



GO FOR BROKE

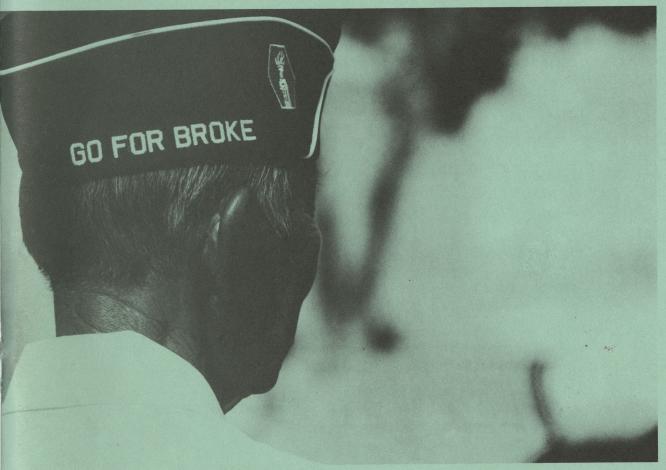
Bulletin

442ND VETERANS CLUB

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52 and looking ahead...





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by HENRY KUNIYUKI

The 442nd Veterans Club 52nd Anniversary Memorial Service and Annual Banquet were successfully concluded on March 25, 1995. Participation at the Memorial Service held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific totaled four hundred members and guests, according to Assistant Director DOUGLAS MINER of the Cemetery at Punchbowl. Judge FRANK TAKAO of 171st Chapter served as the Master of Ceremonies. The presentation of the Colors were by select troops of 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry (USAR). The 111th Army, National Guard played the National Anthem and Hawaii Pono' I. NADINE MATSUDA, 442nd Yonsei did well in leading the congregation in the Pledge of Allegiance. We were proud to have our own Chaplain, the Reverend ERNEST UNO of 3rd HQ Chapter give the invocation. Messages from Senator DANIEL K. INOUYE and Governor BENJAMIN CAYETANO were read by the President, followed by a welcome speech by the Assistant Director of the National Cemetery. Former prisoner-of-war, WILLIAM PATY, gave an excellent memorial address. The complete text of his memorial address is published in this issue at the request of several participants at the Memorial Service. Mr. PATY's address was followed by wreath presentations by General Chairman JOE OBAYASHI (522-B Chapter) and Memorial Service Chairman CLAUDE TAKEKAWA (171st Chapter), both representing the 442nd Veterans Club. The Sons and Daughters Chapter wreath was presented by Chapter President ALAN KUBOTA and Go For Broke Bulletin Editor EDWIN GOTO. The 442nd Choral Group's beautiful renditions of "Let There be Peace on Earth," "Kanaka Wai Wai," and "Bless This House," were much appreciated by the audience. The traditional rifle volley and the

sounding of the tapes concluded the Memorial Service, with Bishop YOSHIAKI FUJITANI of Honpa Hongwanji Mission intoning the benediction. Volunteer members of the Sons and Daughters Chapter did a fine job as usual, serving as ushers and reception hosts. We were blessed with Hawaiian sunshine for the Memorial Service. The Board of Directors of the 442nd Veterans Club congratulates the Memorial Service Committee for the excellent program honoring our war dead and other 442nd members who are no longer with us.

THe 52nd Anniversary Banquet held on Saturday evening, March 25, 1995 at the Pacific Beach Hotel Grand Ballroom was also an unqualified success, thanks to the able leadership of General Chairman JOE OBAYASHI and Banquet Chairman EDWARD ICHIYAMA of 522nd Artillery Chapters. Participation totaled 630 plus members and guests. "50th Anniversary of the End of World War II" was the theme selected for the Annual Banquet. ED ICHIYAMA served as the Master of Ceremonies, in the absence of PAT MORITA who was unable to be present due to Academy Awards commitments.

