



GO FOR BROKE

Bulletin

442ND VETERANS CLUB VOL. XLVI No. 3 JULY - SEPTEMBER, 1995

Camp Shelby Revisited June 16 - 18, 1995





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PRESIDENT'S

Report

by HENRY KUNIYUKI

As this July-September issue of the Go For Broke Bulletin was being prepared for publication, the VJ Day 50th Anniversary Committee, headed by EDWARD ICHIYAMA of 522C Chapter, was finalizing the coordination of the Memorial Service and Victory Parade. IWAO YOKOOJI of 171st Chapter chaired the National Cemetery of the Pacific event, and was scheduled to be its Master of Ceremonies. Executive Secretary JENNIFER BAKER, who coordinated the multitude details for this historic event, reported that over 525 participants registered through our office. 60 young volunteers from the Sons and Daughters Chapters of both Club 100 and 442nd made themselves available to assist ED ICHIYAMA's and IWAO YOKOOJI's committees. Our Legal Consul, ROBERT KATAYAMA of Fox Chapter, was invited by the White House to join President CLINTON's golf foursome. Due to a very serious car accident injuries sustained several years ago while residing on the West Coast, BOB had to regretfully decline. BOB has not played golf for the past 11 years.

MIS Veterans Club president, Col. HENRY FURUYA, was selected by the AJA Veterans Council to serve as the AJA Veterans' battalion commander. Among those serving on his parade staff were the respective presidents of Club 100, 1399 Engineers, and 442nd Vets Club. The 442nd Veterans Club's Board of Directors extend a most sincere mahalo to EDWARD ICHIYAMA, IWAO YOKOOJI and the many volunteers who assisted in the planning and conducting of the 50th Anniversary of VJ Day programs. Chairman ICHIYAMA will be preparing a final report to be published in the next issue of our Go For Broke Bulletin.

The 42nd Anniversary 442nd Hawaii-Japan High School Goodwill Baseball Series was suc-

cessfully concluded with a Sayonara Banquet on August 22nd. Judge KENNETH SARUWATARI, 2HQ Chapter, and members of his committee are to be congratulated for a job well done! Judge SARUWATARI, a past president of both 442nd VC and Club 100, and the only one to have held that distinction, strongly recommends the continuation of this international goodwill program. The late Gov. JOHN A. BURNS once said, "The international baseball games are the kind of 'grassroots diplomacy' that helps to increase understanding between East and West." In addition to thanking his hard-working committee, mahalos were extended to MR. & MRS. MASA YONAMINE and our own MR. & MRS. RICHARD HASHI at the banquet's formal program. MASA and LILY have assisted our baseball program for many years, event though they are not members of our Club. RICHARD, a member of Service Chapter residing on Maui, was the all-out host when the Nippon team played two games thereat. It was rather regretful that only a few members of our Club were present to observe the three exciting games played here on Oahu. Judge SARUWATARI has a final report in this issue.

We have received the good word from Mr. MICHAEL HARADA of the Office of the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army Pacific that LtG. ROBERT ORD, Commanding General, USARPAC, has approved JACKSON MORISAWA's preliminary design concept for the major memorial project which has been authorized to honor all four WWII AJA U.S. Army units: 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate); Military Intelligence Service; 1399th Construction Engineer Battalion; and 442nd Regimental Combat Team. WALLACE KAGAWA of Anti-Tank Chapter, who had volunteered to serve as the Project Architect, has resigned due to disagreement in the selection of JACKSON MORISAWA as the designer for the project. Similarly, CHILLY SASAKI, also of Anti-Tank Chapter, has also resigned as the Project Draftsman regretfully. After WALLY resigned as the "pro-bono" architect, he submitted a request to the Project Committee to consider his "revised design" for

the memorial to also include an "Honor Roll" of those killed in action, died of wounds, and missing in action. His letter content and design were discussed at a meeting of the AJA Veterans Council on August 22, 1995. The Council voted unanimously in the affirmative on the following issues:

1. The AJA Veterans Council confirmed its previous decision not to include an "Honor Roll" which WALLACE KAGAWA recommended to be a part of the Memorial;
2. The AJA Veterans Council declined to accept his design concept as JACKSON MORISAWA's preliminary design concept has already been approved for submission to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific;
3. The AJA Veterans Council will continue to have the 442nd Veterans Club be the lead organization to design and construct the proposed memorial.

