

and sea.

I cannot help but reminisce a little on the last 70 years. I am inclined to think that my generation lived through some of the most difficult and interesting periods of this century. My childhood years before starting to school is just a blur, and I can hardly recall anything of significance. Perhaps my life really started to become interesting when I started in kindergarten because I can recall quite a bit of my childhood beginning about this time, and activities were mostly outdoors because we had no modern conveniences such as televisions and electronic games. Our parents were mostly financially poor, and they labored hard because there was no such thing as a 5-day, 40-hour work week. But we never seemed to be short of food on the table, even for a family of seven children. There was always a lot of rice to fill one's belly and there was always some pickled vegetables to go with the rice if there was no meat or fish. Because my father was a hog and poultry farmer we were a bit more fortunate than the city folks; we always had eggs and an occasional old hen or rooster to stew. Then there were the special days when a pig was butchered and roasted. But there were also the days when my parents did not even have a nickel for streetcar fare. The depression years of the 30's were hard on the parents, but we seemed to have been spared the hardship of growing up under such circumstances because of our ignorance of the depression. This was probably because the living condition in Hawaii was so much different from, for example, the dustbowl states and the big cities on the mainland.

Then there was the period of World War II, and the ignominious treatment by the U.S. government of we citizens of Japanese ancestry. But the war was a blessing in disguise as it allowed us to become more active participants in the government of this country after the war, especially in Hawaii. There were other wars, such as the Korean and Vietnam, but the big one was special. For those of us in Hawaii with off-white skin color, World War II was the turning point towards freedom from colonialism. It was also

the period from which we gained greater equality as citizens, and there was a great expansion in professional opportunities. Perhaps one might call it our civil rights movement because of the political gains made by the sons of immigrants after the war.

There have been other great events since 1946. Science and technology made great strides, and I am fortunate that my professional career started at the beginning of this period. I always felt that the greatest gamble that I had taken in my life was to start back to graduate school in 1953, after I had been working for four years in various seemingly promising jobs in Hawaii. There were many nights when I went to bed thinking what I would do if I flunked out of grad school. But, then, I found out that other students were just as dumb as I was, and graduate work in chemistry was not difficult. While a student I had thoughts of coming back to Hawaii to work, but overspecialization disqualified me for the islands in 1957. My single job offer at Westinghouse turned out to be just the right place for me. In retrospect, I am glad that I did not come back to Hawaii to work, for I would not have been able to be involved in such a wide variety of technical problems, and to have been able to see the limited parts of the world that my professional activities allowed.

KAY and I feel very fortunate that we were forced to settle in Pittsburgh because the culture and living environment were so suited to us. Raising five children on a research chemist's salary was not such a burden that we felt deprived of the necessities of comfortable living, and we were able to educate all of the children. And, of course, the building of good friendship over the 34 years from Minnesota to Pittsburgh will be treasured by us.

We now live comfortably in our little house on this two-acre plot of land on this little island of Molokai. Wherever we resided we have always managed to live the best we knew how, and this is no different. Perhaps our present is a little different in that we are now retired with no children to worry over, no mortgage, and we are back where we started from in Hawaii. I suppose

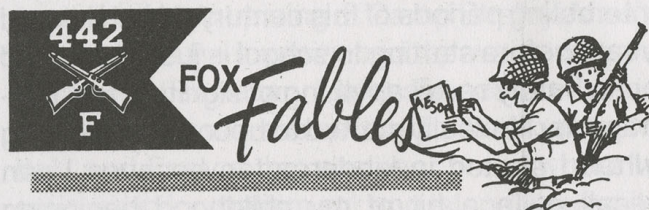
I have come full circle in that I now spend my daily few hours tending to a farm, though small it is. To be a very complete cycle I would need to have a few pigs, chickens, ducks, and dogs running around my yard. But I am happy not having to care for these animals, although a dog is still a possibility. On occasion, as KAY and I sit to eat our supper, we wonder how we fed five children on certain meals that were almost the equivalent of what just the two of us consume. For example, canned beef hash patties were a favorite of our family, and KAY used just one same can of corned beef to make the patties for the seven of us. Now, the same can is used to feed the two of us. We wonder, were we depriving our children of adequate amounts of food? Or are the two of us now eating like pigs? Can't be either be the children grew up healthy and we are not getting fat and lazy and developing hardening of the arteries.

