

CONTRIBUTING Editor

by Jackson Morisawa

Going Against One's Nature

The East Magazine published an interesting insight to a proverb in their recent issue: "U no mane wo suru karasu", literally translated is "a crow who imitates a comorant." The crow resembles the comorant in both color and shape. Thus a crow, believing itself the equal of a comorant, may plunge into a river after a fish. Because water is not the crow's natural milieu, it will inevitably drown. The proverb suggests that imitation without regard for one's nature and abilities is likely to end in failure.

Postwar Japan, at times, seems a lot like the crow in its attempt to imitate the "comorant" West. The proverb's warning seems to have been ignored since they maintain that "a very determined crow can catch a fish." Perhaps, but can it digest it?

This situation brings to mind the many changes emerging from modern Japan which emulate Western ideals and culture. The most apparent and conspicuous area is in the deterioration of the Japanese Language. If you listen to modern Japanese conversations, you wonder if you are hearing correctly. It's hard to decipher various perfectual ben (spoken language) but modern Japanese sounds foreign. In their determination to expand the language internationally, they caught the fish, but are having a hard time digest it.

But the more disturbing area of concern is in the degeneration of the classical discipline which is indigenous only to Japan. Their deepest cultural heritage which has guided the nations and its people to valor is slowly being transgressed.

One of the classical disciplines is Budo (martial-ways) which has penetrated the Western cultures which did not suspect such discipline existed

or had no desire to enter it.

Budo is a classical discipline developed from accumulated experience in the history of Japanese culture which emphasized Bushido (the Way of the Warriors) as transcending life and death (dualism) to awaken human beings to the true Way of Life. The concept implies man's harmony with nature which can be achieved only through one's dedication to the Do (Way) in a high degree of physical activity.

The Western "eyes" view this discipline as a binding structure which is too demanding and strikes at the freedom of existence. Their idea of freedom is physical and external, where one is free to do as one pleases without regard to the forces of nature. Eastern culture embraces nature in every aspect of life and teaches spiritual freedom, a state of mind free of dualism and ego.

Americans are advanced in technical knowledge and yet find themselves floundering and taken advantage of in the development of products. They dwell on false freedom and disregard human discipline. Their need to understand reason and analyze things with a critical approach turns into qualities which quickly become unyielding obstacles when they are restricted by them. How can one who is always agitated inside be free?

Western approach to physical arts does not go beyond external preoccupation which obstructs the opportunity to grasp the natural principle. Their incessant inclination to seek results and accomplishments, emphasis on winning and losing, doing good or bad, create situations which are contrary to the teaching of the "Way" (Do) and have no place in the study and practice of the classical discipline. Furthermore, Westerners are overly group conscious for such a highly individualistic endeavor.

The Budo heirarchy, in order to perpetuate the discipline and at the same time, maintain their existence, have discarded their moral obligation by creating Budo arts which imitate and cater to Western ideals of physical arts. In other words, the Do arts such as Kendo, Judo, Karatedo, Kyudo, Aikido have been relegated to primary narrow purpose of sports which contradict every aspect of Budo.

Because of this unfortunate degradation, there

is a growing misconception concerning the role of Martial Arts. Most people misunderstand the role of Martial Arts and Budo, Martial Ways. They think these disciplines are one and the same. Furthermore, it is increasingly evident that there is a lack of competent instructors and too many sensei who are deficient in their duty to instill proper attitude and discipline in their students. Also alarming is the growing amount of unqualified teachers who succumb to devious methods to perpetuate their existence and benefit.

A young man came to the Dojo to inquire which Martial Art was the best. He was determined to train and be proficient in the art so that he can defend himself from any adversary. The sensei smilingly told him to go back to town and purchase a pistol.

Martial Art practiced in its entity has no place in modern society. It is a combat art of killing, but even so cannot equal modern weapons.

Mankind with animal instincts cannot afford to dwell in Martial Arts for self preservation. They must be utilized only as a means to realize the principle of Do, a "Way for man." It is imperative that practitioners of these arts recognize this significance and understand the essence of Do which which is the base of all Budo.

