meet monthly, as they focus their attention for the big one for 1991 which will be the no host affair scheduled for Reno, Nevada come October. Maui will be sending a healthy delegation and we can expect a record breaker from the stateside. Coordinating the travel end and the accommodations will be MARY "ROYAL ADVENTURE" KOSASA so if you're planning to divert after this is all over, better contact this lady as soon as you can. Otherwise, it's just the usual monthly gathering with nothing new to report "SAMBO" SUZUKI, 4th platoon was our latest guest, still putting in his 8 hours killing time on the isle of Kwajalein.

With the coming thru of more WWII escapade by that prolific writer ISAAS IKEHARA, 1st squad, 1st platoon Sgt, we will devote the rest of this column to this hard to beat Guamanian. As you have been reminded time and time again, we can always use your news, whatever it maybe, so just send it in to me and we'll see to it that it's published, just as we're doing IKE's memoirs.

## JULY

July turned out to be a most tragic month as we extend our deepest sympathy to the following: SATORU SAWAI in the loss of his beloved mother who passed away at the age of 96. Still recall those weekends when a group of us made many a humbug visiting SATORU and singing and drinking up in the little teahouse in the middle of nowhere with this wonderful lady summoning us to breakfast upon getting up, going thru the trouble of even cooking fried chicken to feed these hungry lions. TED "GEZO" NAKATA was one of those whose good fortune it was to get a taste of this unforgettable hospitality. HYOCHI MIYAMOTO, eldest brother of FUJIO was laid to rest at age 76 having retired as an auto painter for Schuman Carriage. Survived by his wife, brother MATSUGIHI, and 3 children who were present for many a social affair of the K-men in the old days. Mrs. MARGARET SASAKI, elder sister of JAMES YANAGIDA who came from a family of 10 was also laid to rest at age 76 during this month. On the big Island, the K-3 lost another one of it's great warriors in the way of SUEO SAKAMOTO, a front liner, who served his time as a member of the 2nd platoon. A member of the DAV, SUEO was born in Honokaa, Hawaii, retired as a mechanic and passed away in Hilo at the age of 68. Our heartfelt condolence to his wife TSUKO, 2 sons and one daughter and his many brothers and sisters.

By Joe H. Shimamura

## OFFSPRINGS

Trying to cover as much ground as possible, we continue with, what's cooking, as far as the K-s offsprings are concerned, starting off with GARY HIGA, a foreman with Island movers who will give you a guarantee that you'll end up with no broken transported goods or missing in action items. If you are finding too much termite droppings in your soup lately, just call General manager ROY MAEDA who is the big boss with Extermco. SCOTTY IBARA, who at one time was making the big buck with Daiel must be making a bigger buck as he's now with Hawaiian Electric Co. as a plant operator in Waiiau. Should you notice some ice formation on your heating element of your stove, better give SCOTTY a call right away. As for the K. KAJIWARA youngsters, the younger, big one GERARD, is a tractor operator with Hawaii Transfer piling up that green stuff trying to hit the big one in Las Vegas while older brother, SCOTT who always was a gung-ho individual is a Captain in the airborne branch of the service. The transplant from Seattle, who was born to be a manager is now a big boss with the title of Chain Manager of Island Beverage as MARK MATSUDA returns from Washington being the former regional manager of Pepsi Cola Company. I guess there's no place like Hawaii for MARK. You can be assured that there will be no power outage at Pearl Harbor with CURTIS NOBORIKAWA, Jr. on the job as a power engineer at this naval base. So she goes for the youngsters in this issue with more to come on the next one as we bring to a close the August bulletin.

## THE BATTLE FOR LUCIANO - July 16 & 17, 1944

By Isaac Ikehara

The 88mm shells were exploding as it hit the top of the big tall trees and the shrapnels were "screaming" down and raking the barks off the trees and even the trees appeared to be bleeding. Were the trees Italian pine or Eucalyptus (like the ones that I used to see hiking up the old Nuuanu Pali road in Honolulu)? This thought flashed through my mind for a second or so when I saw the red inside bark of the trees and before the sight of Sgt Ralph Yamaguchi riding piggy back on top of BAR man Tokuo Kajiwaru, both from the 3rd squad of the 1st platoon of Company K, and looking for a medic. Ralph was holding his left boot in his hand and his ankle was a bloody mess - minus his foot! Beside the artillery shells, we were probably faced with anti-personnel mines that could have caused the loss of a foot!

They both hurried down the cobblestone road leading away from the hilltop town of Luciano as the shelling continued. We wished Ralph good luck and goodbye with his "million dollar" wound and gutsy Ralph smiled and waved goodbye. By this time we were hardened combat infantry men and looked upon a non-fatal leg or arm wound as worth a million bucks - for his days as a combat infantry man would be over and he would be on his way

home while we still had an unknown fate waiting for us around the next bend or the next barrage of artillery shells as we tightly hugged the fresh dirt from the slit trench that we had just dug to get our body below the flying shrapnels or bomb blast.

As part of the 1st platoon, we had been held under company reserve and we were moving up the inclined road leading up to the edge of the town of Luciano where the tall trees, which were a rarity in Italy, were located. It was another one of those many towns that controlled a key road and high ground that had to be taken before we could crawl on toward the next high ground but in the case of Luciano, it would be to the Arno River and the city of Pisa with its famous leaning tower. We were told by Company Commander Leonard that the 2nd and 3rd platoons with support from elements of the 4th platoon (mortars and light machine guns) were already in parts of the town and were advancing house-to-house clearing the town.

The company C.P. was established in one of the large stone houses among the tall trees at the lower edge of the town. Capt. Leonard and 1st Lt. Gay commanded the company operations from this location. There were no other officers available to lead the other platoons. The 1st platoon was led by Lt. Dickinson who had been declared as being too old to be an infantry platoon leader, and had been left with the company kitchen and baggage detail until today. This was his initiation in the front line.

At about mid-morning, Lt. Dickinson, the newly delegated 1st platoon leader, said that he had received word from C.O. Leonard that the Jerries had begun withdrawing from Luciano and that it was now clear for the 1st platoon to move in and occupy Luciano. We were ordered to move up the main road leading into town. On the left side of the cobble main street was a low retaining wall about a couple of feet high and on the right side loomed a retaining stone-wall about 2-3 stories high, and the road had a S-shaped curve leading into the town.

Platoon Sgt. Atsushi Sakamoto took the lead point on the left side of the road and I followed him about 5-paces back and in the middle of the road. Lt. Dickinson and his radio man PFC Fred Ogata alongside were on the right side hugging closer to the high retaining wall. Behind me was my BAR team of Clarence "John Bull" Tamayori and Ted Nakata. As the six of us came around the bend created by the curve in the high right wall, moving cautiously toward what looked like a Y-intersection in the road, the Jerries opened up with rifle and machine gun fire and I heard T/Sgt Sakamoto grunt "uggh" at the same time diving for cover over the left retaining wall, as a reflex action, I thought he also made a gurgling sound while I stooped low and zigged and zagged quickly back around the corner and safety of the high wall. Lt. Dickinson and his radio man Ogata also both came limping back around the curve and with bullet wounds on the leg. My BAR team was also safely back but one of the team was also hit on the leg



with a flesh wound (writing this memoir 47-years later, I cannot recall which one of the team member had been "hit" and which one had "dodged bullets" like myself).

We called for the medics, and while the wounded moved back toward the rear, I waited at the curve of the wall calling for T/Sgt Sakamoto to check whether he was seriously wounded and needed aid. There was no reply and I waited there until a Medic Sgt on a jeep from the 3rd battalion Medics Company moved up to my position. I pointed out where T/Sgt Sakamoto had last been seen diving over the wall. The medic waved a large Red Cross medic flag for about 15-20 seconds and without regard for his safety, the chunky medic walked right out in the open and disregarding the Jerries, stroked to the spot where S/Sgt Sakamoto should be. The medic returned very shortly and informed me that "Sak" had been vitally hit through the throat area and was killed almost instantly. His words just verified what I had already instinctively knew. The medic had marked where T/Sgt Sakamoto laid with his helmet and sub-machine gun to be picked up later. (Sad and I and the rest of the platoon had been through a lot during the past month that we had been on the line. I gave him a silent prayer and farewell.)

Much of the credit of the Jerry outfit that we were facing, they held their fire and let the medic work on the wounded or dead. They respected the Red Cross flag generally, and in reciprocity we also theirs when they attempted to check their wounded or picked up their dead.

The remainder of the 1st platoon had retreated into a tunnel-like wine or olive oil storage "cellar" built into the high retaining wall on the right side of the road. There was a rickety wooden double door that was unlocked. Worried that we would be vulnerable to a counter attack and especially if led by a tank, I called for platoon bazooka man Okamoto to stay with me behind the low retaining wall and in the area near the lower part of the S-shaped curve in the road. S/Sgt Fred Sugiura who was the assistant platoon Sgt, and now Platoon Sgt due to the loss of T/Sgt "Sak", joined us for a short while until the Jerries began once again to shell the top of the tall trees, the last of which were now directly behind where we were crouching behind the retaining wall. S/Sgt Sugiura soon decided to head for the "tunnel". He may have been wounded also, but he did not inform me and I was too concerned about our potentially dangerous situation should the Jerries counter attack possibly from around the curve and from the shells bursting in the trees behind us.

We did not know where the Jerries had an observation post, but they accurately kept hitting at the top of the trees behind us and the shrapnel kept "screaming" down at us with near-misses, and I became more convinced that we were under observation. I asked Okamoto if his bazooka was ready for firing. He shocked me by replying that

something was wrong with his bazooka and he would not be able to fire it. As another shell hit the trees behind us and finally when a chunk of the retaining wall was knocked off by shrapnel about a foot from my head, I told Okamoto "Let's get the Hell out of here", and we headed for the wine tunnel and joined the rest of the platoon.

Once inside the safety of the wine cellar, we noted that the "cellar" was a tunnel with large vats of wine or olive oil lining each side and with another door on the other end about 20-30 yards away and opening out into a small cobble stone street running along the right side of the town. We decided to probe this route into the town rather than be caught inside the wine tunnel should the Jerries counter attack. As the remnants of the 1st platoon made its way up the narrow stone road, we soon joined up with the reserve squad of the 2nd platoon led by S/Sgt Kenneth "Gus" Shibata. He informed us that the rest of the 2nd platoon led by T/Sgt Ted Tanouye plus the 3rd platoon and parts of the 4th platoon were already in the town and clearing it house-by-house.

Gus and I decided to probe the right side of the town and continue to reach the top end of the town. By late afternoon we were nearing the top end of the town, and we were confronted with a formidable monastery-looking church building with thick walls and with various small window openings where the Jerries could shoot from. To the right of the church was a small vineyard where the edges dropped off into a darkening gulch-like valley behind the town.

Gus and I discussed the situation and we decided on a simple plan: We formed a single skirmish line with the remaining 2nd platoon squad on the left side near the church-like building and the remnants of the 1st platoon strung out to the right and spread across the small vineyard. At a given signal, we all stood up and firing at every opening, windows and at any potential targets, we slowly made our way through the vineyard until we reached alongside the church-like building. The Jerries began firing at us by hitting the sides of the church wall with what I guessed was a 20mm anti-aircraft gun for as the projectiles hit the wall, there was a small explosion and shrapnel would spray downward toward the ground and the men. Again we must have been under Jerry observation and our position would be reported back to the guns and effectively bring fire on us but could not fire directly at us. Nevertheless, the ricochet shots were effective for very shortly I saw S/Sgt Gus Shibata and another man from the 2nd platoon go down and the call for a medic was given. I hollered at Gus if he needed help but he replied that it was only a leg wound and assured me that he would be okay and would wait for the platoon medic and that we should continue moving.

Gus was one of these guys that was built like a sumo wrestler. He had one of the biggest thighs I have ever seen for a guy his size, about 180-190 pounds. His normal G.I. pants always looked too snug at the legs. I wished him good luck with his million dollar wound and as usual Gus gave us his slow smile and we moved on past the church-like building.

The evening shadows were beginning to settle down on us rapidly as we moved through the vineyard beyond the church when I spotted movement about 15-20 yards ahead in the vineyard. At the same instance, Pvt Aki Yamane from Kalihi, Honolulu who was directly on my right shouted "Jackson, what the Hell you doing up here?" (NOTE: PFC Jackson Sugioka from the 3rd platoon was one of the new individuals from Co. K who covered his steel helmet with camouflaged colored cloth similar to what the Jerries were wearing on their helmet and was a close buddy of Yamane's. The rest of us covered our helmets with a green netting.) We held our fire thinking it was really Jackson moving through the vineyard ahead of us. The soldier took one surprised glance at us and ran through the vineyard and disappeared down the edge of a drop-off at the end of the vineyard. He was a German soldier that had been fleeing from the town and we unfortunately missed our opportunity to capture him or cut him down when we first sighted him.