The past seven years here on Molokai have been what we wanted in retirement, whatever the latter word means. It is peaceful here on our hill, and the air is clean and refreshing, and the scenery is always beautiful. Perhaps the only thing wanting is a little more rain than 15 inches a year; would make my farming easier. We are nearly independent of vegetables and fruits, and nearly all of our fish are caught from my little dinghy. For the time being most of pork comes from the mountain, and the occasional deer from the backyard supplies part of our red meat; haven't got to shoot a goat for a couple of years. Friends supply us with fresh eggs quite often, and even receive a tough range chicken now and then. We have our television and VCR, and good music on tape and record without the disturbing coughs as in a concert hall. I even have my guitar to strum. Yep, I highly recommend retirement. It seems that every day is a Saturday or Sunday. Now that I will attain my three score and ten years, will there be another score or more, or less? We shall not dwell on this, and instead live as we have been for many years.

We wish you all the best of seasons greetings, and hope that the past year was a good one, and

that the next one is as good or better.

Mahalo,
CHICK



BY RON OBA

*Blindness hath no sin
Sunshine nor dreams ever came
I feel with my hands*

Seen but not seen

What? No New Year's Resolutions. No new wishes? Then how about some of your pet gripes? I asked these questions to those we haven't seen in a long time. Do you know that we have 43 paid up members on the Fox Directory? I counted approximately 21 of them who either cannot attend our meetings and dinners for one reason or another. Out of sight but you're still on our minds everytime we meet.

WARREN IWANAGA: "My eyes are not any better and I don't think they will improve anymore. I see shadows and on a bright day I go for a walk since I can see better. I used to walk 5 miles in the past but not anymore. I am concerned about my bladder. Old age, you know. Slow leak, he says with a laugh.

My gripe? "I feel left out of everything as the world goes by in my 72 year old body. I'm missing out so much, especially the Fox Chapter activities like the European trip. Can't go *kenbutsu* anymore and I don't want to be hanging on to people.

"Oh, my spirits are still high as long as I'm relatively healthy. I'd like to go on the fun run but there's nobody to go with. I'd like to walk all the way to the Arizona Memorial along the shores of Pearl Harbor and cross the bridges that were Waimalu stream, and the Halawa river where the Arizona Memorial lies.. Besides my daugh-

ter who teaches at Barbers Point school will be moving to Kapolei but she'll still tape the bulletin for me to listen. I like to listen to the Rainbow baseball, football and basketball games."

GRACE AND KATS NAKAMURA: "We're very busy with our grandchildren. We have two everyday. KATS helps you? Oh yes, eleven hours a day. We get tired by evening." KATS misses his part time job taking Japanese tourists to golf courses. Once he stated that for the first time he is enjoying his job driving and entertaining his golf guests who think nothing of buying out the pro shop. Once he praised the Japanese golfers in his fluent Hawaiian-Japanese that they tipped him \$50 for his rambling jokes and praises of the Japanese golfers. That's an accomplishment went you realize that the golfers hadn't gotten off the bus yet. His emphysema prevents any more hard work but he keeps up with his pulmonary rehabilitation. Besides, he sometimes forgot to pick up the golfers at the Hotel and took them occasionally to the wrong golf course. What the heck, all golf courses look alike with 18 holes, 18 fairways, 18 tees and all Japanese golfers look alike. Grace would appreciate your keeping in touch with them.

KIMI GUSUKUMA: KIMI says she is fine and busy with the closing of the Laniolu Good Samaritan Center where she works. She makes frequent visits to Hilo and Alewa Heights to visit family and friends. She says she's in excellent health. No complaints.

HISASHI FUJIYAMA: Who's older? FRANK SOTELO or HISASHI? With hands down, HISASHI is 84 years, "I think," he says. When I called, HISASHI was confined to Queens Hospital from a fall and wasn't discovered for four hours. Of course, no one was at home during the day. He was walking with his cane and lost his balance. At this report, he will be in Queens for 4 more days and PAUL YAMASHITA was planning to take him an *Omimai*. He says to thank everyone and that he's doing well

YOSHITAKA KUWAYE: YOSHITAKA visits his brother at Hale Nani Nursing Home two to three times a week. He and Florence have been

doing this for over 10 years. He handles his brothers V.A pension, Social Security and other income to pay Hale Nani for the differences in co-payment coverages. YOSHITAKA has had six eye operations with two implants and makes weekly visits to his doctors in cardiology, urology, ophthalmologist and internist. Wait, that's not all. He says that he had a by-pass surgery and owns an aneurysm. Actually, he's tougher than I. I don't think I could stand all that and live to tell it with a smile.

