

A surprise visitor to our November 6th dinner meeting was our Renton, Washington member KEN SHIGAYA. KEN graciously presented each Chapter member with a gift box of candies. MARY & KEN SHIGAYA were in town to attend a wedding of a family member. The Chapter Reporter, regretfully, was unable to be present at the November dinner meeting due to his departure to Los Angeles to attend the Japanese American Museum's Salute, honoring AJA veterans.

Now that Year 1995 is history, and we all have celebrated another birthday, like it or not, the Livorno Livenews takes liberty in quoting an unknown author: "The older you get, the more you like to tell it like it used to be." ARRIVADECII!



by HAROLD FUKUNAGA

### Dinners

I guess George Chapter members and their wives don't miss a chance to go out for dinner. The wives all say, "it beats cooking at home."

On Sept. 29, we went to the Alfred's Restaurant, located at Century Center on the corner of Kapiolani and Kalakaua Avenues. The prices were a little higher than normal; therefore, the turnout wasn't as high as we anticipated. However, the food was very good, as well as the service. Especially as they provided us with a separate dining room and waiter.

The following members and wives attended: RICHARD AJIFU, the KICHIO EBISUYAS, ALFRED AMIIS, HAROLD FUKUNAGAS, RAY HANDAS, GEORGE HAMADAS, BOBBY ITOS, TOSHIMASA KANAI, JOHN KIKUYAMAS, ROBERT MIYATAS, and SPEED TANNAS.

We need to thank ROSE EBISUYA who coordinated the event and GRACE ISHII for the door prizes and ROSE for the flower bouquets.

The second dinner was arranged by FRED IDA on October 25 at the China House, because TETS and DOT ASATO and TOMMY and ALYCE KOKKA from the mainland were in town for a few days. The response for the dinner was surprisingly large. Including the guests, there were 32 in attendance. FRED said that he was informed by TETS that they would be here for a few days. That triggered FRED and SPEED TANNA to start calling members to see if they were interested in attending the dinner. When they finished calling, FRED was surprised by the number of positive responses.

The 6-course dinner was enjoyed by all and the amount of food was more than what we could eat, judging by the amount of leftovers. Guess that shows our age, because of our limitation in food consumption.

Everyone appeared to have a good time at the 3 tables, that FRED arranged the seating, so that each table had some of the guests, who gave us some news about California, while we mixed that with local news. The following people attended: TETS & DOT ASATO, TOMMY & ALYCE KOKKA, ALFRED AMIIS, KICHIO EBISUYAS, HAROLD FUKUNAGAS, SATORU GOTA, FRED IDAS, GRACE ISHII, TAKETO KAWABATAS, JOHN KIKUYAMAS, ROBERT MIYATAS, KAZU MOTOBUS, EDDIE OCHIAIS, TAKESHIONUMA, HIROMI SUEHIRO, SPEED TANNAS and YOSHI YOSHIWAS. MIKE and LILLIAN SHIRAISHI arrived later in the evening, thereby giving the members and wives a chance to talk to them. It was good to see MIKE and LILLIAN again, after a long absence.

TETS ASATO and TOMMY KOKKA had a few days to play golf so they arranged to play with their friends. I took them to Mid Pacific Country Club for a round of golf. They had some difficulty with our Bermuda greens, which they're not accustomed to. As a result, TETS had many 3 putt greens. In spite of that, they seemed to enjoy the outing.

Because the golf was played on the same day of the dinner at the China House, TETS had to pick up some cases of grapes and persimmons from the Armstrong Produce Co. at the Ft.



Armstrong area. He asked me to drive them to pick up the fruits. After loading the crates of fruit plus 2 watermelons, you can imagine the heavy load on the car with 3 golf bags plus the fruits and 3 passengers. The car was low and heavy. It worked out well, considering the fruits were given to the Hawaii guys. FRED made the arrangements with the China House to slice the watermelons, so that everyone had some. We thank the ASATOS and the KOKKAS for the fruits.

TETS and TOMMY went to Kalakaua Golf Course in Schofield Barracks to play another round of golf with TETS' friend the next day.

### **Condolence**

We received a note from RICHARD ITANAGA of New York that VIRGINIA GREENE, wife of ROY GREENE, died on Sept. 21, 1995. She died from complications after an appendicitis surgery. RICHARD said that he was shocked, because she was bowling weekly in a league, with an 180 plus average.

She attended several reunions here and on the mainland. We send our condolences to ROY.

### **Miscellaneous**

TAKETO KAWABATA was operated on November 10th to replace his knee cap at the Kuakini Hospital. Because of his war wound around that area, his knee was hurting him more and more recently. He finally decided to have surgery to correct this problem. JANE and I visited him after a few days and were surprised that he was being discharged that day to go to the Rehabilitation Center of Hawaii that day. While waiting for the transportation, he mentioned that the operation was successful. He hopes that he can be playing golf in a few weeks.

### **Reminder**

Put it on your calendar - March 15, 1996 as our mini-reunion at Fremont Hotel in Vegas. Just like the one we had this year. It will be a dinner that night. FRED IDA, who is coordinating this event asks that you make your own travel ar-

rangement, but to let him know if you're planning to attend. Incidentally, that date was originally set for March 22, but it conflicted with the spring break of the colleges on the mainland, so he had to change that date to the 15th. All those interested should notify FRED IDA - 1120 Luawai Street, Honolulu, HI 96816. Also please send a \$25 deposit to him and let him know whether you want the ribs or chicken.

### **Another Item**

The European Tour, to see all of the areas that G Co. was involved in Italy and France. Sight seeing in Germany, Switzerland, and London are included in the tour as well. The tour will be from Sept. 19 to Oct. 11, 1996. It's not too late to contact FRED IDA if you're interested in the tour.

