

ERNI UNO, DAVID KAIURA, SAM FURUYA, and CHARLES WATANABE. Not much to discuss so spent a couple of hours just sipping liquid refreshments and enjoying a very ono cake, compliments of ERNI (of GRACIE?) SHIGERU would have enjoyed this part of the evening. Discussing the frequency of hurricane watch/warning lately in Hawaii, especially after Hurricane Iniki which devastated Kauai, HARRY mentioned that living in San Jose, they are more concerned with destruction from an earthquake. Not much consolation there. Conversation continued at McDonald's over "piping hot" coffee for elderly, and I do mean hot coffee, but I didn't put it between my legs.

### Travel Notes

FRANCES TSUBATA is back from a China trip; ROBERT & EDNA KUNIYUKI have enjoyed an Alaskan trip; TAKESHI & IRENE are in Maryland enjoying their grandchildren, soon to become teenagers. They also managed a trip to New Zealand and Australia this summer. Heard the KUWATAS are planning a trip to Europe; SASAIS and GOTOS are gearing up for the upcoming 442nd 50th Anniversary European Reunion this October.

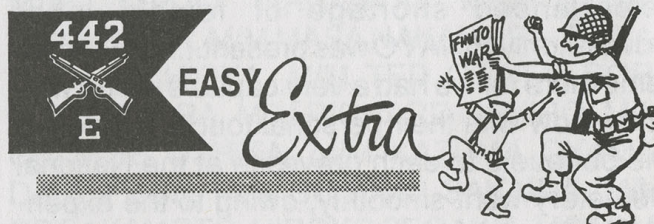
### Other Notes

SAM & M ICHI SASAI became grandparents for the third time. Son ALAN and his wife LUCY had been eagerly awaiting the birth of their son who finally arrived on July 11, weighing 7 lb. 11 oz. Understand even his birth was short of registering a 7:11 arrival time. Is this foretelling what is ahead for little JASON YUTAKA? Congratulations to the SASAIS on this happy event.

SHIG MIYAMOTO writes: "I am pleased to report that MITCH was finally posthumously recognized as the designer of the 442nd shoulder patch at the 34th installation of officers of the 100/442nd veterans association of Los Angeles. Regarding the mini-reunion, will be very interested in attending, wherever and whenever.

The Episcopal Church in Hawaii, on August 14, invited family and friends to an Ordination for

ERNEST UNO to be a Deacon. The Ordination was held at St. Timothy's in Aiea. It was an eye-opening experience for most of the Chapter members and wives to be part of such an elaborate Episcopalian ordination. Our very best to ERNI as he faces new challenges in the role of a deacon. (*Editor's note: see cover photo*)



### BY TERUO IHARA

Although it is not the best of circumstances for friends to get together, everybody shows up at memorial services when the service is for one of our members or the spouses of members. Such was the case last week when final services were held at Hosoi for BETTY YONEDA, spouse of NOBU YONEDA. Two Easy members who never attend monthly meetings of the Chapter of late, HIROSHI OKADA and RAYMOND SHIROMA came to the service although in HIROSHI's case, he was driven to the service by his son. HIROSHI is blind in one eye and had glaucoma and is not anxious to drive at night. RAYMOND also has similar problems about driving much as night. He's proudest of his grandchildren living on the mainland, one of whom is a genius.

The doctors at Kuakini Hospital still do not know what really caused the passing of the late BETTY YONEDA. An autopsy was conducted and tissues have been sent to the mainland for study. NOBU will know in two weeks as to what really felled his beloved wife. Easy Chapter extends its deepest sympathies and condolences to NOBU and his family.

The late BETTY and NOBU were blessed with two daughters, but only one survives BETTY. From their two daughters BETTY is survived by several grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Two other Easy Company veterans passed away within the last two months. They are SUKEYOSHI KUSHI, Platoon Leader, 2nd platoon of Maui and WALLACE YAMAGATA, 4th Platoon and 100th replacement from Ninole, Hawaii. The late Mr. KUSHI was an aspiring MD but the wounds he received on Hill 140 when his platoon reached their objective sans the depleted first platoon, the other frontal attack platoon, which spent its time in the bottom of the draw that separated Easy's attack objective and hill before Hill 140. The Germans were hiding behind Hill 140 during the daylight hours especially as they expected a frontal attack. When we did attack we were not faced with direct frontal rifle as much as long range 88 artillery fire, mortar barrages and small armed rifle from a hill on our left rear. Having reached their objective on Hill 140, the Platoon was waiting for further orders when they were surprised by the Germans returning to their front line positions. The writer faced this same situation the next morning when he decided to lead the first platoon to the farm house on Hill 140, the original objective of the day before.

