

## *In Memoriam*

Lindley R. Sele, a Medics Co. member, passed away last year.

Walter M. Kajiwaru, a Fox Co. member, passed away in July, 1992.

Yutaka Miyashiro, a member of 232nd Engineers/Band, passed away in August, 1992.

Herbert Itagaki, a 522-C member, passed away in September, 1992.

## *Cover Story*

Front Row (Left to Right): Dr. Edward Emura, Kenso Uyeda, Kongo Kimura, Teruo Himoto, Richard T. F. Lum, Ralph Yempuku, Ted Tsukiyama, Tamotsu Ono, Satoki, Yamamoto, George Yamamoto, Robert Kadowaki, Joso Uyetake

Second Row: Harry Tanaka, Shigemitsu Nakashima, Dr. Edward Yamada, Ralph Toyota, Yoshiaki Fujitani, Ben Manabe, Tadashi Ikeda, Wilfred Mita, Masato Doi, Stanley Watanabe, Yoshimi Hayashi, Edward Watase, Jr., Shoso Kagawa

3rd Row: Akira Otani, Claude Takekawa, Herbert Isonaga, Yasuhiro Fujita, Walter Okumoto, George Tokuyama, George Miyasaka, David Fujita, Dr. Wallace Nagao, Taketo Kawabata, Dr. Robert Kikawa, George Miyashiro, Howard Hirono, Kenneth Saruwatani

Missing: Stanley Kaneshirto, Bill Naganuma, Ernest Uno, Kats Miho, Sam Hironaka

## *Commentary....by the Editor*

The heroics and the exploits of the AJA Veterans during World War II are incomplete without citing the role played by the Varsity Victory Volunteers in this significant chapter of American history.

At the outbreak of the War this band of young men, some already in the Reserves or the National Guard, were stripped of their arms and defense responsibilities. As a consequence, they volunteered for such menial duties as trash details and ditch digging.

It is appropriate that we recognize VVV in the recent observance of their 50th Anniversary. Most of them went on to volunteer for the 442nd when the call was issued by the US Army.

## Our Associate Members

Our office staff has been mailing hundreds of reminders to these members to renew their membership and subscription to our "Go For Broke Bulletin."

We are gratified with the numerous favorable comments concerning the Bulletin. They state that they look forward to receiving it and miss it when it does not arrive as scheduled.



Mahalo for your positive comments and we will continue the commendable work espoused by the late editor TAD SAKAI.

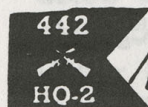
### Our Comrades on Kauai

Destruction and devastation swept through the Garden Isle when the likes of Hurricane Iniki to wreak havoc on practically every household on the island of Kauai. Basic necessities such as water, food, and utilities were completely obliterated.

The 442 Board of Directors at a recent meeting voted to send a modest amount to the 442 members. Our hope is that the members and their families as well as the rest of the communities on Kauai will experience a speedy recovery and resume their normal and resourceful lifestyle.

### Go For Broke Bulletin on Computer

This issue was processed through the computer system. Jennifer Baker, our recently employed, part-time office worker who is a programmer, is responsible for the first issue computer publication. As a result, much effort and time have been reduced. We hope you like it.



by Bert  
Nishimura

In April, 1945, the men of the 442nd Infantry Team returned to Italy. They occupied positions some several

hundred yards behind (in rear of) positions they had turned over months before to the 92nd Division upon their transfer to the French battle areas.

The Germans and Italians occupied the Folgorito ridge line, a 3,000 foot hill mass which arose abruptly from the coastal plain, dominating Massa, Carrara, and the great Naval base of La Spezia. Within the space of a month, the 442nd was able to seize this ridge line without detection. Movement thereafter was chaotic. Even the 232nd Combat Engineers were converted into infantry men and members of the Headquarters Companies were integrated into forces and fought with other riflemen.

### MAY 2, 1945

The end came to the Wehrmacht in Italy. The 442nd had broken through the vaunted German Gothic Line. When the war ended the 100th had occupied Busalla, blocking the Pass at Isola de Canton to the north, so as to cut off the enemy's escape route to Turin. The 2nd Battalion occupied Alessandria, the home of Asti Spumante and sparkling wines. The 3rd Battalion held positions on the outskirts of Genoa. The units regrouped into bivouac at Novi Ligure. The victory in Europe came on May 9. It was anti-climatic to the men of the 442nd and there was no boisterous celebration. Men were too tired to engage in any festivity. The war was still fresh in their minds and victory had not come cheap. On May 16 the 442nd moved to Ghadi Airfield near Breccia, where it began to process, search, and



guard prisoners for the German 14th Army.

On May 31 I was assigned to the 85th Division. I had over 100 Adjusted Service Rating Points and was eligible to be rotated home. This was in accordance with the redeployment policies of the US Army. the 442nd was designated as a Category I unit to be retained for the continued service in the Mediterranean Theater. Selected men would be sent home according to the number of points they had accumulated. I was joined by five officers of the 100th Infantry Battalion. We boarded the USS United States and crossed the Atlantic Ocean. From Newport News it was overland by train to Camp Beal on the outskirts of Sacramento, CA. We waited over a month for transportation to Hawaii.

Honolulu had changed physically. There were more people in uniform. There was more hustle. The laid back atmosphere had been replaced by a "gotta get going" feeling. There were more small stores. Souvenir gift shops filled every nook and cranny. Nuuanu and Hotel Streets had bars upon bars. Waikiki had been transformed into a honky-tonk district. Inwardly the social structure remained.

Before the war, many niseis graduated from Teachers College, University of Hawaii and became teachers. those who earned degrees in business administration sought employment as subordinates in financial institutions, never rising higher than assistant managers. Many went into insurance and real estate.