He still reminisces about his French friends in Nice especially the Madame and her daughter at the Hotel Helvetique where Fox soldiers made it their personal home. He wishes that he could go with the gang to the 50th reunion and visit Nice, France again.

TSUGIMI MASUDA: TSUGIMI is another walking operating room. He had several surgeries, served as the President of the Aiea Hongwanji for two terms and still takes care of his grandchildren. He visits the Senior Citizens Center at the Aiea Community Center for lunch, companionship and just talk story. Since he stepped down from the presidency he says he can't keep up with the building program to start an Adult Day Care Center and a pre-school building; and the celebration in 1998 of the Abbot Koshin Ohtani. This all means that the members are asked to pledge hundreds of dollars for their long range plans. Few of us realize that when you participate in civic or religious organizations money is to be found in your pockets. How is one to cope with the demands of civic obligations and still keep your head up high as a retiree? Yet the government seems to feel that the Senior Citizens have it made and don't need the COLA.

JEAN OKAMOTO: JEAN says that she is fine and is working once a week at the Ala Moana Gift Load. "I try to fix and dye my hair so I don't go looking so old when I go to visit Vegas and California with my daughter. I also cavort around with my widowed lady friend and go out together. We have fun - go to classes and learn to stencil T-shirts.

OSCAR TSUKAYAMA: Oh, nothing, I just golf, golf, and golf. And watch T.V.

JR. TAJIRO URANAKA: "I go fishing at my friend's beach home in Laie, once a week. Retired and raise orchids.. My health is O.K."

CHIKAKO SHIMADA: CHIKAKO'S admirers wondered where she had disappeared and missed her to no end. She returned from Japan after two months visiting her mother who is 90 years old and promised to visit yearly from now on because of her mother's age. Her answering machine was filled to capacity when she got home. She stated that she almost forgot to come back, then slept for two days and two nights thinking who was somebody's sleeping beauty. In Yokohama it snowed four times. She visited with her four sisters exchanging tall tales about Hawaii. One brother was killed during the WW II. She said that the family reunion was enjoyed by everyone.

FRED OKADA: "I'm still working half a day at the company, otherwise I have nothing to do. YOSHINO and I play with our two grandsons two days a week. I take them to watch soccer and basketball at the playground. Oh, yes, I'm going. My Doctor told me that I can go to Europe with JOE TANAKA'S group as long as I use a cane to take myself. No, not coming to the Shinnen En Kai since I go to bed by 7 PM and although I'm feeling good, have slowed down considerably. Let me know if you need fish for pupus." Told Fred that I'll be calling him for a small piece of filet for sashimi pupus for the Nuuanu Onsen party.

Christmas Party

A party is a party, is a party so said our venerable Stein. A party is not a party, is not a party, is not a party without a Santa Claus, so said our venerable GERTRUDE. Where were you, GEORGE? You can't disappear yet; our 50th anniversary is not over yet. There's still France to go. So the Fox party tried to make fun but the Bingo set was missing. Oh, well, Murphys Law again.

The food was delectable if I know what that means. It was catered and I've always said that the pups before the buffet is always better. Thanks Sharon for the huge cheese dip. We

brought home the other half and went through three boxes of wheat thins to finish it. SHIGE again went to Waimanalu to solicit potted plants for everyone. Thanks to the wives who brought pupus. The children were KRUSTI URANAKA and JACOB COOK. The other children who used to come to our Christmas party were conspicuously missed. They must have outgrown us old farts.

Those who enjoyed were: MICH AND SHINAKO TAKATA, SHIGE AND ROSE HIGA, JUNIOR AND RUTH URANAKA, HANK OYASATO, BARNEY AND PHYLLIS MIYAJI, MAY TAMAGAWA, RICHARD AND DOROTHY MURASHIGE, ROY IRITANI, BILL AND AUDREY TANAKA, JO OKAZAKI, MINEO BAMBINO INUZUKA, ROY KUBO, PAUL YAMASHITA, WARREN AND MITZIE IWANAGA, JOE AND SHARON TANAKA, KIYOSHI AND YUKIE TAKEUCHI, FRANCES and son LANCE YORITA, AND RON AND MICHIO OBA.

