

the 442nd Veterans Club the past two years.



By RONALD OBA

As the time approaches closer to the 50th Anniversary Reunion of the liberation of Bruyeres/Biffontaine, participants are getting antsy and want to know more of the trip and celebration. We don't blame you as down payment, last minute changes are taking place and cancellation insurance are being bought.

First of all, President HENRY KUNIYUKI has appointed past president RONALD OBA to be the official representative of the 442nd Veterans Club. He will be responsible in presenting two wreathes in Bruyeres - one at the City Square Memorial and the other at the memorial in the forest. Another wreath will be placed at the Biffontaine memorial. He will also present a plaque each to the Maire ALAIN THIRION of Bruyeres and Maire GEORGES HENRY of Biffontaine. These beautifully carved plaques were designed by JACKSON MORISAWA on solid koa wood inscribed by laser: "Honor, Friendship, Camaraderie." Each plaque has the logos of the 442nd Torch and the logos of the respective cities. Two wreaths and the plaques are being donated by Carlson Travel Network - World Class Travel. One wreath is being donated by Al Resch Tours.

In addition, the Kansha Medallions will be presented to Mr. Gerard DESHCASEAUX who with Sandy HOLCK initiated the sister city relationship which continues to today. Mr. DESHCASEAUX was unable to attend our 50th Anniversary. RON will give the 442nd message at the official ceremony.

Maire THIRION writes and presented the following program after agreeing with Maire HENRY that the celebration will take place on October 15, 1994 in Biffontaine first and on October 16,

1994 in Bruyeres.

- 9:30 AM Church service in memory of 442 soldiers
- 10:20 AM Parade on the main street
- 10:30 AM Ceremony in front of the memorial to fallen soldiers of WW I and II
- 11:00 AM Ceremony at 442 Memorial
- 11:30 AM Reception in City Hall.
- 1:00 PM Official Luncheon
- 4-5 PM End of the reunion.

In the absence of coordination to now, Maire THIRION ask in a separate letter that his communications be the official correspondence.

Maire HENRY of Biffontaine presents this tentative program:

- 10:00 AM Religious memorial service
- 11:00 AM Official ceremony at the Borne 6 monument
- 12:00 PM Wine of honor reception
- 4:00 PM Ceremony at American Cemetery.

The citizen of Biffontaine will be hard pressed to host close to 600 veterans and wives at the wine session. We suggested that we donate (on a voluntary basis) a sum of \$20 to help defray the costs of wine and pupus. Mr. BIANCHETTI has informed the mayor of this and he has agreed to move the reception to a larger facility to host the 442nd.

The Los Angeles group informs me that the Kokusai Travel Agency is handling their group.

Bianchetti-Oba Tour

Jean Bianchetti will meet the group in Paris with a bus equipped with a toilet and a bar. They will travel down through Burgundy to taste wines in "Clos Vougtrot" then through Avignon and the Castel of Popes, Aix, Cannes, Nice for three days to visit Peirra Cava, Sospel, E'scarene, Pisa, Massa-Carrarra, Cecina, Grossetto, and Rome for two days, Firenze two days, through San Marco, Lecco, and Como for two days, Lausanne, Gerardmer, reception and dinner by comite D'Accueil; Biffontaine and Bruyeres for four days; excursion in the Vosges; and finally Paris for four days.

Ralph and Grace Chinaka

As of February 11, 1994, the Carlson Travel Network and its affiliate, World Class Travel, Inc. have received deposits from 61 individuals for Tour #1, Western Europe Tour. Confirmed individuals are listed below:

AKAJI, TOYOKO & ESTA (Fox)
 ABE, SADAICHI & AIKO (Fox)
 ABE, ADRIANNE/IORI, KATHLEEN (Fox)
 CHINAKA, RALPH & GRACE (Service)
 GOTO, SHIGERU & JANET (3rd HQ)
 ICHINO, PHILLIP & MARY (Service)
 IKUTA, NOBO & ROSE (Service)
 ISHIKAWA, LAWRENCE & MARIAN (Item)
 JOHIRO, ALICE/UETAKE, MITSUYO (Service)
 KAJIWARA, YUTAKA & TOMOE (Service)
 KAWAMOTO, SHIGEO & TAKEKO (232)
 KAWASAKI, KIYOSHI & RUTH (Service)
 KOIKE, MASARU & MARY (Cannon)
 KUROZAWA, TETSUO & ELEANOR (Howe)
 MATSUDAIRA, JOHN & LILLIAN (King)
 MIYASATO, KIYOSHI & MILDRED (Service)
 MOW, SOON CHAN & JANE
 NAKAO, EDWARD & ROSE (Service)
 ONO, MORIICHI & MARY (Service)
 SAKAMOTO, WALLACE (Service)
 SAIKI, CHARLES & HELEN (Service)
 SAITO, ATSUSHI & YACHIYO (100)
 SAWADA, NORIKO/YANAGIDA, ETHEL
 SHIKASU, SATORU/SETODA, JANE
 SILVA, BRIDGET/LAGADA, ALEXANDRIA
 SUYEOKA, HIROSHI & MARY JANE (King)
 TACHIBANA, HISAYOSHI & SHINOBU (Service)
 TAKATA, MICHIO & SHINAKO (Fox)
 TANABE, MASAMI & MARGARET (Service)
 TSUTSUI, CHIEKO/OKADA, BETTY (Service)
 YAMADA, KIYOJI & FRANCES (Service)

By now you should have received from CTN/World Class Travel a tour package consisting of the following: a receipt for your deposit of \$300 and confirmation that you are booked on Tour #1, a detailed itinerary showing flight schedules, meals, and hotels; a separate listing of hotels with addresses and phone numbers; a CTN Group Insurance Program; and a revised Tour Conditions and General Information sheet. If

you have not received this tour package, call Ms. MIRIAM TURNER immediately at CTN/World Class Travel at 532-0300. From the neighbor islands, call 1-800-693-5333 and from the mainland call 1-800-285-0896.

As a result of a favorable negotiation between CTN/World Class Travel and United Airlines, our flight to Europe is changed from Continental to United. We are now scheduled to fly with United a day earlier departing from Honolulu on October 11, 1994 with an overnight stay in Washington D.C. Flight schedule as follows:

| Date | Air/Flt # | Destination | Depart | Arrive |
|--------|-----------|---------------------------|--------|--------|
| 11 Oct | U/A #190 | Honolulu/Los Angeles | 12:25p | 8:40p |
| 11 Oct | U/A #102 | Los Angeles/Dulles | 10:00p | 5:44a |
| 12 Oct | | Overnight in D.C. | | |
| 13 Oct | U/A #916 | Dulles/Frankfurt | 5:25p | 6:15a |
| ***** | | | | |
| 1 Nov | B/A #499 | Lisbon/London | 9:25a | 11:10a |
| 1 Nov | U/A #931 | London/San Francisco | 2:00p | 4:55p |
| | | (Custom inspection) | | |
| 1 Nov | U/A #941 | San Francisco to Honolulu | 7:00p | 9:15p |

The itinerary from October 14 through October 31 reported in the October-December, 1993 issue of the club Bulletin for Tour #1 remains firm.

The citizens of Biffontaine will host a reception on October 15, 1994 for all veterans, their families, and friends attending the 50th Anniversary reunion. A veterans group of this magnitude will cause undue hardship on Biffontaine, a small hamlet with limited funds. To help defray expenses for the reception, each individual will be assessed \$20. For Tour #1, the assessed amount of \$20 will be reflected on your final billing.

The best of France, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal await you this once in a lifetime journey, so call now..... seats are still available.