JACKSON MORISAWA's "Notes on Memorial at Ft. DeRussy" is published in this issue for the information of the 442nd general membership. When I signed the contract with the City and County of Honolulu to obligate the initial funding for the project on December 31, 1994 as president of the Club, JACKSON MORISAWA was appointed to design the project. The authority to make such an appointment has been confirmed by our Legal Consul.

The 442nd Veterans Club's Board of Director's has been kept informed at its monthly board meetings as to the progress of this important memorial project. The general membership has also been made aware by progress reports in the Go For Broke bulletin. I appreciate the vote of confidence received from members of the AJA Veterans Council to complete this memorial to its fruition to honor the "Brothers in Valor."

On November 8, 1995, the Japanese American National Museum, in co-sponsorship with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, and Japanese American veteran organizations will present a "Salute to Japanese American Veterans" at the Los Angeles Convention Center. This program is part of the World War II 50th Anniversary Commemoration events

to especially honor the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd RCT, 1399th Engineers, and the MIS veterans. As of date, all presidents of these four AJA Veteran Council organizations will be present with their respective spouses. Also participating from the 442nd Veterans Club will be MR. & MRS. MATSUO TAKABUKI (Love Chapter), MR. & MRS. EDWARD ICHIYAMA (522C Chapter), Chaplain and Mrs. ERNEST UNO (3rd HQ Chapter) and ROBERT KATAYAMA (Fox Chapter), our Legal Counsel. MATSUO TAKABUKI has graciously purchased a table of ten for the gala banquet. Those interested are urged to contact JENNIFER BAKER as soon as possible.

The Executive Committee has approved the 442nd Veterans Club to be a sponsor of the Hawaii Coalition Against Nuclear Testing. The matter was brought before the Board of Directors meeting on August 28th for a final approval. The Executive Committee also recommended approval of a letter endorsing a display at the Japanese American National Museum at Los Angeles regarding BRUCE YAMASHITA's long and arduous fight against discrimination at the U.S. Marine Corps' Office Training School.


The 442nd Veterans Club was invited to participate at the colorful "Toro Nagashi" Floating Lantern ceremony down the Ala Wai Canal, honoring the souls of departed veterans and other loved ones. The invitation was received from former state Senator JOE KURODA of "H" Company Chapter who was responsible in involving local AJA veteran organizations. Our Legal Counsel ROBERT KATAYAMA officially represented our Club, a duty he has performed frequently at the request of the presidency with much dignity.

On the controversial CINDY KEIKO KOBAYASHI MACKAY's doctoral dissertation, which espouses views critical of many aspects of the American Japanese community, especially that of our own 442nd RCT and other AJA veterans, our good friend A.A. "BUD" SMYSER of the Honolulu Star Bulletin responded with an excellent editorial page article on July 4, 1995. His article entitled: "AJA war veterans are get-

ting a bad rap" was reproduced and distributed to each Board member. Other AJA veterans similarly responded by letters to the editors of local publications. I have been queried by some members of our organization as to whether I had planned to respond as president of our Club. "Conventional wisdoms" upon whom I rely time and time again have advised me to ignore MACKKEY's dissertation. Public Relations experts say that it is best not to give her additional publicity. However, I have asked Historian TED TSUKIYAMA to obtain her complete thesis from the University Library to make a study in its entirety for a report to the Board of Directors.

At the recommendation of Historian TSUKIYAMA, the research group in Washington D.C., headed by RICHARD YAMAMOTO, has been forwarded \$2000.00 for their daily expenses. This group of volunteers gather valuable data regarding the 442nd at the National Archives. Their collected data is being sent to our Archives and Learning Center and is compiled into the computers in the Center. The Board of Directors is most grateful to RICHARD YAMAMOTO and his dedicated researchers, all of whom reside in the vicinity of Washington D.C.

In my final President's report to the general membership, which will be published in the October-December issue of the Go For Broke Bulletin, I plan to summarize the many varied programs accomplished during my 2 years as president of the 442nd Veterans Club with the kind and cooperative assistance of an efficient Executive Committee. To the members of the Executive Committee and all of our dedicated Club volunteers, may I conclude this President's report by quoting an appropriate remark made by House Speaker NEWT GINGRICH: "Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired doing the hard work you already did."



Chaplain's Message

by **CHAPLAIN ERNEST UNO**
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The "last hurrah" to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II is but a distant echo. We're told that we can now put away those memorabilia of the past and get on with our lives. But can we really do that? I think not.

As combat veterans, the past will continue to be with us. Whether its the need to wear a hearing aid as the result of a blast sustained in combat that now affects our hearing, or the refitting of a prosthesis, there is no getting away from those service-connected conditions that we have to live with today.

Recently, the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical & Regional Office, known by the acronym HI-VAMROC, invited me to participate in a 2-day workshop on strategic planning. This was the second part of a planning process for the local staff in developing a model of geriatric and extended care for the 21st century with the SPARK M. MATSUNAGA Center for Aging as its centerpiece.

My participation in this workshop was as the volunteer chaplain of the VA's Hospice Consultation Team. In the midst of these two dozen or more health care professionals, I found that I was the only one who, as a WWII veteran, represented the potential clientele for whom the Center for Aging is being built. And I can honestly say that I was impressed with the vision and mission statement, and the goal of HI-VAMROC.

Since I had never had cause to use the service of the VA for any medical services, I must admit

that I had a jaundiced view of the VA being only for the indigent and those veterans with service-connected ailments and disabilities. This may reflect the public perception of the VA. However, from the planning I experienced at this workshop, there is a new spin to what the VA should represent in its Geriatric and Extended Care unit which will be housed in the SPARK MATSUNAGA CFA up there on the hillside. Its goal is to provide "World Class" patient care for us, the aging veteran. The prevailing attitude of the participants of the workshop, from the medical director to the home-care nurse, to the psychiatric social worker, is that anything less than "World Class" is unacceptable. There is no doubt in my mind that the CFA will be a very real presence in the life of many of us 100/442 veterans. Look at it this way: the shortage of private nursing home beds will be prohibitive for many who haven't planned ahead. There is nothing that can guard us against such degenerative diseases as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, among other. Should any of these happen to us, who is there to take care of us?

I have to believe that we, as aging veterans and our families, hold the keys to the success of the new Center for Aging. As we show enthusiasm for the Center, and join other veterans in supporting it, the care of our fellow veterans will be a showcase for other VA hospitals across the country. The ground has been broken and the actual construction of the new facility will soon get underway. And I feel assured that the Hl-VAMROC staff is already off and running in planning the program and service to be housed in the SPARK MATSUNAGA Center for Aging.



EDITOR'S

Message

by ED GOTO

Being editor gives me the privilege of being the first to comment on the events of the 50th

Anniversary of the end of the war in the Pacific after the fact. Just to make certain the record is straight, all the work involved in getting people parked, bused, and fed starting from 4:00 a.m. at Central Union Church was a joint effort of the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd, 100th, MIS, and 1399th, under the general direction of overall chair ED ICHIYAMA.

According to all accounts, things went relatively smoothly in spite of some tangles in getting people registered and loaded on the buses in the dark of the morning. The AJA veterans' contingent appeared to my partial eye to be the largest organized group in attendance at both the Saturday memorial services and the afternoon parade.