Donation - Masao Mikami

MASAO AND MATT'S FAMILY THROUGH AKI SHIMATSU have been receiving numerous condolences. It has moved them so much that in MASAO'S name they have donated \$100 to the Fox treasury. Thank you very much, AKI.

Shinnen Kai

STORM WATCH, STORM ALERT, STORM WARNING. After days of watching the skies and canceling golf matches things started to get dirty. The ground soaked up the water and the yards started to turn green but the ground was muddy with not a dry spot to step on. Casual water was everywhere with no sight of the skies clearing.

We all hate driving at night in the rain and the Shinnen En Kai was reserved for the Friday night at the Nuuanu Onsen. FRED OKADA called to offer slabs of fish and sea salad. RON went to pick up the fish already prepared into poki sizes and flavored. Mrs. OKADA threw in an extra tako poki for us. Fred said he's not coming although he lives across Nuuanu Av-

enue - said he goes to bed at 7 PM. every night. Then what's this I hear that FRED and YOSHINO going to Europe with the JOE TANAKA Tour? Hey, FRED while in France and Italy you do as the Romans do. Anyway we're glad that so many Fox veterans are going as a group. I'm sure you're going to have a hell of a tour.

Those enjoying the pupus and delicious entrees by Nuuanu Onsen were: PAUL AND CLARA, who gave the blessing, YAMASHITA, JR. TAJIRO AND RUTH URANAKA, CHARLIE ABE, GOICHI SUEHIRO, MINEO INUZUKA, KEN AND JOY INUKAI, ROY IRITANI, SHIGE HIGA, JOE AND SHARON TANAKA, BARNEY AND PHYLLIS MIYAJI, GEORGE AND MYRTLE NAKASATO, MICH AND SHINAKO TAKATA, RICHARD AND DOROTHY MURASHIGE, MARY MURANAKA, CHIKAKO SHIMADA, KIYOSHI AND YUKIE TAKEUCHI. HANK OYASATO AND JO OKAZAKI were last minute cancellations due to minor illnesses. Take care and get well for the next meeting. The INUKAIS are back from Japan to spend several months in sunny Hawaii.

Our next golf tournament will be in May. Some of the boys are saying that we should have more tournaments - at least three times per year. Seems like we don't socialize enough nowadays with everyone doing their own things. Maybe the tour to Europe will bring everyone closer after rubbing elbows for 21 days. Either you get closer or divorce. Hopefully camaraderie will prevail.

Maui  **FOX** *Fables*

by BOB MATSUSHITA

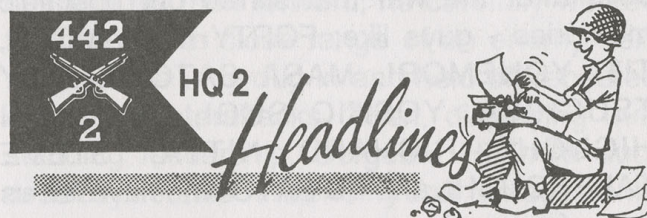
Happy New Year for the Valley Isle Chapter!

Thank you in having our names submitted to Carlson Travel Network and also those group leaders of these tours.

Much talk amongst the veterans of Bruyeres and Biffontaine. With 4 tours itinerary received much discussion here. "Which one are you

taking?" Some are inquiring which tour "F" Chapter is taking? Others are saying I'm taking the 2nd Battalion Special. The issue is "hot." Thus far members making the commitments are: TOSHIO ENDO, MASA HOKAMA, and "IKE" IKEDA. Others do have prior commitments and are not able to attend this eventful reunion the people of the above cities in France are preparing for us. Many are saying this may be the last trip to Europe provided their health continues to be bright for them.