### **L.A. News**

Many thanks to MARY KARATSU of L.A. She sent this news from L.A.

"November has been a very busy month for all who participated in the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the end of World War II. The Japanese American National Museum, in collaboration with the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs, as well as other veteran and community groups, has created a new exhibition "Fighting for Tomorrow: Japanese Americans in America's War" which is a national salute to Japanese American veterans.

The salute began with a dinner at the L.A. Convention Center (reservations were limited to 2500) followed by the star-studded program afterwards which was open to the general public. Those attending from "G" LA were; TETS & DOROTHY ASATO, TOSHI ITO, GEORGE & MARY KARATSU, FRANK & HISA KONNO, JIM & MASAYO MAKINO, TOM & SACHI NAKAMOTO, GEORGE & MARY NAKATSU, EDDIE & MARIE OTSUKA and KAY SEKINO. Joining us were STAN SERIKAKU and RAY SUGAI from Chicago, and SAGIE NISHIOKA from Salem, OR. We understand that ISAO YOSHIMURA from Denver was there but unfortunately we did not make contact. I met RAY SUGAI's sister MARY at the museum later and she said she was in the Nurses' Cadet Corps



during the war.

The hospitality room at Little Tokyo Towers the following day was a great place to meet old and new friends. Special thanks and appreciation should go to the 100th for all of their hard work in making this such a successful event - no shortage of good food there!

The Japanese American World War II Veterans Monument ground dedication was held on Friday - it was quite an impressive ceremony and well represented by veterans and the community. The opening of the exhibit followed at the museum. There were book signing sessions by various authors of recent publications - it was nice to see THELMA CHANG and PIERRE MOULIN again, as well as WAYNE KIYOSAKI (A Spy in Our Midst) and Dr. JAMES YAMASAKI (Children of the Atomic Bomb) and others.

Thanks to GEORGE NAKATSU, our annual Las Vegas weekend was very successful with a full busload - it was good to have TAKI HANDA on board along with his just-turned-21 grandson, CLIFF.

JUN FUKUZAWA underwent total hip replacement surgery a couple of weeks ago and we're so happy to report that everything went well and he is on the mend at home now. Speedy recovery, JUN! We hear the ASATOS and KOKKAS (from Selma) were royally welcomed by "G" on their recent trip to Honolulu - they were just planning to spend a couple of quiet golf days there but as usual, they couldn't escape the legendary Hawaiian hospitality (spearheaded by FRED IDA, of course!). TETS & DOT were elated to see everyone however, and especially happy that MIKE SHIRAIISHI was able to join them for dinner. We missed BONES & SHIZ FUJIMOTO at the "Salute" but they were busy at the Poston reunion in Laughlin that week.

Condolences go to MAS & BETTY KAWABE on the passing of BETTY's father - Mr. SAKIOKA was indeed a legend in his time - and to TOM NAKAMOTO whose sister passed away in Hawaii.

## Wartime Experiences of ARTHUR NISHIMOTO

*(Note: ARTHUR NISHIMOTO, who presently lives in Las Vegas, was nice enough to write about his experiences, after HAROLD FUKUNAGA asked him many months ago. This is his very interesting recollection.)*

As I reflect on some of the interesting, exciting, dangerous, and even humorous experience with my Company "G," I can't help but feel we did our best with our individual talents combined with the training we received working and fighting in combat together as a unit of "oneness," a strong brotherhood which I found nowhere else. Following are some of my memorable memories.

### Story 1

As we neared the City of Pisa, we received unconfirmed reports that the Germans were evacuating the city. In order to verify this report, three small patrols were sent to Pisa. I was in one of the three patrols and we departed at 2100 hours on July 20, 1994. Because we were not familiar with the terrain, we had a partisan guide to lead us. However, this lasted only for a few hours when the partisan asked to be released because he decided to return to his family.

Approximately at 0530 hours we came to a small river where crossing it was difficult because of its depth. As we reconnoitered along the bank of the river, we located a small wooden plank which crossed the river. Fortunately, the river at that point was narrow. However, on the other side of the river was a "pillbox," a solid, concrete enclosure with a small slot as a window to fire at anyone crossing the river.

We carefully looked at the slot of the pillbox to assure ourselves that no one was in it at this early hour, for it was not yet daylight and in fact it was a little foggy. I volunteered to cross the river by myself, after which the rest of the patrol followed. Knowing that we were now in enemy territory, we were very careful of our movements because we had to go through them to reach Pisa which was behind enemy lines. After we crossed the river, I heard someone washing himself but could not determine exactly where the sound was coming from. As I walked cautiously towards the sound, I could barely see a



figure standing and washing his face. There was no doubt in my mind that he was a German soldier. As he lifted his face, he saw me and excitedly yelled that the Americans were in the area. We did not know what kind of enemy troops we ran into. All I know was that I called the lieutenant to have the patrol get out of the area because I heard a German tank starting and knew we would be in trouble. We were fortunate to find a farming area and scattered ourselves in the field. The tank neared the field and starting firing at the farmhouse. The farmhouse was destroyed by the German tank. The sad thing is, I do not know to this day how many people were in the farmhouse, whether they were a family, and if so how many were wounded or killed.

We continued our patrol and finally saw the leaning tower of Pisa ahead of us. As we neared the tower, we went into several homes going from house to house to make certain there were no enemies. To our surprise, we did not encounter a single enemy but found their combat equipment such as rifles, machine guns, mortars, grenades, etc. in these houses. We took these armaments and had a field day destroying them as we moved along.

After accomplishing our mission, we headed back to our unit. Returning back was not easy for some of us. We were hungry and tired for it was over 24 hours since we left. And so some of us actually went into the homes and demanded food. I remember the home I went into where I was served fried eggs and bread. After a few hours, I felt sick and had diarrhea that would not stop. I finally analyzed what caused my ailment. It was because the eggs were fried with olive oil. I only had one button on the top of my trousers buttoned because of the frequent stops I had to make. I became weaker each mile I walked, but finally made it back. We had traveled over 30 miles and upon returning there were several news media waiting to hear our report.

## Story 2

From August 15 - 31, we were assigned to clear the enemy activities on the Arno River with intensive patrolling to impress the enemy that

we had a strong force ready to ford the river. Of course the patrolling was also necessary to learn the enemy's strengths and weaknesses.

During this patrolling mission, I led my squad in a night patrol. As we were creeping and crawling toward the bank of the river, my submachine gun which was strapped across my back rolled off my back when my right elbow slipped into a shallow hole. The gun made a loud rattling sound and everyone on the patrol froze in their position because we were nearing the bank. After pausing a moment, we continued and reached the bank of the river. I was about to look over the bank which was 4 to 5 feet above the river when suddenly I heard some German soldiers talking. I knew then we were right up against the enemy. I signaled my squad to return back to our line, and as we were returning, the enemy started firing mortars around our front line. Fortunately, we all returned safely and were able to give our report. There is no doubt in my mind that the enemy who was on the bank of the river was a group of a mortar squad.

## Story 3

There are times when our physical and mental stamina diminished after days, weeks, and months of combat. This was the case at the Arno River. We were successful in crossing the river as the enemy was withdrawing north of the river. We were tired and worn out to the point where we did not want to move another inch.

Being in this situation, I had a bright idea to boost morale of my platoon. I acted in disgust of the war, and saw this innocent Italian farmer walking towards us on the bank of the river. I went over to him and held him by the throat and pretended to put a grenade in his mouth. Couple of my men saw me and came after me and we struggled for a moment while they tried getting me to let the man go. I finally stopped and said, "I lost the pin to the grenade. I am going to toss it in the river." But my tossing of the grenade was so flimsy so to speak and it landed on the bank of the river near the men who were resting. When they saw what had happened, the men scattered like chickens being chased by a fox. I



just stood and watched as they jumped and scattered. The grenade did not explode. I had already cleared the grenade before this act. I told them, "You're still active and strong. I am pleased to know that." Of course, they were not too complimentary of my prank. I also learned a lesson not to try that again. I wonder where the farmer ran to. Never saw him again.

#### Story 4

The most welcome order is when we were told to pull back from the front line and spend a few days of rest and recuperation. On one such occasion, we were in a little town where there was black marketing, shopping, dining, etc. My good friend and I were enjoying our visit spending our money freely, treating each other without any concern.

We finally ended the day by going to a restaurant and ordering the best meal they could offer and ate enough to feed a horse. I took the bill and was going to pay for it when I discovered that I had but a few change left. So I asked my companion to pay for it and he too was out of money. We were now in a dilemma. After discussing the situation, we decided to tell the owner the truth and see if he would take pity on us.

As I stood up and was about to go and see the owner, my eyes caught on something through the window. I turned to my companion and said, "Wait a minute. I'll be right back." He asked what I was going to do and I replied, "I'll tell you later if it works." I left him standing and went into to talk to the owner. Moments later, I returned and told my friend that the bill had been paid so we could leave. He and I quietly left the restaurant and once outside on the street he asked me what I had done. I told him that I saw through the window a pair of GI clothes hanging from the clothesline. So I told the owner the situation we were in and asked if I could pay with my GI clothing, specifically, my underwear, T-shirt, and shorts. He accepted the offer and so I went to the bathroom and took off my underwear and gave it to the owner. That settled the bill.

My companion and I sat of the curb and

couldn't stop laughing. I told him we had better get back to the unit quickly because I was "out of uniform."

#### Story 5

On May 31, the first group to return home began. All of us wished we could be in the first group, but only 38 men were released to return home. We were on guard duty, guarding the POWs and became sympathetic towards some of them because they lacked many "luxury" items such as cigarettes and candy. This led to "black marketing" of these and many other items which the POWs were not privileged to have. The POWs were not short in their finances. I believe they were loaded because they were willing to pay up to \$50 for a carton of cigarettes. I too got into the act of "black marketing" a box of candies. All I was asking was \$15. The prisoner was a bit hesitant, but finally agreed. To my surprise, he gave me \$150 instead of \$15. Well, I took his money and hoped that he would nurse each chocolate as he ate each one. I truly felt guilty of this transaction but I rationalized it by telling myself that I made the prisoner happy.

I finally bade farewell to Italy. I began the slow, long trip home via a military transport across the Atlantic Ocean to Virginia. We took a train across the country from Virginia to California. We then boarded a military transport from California and crossed the Pacific Ocean to finally arrive home in Honolulu, Hawaii on December 19, 1945.