The Do is derived from Tao which the great Chinese philosophers such as Lao Tsu and Chuang Tsu advocated. The philosophical and ethical essence of the Do may have religious undertones, but it is not religion in itself. The Tao or Do is the "Way" or road (michi) to follow in life, traveled as a means of self cultivation which leads to self perfection. The Way rests on the spiritual foundation that is experienced and lived through training in a prescribed manner. The development of human character is for man to be simply and naturally a man without ostentation, affection, or self consciousness, to engage in wholesale relationship with others.

The Tao can be referred to as the predecessor of Zen. Therefore the Do is indissolubly tied to Zen.

In Zen there is no distinction between mind and body; the spiritual and physical experiences merge as one. In Budo the technical aspect of the art works as physical experience exhibiting crucial human qualities to realize the mind.

Omori Soigen Rotaishi founder of Chozen-ji/International Zen Dojo, and one of the great advocates of classical Budo states: "Zen without accompanying physical experience is nothing but empty discussion. Martial Ways (Budo) without truly realizing the mind is nothing but "beastly behavior."

"Human beings are part of the evolutionary process, and have plant like cells and qualities of wild animals. However, they are the only creature who possess the quality of human character. But even a man of noble and godlike character cannot exist for a single day without depriving other forms of life of their lives. This is a sad reality of human beings and everyone bear the original sin. Consequently even if man really loves peace, in order to attain this noble aim of peace, must kill animals and vegetable and many other forms of life. To put it paradoxically, man himself falls into the scene of the great destruction of life caused by survival of the fittest. The reality is the human life existence is definitely based on killing. There is absolutely no human life that does not include killing or death. Budo must really grasp this solemn fact.

"No matter how strong he is, man thrown into this world with his animal instinct will find conflict. His world will be the same as that of a tiger or wolf because armed might is no different from the claws and fangs of wild animals. This instinct of preservation can only be called 'Chukusho Heiho' (beastly behavior animal or brute tactics) and this quality by no means can be called Budo."

Martial Art plays a significant role in Budo practitioner cannot completely disregard techniques. Needless to say, when one does Budo techniques must naturally work with one's Zen realization. No matter how much one has mastered Tao, if one never practiced Zen calligraphy, if it impossible to draw a strong brush stroke.

A Budo practitioner must firmly grasp the significance of human existence and the implication of one's life based on killing; transcending the animal instinct and exhibiting the valuable quality of human character to the fullest.

The state in which one is to be removed from killing is not mere ideation because then to 'give life' will be in the same ground as killing and cannot be more than dualism. In all people and

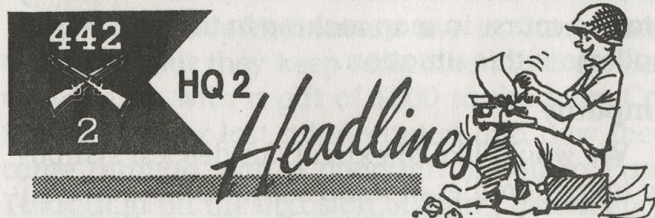
in all things one must grasp this point, the state in which truth is fulfilled.

Ainuke, mutual passing in respect for life, is possible because man can negate negation and attain self realization. It means to set one's mind and body free by transcending all dualism and let life and natural principle take over the entire being.

Omori Rotaishi also explains: "From the biological standpoint, there is no great difference between man and animals. Animals can only live passively as they were brought into this world by their mothers. Man can live in a passive state by the instinct of self preservation, or by negating the self, going beyond the "great self" and live his "True Self." The difference is obvious."

The Budo practitioner thus must use the art as a means of transcending the Self, leaving the mundane act of sport application; going beyond the spirit of a killing art and attain Ainuke. When the Do is grasped, one exhibits "fearlessness" (Mu-I) for there is no concern to do good or bad, right or wrong. Removing anxiety of dualism, absolute peace of mind is ascertained..

If the classical discipline is practiced in any other way than as originally perscribed, it cannot be called Budo. Yet Martial Arts are becoming prevelent in the Western world making pretence to Budo. The Japanese have perpetuated this implication, imitating Western physical art priorities. In this way they have caught many fish swimming unsuspectingly in the Western world. I don't believe they suspect that one of these days they will be also purchasing Mylantas instead of Ota-isan.



by Moriso Teraoka

Doozo yoroshiku onegai itashimasu. I am taking over the duties from **Katsuki Tanigawa** as

the reporter for our chapter. Tanigawa turned in his notepad and pencil to our vice president during our March meeting. Ganbarimasu

Notification: **Tokuo Kaneshige** received word from **Mrs. Slater** that her husband **Alfred Slater** passed away March 4th. "He had a stroke that morning while asleep and was rushed to the hospital but did not regain consciousness." Alfred was a Lieutenant at Camp Shelby and was the 2nd Bn.Motor Pool Officer.