The situation on the outer islands had changed very little. Returning

veterans were expected to pick up their lives at the exact point which they had left. No one believed that they were capable of doing more. Many had been squad and platoon leaders.

Those who had graduated from high school took advantage of the GI Bill of Rights and flocked to the college and universities in record numbers. Many went over-seas to the mainland. Of the returning veterans, only one was recruited by one of the Big Five which which dominated the economy of Hawaii. Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, a former aggie teacher, went to work for Castle and Cooke. Major James Lovell and Lt. Col. Farrant Turner were responsible for this choice.

While with the 100th Infantry Battalion veterans returning home from Europe, we discussed the need for the 442-100 to form a club to perpetuate the friendships which had been forged under fire. The far-thinking 100th had started a dues collecting system even while the unit was in training in Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. Two dollars were collected every pay day. The was continued while in Africa and Europe. At the end of the war, close to \$50,000 had been collected. The 442 did not institute this project. For one reason, the 442 had people from the US mainland. The 100th was all Hawaii - former national guardsmen who had been yanked from the 298th and 299th to be segregated into a separate organization.

The 100th first bought the Chinese temple property on Nuuanu and School streets, sold it after a few years, and moved in the YBA (Young Buddhist Association) building at 1710 Fort



Street. They later purchased two lots at their present site.

Chaplain Masao Yamada came to see me soon after he returned to Hawaii. He wanted to see an organization of 442 Veterans formed. I told him of my conversations with both Dr. Katsumi Kometani and Mitsuyoshi Fukuda. They had \$50,000; we had nothing. Could we get 200 individuals to pledge \$200 so that we could join in with the 100th? In the end it was decided to go it alone. Flash Fujiki, Joe Itagaki, Sunshine Fukunaga, George Miki, Fred Matsuo, Yoshio Okubo, Chaplain Yamada and I met at the Nuuanu YMCA late in December, 1945 to discuss the formation of a 442nd Veterans Club. Even before the official organization, I was asked to invite Earl Finch to Hawaii because it was my idea. Considering that we had no funds and no formal status, this move was dramatic. The thinking behind this proposal was that every 442 veteran living in Hawaii would turn out to honor this man, and this occasion would permit each company to organize into small groups which would form the "mother club."

On February 7, 1946, at the Nuuanu YMCA auditorium, the first meeting of the 442nd Veteran's Club was held. Fewer than 100 members showed up. Rev. Masao Yamada, who acted as the temporary chairman, was elected to become the first president. Other officers included Tadao Beppu, Yoshio Okubo, Fred Matsuo and myself. At that meeting I reported that Earl Finch had accepted our invitation to be our guest for a whirlwind tour of the different islands. He arrived on March 5 and made a triumphant tour. This

first event was historic. He was wined, dined, and given press coverage wherever he went. At a banquet, Earl Finch was given a check for \$10,000 in appreciation for his help to the servicemen. Finch elected to remain in Hawaii and went into business with several veterans.

In August 1946, the 442nd Infantry Regimental colors and guidons returned to Hawaii with an escort of soldiers who had remained with the unit. Coincidentally, the 442nd Veterans Club was incorporated as a non-profit organization a few days later.

During Earl Finch's visit, Tatsuro Matsuo, Fred's brother who was operating the old Toyo Theater on River Street, talked to me about the possibilities of the 442nd sponsoring a variety show. Tats realized that the club had no monies and offered to bankroll the project as the promoter. When the subject came up for discussion, the executive committee was unanimous in its support since we had little to lose and much to gain. Since I was the messenger of the project, I was promptly nominated to help Chairman Fred Matsuo. Earl Finch was still in Hawaii, and he offered to try to get name Hollywood celebrities to headline the show. Mr. Finch was a Mississippi farmer-rancher with little contact of influence with people in show business. After several false starts, Tats Matsuo lined up Martha Raye as the headliner with a supporting cast of rather unknown and undistinguished performers.

The first attempt to capitalize on the strong bonds welded in combat was the "Beauty" contest of young ladies



selected by each company. The winner would be determined by the number of tickets sold. If memory serves me correctly, Company E's selection, Jasmine Jichaku, was crowned Queen of the Go For Broke Carnival. Her court consisted of the other young ladies of the chapters.

The mediocre talent notwithstanding, the first venture was successful. Never before was there generated more enthusiasm and support. After all expenses had been paid almost \$75,000 was turned over to the club.

By this time those veterans who took advantage of the GI Bill of Rights began to return to Hawaii. Those who had returned to their old jobs began to search for new ones. As was related earlier, the niseis gravitated to small businesses, largely in the service sector, real estate, and insurance. None of the Big Five companies had attempted to hire many niseis and never in key positions.

In 1946-1947 a small nucleus of niseis rallied around John Burns, a Honolulu Police Department lieutenant. On the other islands, the local unions turned to the veterans for leadership. It was only when the Chinese faction was able to put together small real estate "huis" did the fabric of Hawaii begin to change.

Late in 1948 a Colonel Gilbert, who had recruited the legendary Richard Sakakida and Arthur Komori to go to the Philippines before 1941, approached me to go to Japan to assist in the repatriation of war prisoners at Maizuru. This was to have been a short tour. I never got to Maizuru, but this is an entirely different story. The Korean


War started and my association with the 442nd Veterans Club took a hiatus.

### On a Social Note

Second Headquarters decided upon a new format for the September meeting. members and their wives attended a dinner and magic show at the Hale Koa hotel. Twenty people showed up to feast on Italian fare and be dazzled by acrobats and the headliner, Curtis Kam. Bert Nishimura hosted the affair.