At the parade, I had the personal honor of being one of your guide-on bearers dressed in original WWII uniform with the insignia, stripes and ribbons of my dad, SHIGERU (3rd Battalion, HQ). As the only one of the five with past military service, besides RAYNOSAKA of course (who carried the 100th guide-on for his battalion and probably did the best job next to us rag-tag group of sons), I also had the privilege of calling out cadence for our little flag group through most the parade - in hopes we could try to look in step, and make you proud, in your uniforms.

Thanks go to ALVIN YOSHITOMI for his usual generous loan of those "fully loaded" uniforms to us and the color guard as well. Also to RAY, DAVID TSUBATA, BARRY YAMASHITA, and STEVEN HIGA, the rest of our guide-on corp., for putting up with my unpolished cadence calling.

This edition will be another "biggie" as expected because of the Camp Shelby visit (there's still even some leftovers from the European trip we didn't get to). I spotted one or our contributing reporters commenting on keeping things short because of orders from the "chief," referring to me I guess. Please don't shoot the messenger guys; I'm only following orders from the real chiefs, your president and board.

Continuing on that theme, I must note again that credit for what you see in the bulletin should go to JENNIFER BAKER, ARNOLD HIURA,

and JACKSON MORISAWA who are the ones who really put this thing together every issue. People come up and tell me to keep up the good work - well, the good work is really the product of these three people. As the saying goes, credit should go where credit is due.

If there is anything I can do, it's field your questions, comments, and recommendations about your bulletin. Please feel free to let me know what we can do to improve. If it's possible, we'll give it our best effort.

Hope you enjoy the issue. My guess is that the next one will also be just a tad on the huge side again, when your reporters come in with their angle on this latest "50th" celebration.

Archives Center Open House

The Sons and Daughters of the 442nd RCT invite all AJA veterans and their families and friends to the "grand opening" of the 442nd Archives and Learning Center on Saturday, November 11, 1995, at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the 442nd Clubhouse (First floor, back corner), 933 Wiliwili St., Room #102. A brief dedication ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. Come and see how far we've gotten in establishing a home base for the continuation of your legacy. Light refreshments will be served.

CONTRIBUTING

Editor

by JACKSON MORISAWA

Information Update on the Proposed Memorial at Ft. DeRussy

The Armed Forces memorial designators have generously ceded an auspicious site, a large area for the proposed memorial at Ft. DeRussy.

The AJA memorial committee reiterate that in no way will it jeopardize this honor by going against the prerogatives set forth by the Armed Forces. Complying with their directives means

some restrictions are inevitable. We are not in the position to demand whatever we want, but must abide by their guidelines and work towards implementation of preferred suggestions made by them.

The first prerogative is that the memorial is designated to honor a unit or units of the Armed Forces which participated in WWII. The designated units are: 100th Infantry Battalion (separate - original 100th), 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service, and 1399th Engineers. Each unit will have equal representation and recognition.

The other prerogative concerns racial issues. The Armed Forces emphatically states the memorial must not specifically indicate having a specific race. Therefore, the proposed memorial is not intended to honor Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in WWII. The fact that the four units being honored were comprised of AJA majority does not alter their prerogative.

To honor a unit means relating the accomplishments which made it distinctive, its objective, battles, honors, etc.. It also means the involvement of every personnel associated with the unit.

We must be discreet addressing the racial issue. An outstanding display of race related subject should not be emphasized. A KIA honor roll which inevitably will list names which are predominantly AJA may connote racial preference.

Mr. MIKE HARADA, the primary intermediate for the Armed Forces command overseeing the memorial project informed our committee that the Commanding General has approved one of the three design proposal submitted. They have selected the design which closely resembles the basic concept of a quadrangle which was originated by the landscaping designers of Ft. DeRussy. It suggests a park atmosphere which is conducive to our original concept and rationale. The four quadrants representing the four units will surround a central display area with trees like a forest ground. This viable atmosphere will be a "living memorial," a concept which will conjure past accomplishments of the

units and perpetuate their legacy for the living and "now."

The central theme for the memorial is not finalized, but there are several design proposals on board. One suggestion which some factions have been pushing is a KIA Honor Roll. However, the memorial prerogatives suggest this idea is not feasible because it does not honor a unit and may bring up questions of racial preference by its content.