He was able to send two scouts to the farm house without any opposition. The two, TADASHI FURUIKE and MASAOKI FUJIKAWA went up the second floor of the building where they had a full view of the German positions slightly arrears of where they were. From their lofty position they started picking off the Germans facing the 2nd Battalion advance causing a rout of the defenses. Both FURUIKE and FUJIKAWA were awarded Silver Stars for their heroism that cleared the Battalion's advance beyond Hill 140.

Now back to the aging 442nd RCT. As the men of the 442nd age with the youngest of the volunteers being about age 70, we can expect to see more and more of our buddies getting felled by old age and deteriorating physical problems. To live a long life we must watch what we eat and eat in moderation. In fact at our age we must do everything in moderation, exercise regularly and generally live a slower paced life.

This writer is now regularly taking Network Chiropractic treatment two to three times a week,

He is able to do this because his son, MICHAEL, has returned to open up the practice of Network Chiropractic at the Piikoi Building, mauka and Diamond Head corner of Kapiolani and Piikoi sharing the offices of DR. ROBERT TODA. Network Chiropractic deals with the points of the body, primarily with the spinal cord which all body functions are based. It is primarily a means to get your body back into harmony with the emotional, spiritual, mental, and physical aspects which are inter-related and affect each other. Coincidentally or not, the writer's last physical was the best he ever had, if that means anything. If you need more information, contact this writer. What the treatments have given me is a more relaxed perspective of everything in general.

The spouses of Easy Chapter members are becoming increasingly vocal especially in regard to the spouses' war experiences. The Chapter is attempting to have a oral history project done about these experiences. Additionally, members' spouses have been encouraged to put their thoughts in writing for publication in this Bulletin. One of the more active spouse of a veteran, a retired elementary school teacher, has consented to write about trips she and her husband have taken. The following report "Easy Company Mini-Reunion Cruise and Tour" is the second of her reports and details her feelings about the war and general observations of a spouse. The report, written by CHIYONO TAKEMOTO, wife of WACHI TAKEMOTO, follow.

"Would you be interested in a summer visitation to Bruyeres, before October's formal 50th Anniversary celebration?" This question posed to Easy Company veterans throughout the country by travel magnate LAWSON SAKAI of San Jose and TSUNE TAKEMOTO of Hilo Hawaii, the co-leaders of the tour. The summer visit, they said, would avoid the chilly October weather experienced in earlier trips as well as avoid the large crowd foreseen in October thus giving the group a better opportunity for a more personal relationship with the people of Bruyeres.

Ever since reading the book I Can Never Forget by THELMA CHANG, my desire to visit Bruyeres and Biffontaine was like making a pilgrimage. Because the tour would be E Co. sponsored, both WACHI and I felt this was an opportune time to go. Besides, it would be an ideal time for WACHI (no interference with HOS Orchid Show). Our journey to Bruyeres would be preceded by a Mediterranean cruise.

The day finally arrived for our departure, June 29, 1994. We flew into San Francisco and rested overnight there to prepare ourselves for a long flight to Heathrow Airport in London and to Venice, Italy. While flying over the Arctic Circle, we experienced the "land of the midnight sun." No darkness throughout the flight!

### **Mediterranean Cruise**

Fifty-one adventurous voyagers embarked on the Royal Odyssey in Venice on July 1, 1994. It was a 12-day cruise to the Greek Isles and back to Genoa, Italy. Easy members making the cruise and those joining us later in Epinal (no cruise) were CATHERINE CROWLEY and daughter ANN SCHEIDLER, SHIGEO IWAMASA, GEORGE and daughter MEGANNE NUNOTANI, JUNO & MAY KANESHIGE, MILDRED NAKATA, JOU & KAYE OKUTSU, LAWSON & MINEKO SAKAI, GEORGE & BESS SAKATO, WALT & EMI SUGASAWARA, NOBE & LILLY TAKASHIMA, TSUNE & YAE TAKEMOTO, son RUSSELL & spouse BEVERLY, grandsons GARRETT & JEFFREY, WAICHI & CHIYONO TAKEMOTO, JOHN & YO TOGASHI, LILLIE URASAKI, and BEN & HISA YAMANAKA. Also on the tour were several 232 Engineer vets and spouses as well as a few others who just joined the tour and cruise for a chance to visit Bruyeres. The Captain and staff of the ship were Greeks and the ship sailed for the islands of Greece and Athens. This added to the wonderful climate aboard ship with "Greek Night" activities with Greek food and songs and dances and "OPA" was the most popular expression on board the ship.