It was getting too dark to advance any further and we had reached the upper end of Luciano and the terrain dropped off into an already darkening gulch-like area, so I decided to dig in and place the men remaining with me into a defensive configuration for the night in the vineyard.

PFC Walter Heirakuji located on my left front about 10-yards away and within the same row of grape vines began digging his slit trench with his body upright and I became concerned. I told Walter to stay lower and closer to the ground. I knew at least that the Jerry whom we mistakenly thought was "Jackson" could be lurking out there or he could have met up with more of his comrades and could possibly counter attack. Walter continued to dig his slit trench for another 15-minutes or so when I heard the crack of a rifle and seconds later I heard Walter yell "I'm hit!" I hollered for "Doc" Miyamoto and quickly ran up to Walter's position to check him out. There was a gaping hole in his upper right arm and when I took his medical kit and tried to shake the package of sulfa drug powder into his wound, the powder was falling out the other side of his arm through a hole almost the size of my fist. Sgt Bill Yagi, my assistant squad leader moved up to aid me very shortly. Doc Miyamoto arrived and gave Walter a morphine shot and more dressing.

I asked Doc about the condition of S/Sgt Gus Shibata and I was shocked and disappointed to learn that Gus had died from his leg wound. He said that Gus' wounded thigh was so big and

bulky that an effective tourniquet could not be applied at the right position to stop the flow of blood and we were quite far away from the aid station. Gus was a quiet guy and always ready with his small slow smile, a good disposition and very likable. I had trained under him during basic training and we were quartered in the same hutment at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. I was transferred to the 1st platoon just before we were preparing to move overseas. Gus was one of the original Co. K Cadre during our training period and remained in the 2nd platoon as the assistant platoon Sgt.

Doc Miyamoto escorted Walter back toward the rear with his "million dollar" wound and we settled in for the night taking turns "cat-napping" for we expected the usual Jerry counter attack to come. There were no more incidents in our sector of Luciano that night. The town was now occupied by Company K from end-to-end and it was a matter of cleaning out the Jerries trapped in it or have those not caught slip out quietly and retreat to their next line of resistance. The next day we heard that some of the K men had slept in the same room or house where the Jerries were hiding in the closets and were later captured.

After the taking of Luciano, Co. K later moved on to the hills of Colle Salvetti, the last of the high ground before the city of Pisa. Other units of the 3rd battalion had cleared the hills of Colle Salvetti. While taking a short rest in the brush covered hills of Colle Salvetti, the 1st platoon was assigned by Capt. Leonard to work with a War Department movie crew to shoot some footage of a unit of the 442nd Combat Infantry men in "Action" moving through the bushes in a mock attack. We "hammed" it up with the firing of the stripped down submachine gun that we had retrieved from T/Sgt "Sak". (I often wonder whether this footage of the film was ever shown.)

On the morning of July 19, Capt. Leonard requested that I take a jeep patrol composed of two other volunteers from the 1st platoon and accompanied by a jeep driver, a mine sweeper operator and a gunner to operate the jeep mounted 50 cal. machine gun from 3rd Battalion Headquarters Company. Our mission was to take the motorized patrol as far as we could to reconnoiter and to try to make contact with the Jerries; if not to try to reach the Arno River and the city of Pisa.

In broad daylight with 6 men crowded on a lonely jeep, we drove down off the hills of Colle Salvetti and slowly made our way on a dusty dirt road over open and flat farm country, carefully checking the roadway in front of the jeep for signs of mines and up ahead for any sign of the enemy. After several miles of travelling on the fully exposed road, and waiting for an expected fire from a tiger tank or from machine guns, we continued toward a cluster of white plastered farm houses and buildings esti-





# In Memoriam

By Allen Nakamura

We have lost one of our staunchest chapter member. Tadashi "Tad" Sakai, age 77, passed away on July 23, 1991 after a long courageous bout with prostate cancer. Tad, who seemingly looked so well and were able to consume food again after removal of a testicle a few years back, finally were not able to overcome the dreadful disease, found peace and laid to rest on the tranquil grounds of National Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). The inurnment took place on Monday, July 28, 1991 with full military honors. Many LIKM chapter members attended in our chapter dress code.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to Claire & Don Hazzard and to Tracy & Wenona Sakai. Tad who always was supportive of his children's ambitions and goal, it is not difficult to understand the grief shared by his children in the void in their lives with the passing of Tad. I recall Tad mentioning many years ago when Claire was at Roosevelt High, that she wanted to continue in music but needed a violin. Without hesitation he encouraged her to continue but didn't realize at the time that the violin she wanted was of the 'top of the line' costing over \$3,000. We all know the result of that investment. Claire is an accomplished violinist with Honolulu Symphony Orchestra for many years and recognized and honored today as the concertmaster.

Tracy meanwhile who lives in California with wife Wenona, took a different course and became an expert in the computer field together with Wenona. He is doing extremely well from Tad's last statement, who in his lifetime visited with them often during his many trips to Las Vegas.

Tad's demise is a great loss to all of us in the 442nd VC. As editor of the "Go For Broke" bulletin, he has guided the publication thru changing times from monthly to 4 times a year due to financial reasons. Always mindful of the costs and dateline he religiously reminded the reporters with a phone call to everyone's satisfaction.

In the eulogy given by Robert Sasaki, Tad at age 14 left for the mainland and working part time supported himself thru graduation from San Pedro High School. It was two years ago that he attended the 50th anniversary reunion of that class, when his classmates honored him with Hawaiian decorations including pineapples and maile lei. Tad, a soft spoken quiet man and an interesting conversationalist was welcomed into the Gaffey family with whom he lived for 20 years.

He was our chapter treasurer for many years noted for his accuracy and dependability. He was also a very generous person but I thought his greatest attributes was the caring for his fellow men, which was carried over from his army days to civilian life. Yes, he will be missed. MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

## DISTRESS & SICKNESS

Associate L Chapter member, Charles Akira Gerlach passed away on June 22, 1991, from a series of kidney operations. He was a fun loving member and we enjoyed his delicious soup he prepared many times at the chapter meetings. He also contributed to our "cough up" fund which benefited the chapter treasury. A check for \$270 which he had in this fund was mailed to his wife Leiola Akiko with an accompanying letter explaining the "cough up" fund. Letter of appreciation were received by Leiola expressing her pleasant surprise and ignorance of the fund, and that the money will be used for the flower container at the National Cemetery of the Pacific gravesite. Charley-Akira will be missed. Our deepest sympathy and condolence to Leiola and her daughters, Charlene, Phyllis, Geraldine & Jessica. MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

L Chapter and LIKM members in dress code who were in attendance at Akira's services: Victor Yamashita, Jacob Jichaku, Cowboy Matsumura, Allen Nakamura, Dyna Matsuda, Kazuma Ogata, Whitey Saito, Kazuo Fink, Kobe Shoji, John/Dorothy Nagamura, P.K. Matsumoto and Henry/Ruth Oshiro. We were all happy to see Henry looking so well after his by-pass heart surgery.

We hope that our Northern California friends, Larry Tanaka of Sacramento, reported in the last issue of his stomach cancer and Ken Sakanashi of Haywood whose cancer was reported in earlier article that we wish, get well wishes for them both from chemotherapy treatment.

Newly elected LIKM Commander, Yoshiji Aoki who has been under the weather lately with back problems and other ailments. We also wish him well. We hope that he'll be able to serve his 2 year term as commander. GANBARE, YOSHILJI KUN!

"Doc" Miyamoto who had a triple by-pass looked trimmer at Tad's funeral services. He's doing well and goes for periodic checkup with his doctor.

## RETIREMENT

After 27 years as the Executive secretary, Robert M. Sasaki's plea for retirement has been reluctantly accepted by the executive board. There

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prerequisites. Where the soldier's stomach is concerned, there is no room for compromise, as a fowl-up here could result in many disgruntled men. We were fortunate to have had an excellent mess-detail.

He operated, where it was usually safe, but he did run into a harrowing experience in France, just before Bruyeres. We reminisced about this incident at the Kona Reunion, last year, while enjoying a good laugh over it. Of course, it was no laughing matter at the time.

It looked like another routine move forward, traveling up the highway, when he and the others on the truck began hearing rifle and machine gun fire ahead. Along the way, they passed some G.I.'s of the 3rd Division, who looked surprised but pleased to see a 442 marked truck in their sector. They probably thought the 442nd had been assigned to their Division. As the sounds of the small arms fire grew louder and clearer, Fred sensed that big trouble lay ahead, and this was no place for them. He then stopped the truck, as the mess sergeant and cooks jumped off, and unhooked the trailer, loaded with the day's ration. There was no time to look for suitable turnaround, so he turned the truck around right there, by jiggling it back and forth on the road-shoulder, until he was alongside the trailer, which was then reattached to the truck. He then high-tailed to the rear, where it was safe.

What had happened was that whoever was responsible for posting the turn-right directional sign had forgotten or neglected to do, at a crossroad further back, causing him to overshoot the correct route.

Fred participated in all four campaigns of the 442nd, two in Italy and two in France, and was awarded the European Theater Campaign Ribbon with four battle stars, and the Presidential Unit Citation Badge with four battle stars earned by the 442nd.

While in the service, the Engineers developed and enjoyed a lasting friendship and warm affinity, as only those in a combat outfit seem to feel and understand, and this same friendship and affinity have continued into the post-war years to this day. This, of course, includes our buddies living on the neighbor islands and on the mainland.

Three years ago, at the Reno Reunion, Fred proposed that the next one be held in Kona, Hawaii, in two years in 1990, instead of the usual three. Despite knowing full well that he didn't have the luxury of membership manpower to help out, he was willing and confident, that with the support of friends, the business community and the limited number of 442nd members in Kona, he could put over a successful Reunion. The rest, of course, is history. Its clear-cut success sur-

passed our fondest expectations. Everyone, in attendance, agreed that it was one of the best, if not the best, of all Reunions. As the general chairman, Fred deserves the brunt of the credit for the overwhelming success. I might add that he was very fortunate to have Midori at his side to help him, all the way.

Fred is a man of few words. He never wastes his breath on superfluous words. He lets his actions speak for him. He epitomizes the old adage, "Silence is Golden."

And he has always been known for his generous nature. He is the perennial check-grabber. He is generous with not only his pocket, but with his time, as well. He continually gives countless hours towards community service.

I wish to close by saying that it was an honor and a pleasure to speak for the large group of your friends, with wartime connection, from away, whose Aloha and esteem for you, brought them here to join in this tribute to you. And I would be remiss if I did not mention the person, who first informed us of this testimonial affair and then arranged for our trip over, Mits Honda, assisted by Millie.

Starting with the president of the 442nd Veterans Club of Honolulu, Harold Fukunaga, representing the Club member of 600;

George and Mary Yamada, and Roger and Diana Eaton, of Los Angeles;

Barbara Haruki from Kauai;

Takeshi Hirata and George & Janet Mukai from Hilo;

And 22 members and wives from the 232nd Engineer-Band Chapter of Honolulu, namely:

Yoshi and Jane Asato, Howard and April Hirono, Mits and Mildred Honda, Charley and Margie Ijima, Yuso Iwane, Dr. Shigeo and Mary Kawamoto, Gilbert Kobatake, Hichi and Janet Matsumoto, Walter Matsumoto, Lily Okamoto, Joe and Jane Sato, Masa and Yvonne Yamasaki, Helen Takano and Paul Watanabe.


On behalf of them all, may I extend to you, Fred, our warmest heartfelt congratulations and best wishes, on this, the occasion of a truly well-deserved testimonial in your honor. And our best wishes, also to you, Midori, and your family.

Thank you very much.

END

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recon patrols. The one Thompson submachine gun that each of our platoons were assigned to was passed on to the patrol leader to provide more fire power to at least try to counter the Jerries' rapid fire machine guns or machine pistols which spewed out lead at a fantastically higher rate than any of our automatic weapons in use at that time.

After questioning the "Paesanos" and looking over the wide open flat terrain with very limited cover that lay before us, I decided that this was about as far as we could take a jeep patrol in broad daylight. It would be more fitting for a foot patrol be sent out under the cover of darkness to reach the levee from this group of farmhouses. We drew no fire but I decided that the chatter of Jerry machine guns and the answering fire by probably another one of our Recon patrols was proof enough that the Jerries were defending the Arno River banks. We headed back to the hills of Colle Salvetti without any incident and reported back to the C.O. On the 20th of July, a patrol from the 3rd Bn successfully probed into the southern outskirts of Pisa that night.