The Reunion: Those attending from outside Honolulu are not yet known. in the meantime, the coordinating committee of Herbert Isonaga, Bill Thompson and Nishimura are busily preparing for Chapter night at Kanraku Tea House and establishing Hospitality Room at the hotel.

More news will be announced as plans are finalizes.

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E  *Gay* by Terry Ihara

Twenty three EASY HONOLULU members and spouses were joined by TSUNE & YAE TAKEMOTO from Hilo and CHARLEY ARAKAKI and SHIGEO IWAMASA from Maui to make the 27 Hawaii Easy who attended the very successful mini-reunion in Oakland, August 6 through 8. At the last minute, AMY KANESHIGE decided not to go when illness befell her subsequently passed away on the 11th of August. EASY members and spouses offer deepest sympathy of AMY and



JUNO and her family in Mrs. Izumi's passing. HIDEO MIZUKI of Maui also canceled on orders of his doctor.

In all approximity 120 EASY veterans, spouses, and guests were in attendance and the mini-reunion. As successful as was the Seattle reunion which by and large was the greatest in numbers, the Oakland reunion can be called equally in terms of the programs it offered. From the Opening Ceremony San Francisco Bay Cruise to the Sayonara Banquet, it was three days of a go-go kind of a reunion. The fast paced activities the Northern California EASY chapter arranged for the reunion did not give one that much free time although the Hospitality Room was always available for snacks, drinks as well as tons of fresh fruit and nuts of all kind. As there were no facilities at the hotel for food preparation, all the food that was served in the Hospitality Room was prepared elsewhere and brought to the room for the enjoyment of all. Foods that graced the serving table always included some kind of sushi and tsukemono of different tastes and varieties all of which were very tasty to the palates. It also included salmon from Seattle, pineapples from Maui, dried aku from Honolulu and on different days, sashimi from Frisco, salami and a variety of other entrees to satisfy all. In addition there were coffee and tea as well as soft drinks and beer and even some hard liquor.

The Casino night activities highlighted the reunion. Each person entering the Casino was given several thousand dollars of play money and chip with which he could roll the dice, play Black Jack, or play the slot machines.

Some only rolled the diced and scored big. Others went broke. In any event at the end of the evening the play money was exchanged for lucky number tickets, one ticket to a thousand dollars, which qualified one for a variety of prizes gathered for the function and given out in a lottery. The prizes given out included a video cassette recorder, radio, watches, telephone, rice cooker, etc. The women folk generally stayed away from the dice table and played the slot machines or the black jack tables. The dealers were amateur dealers who often helped the players beat the house by playing their the hole card up. Heavy pupas were served for dinner which included shrimps, salmon, some meat products and lots of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Friday, August 7 the golfers went golfing at the TRACEY COUNTRY CLUB in Tracey, CA, about an hour ride south of Oakland courtesy of SHIG FUTAGAKI who is a member of the club. LEFTY SUGIHARA, CHARLES ARAKAKI, TSUNE TAKEMOTO and this writer were the only Hawaii participants. The golfers played at Tracey on Thursday too as a practice round. TSUNE TAKEMOTO was the big winner on Thursday. This writer did not play too well but enjoyed two luck birdies and won \$5.00 and fifth prize. On Friday's play, the writer's understanding is that CHARLEY ARAKAKI won a \$5.00 prize as did this writer again.

Most of the rest of the group went on a tour of a complete array of parks beginning with city parks, state parks, regional parks, and national parks surrounding the Bay area as well as the



unplanned open spaces created by the October 1991 Oakland fire. The tour conductor was Mr. William Penn Mott Jr., consultant to the National Parks Service who is presently supervising the conversion of the Presidio into a "global think-tank" for the world's non-political leaders, somewhat like New York's United Nations where the world's leaders meet for political concerns. Prior to the tour and golfing, the group enjoyed breakfast at the former Kaiser Corporation's Chairman Kaiser's huge offices and now the very private LAKEVIEW CLUB for a panoramic view of the city of Oakland.

Saturday the Norcal group arranged a tour of the LIVERMORE VALLEY SCIENTIFIC CENTER. This is the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, a city of 7,300 scientists who are turning their energies, now the Cold War is no more, to project which will enhance the quality of life in tomorrow's world. The University of California at Davis had administrative responsibility for the Laboratory. The center is like a University itself except that the staff is all hard science and science related and all they do is research and development. No teaching of students.

Saturday night was the Farewell Banquet and the program included a lengthy but well done essay of the exploits of the EASY COMPANY heroes; DSC winners DANIEL K. INOUE, GEORGE SAKATO, AND TSUNE TAKEMOTO. The author of the essay was TAD MASAOKA. As part of the program of the evening, there were also door prizes as well as reports by all the different cities and

places represented at the reunion. On behalf of the EASY HAWAII this writer wishes to extend to NORTHERN CALIFORNIA EASY COMPANY members and their spouses and friends the heartfelt and sincerest of gratitude for a very successful reunion. Nothing like a good reunion to renew acquaintances forged in the thick of battle years ago. Thank you.

Of the group that went to Oakland, three couples, i.e. WAICHI & CHIYONO TAKEMOTO, NOBORU & HIDEKO UESUGI, and FLY & ELLEN TAMASHIRO remained in Northern California. The rest of EASY were driven to Reno by the LA group and the drivers were KIYO KAMATE, ROBERT ICHIKAWA, GARY ITO (Koo's son), SHIG KIYOMURA, JOU OKITSU, BEN YAMANAKA, ROY YANAI, and GEORGE YOSHIHARA. Leaving Oakland at about 9:30, the drive took about four hours, arriving Reno at about 1:30 pm. The group stayed at Comstock Hotel where CHARLEY ARAKAKI has connections.