In conformance with the 442nd Veterans Club By-Laws, and as set forth in the notice of annual meeting, a brief business meeting, a brief business session was conducted by the President to formally establish the "Executive Committee" of the 442nd Veterans Club. The Executive Committee of the Club has been in existence for many years, but so far as we can determine, it has never been given formal recognition. Because of the importance and need to have an Executive Committee, plus questions recently raised concerning its nature and scope of authority, the Board of Directors decided to recommend to the general membership that an Executive Committee be specifically established in the By-Laws of the Club. According to the resolution formally adopted by the general membership present at the business session, the officers, including the Immediate Past President of the Corporation, the Chairpersons of the respective standing committees, the Chaplain, the Historian, and the Legal Counsel will constitute the Executive Committee. The resolution, as prepared and researched by our Legal Counsel BOB KATAYAMA, authorizes the Executive Committee to have general supervision of the affairs of the Corporation between Board of Director business meetings. The Executive Committee will make recommendations to the Board, and perform such other duties as are specified by the Board or By-Laws. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the orders of the Board and none of its action shall conflict with any action taken by the Board of Directors.

After the brief business session, the gala banquet commenced on schedule at 6:30 PM, with the Master of Ceremonies regaling guests with ethnic stories. The Presentation of the Colors, the playing of the Star Spangled Banner and Hawaii Pono I by the 111th Army Band were an appropriate opening ceremony. The Color Guard, consisting of MITSURU KUNIHIRO, 522-B Chap-STANLEY SAKAI and MITSUO SAKAMOTO, 522-C Chapter, and IWAO YOKOOJI, 171st Chapter, after being rightfully out-of-practice these past many years, amused the audience with unintentional military movement errors. Chaplain ERNEST UNO prefaced his invocation by announcing the untimely death of our former 442nd RCT's Personnel Officer, Captain HOWARD F. RIEBESELL on March 18, 1995. His Memorial Service eulogy is published in this issue of the Bulletin.

GORD

Kansha Medallion Recipients

ED KANAYA of the 232nd Engineers Chapter rendered a beautiful Lord's Prayer on his flute after the Chaplain's invocation.

A splendid served dinner of Thai BBQ chicken and filet of mahimahi was garnished with health individual servings of giant strawberries and raspberries, graciously donated by ED ICHIYAMA's good buddy, MANABI HIRASAKI of Oxnard, California. MANABI HIRASAKI, a member of 522-C Chapter, has the reputation as the "Strawberry King" of California. The 442nd Veterans Club sincerely appreciated the thirty crates of strawberries and six cases of raspberries donated by MANABI and SUMI HIRASAKI, both of whom were present at the banquet and duly recognized by the MC. After introduction of the 1995 officers and the traditional cake-cutting ceremony, awards were presented to deserving individuals. The 442nd RCT's Friendship "Kansha" Medallions were presented to Director GENE CASTAGNETTI, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific; THELMA CHANG, author of I Can Never Forget: The Men of the 100th/ 442nd; Major General HERBERT WOLFF, President of the Hawaii Army Museum Society; and CHESTER TANAKA, author of the historical novel Go For Broke."

Representing the Board of Directors of the 442nd Veterans Club, I was pleased to present the Presidential Distinguished Service Awards to three members of the our Administrative



Distinguished Service Award Recipients

Headquarters for their unselfish devotion to their respective voluntary assignments. It was also publicly announced that all of our so-called "Cabinet" members are serving exceptionally well. The Awards Committee had approved three of these individuals to be honored with our token of sincere appreciation. It came as a surprise to these three recipients as their names had been classified secret until the announcement that evening. The honorees were: Property and House Rules Management Committee Chairman HAROLD FUKUNAGA of George Chapter; our Legal Counsel ROBERT KATAYAMA of Fox Chapter; and Staff Artist Extraordinnaire and Editorial Consultant JACKSON MORISAWA of Howe Chapter.

After Retirement of the Colors, the entertainment portion of the banquet began with three melodious renditions by TRACI TOGUCHI, followed by the awarding of many door prizes. Banquet guests enjoyed dancing until late evening with live music provided by the 111th Army Dance Band. A silent auction, benefiting the 442nd RCT Foundation was also held with mounted and unmounted prints donated by Staff Artist MORISAWA. Auction items also included a book donated by author DOROTHY MATSUO. The receipts of the silent auction totaled over \$600.00.

In his final financial report to the Board of Directors, General Chairman JOE OBAYASHI said that his Memorial Service and Banquet Committees held the expenses to almost \$2500.00 below the approved budget of \$7000.00. His committee is thankful for the many wonderful door prizes donated by members and local business establishments. JOE OBAYASHI was especially appreciative of the cooperation and assistance received from his committee members, in particular, Executive Secretary JENNIFER BAKER. We are also thankful to JACKSON MORISAWA who designed both Memorial Service and Banquet program covers. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXTEND A HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO GENERAL CHAIRMAN JOE OBAYASHI AND HIS COMMITTEE FOR A JOB WELL DONE! The following served on his committee: CLAUDE TAKEKAWA, 171st Chapter; ED ICHIYAMA, 522-C Chapter; Executive Secretary JENNIFER BAKER; GRACE FUJII, S & D Chapter; YOKICHI HOKAMA, 522-C Chapter; JERRY ISHIMOTO, 522-B Chapter, and ALAN KUBOTA, S & D Chapter. The President served as an exofficio of the Planning Committee.

The 442nd continues to receive very favorable publicity during the various commemorative events celebrating the end of World War II. The latest was the selection of our Legal Counsel ROBERT KATAYAMA by the White House to be a participant at the ceremonies held in Washington D.C. on May 8, 1995. BOB was one of six veterans so honored, and was prominently featured on national TV with President CLINTON and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during a laying-of-the wreath ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery and a military review at Fort Myer, Virginia. BOB has been asked to write about the tremendous experience, which honored the 442nd RCT, in this issue of the Go For Broke Bulletin, to be embellished by photographs taken by official White House photographers.

Another military review, held at Schofield Barracks to honor World War II veterans on May 8, was officially represented by President-Elect PAUL TAKIGUCHI, PAUL MATSUMOTO, and ED ICHIYAMA. The 25th Infantry Division's Commanding General MG GEORGE FISHER, singled out the feat of the 442nd RCT in his address to his assembled troops. One of our 442nd Veterans Club's Coordinators for the World War II VE/VJ Day Programs, ED ICHIYAMA, was sorely disappointed at the very minimal 442nd membership participation at the Schofield event. Both he and his Co-Chairman, IWAO YOKOOJI, respectfully urge a better participation of our membership, especially during the forthcoming September events at the National Cemetery of the Pacific and the Veterans Parade in Waikiki. An appropriate preface to ED ICHIYAMA's article on World War II Commemorative events, published in this Go For Broke Bulletin, is: "E Pili Mai - He Ohana Kakou!" (Let's Come Together as one - We are All Family!)

Several meetings were held to further plan the memorial at Ft. DeRussy, honoring the AJA veterans organizations: 442nd RCT, 100th Infantry Separate, Military Intelligence Service, and 1399th Construction Battalion. The memorial project, initiated by City Councilmember ANDY MIRIKITANI has the complete support of LTG ROBERT L. ORD III, Commanding General, USARPAC. General ORD is being represented by MICHAEL HARADA, from his Office of Deputy Chief of Staff for Engineering, USARPAC. MICHAEL has a personal interest in the project as he is the son of a Company D veteran. Artistic Designer, JACKSON MORISAWA has completed a fine design proposal, assisted by WALLY KAGAWA and CHILLY SASAKI, to be submitted to the U.S. Army for approval. Councilman MIRIKITANI reported that an additional sum of \$180,000 to augment the initial appropriation of \$125,000 has been approved by the City Council with only one dissenting vote of Councilman STEVE HOLMES. Donations will be solicited from members of the various AJA veteran organizations if additional sums are needed. Three hundred granite blocks, salvaged from the Ft. DeRussy reconstruction project, have been temporarily stored at City & Council Public Works Yard for possible use at the proposed memorial.

A continuing duty as President of the 442nd Veterans Club is to represent our organization at various AJA Veterans Council Affairs and other community functions. The Veterans of Military Intelligence Service held their annual banquet on January 28,1 995 where at HENRY FURUYA was installed as their new president. The 1399th Construction Battalion's annual luncheon, held on April 16 at the Heritage Ballroom, Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, was rather interesting as that organization formally terminated its incorporation by a resolution passed at business session prior to dining. The 1399th Club will hereafter operate through the jurisdiction of a Committee, similar to a "Kenjin-Kai."

Your attention is also directed to Judge KEN SARUWATARI's and HENRY "BRUNO"

YAMADA's articles in this issue regarding their respective Baseball and Golf Committee activities.

The President's Report is concluded with a note of thanks for the beautiful bouquet of flowers received from the club during my recent appendectomy at Kuakini Medical Center.



by ED GOTO

Another quarter has gone by and so has another anniversary! By all accounts, this year's memorial service and banquet was well received by all who participated. Our thanks to all who made the "52nd" a success.

This edition has again turned out to be lengthy. There are a number of special articles and a lot of "lead-in" to the 50th anniversary of the ending of WWII. Since this is my only means of communicating with most of you chapter reporters, thanks for your work and for next issue, remember, don't go over board! (I know it's hard to do when your motto is "Go For Broke" but try anyway - Jennifer and I, and your treasurer will appreciate it.)

For those of you who haven't yet seriously considered contributing to what it is that my own Sons and Daughters chapter is trying to do, I ask that you welcome our requests to do an oral history, contribute your memorabilia to our archives room, or even just participate if you can in our social gatherings - we missed a lot of you at our Christmas party. Even if you don't have a son or daughter, we still consider ourselves part of your extended family. We want to learn from you, even its just by talking with you at one of our gatherings.

In the spirit of "do what I do," this is all I have for you this edition. Read on and enjoy.



Dachau, Manzanar. Both of these names represent barbed-wire topped enclosures where men, women, and children were imprisoned because of their race. The survivors of these and other concentration camps are commemorating the 50th anniversary of the closing of the camps. 522nd FA Battalion members can be justifiably proud of their role in opening the gates of the Dachau prison compound which captured the imagination of writers who saw the irony of Nisei GIs freeing and feeding emaciated prisoners, while their own families were still being held behind barbed-wire fences back in the United States.

One of those camps, Manzanar, is now a symbol of the mass evacuation and the incarceration of 110 thousand men, women, and children, since it has been established as a National Historic site. The 442 veterans from Hawaii may not readily relate to the experience of being confined against their will behind fences guarded by armed troops, unless they happen to be among the contingent of GIs who were bused to the two camps in Arkansas - Jerome and Rohwer.

I was privileged to go with the bus load that went to the Rohwer camp. For me, it was not a cheerful experience, since I had just recently returned from visiting my own family at another camp in Colorado. I've often pondered why I even volunteered to go visit Rohwer, other than using the trip as an excuse to get out of Shelby for a weekend. What other good excuse would there be? And my best recollection of the visit was that of sitting like a wallflower in the dance hall while all the other guys were having a ball doing their version of the jitterbug with the cute mainland chicks. I also recall spending a rest-less night in an unfamiliar room in an almost bare

cabin with curtains and frills - an effort made to give a feeling of "home" for a displaced family. My sleeplessness was due to my wondering about what would happen to these people once the war was over and the camps were closed? There certainly was no "home" for them to go back to on the west coast. In my case, there was the very real threat that my family would be deported back to Japan.

Perhaps my mentioning these trips to the relocation camps will rekindle the memories of those who endured the bumpy bus ride to an unknown place in the heart of Arkansas' swamp lands, with the prospects of meeting some cute mainland girls. Although these trips were dubbed the Army's sociological experiment - an effort at overcoming a threatened ruinous division within the ranks of the unit between the locals and the mainland "Kotonks," such high-minded ideas never entered our minds as far as I could recall.