On the 22nd of July, the Regiment was relieved of frontline duty after nearly a month of chasing and fighting the Jerries. We were moved by trucks into the vineyards of Vada for a much needed rest, recuperation, recreation, and a good hot shower and some hot meals. Also, to wait for the slightly wounded members to return or new recruitment, for the platoon was now down to about half-strength, mated at about 800-yards short of the Arno River levee.

As we approached the farm buildings, a couple of middle-aged "Paesanos" appeared and we began questioning them. We asked "dove tedeschi?" (Where's the Germans?) They pointed toward the levees. "Molto tedeschi?" (Many Germans?) and they replied "Si!". And off to our left front, we began hearing the chatter of Jerry machine guns and its distinctive rapid fire "Brrrr! Brrrr! Brrrr!" sound and an answering "Ta!Ta!Ta!Ta!Ta!Ta!" of a Browning (BAR) or a Thompson submachine gun of another one of our

It was especially nice to hear that Tom Higa of Maui was again able to participate in all the events and thrilled with all his hard work and contribution toward giving all their guests a wonderful time. It was nice too, to hear that Roy Kubo is recuperating at home. We were also told Warren Iwanaga is coming along nicely. We hope and pray that Hank Oyasato is doing as well. We sure would like to know how Hisashi Fujiyama is coming along. Keep well guys - we'll be cheering for you all.

END

Our long time chaplain, Yoshiji Aoki will now trade caps as the commander of LIKM Chapter having been installed for 2 years. Others installed: SVCDR Isa Takiyama; JVCDR Hideo Nakayama; Adj Allen; Treas Jacob; Chaplain Yoshito Tame; J/ADV Kobe; Chapter Act P.K.; S-A-Arms Ralph Shishido; SEC'S Wilfred Leong, Allen; Alt SEC'S Victor Yamashita, Jacob; Membership Cowboy Matsumura; Historian Henry Ishida; Color Guard Victor; Off-Of-DAY Kuro Tomasa; Trustees Kazuma Ogata, Hajime Matsumura; Fund Raiser Kazuo Fink; Legislature Lawrence Fujii; PCDR Paul Takiguchi.

#### BAD NEWS

Our long association with residents of Hale Pulama Mau for over 30 years started by humanitarian Tommy Kakesako finally came to an end this year. Chairman of this project for many years, Yoshiji Aoki citing poor health asked to be retired as chairman. In respect of his wish, it was granted with appreciation for his long chairmanship. The real problem was that there were no volunteers to carry on the cooking chores by Kuro Tomasa, who decided he wants to be relieved.

We have pleasant memories of these annual visits, especially at times when some energetic residents join us in singing and dancing together with our entertainers. No more of the smiling appreciative faces when they're served the oishi misc soup, chicken hekkia, sashimi, ko-ko, tofu and other nutritious food plus all the desserts. No more of the, "mo suko shi".

To the wives in the early years at the old building in cramped kitchen quarters, where they prepared the nutritious menu and the men enjoying the pupu on the lawn, until it was moved to the new building when the men took over the cooking chores to have the ladies enjoy the day, are all memories now.

END

Cont. from page 12

to our delight, they had invited Ken & Tsuko Miyamoto, Roy & Grace Uyeda, Tats & Sumiko Iwate. The Fukutomes prepared a fabulous spread which everyone enjoyed; but the highlight of the gathering for me was to hear some of the stories the guys had to tell about the treatment they got as Nisei G.I.s when the war broke out. For instance, Roy told about getting tossed into the stockade at the Army post where he was stationed and being treated as a common prisoner. He says that he's still fightin' mad over the ordeal.

Ben, Ken, Roy, Tats and each of their wives extend their fond regards to all the 3rd Headquarters guys with warm memories of the great time they had in Kona and Honolulu last summer.

END

will be a Mahalo and Aloha Retirement Party at the Cannon Club on Monday, September 23, 1991. Robert who had guided the Mother Club thru many presidents over the years, has more time for golfing now or is it watching grandchildren time? Anyway, we wish him congratulations and thanks for all the dedicated services rendered to the club for more than 27 years!

#### WEDDING

Saturday, June 29, 1991 was a happy day for Genro & Muriel Kashiwa. It was the day that their daughter, Janie Hideni was united with Gamsin Ka Li, son of Mr. & Mrs. Jim Li. The wedding took place at Honpa Hongwanji Church in a beautiful ceremony which included sister Sheila Kashiwa as the maid of honor. The reception was held at the Sheraton Waikiki Molokai Ballroom in a cool, cozy, exquisite setting. An emotional moment came when Janie talked of how close she was to Sheila as a sister. Instantaneous applause echoed thru the ballroom. Brother Peter Kashiwa, a lawyer was the M.C. Janie and Gamsin are also lawyers.

#### PROUD MOMENTS

P.K. & Genny Matsumoto seen walking around beaming with smiles all over their faces. They became grandparents for the second time when Mary & Dean Ishiki presented them with their second granddaughter, Christina, 7-1b 13 oz on June 27. Their first granddaughter Ashley, belongs to Laurel Ann & Thomas Matsumoto.

#### MISHAP

On skimpy info from hubby Bill Oshiro, it was learned that Lily fractured her leg on the golf course in a rate accident when her foot got caught in the rough, I think? She was confined to TAMC for a while and walked around with the help of crutches. We all wish you a healthy recovery Lily!

#### ECLIPSE

Yep, we had at least one known spouse from our chapter who ventured on to the Big Island for this momentous spectacle on July 11, 1991. Betty Nakahara, the venturing spouse of Toshi witnessed the total eclipse and described the experience as something that cannot easily be told in words alone. We are all happy for you that you were able to be there.

#### WORK-A-HOLIC

I guess this describe best of Jacob Jichaku, who seems to have shifted into high gear in the business world. Where many of us sit back and relax now now, Jacob never did realize that when he

accepted the position of consultant at the Kim Chow Store, that this organization has diversified business interests round the globe. Consequently, he still travels to many different cities in setting up the computer system for Kim Chow Store. Meeting this big challenge is right down the alley for him. We are all glad for him that he's able to continue his line of work interests. Agree he's a, WORK-A-HOLIC, ole buddy!

#### 4TH OF JULY PARADE

The Kailua community is to be commended for having the biggest 4th of July parade in years. The aftermath of the Desert Storm with 1,000 or more marines from Kaneohe Naval Air Station in the parade contributed greatly to the big celebration. Senator Dan Inouye and other politicians annually participate in the parade.

This year with the Shoji's and Leong's on the mainland, the following paraded on the 1/2 ton truck owned by Bobby Fraser a strong baker and historian of the nisei's, who is the caretaker and gardener for the Fink's: Kazuo Fink; Allen Nakamura; Jacob Jichaku; Cowboy Matsumura; Paul Takiguchi; Henry Ishida; Yoshiji Aoki, Joe Oshiro & Tommy Kakesako and Bobby as the driver.

Just to relate some happenings on the route as our truck approaches with banners of 442nd L Company and DAV, people actually stand with some saluting and words of encouragements to the nisei's, "Go For Broke"!

Altho' we missed Kuro Tomasa and Kila Hara-guchi, extraordinary cooks this year, the following ladies brought their favorite dishes to the after parade shindig at the spacious backyard of the Finks: Kazuo Fink; Marian Matsumura; Terry Jichaku; Yuki Takiguchi; Betty Aoki; Nancy Oshiro and masculine gender, Allen brought his special homemade potato salad. Must have been good, cause it was all gone or was it that everyone were just starved? Ha! Besides the salad, the menu consisted of oishi sashimi, smoked fish, warabi, ribs, chips, noodles, pickled pig's, gohan, sushi and of course the beer and soda's. It was a good ending to celebrate this glorious 4th of July. See you all in 92'!

#### LIKM INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The 1991-92 officers of LIKM Chapter were installed on July 12, 1991 at the Inn of the 6th Happiness. Altho' the atmosphere wasn't conducive for the occasion, having to compete with the 50th anniversary party and birthday party on each side of our section, we somehow survived the din through out the night and were able to have our installation ceremonies.

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By Yori Inouye

MAHALO, MAHALO to our recent guest writers in this column; namely, Grace Yamashiro for her interesting article on their trip to LA in the last issue; and Shiro Takei for his informative pieces contained in this and prior issues. All Mike Chapter members are invited to do likewise -- tell us about your trips, events or experiences which may be of interest to other Chapter members. Your stories will be most welcomed.

#### Cookouts

Thanks once again to the generosity of John and Billie Gogian of Los Angeles, Chapter members were given the opportunity to enjoy not only one but two cookouts recently at the DAV Kake-sako Building on July 14th and August 18th. In attendance at either or both of these cookouts were Norio and Mary Akutagawa, Tadao and Alice Beppu, Mamo and Edith Furuya, David and Kiyo Gushiken, Barney and Esther Hajiro, Michael and Kimi Ide, Shige and Yori Inouye, Jimmy and Frieda Kanemori, Tommy Kikuchi, Harold and Jane Kudo, Melvin and Millie Kunishige, Wally and Priscilla Nagao, Richard and Edith Nariyoshi, Frank and Nancy Nomura, Thomas Sakamoto, Ralph and Mitsue Shishido, Isamu Takayasu, Paul and Yuki Takiguchi, Yoshio and Elsie Teruya, Ralph and Alice Tomei, Toshio and Emi Tsuji, David Umeda, Toru and Jean Yamaguchi, and Hiroshi and Grace Yamashiro.

The shipment received from the Gogians included cases of beefsteak, brisket, fish steak and shrimp. We owe much thanks to Frank Nomura whom we always depend upon to receive the shipment and arrange for storage of the goods until the whole gang gets hungry enough to eat the stuff and also for purchasing the beverage and supplies. Others we owe thanks to are: Paul Takiguchi who engaged in very shrewd negotiations for rental of the facility; Tommy Kikuchi, Paul and Yuki Takiguchi, Ralph and Alice Tomei, and Ralph and Mitsue Shishido who got there as early as 2 p.m. to set up the place, started the fire and get the meats ready for cooking. Alice Tomei, Wally Nagao, Paul Takiguchi, Terry Teruya and Frank Nomura each cooked a big chunk of the beef brisket (known to most of us as corned beef), so everybody sampled corned beef and cabbage cooked five different ways. We didn't know if these were cooked under spouse supervision but they were all good. And, of course, there were all the gals and guys bringing their own specialties--rice (sekihan too), sushi, salads, namasu, tsukemono, desserts, you name it. We're lucky to have so many good cooks among us. As usual, we had too much stuff because everybody brought enough to feed

an Army. So we all had plenty to take home too. Oh yes, Ralph Tomei deserves a special pat for doing all the talking. Nah, he really did a swell job of coordinating the whole thing. Mahalo to each and everyone of you for your contribution.

Program for the two evenings included some good jokes by Ralph Tomei, Yuki Takiguchi and Wally Nagao; karaoke singing by Mamo Furuya, Richard Nariyoshi, Mitsue Shishido, Terry and Elsie Teruya, and Emi Tsuji; hula numbers by Alice Tomei, Grace Yamashiro, Yori Inouye and Paul Takiguchi, accompanied by our ukulele gang, Jimmy Kanemori, Paul Takiguchi, Ralph Tomei and David Umeda. Wally Nagao surprised us with a couple of his excellent singing and ukulele renditions. Wally, welcome to Mike Chapter Borot Club!

We were delighted to have Sumi Tochihiro from LA joining us at the August 18th cookout. Sumi was on a visit to Honolulu to greet the arrival of their new grandchild. Well, we expected to see Dick with her that evening, so as a surprise we invited Ala Moana Annie to do a dance especially for them. But that Dick he nevah show up; he chose to go to the E Co. Reunion in Seattle, had plans to meet with Kaun Onodera and go to Long Acres Race Track together. We hope you guys got lucky there, but we'll get even with you yet, Dick! Sumi, thanks for making your cheery self available for us and for all the pistachio nuts we got. Come back soon!

#### "Spearhead Outfit Again...And Again"

An article written by Richard Shea appearing in a recent issue of World War II magazine gives an interesting account of battles fought by the Nisei of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Italy and France. Included in this story are the heroic actions of Barney Hajiro which earned him the Distinguished Service Cross (his Citation for this award was covered in a prior bulletin). Anyone interested in reading Shea's article may call Yori.

#### Etcetera

Dick and Sumi Tochihiro welcomed their second grandchild on August 10, named Tianna Kong. Congratulations!

Tom and Rose Kinaga of LA enjoyed part of their summer break in Japan. How about a report?

Hiroshi Yamashiro in early July had no more spare ribs left to pick on so he decided to be a nice guy and help his friend with some

wood finishing work. He tried to be careful with the planer but the machinery didn't quite cooperate and severely cut into his left hand, requiring about 15 stitches. And all this had to happen only a couple of days before they departed for LA, so Hiroshi was forced to spend his time in LA nursing his injury. Fortunately his hand healed uneventfully and all's well now.

Shige and Yori Inouye made a last minute decision to go to Vegas in August to attend a nephew's wedding and were surprised to run into Jack and Jane Izutsu who were happily feeding their faces at the Fremont, and Barney and Esther Hajiro taking their last crack at winning the Cadillac at the Cal. And did you know who's been bringing home all the money we've been feeding the slots at the Cal, and have you seen this Mike Chapter couple attired in their "Emptied the Slots at the Cal" T-shirts lately? Yeah, not only Paul, but Yuki too--some families have all the luck!

#### A Norwegian Vacation By Shiro Takei (From Bergen to Kirkenes to Bergen to Oslo)

We went on a cruise of the Norge coast on the ship Midnatsol (Midnight Sun). It was an interesting 15-day vacation in June. We flew to Bergen, Norge, via Copenhagen, Denmark. The ship can carry over 300 passengers, 40 cars, mail, and express-size packages, and could stop at over 30 ports. Our interest was to cross the Arctic Circle and to get to the North Cape and to learn at first-hand what a fjord is.

We early learned that a fjord is a body of water that reached the sea but dead-ended eventually ashore. The ship went up and down fjords, visited villages for fishermen and farmers while we passed by beautiful scenery, in most cases highlighted by snow.

Shore excursions while the ship unloaded and reloaded freight were offered, and in a few instances we caught the ship at the next port to which we traveled by bus. At short stops we were able to visit village stores and newspaper shops as we were hungry for NEWS--American and world affairs.

Crossing the Arctic Circle is like crossing the Equator or the International Dateline. But we received a certificate of proof. North Cape is practically on top of the World where the sun never sets six months in the year. It is barren! We got to see Laplanders there. They were colorfully costumed and were selling souvenirs to eager tourists who came by the bus-loads.

On one occasion, we transferred to a launch so that our ship could sail straight ahead and later transferred to buses to visit the glacier. The glaciated portion was bluish in color because algae had developed in the ice. It was unusual!

Food aboard was varied: all kinds of meats, fish, shrimps (probably crayfish); a full table of vegetables, cheeses, relishes, desserts, and fruits from Israel. Fish was offered on a daily basis and that is for sure. Breakfast, too, was filling: dry and cooked cereals, orange juice, fruits, milk, coffee, eggs, bacon and (beans), baked fish (salmon, too) -- almost whatever one desired.

We encountered many foreign tongues: Scandinavian, German, and French particularly with little or no English spoken. We dined with English-speaking Americans and Britons; sat in the lounge with our kind; played bridge with a Michigan State University professor of Agricultural Economics and his wife; and most often viewed the colorful landscape in silence and awe.

The train ride between Bergen and Oslo was spectacular. The capital, Oslo, was an attractive shopping stop for Florence. She purchased souvenirs for grandkids, sweaters, too, mittens, books on Troll (the animal unique to Norway). Museum visits in Bergen and particularly Oslo were educational, especially the Viking ships and kontiki exhibits as was the Vigeland garden of many naked sculptures. However, Flo says that her favorite museum was in Trondheim where 1,300 antique musical instruments from all over the World (including the Koto from Japan) were displayed.

The evenings were dull as there was no organized entertainment; no musical combos or professional performances. But we managed, thank you (Tusin Tak--thousand thanks). Flo and I stood out like a bandaged sore thumb--Japanese, Hawaiian, Californian and retired from U.H. and Flo her inimitable self!

END





By Stanley Kaneshiro

Up Front

Golden or 50th Anniversary plans starting to jell a little with the committee chaired by George Nakasato visiting possible sights, Waikiki hotels for the reunion. The hotels being sought are the Princess Kaiulani for the reunion center, Waikiki Sheraton for banquets and Outrigger East and Beachcomber as additional for visitors stay. Negotiations and arrangements are only preliminary at present since the hotels are reluctant to commit their facilities more than a year in advance. Preliminary plans also are to follow past reunion formats, i.e. major activities of aloha banquet, chapter night sayonara banquet and memorial service and the dates now are March 24th thru 28th 1993. Again, these are preliminary plans and we'll keep you apprised as the where, when and hows jell further. Incidentally, for those interested, golden anniversaries for MIS is October/November 1991 in San Francisco and for the 100th Battalion, February 1, 1992. Our Christmas party this year will be on Friday, December 13th and at Victoria Inn. Since this will be the last bulletin news before Christmas, mark your calendars now. We had one of the largest turnouts last year for Christmas and hope this year will be better one.

Ladies Night, August 23, 1991

Near forty gathered at the Clubhouse for this bento night social. The ladies outnumbered the men and apparently, more men are on the ailing list. This was another profitable or successful white elephant night as the net take exceeded \$330. Contributions or donations from thirteen members and/or their spouses included pound cakes, see moi, mochi, necklaces, lime, sushi, chiffon cakes, cucumber tsukemono, cookies, chocolate chip brittles, pineapple bars, muffins, bananas, water bottles, ice chest, thermal jug, golf balls, crochet thread, african violets, pumpkins, Molokai bread, papaya and tomatoes, sekihan, nasubi tsukemono and a few other pastries. To all who baked and contributed, including one cash donor, much mahalo. The biggest buyer prize, a windmill, ala Walter Inouye, was won by Biggie and Jessie Nakakura who also contributed eighteen jars of nasubi tsukemono that were auctioned off for \$54. Much mahalo also to Mits Kunihiro, who subbed for slightly ailing Kats Miho, as auctioneer and to Biggie Nakakura who has been instituting better collection system and procedures.

Robert M. Sasaki, Executive Secretary, Retires

Robert or Bob as most all know him, requests retirement after 27 years of service with the 442nd Veterans Club and the Board reluctantly

approved his request effective September 30, 1991. A testimonial dinner will be held in his honor September 23, 1991 at the Cannon Club. Bob and his wife Lily have a grandchild from their daughter Doreen and Bob may be joining us 'ole buggas' (as he says) by becoming another baby sitter. Our mahalo and aloha to Bob for the 27 years, his working life, he gave to the Club.

Chapter Golf, by Rocky Tanna

June 3, 1991, HCC

Walter Inouye shot a sizzling net 64, one stroke better than Larry Nakahara and had Larry moaning and saying what must he shoot to win. The front nine was taken by Joe Obayashi with net 29 and the back by Larry with net 29½. Par three winners were Milton Uchigaki, Biggie Nakakura and Don Yagami with no one on the 17th green.

June 17, 1991, HCC

Larry Nakahara finally won overall and the monthly ace with a net 68. Congratulations, Larry. The front was taken by Ken Kawate, net 31½ and the back by Flint Yonashiro, net 32. Ken also took two of the par threes, Don took one and no one hit the 17th.

July 1, 1991, HCC

Weather was ideal for golfing and couldn't understand why only Joe Obayashi shot net par or better. Joe shot net 64. Boyan Higa took the front nine, net 31, and Tom Maeda got lucky and took the back with a net 34½. Jerry Ishimoto, Ken, Tom and Biggie got their shots nearest to the pin on par threes. This was also match play qualifying day and those who qualified are shown as participants in July 15th game.

July 15, 1991, HCC

Weather was again great for golfing and this time four golfers shot net par or better. Bill Horie, after all the years with the Club, finally won his first tournament with a net 68. Congratulations Bill and hope they'll be many more wins ahead. Boyan Higa and Joe tied for the front with nets 32½ and Jerry had the back to himself with the same net. Koyu Afuso, Larry, Konkon Shiroma and Ken got the par threes. Annual match play tournament also started this day with results as follows:

Don Y. over Rocky	3 & 2
Ken over Jerry	2 & 1
Flint over Konkon	1 up
Boyan over Larry	6 & 5
Stan over Milton	1 up
Tom over Roy O.	4 & 3
Richard over Lester	2 up

August 19, 1991, HCC

Ken Kawate won this month's ace with a good net 65. Stanley took the front with net 33 and Koyu the back with net 33½. Flint, Don and Kats Miho took par threes with no one on the 13th green. Second round match play results were as follows:

Championship bracket:

Boyan by default  
Ken over Flint  
Don Y. over Tom  
Koyu over Stan

Losers bracket:

Konkon by default  
Lester over Larry  
Rocky over Roy O.  
Milton over Walter

Bits and Pieces

Our condolences to Alan (Blackeye Mekaru) who lost his wife Mary, mother also of three sons. A large group of B chapter members and spouses attended the final rites for Mary at Hosoi Garden Mortuary on August 17, 1991.

Ted Watanabe, Seattle, who attended most all reunions with his wife passed away August 4, 1991. A very generous and friendly person, Ted will be missed by all who knew him. Our condolences to his wife, Mariko.

For those who haven't heard, Ernest Hatanaka (Service), passed away March 29th.

Kats Miho back at the golf course after his by-pass surgery and looking pretty good. Toshi Nishizawa has missed our golf tournaments for quite a spell, eye operation, and hope he'll make it back. Don Shimazu received word from Yuki Akaki that former Hdq Supply Sgt Masahe Nakanishi is seriously ill with lung cancer. For those who wish to write to him, his address is 2221 Birch Street, White Bear Lake, MN, 55110. Copying machine now available for use at Clubhouse. Each chapter allowed 50 copies per run for Club/Chapter activities. Private usage at 5 cents per copy. Hours of operation, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mahalo to Boyan Higa for the large framed photo of the 442nd plaque of Camp Shelby he presented to the Chapter. Neil Nagareda received unexpected thank you note from Major General Dennis L. Crumley, Deputy Commander of 2nd Army, for mac nuts presented to him at Camp Shelby.

END

Medics Chapter News

By Herbert Akamine

Dr. Shigeki Hayashi was a 442 Third Battalion doctor. We had lost track of him after the war but Ichiro Hasegawa loaned us a book that furnished information about him. The book is Kona Echo written by Dr. Jiro Nakano. It deals with Dr. Saburo Hayashi, the famed Kona doctor and newspaper publisher who was descended from the banished Japanese Aizu clan. Shigeki was the second of two physician sons of the Kona doctor. He was a 1936 graduate of Western Reserve University. After the war he returned to Ohio and practiced medicine there for 35 years. He passed away on September 12, 1983 at age 74. Incidentally, Jiro Nakano is also the author of another famous Big Islander, Reverend Jiro Sokabe, who was minister of the Honouliuli Christian Church. Reverend Sokabe also maintained a popular dormitory for young people. 442 members Ed Onaka and Shizu Hamada spent part of their youth there.

Ed Onaka was confined at Kuakini Hospital recently. Fortunately it was a minor problem - bile duct obstruction. He was sent home after a few days of hospitalization.

Although recently deceased Akira Fukunaga made his mark as an actor in the movie, Go For Broke, that was not his only accomplishment in the world of arts. He was an accomplished musician. He was a member of a talent-laden University of Hawaii ROTC band immediately before World War II. He played the trombone well. Some other members of the band were saxophonist Henry Nakama, retired Kaahumanu School principal; Clarinetist Abraham Akaka, the well-known cleric; clarinetist James Kashiwahara, father of TV newscaster Ken Kashiwahara; and saxophonist Kent Nakamura who was the jeep driver for the 100th chaplain.

The final profile on the mainland Medics who came to the Kona reunion belongs to James Kanaya. Jimmy, unsatisfied with his pre-war job and wary of racist conditions on the West Coast at that time decided to remain in the Army after the 442 left Europe. In 1945 he enrolled in the military government school at the University of Virginia. It was an 8-week course relating to occupation of Japan. He also taught Japanese language there. In September of 1945 he was assigned to the headquarters of the Military Advisory Group in Seoul. There he helped process Japanese, families and all, who were moving out of Manchuria. He was housed in a Buddhist temple in Seoul. Following a year at the language school in Monterey he was assigned to G-2 in Tokyo, interrogating Korean War veterans. With the 11th Airborne Division in Kentucky he learned to parachute from planes. He returned to Europe to the 1st Infantry Division in Schweinfurt, Germany. Back to Kentucky he was assigned to the



101st Airborne. Then followed a year and a half with the 25th Division at Schofield. Next was Viet Nam for a year with a Military Advisory Group in Saigon. He returned to an Airborne outfit, the 19th, at Fort Bragg, N.C. Subsequently he was sent to Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska to train surgeons to become officers. In Alaska he managed to earn a Master of Education degree at the University of Alaska. His last post was at San Antonio, Texas. His successful Army career ended there when he was retired as a Colonel in 1974. Kanaya's post-retirement activities involve real estate sales in the state of Washington, around the Seattle area.