All is fine here and able to greet the year of the "dog." The Maui F Chapter members also wishes to extend a prosperous and very happy new year to all. Please take care of yourselves and health.



by YOSHITO

Christmas 1993

"... 'Twas the week before Christmas, when all through the clubhouse, not a creature was stirring..." How can we? We're just old-timers on Social Security and Medicare and monitoring our cholesterol count! Ah yes, our annual Yuletide shindig had an excellent turnout. Why even TOSHI and RUTH NARIMATSU left the rains in Hilo and flew over to share the spirit of Christmas with us at the 442nd Clubhouse. And as we reported last time, ELAINE (NISHIMURA) TYAU did make our get-together with her sisters NORA KUWAYE & CAROL ODA. Master-minded by KAZU TOMASA 36 1/2 guys and gals showed up for a night long funfest, songfest, and kaukau feet. (The 1/2 person was CHRIS, BILL & MARGE THOMPSON's grandson who has made himself the mascot of our chapter). The buffet table was loaded with goodies including some homemade goodies: tasty pies from MICHELLE TOMASA; a broke-the-mouth rum and Kahlua-

laced cake from NORA KUWAYE; JANE OKEMURA's sweet manju; and exotic "seki-han" by TOSHIKO TANGIAWA. Pupus for the cocktail hour was handled by GRACE HAYAMA with poinsettias from CAROL ODA.

After cocktails, dinner was the all-American buffet announced in our last newsletter. This was followed by a slide show of old black/white photos of a Kauai trip, a Kona trip, a Christmas party of 20 years ago, WWII photos featuring the boys in Camp Shelby, Italy, and France. Why, some of the boys looking at the photos of Camp Shelby days starting scratching - ticks, anyone? And the photos of Ghedi where we searched the German POWs must have awakened our conscience at how some of the souvenirs (or loot) were lifted. But it was the photos of the Hq2ndBn boys after the war that stirred our nostalgic memories - guys like; FORTY MURAMOTO, TITI YONEMORI, MASA SATO, BAGGY TSUCHIYA, YOSHIO SUGI, CHAPLAIN HIGUCHI, RICHARD NITTA, STEVE TAKENOUCHI, and ED SATO who have left us a lot of memories.

The WWII photos showed the handsome Nisei of Hawaii; can't believe them guys in photos are us guys. Some gems were unearthed; one showed the medics conducting inspections related to what would be called "sexually transmitted diseases" today; our 2ndBn officers posing at Scandicci; and our Ghedi tent city. By the way, some of the boys are wondering if TAKASHI OKEMURA paid BILL off since every other slide was a photo of TAKASHI.

Dessert was served after the slide show. Then it was time for the Christmas carols. Led by the karaoke heart-throbs KAZU & LARRY, we all sang the songs with the words flashing on the screen. Oh, the screen, it was a bed sheet which RUTH NARIMATSU borrowed from the Pagoda Hotel; it saved the day! Our soprano section, which was weak last year, was reinforced by FRANCES SATO this time. And SWEENEY SUGAI, in the spirit of Christmas, passed out stylish Parker pens to all. One last word, the gals just looked super in their colorful muu muus.

The New Year

We began our new year with the installation of MORISO TERAOKA as our Chapter president. After visiting our favorite Hong Kong style restaurant for a seven course dinner, all 29 of us retired to the clubhouse for light-hearted refreshments and dessert. MORISO sounded like a typical politician in outlining his platform for the year. In short, our menu included a lot of baloney! LARRY ISHIDA showed ED SASAKI's bouncing video tape of our 50th Reunion Chapter night. It is definitely not recommended for those susceptible to "mal de mer."

This & That

That old rascal JACK TAGAWA had eye surgery last year. This "Angeleno" now reports that his peepers are in fine shape, and we presume, it's back to girl watching on the street corners of L.A. And SALTY & YUKI MIZUTA were visitors to L.A. in the latter part of 1993. Aren't they glad they weren't there for the Quake of '94? MISAKO HAGIWARA mailed their annual Christmas letter and reported on the trip back to their old hometown in Alaska. The occasion was for the reunion of the National Guard unit where PAT purportedly earned his sergeant stripes. No comment on the quality of the Alaskan NCOs! We forgot to report in our last bulletin that in good old Hilo town, TOSHI & RUTH NARIMATSU both were down with the flu in late October. Isn't this carrying the togetherness stuff too far? SWEENEY A.K.A MICHAEL SUGAI showed up at our November meeting after 5 months of absence. He has been busy fixing up his home. Now, he's in hock again, we presume, and there goes his plans for the Bruyeres trip. And STELLA & TOKUO KANESHIGE made their umpteenth trip to Las Vegas. The boys are wondering if the KANESHIGE's live in Vegas and just commute to Hawaii to pick up their retirement checks.