The game tables and slot machines were hot for some but cold to others. One who was especially hot was MAUI OKAMURA who played the quarter slots and was he hot. One day he hit the small jackpot will all 7 in line 7 times and the next day he hit three more. Wife Hazel who sat next to him was almost as lucky. Lucky for HAZEL as MAUI was determined to take care of his wife this trip and it paid off. Good for you, MAUI!!! What the OKAMURA'S raked in the rest of the EASY players contributed. Could not leave Comstock's gaming machines without saying anything about one



couple, i.e. the NAKATA'S, MIDRED & KOZUN. Mildred was bemoaning the fact that she and Kozun were not hitting at all. The day before our departure for home Mildred started hitting those numbers in doubles and triples that she recouped all her losses.

Golf nuts LEFTY SUGIHARA and CHARLEY ARAKAKI played golf all three days while in Reno. All the courses except one were not in very good playing condition due to the extended drought. This writer played on day at the new Munny located in the swamps beyond the airport. Because the course is surrounded by water the course management had ample water to keep the greens and the fairways in very good and green condition. And because the course is located in a wild life preservation area, balls hit into the swamps were not subject for retrieval. The swamps were off limits to all humans.

Back to Honolulu on Thursday, August 27, 1992, 22 EASY CHAPTER members and wives assisted Chapter member, the Honorable DANIEL K. INOUE host a community dinner at McKinley High School. Those who helped are: EDWIN GOYA, TERUO IHARA, LARRY IWAHASHI, JUNO & AMY KANESHIGE, S.T. OOKA, SABURO & TOKUE OUCHI, WAICHI & CHIYONO TAKEMOTO, FLY TAMASHIRO, GEORGE & DORIS TANDO, CHIK & PATSY TESHIMA, NOBORU & HIDEKO UESUGI, TOMO UYEDA, TADAO YOSHIMOTO, SHIGE & SALLY YOSHITAKE, AND TADASO ONO. Chapter members were given total responsibility for the dispensing of food at four separate

counters which included chili and rice, noodles, barbecued kalbi beef and barbecued chicken. Although the work was backbreaking with no rest for some, the members and spouses were happy that they could at least, in a small way, be of help to a fellow member of the chapter. The only word of unhappiness shown was that a very tight appointment schedule did not permit the Senator to visit with them.


Sad to report that TOSHI "POP" ANSAI finally went to see his maker. This remarkable man who was a elected public servant way before WW II began will certainly be in the Lord's Company in a jiffy. Here was a man always helpful and a "rock of Gibraltar" for the many teenagers who volunteered for the 442nd RCT. Many a young man sought his fatherly advice especially when things seemed the darkest and went away determined to take on the challenges of army service. This writer's only regret for TOSHI was that the Army did not commission him an officer and use his wide experience and age so that he could provide his services to the whole Combat Team. We in COMPANY E are thankful that he was with us and wish him a blessed life after. Our sincerest sympathies to RUTH and two daughters. Good bye, TOSHI.

EASY COMPANY lost another member in early July. He is KENICHI "KENGO" NAGAMINE of Aiea, Hawaii. KENGO was transferred to EASY immediately prior to departure for Italy and was placed in the first platoon, second squad. Although he did not participate in EASY HONOLULU activities, he is remembered as one who



remained proud that he served with EASY COMPANY.

EASY CHAPTER has always had very good attendance at dinner meetings when spouses are involved. The meeting in July was just such a meeting which preceded the Oakland Reunion trip in early August. In all there were 43 individuals and they were: MAUI & HAZEL OKAMURA, KOZUN & MILDRED NAKATA, NOBU & BETTY YONEDA, TADAO & SAKAE YOSHIMOTO, S.T. & JUNE OOKA, BOBBY MAEDA, RALPH YAGI, YOSHIWO YAMAKI, LEFT & KAY SUGIHARA, CHICKEN & ROSE YAMADA, EDWIN & BEATRICE GOYA, SHIGE & SALLY YOSHITAKE, BEA TSUKAMOTO, LARRY & LOUISE IWAHASHI, RAYMOND & LAURA SHIGENAGA, GLENN & MIYO NAKASONE, NEKA & HAZEL MATOI, SABURO & TOKUE OUCHI, JUNO & AMY KANESHIGE, TOMO & MARY UYEDA, CHIK & PATSY TESHIMA, FLY & ELLEN TAMASHIRO, HIROSHI OTAKE, DON MASUDA and this writer. The dinner meeting was held at Flamingo Chuck Wagon restaurant on Kapiolani Blvd. Being the last meeting before the Oakland reunion, final details of the reunion were hashed over. Pau, T. Ihara

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## *Fox Fables* by Ron Oba

### SILENT WARRIORS SO INDELIBLY WRITTEN PROMISES GONE BY

The June 15 to 22 reunion held at Las Vegas and moved to Gardena, California for the second half was sponsored by the Los Angeles Fox chapter and its president Hiro Takusagawa. It was a memorable 8 days of reawakening to 49 years of remembrances. Faces have changed and with some, wives also. A few still retain their vim and vigor but like Pasquale (Pat) Valenti laments, 90% of the seniors in Florida have AIDS - false teeth, canes, and hearing aids. The old lady goes to the doctor to find out why she can't hear with her hearing aid. Doc says, "Why do you have your suppository in your ear, that's why." She then tells Doc that she now knows where she placed her hearing aid. We're not young anymore like the two little kids playing in the crib. Pretty soon, the little girl screams, "Rape! Rape!" Young boy answers, "Aw, shut up. You're sitting on your pacifier." It was that king of reunion - new jokes, old faces, and high hopes.

### At the Casino

All told there were over 140 attendees including wives and some adult children. The mainland people got the same hotel accommodations and discounted rooms and coupons due to



prearranged maneuverings by our tour coordinator, Mich Takata. The Gold Coast Casino is an island unto itself. Although many caught the shuttle to the strip nearby, everything you needed to do was at the Gold Coast. As usual a handful of people hit the jackpot and came home smelling like \$100 chips. Goichi Suehiro was the center of attraction as he kept ringing the dollar machines every 5 minutes no matter which machine he touched. Trugami became his handy man as he kept placing the rolls of dollar chips into the containers. I thought Goichi's luck would rub off if I sat next to him. I kept feeding while Goichi kept rolling them in. At one point Mrs. Joy Inukai asked, "It must have something to do with his hands and technique." So Goichi promptly moves over to another machine and starts hitting to keep Tsugami busy. Well, I'm convinced. It must be his Midas touch!!

### Hospitality Room

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality room manned by Kaye and Sam Musashi, Yas Kawashima, Mary Morino, Mas Chomori, Roy Yamada, Yuki Iguchi, Frank Sotello, Mas Miyamoto, and many others. The bing cherries arranged by Chomori were the hit. The maki sushi, pickled veggies, chicken, char siu, pupus and lots and lots of fruits kept our palates ready for the golf. They came back after each game like hungry lions to devour everything in sight.

### Golf Tournament

The results of the three tournaments were:

\**Las Vegas Municipal A Flight*: 1st - Dan Horikawa, net 65; 2nd - Hideo Murakami and Mich Takata, 66; 4th - Bill Tanaka, 67.

\**Las Vegas Municipal B Flight*: 1st - Barney Miyaji, net 65; 2nd - Tom Lee, 68; 3rd - Lance Yorita, 69; 4th - Dick Kizuka, 71.

\**Angel Park A Flight (June 17)*: 1st - George Matsumoto, net 66; 2nd - Bill Tanaka, Skull Okuhara, and Morita Otake, 67.

\**Angel Park B Flight (June 17)*: 1st - Tommy Tamagawa, net 61; 2nd - James Given, 65; 3rd - Enoch Kanaya and Dick Kizuka, 70.

\**Victoria Golf Course (June 21)*: 1st - Bill Tanaka and Mas Tamaye, net 67; 3rd - Mich Takata, 68; 4th - Mark Yorita and Hideo Murakami, 70.

I know it's not nice to criticize your hosts, but the Victoria Golf Course was the worst golf course we ever played. It was 5 times worse than Makalena. Some said, "This is a cow pasture?" At the pro shop a large sign had a list of dollar penalties for damaging the fender, losing a bumper, tearing the seats, removing the steering wheel and so on. It gave me the impression that the golfers at this course come with axes and hammers instead of golf clubs. Incidentally I thought My lost ball in the middle of the fairway was a severe penalty - after that my score card soared from a front nine of gross 42.



### Reunion in Gardena

The Palace Hotel in Gardena had complimentary breakfast that was unlike any continental breakfast of coffee and doughnuts. Hot rice, raw eggs, miso soup, nori, and a dozen kind of pastries, plus another dozen types of fruits. We also had a suite since the original rooms assigned wouldn't open with the electronic card. We really had it good.

At the Aloha banquet we all gathered to take the group pictures for our Golden Anniversary Souvenir book. The Chinese dinner was delectable and different from Hawaii's. the Sayonara banquet was highlighted with the distribution of Jack Wakamatsu's Silent Warriors. When called upon, Jack still had more to say. It a magnanimous act on his part to dedicated the book to Abe Ohama. When he fist wrote to me that he will mailing the books for gratis, I asked him "What about the cost of the books?" He wrote back, "Stupid Oba, 'gratis' means free." So we all got complimentary books. The book is well written with accurate documentation of our major battles. Jack philosophizes, moralizes, ethicizes, and expounds on some fallacies as well as truisms and ministers to his fallen comrades. About 30% of the entries are autobiographical, which none of us faults or envies for his life emulates a vast majority of the lives of our mainland veterans. of course Jack would insist that his life was unique.

Ron Oba presented Jack with a calabash from the Oahu Fox Chapter with the inscription:

Jack Kuniyoshi Wakamatsu  
Author, Silent Warriors

### In Appreciation

Fox Co. 442nd RCT

A traditional passing around of the calabash filled the bowl to the rim - a small token of our appreciation.

Sally Valenti then wanted to make a speech as follows:

"Prima di tutto, voglet rhigrezicare a tutti cuanti per una reunione di amicizia, cordialita, affezione e amore. Voi non potete mai sapere quanto mio marito, Pasquale T. Valenti, vi rispetta e vi ama con tut il cuore.

Liu sempre mi parla delle bello tempri passate in Italia con voi pur troppo che era tempo di guerra. Basta dive che oggi, doppo quasi 50 anni, siamo qui celebrare la tua sincera amicizia. Speramo che quest feste continueranno per molti anni ancora e che il nostro signore ci faccia gudere una buona salute per essere insieme ancora.

Grazie, me marito ed io vi saluta."