Almost half a century has passed but the first summer of being a war casualty is still quite fresh in my memory. During the early days of battle the inexperienced 442 was an easy prey for the experienced German wehrmacht. In spite of their retreating tactics the Germans managed to inflict heavy casualties on the advancing Niseis. George Minata and I were evacuating Miyashiro of F Company when we were struck by two well-aimed mortar shells. Minata was hit in his throat and blood was spurting six feet from the wound. In movie fashion, since he seemed like a "gonner" he yelled at me to get the hell out of the place to save my skin. Although I thought he was "finished", I tried to assure him that he would be okay. Pulling out his tongue that he had swallowed, I tourniqueted his throat and lugged his 200 pound almost dead weight body to a deserted farmhouse. Next, Miyashiro was carried to the farmhouse. With blood streaming from my right shoulder and left flank I staggered and stumbled through the war devastated Italian countryside, not unlike some of Tolkien's Hobbitland, I set out for the regimental aid-station about two miles behind the front lines. Then just after the Medics were told where to find the two wounded men, I passed out. When I regained consciousness I found myself in a tent of a field hospital, hooked up to a blood transfusion apparatus.

The 33rd General Hospital in Rome was my next stop. The U.S. had renovated a Catholic nunnery into a military hospital. The concrete main building housed the severely wounded and the less wounded were kept in a number of large tents around the main building. In the tents the floor was wooden and cots served as beds. The patients were mostly 34th Division and related personnel. 442 and 100 men made up quite a number of the casualties. Among the wounded was Medic Ike Masaoka who was critically injured and trussed up in his bed. Another who was roped up was Kohalan Roy Hiraoka. Next to my bed was a red-headed Italian, Jovenal from Erie, Pennsylvania. He had relatives in the Rome area and his brother was an

All-American football lineman at Pittsburgh in the '30s. Minoru Suzumoto had a unique zipper-like wound across his back. Somehow he managed to get out of the confines of the hospital compound often. Don Masuda of Kuiaha, Maui had a severe trademark elbow wound. There was also a Brazilian Army nisei, Okamoto. He was quiet and our Japanese lingo did not reach him too easily. Dixon, another Pennsylvanian, had an Italian girl friend in the city. Once I visited her home with him. Old books were scattered on the floor of her home. I managed to acquire one volume. It turned out to be a book on ancient Egyptians, part of an encyclopedia printed in the 1700s. Dixon married the girl but later divorced her in the states. James Maeda of Hilo and the 100th had a severe groin wound and was bedded near Ike Masaoka. Big Kenji Nobori was another tent patient. I had known him during the golden age of boxing in Honolulu before World War II. His team, the Japanese-American Boxing Club, and ours, St. Patrick Boxing Club, filled the old Civic Auditorium with fight hungry fans. Nobori noted that the little men of the 442 were turning out to be the heroes of the war. Another patient was Milan, a Pole from Chicago. He was very vocal on almost any issue. The tent surgeon at 33rd was an elderly person not unlike in looks to Captain Smith at Camp Shelby who sometimes treated cold symptoms with laxatives. After two months my hospital vacation was over and I joined the armada departing Italy for Marseilles and the Vosges.

Miyashiro recovered from his stomach wound but died not too many years later on the Big Island. George Minata, his slashed throat healed was assigned to an Army physical rehab outfit in Italy. He now lives in Spokane. His elderly mother who is confined in an old peoples home awaits his daily visits. Before the Kona reunion, George told her that he wouldn't be seeing her for a while. She was upset but when he told her that he was going to Hawaii to see the man who saved his life, she gave her consent.

END

# Service Chapter News

By Alexander J. Oka

Attendance at the August 10th meeting at the home of Ralph and Grace Chinaka was a record high of 22 members. President Masaji Kurozumi, VP Sam Yamada, Secretary James Miyake, Treasurer Ralph Chinaka and Gordon Furuto, Ichiro Hasegawa, Mike Inouye, Terry Itaki, Takao Ito, Takemi Kajikawa, Allan Masuda, George Miyashiro, Toshio Nakanishi, A.J. Oka, Robert Otani, Tom Tamai, Masami Tanabe, Tom Tanaka, Noboru Tanoue, Bill Toma, Yoshio Yata-gai and Charles Yoshimura. It was good to see Tom Tamai and Charles Yoshimura. Both of them have been faithful dues paying members for many years and we hope they can continue to join the gang at the monthly meetings even if its to "chew the fat". Attendance at the July meeting was 21 members and for June it was 19 members.

Takao Ito announced that there are over 50 members and guests for the mini reunion in Las Vegas. Takao has arranged for an activity for each of the three nights. More in the next issue.

Royal and Hiro Manaka are unable to attend the reunion since they will be busy making preparations to greet their 6th grandchild. Pretty soon they'll be in No. 1 place in the number of grandchildren.

George and May Mabe had to cancel out when George had to have heart surgery on August 19th. Over a year ago George had angioplasty. May wrote saying that George is coming alone fine and will be released from the hospital.

On July 27th, Jeanne Furuto and John Stack were united in marriage at the Moana Surfrider Hotel. The ceremony was held at the hotel beach-side courtyard and beachgoers had the opportunity to see an Hawaiian millionaire escorting his beautiful daughter. Gordon Furuto dressed in the formal attire sure looked elegant. There were six couples from Service Chapter at the wedding - Ralph and Grace Chinaka, Terry and Minnie Itaki, Takao and June Ito, Masaji and Toshiko Kurozumi, Alex and Jean Oka and Bill; and Betty Toma. Also at the wedding were Chili and Irene Sasaki of Anti-Tank. Many members of the chapter were unable to attend because of other commitments. The cause of the many regrets was that the invitations were received only 10 days before the wedding. Some members did not receive their invitations because of the "mix up" and Gordon's hurried calls saved the day.

This mixup in invitations remind me of my daughters wedding over 20 years ago. It was long after the wedding that I learned that no invitation was sent to James and Martha Miyake. While James and Martha were back in Hawaii, the invitations were based on the chapter roster that was

prepared when the Miyakes were in Thailand. This reminds me as to the roster Gordon Furuto used in sending the invitations. Gordon has the habit of misplacing papers all except those colored green.

Received a photo of Herbert Sasaki of Hattiesburg dressed in his new Lt Col Uniform. Herb was recently commissioned Lt Col in the Mississippi State Guard. He is actively working on the 442 Memorial for Camp Shelby. The 100/442 club of Los Angeles will be the coordinating committee for this memorial and our board will be acting on this matter at the next meeting. The Mainlanders view this monument as an excellent public relations project to enlighten the younger generation on the participation of AJA's in the military service of our country. Most of the guardsmen and reservist who train at Camp Shelby have not heard about the 442 nor about the internment camps.

Soon after the return from Vegas, Sam Yamada will be busy preparing for the annual camp at Kaiahulu (Mokuleia). He and Sasbrush Tanabe were discussing some ono kaukau to be prepared at the camp. They were talking about the kind that broke the mouth. The Takao Ito clan will be out in full force with mountains of door prizes.

Chapter President Masaji Kurozumi is busy coordinating the transportation for the Japan All Star baseball team visit on September 3rd. We are fortunate that "Shadow" has been representing Service Chapter on many of the mother club activities. I often wonder whether Hawaii high school ballplayers who were lucky enough to go on trips to Japan were ever contacted to assist on these projects. I'm sure that if they are asked they'll be more than willing to participate.

END

## VA'S MEDICAL DIVISION CHANGES NAME

Barry Raff, Director of the VA Medical and Regional Office Center, Honolulu, announced that the Veterans Health Services and Research Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has officially changed its name to the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). The name change, effective May 7, 1991, was the result of legislation recently signed into law by the President.

"The new name brings with it a renewed dedication by every VHA employee to provide our veterans with the best health care obtainable anywhere," said Barry Raff.



Livorno Chapter News By Henry S. Kuniyuki

Livorno Chapter extends condolence to the families of the late Akira "Sunshine" Fukunaga, our immediate past president of the mother club, and to Tadashi "Tad" Sakai, our Go-for-Broke Bulletin editor. Saburo Takaesu, Raymond Tanaka and the Chapter Reporter were present at "Tad's" most unique memorial service, conducted by his son. The eulogy was given by Robert Sasaki, Executive Secretary. Tad's service was unique as it was completed in mere fifteen minutes. With so many 442nd Veterans Club members present at both services "Sunshine" and "Tad" were memorialized beautifully.

The quarterly highlight of Livorno Chapter activities was the long postponed "Ladies-Appreciation" brunch affair held at the Cannon Club, Fort Ruger on Sunday, July 14. Present were Jerry and Ethel Doi; Haruto and Yuriko Harada; Janet Higa; Jitsuo and Ruby Kawada; Henry and Emi Kuniyuki; Masatoshi and Sumie Mitani; Takamori and Kikuyo Miyagi, Minoru and Mitsuye Nagasako; Shizuo and Clara Oide, Taksumi and Brent Sakotani, Morio and Rachel Omori; Raymond and Mimi Tanaka; and Frances Watanabe. The members were especially pleased to have Janet Higa, Frances Watanabe and "Kats" Sakotani present. "Kats" was escorted to the gala affair by his son, Brent, who transported him from the Care-Home located in Ewa. Members are encouraged to visit "Kats" and "Willie" whenever possible. Please check with Chapter Secretary Takamori as to their current domicile.

Chapter Counselor, Morio Omori, was the "key-noter" at our monthly dinner meeting held at the Like Like Drive Inn in July. His subject matter was the all-important Living Trust. Chapter members were most appreciative to learn about this legal document which would eliminate probate woes in settling one's estate. Chapter members interested in obtaining further information should contact Morio.

In order to assist the Chapter Reporter in preparing the quarterly Livorno Chapter News, the members were asked to submit their respective Wish List to preclude health and wealth. Frankly, the submissions were disappointingly limited. In order to encourage greater participation the Chapter members were to submit their Wish List anonymously. The few Wish Lists received are published for the edification of all: "I wish for dramatic discovery by scientists whereby electronic apparatus will be able to transmit thought into words for stroke victims who cannot speak". "I wish we could relearn how

a little child sees things and wake up each morning to say: "What a wonderful world". "I wish we could control inflations; have peace on earth; and reduce foreign aids in order to take care of our own backyards." "My wish list is to look forward for my grandchildren." One member's Wish List philosophized as: "My thought of America is about children of the future, their challenge to make this world a better place to live. With all the problems we face today, I envy the sansei for their effort of hard work under extreme stresses that's not getting any better, for relief is out of sight. Their life today is varying life style, of handling their family, especially their offsprings: making arrangements for baby sitter, paying the high cost for sitter or pre-school so that two working parents can go to work to fulfill their careers, paying for expensive homes with a mortgage we can't accept but is the real price they are paying." Another member's wish list was an admonishing to all of us: "My wish is that we all should exercise and maintain our health. We better watch our food intake as we grow older. Now days wherever I go people talk about our blood pressure and to lower your cholesterol."

The Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha and Dazaifu Tenmangu (affectionally known as "Konpirasan" and "Tenjinsan") have officially appointed Chapter member, Jerry Torao Yamamoto as Ministers' Assistant. In this capacity Jerry will be responsible in entertaining visiting priests from Nippon.

Sincere congratulations are extended by Chapter members to the 442nd Veterans Club Executive Secretary, Robert Sasaki upon his well-deserved retirement after twenty-six years of faithful service to the Mother Club. As the "Go-for-Broke" Bulletin goes to press a gala retirement dinner party is being planned at the Cannon Club. Mau maka hiki loihi loa, meke aloha pumehana, Bob! (Many long years of health and happiness, Bob, with our warmest regards!) ALOHA AND ARRIVADECII!

END



By June Ohara

How fast the summer days have gone by... seems only yesterday was the opening of the highly successful exhibit, *Strength and Diversity*. The brief program was interesting and exciting especially the young peoples drum performance. We had to go another day for closer look at the historical presentation of photos, models, artifacts, audio tapes and fine music. Not only is it a fine tribute to Japanese American women -- it is an appreciation of our American heritage -- o ka ge sa ma ... heartfelt mahalo to Dr. Dorothy Hazama, her committee, Japanese Historical Society of California and the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii. We were very happy to see Reiko (Charles) Oda's photo at her studio with one of her ballet students. Reiko has been teaching ballet for over 34 years. Reiko's students' ballet recital had always been outstanding performances.

On July 3, we escorted Clara and Yosh Tera-shima to their first trip to Pearl Harbor and stood in line for the second showing of the Pearl Harbor film with many many tourists from the Mainland and Japan. The film was introduced by an excellent speaker, AJA Veteran, National Park staff member, Mr. Igawa briefly mentioned how his life changed dramatically on Dec 7...served as 442nd medic, volunteering from an Evacuation camp...then singled out a 442 Vet in the audience --pointing to his orange cannon's 442nd cap worn by Yosh. After the film we filed out to go on the Ferry boat to Arizona Memorial, a caucasian lady rushed up to shake Yosh's hand and thanked him for his service to our country in Europe. The gesture almost stunned poor Yosh. As we waited to board, Yosh confessed that he wore the cap because he didn't want to be mistaken for a Japan Tourist. We lunched at Pearl Kai Food Court, the ethnic food court overlooks the quiet waters of Pearl Harbor Memorial. Soon after lunch Yosh decided to go home to his peaceful home in Haleiwa, it was too much excitement and confusion for one morning.

