

missed it.

Nomination Committee announced the slate of officers for 1995:

Pres. JOE OBAYASHI

Vice Pres. - BOYAN HIGA

Secretary - HIDEO NAKAMINE (with option to decline due to his heavy workload as Chairman of Dachau Research Committee)

Treas. - BIGGIE NAKAKURA

No complaints about incumbents being in office again.

Old Business: Following are appointed personnel and their duties during the 52nd Anniversary events: Flags for graves: FRED HIRAYAMA, Chmn. and ROCKY TANNA to assist. Leis for widows: JOE OBAYASHI, Coordinator.

Anniversary Banquet ticket is \$25.00 with each Chapter responsible for it's sale.

There will be a refund of \$15.00 for those who purchased the overseas cap. Almost enough to play 4 rounds at Ala Wai. 442nd Turkey Shoot on 18 Nov. If you didn't sign up, no matter. It's too late now.

### 16 Nov. 94 Chapter Meeting

15 present at this meeting. Minutes of previous meeting approved as read. Treasurer BIGGIE says "When I start to worry, then you worry." ROCKY announced that after the next tournament, the 19th hole will be at the Inn of the Sixth Happiness. Club to pick up the tab thanks to TOKU TANAKA who donated \$200.00 for this bash. The Slate for Chapt. Officers has been approved except the secretary's position. There will be another election for that office. Anyone who can read their own writing is eligible. The committee for the Camp Shelby Monument dedication has a tentative schedule which is for 15 Jun. 95 through 18 Jun. 95. The flyer read, "The 442nd RCT will have come full force from start to final return to its birthplace. We will never again have a reunion at Camp Shelby. Let us 'Go For Broke' for this homecoming reunion." The committee requests large participation. Sign up with Corliss Travel.

SHIRLEY IGARASHI, member of S & D went into their fund-raising spiel. A book of coupons

which lists everything from soup to nuts. Cost \$38 with a carrying bag thrown in.

Panda Travel who is handling next year's trip to LAX and Las Vegas says if you're going to LAX and not to Las Vegas, then you're on your own. The four days and nights at Four Queens Hotel is \$522.00 for single and \$503.00 dbl.

As for the hotel reservations you have made in LAX, or if you want to leave earlier than the group, let Chmn. STAN know. More info will be forthcoming, e.g. golf in Vegas, etc.

### Japan Goodwill Tour by NEIL NAGAREDA

NEIL NAGAREDA was asked by this corner to report on his peace mission to Japan to honor MR. CHIUNE SENPO SUGIHARA and family of Yaotsu (birthplace), Japan. He has complied most profoundly.

"Our welcome at Narita airport was hectic with several TV news coverage. A young, kimono-clad girl presented a bouquet of flowers after which we were rushed off to B & G Hotel to prepare for the evening's banquet - a coat and tie affair which we men dread so much. However, it was worth the trouble to honor Mrs. YUKIKO SUGIHARA and the dignitaries of Tokyo.

CHIUNE SENPO SUGIHARA monument in Yaotsu is magnificent. Takes one's breath away. Enough cannot be said about Mr. CHIUNE SUGIHARA and our salute goes out to him. A pen is mightier than a sword 'tis said and he has proven this. We of the 100th and 442nd cannot equal his courage. He only had a pen and his wife for support while we had our weapons and fox holes. It was a great privilege to be there to honor this great man. Hopefully, we represented the AJAs honorably. During WWII, I felt so insignificant. Today, I can proudly say I'm an American of Japanese ancestry."

### "Riparero!"

That was our cry as we toured Italy and France. To begin from the beginning: Two tour buses with tour conductors MARY KOSASA and AL RESCH totaling 86 people all of 522nd except



the OHASHIS headed for the 50th Anniversary celebration of the liberation of Bruyeres, France.

Thurs. 13 Oct 94. Got up with the rooster for 0300 check-in to catch the Air New Zealand flight which took off at 0507.

Several of the travelers had gone to Europe recently, so this was old hat to them: GRACE & HENRY URATA were there two years ago on tour for their 50th Anniversary paid for by their sons WAYNE and WESLEY accompanying them on this trip. The HAROLD UEOKA'S, STAN KANESHIRO'S, TOSHIZO IWATA'S, FRED HIRYAMA, and HIDE NAKAMINE to Israel, and TADASHI MATSUMOTO to Bruyeres.