Bill Thompson also reported the passing away of three former HQ2 company members.

Patrick Yoshio Nakagawa passed away on January 30th. He is buried at the Hawaii Veterans Cemetery at Kaneohe. Patrick was with the I&R section in Camp Shelby and up to the Bruyeres fighting. He then took over as 1st Sergeant for Hq2nd until the end of the war. Patrick was a Varsity Victory Volunteer and was one of those honored last year by the University of Hawaii for their patriotism. Patrick was a retiree from the Department of Welfare where was in charge of Vector Control.

Harumi Yamamoto age 75, passed away on April 6th. He was a volunteer from Hawi, North Kohala. Harumi, an Anti-Tank platoon veteran was a retiree from the Hawaii National Guard. Harumi is buried at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. **Yoneichi Kurano** passed away on April 29th. "Ace" as he was called, served as a S/Sgt. for the A&P platoon. He was 88 years old. Private funeral services were held by the family. Internment is at the Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific. Our heartfelt condolences to all the family members of these deceased Veterans.

Mother's Day Celebration

This year's Mother's Day was celebrated on April 25th by the members of this chapter. The members took an opportunity to have lunch at the Kapiolani Community College's fine dining facility. Under the guidance of the Chef Instructor. The aspiring student cooks prepared an appitizer of fresh fruits and stuffed tomato salad with the Chef's special green herb dressing. The main course was a generous portion of tenderloin on a slice of parmigiana and complemented with grilled jumbo shrimps. Dessert offerings came from the dessert

cart. Lilikoi chiffon pie, haupia cake, fruit slices on puff pastry, fruit tart whipped cream and apple strudel. Most of the members had two desserts except for **Lippy**. He would have had the fourth serving but the cart was moved to the next table. Although the **Tanigawas** could not attend the luncheon, they made the luncheon a very memorable one. Their generous donation provided each of the ladies a bouquet of red carnations with baby's tears. "Arigato gozaimasu."

Day Never To Be Forgotten

The brutal reality of war struck **Larry Ishida** apped in a draw and was being shelled continuously for 8 hours," said Ishida. One shell landed in the mist of the entrenched company and killed **Capt. Ralph Ensminger, Pvt. Robert Hirano** and four others. "I was in the detail to bring back the bodies but the intense shelling did not let up. I sat and stared at my dead comrades who minutes before were alive, but now were being covered by the raining dust of the shelling." Ishida said. There were many more of his buddies killed in action throughout the war in Europe. But the first day's loss will be remembered for the rest of Ishida's life. Retired, Larry lives with his wife **Violet** in Kaimuki. He is a member of the **442 Uke and Choral Musical Group**, enjoys karaoke, performs for senior citizens and plays golf.



by Joe Shimamura

Valentine

February the 21st was a day of splurging for the **K-men** as their 1st Sgts were honored with a first class Hawaiian spread at the Pac Cafe in Waikiki. Present for this affair were **Joe & Claire Fujimoto, Walter Heirakuji**, where was **Sally, Bobby & Evelyn Hirayama, Kats Ibara**, what happened to **Nora? Charlie & Kay Igarashi**, just made it. **Kazu K. Fujiwara, Tsune & Hatsue Kanemori, Fujio &**

Charlotte Oura, Seichi & Sally Sakaida, Hiroshi & Maryjane Suyeoka, Clarence "John Bull" Tamatori, Yuki "Alapai" Tokuda, Pretty Sure **Rachel** wasn't traveling? **Kenshi "Mana" Tomomitsu**, boss **Lady Jane** isn't much on Hawaiian chew, the great leader **Hebert Yanamura**, missing **Chiyo** who was absent due to a last minute appointment, **George & Mae Yoshino** out VP for this year, **Helen Maeda, Nizae "Ala Park" Yashima** and **"Zoot" & Nobu Izutsu** whom we found is a gourmet conniseur. These 35 lunched in a first class atmosphere and I'm sure all the good "Fadders" were in good standing with their bosses after this fabulous treat. Like **Nobu Izutsu** sez the Pac Cafe is one of the best restaurants in town and we can see that she's a lady who's really been around. Chewing down whatever was put in the front on him, **"Mana" Tomomitsu** hardly had time to breathe looking like he's ready for the next Boston maraththon consuming all that Hawaiian delicacy just full of energy. It was a day enjoyed by all who were able to make it especially for the **Steady Eddies** who's been making the meetings come hell or high water.

Anniversary

Hiking over those hill and dales is getting to be quite a task as 7 of the energetic K's turned out to place the flag on all the **K-men's** place of rest at Punchbowl on March 28th. **Walter Heirakuji** and **Fujio Miyamoto**, offical chairman of this special event, **Hiroshi Suyeoka, "Ala Park" Yashima, "JohnBull" Tamayori** and #2 Bossman **George Yoshino**. This routine trek to this vast cemetery is getting to be quite a back breaker and not being of much help to the trench feet as the years creep by. As usual always end up putting in some overtime looking for the last one that we knew was located there but somehow missed. **"Suika"** is expecting to take a course in map making in the near future to alleviate this situation.

Sympathy

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the families of Maui's **Mildred & Tadashi Okuda** and the family of the **Isaac Ikehara**. **"Grandma" Terada**, Millie's mom was a lovable **"Bachan"** respected by all and one of the most talented knitters we came to know. **Dwight Ikehara**, #1 son of the late Isaac and Betty Ikehara went forth to meet his Maker, survived by son **Ian**

and daughter **Lei Lani**. Raised in Guam, **Dwight** spent his final years in Hawaii indulging in his favorite past time, riding the thundering foams of Hawaii's roaring surf.

Valley Isle

Going first class, the Maui-ites are holding it together going for a Mother's Day Brunch at the cozy Kaanapali Beach dining room. An after dining talk story and relaxing session at the Lahaina Jodo Shu arranged by **Lefty** and **Margie Nishimura** climaxed this most enjoyable day as **Hancho Tad Takamatsu** continues to keep the **K-men** comradeship going year after year. A Valentine luncheon at Kula Sandalwoods Restaurant and a trek to the Makawao Veterans Cemetery is turning out to be an yearly tradition with these busy Maui-ites whose closeness over all these years is something to admire. Keep up the good work Tad. In bringing to a close this issue, just a food for thought with John Kennedy's famous inaugural speech, "Ask not what your country (company) can do for you but ask what you can do for your country (company). October 27, 28, 29 and 30 1996, the Sands Hotel in Reno is the big one for K-s this year so mark your calendars and start chasing those cockroaches out of your suitcases. Cheerio till the next one....



by **Shiro Aoki**

Seiki & Alice Yoshimura live in Carruthers, California but they keep remembering their Hawaii friends with a gift of \$200 to the Mike Co. treasury at our last mini-reunion and now they came through with a donation of \$40 to **Paul Takiguchi** on the occasion of Paul's ascendancy to the position of President of the 442 Veterans Club. "Have a treat on us," they wrote Paul. The President of the Mother Club graciously accepted the donation with a nice thank you letter to Alice & Seiki and at the same time advised them that he, in turn, was donating the money to Mike Chapter.

We thanked both **Paul and the Yoshimuras** for helping to keep the Mike Chapter treasury in the black. It is nice to have friends like them. Again, thank you **Seiki & Alice** and **Paul** also.

The 53rd Anniversary Festivities

The 53rd Anniversary Festivities marking the start of M Co's **Paul Takiguchi's** presidency of the 442nd Veterans Club went off with a resounding bang! The memorial services held on the morning of March 30th featured the guidon bearers of each chapter standing at attention and dipping the banners at the command of "Present Arms!" It was impressive to watch these old soldiers doing what would have been a peice of cake 50 years ago. M Co.'s guidon bearer was **Shige Inouye** who carried out his duties so well that **Ralph Tomei** has no question as to who our guidon bearer will be at all of our future memorial services.

The services highlighted opening remarks by a very short speech by **President Takiguchi**, a fine speech by **Gene Castagnetti**, the keynote speech by S&D member the **Honorable Paula Nakayama**, the Pledge of Allegiance by yonsei **Jessica Jones**, granddaughter of **Jimmy & Martha Miyake** and the beautiful renditions by the 442nd Choral group which had **Mikes Yori Inouye, Gladys Uyemura, David & Janet Umeda, Ralph & Alice Tomei** among its talented singers. The singing of the choral group was even more meaningful because they printed the words to each of their songs on a sepeate piece of paper and included that in the folded Memorial Service program that was passed out to each attendee by the S&D chapter.

When **Yori Inouye** was in Kauai for a visit some time before the 53rd Anniversary, she met **Isao Sugibayashi** and talked to him about coming out to Honolulu to attend the 53rd Anniversary memorial service and banquet. Sugi thought it was a good idea and when Yori followed up with him later it was finalized and **Yori & Shige** were planning to pick up "Sugar" at the airport on Saturday morning. But when Tomei selected Shige to be the guidon bearer for M Co at the memorial service, these plans had to be changed and Shige asked **Tommy Kikuchi** to pick up Sugibayashi. Tommy agreed so Yori called Sugar to let him know that Kikuchi would be picking him up at the airport.

After all these years, Isao wasn't sure what Tommy looked like so he dug up his old M Company group photo and scrutinized each face to see if he could recognize Kikuchi. But after several tries he couldn't identify Tommy. When Tommy went to pick up Sugibayashi, he had no problem at all in recognizing him because Isao hasn't changed much over the years looking robust and healthy, slim and young looking. Isao told Tommy about the M Co. photo and Tommy said, "No wonder you had hard time find me in that picture. I was not in the picture at all because I went on a pass to Hattiesburg that day." When I told Yori about Sugi looking for Tommy's face in the old photo, Yori said, "I didn't tell Sugar because I thought everybody in M Co. knows Kikuchi."

The banquet held at the Pacific Beach Hotel was another huge success. The keynote speaker was another S&D **Wendy Hanamura** who gave a stirring talk giving the background about how the documentary "**Honor Bound**" came about and followed her oral presentation by a screening of "Honor Bound" which was even more meaningful because of her previous presentation. At the banquet, we were joined at our table by **Mr. & Mrs. Mitani** from Livorno Chapter. As Kikuchi was telling stories about what had happened at Newport News, Virginia some 53 years ago, Mrs. Mitani said, "Wow! That man has a terrific memory!" He sure has and that's why I keep pushing him to go and give his oral history to the Sons & Daughters Project. Aloha for now.



by Ron Oba

Brothers In Valor

A Monumental Project To Live Forever

The Pearl City, Aiea, and Halawa Heights veterans are the last to receive their Bulletins. I have been having a friendly repatee with the

Pearl City Postmaster that they treat the Bulletin like Junk Mail. He denies this, but we still haven't received ours yet. Today is Tuesday the 14th and it was mailed on Thursday, May 2nd. There once was a mailman in shorts who tried to deliver the mail but a UPS dog bit him on the knee. Was it his right knee, or his left knee? Oh no, it was his "Weanie". The dog thought it was a **JUNK MALE** hot dog!

You haven't received your 442nd Bulletin for Dec-Jan-Feb but here goes for the happenings for Mar-April-May issue. Much has happened during the first quarter of this year. Flash! - **Mineo Bambino Inuzuka**, our circumnavigator, just sailed into Keehi Lagoon on Monday - we'll cover his story in the next issue. Our Executive Secretary, **Jennifer Baker**, resigned to take another job at a wine distributorship. Maybe for our next Anniversary Banquet we can get a bottle of champagne for every table and make it a bubbly affair, eh, Jenny? Our new secretary is **Gail Onuma**, daughter of 232nd Engineers veteran **Rodney Yamashiro**. Gail came in the middle of the center of sending invitations, having programs printed and making name cards for both the Memorial Service and the Banquet. Getting the Bulletin out for printing was a new venture for her and I understand that the Bulletin is already in some members' hands.

Brothers In Valor monument ground-breaking ceremony at Fort DeRussy was held on March 11 at 10 a.m. **Councilman Andy Mirikitani** did a magnificent job in M. C'ing the ceremony and kept the Posting of the Colors, singing of the Hawaii Pono and the National Anthem, giving the Invocation, Welcome, and Keynote Address by **Lt. Gen Robert Ord III**, Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific in quick cadence, that the groundbreaking and the final Benediction was given within the hour allocated. Since the President and Editor will elucidate more thoroughly on this event, participants names and remarks are deferred here, except to say that **Mike Harada**, a son of a 100th veteran, did a yeoman's job in behalf of Gen. Ord in coordinating communication and logistics between the Army and the Veterans Council, that even the refreshments were donated by General Manager, **John Jefferis** of the Hale Koa Hotel. Numerous committees met weekly to plan this event.

It is estimated that 300 to 400,000 dollars more will be needed to complete the monument site and the center piece by the end of 1997. Thus far the City and County through Mr. Mirikitani has appropriated \$305,000 and we have raised \$61,000 for a total of \$366,000. Past President **Henry Kuniyuki** will solicit for funds for the memorial monument while in Japan to publicize a book, *NIKKEI SOLDIERS IN HAWAII*, edited by the Bishop **Ryokan Ara** of Tendai Mission.

The Memorial Service and Anniversary Banquet were held on Saturday, March 30. It was a pleasant surprise to see more veterans attending both events. Our mother club, taking a hint at the fine cooperation that the four veterans units have demonstrated in working together to erect a monument for the 100/ 442nd veterans units, Military Intelligence Service, and the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion, has decided to invite members of the other three AJA units to the Anniversary Banquet and each unit responded by having their officers and members come to our function. Several years ago, the AJA council tried to develop a closer brotherhood among the units by having a beer bust when I was the president of the Council. It was a mild success but did not have enough impetus to be continued. We're hoping that with the work still to be done on the monument, closer relationship can become a more permanent field.

Wendy Hanamura came to show her Videotape "**Honor Bound**" but she stole the show with her keynote address. I liked her remarks much, much better than the video since we had already seen it several times.

Incidentally, this month on May 17, at 6 p.m. at the Kapiolani Community College, the Japanese American National Museum will be here to show the tape, "**Looking like the Enemy**." It should be good since **Bob Katayama** and **Ron Oba** will be in the taped interviews. **Mr. Robert Nakamura** was here early on to interview veterans of the European, Korean, and Vietnam wars. Unlike previous videos of the battle experiences, it's said that the theme will center on how we won over prejudice and discrimination. Dubbed copies will be available for sale.

DOWN UNDER

After 15 days down under, you need to come

up for air. Australia and New Zealand are so close to Antarctica that you can almost feel the snow in your face. Luckily **Joe Tanaka**, tour escort, decided the time to travel there should be in Autumn, that is, April for us Hawaiians. It was nippy and cold at times but **Tommy Tamagawa** and **Ron Oba** were able to wear shorts for golf where they had just enough golf carts to go around for the Hawaii-Denver contingent. Most of the people there walked the full 18 holes.

For the first timers the trip was an educational and fun trip. If you haven't been there, Sydney will host the Olympics in 1998. Aborigines of Australia are not the same as the indigenous Maoris of New Zealand. We felt an acute competitiveness or jealousy between the Aussies and New Zealanders when talking to shop keepers and waitresses. Perhaps it is because Australia was settled by hardcore criminals from England who were incarcerated in Penal Colonies in and around Sydney and Melbourne, as well as Tasmania. Today, however, Melbourne is considered one of the safest cities in the world (sic). Cottages and barracks were constructed from 1788 and both countries have the Queen of England as their titular head. Captain James Cook's presence through his ship, the *Endeavor* is ubiquitous in both countries as he had visited and mapped the shorelines of both in 1768 before his demise in Hawaii. However the Dutch in 1500 were the first to discover these oldest continents in the world.

Unlike Europe, Australia had few historical buildings but abounded in harbors, lakes, rivers, and snow capped mountains. You're right, we went on boat cruises and viewed Sydney's Opera House from far and near. We visited Canberra, the capital, where an American was commissioned to lay out the city, much like Washington D.C. We learned that a young Kangaroo is called a Woolloomooloo by the natives. Names have a musical rhythm like, Boolabong, Baralooloo, Wombats, Wallabies, and the nocturnal Kiwi and Koala. The Kiwi and Koala Bears are kept awake at night by bright lights so that the tourists can see them during the day. Confusing? Tourists are still wondering why the Kiwi and Koala Bears are not romping around since it is night during the day for them. They also say, "Give way" for yield; "Take away" for take out orders. Their unAmerican accent is also cute when a young salesgirl speaks,

but when the bus driver in his British accent gives a tour description of places, bicyclay (basically), it's faws-ten your seat belts. because we're going to see a lamb being sheared and the naked lamb has been *fleeced*. A good sheep dog that keeps the herd in place costs \$10,000 and above. In the early days farmers imported a thorny bush called Briar and planted them around the edges to keep the sheep enclosed. Today, they're a nuisance, so you get the phrase, "I've been bushwacked."

Occasionally a major intersection will be monitored by a Red Man Camera that catches drivers going through the red light and a ticket will be in the mail the next morning. Everyone drives cautiously through these intersections. A Red Man was taking a shower when a lady came knocking at the door for donations. The Red Man flipped a towel over his lower half but when he answered and opened the door the towel fell to the floor. The lady screamed and ran across the street, whereupon she was run over by a car. The Motto: When the Red Man is *flashing*, don't run across the street.

Millions of them. All over the country side; on hills, mountains and paddocks. A few black ones among them. The black ones are eliminated. They're brownish and have to be washed and debugged. They also must be impregnated by a Ram that can do it to 85 to 100 lambs a day. A Ram that can't bang them is also terminated. Survival of the hard-dy. The lambs give birth to twins and about every five births will have black and white lambs and after 2 years old, the females are called Ewes. The Rack of Lamb comes from sheep that are 6 to 8 months old. After 2 years, they're Hoggets (male and female) and served as Muttons. The castrated males are Wethers. A cross between a Goat and a Deer are called Chemois, thus the chemois skin.

Gastronomically speaking, shopping for dinner was the next most rewarding or disappointing endeavors for George and Kay Kawakami, Yuki and Elaine Okutsu, Stanley and Thelma Hashimoto and Ron and Michi Oba. Since we broke into tiny groups I apologize for not being able to report on the doings of the other members in the tour. In the land of plentiful lambs, they said that you can't find a restaurant that serves Rack of Lamb or a good lamb curry stew. Well, we found several good rack of lambs but the Indian restau-

rant that served lamb curry was a bust. They served mild, medium, or hot lamb curry. It wasn't stew as we know it and it was hot. As they say, no restaurant prepares food as well as they do here in Hawaii, be it Chinese, Japanese or Thai. Beer went from \$3.50 to \$6.00 per bottle. Woolen goods, as well as sheep skin rugs. were triple that of a few years ago but everyone had to buy something for their grandchildren, In-laws, Doc Roy Iritani and the Denver group lugging wrapped bundles of sheep skin rugs. Shopping for opals and native artifacts kept the ladies busy while the men went golfing.

Other memorable events were watching the Bungy Jumper swan dive into the river below. A few brave souls among the ladies went boat jetting down the rapids while everyone rode the Puffing Billy, a steam locomotive, way up in the mountains. Rotorua and Auckland were the final legs of our trip. The Maoris mostly inhabit Rotorua where sulfur springs and mud ponds keep the area smelling like rotten eggs. In spite of this, the Maoris have survived the transformation into the modern world by maintaining their heritage and culture. They spoke both languages fluently and seemed to be well educated with a deep sense of pride in their ability to maintain their skills in the traditional art of wood carving and mat weaving. An impressive museum and learning center dedicated to enlightening tourists of their past and future is displayed with joy. The Maori youths all look like Rambo, with huge biceps and thighs that make them world champions in Rugby. For their height and size, they are agile and quick. Mike Wilton should recruit some of them for I'm sure they can jump higher than a volleyball net.

Those who enjoyed the trip were: Joe, Sharon Tanaka, Fred, Yoshino Okada, Wataru, Kikuye Kohashi, Yvonne Kumasaka, Dr. Roy Iritani, David Iritani, Tommy, May Tamagawa, Yuki, Elaine Okutsu, Kimi Miyashiro, Geroge, Kay Kawakami, Samie Goya, Janice Masaki, Stanley, Thelma Hashimoto, Ron, Michi Oba, and from Denver were: Paul, Peggy Osuga, Mas, Sally Yoshimura, Ayako Matsumoto, Mary Yokooji, Jon, Sayo Takata, and Bob, Jane Fujioka. Keorai !!! (Hello, Aloha).

F CO. L.A.

As time goes by, the bad news from the mainland seems to delve on the sick and casualties. Good friends **Mas Miyamoto** and **Hiro** write that **Mitsuru Kawamoto** of Elkington, Nebraska, **George Katsumi Konagamitsu**, brother of **Kiko Konagamitsu**, **Joe Yasumi Kuwada**, **Joe Kadowaki's** brother-in-law and **Yoshio Kure** have passed away recently. **Tak Sasaki** of Monterey had a tumor removed from his stomach; **Joe Yamamoto** had a by-pass surgery; and **Joe Kadowaki** had leg surgery to improve his circulation. Mas also informs that **Mas Yoshida** experienced a double reprise, when he underwent a quadruple by-pass and then was a passenger in his wife's car when a 25 lbs chunk of metal the size of a softball fell off a truck and bounced into his side of the windshield and hit his face. Miyamoto said that Yoshida almost Ma-ke. **Yas and Helen Deguchi** of Kealekua cancelled the trip to Australia when Helen became ill. Hope she is much better now.

However, the good news is that **Sally and Pat Valenti** are planning to come to the October reunion at the Gold Coast, Las Vegas.

We still don't see **Jack Wakamatsu's** name among the 133 people planning to attend, at the last count. Last issue I mentioned that only mainlanders were interested in golf. That's because us locals have the Hawaiian time and didn't respond like you eager beavers. **Joe Tanaka** who's in charge of the golf reported that all Tee times for 24 players are occupied. Happily we can see **Donna Okuhara** literally in Vegas since she has moved to 10316 Frostburg Ln., Las Vegas, NV. 89134

By the time you read this, I would have called **Hiro** to try to beat a dead horse to life by proposing to spent two nights in Gardena with a get together banquet and a round of golf. I guess we were too modest at first to say don't fall over backwards to host a mini-reunion. The group from Hawaii feels we won't have enough time to "talk story" in Vegas while competing with the machines. Anyway if it comes to pass, we'll see you at the same hotel, same place, same time. (P.S.) Just called **Hiro** who thinks that the L.A. boys will be amenable to the group spending two nights at the New Gardena Hotel with a banquet and golf thrown in. Again, every event will be on a dutch-treat basis.

This will be great since we haven't seen many of you after the 50th Reunion in Hawaii in 1993.

Remembering Mother

On May 10th the chapter gathered at the Cannons Officers Club on the slopes of Daimond Head to celebrate Mothers' Day. "Are you going to treat your wife?" "No, because she's not my mother." Well then, the club will treat all wives and widows to a free dinner of a choice of Prime Rib, Chicken or Mahi Mahi with all the trimmings. Our regular dinner meetings are usually on the third Friday of the month but when **Doc James Mimura** called to say he's back at his Condo in Kaneohe with his daughter, **Sally**, we changed the date to the 10th since he'll be leaving after visiting his Hilo gang of **Okutsus**, **Nishidas**, **Kohashis**, **Nishidas**, **Ishidas**, **Hondas**, **Miyashiro** and **Nagata**.

The dinner was enjoyed by a good turn-out of 29 members and wives. It was good to see **Fred Okada**, who can now out-walk anyone with his cane as he did on the trip to Australia-New Zealand. It's heartening to see one of our gang recover so nicely and come to all the functions. **Doc Mimura** had much to talk about during the evening as he made the rounds. His daughter **Sally** and sister **Marge** were also our guests. Just about everyone mistook Sally for **Carole**. Sally plans to go into medicine, possibly into the EYE business. **President Yoshio Shibuya** reported that next year's Memorial Service and Anniversary Banquet will be on March 22, 1997, same places. **George Nakasato** and his committee of **Joe Tanaka**, **Ron Oba** and **Tommy Tamagawa** had much to plan for the upcoming October reunion. It was unanimously agreed that we'll again survey all registrants to see how many will stop over for a mini-reunion in Gardena. The count thus far is now about 140 planning to attend the Vegas portion only. The stop over will be an additional \$35 and the two nights at the New Gardena Hotel is \$50 per night..

Tamagawa gave us conflicting dates but the next golf outing will be May 20th at 8 a.m. at Kunia Country Club. He invites anyone and everyone to play golf with us.

Mich Takata announced that **Natsuko Oyasato** is in a St Francis Hospice and prefers not