



BAKER

Bilines



More letters being received from appreciative participants of the 50th reunion:

"With sincere thanks and appreciation, for your hospitality during the RCT 50th Anniversary Reunion. I've enjoyed the many events and meeting long lost buddies, reminiscing the good old days in the army. Stay healthy and see you next reunion. Mahalo, EARL TANAKA, Maui, HI."

"It was sure nice to see you guys and I want to thank you, HIDE OJIMA, LARRY, WALTER, FRED, LESTER, JERRY, BLACKEYE, and all the guys for a swell time. Now I know what they mean when they talk about Hawaiian hospitality. Good to see HIDE OJIMA, RICHARD KINO, JEEP JEEP, and so many more of the boys. Keep in touch, and hope to see you guys in 1995," SAM OGAWA, Riverside, CA. SAM also donated \$25 towards the reunion fund.

"SEIKO and I would like to thank you for the wonderful time we had during the 50th Anniversary Reunion in Hawaii. We enjoyed the banquets at Waikiki Sheraton, Chapter Night at Pagoda, and the hospitality room was best of all. Good to see so many of the army buddies and wives talking about the good old days. Once again, thank you for the hospitality, hope to see you in L.A. in 1995, so stay healthy and mahalo," GEORGE "GASHOUSE" ISHIHARA, Santa Monica, CA.

"ROCKY and LEATRICE, it was a pleasure meeting you. I hope we can see you at the next reunion. I look forward to seeing everyone again. I loved Hawaii (Oahu) as it was my first visit. Now I see why the islands are called the "Island Paradise." Again, thank you for the wonderful hospitality shown to us," LILA TAKAYANAGI, Redondo Beach, CA."

Also letters of appreciation from KELLY NAKAMURA of Maui, HI; FUMIKO and JAMES

HOSHI of San Leandro, CA; MAS MORI of San Jose, CA; and BILL WRIGHT of Cape Coral, FL. BILL donated \$100 towards the reunion fund. **Tsk! Tsk!**

Lt. A. E. BINOTTI had sent a \$100 check to KATS MIHO as donation to Baker Chapter in 1991. KATS discovered the check two years later during the 50th reunion. Fearing the check is no longer valid, he subsequently wrote his own check to cover it. A "lapse of memory." An affliction common to other elderly people.

On May 2, there was an extraordinary event to correct a 48-year historical omission, and to honor the members of the 522nd FA Bn. and the survivors of Dachau. Although several 522nd members received invitations, only HIDE NAKAMINE from Hawaii attended. But HIDE's ballpoint pen dried up, so we'll rely on GEORGE OIYE of Los Altos, CA to give us the highlights of that celebration. Here are the excerpts from his report which he sent to STAN, Chapter President:

"Highlights from the "Bagel and Sushi" event called "The Unlikely Liberators" put on at the Jewish Temple Emanu-el in San Francisco, Sunday, May 3rd, 1993 from 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Last Sunday afternoon and evening the San Francisco Jewish Oral History Project headed up by LANI SILVER and her staff; especially CATHERINE BERNE, director of the event and her sister, SARAH went to a tremendous effort to pull together a huge gala affair as a fundraiser for the Jewish Holocaust Oral History Project in San Francisco and to bring honor to the members of the 552nd FA Bn for having participated in the "liberation of Dachau in 1945." One Holocaust survivor, SOLLY GANOR came Captain BILLY TAYLOR and 522nd FA Bn veterans SHIRO TAKESHITA, JIM KURODA, KIYOSHI OKANO, and GEORGE OIYE spoke to the huge crowds of over 900 people under bright stage lights of the massive auditorium of all the way (900 miles) from Israel to participate in this event and to "bear witness" that Japanese American soldiers liberated him. Mr. and Mrs. F.R. GILBERT from Los Angeles also came to tell how they were liberated from

the main camp at Dachau by Japanese soldiers on April 29, 1945. Dr's. PAUL BENKO and STEINER from Sonoma State College came to tell of their holocaust experiences and to bring honor to their liberators.

the Jewish Temple Emanu-El (second largest temple on the west coast.)”