Touched down at LAX to change aircraft and to pick up the mainland travelers. The ones scheduled for the "Blue" bus were: CHARLES & KUNIKO ISHII, ALLEN & GRACE NAKAMURA, MIN & CHERRIE TSUBOTA, DR. TAKEO & DONALD SUSUKI, SAM & YURIKO KAWANISHI, MRS. LILA TAKAYANAGI, MAS & FUKI-CHAN MORI, KIYOSHI SADANAGA, and RAYMOND YONEMURA.

Those scheduled for the "Red" bus were: THOMAS & THELMA KONO, MUNEAKI & EMIKO KONISHI, GASHOUSE & SUE ISHIHARA, LAWRENCE & AKIKO MORI, and AKAGI NELSON.

A grueling 10-hour flight to Frankfurt Main Airport, Germany and a 40 min. wait on the tarmac for docking space as we arrived too early. HAROLD and JANE UEOKA who were here earlier on a UAL flight on mileage plus were there to greet us. Disembark, load up onto the bus for an 8-hour driver to Hotel Des Velles in La Bresse, France. This will be our home for the next 3 days to take in the Biffontaine/Bruyeres ceremonies. Other tour groups were scattered all over the countryside and the local officials showed tremendous logistical knowledge in getting 15 buses to the ceremonial sites and luncheons. Very impressive ceremonies with lots of dignitaries, bands, and color guards of French and U.S. for this occasion. HIDE NAKAMINE was tasked by Governor Waihee to hand carry gifts to present to the following officials and friends of 100/442/522. Honorable

ALAIN THIRION, Mayor of Bruyeres; Honorable GEORGES HENRY, Mayor of Biffontaine; Mr. JEAN BIANCHETTI, France; Ms. MARGUERITE VILMARD, France; Mr. MIKE LEHNER (survivor of Dachau Concentration Camp) Dachau, Germany, who happened to be in Bruyeres for the ceremonies. HIDE also took anthuriums from Hawaii to be placed at the memorials in Bruyeres, Biffontaine, and Epinal.

Very touched to see local adults and young children waving to us as we bussed through the villages.

Mon. 17 Oct. 94. Leave Le Bresse early in the morning shrouded in mists. GASHOUSE says \$6.00 for a glass of beer! I'm outta here! Crossed the Rhine River and into Germany. Stopped at a tourist trap for lunch near the German/Swiss border. What's to eat? Only familiar food on the menu was spaghetti. Arrived Hotel Astoria in Lucerne, Switzerland in the evening. Finding a place to eat was a problem as everything on the menu posted outside the restaurant was outta sight. this is where our tour guide AL RESCH taught us the word "Riparero!" (rip-off). Said with the roll of tongue on the "r"s.

Tue. 18 Oct 94. Took in the whole tourist's bit. Lion Monument, Chapel Bridge, Jesuit Chapel, Lake of Lucerne and afternoon free. Others took in the Covered Bridge while the second timers opted to rest.

Wed. 19 Oct 94. A clear day forecasted for mountain climbing and that's what the first timers, the brave who had no fear of heights and the ones with \$40.00 did. It took 3 stops and change of cable cars to reach the 10,000 ft. summit. First was the 6-man gondola then transfer into a larger 80-man car then crowded into the fancy round gondola with rotating floor so one can see 360 deg. without moving places. And see we did. On a clear day you can see forever. A panoramic view of the neighboring mountains, hills, and dales. NANCY HIGA, no engineer, but was amazed at the engineering marvel of constructing this sightseeing lift. Architect SHOSO KAGAWA wonders how they brought up the concrete to build the towers and restaurants while BOYAN's primary question was "How far



will the ball go if I hit a driver from up here?"

Everything in Switzerland is high. The mountains, prices, etc. Only the temperature is low. The coffee is in-between. Lukewarm. This hotel is Japanese tourist oriented. Each door has a sign in Japanese "ikaga desuka."