### Sayonara

The next day we all departed for destinations prearranged knowing full well that we had etched another part of history in our lives. Those attending were (from Hawaii): Masa Takatsuki, Doris Agina, Yasunori and Helen DeGuchi, Toshio and Gladys Endo, Shigeo and Rose Higa, Tom and Aileen Higa, Tom and Miyoko Hiranaga, Mamoru and Bernice Hiranaka, Masa Hokama, Robert and Sadako Honda, Daniel and Helen Horikawa, Yoshio and Yoshie Inukai, David and Roy Iritani, M.D., Takao and Masako Ito, George and Kay Kawakami, Wataru and Kikuye Hohashi, Roy Kubo, Tsugimi Masuda,



Kats and Emi Matsumura, Robert and Mabel Matsushita, Barney and Phyllis Miyaji, Hide and Masae Murakami, George and Myrtle Nakasato, Ron and Michi Oba, Morito and Polly Otake, Yoshio and Clara Shibuya, Goichi Suehiro, Mich and Shinto Takata, Kiyoshi and Yukie Takeuchi, Tom and May Tamagawa, Bill and Audrey Tanaka, Ed and Yaeko Watase, Paul and Clara Yamashita, and Frances, Lance, and Mark Yorita.

From the mainland: Mas and Jean Chomori, Curtis Fujioka, Janice Fujiwari, Tom and Cheri Hikde, Rose and Joyce Ichihara, Yuke and Eni Iguchi, Tak Kanada, Enoch and Mita, James Kanaya, David and Adelita Katagiri, Yas Kawashima, Dick and Jean Kizuka, Mits and Tuney Kodama, Tom and Daisy Lee, Hiro and Shizuko Matoba, George Matsumoto, Matt Mikami, Carol Mimura, PhD, James Given, Trudy and James Mimura, PhD, Jack and Chieko Miyake, Ocean and Janet Miyake, Frank and Yuri Morimoto, Leonard and Doris Moriyama, Ginzo and Mary Morino, Sam and Kaye Musashi, Richard and Maria Nakagawa, Richard and Dorothy Narasaki, Hideo and Emiko Okanishi, Sada and Donna Okuhara, Akira and Mary Sasaki, Steve Sato, Fumio and Dorothy Shimizu, Fran and Munro Shintani, PhD, Bessie and Dorothy Sutop, Hiro and Emi Takusagawa, Masa Tamayei, Joe and Massie Yamamoto, Mas and Margie Yoshida, Pat and Sally Valenti and Tak and Mori and Janice Fujiwara.

Thank you mainlanders for the nice nylon carry-on bags. They came in handy.

George Kawakami said, "The Kauai Fox Veterans are overwhelmed by the outpouring of concern and financial aid by the mainland and Island buddies - Thanks!" Over \$7,500 have been collected to date.

## *Maui News by Bob Matsushita*

The 442 Company F Reunion was held on June 16-19, 1992 at the Las Vegas Gold Coast Hotel Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada and June 19-22 at the Best Western Palace Hotel in Gardena, California.

### Journey to Las Vegas

Maui Group was scheduled to leave 6/15/92 Kahalui to Los Angeles via Delta #1578 EDT: 7:00 a.m. with a stop-over in Honolulu to pick up the balance of the reunion goers, since the earlier group left a day earlier. Since it was an early flight we timed ourselves to get up well ahead of time to prepare for this trip. Since I was a bachelor I set my alarm at home for 5:00 a.m. to give me ample time to prepare myself and for my ride to the airport. Believe it or not, I had the president of our company drive me and we left home at 6:00 a.m. Since I was selected to be the DANCHOSAN for this group I had to be at the Delta counter before hand to greet the reunion goers. They came in spurts with no problems at all since I had the First Class attendant at the counter handle our bags direct to Las Vegas. Tom Hiranaga



assisted me to expedite matters, and also requested additional Gold Coast Baggage Tags for the golfers. I really appreciated this. Two evening prior before going to bed I received a phone call from Karen of Travel Adventures, Inc. requesting that Mich Takata instructed her to assign me DANCHO-SAN. I told her I had no experience in handling tours, and that I didn't think that I was the appropriate person. She told me Mich didn't hold back any breath in giving my name to her. Since it was a benefit to the group, I did my best to carry on this responsibility with the assistance of Tom. I certainly appreciated his help since it made our trip a pleasant one.

To my surprise at the the Kahalui Airport was Robert and Sadako Honda of Hilo in line with their baggage also. I asked Robert, "How come!" He said more betta this way then go Honolulu. Evidently, he was here a day earlier and visited Ike Ikeda and other members. We went up to the boarding area in a group and boarded the plane for Honolulu. Reached Honolulu Airport terminal about half an hour later and were permitted to get off craft. Many wanted to use the restroom and also some didn't have breakfast. It fit our needs greatly, especially the smokers.

Met the remainder of our group - some in the boarding area, some still having breakfast at the cafeteria, which we joined. Members from Kauai, Hawaii and Oahu were all present and accounted for. Boarded craft to Los Angeles and arrived at or about 3:30 p.m. We again were able to get off craft in Los Angeles to stretch our legs after the five hour flight. As I got off the

craft in Los Angeles I met my wife Mabel in the boarding area, aching to go to Vegas. It was a relaxing experience since many ended up in the women and men's restrooms. Naturally, a designated area for smoking had to be found or the smokers. Spent slightly over an hour to head inland to Vegas and arrived at or about 6:54 p.m. We walked a mile to baggage claim area, having porters and bus drivers directing us to area to head for Gold Coast Hotel Casino. Gratuities to porters were paid. Arrived at the Casino and was met by Mich at the front entrance. Coupons, rooms, last minute instruction, and information about hospitality rooms were announced.

I felt much relieved since we didn't have any lost baggage and all were happy and ready to tackle the one-armed bandits, crap tables, etc.