It was not all accolades and speeches by dignitaries for GEO goes on to say: “Following the many speeches, the entire crowd moved to the second floor ballroom to be entertained by a live band playing 40's big band music and to be treated to an assortment of bagels and sushi, which has become a tradition started in October of 1991. One last noteworthy news item is that the 50th Anniversary of “the liberation of Dachau” and “the end of the war” celebration will be in Los Angeles early in May, 1945. Details will be forthcoming.”

An interesting thing happened to Maj. BILL WRIGHT during the reunion and this corner has asked him to put it on paper. Here it is in-toto:

“I remember the night of the Sayonara Banquet. After I came out of the banquet room, I was approached by a tall, haole woman - a tourist, I think - and she started asking me questions. ‘How come you are here with all these Niseis?’ I replied that I was a member, back in ‘43, as the cadre for the 522nd FA Bn of the 442nd RCT. Then I had to explain the terms ‘cadre’ and ‘RCT.’ Then she asked, ‘Didn’t you feel uncomfortable or out of place as a caucasian with all the Nisei?’ I told her that I was with the unit all through training and combat, over two years, and that I was very happy with my assignment and had the utmost admiration for the Niseis. Their never-say-die and can-do attitude was impressive. They wouldn’t settle for less than a maximum effort. During one of those drives at Camp Shelby to sign up for GI insurance, one battery had everyone except for one man. He didn’t sign because all his relatives were in Japan, and he couldn’t list an enemy alien as beneficiary. He did sign up and made his estate the beneficiary. I also told her that many of our men had relatives who were being held in relocation camps by our govern-

ment while they were loyally serving the same government. It couldn’t have been easy for them, but I never heard them complain. I told her that I was out of the Army for 5 years after the war, finishing law school and practicing law, that I was recalled in 1951 during the Korean War, and that my military career was over 30 years, counting reserve, active duty, and regular army time, and that the absolute highlight of my career was the time I spent in the 522nd. I was fortunate to have been the Executive Officer of such a unit. I think she understood why I feel as I do about those most loyal citizens.”

PIERRE MOULIN, founder of the Freedom Trail and author of U.S. Samurais in Bruyeres was at the clubhouse on July 2 for the book-signing sessions.

June, July Chapter Meetings

Nothing world-shaking happening. STAN KANESHIRO to Alaska visiting his son and caught a 16 lb. octopus. Brought the head home, cooked, sliced, and brought that and miso dip to the Chapter meeting. BOYAN HIGA brought boiled soybeans. They were all spontaneous without planning. And FRED, refreshment chairman, brought O’Doul’s, the non-alcoholic beer. Sometime no planning is better than poor planning. For that he gets a “U” for his annual performance rating.

The August Baker Chapter’s meeting “Ladies Nite Out” outing was combined with Charlie Chapter members and wives on the 27th at FRANCIS TSUZUKI’S Inn of the Sixth Happiness to spend the money and goodies left over from the reunion. HIROMI FUJIWARA, reunion treasurer, found enough surplus money to pay for the 7-course dinner, pupus, drinks, and tips - the whole enchilada. A great turn-out because (1) it was announced as a freebie; (2) the location is good for suburbanites; and (3) people tend to socialize more now because Satan’s waiting and time is getting short. ED ICHIYAMA mc’d the bash and he did a fast-paced impromptu program without the benefit of a PA system. DON SHIMAZU said grace before dinner which was as eloquent as an ordained minister’s. One wonders if he had not missed

his calling. MARY KOSASA was invited so she could pass out the 522's tentative plan for the Bruyeres trip. Someone suggested to ask the French people to hold the 50th anniversary ceremony to be held during summer when it is not cold. Eh? The tail does not wag the dog.

FRED HIRAYAMA who has his nose to the grindstone on this project for the 522nd is going to meeting after meeting with the tour people trying to get things firmed up regarding itineraries, days, and costs. An "attaboy" to FRED. More meetings required - not unlike the state legislature.

And then the 522nd FA Bn reunion will be held in L.A. in 1995. It's two years hence so we're not saying to pack up now but you notice how Father Time does not fly on gossamer wings but on jet wings.