Thur. 20 Oct 94. All loaded on the bus and ready to go except two. When AL announced that whoever is tardy will buy the wine, there was no more tardiness thereafter. Leave Hotel Astoria after the usual continental breakfast of juice, bread and jelly, coffee or milk. "Oh, for some ham and eggs," were on SEIGO and ELLEN NAGAO's mind as they watched the Japanese and Thailand tourists dining on bacon and eggs. This route is called the tunnel highway and there's so many you'd fall asleep counting tunnels. The longest was 9.3 kilometers. If BOYAN had hit that golf ball at the highest point in the tunnel, think how far it would have rolled.

All the tunnels have names and so does the bridges underneath and overhead. Telephones plainly marked SOS are located about every thousand yards or so. This is a guess that if you're lost or in need of help, you get on the phone and ask to save your soul and name the bridge or tunnel so rescuers can locate you. At the top of this Gothard Pass, our driver stopped to have the passengers get out and feel the flurries of snow by sticking out their tongues. Brr! Accommodations at Hotel De Le Paix, Lugano, Switzerland.

Fri., 21 Oct 94. After breakfast, leave Lugano, Switzerland. Lunch will be somewhere in Italy and dinner in France. Meals in three different countries. Arrived Nice mid-afternoon and drove around to look for familiar landmarks to no avail. The city has grown and there is no Hotel Continental that used to be our rest center and no Oyster Bar that used to be our watering hole. Nothing recognizable from our Pullman Hotel either. Dinner at the only reasonable place to eat was at McDonalds.

Sat. 22 Oct 94. Monaco-bound to try our luck at the casinos of Monte Carlo. Easier said than done. Buses are charged 500 franc (\$100) to enter and park in the municipality. Coat and tie

required and a \$5.00 fee to enter this one particular casino that didn't even open until 12 noon. And this casino only had roulette and a small room of one-arm bandits. Meantime, there were other casinos open early and ready to relieve the francs from these tourists who can go back to say they gambled at Monte Carlo. MAS MORI's hit a jackpot there and can say they beat the machine at Monte Carlo. Cheapest fare on the lunch menu at this casino was hamburger and coke for about \$21.00. Can you imagine Las Vegas doing that and drawing crowds? A #10 on the 'riperano' scale. Oui! On to Sospel. There again, nothing familiar to the Rip Van Winkles.

Sun. 23 Oct 94. Headed out for Florence, Italy on this cold rainy morning through the southern eastern route. En route stopped and visited a perfume factory. Only smell - no buy. Resumed southward trek, crossed into Italy and to Florence at 1630. Rain had followed us all the way and the temperature was 14 deg. C. Checked in at Hotel Adriatico and enjoyed one of those rare paid dinners of the tour. This hotel is located just a few blocks from the Arno River and so the guys went over to see if there's anything familiar. Nothing looked familiar except the river. Even after the long, aching back ride, the UEOKAS KANESHIROS, NAKAMURAS, and YANAGIHARAS were hot to trot and after dinner located a bar with a piano. Here TED, a retired music teacher from Farrington HS took over the piano and had a karaoke songfest and an impromptu Hawaiian show was put on for the local patrons.

Mon. 24 Oct 94. Bus/walk tour of Florence. In Europe, the dog lovers take their dogs out for walks but do not pick up after them. So if you're gawking at the sceneries and not watching your step, yukky! Florence is the "City of the Arts" and known for their fine leather goods with matching prices.

Tue. 25 Oct 94. On to Rome but a detour to see the Leaning Tower of Pisa. People-to-people landscape. You can't climb the tower as before because it's under repair - trying it stop it from leaning further or trying to straighten it up. Can you imagine anyone coming to see it if it weren't



leaning? Our route took us close to Cecina, Massa, Grosseto, and Civitavecchia. All names out of our distant past. Arrived at Hotel Massimo D'Azeglio, Rome after a partial bus tour of the city.

Wed. 26 Oct 94. In Rome a restaurant charged 10,000 liras (\$7.00) for cover charge (sitting at a table and eating the bread). Add that to the cost of the meal and tips. "They even charged 2000 lire for using my plastic for payment," said ALLEN NAKAMURA. Riparero. Si!