During this long trek home, an incident occurred that taught me a lesson. As mentioned earlier, I "black marketed" a box of candy. The money gained from this transaction plus other sums which I saved was nullified when the train we were in came to Salt Lake City, Utah during the middle of the night. The car next to ours was detached and went their separate ways. As we continued to California, I awoke in the morning and as I reached for my jacket, I discovered my money was missing. Being penniless, I instantly became a "welfare case." My comrades were sympathetic and they pitched in enough to carry me over until I arrived home. I told myself that I would never again "black market" anything, nor



take advantage of any person due to his or her circumstances.



by SHIRO AOKI

### A New Plateau

Well! We have finally done it! The Magnificent Eight has finally broken the eight man barrier and came up with not eight, but with ten attendees at our regular monthly meeting in September. In addition to the regulars RALPH TOMEI, FRANK NOMURA, SHIGE INOUE, TOMMY KIKUCHI, JIMMY KANEMORI, RALPH SHISHIDO, and SHIRO AOKI, we were joined by the President Elect PAUL TAKIGUCHI, WALLY NAGAO and surprise visitor DAVID UMEDA. You know, each time we have our monthly meeting, the 442nd Credit Union always meets on the same date and our good friend BOB SASAKI is always out there counting the number of Mikers at the meeting. Up to now, there were seven or eight and sometimes even six at the meeting. But this time, BOB could not stop at eight. He had to go nine and then TEN! WOWEE! MIKE COMPANY HAD TEN GUYS AT THE MEETING! And BOB graciously said, "You guys deserve a medal!" We don't want to sit on our laurels so how about some of you other Mike Co. guys come out next month and make it eleven and twelve the following month. Wishful thinking, maybe. But "When you wish upon a star, makes no difference who you are - your dreams come true."

### The Last Hurrah

VJ Day has come and gone. Fifty years ago, that great old soldier, General DOUGLAS MCARTHUR had said, "Today the guns are silent. A great tragedy has ended. A great victory has been won...." And so on this day, September

2, 1995 marking the 50th anniversary since those words were uttered, the US government officially designated Hawaii to host a series of events commemorating the end of World War II while "a grateful nation remembers." It was to be our last hurrah insofar as mass media recognition is concerned, but as long as there is a 442nd Veterans Club, the camaraderie that was developed 50 years ago, will continue to live on among those of us who are still survivors to this day.

The AJA veterans were encouraged to especially participate in the Memorial Service in the morning and in the parade that followed in the afternoon. We gathered at Central Union Church where those totally dedicated members of the Sons & Daughters Chapter coordinated the parking, registration, and boarding of buses to depart for Punchbowl Cemetery at 6:30 in the morning. We got there a little after 5:30 and the parking lot was already full and we were probably among the last to get there for the buses which were going to depart at 6:30. Where the 442 is concerned, you gotta get up early in the morning if you want to beat the crowd.

The Memorial Service was coordinated by the MIS Veterans Club, ably chaired by IWAO YOKOOJI of 171st Chapter.

ED ICHIYAMA was chairman and VJ Day coordinator. They both did an excellent job. You all know that at Punchbowl we had the massing of the colors and wreath laying ceremony by a whole lot of veterans organizations from all over the 50 states and President CLINTON was the keynote speaker. RALPH TOMEI, TOMMY KIKUCHI, PAUL & YUKI TAKIGUCHI, SHIRO & EVELYN AOKI, and MAMO FURUYA were Mikers there at the Memorial Service and RALPH, TOMMY, and PAUL marched in the parade that afternoon.

### Brensen - Entertainment Capital of the World

At the end of September this year, our versatile social and entertainment director, FRANK NOMURA and his wife NANCY joined ranks with a host of UH Rainbow supporters and went to Las Vegas to watch our football team beat up the



Running Rebels of UNLV. It's a good thing that they did go to see that game because ever since then, FRANK and JIMMY KANEMORI along with half of the State of Hawaii have been agonizing over the poor play of our once proud Rainbow Warriors and wondering what it would take to turn our football fortunes around.

After Las Vegas, 34 of the group continued on to Brensen, Missouri, the Country Western Entertainment Capital of the World. Brensen has some 80 or 90 showhouses featuring Country Western music and is a mecca for tourists from all over the United States. One of the better shows there is a Japanese violinist by the name of SHOJI KIYABU who plays to packed houses every day entertaining the audience with his violin wizardry and his singing of old time tunes like "San Francisco." We didn't go to Brensen but we were able to watch and listen to this violin virtuoso thanks to a tape that FRANK brought back with him.

NANCY enjoyed the SHOJI KIYABU show too but the one she enjoyed the most was "Stampede" where little piglets and chickens raced against each other and the audience was split into North and South cheering your side on and booing the opposition. The best part according to NANCY was when they yelled "Stampede!," you pounded your feet in the stands and made all kinds of noise. That's a good way of getting rid of all your frustrations, not that NANCY has any. FRANK also enjoyed the company of CHARLIE IJIMA from the 232nd Engineers who was along on the trip.

### Tis the Season

As we get along in the years, it seems that the end of the year come along quicker and faster. It's that time of the year again, and our Mike Chapter Christmas party will be held at the Keehi Lagoon TOMMY KAKESAKO Hall on Sunday, December 17th. FRANK is also putting together our "Shinnen Kai" which will be held at the Maple Gardens on Sunday, January 21, 1996. Our team of telephone callers will be contacting you shortly.

### Maui News

FRANK NOMURA heard from ARTHUR KUROHARA of Maui, who calls FRANK from time to time to update him on the progress of ITSUO SHIRAKI. Sadly, nothing has changed as far as ITSUO is concerned. FRANK also learned that ZUKE MATSUI has suffered an aneurysm but is doing well. We all wish ZUKE a full and speedy recovery.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!



By MARY SAKAI, CAROL SAKAI-FREITEIRA, PATTI LABA

### President WALLY & YORI KAGAWA

Anti-Tankers and guests from 5 states gathered at the Four Queens Hotel in Las Vegas on October 9-13 for the 442 Anti-Tank co. Mini-Reunion, in conjunction with the 100 Battalion Annual Convention.

The Hawaii contingent arrived at the hotel about 8:30 am on Oct. 9. By the time rooms were available at 1:30 p.m. the group was well warmed up on the slot machine...

The A.T. Hospitality Night was held on Monday evening, Oct. 9. The evening started with a fabulous buffet of all sorts of "gochiso" delicacies prepared by the spouses of the L.A. A.T. Club plus luscious fresh fruits from the California farms. The ladies deserve much thanks for their unselfish efforts.

The evening was a fun and chatty affair with the vets reminiscing and reliving their experiences in war and peace, as this was the first time many had met since the war ended.



CHAPPY KISHABA and FRANK SETO were in charge of the Hospitality Night under Prexy HENRY IKEMOTO.

The Hawaii delegation was the guest of the L.A. Chapter at the fabulous Reunion Banquet held on Tuesday evening, Oct. 10. CHAPPY was M.C. with assist from FRANK SETO. After a welcome speech by President HENRY IKEMOTO and response by WALLY KAGAWA, the group sang "Hawaii Pono!" in honor of the Hawaii delegation.

The scrumptious roast beef dinner with "all the trimmings" was certainly a far cry from the usual convention fare. CHAPPY entertained the group with his sense of humor and FRANK kept the group roaring with his hilarious antics.

The L.A. chapter presented each delegate with Anti-Tank caps produced under direction of DAVE KAWAGOE and prints of airborne operations and Sgt. SAKIMOTO's A.T. Company reports. The TAMURA's and SAIMO's from Seattle presented a box of delicious aplets confectionery to the delegates from other chapters. Thanks to the generosity of SHIROKU YAMAMOTO, GORO INABA and RON KANETAKE Coffee Farm of Kona and others, the Hawaii chapter presented a bagful of goodies to their comrades. A large golden box of macadamia chocolates from MARY SAKAI was enjoyed by all. WALLY KAGAWA entertained the group with a harmonica rendition of "Danny Boy" and "Mashiro Ki Fuji No Ne."

We were glad to see TAK HATTORI and SUMI and ERNIE MARUYAMA and guest who came especially for the Banquet. ERNIE lives in nearby Henderson. He has not been up to par lately.

The L.A. 100th Bn. graciously invited the Anti-Tank delegates to their hospitality room which they put on daily. The ladies of the LA 100th Bn should be commended for their untiring efforts and generosity in providing ono food. Many thanks to ALLEN DONG and L.A. 100 Bn Club!

Mahalo to our buddies and their spouses of the L.A. Anti-Tank Club under President HENRY IKEMOTO who worked hard to put on a very memorable mini-reunion. We all had a good time. Thanks!

Those attending were: JERRY & ALICE AYABE, MASATO DOI, TORO & HANKIE HIROSE, KUNI & KIMI HISATOMI, HENRY & MILDRED IKEMOTO, GORO & YAYOKO INABA, WALLACE & YORI KAGAWA, JACK & MARGARET KAGUNI, HIROSHI KAKU, DAVE & MARY KAWAGOYE, DANIEL & MARION KAWAKAMI (JERRY's in-laws), MINORU & MOLLY KISHABA, EDDIE & GLADYS MURAKAMI, TOM & KAY NAKATA, ROY & ROSE NISHIO, HIFUMI & MATSUKO SAIMO, FRANK & EVELYN SETO, GEORGE & MALY TAMURA, SEIYA TANAKA, SHIROKU & AMY YAMAMOTO. TAK & SUMI HATTORI, ERNIE MARUYAMA and guest attended the Chapter Night Banquet.

### **TAK & SUMI HATTORI**

Hope you saw "Salute to the Japanese American Veterans" by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense at the LA Convention Center organized by the Japanese American National Museum on Nov. 8th.

Last August, a 10 mile section of Highway 99 south of Manteca California (TOM NAKATA's home town) was dedicated to honor the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

GEORGE TAMURA mentioned that JIM KUSE has Parkinson's disease and is in the Kiero Nursing Home in Seattle. RAY TSUCHIYA is on medication and also in the Kiero Nursing Home in Seattle.

### **LOUIS & LESLEY FERRIS**

A former Company Commander of Anti-Tankers who trained the men overseas. LOUIS was born in New Orleans, LA but at 10 years old, the family moved to Harrison, NY and it's been his home ever since. LOUIS especially says hi to ADOLPH NAKAMURA, his jeep driver. LOUIS and LESLEY celebrated Thanksgiving with nine of his family, a full house of fun loving, happy people.

LOUIS shared a picture and article from The New York Times about "...500,000 cheering, flag-waving spectators lining the way...as tens of thousands of proud American warriors



marched out in New York's largest Veterans Day Parade since the end of World War II. Planes roared overhead, tanks rumbled by, cannons boomed salutes, church bells pealed...more than 33,000 marchers..."

### **President L.A. A.T. Chapter HENRY & MILDRED IKEMOTO**

HENRY said, "I haven't been to a reunion so I was very surprised at all the work everybody did for us. FRANK SETO and CHAPPY KISHABA did a 'bang-up' job. Hawaii boys gave so many gifts. I want to thank WALLY and everybody for the contribution.

When someone started singing, everybody sang, including myself who can't keep a tune.

But I truly enjoyed the kinship and the camaraderie of this great company of friends! It was GREAT!

After Las Vegas, my wife and I went to Baylor University. This is the school we enjoyed and met for the first time and later married. MILDRED's nursing school had a reunion in Waco, Texas. Out of a class of 50, 15 girls came.

HENRY started reminiscing about double dating with another friend who dated NANCY KAWAMURA whose brother was an Anti-Tanker. This happened in the Basic Training at Camp Hood where there was a women's college, nearby. So HENRY enjoyed it, too.

HENRY and MILDRED are proud of their 9 grandchildren. HENRY said, "We see them occasionally and we take care of them."

Next week, they are going to Oregon and then to Hawaii. HENRY and MILDRED will be guests at the Anti-Tankers Christmas dinner on Dec. 3, 1995.