One of the most rewarding experience on the cruise was the sharing of the 442nd's story and

other Nisei involvement of WWII. It all began with the costume parade staged for the evening's entertainment. The night was a "The Nisei and 442nd RCT Night" and since it was right around the 4th of July, Independence Day, the Easy group decided on a patriotic theme. LAWSON SAKAI with his long graying hair played the role of Uncle Sam. With the material found in the costume corner of the lounge Mineko did a fantastic creation of "Uncle Sam." The rest of the group was dressed in "uniform;" white shirts and caps with the 442nd RCT insignia which was a gift of the Travel Agency. With the ship's band playing "Yankee Doodle" the group marched around the lounge and ended up on stage. The audience joined in the singing of "God Bless America." It was, indeed, a touching scene. There were many favorable comments from the passengers and the group's performance raised their curiosity.

This curiosity led LAWSON and the boys to set up a panel discussion on the 442nd RCT as well as other involvement of the Nisei in WWII the next day. There was standing room only in the theater as LAWSON, TSUNE, MAS TSUDA, JOHN TOGASHI, and GEORGE SAKATO went on stage as the panelists. CHIYONO apologizes if she left anyone off the panel. MARTIN SAPP, the reporter who wrote the stories of Easy Company at the Oakland mini-reunion joined the Easy tour because of his experiences gained by writing about Easy Company. He was on stage to interview the men. The boys did so well in presenting their experiences that question after question came from the audience. It was an emotional ending when MARTIN thanked the men for their heroic deeds in liberating not only the Italians and French but the Jews also. Were it not for their "Go For Broke" efforts, he would not be here today, himself being a Jew.

There were many shore trips to the various port cities and towns. Two of the outstanding Greek stops were Olympia, the home of the modern-day Olympic Games, and Athens, the capital of Greece and the Acropolis. Both of these historical ruins required much walking under the hot Grecian sky. It gave us the chance

to relive the "glory that was Greece" as we viewed the Parthenon and many, many, statues. Lots of Gods and Goddesses to recall. We also got to walk along the streets of Pompeii, south of Naples in Italy.

The cruise ended in a lighter vein as we headed for France. Many were looking forward to this day, riding along the French Riviera and on to Monte Carlo. After a brief stop at the city of Monaco, the bus headed for the casino. Our cruise finally came to an end in Genoa after 12 days of good food, wonderful fellowship, and losses and winnings at the casino and bingo games.

### **Bruyeres and Biffontaine**

An all day bus ride through the most beautiful spots of Italy, Switzerland, and France finally got us to Epinal in the evening of July 13. The bus, owned by PIERRE MOULIN, was waiting for us in Genoa with the most amiable and competent bus driver who spoke fluent English. We drove along green mountains, many tunnels and along lakes. One tunnel, we were told, is 15 miles long! Since Bruyeres has no hotel large enough to accommodate the Easy group, the group stayed in Epinal, 10 miles away. Here the group was joined by those who chose not to take the cruise; they arrived from Paris.

Early the next morning the group headed for Bruyeres and the very first thing that caught our eyes was a banner across the street: "Welcome and Aloha to the 100th and 442nd Veterans!" What a heart-warming welcome! Mayor ALAIN THIRION, PIERRE MOULIN, SERGE CARLESSO, and others from the town were there to greet their American friends. Soon the group headed for the monument erected in the forest of the Vosges Mountains. It had rained earlier and the sky was heavily overcast and threatening to shower any moment.