Scorecard by ROCKY

May 17, 93 at HCC

This is a quiz. One guess each with no mulligan. 22 golfers present and guess how DON made the pairings. Wrong - all of you take a two-stroke penalty. Five foursomes and one twosome. After babysitting for six months, STAN is back to less strenuous pursuits and he and TOKU were the twosome. (STAN didn't quit but his job was converted from active status to "stand-by" status). And by a strange coincidence, those two picked up the "combined net" marbles. It's not that they were giving each other 5 foot putts? Naah! Other combos that hit paydirt were DON/JOE O., ROCKY/TOM, and TED/WALTER.

For the individual low net, TOKU was low man making him Ace of the Month. Once again, being nice to your wife has its reward. BIGGIE came in second best because he celebrated one hole too early and took a big fat 12 on the 18th. WALTER and FRANCIS ties for the 3rd spot and depleted the cash box.

Cp's on the par 3's: #4 BOYAN, #8 TED, #13 TOKU and the club kept the money for #17.

The rest of the hackers that didn't win cash didn't go home losing their balls. They each received a golf ball that was donated by BOYAN.

June 7, 93 at HCC

No Ace. Just combined net and individual low net winners. The low-netter is JENSEN all by his lonesome with net 67. He achieved this with several birdies. Not on the easy par 3's he'll have you know but GEO claims guys with 26 handicap are not supposed to make birdies. LARRY takes his share of the second place loot followed by JOE O., WALTER, and JOE U. and then there were none. LARRY and DON, and the combi of JENSEN/STAN teamed up to take a big share of the combined net pie. What remained of the pie, GEO/JOE U. AND TOM/JOE O. ate up.

Cp's on the par 3's: #4 DON, #8 JOE U., #13 Joe U., #17 LARRY.

June 21, 93 at HCC

Qualification day for the Club Championship. 16 qualified with LARRY leading the pack with his net 62 followed by CANNONBALL, DON, and TOKU. These four took individual low net honors in that order, too. Other qualifiers were ROCKY, TEIJI, JOE O., FRANCIS, JOE U., MILTON, GEO, WALTER, BOYAN, BULLDOG, TED, and lastly, TOM. In match play, it matters not if you barely qualified. You can still emerge the club champ by surviving while all others self-destruct.

Cp's on the par 3's: #4 BOYAN, #8 TOKU, #13 CANNONBALL, #17 TEIJI. CANNONBALL is the Ace of the Month by virtue of low man LARRY being a previous Ace winner.

July 19, 93 at HCC

The start of match play for the Club championship. Read 'em and weep. TOM was trounced by LARRY. Joe U. was jostled out of the running by FRANCIS. BOYAN barraged TOKU. WALTER whacked ROCKY with his Samurai clubs. CANNONBALL crushed TED. DON derailed BULLDOG's further participation. TEIJI got a freebie from GEO's no-show.

CANNONBALL, being a previous Ace winner, returned last month's favor by passing off the Ace to WALTER who was tied for low net. BOYAN and BIGGIE split the remainder of the low net loot.

Cp's on the par 3's: #4 TEIJI, #8 eluded the player's balls; #13 BOYAN; #17 TED.

LARRY donated donuts for winning the last tourney. Please do so again - donuts, that is.

August 16, 93 at HCC

Quarterfinal of match play. DON was done in by TEIJI. CANNONBALL rolled over JOE O. FRANCIS had a walk-on because of LARRY's no-show. BOYAN who waltzed over WALTER on a tie-breaker is the fourth man going into the semi-final round. Ace of the Month is Y.T. OOKA, lucky buggah because again, it happened that CANNONBALL is a previous Ace winner.

Cp's on the par 3's: #4 FRANCIS; #8 TED, #13 JOE O.; #17 DON.

September 7, 93 at HCC

An extra tourney thrown in for two-man team and individual low net. The ILN race was hotly contested as the scores indicate. There were only two strokes between first place and fourth place winners. ROCKY, 68; BULLDOG and STAN, 69; TOKU, 70. The two-man combi winners - naturally ROCKY/TOSHI, followed by JOE O. and partner LARRY who sharpened his skills on the mainland tour. DON/WALTER were third and TED/ROY O. shared whatever money was left.

Cp's on the par 3's: #4 DON; #8 DON again. Nobody on #13 and #17. Where were the other hamburgers?

