

Go for Broke

BULLETIN

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

442 VETERANS CLUB

VOL XLVIII No. 1 JANUARY-MARCH, 1997

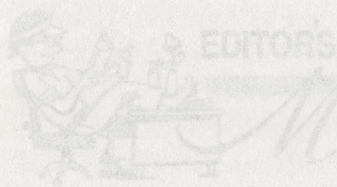


SPECIAL EDITION

- President's Report*
- 442nd Federal Credit Union*
- A Salute to the Officers - 442*
- Hawaii AJAs*
- A Matter of Honor*
- Patriotism on the Battlefield*
- National History Day - 100/442nd*
- A Country Stolen: Story of VVV*
- Honor Bound*
- Contributing Editor*
- Letters to the Editor*



A Salute to the Officers of the 442nd RCT



by Ed Goto

Special Edition

As I had announced in the last edition of the Bulletin, the next regular January to March issue would probably be coming out in May of 1997 because of the change to having each issue cover the full quarter. Well, this wait time between bulletins raised some concern among many of our "subscribers."

Therefore, you are presented with a special filler edition of the Bulletin which gives you a chance to publish a number of items which are not the usual reports found in the regular edition. Some of the contents are a little dated. However, we hope that they will be of interest to you.

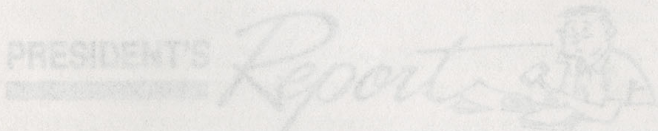


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Also presented is a special report from Kenneth Okuma on the credit union. And of special note is a letter to the editor from Leonard Wilkerson on the 101st Infantry Regiment Association announcing their reunion in May 1997. We felt some of you may be interested in attending and would need the lead time.

Hope you enjoy this special edition. Your comments on doing this on regular but intermittent basis are welcome.



by Robert Katayama

I am happy to be your next president. As I looked over the profiles of the past presidents of the

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- Wendy Hanamura
- Jackson Morisawa
- Leonard Wilkerson

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by Ed Goto

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As I had announced in the last edition of the Bulletin, the next regular January to March issue would probably be coming out in May of 1997 because of the change to having each issue cover the full quarter. Well, this wait time between bulletins raised some concern among many of our "subscribers."

Therefore, you are presented herein with a special filler edition of the Bulletin which gives us a chance to publish a number of items which are outside the usual reports found in the regular editions. Some of the contents are a little dated. However, we believe that they are still meaningful and should be of interest to you.

We have also included a President's Message from our newly installed president, Robert Katayama, who moved into the position following the "early retirement" of Paul Takiguchi, who continues on the Board and Executive Committee as immediate past president. We're presenting his message here to bring it to you nearer to the start of his taking the post.

Also presented is a special report from Kenneth Okuma on the credit union. And of special note is a letter to the editor from Leonard Wilkerson on the 141st Infantry Regiment Association announcing their reunion in May 1997. We felt some of you may be interested in attending and would need the lead time.

Hope you enjoy this special edition. Your comments on doing this on regular but intermittent basis are welcome.



by Robert Katayama

I am deeply honored to be your next president. As I looked over the photos of the past presidents of the

442nd Veterans Club, I could not help but feel how lucky the Club has been in having been led by so many outstanding leaders. I will do my very best to live up to their high standards.

In 1997, I will merely be completing the second year of Paul Takiguchi's two-year term, so I expect that the committee chairmen will remain the same. On the other hand, there will be changes in the offices of vice-president by operation of our By-laws. Bill Naganuma will become president-elect and Ed Goto will become second vice-president. This will leave the office of third vice-president vacant. I ask each of you for your recommendation for third vice-president.

During 1997, I plan to dust off two projects that have been on the Club's drawing board this past year.

The first project will be to update the Club's By-laws. Several provisions in the current By-laws need to be clarified or made more specific. Other provisions will require a complete overhaul so as to conform with our current realities.

The second project is related to the Outreach Program proposed by our Long Range Planning Committee. This project will be sponsored by the 442nd Regimental Combat Team Foundation, but will require our active participation. The Foundation will be inviting our Board members to a bento lunch and seminar to be held on February 19 at the conference room of the American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. located at the Ala Moana Shopping Center. This program will focus upon estate planning and planned giving and will cover subjects that will not be limited to wills and revocable living trusts, but will also cover 1997 updates on Medicare, Medigap, Medicaid, and long term care as well as living wills and health care durable powers of attorney. A strategy will be proposed whereby all of these pieces can be wrapped up in a planned giving program to benefit yourselves as well as the Foundation. Depending upon your feedback we would like to expand this project and offer it to as many Club members as possible.

In March or April, after consulting with the Executive Committee, I plan to submit for your approval, two or three more projects that should be our bridge from 1998 into the 21st Century.

During the remainder of 1997, our plates will be full with the Club's 54th anniversary memorial service and banquet on March 22; the third ceremony to induct additional DSC holders into the U.S. Army Museum of

Hawaii's "Gallery of Heroes" in March or April; the dedication of the Brothers in Valor Monument at Fort DeRussy in June or July; participation in the annual Aloha Week Festival parade in September; and several major events in October, including the "French Crossing" exhibit at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, the Japanese American National Museum project on "The Japanese in Hawaii," and the trip to Japan at the invitation of the Unabarakai, the World War II Japanese navy pilots' association. We will be catching our breaths in November and the Chapters will be preparing for their annual Christmas get-togethers.

All of these projects will require that same Go For Broke spirit which we started out with in March of 1943 at tent city, Schofield Barracks and ended up with in May of 1945 at tent city, Ghedi Airport. I ask each of you for your full cooperation and support so that we can make these projects worthwhile for the members of the 442nd Veterans Club.

Thank you!

VETERANS CLUB 442nd FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

by Kenneth Okuma

One of the unsung entities of the 442nd Veterans Club is its own Credit union in their privileges and services to the members. It has continually and steadfastly afforded financial assistance by granting low interest loans and a safe guaranteed depository of members' savings.

On Friday, January 24, 1997, the 442nd Credit Union held its 43rd annual meeting at Club 100. Approximately 65 members (including spouses, sons and daughters) were in attendance. Attendees enjoyed tasty bentos prepared by Suehiro Restaurant—courtesy of the Credit Union.

President Charles Oda (Can) opened the meeting by having George Nakasato (F), secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting, held in January, 1996. Shigeru Goto (3rd HQ), vice president, serves as the other officer.

This was followed by Clarence Taba (I), manager-treasurer, who explained the financial reports which were previously passed out. He pointed out that our interest rates on loans to be one of the lowest in the nation.

It is appropriate at this time to commend Clarence Taba (I) for his unselfish efforts and expertise since the inception of the Credit Union. Also, much mahalo is extended to Robert Sasaki (L), who serviced the members and kept the office in good shape in all these developing years.

The following Board of Directors were nominated and elected for the next 2 years: Charles Oda (Can), Katsugo Miho (522), Togo Nakagawa (I), and Shigeru Goto (3rd HQ). Holdover are Clarence Taba (I), Wally Kawamura (L) and George Nakasato (F).

The supervisory committee headed by Ray Tanaka (Liv) reported that all is in order. Committee members are Lefty Sugihara (E) and Masaru Nakakura (522).

Saburo Takayesu (Liv), chairman of the Credit committee who was not able to attend, submitted a written report. His committee members are Yoshitaka Kuwaye, Walter Matsumoto and Masaji Kurozumi (Serv).

Generous door prizes were awarded to all members present to end the meeting on a pleasant note. The 442nd Veterans Club Credit Union thanks Club 100 for allowing the use of its facilities the past many years.

A SALUTE TO THE OFFICERS OF THE 442nd RCT

by George Nakasato

In his first and subsequent editions of his book, "Americans, The Story of the 442nd," author Orville C. Shirey documents an appendix of personal and appropriate awards and decorations of those who served with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It provides a clear picture of officers and enlisted men who served in the RCT unit.

A total of 370 senior and junior officers were listed.

The senior officers, in some cases, were associated with the original 100th Infantry Battalion in mid-1942, while many others joined later as the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT) was activated in early 1943 at the Camp Shelby training center, Mississippi. In essence, their military experiences spanned from activation to basic and unit training to overseas combat participation.

In general, the majority of the senior officers were Caucasian or haole officers. And they were fully aware of the implication of the experiment in which the 442nd unit represented in the military. Junior officers, like-

wise, were equally aware of such a situation, maybe not so clearly as the case for the seniors.

In recent published literature, it has been reported that the relationship between the officers and enlisted men was genuinely close and mutually respected. A structured lifestyle in the military requires understanding and patience in developing such a "close family" unit. As Col. C.W. Pence mentioned toward the end of the training period, "I'll take these men into battle without any hesitation!" Such an assessment has been repeated many times by other officers.

It is also noted that 17 officers of the RCT unit were listed as "killed in action." And since then, a large number of officers have moved on; today, however, a significant number of them are still with us.

It seems timely now that we salute and honor all officers of the 442nd RCT, and after 54 years, offer them and their families a rousing accolade of a spirited "Kansha" (appreciation). We valued their dedication, their leadership qualities, their support when needed, and of their undying trust. Further, we cherish their confidence and belief ingrained in the mission and spirit of Go-For-Broke.

The 54th Anniversary Observance is truly the proper time and the appropriate forum for such an honor.