Today, a trip to Naples for a walking tour of the ruined city of Pompeii. A clear view of Vesuvius, Sorrento, and the Isle of Capri as we passed by. Hmm. "...T'was on the island of Capri that I found her..." En route back, stopped at Mt. Cassino and the monastery that was completely destroyed during the war. Awesome! Completely restored in it's original splendor. It's no wonder that the 360 deg. commanding view gave a decided advantage to the Germans.

Thur. 27 Oct 94. A bus tour of Rome followed by a walking tour of the Colosseum, Vatican, and St. Peter's Cathedral. Afternoon free for shopping but watch your wallets and purses.

Leave Rome on a dark, gloomy, and rainy morning with temperature 10 deg. C. Outside of Rome, this scribe hastily scribbled a muse and read it on the bus:

"Arrivadechi Roma

Farewell and au revoir.

It was nice to see you but 'scusa me much nicer to bid you adieu.

A city full of churches and pizzeria and ancient history is all you hear.

The traffic is a mess

and the price of the food is something else.

Everything is riparero

and I am leaving without a tear of sorrow."

Surprisingly, the travelers were amused and enjoyed it. Must have been the sentiment of everyone. The "Red" bus got wind of it and requested a copy and they too said it hit the pizza squarely on the pepperoni. Grazie!

Such a long haul. About this time, JANE and HILDA wanted to revive the riders. Out came the song sheets and community singing com-

menced. Most of them were tired or deep in their own thoughts so after a few miles it was diminishing. What these riders needed was something humorous to perk them up so ALLEN got up to tell about his experiences of his escapades in Rome. His watered down story brought on much guffaws. This prompted WESLEY URADA to come up and tell his "portogee" jokes and other risqué jokes which the ladies didn't mind at all. FUKIKO OHARA and HILDA KANESHIRO (no "goody-two-shoes") knew a whole bunch themselves but were too modest to come up. SEIGO NAGAO even came up with his version of "Lili Marlene" which is not part of any recording by other artists. After about 8 hours on the road, arrived at Hotel Ambasciatori, Venice, Italy.

Sat 29 Oct 94. Venice proper is an island so we bussed to a dock to board a ferry. City crisscrossed with canals but too late in the season for gondoliers singing "O Solo Mio." Back to the bus to head for Berchtesgaden, Germany via the Brenner Pass. Crossed through Austria and arrived into Germany and Hotel Wittlesbach, Berchtesgaden.

Sun 30 Oct 94. Leave hotel and up to Mt. Rossfield to take a group picture. Snow country. Tossed around snow balls. Spectacular view of the Eagle's nest. SUE HAMAMOTO who walked over to the lake at Konigsee came back to say that she saw ducks in the lake. Just for that?

A trip to Dachau, former site of the concentration camp. Makes you wonder about man's cruelty to man. Museum there is replete with gory pictorial details of the prisoners. Remnants of prisoner's barracks, crematoriums, and gas chambers were scattered over the site. Back to the hotel and dinner w/Red bus at their hotel.

Mon. 31 Oct 94. Headed for Donauworth and a short stop at Munich for lunch. Due to the next day being a German holiday, the traffic was gridlocked. Bumper to bumper with Mercedes. A detour to Mertingen, a home for HQ battery for several days during the occupation. Total blank to the Urashima Taro's, so on to Donauworth. Arrived Donauworth at dusk and was able to see only the familiar bridge crossing the Danube. The Hotel Krone at the square that used to be



our billet is gone, replaced by a department store. Dinner in the Posthotel Traube with the Mayor of Donauworth, Hon. DR. ALFRED BOSWALD being invited. Each of us received a booklet showing the history of Donauworth but all in German. Wanted to spend more time looking for nostalgic places but time is short.

Tue 01 Nov. 94. On to Heidelberg over mountains and valleys, at times following the navigable Neckar River with its many water locks for the barges. At Heidelberg, a local guide took the group on a walking tour of a castle. Most went except the handicapped and sick. It started as one person coughing but by this time practically everyone in the two buses were coughing. Continued on to the city of Wiesbaden for afternoon shopping and a special farewell dinner at a restaurant in town. Here an organist was playing for our enjoyment but after dinner, TED took over for a community singing of the 442nd song. Thereafter, the organists played for dancing where SAM KAWANISHIS, YANAGIHARAS, NAKAMURAS, and ISHIHARAS kicked their heels 'til too soon, it was time to go to our hotel some distance away in Weisbaden.