This was a perfect setting to recall the cold and damp October days when the boys fought so fiercely in this very place. "Oh my trench feet!" someone spoke out. After a brief memorial service, the group headed back to town. July 14 was a big day as France was celebrating Bastille

Day, their equivalent to our Independence Day. Bruyeres had its own parade with the band leading the town officials and the Easy veterans who were the guests of honor. The women of the Easy group in their uniforms also marched along side of the townspeople. The slight rain did not dampen the spirits of the participants. After the parade, the Easy group was invited to the Mayor's reception in the Town Hall. A woman, speaking fluent English said, "You don't drink orange juice. You drink red wine, not white and it makes you warm." Indeed it did. The exciting day came to an end with a visit to the American Cemetery in Epinal. The setting gives one a peaceful, tranquil feeling as he views the rows of white marble crosses on both sides of the central pathway that overlooks the green hills.

What a disappointment! There was no ride the next morning on a French Army truck as was planned. The road had been improved so that the bus was able to go all the way to the 36th Division memorial in the mountains above Biffontaine. Two Easy widows, CATHERINE CROWLEY and MILDRED NAKATA, each placed a wreath on the tomb. After a short memorial service, the group walked around the area and listened to the stories told by the veterans who fought in this area. PIERRE, who had done extensive research and wrote a book entitled US Samurais in Bruyeres, told his stories also.

Back to Bruyeres to the Town Hall. This noon, the Easy group hosted a farewell banquet for eighty or more of the citizens of Bruyeres, Biffontaine, and Epinal. Each table had one or more English speaking guests so conversation was live. NORMAN and MABEL HASHISAKA, owners of Kauai Kookie and all member of the Easy group, distributed packages of macadamia cookies to all, a great delight for the French guests. At this time TSUNE and GEORGE SAKATO of Denver were again recognized for having been awarded Distinguished Service Crosses for valor in action of the field of battle. A short entertainment, Hawaiian style, followed, and then it was time to say good-bye. It was a truly memorable visit.

## Normandy Coast

After two full days in Bruyeres, we left for Paris. There were many pastoral and farm scenes all along the way; lots of cornfields, sunflower patches, and freshly harvested grain fields. With a long lunch period and a couple of stops along the way, we finally drove into Paris and were greeted by the Eiffel Tower in full illumination. The next morning, PIERRE and SERGE led the Easy group on an all-day trip to the Normandy Coast. Because of the great publicity of the 50th Anniversary of the Normandy Coast invasion, there was much to look forward to this visit. As the bus got closer to Caen, flags of Great Britain, Canada and the U.S. could be seen in the distance. Signs saying, "Welcome to our Liberators" were seen here and there. It was an unforgettable and emotional experience as we witnessed the story of the landing and the attack from the hills by the German defenders. The group visited Omaha Beach and even put their feet into the cold waters of the beach. There were some brave souls swimming in the cold and choppy water.

CHIYONO says, "I'm glad I took this trip to France. I have greater appreciation for the sacrifices made by all you fellows. It is possible to visualize and feel the cold and wet days and nights, the digging of foxholes, the trench feet, and buddies dying in your arms. This is a story, as PIERRE said, "you boys must tell it to your children." Who else will? The people of Bruyeres and Biffontaine remember and love you."

Thank you CHIYONO, for the interesting and detailed report on Easy's mini-reunion in Bruyeres and the Mediterranean cruise. To conclude this report, a few announcements and acknowledgments. Easy's Christmas party will be at Zippy's Iwilei Ballroom. September's meeting will be a dinner meeting and speaker for the evening will be GAIL MIYASAKI, the recently hired honcho of the Public Television's Channel 11, Hawaii Public Television. And the acknowledgment is for GLENN NAKASONE, who again brought bags of eggplants and hyotan for distribution for the members attending the August Chapter meeting.



by BRUNO YAMADA

### AJA Council Golf

Twenty-four golfers from the 442nd Veterans Club will be entered in this year's AJA Veterans Council Golf Tournament which will be played at the plush Navy-Marine Golf Course on September 9, 1994 (Results will appear in the next issue.)

442 members entered are: STAN YAMAMOTO, NEKAMATOI, DICKUYEMURA, MINORU TAMASHIRO, YOSHIO HIGA, BOB HIRAYAMA, RONALDOBA, BRUNO YAMADA, HARRY TOKUSHIGE, BILL NAGANUMA, TAD KUNISHIGE, BOB NAGATA, and KATSIBARA. Also, NORMAN SATO, SATORU GOTA, BERT NISHIMURA, TAKETO KAWABATA, TOM TANAKA, BILL TANAKA, TAD TAMAGAWA, MICH TAKATA, JOE TANAKA, ROY IRITANI, TAKASHI MATSUDA, OSCAR MIYASHIRO, and HENRY CHAGAMI.