Father time is taking it's toll and golfers are being sidelined by one ailment or another. FLINT YONASHIRO, RICHARD KUBA, and MILTON UCHIGAKIUCHI. The boys are saying for you to get back to the fairways because there's no competition without you guys.

The Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship (By Kats Miho)

The Crown Prince AKIHITO Scholarship was established by members of the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce to commemorate and celebrate the wedding of Crown Prince AKIHITO and Princess MICHIKO.

Since its modest beginning the Crown Prince AKIHITO Scholarship has become the most prestigious scholarship available to the students of the University of Hawaii together with a most generous grant of scholarships to four

grantees, two from Hawaii and two from Japan. Commencing in 1994 the scholarships will be for two year grants and applications are presently being solicited for the 1994 scholarships.

Annually at the end of their first year the grantees have been personally greeted by the then Crown Prince AKIHITO and Princess MICHIKO and this pleasurable, memorable, and unforgettable once in a lifetime experience has been continued by his Majesty Emperor AKIHITO upon his ascension to the throne.

More recently the invitation has been extended to members of the Trustees of the scholarship foundation to join the grantees in Tokyo during their audience with the Emperor and Empress. In spite of their tremendously busy schedule, following the marriage of Crown Prince NARUHIKO and Princess MASAKO, His Majesty Emperor AKIHITO did not wish to deny or delay the current grantees the privilege and opportunity of the Imperial audience which was scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 1993. I got to shake hands and exchange pleasantries with Emperor AKIHITO and Empress MICHIKO because since 1989 I had succeeded my brother, KATSURO, as a Trustee of the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation.

For forty years I had supported and participated in the Japan-Hawaii High School Goodwill and Friendship Baseball Series jointly sponsored by the 442nd Veterans Club, All Japan High School Baseball Federation, and the Asahi Shimbun of Osaka, Japan, and upon TOMMY KIYOSAKI's passing have been asked to take over the chairmanship of the committee. So, this year in the second week of June we got to escort the 1993 Hawaii All-Stars to tour Kyushu. The tour ended on June 23, and I remained in Tokyo for my most memorable experience of my lifetime. An informal and personable visit sitting around a coffee table with only Emperor AKIHITO and Empress MICHIKO, the four scholarship grantees, Professor SHARON MINICHIELLO, an early recipient of the scholarship, Mr. NATSUAKI FUSANO, the Senior Managing Director of Keidanren, Head Chamberlain and Lady in Waiting and myself.

The audience was scheduled for 30 minutes but lasted an hour because both their majesties discussed with each grantee their field of study with pertinent and inquisitive questions. Although I was the first to greet and shake hands with the royal couple and was sitting closest to them, I somehow was the last to be spoken to but upon being referred to as a member of the "Nisei Butai," Her Majesty immediately followed with a remark (that) "...then I saw military service in the European theater." Clear indication that the Empress still remembered the time when the Royal couple met the 442nd Japan tour delegation.

Thereafter, I must confess I do not remember the details of our conversation and to this day I can only remember leaving the cozy, friendly, and intimate drawing room with a warm glow and a full heart together with an unforgettable image of a truly beautiful, sincere, and warm Emperor AKIHITO and Empress MICHIKO.

FA Bn Tour of Europe for Bruyeres 50th Anniversary Celebration

A 522 travel committee has been working on a number of travel plans for this Bruyeres celebration for many weeks and has finally made our tour selection from Resch Tours. This tour will be for 21 days starting October 13th and ending November 2nd. The itinerary will include Dachau, Donauworth, Mertingen, Baumenheim, Berchtesgarden, Germany; Bruyeres, Nice, Menton (Monaco), France; Lucerne, Lugano, Switzerland; and Venice, Florence, Pisa, Rome, Cassino, Herculeana, Pompei, Italy. Other cities will include Livorno and Milan, Italy and some other drive-bys through Italian battlefields. Those expressing interest will be given a detailed itinerary, the cost of the tour, and other specifics. The tour selected is now confirmed at a total cost of \$2,950.00 per person for a motorcoach of 40. The committee is of the opinion that they have gotten the best price from a travel company with much experience handling past 442nd and 100th Infantry tours. Note, the cost for mainlanders would be less. This tour is being made available to all 442nd and 100th veterans, their relatives, and their

friends. If you are interested, please call or write FRED HIRAYAMA and he will have the necessary arrangements made to have you receive complete details on this tour. FRED'S phone number is 808-988-7166 or you can write him c/o 442nd Veterans Club, 933 Wiliwili St., Honolulu HI 96826.