Wed 02 Nov. 94. Morning at leisure for last minute shopping at this spa of Weisbaden. The cold outside our Penta Hotel and the expensive prices discouraged this. Last time to check out of hotels and leaving luggage outside the door. Arrived Frankfurt-Main International with ample time to get rid of the German marks by shopping and eating. Checking-in was chaos. No excuse for this high-tech country to shuffle checking-in passengers from counter to counter. Asked for non-coughing seat, but nicht haben.

As the time for departure neared, a lot of good things that happened comes to mind aside from some trying times. To wit: the camaraderie prevailed among the travelers whom some met for the first time; care and attention given from one handicapped spouse to another, e.g. IRISH & FUKIKO, SHOSO & KAY KAGAWA, CHARLES & KUNIKO ISHII, daughter ALLISON and TADASHI MATSUMOTO, the OHASHIS and all who looked after MYRTLE.

The sharing of candies and goodies, and

Tylenol and Ricolas which became necessary as the coughing spread. MARJORIE KUBA, retired Public Health nurse on R & R, recommended red wine for cure. Bus drivers MR. JUERGEN GOCK and HORACE, wizards on wheels who can drive through archways and tunnels which couldn't be done if the paint was thicker on the buses and the way they handled the baggage at every hotel - some of them weighing a ton. And don't forget the beer and soft drinks made available which the drivers charged only a dollar per bottle/can. MAS MORI's enjoyed the trip and company so much they donated \$100.00 to the Chapter. It was a hectic trip but good to travel and see places. Still, poet HENRY VAN DYKE said it all when he wrote "America for Me:"

"Tis fine to see the Old World, and travel up and down,  
"Among the famous palaces and cities of renown,  
To admire the crumbly castles and the statues of the kings-  
But now I think I've had enough of antiquated things.  
So it's home again, and home again, America for me!  
My heart is turning home again, and there I long to be  
In the land of youth and freedom beyond the ocean bars,  
Where the air is full of sunlight and the flag is full of stars."

Oh, London is a man's town, there's power in the air,  
And Paris is a woman's town, with flowers in her hair,  
And it's sweet to dream in Venice, and it's great to study Rome,  
But when it comes to living, there's no place like home.  
I like the German fir-woods, in green battalions drilled;  
I like the gardens of Versailles with flashing fountains filled;  
But, oh, to take your hand, my dear, and ramble for a day  
In the friendly western woodland where Nature has her way!  
I know that Europe's wonderful, yet something seems to lack!

The Past is too much with her, and the people looking back.  
But the glory of the present is too make the future free.  
We loved our land for what she is and what she is to be.  
Oh, it's home again, and home again, America for me!  
I want a ship that's westward bound to plough the rolling sea,  
To the blessed Land of Room Enough beyond the ocean bars,

Where the air it full of sunlight and the flag is full of stars"





### Scorecard by ROCKY

19 Sept. 94

20 people out there for the (1) Monthly Ace (2) ILN (3) Exercise (4) Companionship (5) Semi-finals of the club championship.

The weather was perfect for all of the above but more so for the first two as attested by the low scores turned in.

TOM played for (2) for he is a previous Ace winner and did it with an unbeatable net 64. One stroke back was TOKU and he too being a previous Ace winner, third place HAROLD inherits the title of Ace of the Month. He'll take it any way he can get it. Other who were there for reasons unknown were;

ROCKY, ROY, FRANCIS, BOYAN, and JOE U. who emptied the cash box.

CP's on the par 3's: #4 KON KON, #8 FRANCIS, #13 GEORGE, #17 BOYAN. BOYAN was close on two other par 3's but was nosed out. Finally got his cigars on #17.

In the Match play, DON won two up when GEORGE ran out of holes. TOM won on default so that's a freebie out of (5). Next tourney will be for the marbles of this whole shooting match pitting TOM against DON. Stay tuned to the R.O.C.K.Y Sports Channel. Overheard of the 7th green: "With all the aeration marks showing me the line to the hole, I'll quit golf if I miss this 3-footer." But alas, he did not see the break and

so we'll miss FRANCIS.