Henry Kuniyuki's Cruise

The 442nd Veteran's Club Mediterranean cruise offers some of the legendary sites in all of Southern Europe. On October 15, the cruise tour group will depart Honolulu, arriving in Venice, Italy on October 17. A one night stay at the renowned Danieli Hotel has been arranged to recover from the jet lag. A day tour of Venice is scheduled for October 18. The Island Princess,

a 640-passenger capacity cruise ship of 20,000 gross tons, 553 ft. in length, will be boarded on October 1. The Island Princess is the sister ship of the Pacific Princess, the original star of the Love Boat TV show. The ship has two pools, gym, casino, beauty salon, and many other amenities for an ultimate European vacation. This gracious floating resort is operated by the P & O company and is under British registry. The other ports of call from Venice includes Olympia, Greece via Katakolon; Ephesus (Kusadasi), Turkey; Athens (Piraeus), Greece; Capri/Naples (Sorrento), Italy; Rome via Civitavecchia, Italy; Florence, Pisa via Livorno, Italy; Monte Carlo (Cannes), France; and Barcelona, Spain. Many interesting optional tours will be available at these ports of call. The ship will provide "bento" box lunches for these day tours. Ship passengers will be able to enjoy the glamour and excitement of Las Vegas and Broadway shows, written, choreographed, and costumed exclusively for the Princess Line guests.

For those 442nd veterans and wives interested in participating at the 50th anniversary celebration at Bruyeres and Biffontaine, an optional pre-cruise tour is available at an additional cost of \$650 per person. As of February 19th, the basic Mediterranean cruise tour costs \$3475. The Island Princess, a 50-star vessel, is the perfect way to enjoy the Mediterranean cruise of a lifetime, especially for the super seniors!

European World Travel

European World Travel's 24-day "Bruyeres 50th Anniversary Tour" takes in many of the most interesting places in Europe before the 50th Anniversary celebrations in Bruyeres and Biffontaine, France.

We depart Honolulu on September 28, with United Airlines for Frankfurt, Germany. There we transfer to romantic Heidelberg for our first night in Europe. The next day we visit Donauworth and the infamous concentration camp in Dachau on the way to Munich. The tour continues via Salzburg to imperial Vienna then via Klagenfurt to Venice. After touring Rome we tour the historic sites in Monte Cassino and Anzio.

This is followed by various battle sites en route to Florence. Pisa Nice, Menton, Grenoble, and Lucerne are milestones on our way to the festivities in Bruyeres and Biffontaine. We top off this wonderful tour with a magnificent sites of Paris and London.

Some of the highlights of this trip are: driving along the Romantic Road in Germany; a excursion into the Bavarian Alps with visit to Oberammergau and magical Linderhof Castle; a visit to the noted Oktoberfest in Munich; sightseeing in Salzburg, Vienna, Venice, Rome, Lucerne, Paris, and London; a special drive through illuminated Rome followed by a sumptuous Italian dinner, a meal in a typical French bistro in illuminated Paris, our farewell dinner in London, topped off by a cruise on the river Thames.

The price for this program is \$3,623. It features accommodations with private facilities in first and superior tourist class hotels, 21 breakfasts and 7 dinners. The escort will be TSUKA MURAKAMI. At this time, there is only limited space available on European World Travel's "Bruyeres 50th Anniversary Tour." For details, call ALEX at 732-9430.

2nd Battalion Special

Veterans European Pilgrimage

Sept 29: Noon departure for Los Angeles, transfer to overnight flight to Wash D.C.

Sept 30: AM arrival. Rest in hotel until early evening departure for Rome.

Oct 1: Early AM arrival in Rome. After clearing customs we drive south to visit Nazi and Nettuno American Cemetery. We return to Rome via Cisterna, Lanuvio, Albano. We will be staying in Rome for three nights.

Oct 2: Our excursion to southern Italy takes us to Naples and then to visit the ruins of Pompeii. Then we travel northward to visit or view some of the major battle sights of the 100 Bn up to the famous battle of Monte Cassino. We return to Rome.

Oct 3: Tour of Rome.