Mrs. HISAKO HIGUCHI has donated all the memorabilia of our late chaplain, HIRO, to the Sons and Daughters for the new "442nd RCT Archives & Learning Center!" Lots of interesting and historic items must be stashed away among his belongings. And speaking of donations, our

thanks to: PAT NAKAGAWA, NOBU TOGIOKA, ELAINE TYAU, JOYCE MASUNAGA, HISAKO HIGUCHI, FRANCES SATO, SUS YAMAMOTO & SALTY MIZUTA for the generosity to our Chapter.

Last November and this past January, we sent out our Hq2ndBn newsletter to those not on the Mother Club's mailing list asking if they want to keep in touch. So far, we heard from TAMIO OTSU, TOM ARIMOTO, PAT NAKAGAWA, JACK TAGAWA, and WALLY UEKI. NOBU TOGIOKA decided to become an associate member.

SUS YAMAMOTO was back in town in January on a sad mission; he came for the funeral service of his younger brother. And we offer our condolences to CAROL ODA on the loss of her husband, STANLEY, in February. He was founder of the Garden House on Beretania Street.

February meeting

About 10 die-hards showed up despite the rainy, dark night. We decided on a bento lunch following the morning 442nd Memorial Service at Punchbowl on March 26. Each chapter will place flags at the final resting places of their departed comrades-in-arms. That evening, the annual banquet follows at the Ilikai Hotel. Life membership cards were distributed.

I Can Never Forget

In the last issue of the Go For Broke Bulletin, H Company reported the passing of TAKAO HEDANI. It is with more than a mere passing notice that we look upon this. We join in mourning with the H Company members. For many of us in Hq2nd, H Company has a special place in our hearts. It was in the hills of Bruyeres that our Hq2nd carrying party transporting supplies to E and G companies, was ambushed by the Tedeschis. The group included TOSHI NARIMATSU, TAKASHI OKEMURA, RALPH INOSHITA, SUNAO KIDO, MASA SATO, NOBORU OKAMURA, RICHARD NAKAMURA and possibly others. The supply party had left most of their weapons behind to increase their

carrying loads and were sitting ducks for the Jerries! TOSHI, being S/Sgt. was leading this group and has never forgotten how our C.O., 1st Lt. CHARLES FARNUM rushed to the aid of his men only to be brought down by a burst from a burp gun. Then, H Company came on the scene and took on the Jerries with a savage attack. S/Sgt. ROBERT KURODA used FARNUM's Tommy gun to earn his DSC the hard way, posthumously. The record also states that S/Sgt. TAKAO HEDANI won a Bronze Star during this action: "For heroic achievement in action on October 20, 1944, near Bruyeres, France. During an enemy attack, Sergeant HEDANI and his guard of men were ordered to go to the aid of a carrying party who were pinned down by heavy hostile machine gun and machine pistol fire. Leading his men forward, he carefully worked them to within close range of an enemy held ridge where they dug in and held off repeated enemy counterattacks. Then, displaying outstanding leadership, Sergeant HEDANI successfully detained the enemy until replacements arrived; then led an assault which effectively routed the hostile forces." TAKAO later received a battlefield commission. He would end the war as 1st Lt. It is interesting to note that FARNUM, C.O. of Hq2nd, was an officer with H Company during the Arno River campaign in Italy before taking over Hq2nd during the Vosges Mountains campaign. The hands of fate move in inexplicable ways.

WW II Revisited

Did you know that the 2nd Battalion of the 442nd Combat Team lasted 3 years? According to the historical report of the unit, the 2nd Bn was de-activated on February 10, 1946, per General Orders No. 14. Records indicate that we were activated February 1, 1943: the cadre was set up and the call for volunteers went out on the mainland and in Hawaii. After 36 months and 10 days, the 2nd battalion with only 464 officers and men left, was absorbed into the remaining units of the 442nd. Who were we? We were F Company who first engaged the enemy that day on June 26, 1944, and suffered the first casualties: