

one needs an expression of spiritual freedom. Unfortunately, only a few look to the Ways.

And now in a lighter mood but with profound consideration....

Story of Three Archers

As any good story starts, once upon a time, there were three bowmen discussing the merits of their mastery in archery. One was an American, another an Englishman, and the last a Japanese.

The American extolled the merits of his bow and how they have developed it to a point of making it a precision instrument. The Englishmen lauded the classical long bow. The Japanese said, "Unf!"

The American stood up first, grabbed his bow and arrow and said, "Watch that fly buzzing around." He lifted his bow, drawing it with ease, and took a good aim at the fly. He released the arrow and the fly immediately fell to the floor, completely devastated. The Englishman looked at the fly and said, "That's brutal, no class at all!" He grabbed his long bow and arrow and haughtily pointed at another fly buzzing around. He drew his bow, aimed at the creature and released the arrow with much fanfare. The fly flew around for a split second the came spiraling down to the floor. The American looked at the fly on the floor and noticed that it was squirming around without any wings. "That's finesse!" boasted the Englishmen.

Now it was the Japanese archer's turn. He just sat there for awhile, calmly meditating. He stood up without effort and took up his ancient bow and arrow. He looked ahead and acknowledged another fly buzzing around. He calmly raised and drew the bow. With half closed eyes he stood for a long time, which seemed like an eternity. Unconscious of intention and calculation, he showed no emotion. The American and Englishman's anxiety was apparent, but before they knew it, the arrow was lost into the air. They both watched the fly in anticipation. The fly kept buzzing around and finally, merrily flew away. They looked at each other and suddenly burst into laughter and turning to the Japanese archer

said "You missed the fly completely!"

The Japanese archer, still standing calmly, nodded and said "Yes, the fly is alive and has merrily flown away to his home. But he does not realize that he will never again become a father."

And so it was once upon a time....

"The mind of Kyudo"



Sadao Okuhara, a Fox Chapter member, passed away on December 6, 1994.

Howard Kiyama, a Livorno Chapter member, passed away on December 9, 1994.

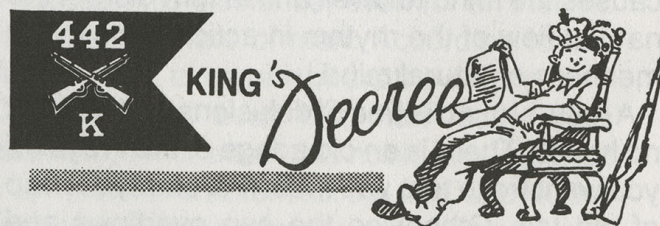
Mr. Akutagawa, a Fox Company member, passed away in the latter part of 1994.

Katsuro Miho, honorary Mother Club member, passed away in January, 1995.

Shigeo "Tonto" Aoki, a Love Company member, passed away on January 23, 1995 in Maui.

Takeo "Ma Ke Cow" Matsuoka, a 522 Able Chapter member, passed away on January 27, 1995.

Serge Carlesso, honorary Mother Club member, passed away on January 31, 1995.



by JOE SHIMAMURA

Sons and Daughters

This second edition of this quarterly news is dedicated to the Sons and Daughters of the K-s, the lucky generation as I would call them, with concerned parents who try their very best to give them all that was impossible during their youth. Were you to take a survey, you will find that hardly any of the offspring haven't visited that fabulous children's playground of Disneyland more than once. Visiting Europe for the 2nd time to join in the Vosges, France 50th Anniversary celebration. PHYLLIS OURA accompanied by her spouse, KELVIN and the ex-Presidente father JIMMY, while Mama CHARLOTTE and brother WAYNE held down the fort.

Seeing the continent by automobile was a new experience as PHYLLIS, our prolific writer, of this new generation put this all in words and described this trip. Surprisingly, an overflow of news is on the agenda, but not wanting to overdo it in one edition, we'll save the rest for the next one. An important headline for the k-members is the announcement of a pair of new officers having finally give JAMES OURA his retirement papers with his #2 CURTIS V.P. MASAO NOBORIKAWA. The 2 new bosses will be MASAO OKASAKO - President and HERBERT YANAMURA as your V.P. More about these 2 in the next issue as we give PHYLLIS the floor for this edition.

Second Time Around by PHYLLIS OURA

Seventeen years ago, Doc JOE SHIMAMURA graciously allowed me to write an article about my trip to the Vosges and the Jumelage (twinning) between Bruyères and Honolulu. The primary reason for my solo journey in 1977 was to attend the baptismal of ELISA LEILANI THIEBAUT who was conceived in Hawaii when her parents, Jean and Claudine, visited with the first group from the Vosges. (I have the honor of being ELISA's Hawaiian godmother and Doc JOE is her Hawaiian godfather.) Once again, Doc JOE has given me the opportunity to tell you about my recent trip to France with my dad JAMES OURA and my husband KELVIN. Our simple itinerary (Paris-4 nights, Vosges-5 nights, Chamonix-3 nights, Paris-1 night) allowed us to

spend more time with friends and to get to know our destinations.

We barely survived Paris: a mixup by the hotel; traumatic experiences with taxi cabs (and the lack thereof); almost getting killed crossing the Champs Elysées; expensive mediocre food; and hauling heavy suitcases on and off the trains. On the brighter side, we mastered the metro system and we know how to make train reservations. Since we had a kitchenette in our room, we shopped at the corner supermarket where we learned how to weigh and label our bags of fruits. The Sunday open air market at Place de la Bastille was an experience in itself - row upon row of stalls selling fresh seafood, meats, cheeses, fruits, all kinds of mushrooms, oriental rugs, and kitchen gadgets! We felt like Parisians walking back to the hotel with our baguette, roast chicken, olives, dried figs, and grapes.

PIERRE MOULIN, through his Siel Voyages, had reserved rooms for us at the Hotel de l'Europe in Grandvillers (6 km from Bruyères). We had neither the address nor phone number and we were driving through Grandvillers in a state of panic without sight of the hotel. Luckily, the it was right off route N420 towards the edge of town. Finally ensconced in the hotel's apartment - a one bedroom suite with a sofa bed in the living room and a full kitchen - I had time to catch my breath and reflected outside on the lanai. Here I was back in the Vosges seventeen years later, almost to the day. It was Indian summer just as before and the Vosges is still a welcome haven from the indifference and chaos of Paris. My train of thought was broken as we saw a young woman walking towards us. We introduced ourselves to WENDY HANAMURA whose father, HARUO HANAMURA (L Company) was travelling with RUDY TOKIWA's group. WENDY, a journalist in the Bay Area, was there to cover the ceremonies for her up-coming one hour television special.

I became a member of the THIEBAUT family during my visit in October 1977. In 1994, I was welcomed back into the family and this time, the welcome was also extended to DAD and KELVIN.

Their home in Gerardmer became our home away from home, complete with JEAN's wonderful cooking. The last time I saw ELISA, she was only two months old. She has grown into a charming young lady, preferring jeans to dresses. ELISA is studying English, German and Italian, and plays clarinet and saxophone. I was disappointed that ELISA's older brother EMMANUEL was vacationing in Quebec because I only remember him as a rascal 6 year old. We were delighted to get to know their younger brother JEAN MICHEL who is 11.

DAD and KELVIN probably did not expect to meet the extended family. We visited with JEAN's mother who lives in Corcieux and used to run a store. JEAN's younger brother RENÇ owns a charcuterie in Granges sur Vologne that is filled with wonderful sausages made by RENÇ. CLAUDINE's parents live in Biffontaine near Borne No. 6 and their kitchen is just as I remembered it. CLAUDINE's youngest sister CATHERINE was a shy 13-year old at ELISA's baptismal. I didn't recognize her as the vivacious mother of two. We also "met" family members through countless photos taken at the weddings of ELISA's cousins.

We spent our first full day in the Vosges (Thursday, October 13th) with CAMILLE and LUCETTE LIÇVAUX. (CAMILLE and LUCETTE joined K Company's family night during last year's 50th anniversary reunion.) The morning was spent in Bruyères. We drove to the site of the 442nd R.C.T. memorial in the Helledraye forest and the five of us had the forest all to ourselves. It was difficult to imagine the bitter conditions DAD and his K Company buddies endured in 1944 because 50 years later, the forest was serene and sun rays were streaming through the trees. Solemnly, DAD ascended the steps, placed a bouquet of flowers at the base of the memorial, bowed his head in prayer, and was overcome with emotion. Just as CAMILLE comforted DAD at the bottom of the stairs, a vehicle approached. It was Mr. GÉRARD DESCHASEAUX with an independent Honolulu production crew. On behalf of K Company, DAD presented a lapel pin to Mr. DESCHASEAUX

and thanked him for all that he has done. The production crew set up their cameras and lights. I overheard DAD begin his interview with, "Every October, around this time, I always think about this place." Although DAD continues to be haunted by the events of 50 years ago, he was satisfied that he had the opportunity to personally pay his respects to his fallen comrades. Afterwards, we drove to the Bruyères cemetery to visit Mama ROSA's grave. People in Bruyères still know her as "Mama ROSA", not Madame ROSA or Madame COLIN.

En route to Ventron, a mountain retreat and ski resort, we drove through La Bresse and wondered where MARY KOSASA and her 522nd group would be staying. During lunch, CAMILLE recounted his story during the war: He was deported to a German work camp where he saved two young Nazi soldiers from drowning. CAMILLE's act of heroism was transformed into propaganda for the Nazis. ADOLF HITLER personally signed a pass to allow CAMILLE to return to France for a visit. CAMILLE returned to France, but joined the FFI and never reported back to the work camp. LUCETTE explained that there are mostly new buildings in Corcieux, Gerardmer and La Bresse because the towns were burned by the Nazis during the war. It occurred to me that we don't know too much of our friends' war-time experiences.

We spent a somewhat leisurely October 14th morning in Bruyères. We befriended Ret. Colonel and Mrs. CHRISTOPHER KEEGAN (H Company) who were also staying at Hotel de L'Europe. The KEEGANS were without transportation so the five of us crammed into our lilliputian car for the short ride to Bruyères.

For lunch, Jean prepared an Alsatian dish called choucroute garni, which is sauerkraut (with saltiness rinsed out) simmered in dry white wine with potatoes, ham, bacon, smoked sausage and knockwurst. After a promenade along the lake shore and through part of Gerardmer, we decided to go to Biffontaine. We visited Champ des Roches, a curious "river" of boulders and went mushroom hunting in the surrounding forest. It was almost dusk when we arrived at

Borne No. 6, the site of the Biffontaine memorial to the 36th Texas Division, 100th Battalion, 442nd R.C.T. and the 141st and 143rd Infantry Regiments. Seventeen years ago around dusk, the memorial I visited consisted of a simple cross made of wood boughs with a red, white and blue ribbon. Now, there is a granite monument surrounded by turquoise glass. The trees that once lined the gravel road have been cleared to provide a turn-around and accommodate parked cars. The forest was peaceful and DAD placed a shell lei on the monument.

The ceremonies and luncheons in Biffontaine on October 15th and in Bruyères the next day were filled with pomp and ceremony. It was a herculean effort on the part of these two towns to accommodate the sheer number of people that converged upon them. I am appreciative not only for their hospitality but also for perpetuating their homage to the Nisei veterans for all these years.

After our own visits to the two memorials, it was overwhelming to see approximately twenty tour buses and their passengers invade the tranquility of the forests. The crowd made it impossible to get a good view, to hear the program and to take pictures. The sea of veterans all looked alike with their red, white and blue caps, 442nd insignia tie, gray hair, and glasses. It's amazing that in Bruyères, we found the K Company group in the crowd and DAD joined them for the parade through the town. For a veteran, to be able to return to visit an old battlefield fifty years later is special; to be able to march through the liberated town, is a victory indeed.

We left Bruyères the day after the celebration and embarked on a 7 hour road trip to Chamonix which is located close to the Franco-Swiss-Italian border. Through SERGE CARLESSO, we met a group from école Militaire de Haute Montagne (Military School of the High Mountain) when they visited Hawaii in 1992. Unsuccessful in rounding up K Company members to meet with the group, my parents spent time with them at the Pearl Harbor memorial. We did not realize the depth of their friendship until we

visited with MAURICE and GENAVIAVE GAY, their daughter FRANOISE, and ANNIE FRANCHINO. The GAYS filled our short, 2 day visit with many activities. We visited Aguille du Midi, a lookout perched on a granite "needle" (aguille) 3,800 meters above the Chamonix valley. The good weather we had in the Vosges followed us to the Haute Savoie region and we had a panoramic view of Mont Blanc and the Alps. Mr. GAY gave us a unique tour of the inner workings of the 11 km Mont Blanc tunnel that connects France and Italy. We lunched with the Colonel of école Militaire de Haute Montagne (EMHM). This extremely prestigious and elite military academy specializes in developing the necessary skills for combat in the mountains. We drove to Annecy where we met four more friends from the 1992 EMHM group for lunch and a walk through the Old Town.