Speak with Barbara Okino about her son, Craig's musical group and her eyes "light up." Barbara is very happy for him! Craig is involved in a "new" kind of music with his group called Pagan Babies, entertaining 'whirling students, professors, soldiers, lawyers, social workers and international fellow travelers...that their uniqueness is not trying to recreate a style but use it as an inspiration." Susan Manuel, in her one page article (Star Bulletin - Nov 1990) writes

a healthy coverage of this "interesting group made up of highly educated musicians" Craig is a Stanford grad, a graphic artist by day -- You'll have to listen to Barbara herself tell you about Craig's music.

On the road to recovery are John Mikasa and Yukisada Oshiro. Eclipse Viewing trip to Big Island were Mabel and Kaoru Watanabe. I can't spoil a good story here, only Kaoru can tell you a funny story about that special trip! Our condolence to Curly Muraoka, who lost a very dear friend. His good friend Fred Kusuno came "Home" and is interred at Punchbowl Cemetery. Some of you may remember him at the Reunion in Reno. Fred was a high school counselor at the American dependents' in Germany for over 20 years. He and Sue attended the Bruyeres Liberation Anniversary Ceremony for many years before he retired and moved to Denver, Colorado.

My brother Mamo and I enjoyed a very special family reunion, a culmination of a year's planning and digging up of our family tree. It is 95 years since our grandfather's arrival from Kumamoto. We counted 5 generations and celebrated grandfather's birthday, (125 years, if he lived) at Hale Koa. Masami and I left soon after to vacate on our favorite island, Kauai and visited Tsuka Murakami at his Office in Lihue. It's always nice to chat with him, a cheerful and happy commoner. Wishing you the days ahead be pleasant and we welcome back our regular reporter, Henry Chagami.

Department of Veterans Affairs

BENEFICIARIES OF VA BENEFITS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

Barry Raff, Director of the VA Medical and Regional Office Center (VAMROC), Honolulu, announced that nearly half a million veterans and dependents receiving compensation and pension benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) are being asked to provide their social security numbers to remain eligible for monthly payments.

The disclosure requirement, included in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, will permit VA to match its beneficiary rolls against files of other agencies to verify continued eligibility.

VA has social security numbers for most of its 3.5 million compensation and pension beneficiaries. But computer matches by the General Accounting Office and VA's Office of Inspector General revealed that the missing information is blamed for a large number of overpayments to other beneficiaries who, for example, may be receiving benefit payments from VA that should be offset against payments from another federal agency.



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## SONS AND DAUGHTERS HOLD KICK-OFF DINNER

Approximately thirty people attended the fledgling *Sons and Daughters of 442nd's* July 20th potluck event, which was held at the 442nd Veteran's Club House in Honolulu.

This dinner marked the first public function of the group, which has consisted of a small group of individuals working under the guidance of Erni Uno. Elected officers are President Pro Tem Michele Matsuo, Recording Secretary Jan Kawabata; coordinators for the dinner included Joe and Tommy Uno.

In addition to a delicious variety of local dishes, attendees like Dean Anzai, Douglas Doi, Grace Fujii, Francis Fujiwara, Amy Fukunaga, Phyllis Hironaka, Doreen (Masunaga) Judd, Glenn and Guy Koga, Kathy Koike, Gerry Kosasa-Terry, Diane Kunichika, Cary Miyashiro, Terry Nakamura, Mark Nomura, Barbara (Uno) Olmos, Wayne Oura, Laura Suzumoto, David and Jeri Takamiya, Jan Takasaki, David Tsubata and Steven Umeda shared their views and opinions about the form and function of the *Sons and Daughters*.

Although many who came did so out of curiosity, it became clear that there was a common bond among the mostly Sansei professionals, college students, artists and educators — that they were seeking a way to venerate — and to organize potential ways of assisting their fathers and families.

During 1990, the *Sons and Daughters* were able to compile a mailing list of approximately 250-300 names of 442nd offspring residing in Hawaii and in other areas of the United States or abroad. Now, as the initial core group has increased to about twenty-five or so, the following events are being planned:

- A 1991 event, "Sharing the Legacy," to invite 442nd families and their children to come together, to "talk story" about the 442nd war-time experience, and to share their visions of how the 442nd Legacy should be shaped for future generations.

It will be held between 2:00-4:00 p.m. on

*"You know, most of us hardly talk with our fathers about what they went through during the war. And yet, what they did was amazing — they actually changed the course of history. How the 442nd dealt with racial discrimination set the tone for other minority groups in the United States."*

Son of 442nd Veteran

Sunday, November 3rd, at the Diamond Head chapel on Kapiolani Community College's Fort Ruger campus. Free parking is available; call Carol Fukunaga at 599-5149 for information.

- Preparations for the March 1992 Memorial Service and Anniversary Banquet, the group's first major function, are being coordinated through *Sons and Daughters* event chairman Glenn Mirikidani.

Early indications look like it will be a unique pre-50th Anniversary kick-off, with plans to involve the Maui and Seattle *Sons and Daughters* groups and to establish ties with the just-forming 100th Battalion's *Sons and Daughters*. Please call Glenn Mirikidani at 737-7139 for details or to volunteer.

- Preparations for the 442nd Veterans Club's 50th Anniversary Celebration are also underway, with *Sons and Daughters* liaison Arnold Suzumoto (ph: 732-1920) coordinating the group's involvement with the parent organization for 1993 events and activities.

While the year's events will undoubtedly encompass a broad range of interests, such activities as the oral history publications, exhibits and symposia on the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, tabloids, cookbooks and t-shirt sale, will provide many families with an invaluable opportunity to share in their fathers' collective experiences.

To find out more about the *Sons and Daughters of 442nd*, please contact Jan Kawabata at 732-0397 (1472 Oili Loop, Honolulu 96816). Anyone on the *Sons and Daughters'* mailing list will receive the group's newsletters and upcoming event calendars.



#### VA HOME LOAN PROGRAM OFFERS ALTERNATIVE FINANCING PACKAGE FOR VETERANS PURCHASING FEE INTERESTS FROM BISHOP ESTATE

Barry Raff, Director of the VA Medical and Regional Office Center (VAMROC) Honolulu, urged all veterans to consider using their home loan benefit as an alternative financing method when purchasing their fee interests from Bishop Estate. In 1978, Hawaii's veterans were given special authorization to reuse entitlement when the purpose of the loan was to purchase the fee interest in a property originally bought with VA guaranteed financing. The benefit would be especially valuable to veterans that presently have a high rate of interest on their first mortgage. Both the existing mortgage, the cost of the fee purchase and all closing costs could be included in the new loan. The interest rate on VA loans is presently at 9 percent, fixed rate, with repayment terms of up to 30 years. Loan approval would be subject to the usual credit, appraisal and occupancy requirements.

Raff urged interested veterans to contact local lending institutions for additional information on loan limitations and qualifications, or contact the VAMROC counselors at 541-1000.

#### NEW PHONE SYSTEM AND PHONE NUMBER TO SERVICE THE NEIGHBOR ISLANDS

Barry Raff, Director of the VA Medical and Regional Office Center (VAMROC) Honolulu, announced that effective August 1, 1991, the new toll-free number to call the VAMROC from the neighbor islands will change to 1-800-827-6549.

This new number will replace the current 961-3661 number used to call from the Big Island, and 1-800-232-2535 from the other neighbor islands.

The new network, Federal Communication System 2000, is a part of the new long-distance telephone and communications network that is being phased in at all Department of Veterans Affairs offices. The new system provides a higher quality of voice transmission by more cost-efficient means.

The new number will be listed in the next issue of the neighbor island telephone directories.

Neighbor island veterans and their beneficiaries are encouraged to continue calling the VAMROC for assistance in the resolution of their VA concerns.

Poem written by William Burke and sent to Governor John Waihee, who shared this poem with us.

#### "Go For Broke"

Though proud of ancestry -- loyalty beckoned  
And so was born the famed Four-Forty-Second  
On that bomb-shattered Isle of peace and beauty  
They left no doubt as to their new-found duty  
So they formed a group that some thought a joke,  
But soon changed their minds when these boys  
went "for broke."

They proved to all their complete dedication  
As they made their sacrifice towards  
preserving our Nation  
From the heights of Cassino to the hedges of  
France,

"Not a step backwards, always advance!"  
When informed of a company with their backs to  
the wall,  
To their rescue they went, more brave men  
gave their all.

At the end of the war -- acclaim from all sources  
As the most decorated outfit in the U.S. Armed  
Forces.

Now that the wounds of the conflict are healed,  
And as one reverently walks that well-hallowed  
field,

And you recite the names etched on each cross,  
You wish that somehow you could atone for their  
loss.

Although some of the names may look stranger  
than others,

What's in a name -- at moments like this --  
aren't they all brothers?



# Varsity Victory Volunteers

The 1991 State Legislature formally recognized the contribution of the Varsity Victory Volunteers which group will be observing their 50th anniversary next year, 1992. It was 49 years ago that the Varsity Victory Volunteers, made up of the University of Hawaii ROTC cadets, stood up for the AJAs. It is a matter of record that the outstanding contribution by the VVV helped to open the doors once again for the AJAs to enlist in service to our country. The resolutions offered by Representative David Y. Ige and his colleagues point to the contribution by the VVV and calls upon the University of Hawaii to honor these former U.H. students with a commemorative marker.

Approval of the House Concurrent Resolution by the State Senate was aptly managed by Senator Mike McCartney. The University officials who were contacted by Senator McCartney appeared before the Legislature to testify in support of the measure.

The commemorative marker by the University to coincide with the 50th anniversary in 1993 of the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Most of the VVV volunteered for the 442nd and their contribution to the distinguished record of the Combat Team is a matter of history.

The 442nd Veterans Club extends its thanks to our State Legislators for their thoughtful and appreciative approval of the resolution honoring the Varsity Victory Volunteers. We look forward to working with the University officials to develop an appropriate commemorative marker on the Manoa Campus attesting to the patriotism and sacrifices of the VVV.

## 442nd Retirees Golf Club

By Eddie Tamanaha

June 20, 1991, 28 members showed up at Pali Golf Course. Dick Uyenura turned in the best score for the day, a net 68. Masami Doi, however stole the thunder with another hole in one, his second during our club's 9 years existence. Back to our current tournament, Masami Doi and Milton Uchigaki were one shot back of the leader with 69s. With our tie breaker system, Masami was second and Milton third. Another shot back with 70s were Bull Namba and Bruno Yamada. Again with our tie breaker, Bull was declared fourth and Bruno fifth. Best front nine was tied by Rusty Honda and Ed Tamanaha with net 33. Best back nine was Stan Yamanoto with 34. Front nine par 3 closest to the hole was Bobby Hirayama and the 15th hole was Masami Doi with his hole in one! Everyone enjoyed the 19th hole celebration hosted by Masami Doi.

July 1, 1991, at the Honolulu Country Club, 25 members gathered to capture the top honor. Lefty Sugihara was hot this day as he shot a net 65 to beat Tommy Tamashiro by a stroke. Harry Tokushige came in third with a respectable 68. Steve Hirotsu and Sho Miota were tied at 70 and with our tie breaker, Steve was fourth and Sho fifth. Best front 9 was Neka Matoi, net 34 and Bobby Hirayama and Tom Mayeda tied with 35. Par 3 closest to the pin were Yoshi Higa and Tom Mayeda.

July 18, 1991, 27 members assembled early in the morning at the Shafter Golf Course. Mits Honda was really shooting this day as he led the field by 4 strokes, a net 63 to take top honors. Charley Igarashi, Yoshi Higa and Teiji Chinna were tied at 67 and with our tie breaker, Charley was 2nd, Yoshi 3rd and Teiji 4th. Ed Tamanaha with net 68 was 5th. Best front 9 was George Ikinaga with a 34 and back 9 was tied by Sho Miota and Bull Namba with 34s also. Closest to the hole was Hichi Matsumoto and Dick Uyenura.

August 1, 1991, 30 members showed up at the Makalena Golf Course. Seems like this course is duck soup for our members as three shot net 64s. Our tie breaker declared Maui Okamura 1st, Teru Nishiyama 2nd and Sho Miota 3rd. One shot back was Bruno Yamada with a 65, 4th. Another shot back with a 66 was Rusty Honda for 5th. All 67s, 68s and 69s was out of the money. Best front 9 was 34 (no name) and back 9 was tied by Neka Matoi and Milton Uchigaki with net 29. Par 3 closest to the pin was Harry Tokushige and Tadashi Kunishige.