Chapter Dinner

Because of all the hard work done by the George Chapter members and wives during the 50th Reunion in March, the chapter decided to hold a dinner to thank everyone, especially the chapter reunion committee members. This dinner was held at the Cannon Club at Ft. Ruger on June 19, 1993.

We had an excellent turnout, especially since the chapter treasury picked up the tab. Among the participants were the ALFRED AMIIS, KEN FUJIMOTOS, HAROLD FUKUNAGAS, RAYMOND HANDAS, FRED IDAS, ROBERT ITOS, TOSHIMASA KANAI, TAKETO KAWABATAS, JOHN KIKUYAMAS, EDDIE OCHIAIS, TAKESHI ONUMA, MIKE SHIRAIISHIS, HIROMI SUEHIROS, ED TAMANAHAS, SPEED TANNA, BILL YOKOCHIS, YOSHI YOSHIWAS, KICHIO EBISUYAS, HENRY HORIIS, GRACE ISHII, RALPH YEMPUKU, RICHARD AJIFUS and KAZU MOTOBUS.

It was another evening for the boys to reminisce about their war days. It seems like the guys never tire about the rehash of old tales. The food was received with mixed reactions. Some said their prime rib was very good, but there were others who complained about the toughness and dryness of the meat. I gave more than half of mine to AL AMII to take it home for his dog. I noticed that HELEN AMII had quite a collection of partially eaten prime ribs in her "doggie bag" for their dog. I guess their dog was happy, with all the meat.

Other than the mediocre prime rib, the fellas and wives enjoyed the night out, especially the wives, because they didn't have to cook.

Chit Chats

Have you listened to what the guys are talking about at the chapter meetings? It could be Las Vegas trips, golf, fishing, but quite a bit of the discussion is on gardening. SPEED TANNA complains that the soil in his backyard is poor, so he has a hard time growing anything. On the other hand, FRED IDA talks about his "nasubi," lettuce, and "niga gori." He takes pains to get the right kind of soil conditioner and fertilizer to get good results. HENRY HORI is the "Dean" of gardening, according to SPEED. HENRY has vegetable plots, both above and in the ground. He uses wooden lumber to make the vegetable beds and grows all kind of vegetables, from lettuce to cabbages, egg plants, "niga gori," and others. He was caught in a dilemma when we had the water conservation program, because he couldn't water the plants often enough. KAZU MOTOBU says that his wife grows many kinds of vegetables in their backyard. SPEED says that the MOTOBUS grow very tender string beans. We shouldn't forget HAROLD TOKESHI, who has a vegetable plot in Manoa, near the Manoa Park. He works on his vegetables whenever he can, which is about every day. He grows lettuce, cabbages, beans, and other vegetables.

Condolences

The chapter extends our condolences to HITOSHI "JAPAN" MATSUMOTO for the loss of his wife, LEATRICE. It was a shock to hear about her death for many members. Many chapter members and their wives attended the funeral, to pay our last respects. We hope that HITOSHI can find time to join us in the chapter meetings and events.

Mini-Reunion in Las Vegas

As this article goes to press, our G. Co. Mini-Reunion is scheduled for part of the week, starting September 20. One dinner is scheduled during the reunion. No doubt, there will be many opportunities for the guys to reminisce about the war with the guys from the mainland. The Fremont Hotel is the sight of the dinner.

More information will be written about this event in the next bulletin. Those scheduled to attend from Hawaii are: ALFRED & HELEN AMII, KICHIO & ROSE EBISUYA, HAROLD & JANE FUKUNAGA, HENRY HORII, FRED & DOLORES IDA, GRACE ISHII, SHIGEMI & BETTY ISHIZAKI, EDDIE & GRACE OCHIAI, TAKESHI ONUMA, EDDIE & EMILY TAMANAHA, and YOSHI & CAROL YOSHIWA. The list may not be complete, as of this writing. We're all hoping that the reunion will be a success and that the guys and their wives are lucky on the gambling tables and machines.