Thanks to the 442nd and the Jumelage between Honolulu and Bruyères, I've had the great fortune of meeting many people from France. I strongly believe that the strength and endurance of the Jumelage and the memory of the Nisei veterans in the Vosges are sustained by individual friendships. Here's an update on some of your friends who have visited Honolulu in the past: MARTIAL HILLARE used to manage a hotel in Bruyères but now owns a tabac shop and is a proud father of twins. BERNARD and JOSIANNE HANS are parents of 11-year old CAROLINE and they have photo shops in Bruyères and Gerardmer. PIERRE MOULIN is CAROLINE's godfather and BERNARD is godfather to PIERRE's son, SEBASTIEN. FRANCE (COLLIN) and her husband Dr. BERNARD JACQUIN live in Pont-Ö-Mousson located between Nancy and Metz. FRANCE's father, Dr. RAYMOND COLLIN, is well and still lives near the church in Bruyères. Mr. and Mme. MAURICE CLAUDE are both in good health, but Mr. CLAUDE, now in his early eighties, walks a little slowly. The years have been good to Mme. VIVIANE CANONICA and DANI CANONICA who don't look like they've aged. THÇRASE SONET has retired from teaching. Mme. JEANNE RUPP is recovering from hip surgery

but walks with a cane. GILBERT NEFF, who bears an uncanny resemblance to ABRAHAM LINCOLN, travelled from the Marseille area to attend the ceremonies. SERGE and MONIQUE CARLESSO and PIERRE MOULIN were so hard at work preparing for the Bruyères ceremony that we didn't have the opportunity to visit at length. We were pleased, however, to have met SERGE and MONIQUE's grandson LAURENT, a personable 11-year old with curly blond hair and braces.

I promised ELISA that I will return for her wedding and I even promised to fold the 1,001 gold cranes for her. On that day, I'll probably meet all of her cousins and hopefully, in some small way, perpetuate the memory of the Nisei soldiers' valor in the Vosges.



by RON OBA

*Homecoming evokes
A Divergent memory
Of Camp Shelby*

Year of the Bore

"Oops, unlike the innocuous use of the word "haole" a snouty critter can mean pig, no swine, yes a hog. You can be a piggy like myself who attended the Chinese New Year's at the CHINESE CULTURAL CENTER and made a boar of myself by eating Gau, Jai (ever eat fungus with lily flowers?), and Toong Mai but my favorite were the different kinds of deep fried mochi balls called Jin Dui, filled with black beans or char siu. By consumption and osmosis you're supposed to be blessed by longevity, wealth, immortality?, unity and a whole bunch of mundane goodies mixed in the Jai. So who's a YEAR OF THE BOAR?

Homecoming and Monument Dedication

Lukewarm, insipid response, and raised eyebrows greeted the announcement. Granted, it's not as exciting as shooting real bullets at the water moccasins or bayoneting a rattlesnake in your slit trench. It's not like ambushing the unseen enemy in the bushes instead of the ticks and chiggers that clings to you till you cry out scratching and digging those critters. The cold and snow of the Vosges can't compare to the hot, humid West Drill Field where we wallowed in the gray soil and tossed make believe grenades or slogged through the Louisiana marshes.. Surely the Southern Belles in Hattiesburg and USOs were not as forgiving as the grateful Senorinas and Mademoiselles who looked at the AJAs as heroes who could do no wrong. Those 25 mile hikes with full field packs, trips to New Orleans, Rower, Jerome and even furloughs to New York City were indelibly etched in our minds.

"What's there to see or remember?," someone said. 'Tis true, I didn't care to go either. I said that three times at invitations by President Kuniyuki to represent the 442nd. After the Biffontaine-Bruyeres trip I vowed never to take a tour group again. Well here we go. Joe SHIMAMURA and K Company needed more participants to make a group so we now have a composite of K and F Companies joining hands to revisit Camp Shelby.