Honoring a unit means no particular segment of its personnel should be favored. Everyone is important to a unit.

A KIA Honor Roll will inevitably list names which are predominantly AJA which may implore questions of race preference. Also it will definitely discriminate against one of the units being honored, since unit will have equal representation.

The KIA issue should be left to the discretion of each unit and be decided by each as to how it should be handled.

The AJA Veterans Council, in their last meeting, rejected the idea of a KIA Honor Roll as a central theme.

There is also a proposal to erect a time capsule. The first prerogative should be the compiling of a list of all personnel who served in the units. There should be a time capsule memorial committee established.

Name for the Memorial

Since we definitely cannot call it "Memorial for the Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in World War II" a temporary name has been suggested "Brothers in Valor." It is true that we are in a sense brothers. There is a close bond among all the veterans in the four units. Valor means a state of mind which reflects on the ability to overcome adversities. As brothers, we have common inherent traits instilled in us by our parents which afforded us the aptitude to face the conditions of war as well as the adversity of racial discrimination. Together, we were able to overcome these adversities and reclaim our rights as Americans.

The 442nd RCT was unique in that the unit

was comprised of AJA majority. They came from all walks of life with diversified likes and dislikes. However, whenever an issue concerning the 442nd emerged, everyone left their personal differences aside and served the unit in the spirit of "Go for Broke." This oneness of effort made the 442nd outstanding. In time of peace and as we have aged, I wonder if this spirit still exists among the 442nd veterans. The work on the memorial is just started and there will be much work to be done. I hope that the veterans will again set aside their personal feelings and work for the good of the Club with the same spirit of "Go for Broke."

CAMP SHELBY REUNION AND HOMECOMING by BOB KATAYAMA

Our Camp Shelby reunion and homecoming was a big success because the Camp Shelby command went "go for broke" to welcome us and host our three-day event.

There were about 375 veterans, spouses, and families (also some grandchildren) in attendance. From Hawaii, there were about 75 persons and the remainder were from the Mainland. With us from Hawaii was the band from the 111th Army National Guard and a color guard from the 100/442 Army Reserve Unit. Also in attendance were PIERRE MOULIN and MONIQUE CARLESSO from Bruyeres.

On Friday night, the Mississippi State and local officials conveyed their welcome messages. The Mayor of Hattiesburg presented the Key to the City to Senator DAN INOUE, as the representative of the 100th and the 442nd. The key has been placed in the display case at the clubhouse. Thereafter, I responded on behalf of our club, but the MC forgot to introduce the L.A. 100/442 Vets Club president until later, who remarked that he felt left out. Dinner music was furnished by the Hawaii National Guard band.

Saturday started out with gathering at the Post Theater to hear Senators INOUE and COCHRAN and a Congressman from Mississippi paying tribute to Hattiesburg and us. There



Mr. Herbert Sasaki and Senator Daniel Inouye at the Monument Dedication

after, we gathered outside to begin the parade to the site of the "Go For Broke" monument. Most of the vets joined in this parade which was quite elaborate with men in Civil War and WWII uniforms and weapons forming part of the parade.

Following the parade, the Monument was formally unveiled by Senator DAN. After which during the lunch activities, RON OBA addressed us with his impressions of the kotonks and Camp Shelby. A kotonk representative was supposed to give his impressions of us, but unfortunately, time ran out so he was scrubbed.

After lunch we went to the parade ground and

were treated to a display of fly-overs by vintage and modern aircraft, a simulated attack by an American unit against a German patrol, helicopter maneuvers, and rappelling by special forces troops. We also had chance to visit the Army Museum and what was believed to be our regimental housing area. The only remains we saw of the regiment was a grease pit and a concrete slab of what appeared to be a former motor pool site, perhaps that of Service Company. But what was most noticeable were the trees, bushes, and weeds that had grown up since our departure. Camp Shelby covered about 300,000 acres