### Golfing

The 16th was free time for all and the 17th and 18th were tee time for all golfers and shopping for the ladies and non-golfers plus excursions for others. The Las Vegas Municipal Golf Course tee time was set for June 17th at 10:00 a.m. I thought for a muni-golf course it was kept very well, especially the fairways and greens. The only problem was too much trees. The 18th tee time was 9:00 at Angel Park Golf Course (Mauians would say "su um nice kind course"). It's a new course divided between two 18 holes. One is the Palm Course and the other the Mountain Course. We played the Palm Course with its beautiful scenery and ponds and a long par three with a wide drainage



between fairways. Takao Ito shot his tee shot in the middle of the ravine but to his amazement it bounced forward onto the fairway. I couldn't find my ball since whereabouts its ricocheting after dropping it in the ravine was not noticeable. Well, some guys get all the "goodluck" and me "badluck." It was nice playing there especially Gino Morino's chauffeur in his Lexus (400) to and from the golf course. Noticed his car odometer reads 160 miles and asked him, "How fast have you driven it?" He said he tested it on a return trip from Reno to San Francisco one time and noticed his speedometer read 110 miles an hour and this vehicle didn't weave at all. I told him, "Don't try it out today." On Maui if we traveled that fast we wouldn't have any highway left, instead of the wide and broad Pacific Ocean.

### At the Hospitality Room

June 18th was shopping, gambling, and the evening ended with the Las Vegas banquet, prime rib, etc, etc, with all the trimmings. That evening Hiro Takusagawa gave us the last minute instructions before leaving hotel to Gardena. It was a bang-up affair with the hospitality room always open to the reunion goers. Even the Cha-zuke's with various pickles were brought from all over the 48 states. Sam and Kaye Musashi and the other mainlanders kept fresh food always on the table. Much kudos goes to Yasura Kawashima of Long Beach who chaired the hospitality room. As a Buddha head from Maui would say, "The Kotonk's did a magnificent job." We are extremely grateful and we must practice

this also during our 50th Anniversary in Honolulu in 1993.

The morning of the 19th was open and last minute packing had to be done. It was the last chance for those who wanted to make more money and for those who wanted to gain back their losses. The only happy winner from my observation was Goichi Suehiro on the Dollar Slug Machine. Tsugimi Masuda says, "I tried to recover and got deeper and deeper in the puka." Don't worry, Tsugimi, I'm also a total loser and was happy to leave the establishment.

Buses came for the Hawaii bunch and left for the airport leaving for Los Angeles. Gardena, here we come!! It was a chore carrying our luggage and golf clubs to the bus waiting area. I didn't realize how heavy it was or is it because of our age? It wasn't this way during basic training. After all its been almost 50 years - what more do I expect?

### In Hospitable Gardena

Best Western Hotel - Gardena was finally reached during the afternoon hours (late) since we got stranded at the airport (Good thing my dancho-san duties were over). Welcome Banquet next tot the hotel was enjoyed by all. The courses came one after the other and to my amazement we ate as much as we could. It was Sum Ono! The hospitality room on the top floor was filled with fresh fruits from California - cherries, plums, peaches, nectarines, you name it. Even left over pineapple from Maui 442nd F was served. Again sushi, tempura, oshiko's and various delicious food items as well as pastries were



served. Naturally the bartenders were busy with Frank Sotello behind it. It was nice meeting Frank after a long period.

Saturday the 20th was "open" day with no formal activities schedule but there was a bus available to the Universal Studio Tour for those interested. Many preferred to go shopping at the various shopping centers adjacent to the Gardena area. I preferred to go to Hollywood Park Race Track since I had never been to one. Roy Kubo, Barney Miyaji and I were taken there by Frank Morimoto of Monrovia. I felt very inaka since I didn't know what to do or Bet. I asked Roy, "Go buy for me," but her said, "you must start to learn to bet." Which horse etc. jockey were all???? We found the name Nakatani as a jockey on the first race. Don't know the Horse record but since he was a Nikeijin rider chose him. To our amazement he came in first!!! Should have seen Roy, Barney, and myself all laughing "What Luck We Had." Subsequent races we again took him as the jockey and to our surprise didn't win any until the last race. For a beginner it was very interesting and we all enjoyed the races.

On Sunday 21st the bus was on tap to take the golfers and the shoppers to The Citadel shopping mall. Also, the Sayonara Buffet was held at the Nisei VFW Hall. The early complimentary breakfast at the hotel was a nice experience. I though I was in Japan with hot rice, raw eggs, miso soup, oshinko, coffee, tea, doughnuts, muffins, etc. which kept ourselves filled for the outing. The tamago gohan tasted very good. It sure lasted during the period

we played golf at the Victoria Golf Course in Carson. Members in our team comprised of Yoshio Shibuya, Barney Miyaji, Shige Higa and myself. I still can recall Shige saying, "What kind course this? Too many puka, puka!" Naturally we were warned that the gophers liked this area and nested underground. As Shige and I rode in our golf cart we could notice the constant bouncing we encountered during the entire 18 holes of golf. It was an experience for Shige and he would appreciate the Pearl Country Club Golf Course; after all, it's his home course since he works there. I must say I must appreciate our one and only muni on Maui, the Waiehu Golf Course, which I thought was not much of a course.

#### Sayonara Banquet at VFW Hall

We were pretty exhausted by now. Good Hawaiian type kau kau since we were told the catering group was former Hawaii people. That evening we did have recognition of guests who spoke, followed by entertainment.

We assembled back at the hospitality room getting autograph of all buddies and wives since it was the last evening we were to be together. The following morning contingents group by group were to be headed back east, west, south, or north - wherever they came from. I stayed back to visit my grandson in Long Beach. Aileen and Tom Higa stayed back to visit brother in Cyprus. All the rest of Mauian left by individual cars to the airport.

I intended to have my R & R at Long Beach but to my surprise my



grandson needed much attention and my R & R was limited except for the period I participated in the Toyota Josem High School Golf Tournament. It was fun playing at the Eldorado Golf Course.