Recollections by G. Co. Guys: Interview with Speed Tanna and Taketo Kawabata

NOTE: Interviews were held with some of the boys, to determine how much they remembered about their war experiences. They were provided with summaries of the G. Co. daily morning reports, which reflected all of the activities of G. Co. during each day. They included attacks of the company, as well as casualty reports and the returnees from the hospitals after recuperation from battle wounds and injuries.

TAKETO stated that he wasn't able to say much about the first offensive in Italy, because he was hospitalized with measles in Oran, when the rest of the company left Oran to go to Naples, Italy. He said that he rejoined the company a few days before G Co. went on a combat patrol to Pisa. He was shocked by the number of guys left in his platoon. What started out as a large group, there was only a few remaining when he rejoined the platoon. Although he was in the weapons platoon, they suffered quite a number of casualties during the first offensive that 442 was in action.

On the other hand, SPEED TANNA had much to talk about, because he went through the whole campaign without a scratch. The ferocity of the war was impressed on him, when he saw a dead "haole" GI lying on the road with a bullet wound in his head and fresh blood oozing out of the wound. He also saw a jeep with stretchers braced on the two sides with two men lying on them. He didn't know whether they were dead

or wounded, but it shocked him. He was in the machine gun section of the weapons platoon, so he was assigned, along with others to support the rifle platoon in their attacks, therefore, they were in the midst of much of the fire fights experienced by the rifle platoons. He remembers clearly one incident on Hill 140, where G Co. sustained large casualties, either killed or wounded in action over a period of 3 days. He was next to a rifleman, SHIGETO NIIDE, when they were caught in a mortar barrage. Both of them were lying in shallow slit trenches, which gave minimal protection from flying shrapnels. The mortars were fired in groups of 10 rounds. One could hear the firing of these mortar shells, which take a few seconds before exploding on the target. SPEED counted 9 rounds, but NIIDE thought the 10th round had landed already, so he rose from his slit trench to resume digging deeper. The last round landed between his position and SPEED's position. The blast and shrapnel killed NIIDE instantly. SPEED was very remorseful, but had to go on. He stated that the 3 days of fighting on Hill 140 was one of the worst battles for G Co., from the standpoint of casualties. He championed the idea of fair play. When the first campaign was over and the Co. was in a rest area, a limited number of passes were made available to the Co. Although his platoon sergeant wanted to make the selection by use of drawing playing cards, SPEED objected; saying that the guys who were longest on the front lines should be given preference over the guys who went to the hospital and later rejoined the platoon. Strangely, SPEED was selected by his buddies to go to Rome on a 5-day pass.

SPEED and TAKETO had some interesting experiences when the Co. went back on the line near the city of Florence, replacing elements of the British 8th Army. They remember eating some fresh vegetables that they got from civilians who were living in some of the homes near them. Fresh vegetables and fruits were considered a luxury to the front line boys, because they usually ate C or K rations, which are not too appetizing. SPEED recalls one incident vividly

in this area. He was assigned to set up his machine gun, with his assistant and 2 other riflemen across the Arno River to prevent any attack on the Co.'s position on the opposite side of the river. He obeyed the order and spent a day and night across the river from the Co. By the next morning he told his assistant and the 2 riflemen to pack up and return to Co. When they returned to the Co., his platoon sergeant asked him why he had returned without being told to do so. SPEED told him that it was ridiculous for one machine gun and 2 riflemen to try and stop any German attack, while the rest of the Co. was across the river. The platoon sergeant realized his mistake, so he didn't pursue the matter.