3 Oct 99 @ HCC

Playoff for the club championship and the winner is - ta ra, ta ra, DON. Their net scores were identical but the veteran golfer DON played a smart game by taking the holes the right time by 4 and 3.

LARRY and GEORGE got the consolation prize by lasting 'til the semi-finals. In the losers bracket..... That doesn't sound too prestigious. Let's say in the eliminated bracket, the winner was JOE O. and no make fun, eh, because he got 9 balls for that. That's not all he won. He won the ILN with a net 63. Considering that he and PEGGY had just come home from visiting their grandchildren in the LA area, one suspects that he was also putting in practice time. TOKU followed JOE for the ILN followed by ROY who got the Ace of the Month through the elimination process. ROCKY, Y.T., TOM, DON, TOSHI, and HAROLD came in that diminishing money order.

CP's on the par 3's: #4 TOM, #8 DON, and the club saved money on #13 and #17.

17 Oct. 94 @ HCC

Special 4-man team tournament with 14 golfers. First place team consisted of DON, MITS, LARRY, and TOM. The team of TOKU, BIGGIE, and KON KON came in second. ROCKY, JOE O., and FRANCIS were the third place team.



What happened to the other four guys?

CP's on the par 3's: #4 JOE O., #8 FRANCIS,  
#13 Club, #17 DON.

21 Nov. 94 @ HCC

Last chance for the Ace of the Month and  
Turkey Shoot.

GEO M. shot the biggest turkey and bagged  
the Ace of the Month. The turkey got smaller and  
smaller as these shooters stood in line. LARRY,  
KEN, STAN, BOYAN, JOE O., ROCKY, and  
TEIJI caught the tail feathers. The other shoot-  
ers weren't shooting blanks. They at least got  
enough to buy cranberry sauce.

CP's on the par 3's: #4 KON KON, #8 BOYAN,  
#13 TEIJI, and #15 TOM.

The 19th hole was at the Inri of the Sixth  
Happiness with the club picking up the tab. Once  
again, our thanks to TOKU TANAKA who do-  
nated \$200.00.

A suggestion by BULLDOG to assign handi-  
caps according to their physical limitations e.g.  
handicaps for the Weak-eye Yokums, handi-  
caps for people with cardiac ailments, guys near  
senility, etc. Hmmm. Isn't everyone?



by **HERB AKAMINE**

The 50th anniversary reunion ceremonies  
honoring the 442nd at Biffontaine and Bruyeres,  
France were very impressive. The 442 vets,  
their wives and friends and the French gathered  
at the forest-side memorials of the two villages.  
There was another gathering at Bruyeres at the  
all-wars memorial. High ranking French and  
American military officers and the American  
consul general from Strasbourg participated in  
the ceremonies. There were also hours-long  
banquets at each of the villages. The villagers  
openly expressed their gratitude to the veterans  
for liberating their land from the Germans. Many

who were unable to attend the banquets waved  
at us from their doorways, windows, and streets  
to show their gratitude. To hear the speakers at  
the banquets extolling our heroic achievements  
was to make us aware of our self-worth. Those  
who attended the reunion celebrations can un-  
derstand the depth of gratitude some human  
beings are capable of.

Medics group members present at the reunion  
were EVA & TAKASHI NAKAMURA, LEATRICE  
& SUEO FUJII, MITSUE & TOSHIKI TANAKA,  
DOROTHY & HOWARD KAZUMA, TOSH  
YASUTAKE, HARRY ABE, and JIMMIE  
KANAYA. DOROTHY MATSUO, KELLY  
KUWAYAMA, and JIMMIE KANAYA were pre-  
sented medals by Bruyeres. AIKO & GEORGE  
MINATA and BERNICE & TOM NAKAHARA  
were our daily travel mates. It was amazing how  
much GEORGE and TOM remembered their  
wartime experiences in recounting them for their  
fellow passengers.