Much appreciation to the mainland buddies who so unselfishly took over this untiring task of chairing this reunion. Naturally I must include their spouses who worked so hard for us. Special thanks to Jack Wakamatsu, author of Silent Warriors, which he donated to 442nd members F chapter. His patience and determination to publish it is most gratifying.

## *Fox Chapter Kauai* *by Yuri Tasaka*

### *Sometimes You Get Lucky!!*

Within a seven day period I got to see Masa Agina, Mamo and Bernice Hiranaka, George Teraoka, George Kawakami twice and Kay Kawakami. And each one in an individual situation!

Masa was at 2809 Pikake when he caught me driving into 2801 Pikake, so he stopped to check and chat. It's been a year since he moved in with his daughter during the construction of his house. Masa was bragging a bit, I think, when he told me that his daughter will miss his cooking and housekeeping when he moves back to Pua Loke. He will be in his "Masa's Mansion" by this printing.

Mamo and Bernice were at their neighbor's memorial service, and I got to sit with them at dinner and exchange notes.

George Teraoka was seen at Aru's Bentoya in Hanamaulu as both of us stopped to buy bento to take home. Let me describe how Small George with his Big Influence places his order. He walks through the doorway, catches the eye of attendant Debbie, then lifts his right hand with the index finger pointing up. Debbie sees him and his finger and quickly proceeds to fill the styrofoam container with rice, noodle, etc. He pays and he leaves, and not a word has been communicated to Debbie during this period! Does Debbie read his mind? Does George eat the same food every week? Is he of so little imagination and variation? Not to worry; Small George looked his usual perky and spunky self trying to convince me that it was his influence and magic touch which told Debbie the combo he wanted!

Big George was seen on Friday at a Democratic Party meeting. Two days later he and Kaye are checking out the Zooper Sale.

I wonder if all of the above-named individuals purposely aimed their paths cross mine the same week Ron Oba's postcard appeared in my mailbox requesting that I continue writing for Kauai. It sure would help if they bumped into me every quarter!



*by Harold  
Fukunaga*

Much of the discussion in the chapter and in the club has been on the 50th Reunion to be held in March 1993. As a result, I checked on the people



responding to the reunion package applications. According to the Pleasant Hawaiian Holiday (tour wholesaler handling the transportation and hotel bookings) records as of July 31st, The following G Co. registrants are planning to attend the reunion:

Mainland registrants: Tets and Dorothy Asato, Jimmy and Alice Doi, Joe Fujimoto, Shiz Fujimoto and Etsuko Fujioka, George and Shizuko Fujita, Dewey and Kiyo Fukui, Roy and Virginia Green, George and Chiye Hayashi, Minoru and Martha Hamada, Taki and Ann Handa and Helen Akiyama, Masaru Ikeda, Richard and Chiyoko Itanaga, Harry Kuga, Mary Kawabata and Sue Nishimura, Frank, Dorothy, and Catherine Kuroda, Tom and Alyce Kokka, Hisashi and Terry Kumagai, Frank Kumagai, Masuo and Betty Kawabe, Kingo and Midy Kotake, Darryl and Carol Jacobs, George and Mary Karatsu, Roy and Fumy Machida, Clement and Rosalia Miyaya, Nobuyo Okubo and Marion Miyaya, Mary Sue Miyaya and Mary Juedy, Jim and Masano Makino, Ken and Mary Matsuda, Noboru and Mary Morio Minoru and Lillian Miyasaki, George and Mary Nakatsu, Arthur, Mrs. G. and Mrs. E. Nishimoto, Takashi, Sachi, and Greg Nakamoto, Yukio Okomoto, William and Esther Oda, Thomas Oda and Yuri Matsushita, Robert, William Jr., and Mark Oda, Carl and Aileen Ogawa, Eddie and Marie Otsuka, Stanley Serikaku, Bob and Mrs. S. Shoda, Roy and Marguerite Sakaguchi, Mitz and Katherine Tagawa, Mrs. D. Sugiura and Mrs. M. Takemura, Fern Shigaki and Mrs. M. Morikawa, Kay Sekino and Aiko Yoshida, Ted and Mrs. Y.

Takenaka, Jenny Yoshida and John and Mrs. M. Fujikawa.

Neighbor Island Registrants: Masato, Dora, and Stephen Fujita, Toshimitsu and Toshiko Kondo, Iwao and Makiko Kojiro, Jack and Janet Kondo, Mitsuki and Mrs. K. Matsunaga, Hajime Miyamoto and Mrs. N. Muraoka, Thomas and Mrs. B. Nakahara, Kaoru and Lillian Noda, Alvin and Mrs. S. Yoshitomi.

Oahu Registrants: Alfred and Helen Amii, Kichio and Mrs. R. Ebisuya, Kenneth and Katherine Fujimoto, Harold and Jane Fukunaga, Satoru Gota, Ray and Pat Handa, Grace Ishii, Robert and Yoshiko Ito, Yoshimasa Kanai, Henry and Mrs. W. Hori, Eddie and Grace Ochiai, Takeshi Onuma, Hiromi and Mrs. G. Suehiro, Eddie and Emily Tamanaha

There will probably be more registrants coming in after July 31st, so the numbers will be increasing as time goes on. There are several Oahu members who will be registering soon or have done so already. For example, Taketo and Judy Kawabata, Fred and Delores Ida, Shigenu and Mrs. Ishizaki, Sekiji Nakayama, Robert and Edna Tanna, Mike and Lillian Shiaishi, and Yoshio and Carol Yoshiwa are among those who will register or have registered after July 31st. After all of the registrations are in, we should have about 150 participants from the mainland, neighbor islands and Oahu attending this reunion.