SPEED and TAKETO did not like the Northern France campaign in the Vosges Mountains, because of the cold rainy and snowy weather in the heavy forested area. The pine trees were about 30 or 40 feet high, so they cut the sunlight, what little there was. They caused tree bursts of artillery shells, so that shrapnel was raining down, as well as blowing up on the ground. The continuous rain and snow made the a ground muddy and the fox holes became water holes. The rain water would seep through the ground as well as fall from above, so they needed to bail the water after digging the foxholes. Sleeping in the foxholes became an impossibility. Furthermore, the fox holes had to be covered partially with branches from the pine trees to protect the occupants from the tree bursts of the artillery shells. Because of the constant wetness and cold, many of the guys couldn't change their wet socks to dry ones, even though they carried the spare ones inside their shirts to ward off the wetness. As a result, many of the guys ended up with "trench feet" or frostbite and landed in the hospital. No cure was known, except to lie in bed and let nature take its course. Use of sheet over the feet was impossible, because of the tenderness of the feet, including toes. Both TAKETO and SPEED admired the way the 3rd Battalion made its attack to take the town of Bruyeres. They said that the attack was like seeing the movies, with smoke screens being

used to hide the attackers in the open town, so that they were able to capture their sector, without heavy casualties. They remembered the small farmhouse that they occupied before entering Bruyeres. They befriended the French family and were saddened when one of the little girls in the family was wounded by a German artillery shrapnel. Luckily, she was not wounded seriously. They didn't like the darkness at night when they couldn't see beyond a few inches. They moved around in the dark, feeling their way, most of the time. Whenever they had to move at night, they had to hang on to the person in front of them. SPEED thought that he could go back to the hospital and sleep on nice, clean sheets in a warm room, but his frostbite condition was not serious enough to warrant hospitalization, according to the Battalion Aid Station. They encountered snow later in the campaign, but they had to bear it. SPEED and TAKETO remember the time of the Lost Battalion saga and later. They had to provide support for the guys who were assigned to carry rations and ammunition for the 100th Battalion troops who were cut off from the rest of the regiment because of their extended penetration into the enemy lines. They were able to get the necessary rations and ammunition to the 100th.

When they were finally sent to Southern France because of the decimation of the 442 Regimental Combat Team, SPEED and TAKETO rejoiced. The defensive positions on the mountain tops near Sospel were like heaven compared to the rigors of the Vosges Mountains. Occasional passes to Nice were like icing on the cake. SPEED delights in recounting about how their platoon was able to recycle to bones of chicken or turkey the few times that they received chicken or turkey on special occasions such as Christmas and New Year's. They would use the bones after they scraped off the meat at one meal and use the bones for soup in 5 gallon containers and mixing them up with some items they received in the 10 in 1 rations. SPEED also delights in telling how they would save the canned bacon they received in the rations and give them to their platoon guys who went on

pass to Nice. The bacon would be used to barter with the civilians in Nice for some commodity or cash. HAROLD FUKUNAGA always complained that his platoon (1st) never received their bacon ration, because 4th platoon (which was SPEED's) received their rations before the 1st platoon and was removed from the mule train that hauled the rations on the mountain. This accusation was never verified.

SPEED and TAKETO remember very vividly one incident while on the mountain. It was a rescue attempt by the 4th platoon because Lt. SLOAN from the 3rd platoon was wounded following an ambush by the Germans near the village of Olivetta. The rescue contingent from the 4th platoon tripped a wire, which caused a mine explosion. LT. MINORU KURATA and HERBERT KONDA were killed, while KENNETH ARASHIRO, TAKETO KAWABATA, KATSUMORI HIGA, and YOSHIMASA YOSHIWA were wounded. What was ironic was that the 3rd platoon was able to return with the wounded Lt. SLOAN, without any assistance. All of the wounded and killed were carried back to Co.'s rear CP by carrying parties from the various platoons. TAKETO KAWABATA says that he received a million dollar wound, because he was wounded so severely that he had to be evacuated to the continental US after receiving primary treatment in France. He spent many months recovering from the wound before he was deemed recovered. By then, the European War was over.

SPEED remembers the last campaign in Italy, where he had to climb many mountains. He was saddened after his 4th platoon buddies, KATSUMI FUKUSHIMA and KATSUMORI HIGA were killed on April 15, 1945, only a few weeks before the end of the war.

SPEED remembers the post war days in Livorno, where G Co. was on a prisoner of war guard detail. The Co. was quartered in an area right in the city. The guys were sent to prisoner of war compounds on the outskirts of the city and to supply dumps in the city area. As a result, the guys lived in pyramid-like tents, garrison