We were happy to see our old friend THERESE  
SONET again in Bruyeres, although it took sev-  
eral people to find her. When we asked about  
GINNETE DRAHON, widow of ex-Bruyeres  
mayor and WWII freedom fighter JEAN  
DRAHON, we were told that she is in poor health  
in a hospital. We failed to understand  
THERESE's animated conversation in spite of  
the help of a translator.

At the Bruyeres banquet, to help the visitors to  
feel at ease, English-speaking Frenchmen were  
seated at various tables. PHILLIPPE CUNIN  
was the man at our table. PHILLIPPE earned his  
English degree at the University in Aix-en-  
Provence. He and his wife teach English at the  
Ecole Jean Lurcat in Bruyeres. Lurcat is Bruyeres'  
most famous citizen. He was born in Bruyeres in  
1892 and died in 1966. He was famous as an  
artist and tapestry designer. He is credited with  
the rebirth of the rug and tapestry weaving  
industries of France. Therefore, he seems to be  
appreciated more in those centers of western  
France. When we stopped in Angers in 1992  
the city was holding 100th anniversary celebra-  
tions for JEAN LURCAT. We asked PHILLIPPE  
about the Italian family names in the Bruyeres



area. He said that there was Italian immigration between World Wars I & II. SERGE CARLESSO's father whom DICK NOMURA and I treated for an arm shattered by German bullets said that he had come from Genoa. Many of the Italians were expert stone masons. According to CUNIN, there was some discrimination and outcries of "Paisan go home." There was one village that kept hounding an Italian who stubbornly stayed. After he finally left, the village was on the verge of starvation. The Italian was the village baker. CUNIN was smiling when he finished the story. He said there has been some Portuguese and Spanish arrivals after the last war. About mass immigration of people of Bruyeres to the western hemisphere, he didn't know of any. Historically, with Bruyeres and Alsace occupied alternately by Germany and France, after the wars there must have been mass exoduses across borders. There are many families with German names in Bruyeres and the rest of Alsace. Even PHILLIPPE whose last name CUNIN sounds French says it was changed from the German.

At the banquet in the Bruyeres hall was a lady with the name tag RENEE LAU. I thought that she was one of the translators helping at our table. I wondered whether LAU was a German or Chinese name. Hers turned out to be Chinese. She was actually a member of a visiting tour group. Although French, born in Dunkirk and raised in Lille, she is now a resident of Hilo. She met her husband in Lille when he was an American GI. RENEE teaches French at Hilo High School. The LAU woman who ran for governor of Nevada recently is her husband's niece.

To reach Bruyeres from Colmar where we were lodged at the Novotel Hotel, we passed through the town of Kaysersberg. This town is the birthplace of ALBERT SCHWEITZER, the famous physician, theologian, philosopher, and BACH organist. Wife NANCY recalled that her Manoa Valley Church sent money donations to DR. SCHWEITZER at his hospital in Lambarene, Africa before World War II. Kaysersberg is also the birthplace of SCHWEITZER's cousin

CHARLES MUNCH, former conductor of the Boston Symphony. This area of Alsace is also noted for its fine wines.

On the way to Pompeii we drove through Naples. During WWII, we passed some time there. The city was a mess then. Bombed buildings were everywhere. The harbor was choked with wrecked ships. Of the more pleasant moments there I remember seeing PRIMO CARNERA in an exhibition boxing match and a young singer CESARE SIEPI singing Neapolitan songs.

Pompeii, which was included in our tour itinerary, turned out to be an optional trip. So we paid to see the ancient metropolis which was destroyed by an eruption of Vesuvius. Much more of the city has been excavated since we saw it in WWII. More houses of assignation have been unearthed to satisfy the curious.

The greatest disappointment of the tour was the elimination of the Sistine Chapel visit. To me it was to be the highlight of the trip. There had been much publicity about the restoration of MICHAELANGELO's paintings. The Japanese had donated millions of dollars to renew the fading masterpieces. Many of us missed the art event of the century.

Another scheduled stop we missed was Anzio. The 100th had held the beach there before their mad dash to enter Rome. Unfortunately, they were stopped before the gates of Rome and an American armored unit was chosen to enter and enjoy the fanfare.