Lt. Col. Herbert Sasaki who resides in Hattiesburg has been the prime mover to bring the homecoming into fruition. He met with Senator Dan INOUE to set the date of June 17, 1995. Herb says that Maj. General Eric SHINSEKI, formerly of Kauai, will command the 1st Cav. Div. Special Horse Show. His mother and family plan to be there. Col. Sasaki declares that this will be the ultimate reunion of the AJA veterans who trained at Camp Shelby. It will highlight the exploits of the Americans of Japanese Ancestry and help educate the deep south of the presence and contribution of the AJAs. Here's hoping that enough Vets feel the urge to go on a Sentimental Journey.

Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas Party at the club house was blessed by not having a Rainbow football game on the same Saturday night. RICHARD MURASHIGE, PRESIDENT, and his able assistant, DOROTHY did everything that had to be done about a Christmas Party. SHIGE HIGA again solicited potted plants to the delight of lucky number holders.

Unfortunately the celebration is taking on the air of subdued, staid old buddies standing around drinking and nibbling at pupus for the sake of making idle conversations. Gone are the days when there was nothing but talk of golf, golf, golf to the consternation of non-golfers. The Bingo set was used by another unit and not returned for our party, I was told. One other Chapter decided to purchase their own Bingo set to assure themselves of a lively evening.. The Bingo games always excites and livens up the participants. Guess the children are taking after their parents. The kids all missed the gambling. Attendance was good and a lot more grandchildren seemed to be in attendance:

SHIGE AND ROSE HIGA brought over JACOB G. COOK, TONYA AND SHANE KAGENO. YOSHIO AND CLARA invited KYLA AND JAROH TERAMOTO. BARNEY AND PHYLLIS MIYAJI hosted SHAYNE RIVERA AND NICOLE GARDNER. MICH AND SHINAKO drove KIMBERLY AND CARALYN TAKATA to the party. RUTH AND TAJIRO ushered KRYSTI URANAKA. TOMMY AND MAY escorted KIRA AND SHERILYN TAMAGAWA; RON AND MICHI had son, GARY haul his wife, KELLY and children, KELSIE, CORY AND TRACI OBA for a fulfilling fun night for the children. The children always enjoy Santa Claus played by GEORGE NAKASATO. When GEORGE came back into the club house sans his suit, some of the children exclaimed, "There's Santa!"

The following also attended: BOB KATAYAMA, CHARLES AND AIKO ABE, DANNY AND ELSIE HOKAMA, DR. ROY IRITANI, WARREN AND MITZIE IWANAGA (A RARE APPEARANCE FOR HIM DUE TO HIS EYESIGHT), MYRTLE NAKASATO, JEAN OKAMOTO, FRED AND YOSHINO OKADA, JO OKAZAKI, CHIKAKO

SHIMADA, NATSUE OYASATO, KIYOSHI AND YUKIE TAKEUCHI, JOE AND SHARON TANAKA, BILL AND CUPIE TANAKA, PAUL AND CLARA YAMASHITA, AND FRANCES YORITA.

In Memorium

HIRO TAKUSAGAWA reports that DONNA OKUHARA informed him that our good buddy SADAOK OKUHARA passed away on Tuesday, December 6, 1994 on a golf course in Las Vegas. According to DONNA, SAD had just boarded a golf cart and slumped over. DONNA said that he had gone quietly and peacefully. A memorial service was to be held at the "RANCH HOUSE" IN CYPRESS, CA. with a reception to follow with the KAMAANA CLUB in charge

"SKULL" contributed several intriguing stories for "THE MEN OF COMPANY F, 442ND RCT." His stories were funny, hilarious and courageous. We thank him for his contributions. We are deeply saddened by his passing and our condolences to DONNA and FAMILY.

I also received an anonymous call informing me that a Fox member, AKUTAGAWA had died of an heart attack. Our sincere condolences to his family.

January Meeting

MICH TAKATA presided and promptly proceeded to appoint PAUL YAMASHITA to continue as TREASURER, BOB KATAYAMA as the FIRST VICE PRESIDENT. BOB consented after announcing that he will still be working till sometime around September. MICH immediately told him that the 1st V. P. doesn't need to do anything until he becomes president. Naturally this opened the way for BOB to be our next President in 1996!

The Camp Shelby Homecoming, the Mini-Park monument, our 52nd anniversary banquet and LYNN CROST'S "HONOR BY FIRE," were discussed. TOMMY TAMAGAWA will again conduct the next GOLF TOURNAMENT after he announced, "Never again," at the Kalakaua tournament.

The mini-park monument honoring the four