### Turkey Shoot

Friday, November 18 will be Turkey Shoot time at the Mililani Golf Course. We have been allotted 14 tee times (56 players) so sign up early and have an ID with you to qualify for the senior citizen's rate.

### Kauai Tourney

Two day of golfing are being arranged by YUKI ARASHIRO and SAB ITAKURA at the Wailua and Lagoon Golf Courses on March 20 - 21, 1995. Over fifty golfers really had a ball last year. Housing and transportation arrangement will be handled by Travel Adventures.

### 51st Anniversary

Leilehua Golf Course will to be the sight for the

442nd 52st Anniversary Golf Tournament on March 24, 1995. Last year's tournament which was postponed from March 24 to May 31 due to violent weather, was moved to Kalakaua and won by BERT NISHIMURA who fired a net 62. More information on this tournament in next issue.



by EDDIE TAMANAHA

On June 2, 1994, 19 members showed up at the Olomana Golf Links. The weather was clear and sunny, the course in very good condition. The greens were in excellent shape and fast. Seems everyone liked the conditions as NEKA MATOI, BULL NAMBA, and TEIJI UEHARA all came in with net 67s to tie for first. One shot back with 68s were RON OBA and HERB YANAMURA tied for fourth. Closest to the pin on the par 3s were: #2 TERRY IHARA, #8 KEN KAWATE, #11 RUSTY HONDA, and #17 GEORGE IKINAGA.

**June 13, 1994**, 23 members gathered at the Honolulu Country Club. It was partly cloudy with a few drizzles. The course was in good shape with the greens fast. HARRY TOKUSHIGE was the best as he turned in a net 66 to take top honors. RON OBA came in second one shot back with a 67. Another shot back with a net 68 was TOM MAYEDA for third place. Tied for fourth were MINORU TAMASHIRO and KEN KAWATE with 71s. Closest to the hole were: #4 NEKA MATOI, #\* MINORU TAMASHIRO, #13 none, #17 CHARLEY IGARASHI.

**June 27, 1994**, 22 golfers assembled at Honolulu Country Club on a slightly overcast morning.

The day turned out to be nice and clear most of the day with a light drizzle once. The course was in excellent condition and so were the greens. NEKA MATOI and ROCKY TANNA were the best this day turning in net 68s to tie for first. KEN KAWATE was third with a 70, two shots back. Fourth was RON OBA with a 71. TAD KUNISHIGE, HICHI MATSUMOTO, and BRUNO YAMADA were tied for fifth with 73s. Closest to the pin were: #4 TAD KUNISHIGE, #8 NEKA MATOI, #13 BULL NAMBA, and #17 TAD KUNISHIGE. YOSHI HIGA took over the tournament chairmanship due to STAN YAMAMOTO, the chairman, had to lay off golf because of a shoulder injury. Hope STAN gets well real soon. Mahalo to tournament helpers NEKA MATOI, DICK UYEMURA, and MINORU TAMASHIRO.

**July 11, 1994**, 27 members showed up at Honolulu Country Club. The weather was clear, hot, and windy at times. The course was in good condition with some rough deep and heavy. The greens were bumpy after aeration. The conditions didn't faze LEFTY SUGIHARA as he turned in a net 68 to place first. One shot back with a 69 was RON OBA for second. Another shot back was ED TAMANAHA for third with a 70. With 72s were MASAMI DOI, BOBBY HIRAYAMA, CHARLEY IGARASHI, BULL NAMBA, and JIRO SHIMAMURA to tie for fourth. Closest to the hole were #4 AKABO TAKASAKI, #8 AKABO TAKASAKI, #13 MASAMI DOI, and #17 no one stayed on the green - too long or too short.

**July 25, 1994**, 22 members showed up on a clear morning at the Honolulu Country Club. The fairways and rough didn't have too much roll so high shorts to be made. LARRY NAKAHARA didn't mind these conditions as he turned in the best score of 69 to take first. Right back of him were three guys who tied for second with 70s - NEKA MATOI, DICK UYEMURA, and YOSHI HIGA. BOBBY HIRAYAMA was fifth with a net 71. Closest to the pin were: #4 NEKA MATOI, #8 none, #13 RUSTY HONDA, and #17 GEORGE IKINAGA.