Sorrento was another scheduled site denied our tour group. I remembered a pleasant WWII visit and looked to "Torna a Sorrento" as the famous song beckoned. I convinced MINO IMAI of the incomparable beauty of the city. So we took the train from Naples around the beautiful bay of Naples. The rickety coaches of the old train were crowded with people, some on the roof, and others hanging from the sides. I recalled passing Castellamare with its gleaming white homes. With its palm tree-lined streets, Sorrento turned out to be as beautiful as the song. The girl at the gift shop figured out our nationality. She said our kind were not unusual



visitors to the city in pre-war days.

Our bus made a short stop in Carrara. I went to look for GINO MAGIANNI, a boutique shop owner I had met during the war. He had asked me to be a Carrara marble representative in Hawaii and gave me several samples. I never took his offer. I asked several Italians but they had no information of him. Later I checked the Carrara phone book in Genoa but no GINO MAGGIANI was listed. Maybe I have forgotten GINO's real name.

Visiting SWITZERLAND, I had to buy the widely advertised Victorinox Swiss army knife; the one with all kinds of gadgets. A few years ago in Toledo, Spain, I bought a Toledo blade; the sword that helped the Spanish conquer the Americas. My knife-seeking days will be over when I finally obtain the Damascus blade, the forebear of the Toledo, whose scimitar form beheaded many a crusader. But the XLT knives of childhood were pretty sharp ones, too.

The Co. K memorial was another scheduled stop we failed to see. Our bus could not negotiate one of the hairpin turns. Members of TSUKA MURAKAMI's group were able to reach the memorial at Sospel by another route. They said they received a gala welcome there.

Our brochure mentioned that if time permitted, we might be able to enjoy gambling at Monte Carlo's famous casino. We had lots of time since we were unable to reach the memorial. However, the guide informed us that buses are not allowed in Monte Carlo. Besides, there is a \$200 vehicle charge for entry. Again, our hopes were dashed. To while away our time, we were taken to a perfume factory. To assuage the disappointed vets who had gambled at Monte Carlo in WWII and taken home the beautiful souvenir chips, they were told that it is no match for Vegas. But that information was no solace to GEORGE MINATA and TOM NAKAHARA who might have rubbed shoulders with Arab emirs at the croupier's table in Monte Carlo.

At Luceram, between Sospel and L'Esacarene, SEIJI OSHIRO of Huntington Beach, California went looking for wartime friends. He had been there with Anti-Tank Company. He carried a

picture of himself and three young girls taken fifty years ago. He was able to meet one old woman who identified herself as one of the three girls. The other girls have moved away. The older people of the village remembered the Nisei soldiers and greeted them warmly.

At a post-reunion lunch with JEAN and ALEX OKA at the Hakone, we discussed the reunion tour. There were discrepancies between the published and completed tour. We did not receive any derogatory comments from ALEX. However, he said that we should have been allowed to use the bus toilet. That was part of the agreement. He regretted that the group was not shown the splendor of the Jungfrauoch. For most people that is the highlight of a Swiss trip.

In another post-reunion get-together at Restaurant Karyushi, we met with JANET and SHIGERU GOTO and MICHI and SAM SASAI. The GOTOS continued their tour to Spain and Portugal with RALPH CHINAKA. The SASAIS went to Italy with the European World group. To hear them enthusiastically recall their travels made us very envious. To the GOTOS, the Benedictine monastery at Montserrat was by far their best experience. To the SASAIS, especially SAM, the actual visits to the battlegrounds was the most touching. Their visits were not ones of approximations like "the place was over there or somewhere around here," but the exact sites of the battles where the bus took them.

KARLEEN CHINEN, editor of the Hawaii Herald newspaper, accompanied us on our tour. She seemed entranced by the tales of the 442 vets. She has already published some articles about the 442 in the Herald.

Back in Honolulu we were fortunate to see EDWARD SAKAMOTO's play "Our Hearts were Touched with Fire" at UH Kennedy Theater. It is a play about the 100th/442nd and their accomplishments. Also shown was the conflict of allegiances of AJA families corralled into concentration camps. The play was well applauded by the viewers. Among the viewers were 442nd's MILDRED NAKATA and SAKAYE and TADAO YOSHIMOTO.

DOROTHY MATSUO was the social director