### **MITSUO AKIYAMA**

Our Big Island news reporter wrote "The only good news I have is the newspaper article about our good friend, GORO INABA, who became an instant rich guy when the County gave him and his two brothers a chunk of dough. This came out of the local Hawaii Tribune Herald so I guess it's okay for public consumption.

Another local Hilo boy, MICHAEL NAKASONE,

was recently awarded the prestigious name of "Teacher of the Year" by Supt. AIZAWA. He's a nephew of our TATS OSHIRO who died a few years ago.

MITSUJI NAKAHARA had a mild stroke a couple of months ago but he is recovering fast. He is allowed to drive now. As you know, MITSUGI is our sole Silver Star Medal recipient of A.T. Co. We are proud of him.

Others in Hilo area—JAMES KATO and MASA HAYASHIKAWA of Pahoehoe golf on Wednesdays and Saturdays. GARY MATSUMOTO keeps busy playing softball in a Senior League softball team. "BUTTERMAN" HAMAMOTO is taking care of his aging legs but manages to go to the Farmers Market on Saturdays to buy his weekly groceries. "Pop" TAKEMURA tends his beautiful yard. Dr. MA SAGAWA helps his son in the dentist business but manages to go deep sea fishing occasionally. I see TADAO TANOUÉ once in awhile at the Farmers Market. NOBORU NAGOSHIMA lives out Pahoehoe way. Both he and his wife take care of their grandchildren."

Mahalo, MITS, for the Big Island update.

### **MASATO DOI**

Guess what??? The best part of the Las Vegas trip was having a wonderful roommate, FRANK SETO, the comedian.

### **MIKE FUJIKI**

MIKE is busy, busy, busy! Still taking Tai Chi and exercising. Also doing country western line dance. Loads of fun! Try it!

### **SACHI FUKUNAGA**

The ever-loving lady, SACHI, sounded real healthy and happy. Looking forward to the Christmas get-together with all of her friends.

### **KO and JANET HATA**

Everything is going very well! JANET is working hard and keeping healthy!

### **LIZO and YVONNE HONMA**

LIZO and YVONNE are the charming couple who are still greeting guests from France.



YVONNE walks with a cane or uses the walker and LIZO does the gardening at their beautiful home. He can cook, too! LIZO is a Super-man! YVONNE is a Super-lady!

### **JACK and MARGARET KAGUNI**

"Oh—the wonders of being a full time grandmother!" so happily said by MARGARET. "I'm really and truly a grandmother for real now!" Officially, REYN made 6 months old on Nov. 15, 1995. REYN is the precious son of SUSAN and RODNEY KOIZUMI.

MARGARET wanted to take him to the Las Vegas reunion trip because REYN might not remember her. However, when she returned, she said, "REYN gave me a 'Welcome Home' smile so he didn't forget me. I was overjoyed with happiness."

Grandmother MARGARET said, "REYN, this is a Shinobu fern. And now when they go by this special spot in their garden, REYN picks up a piece of the fern. So he is smart." She takes him to her garden and she points out to REYN, "That's a cabbage growing in the garden." Truly, MARGARET is still a teacher at heart. REYN is getting a wonderful education.

Grandma has a treasure cupboard where her keepsakes are displayed. She showed it to REYN and now, each time they pass by, REYN lets her know that it's MARGARET's.

JACK and MARGARET remarked, "It was nice seeing everybody! We saw ERNEST MURAYAMA. We haven't seen him for a long time!"

JACK saw his old buddy TSU AKUTAGAWA. "This is unusual. I must tell you," said MARGARET. "It was DOROTHY'S birthday and MASATO DOI saw them at Four Queens. JACK and MARGARET were at another hotel. TSU AKUTAGAWA called JACK "to come down and I'll meet you by the elevator." They were both looking for each other. They paced up and down. They did not recognize each other. So finally JACK saw this fellow pacing up and down and asked, "Are you looking for JACK KAGUNI?" He responded, "Oh, yeah..." "That's me!" Oh, what a happy, happy reunion! It's 40 years since

they've seen each other. JACK said TSU was a handsome man with a mustache when he was young. Now, no mustache so JACK did not recognize TSU. Our bodies may change but our hearts remember.

MARGARET said, "Do you know the Anti-Tankers gave the group the most delicious, tender beef—the best prime-rib in all of my life!"

### **KAZUO KIYONAGA**

Down with a lingering cold. Sore throat and fever. Wasn't feeling too good yet. Wishing you a speedy recovery!

### **TSUNETA and THELMA MIZUSAWA**

THELMA brought a yummy pecan tart for the last get-together at the Clubhouse. We thought it was homemade but she said it was from a Sweet—Something Bakery. Anyway, thank you THELMA for your generous goody!

### **CHILLY and IRENE SASAKI**

Can you imagine CHILLY being sick? IRENE said, "CHILLY has the flu." In the lymph node on his neck, a large growth the size of an egg developed. IRENE & CHILLY couldn't believe how rapidly it grew.

After consulting with the physician and a corrective medication, CHILLY is well under way to recovery. Due to two weeks of good and tender loving nursing care by IRENE, CHILLY is almost back to normal. This reporter only spoke to IRENE who seemed relieved that CHILLY is almost well again. Speedy recovery, CHILLY!

### **WHITEY and AMY YAMAMOTO**

"It was really nice! This was the first time we've ever met the Club 100th members from here and there in the mainland. At the banquet night, they scattered us all around to mingle with other members of the 100th. It was nice! No, I did not win any money. We just enjoyed the A.T. members company. It was really fun to be with them!"

Look for the December 3rd Anti-Tank Chapter Christmas Dinner at the Waialae Country Club in the next issue! Happy 1996! Hope you have



a successful, healthy year!



by JERRY ISHIMOTO

What would be the most appropriate word to describe the yeoman's duty the Sons and Daughters undertook during the VJ Commemoration celebration? Fantastic? Dedicated? Whatever it was cannot be described in one word the wonderful job they did from parking cars, passing out passes (badges), bus assignments, serving lunches, etc., and best of all, marching along with the veterans and pulling carts laden with ice-cold water.

Once again they have proven that the legacy of the 100/442 has been handed down to capable and dedicated sons and daughters. Before we close the chapter on the "last hurrah" to the "last hurrah" to the veterans of WWII, an "Atta Boy" should be given to ED ICHIYAMA, "C" Chapter, who among other things honchoed the telephone services at the Hawaii Visitor's Bureau. Prior to the commemoration ceremony, he called the various Nisei units and sponsored the breakfast meeting at the Pagoda Hotel to lay out his plan. After the ceremony he again sponsored the participants to a luncheon at Ala Moana Hotel to show his appreciation - all without any recompense from any agency or organization. Bakers who participated were JOE OBAYASHI, BIGGIE NAKAKURA, BOYAN HIGA, FRED HIRAYAMA, DON SHIMAZU, HIDE NAKAMINE, and this scribe. Fast forward to the humdrum every day routine.

#### Chapt. Meeting - 16 Aug. 95

14 present and accounted for. Treas. BIGGIE NAKAKURA's black-ink report says there is a comfortable amount in the kitty so there is no need to shut down operations of this Chapt. and

lay off members.

TED TSUKIYAMA, Chmn., Research Comm. ever-seeking new info on the 522nd involvement in the rescue of Dachau prisoners called a luncheon meeting to query DAVID SUGIMOTO who was silent and invisible all these years. Also present were JOE OBAYASHI, BIGGIE NAKAKURA and NOBUO TAKAMORI.

DAVID does recall an incident where he met an English-speaking prisoner. He remembers this "sorry-looking" prisoner and thus he relates his condition to "Solly." This same SOLLY GANOR, a Dachau Death March survivor called TED to say he will be here in late November at which time TED will schedule a meeting that will hopefully shed more info on the presence of the 522nd at Dachau. Old business: too old already.

New business: National Salute to Japanese American Veterans by the Japanese American National Museum which will be old news by now. HIDE NAKAMINE is the only one from Baker Chapt. planning to attend. In addition to the regular Chapt. pupus, FUKIKO OHARA donated some soybeans which were boiled with the right amount of salt for the guys watching their systolic and diastolic.

#### Chapt. Meeting - 10 Sept. 95

Attendance is getting larger with 17 present. Treas. BIGGIE is smiling so needlessly to say his report is approved even w/o his reading.

BOYAN HIGA, Chmn., Nomination Comm. announced that a list of candidates is being reviewed for 1996-1997 Chapter officers which will be announced at the next meeting. All members were forewarned to be present with their acceptance speech or heavens forbid - excuses.

#### Luncheon/Chapt. Meeting - 18 Oct. 95 Shogun Restaurant

Election Comm. Chmn. BOYAN HIGA laid out the slate for Chapt. officers. The honored nominees are Pres. FRED HIRAYAMA, Vp. ROCKY TANNA, Secretary HAROLD UEOKA, and Treas. HIROMI FUJIWARA. The nominations will not close for another month. There will be other



volunteers for these seats but the chances of being outvoted is slim, so smile, not to worry.

Old business: Nothing you haven't heard about already.

New business: A combination testimonial dinner honoring Mr. YOSHIHARU SATOH, Central Pacific Bank and fund-raiser for the Ft. DeRussy Park Memorial whose expenditure is over and above the amount allocated by the city. Time: Thurs. 14 Dec. Place: JCCH. Donation: \$100 per plate. Oooh. But look at the plus side. It 80% tax deductible and your name will be recorded on a scroll placed in a time-capsule at the Ft. DeRussy Memorial.

After dinner speaker was our own TED TSUKIYAMA whose subject matter was "living trusts." Having to speak after dinner is not such a good time for senior citizens tend to take a nap after lunch. Still, after concluding his spiel and discussion period, TED thanked everyone, including JESSIE NAKAKURA and Y.T. for staying awake.

### **Chapt. Meeting - 15 Nov. 95**

Good news for the candidates running for Chapt. office. You're all in without any opposition. Congrats and all that sort of thing. So the helm of this Chapt. is under the capable hands of Pres. FRED HIRAYAMA, Vp. ROCKY TANNA, Secretary HAROLD UEOKA, and Treas. HIROMI FUJIWARA.

Annual Chapt. Christmas party is 15 Dec. at Natsunoya Tea House.

### **Etcetera**

Received a packet of letters and snapshots from TAK SUSUKI, LA, CA. which was too late to make the 30 Aug. deadline. TAK included a copy he received from Lt. JOHN J. SCANLAN, Cmdr. 3rd Bn 83 FA thanking him for attending their "Final Rounds" ceremony conducted 17 Jun. 95 in the vicinity of Firing Point 69 at Camp Shelby, MS. "Our heartfelt gratitude is extended to you personally and to the entire membership of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team." TAK also relates the event when he was the guest speaker at an installation and dinner of the Elks

Lodge of San Pedro. He presented a brief history of the origin of the 100/442 RCT. For the assistance of the 522 FABn received during the LA reunion, TAK presented a plaque to the 187th RCT and they in turn honored TAK with a plaque for his continued support.

On 21 Nov. Mr. SOLLY GANOR, survivor of Dachau Death March, was the guest speaker for a get-together or "sushi and bagel" at Temple Emanu-el. Mr. GANOR gave a moving account of his growing up years when he met Mr. SUGIHARA, "Schindler of Japan." 522nd members who were there received a warm ovation when Mr. GANOR stated that he wanted to "return a debt to the members of 522 FA Bn for saving his life" and apologized for taking 50 years to do so. Bakers who were present were HIDE NAKAMINE, YUZURU MORITA, TED TSUKIYAMA, FRED HIRAYAMA, NANCY & BOYAN HIGA, and this scribe. MR. GANOR's epic experience has reached the ears of BRENT IZUTSU, grandson of a 100 Bn. member and a 7th grader at Iao School in Maui. He was there at the "sushi and bagel" equipped with notebook and video camera. Why? His class project is "History Day" and he chose Mr. GANOR's experience as his subject. The legacy of the 100/442 to the Sons and Daughters lives on.

Received another packet from GASHOUSE ISHIHARA, which included booklet, pamphlets and info on the National Salute to Japanese American Veterans which took place in LA from 4 Nov. to 11 Nov. GASHOUSE also recounted his own participation in the "Salute" dinner on the 8th which was attended by several celebrities, hosted by retired Congressman NORMAN MINETA, and the JA National Museum. Secretary for Veterans Affairs JESSE BROWN paid a tribute to the AJA veterans - especially the WWII vets, and PAT MORITA, star of "Karate Kid," while too young to be in the 442nd, gave his account of being incarcerated and reading about the exploits of the 100/442. About 100 522 FA Bn members attended this dinner with their own "colors" represented alongside the other battalion colors. Of the ten tables for 522 members and guests, Btry "B" had one occupied by SUDS



KODAMA, HIDE NAKAMINE, RONALD TOGUCHI (HIDE's nephew), PETER & HISA YANO (Sv Btry), GEORGE & SEIKO ISHIHARA, ROSE ADACHI (LEFTY's wife), and guests DAWN KIBE and Mr. OKI.

### **Scorecard by ROCKY**

#### 21 Aug. 95 @ HCC

Ace of the Month is ROY F. with 85-27=58 which makes all previous Ace winners with net 62's shut their mouth. Naturally ROY and his lucky partner WALTER left the nearest two-man team 15 miles back in the dust. Others barely discernible in the distance but later identified were the teams of FRANCIS/ROCKY, STAN K./MITS, JOE O./ROY O., TEIJI/KON KON, BOYAN/LARRY. CP's on the par 3's: #4 JOE S., #8 ROY F. (When you're hot, you win a lot..). #13 STAN K., #17 TONY.

As for the Club Match play, DON put the kibosh on KEN 2 up. BOYAN laid LARRY to rest 2 up. FRANCIS rocked ROCKY 7 & 5 and ROY F. waltzed over WALTER 6 & 5.

#### 18 Sept. 95 @ HCC

After a long, dry spell, Y.T. broke the famine with a not-too-impressive net 65 for Ace-of-the-Month. But hey, don't knock it. An Ace is an Ace and low-net purse came up with it.

Two-man combi's with take-home pay were JOE O./LARRY, TONY/BIGGIE, YT/JOE S., BOYAN/DON, TED/TOM, FRANCIS/ROY F., STAN K./TOKU in that order.

As for the semi-final Club match play, DON retired BOYAN, while ROY F. squeezed past FRANCIS. So we have veteran DON who is perpetually in the top finalist and occasional player ROY F. who made his presence known to be battling for the Club championship.

CP's on the par 3's: #4 FRANCIS, #8 STAN K., #13 DON, #15 - What? STAN K. again? As the saying goes, when you're hot, etc. and when you're not, you're out, right ROCKY?

Latest member to join this club in the game of "Ahshittobazjo" is YOSHIO TAGUMA, Able Btry.

#### 3 Oct. 95 @ HCC

Extra tournament thrown in for practice and beer money. Instead, Y.T. had to dish out a fin

for being a "no show" joining FRANCIS who was the first to be penalized.

Low net on this day was AKABO and WALTER with identical 69s. Two-man combi's in the money were TOKU/WALT, BIGGIE/AKABO, DON/WALT, BOYAN/WALT. WALT had his fingers or samurai swords in every pie. Whatever few pieces of pie left was shared by GEO/YOSHIO. ROCKY/HAROLD got the pie pan and the crumbs.

CP's on the par 3's: #4 Club, #8 Club, #13 Club. More money for the club for 19th hole freebies. Lone CP was STAN S. on the #15.

#### 11 Oct. 95 @ HCC

Ace of the Month would have been CANNONBALL but since he is a previous Ace winner, GEO M. got the prestige while CANNONBALL keeps the Low Net loot. And the winner of the Club Championship is - ta ra, ta ra, DON, the steady veteran who squashed "occasional player" ROY F.'s dream of winning. Two-man combi's that pocketed enough to raise their taxable incomes are GEO/WALT, BIGGIE/JOE O., KEN/STAN S., KATS/JOE S., BIGGIE/TOKU, MITS/ROY O.

#### 20 Nov. 95 @ HCC

YOSHIO TAGUMA bagged the biggest turkey on this Turkey Shoot. Having plenty of ammunition which almost equaled his net of 59 helped. Other successful shooters were STAN, BOYAN, BIGGIE, AKABO, GEO M., TONY, ROCKY, ROY O., CANNONBALL, TOKU and TED who got the tail feathers. Other whose aim wasn't enough to get even a gobble got plenty of Maggie's Drawers. BIGGIE and TOKU received additional gravy by winning the CP's.

ROY FUJII didn't win anything this day was nice enough to donate \$20 to the club. He believes in bread cast upon the waters.....

19th hole was at the Inn of the Sixth Happiness with the club picking up the tab.