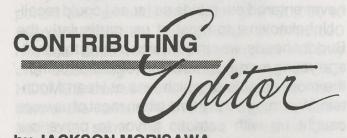
Unbeknownst to most of us, particularly the Buddhaheads, was the division among the draftage young men in some of the relocation camps, the most notable of which was at Heart Mountain, Wyoming. At the time when most of us were caught up with patriotic fervor to prove our loyalty to the United States by volunteering for the army, a group of young men numbering 63 resisted being drafted into the army in spite of their having sworn an oath of loyalty to the United States. The grounds on which they resisted were that they and their parents were being detained illegally and in violation of their civil rights under the Constitution of the United States.

The conviction by a federal court for which they spent eighteen months of a four-year sentence in a federal prison for draft evasion, was subsequently overturned by an appeals court, and the men were freed and all charges against them dropped. This group called themselves the Fair Play Committee.

The revelation that there were such draftresisters may come as a shock to most of us in Hawaii, where there is no record of an organized resistance to the draft among the Japanese Americans. But the fact is that following in the footsteps of the Fair Play Committee were over 200 so-called copycat resisters to the draft.

The point of all this is that there was this downside to the mass evacuation that caused a lot of turmoil within the several camps, and that for a small group of men, the determination of loyalty was a matter of conscience. Unfortunately, fifty years later, these men of unfailing loyalty to the Constitution of the United States are regarded as outcasts. It is my sincere hope that those of us as combat veterans, who put our lives on the line to prove our patriotism, will show respect and goodwill towards the men and their families who withstood ostracism and antagonism for their unfailing belief in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and standing up for their right to due process under the law.

Shalom, Chaplain ERNI



by JACKSON MORISAWA

WWII Memorial

The military, in redesigning Fort DeRussy, initially designated an area of 5100 square feet as a memorial site. It is situated in an auspicious location near the corner of Saratoga Road and Kalakaua Avenue.

The City and County under the leadership of Councilman ANDY MIRIKITANI allotted \$125,000 for the memorial. President HENRY KUNIYUKI requested that I submit a design proposal for the memorial to honor Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in WWII. It may seem obnoxious on my part but I always looked upon most memorials as passive reminders of the past. Memorials should, in a way, express a viable atmosphere which includes the enjoyment of the present in accord with nature. Symbolic creations such as statues and sculptures are inevitable, but they should not dominate the

scene, rather they must complement the viable atmosphere. Therefore, I was seeking a more profound quality to express instead of merely relating the experiences of AJA in WWII. In querying the behavior of the AJA under adverse conditions of discrimination and battle situations, there was always the inherent characteristic of their cultural heritage which dominated their action. The moral and ethical values instilled in them by the parents was the means by which they were able to cope with the adversities and reestablish their right as Americans. Recognition of this characteristic quality is a theme befitting a memorial for the AJAs.

The AJA Council unanimously selected my design concept and relegated the responsibility and supervision to complete the memorial to the 442nd Veterans Club. The team of CHILLY SASAKI, designer and draftsman and WALLY KAGAWA, architect, and RON OBA, coordinator, worked diligently to finish the proposed plan for the memorial.

Unfortunately, we leaned that there was a gross misunderstanding and misinterpretation in the memorial designation. In meeting with the military contingent from Ft. DeRussy, we found out that the memorial was designated to honor a military unit, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, instead of Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in WWII. The military was very positive in avoiding ethnic implications. The 442nd representation faced an unenviable situation to explain to the AJA Council the changes which will eliminate the other units from being equally honored in the memorial. However, the AJA Council graciously accepted the changes.

The new designation changed our rationale very much, but the concept of a viable atmosphere should be maintained as much as possible. The emphasis on human characteristics and cultural heritage have to be reduced drastically since much of the memorial must now be focused on the achievements of the unit.

It is hard to overcome the precedent set by the military. A military unit itself is of primary importance instead of human qualities associated with the unit. It does not matter to the military that