Oct 4: Today's journey is to the first "battle-ground" of the 442nd. We drive north through

Civitavecchia, Grosseto, and begin our visits or viewing of the battle sites from about Suverto. Familiar places we will attempt to see are Mt. Belvedere, Sasseta, Castagneto, Monteverdi, and Bibbona. We stop for a brief visit in Cecina where men of the 100th remember marching in review to honor secretary of Stimson. Other familiar places are Hill 140, Castellina, Rosignano, Pieve San Luce, Lorenzano, and Orchiano. Men of 3rd Bn would recall Colle Salvetti from where they were able to see the tower of Pisa. We pass through Leghorn where some members remember being part of the Guards of Honor for review before King George VI of England. After viewing the Tower of Pisa, we continue to Florence.

Oct 5: Free time in the morning in Florence to visit places of interest. Before lunch we depart southward, our first visit is the American Military Cemetery south of Florence, then to the hilltown to San Gimignano with its ancient towers, to Volterra the beautiful hill town renown for its alabaster, then to other famous city of Siena. On our return to Florence we visit the south bank of the Arno, west of Florence where the 2nd and 3rd Bns were positioned in August of 1944.

Oct 6: Our journey takes us to the "battle sites" of the Po Valley campaign. We drive through familiar places such as Prato and Moncatini. If time permits we stop for a brief visit to the "Pinnocchio Park" in Collodi, through Lucca and to Pietrasanta, the jump off point on April 4, 1945. Familiar places we will attempt to visit or view are Azzano, Montignoso, Mt. Frapolita, Massa, Frigido River and stop in Carrara where the kitchen crews were situated during the battle. From Carrara we take the road to the area of Fosdinovo and to Aulla. We will then proceed to Genoa, the home of Columbus.

Oct 7: Our journey today takes us into the post war sector of Northern Italy - Novi Ligure, the hub of activity about April 30, 1945, then to the famous violin city of Cremona where we will visit the Stradivarius Museum. We will also visit Lecco and Como. Our overnight stay is in Milan.

Oct 8: During our excursion to Venice we drive through the beautiful Po Valley section of North-

ern Italy to visit Venice. We return to Milan for the night.

Oct 9: Our last day in Italy takes us to Alessandria, Asti, Alba, and Cuneo- all places familiar to the men of the 2nd Bn. After Cuneo, we drive to Ventimiglia then cross the border into France. We will make brief stops in Menton and Monte Carlo before going to Nice.

Oct 10: Our excursion today is the "battle sites" of the Maritime Alps. We travel through L'Escarene, site of Regt. HQ's, then to Col de Braus familiar to men in the Anti Tank Co. who, as part of the Allied Forces, pushed the enemy out of southern France. Then to Sospel and Pieara, Cava, "home" to the men of the 2nd and 3rd Bns for over three months.

Oct 11: We bid farewell to beautiful Nice and as we head towards Marseilles, our first stop is in "Le Muy" to visit the site of the glider landing of the men of Anti- Tank. We drive through Marseille (time permitting) and then to Avignon and northward to Grenoble or Geneva.

Oct 12: Today's journey takes us to the beautiful alpine village of Murren high above the Lauterbrunnen valley. We drive through many familiar Swiss cities to Interlaken, then to Lauterbrunnen where we board the funicular and train to Murren. If time permits, we can enjoy a optional aerial cable car ride to schilthorn, the site of the famous Piz Gloria revolving restaurant made famous in the James Bond movie.

Oct 13: We descend to Lauterbrunnen and transfer to the other side for a journey to the top of Europe, the Jungfrau. Our cog train ride takes us to another beautiful alpine village, then through the tunnels in the Eiger Mountain to the Jungfrau. This is a wonderful complex of ice sculptures, husky dogs, "Toporama" slide show, mountain restaurant and breathtaking views of the Alps. We descend to Grindelwald where our bus will be waiting to take us to Lucerne.

Oct 14: After our morning walking tour of Lucerne, we head westward through Switzerland and through Basel, then into France through Mulhouse to Colmar. If time permits, on our way to Colmar we will visit specialty museums.

Oct 15: Biffontaine celebration.