August 15, 1991, at the Pali Golf Course, 26 members showed up. Bull Namba was hot as he led the pack by 3 strokes, a net 65, to take top honors. Second was Rocky Tanna with a 68. One shot back with a 69 for third was Milton Uchigaki. Another shot back was Rusty Honda with a 70 for fourth. Teiji Uehara was fifth with a 71. Best front 9 was tied by George Ikinaga and Akabo Takasaki with net 34. Back 9 was taken by Herb Isonaga 33. Closest to the hole was taken by Rusty Honda for both front and back 9 par 3s.

August 26, 1991, 26 members showed up at the Honolulu Country Club. Ed Tamanaha, Bull Namba and Tom Mayeda all came in at net 69. With our tie breaker, Ed was declared 1st, Bull 2nd, and Tom 3rd. One stroke back with 70s were Masami Doi and Teiji Chinna. Again with our tie breaker, Masami was 4th and Teiji 5th. Best front 9 was Rusty Honda 33 and back 9 was Herb Yamanura 33. Closest to the hole were Milton Uchigaki and Masami Doi.

September 3, 4, 5, 1991, 16 of our members will make the annual trek to Kilauea Military Camp for our special golf tournament. With golfing, poker playing and partying, all who made the trip will have a wonderful time as usual. Thanks to Herb Isonaga for arranging things at KMC and Bruno Yamada for the plane and car reservations.

Our schedule for the next three months - September, October and November are: (Please note that October 7 has been changed to October 8)

September 12	Shafter	8:17
September 25	Leilehua	8:03
October 8	HCC	9:42
October 24	Shafter	8:17
November 7	Makalena	11:54
November 18	HCC	9:30

END

AJA Vets Council Golf Tournament By E. Tamanaha

The AJA Vets Council Golf Tournament will be held on October 7, 1991 at the Honolulu Country Club. It will be a shot gun start at 8:00 a.m. All golfers should be checking in at least 3/4 hour prior to tee time. The luncheon/awards will be held right after golf at the pool side back of the snack shop. Entry forms should be at the 442nd Clubhouse. This year there will be no club competition. A closest to the pin and jackpot will be held. Get details at check in desk.



By Hichi Matsumoto

## Chapter Meeting - June

Back to our dear old clubhouse -- "May it ever be so humble, there's no place like home." You better believe it. Took a little time, three months to be exact, to find out that you cannot beat holding meetings at night. In a way, arewa young time kara acquired kuseyo. Found out the hard way that you hold meetings day time, you cannot put a finger to it but somehow no can concentrate and you get da nantoka something not pololoi feeling.

Wow, what a pleasant sight with all of 23 members and six wives showing up after that 11-10-11 dismal turnout for the day meetings. No like be reminded but was on da hajikaku side, da manini turnout yo. Wives are now "allowed" to attend meetings. Some came through curiosity, some necessity to chauffeur their daijina adanana-san home, after too much meeting. Which is only proper because kurotoki the old man drives. That's today no trend, doing things on da 50-50 basis. Neat huh.

Zhq, who shares with us the clubhouse for chapter meetings had it all to themselves for the past three months. Must have been shizukana and otonashii and rakuna for them. But like they say, all good things must come to an end, sooner or later. So now, it's back like the good old days, monku nashi nakayoku sete go konpan da hall

## Chapter Meeting - July

Conducting this first meeting after the eclipse of the sun was a breeze for President Eddie Kanaya. Could be guys tsukareta from the previous day's sun gazing. Believe it or not, not a peep from anybody about the once-in-a-lifetime show. How quick things are put on the back burner. It was nothing but that (eclipse) in the newspapers, TV, radio for days and days prior to. Anyway, for the unfortunate missed seta people, no lose fight, the next one is "just" around the corner at 2106.

Two items "whole cheesed" the evening's agenda. For the very first time, grandchildren will be invited to the annual Christmas party. Something way late but better late than never at all. After hardly any discussion and when da Daitoryo asked for those in favor of having da magos join us: "Please raise your right hand." The fastest hands that went up was, you guessed it, all da grandmas. Our kawaii wives, dem omoshiroi boy, they no find out if they can vote or not--they just vote. And they no pay dues yet. The kids can come to the party



with grandma and grandpa and the parents having a rare night off, can do the town.

The Tad Fujioka's, formerly of Seattle, Washington, but now settled (Tad built a new beautiful home) in Juneau, Alaska, will be coming seven strong, for a Hawaiian vacation -- da exact time mada hakkiri kimattoran. Good news, everything must be alright with them because the last we heard, wife Cherry was ailing. Richard Urada, a close friend of our "Estimo" friends from way up there, couldn't make it to the meeting so went tanomu Masao Yamasaki to spread the good word.

Besides the Ahi nitsuke prepared by Gary Kawate, Charley Ijima brought a nabe full of crabs. Yotte mitara, never get one white (wata-ri) crab, all kanaka crabs. Guys, including the wives, went really whack'em. Da Ijima no grandchildren went catch 'em somewhere around Enchanted Lakes, near their home and Charley went cook 'em. Margie? She's da boss.

#### Chapter Meeting - August

Shikata naku played hookey and did not attend the always looked forward to monthly chapter meeting. Second time already this year (tsk, tsk), not so hot attendance record, boy. That's okay and no need make any kind of iran shimpai and above all, no need sweat because we'll read-up and catch what transpired at the meeting on Secretary Masao Yamasaki's minutes. If you don't know about his work, ain't nobody better.

Went with the good wife to Maui for a leisurely and yukuri weekend, getting away from the day-to-day "hectic" and "rigorous" life of golfing and other club activities like Ukulele/hula and Uta-no-kai singing--drains you. We accompanied, more like tagged along with Bruce (son of Walter & Hazel) and Ruby Matsumoto. Remember, they never join us. Making all the necessary arrangements, connections, etc., made us feel like real inkyo-sans...which we are. Whereas, during our recent trip to Kona to attend Fred Fujimoto's Testimonial, where Bruce's father "ordered" us around, this one was "pay-back" time. Bruce's a good kid, we like him.

Kiyo Kimura and Joe Sato never attended the meeting either. Rodney Yamashiro too. He never go and instead went to his Kahuku High School graduating class 50th Reunion to see Kiyo and Joe, what they do best--entertain. Kahuku might be located way up in the north corner of the island, in the most remote, secluded and inaka kind place but when comes to such things as

celebrating momentous events, they no fool around, they choose haikara kind place to go and they no stop there. Like for entertainment, they no manini and hold back, they go all out and yatou the very best money can buy, staying within their tight low budget, of course. For Rodney, he had to go, no more choice. He was senior class president or student body president or both. You know him, eh holding two jobs at the same time is no big thing and just routine.

#### Golden Wedding Anniversary - Continued

The last Go For Broke Bulletin on the Gilbert Kobatake's "50th" was a profile of him from a close/dear friend and fellow officer. This one is how an enlisted man size him up. Hey, the little guys was an important part in his life too. So here goes:

Gilbert, a scholar, business tycoon, sportsman, gentleman, etc., not necessarily in the order mentioned, sponsored the chapter's softball and bowling teams for many years. Several times kompan with Jimmy Kuwaye (deceased) of Hilo on the Big Island. This is a fact, down through the years, every chapter member at one time or another had gotten a shirt from him. Us guys being aballplayer/bowler (furi dakeyo) as well, no can help but went tamaru a hikidashi full of him kara morota shirts and still yet, today mada daibun aru. No fool around, boy, was quality stuff and not da kine ippen wash setara, XL turn to small size. A classy and generous man. The boys, to the last man, gave 'em their all and tried like hell but couldn't give him a championship. But had a good time playing and the all important fellowship, no can beat.

This is no sour grapes, sure, it's always good to win but winning ain't everything. Maybe we weren't the best team but for sure the best outfitted. Not only shirts were issued but caps and windbreakers with "Gilbert D. Kobatake - Gen'l Contr." in bold letters stenciled in the back, that had the spirit to come out for the team. No such thing as you come out late, you going miss out and no more nothing. The team's unwritten policy and we think an excellent one, was anybody came out played. No more dakine you one junk or ham player, you warm the bench and pick up subaru on your oshiri. Naturally, da akamai coach (whoever he was) saw to it that our most generous sponsor had enough playing time. Not a golfer, bowler or other kind stuff, his "meat" today is jogging, the longer the distance, the better. He also stay put boo-coo mileage plus on his stationary bike.

One of the many camp-outs, which was a must on the year's activities calendar and always strictly for men only was when Gilbert invited the "fishermen" and everybody else who could make it to his place on the shores of Kaneohe Bay. Teiji Chinna's besso on the north shores was the scene of many camp outs. The night and day outings itinerary: The very first thing on arrival was to go kapu where you going bed down, if you had any intentions of sleeping. Da nema area was the C.P. day room and whatever. Big and roomy and lotta elbow space. Daytime drink beer and talk story. Hardly any golfers those days so not too much bull sh...ng. Night time was a continuation of day time. But very early (the sun not up yet) next morning, seemed like mada yonaka to many of the boys with hardly any sleep, it was hit the deck to go go tego suru Gilbert's sons go hooky-up the previous nights laid setra drag net. Nani okiru doko-roka, true to form the night's big talkers (Hawaiians call 'em waha) nomisugite, shikata naku atama sagete had to koto waru for da sekkaku invite saretu hukilau...nebatta.

This good one happened many years ago and nantoka shiran but just cannot forget. Good thing like this gotta make it known and share with everybody. In fact, reflect suru hodo gets better and better. No bull and honest to goodness (father die, mother die) true, true story. Anyway, was a nice Sunday morning and game day, 442 softball league. Yuso Iwane (ideal 4th batter slugger kind beeg body) was all set to leave the house for the ball park and hyokutto noticed his shobai dohgu was nowhere to be seen so hollered to no one kid (get two boys and a girl) in particular: "C'mon no fool around, make quick and go look for daddy's glove and spikes." This guy he no fool around, he get class, he no play hadashi. Anyway, wife Minnie, busy somewhere in the house overheard and quipped, "You need 'em (glove & spikes) to drink beer? Yuso acquired instant lockjaw and no can counter attack...yarareta.

Ankoro da boys beer yoh nomi yotta, nambo attemo (can, bottle) minna korogase yotta. Scheduled first game was 0830 hours or there about. At the most no take more than an hour for completion of the game so soon after pau, take off and hele-on to the clubhouse for you know what until pauhana time. Because arera ippen suwari kondara pau and tatan, eh. And the amazing part of it all, even to today never heard of anybody getting a traffic citation or being stopped on the highway. We must have been good boys, the good man upstairs watching over us. To some, playing baseball was an excuse to get out from the house (and wives?). They thought they

were pulling a fast one but they knew all along. Better than having them moping around the house scolding the kids for nothing and janakure ni naru too. Eh, antoki a pound of aku poki was only a dollar....sonovagun.

This is hardly scratching the surface of this interesting man. Get lots and lots more but like uchino okasan (mother, no wife) always used to say in doing anything, "Iikiro de yame toke" so iikoro de yame toku.

#### Mid-Nite Inn

The following are excerpts from the front page of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 50th States #1 newspaper.

"The Mid-Nite Inn, a Molokai landmark and popular community gathering place, was heavily damaged last night by a fire that disrupted telephone service and electricity in parts of Kaunakakai.

For Molokai residents, the temporary loss of the restaurant is significant. A 1989 Star-Bulletin article described the restaurant as the one time saimin shop that is now Molokai's signature restaurant and social hall.

It's like a melting pot where everybody gets together. The Mid-Nite Inn was opened by John's grandparents in 1929. It's motto is, 'The Best Akule in Town.'

The Kikukawas were planning to renovate the restaurant, which accommodates 85 people in the dining area and 70 in its banquet rooms, in about a year. The fire will speed up the plans, John Kikukawa said."

Arthur "Primo" Kikukawa, John's father passed the restaurant over to him upon his retirement. No doubt, Primo made it bigger and better than when he took over from his parents. Oh yes, it's safelike money in the bank to say that everybody that visited The Friendly Isle, at least one time or another had either breakfast, lunch or dinner or all of the three there at the Mid-Nite Inn. Typical local-atmosphere, food, conversation, it's all there.

Our chapter boys, ako (Molokai) iku tambini, make it a point to you at the popular restaurant and partake Primo's onolicious kind cooking, the way only he can. Anyway, to us, it seems that he no bother with recipe or measuring spoon or cup, dakine inagena stuff urusai, he just grab a handful (you know how huge him, eh) or so of whatever and go furu 'em over whatever he cooking. The finished product, no can believe so good, no can put 'em into words. For instance, his fried rice. Mitara look like only rice and nothing



else and umonai soona but try setara da umai-ness of it all, aji ga yoh kiitoru. Making lilibit boto boto and good wife no kigen totte told 'em, sometime himaga attara go make some fried rice. Nandemo kandemo put inside setemo, naka naka Primo noto no can compare, not in the same leauge. Somehow, something lacking. That's no disgrace.

This happened on a long weekend junket to somewhere in the vicinity of Pukoo, on the eastern end of Molokai at somebody's beach house. Primo days so something like a record number of boys went. Was good fun? The boys like beer? Well..... But what stood out most was the amount of refreshment the group went put away. Was "happy hour" arrival to departure. Brothers Primo & Bert (deceased) used to pay the gang a necessity visit at least once a day and sometimes twice and they would never ever come empty handed, always something teni sagete. Somebody counted over 30 cases were stacked outside the house. Had one or was it two empty six-pack of Coke and 7-Up.

On this same trip, Hide Nakashige (deceased) took along his younger son Scott, he was about yochien age. Last we heard of him, he was in the Marine Corps, a career man and a top-kick. Way better than the old man. He was a TS? Anyway, spot checking the boy, the father no can find him, which triggered the biggest "manhunt" on the island of Molokai. All the beating the bushes was for exercise only, Scotty, kutabirete was snoozing up in one of the bedroom closet. If he only knew the commotion he caused.

This was another time, Yuso Iwane, golfing for the very first time aced (hole-in-one) da nandatta, par 3 hole. The most memorable event happened at the 9-hole golf course where you pay if you like, because nobody around to collect green fees. He thought this game was duck soup. Now, he get close to the green, 'nuff, he happy.'

#### Yamadas & Eatons

George & Mary Yamada and Roger & Diana Eaton stopped by here in Honolulu to meet and story up with the chapter members and wives, mainly for the Kona ni ikare nakatta people, kaerishina from attending Fred Fujimoto's Testimonial held in Kona.

Diana (#2 of 3 girls of Yamadas) & Roger (Yamada no haole muko-san) arera tsuite comes so often, no can ignore them any longer and gotta give 'em recognition of their own. It's so now that you expect them. Mom & Dad would be only too glad to share the limelight, they being a close knot family.

During the course of some idle chatter, Walter Matsumoto, who's more on the serious and no-fool-around type and doesn't joke too often, sort of kidded Roger, "You ought to drop the last letter 'N' from your last name and cut 'em short to Eato (Ito). Roger, surprised to hear something like that coming from Walter, somewhat bewildered answered, "Huh....." You all know from long time ago but we going tell you anyway--- Roger is some nice guy.

Striking up a conversation with George, "Eh Bull, with this here trip, how many times you went come to Hawaii anyway." George, who would make a perfect stand-in for Japan's former premier, Kishi answered, "Well, I stopped counting a long time ago, that's how many times I've come to Hawaii."

On how it all began, we give you him again, "Anyway, it all got started way back with the very first reunion that was held in Hawaii--1958. I told Mary to put aside the monthly disability checks (for war wounds) to help defray expenses for the Hawaii Reunion." Which antoki the check was wazukana just a few dollars. How true of the old Japanese kotowaza: "Chirimo tsumoreba yamato naru." And sonovagun, shiran uchini, daibun tamatta. George again: "And you know something, that trip was supposed to be our (George & Mary) first and last and only trip to the islands and finito, pau, owar-i-get it out of the way, you know what I mean." Aredoko roka now, yura kuruna yutemo kuru. Only kidding George, you know it. There isn't a person here in Hawaii that doesn't love you and your family very dearly. And that's saying from way down deep, shin kara. This is no abura, we get to see our good L.A. friends more, way more than we get to see some of our shinrui, close ones. The once peppy and energetic Mary who used to brighten up any party with her presence is not quite feeling up to par lately, daibun yasete no more the get up and go and yowatte, genki ga nai. A speedy recovery to you, dear lady. The chapter members and wives hosted the Yamadas and Eatons to an "elegant gourmet" dinner at our clubhouse. Whad ya mean, no more class, nothing wrong or cheap with box bento. Today, in our inkyo-san years, food is secondary, having dined and feasted on you name 'em, we had 'em at places like John Dominis (mettani) and places like Kim Chee II (regularly) and camaraderie is the thing. May we say it again. The clubhouse is the best place Don't have to make hokano. Just be presentable. Eating time especially, no need to be nailed down to one spot. You like talk story with somebody over there, just hapai you dimer and go. 46 members and wives attended. You ought to know George by now, him just like magnet, everywhere he goes, he draws a crowd. To the boys,

there are only two Georges, him and the guy on the dollar bill.

One thing about our mainland no friends, namben demo kitemo and they try like the dickens but never could learn to speak fluent pidgin. Aredake rakudaisei. Same like the local guys, no can speak like them. How much try setemo, ippen kuchi aketara 'nuff, you can tell Buddhahead or Kotonk.

George says too that their L.A. 232nd Engrs monthly dinner meeting with wives are attracting less and less people. Guys are passing away and too, toshide no more the fight to come out.

P.S. No sooner George got home, he called Walter on the telephone and went tanomu him to thank all da yoh sete kurete moratta and sewa ni natta people. He's that kichomena.

#### Wedding Bells

During the early days after returning home as WWII "heroes," getting inundated (whew, big word) with wedding invitations from your senso itta buddies was the norm. Later on to their kid's weddings, and now, their kid's kids. My goodness, jikan no hayasa tonde ikunoni tamageru.

Rodney & Nora Yamashiro's granddaughter Michelle, their daughter Gail's daughter, tied the knot konaide. Peter Higashine Takeda was the lucky guy. The bride's parents are Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Onuma. This was the first of it's kind, receiving invitations to a mago no kekkon shiki. For sure, more will follow.

We've known the bride's personable mother (Gail), who is with Straub Clinic & Hospital, since her early childhood and hanabata ga mada yd nagare yotta days. We were tonari doshi with the Yamashiros at Halawa Housing the years 1949 to 1950. The wives got to know one another patronizing the same yasae-san (Peddler). Not too much later, they pulled up stakes and relocated up Aiea Heights. We went opposite direction to Palolo Valley, God's country. In fact, Gail and Uchino boy aidoshi and kiga yoh oote used to play marman goto. We also had the pleasure of attending Michelle's high school graduation several years ago.

The wedding ceremonies were held at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Reception followed at the Honolulu International Country Club. The all important date was June 23, 1991.

#### Jimmy Iharas

The Jimmy Ihara's of Sparks, Nevada were in town konaide, but try as we (232nd Engrs/Band Chapter) did, never got the chance to do anything for them. Reliable sources kara hanashi kikanoni, Jimmy came home to celebrate with his Hilo High School classmates, the 50th Anniversary of their graduation. Eh, that's some long time ago, boy. Da Iharas ga kuru tanbini, the boys and the wives dekiru dake want to entertain them but like always, their daily schedule so tight, nannimo dekin. Otagaini just wanna do something/anything in return for what they did for the whole gang at the 1988 Reunion in Reno. They took care of us not only for a day but the duration of our stay at the Bally Casino & Hotel. Good things just don't happen, it's caring people like them, making sacrifices which make the reunions and whatever so much better. Our Hawaiian Hospitality? Nothing to brag about, manni arera noto kurabetara. And they with only four of them--Jimmy & Tomiko and Tom & Mary Hiraki of Seattle, Washington. Gokuro sama deshita. Was it during last year's 442 Anniversary Banquet, they were here for nantoka goyoh ga atte and antoki too, never could do anything for them. Putting it very mildly, they are very elusive, hard to get, difficult to obtain to entertain. Eh boy, getting poetic.

#### Testimonial

The following article appeared in the Honolulu Star Bulletin.

"Kona testimonial to fete Fujimoto. Big Island business and community leader Fred Fujimoto will be honored Saturday at a testimonial dinner at the Kona Surf Resort Convention Center. This \$25-a-ticket dinner will benefit the Onizuka Space Center, named for the Kona astronaut who died in the 1986 explosion of the space shuttle Challenger. The center is due to open next month at Keahole Airport.

Fujimoto, a lifelong Big Islander, was raised in Hilo and has been a Kona businessman since 1969. He was chairman of the County planning Commission until his resignation earlier this year because of illness. He has been involved in the Kona High School Boosters, State hospital advisory boards, the Boy Scouts and the YMCA."

Another excerpt from another days paper:

"It is a dream come true for me, really, after five years, of this back and forth" said Fujimoto, chairman of the Onizuka Memorial Committee. Onizuka, in his youth worked for Fujimoto's building supply company.



This trip to Kona to attend Fred Fujimoto's Testimonial in a way for us, killed two birds with one stone and brings back natsukashii memories. One of our honeymoon stop back in 1947 was at the same Kona Inn (Tommy Hiraos were there at the same time). Things in general, that time kara to the present, amari kawatoran. Only now, get haoles wait on you. Went for lunch there, prior to heading for the airport, modorishina from the previous night's testimonial. Whereas there were only the two of us then some 44 years ago (mah, agyan natta kano) on this one we were "chaperoned" by Gilbert Kobatake and Walter Matsumoto. Getting back to Tommy. Maybe this irankoto but the Hiraos and our first umare are only days apart. Enryo nashi, we went geev 'em, eh Tommy.

Being the Junior member of our traveling party of four (Gilbert & Walter went stag) everything was makasu to us and in turn passed it on to the good wife. "Dollar Rent A Car" U-drive was our mode of transportation. We didn't mayoote got lost but on several occasions, zigged instead of zagged.

On this just an overnigher, we went holo-holo-ing to way more places than last year's reunion. Sunday morning enjoyed a yumeina Japanese breakfast at Honalo's Teshima Restaurant. Everything was super but da miso-shuri was da bestest of all.

Having a mid-afternoon flight home, yukkuriini went sightseeing and played our part as tourists and visited places like the Fuku-Bonsai Garden. And what, while nosing around sparked a plaque near the entrance and itte nagamete yomuto, not to our surprise had Fred & Midori Fujimoto's names--one of the founders and stockholders. The name Fujimoto and Kona is synonymous.

The testimonial was held at the same hall that was used for the 1990 AJA Nisei Veteran's Reunion Memorial Service. You can be on the safe side putting the figure of 800 that attended. It was overflowing. It was a lengthy program, making darn sure not missing anybody and for da korare nakatta dignitaries, arera ga send seta messages of kind words and telegrams were read. This being his party, Fred was asked to say something by the M.C. and he never disappoint. Why, his speech (given extemporaneously) was so da kine was, he no mince words but spoke from the heart.

The night of the testimonial, Fred & Midori stayed at which was Joe Sato's suite during the past reunion. The spacious drawing room and lanai were always packed with well wishers and chanto just like the recent reunion Charley Ijima was sitting the same place, chair and table, only missing was his "Sitting Bull" partner Teiji

Chinna. He went a week earlier to visit with his daughter up Kamuela.

Had the pleasure of meeting and talking to Fred's brother and mother and also Midori's brothers. Met and got to know the sons and daughters from the reunion.

Unlike past reunions and trips when everything from "soups to nuts" were made for you, this one you make your own arrangements like, "Horse like, horse go get." Us guys chitto spoil, yo.

Arriving on the A.M. at Keahole Airport, fooled around some at Kailua town and had lunch at McDonald's--imagine. After settling at Kona Surf Hotel, boo-coo time to kill to testimonial time so (like 44 years earlier) went strolling along the shore and just our luck--ran into "The Hospitality Room."

#### TESTIMONIAL DINNER

For FRED FUJIMOTO

at KONA SURF HOTEL, KONA, HI

Saturday, 6:00 P.M., June 29, 1991

By: Walter T. Matsumoto

Fred, Midori and Family:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

An important and significant chapter in Fred's life in his military service with the 442nd in World War II, some 48 years ago. Fred was 20 years old, a year out of high school and learning the family's construction-material business in Hilo, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in January, 1943, issued a call for A.J.A. volunteers in Hawaii to form an experimental combat unit, later called the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. He was among the more than 10,000 to volunteer, and among the 3,000 selected and transported to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, for training.

He was assigned to the 232nd Combat Engineer Company. where he was assigned to the Motor Pool. His primary duties were to assist in the operation and maintenance of the Company's varied motor equipment.

Overseas, as specific assignment were made, he was given the rather unglamorous, yet very important assignment of driving the Company mess-truck. True, it lacked the glamor or the hazard connected with sweeping and removal of dangerous enemy mines, or the skill needed to operate a bulldozer to carve out the banks at a blown bridge to make a by-pass. However, he, along with the mess sergeant and cooks were held responsible for the all-important daily grub for the men, where total dependability and dedication are absolute-

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