One of the key features of the Anniversary Banquet program is a forum of three (3) speakers, all former officers of the 442nd RCT, who will share their experiences, their thoughts and other personal outcomes as officers of their respective commands. In all cases, their life experiences range from early activation to training to combat and to post-World War II fellowship gatherings. Speakers invited to participate:

1. Col. Bert Nishimura, USA, Ret.
2nd Battalion Headquarters
Honolulu, Hawaii
2. Col. Christopher Keegan, USA, Ret.
2nd Battalion, Howe Company
San Diego, California
3. Maj. Gerald Gustafson, USA, Ret.
Regimental Headquarters, Cannon Company
Sun Lake, Arizona

The 54th Anniversary Banquet will be held at the Pacific Beach Hotel Ballroom, March 22, 1997, Saturday evening, starting at 5:30 PM.

442nd RCT OFFICERS

Col Virgil Rasmuss Miller, SS, LM, BS, CIB, MVM (Italian)
Col Charles Wilbur Pence, DSM, PH, CIB, CG
LtCol Jack Edward Conley, SS, BS, DUB, CIB
LtCol James Martin Hanley, Jr., LM, BS, DUB, CIB, CG, MVM (Italian)
LtCol Alfred Arthur Pursall, SS, BS, DUB, CIB, CG
LtCol Gordon Singles, BS, DUB, CIB, CG
LtCol Jack C. Smith
Maj Thomas William Akins, SS, DUB, CIB, CG
Maj Clarence Harold Buckley, BS, MB
Maj William Newell Colyer, DUB, CIB
Maj Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, SS, DUB, CIB
Maj Robert Arthur Gopel, BS olc, DUB, CIB
Maj Ralph Joseph Graham, PH, DUB, CIB
Maj George G. Green
Maj Oscar King, SS, BS
Maj Ivan Ferdinand Kovac, BS olc, CIB
Maj Harry L. Lyon
Maj Alex Earl McKenzie, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Maj Emmet Lawrence O'Connor, PH, DUB, CIB
Maj Claude Peyton White, BS, CIB
Capt (Ch) George Aki
Capt William Aull, BS olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Victor Joseph Bonin, DUB, CIB
Capt Joseph Lawrence Byrne, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Donald F. Cameron, Jr.
Capt Jack Certain
Capt Jack A. Coston, DUB, CIB
Capt Thomas E. Crowley, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt John J. Dahl, MB
Capt Frank Alex Demaiolo, BS, DUB, CIB
Capt Ralph Burnell Ensminger, PH, CIB
Capt Harry Burtis Farr, BS, CIB
Capt Marion Francis Felt, SS, DUB, CIB
Capt Louis Anthony Ferris, BSA, CIB
Capt Paul Edward Froning, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Gaylord Hellis Gilmore, LM, PH, CIB
Capt George Henry Grandstaff, SS, LM, PH 3 olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Eugene Davis Harrison, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Lee B. Hawkins, BS, CIB
Capt Shigeki Hayashi, PH, MB
Capt Robert Lewis Hempstead, SS, PH, CIB
Capt (Ch) Hiro Higuchi, LM
Capt Milton A. Hirsh, Jr.
Capt Joseph Wallace Hill, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Merle L. Hite
Capt LaVern Lee Hodges
Capt Wayland F. Hogan, MB
Capt Norman Howard, BS, CIB
Capt Walter F. Johnston, SS, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Capt John Abselom Jett, DUB, CIB
Capt William R. Jacobs
Capt Henry Masashi Kawano, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Wallace Shinobu Kawaoka, BS, MB
Capt Christopher R. Keegan, LM, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Capt John Harold Kilmore, DUB, CIB
Capt Young Oak Kim, DSC, SS, PH olc
Capt Katsumi Kometani, BS, MB
Capt John Richard Leonard, Jr., CIB
Capt Walter Lesinski, CIB
Capt Howard F. Luther
Capt Walter A. Mackey, BS, DUB, CIB
Capt St. Elmo Massengale, Jr., BS, CIB
Capt Roderick Matheson, Jr., CIB
Capt Robert J. McKelvy, DUB, CIB
Capt Robert Bothwell Meyer, BS, DUB, CIB
Capt Sterlin C. Moore
Capt Arthur William Munch, PH olc, DUB, CIB
Capt Edward Joseph Nulges, SS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt Bert Noboru Nishimura, SS, DUB, CIB
Capt Hugo Shafter O'Konogi, MB
Capt Franklin G. Osberg
Capt Carl Patrick Piampiano, PH
Capt Thomas Plourde, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
Capt William S. Pye, BS olc, DUB, CIB

Capt Harold Frederick Riebesell, BS, CIB
 Capt Jack Woodrow Rodarme, SS, BS, DUB, CIB
 Capt Charles Leonard Schettler, BSA, CIB
 Capt Harry Irwin Schoenberg, BS, PH 2 olc,
 Capt Joseph Shapiro, MB
 Capt Orville Creap Shirey, LM, DUB, CIB, MVM (Italian)
 Capt Edwin Robert Shorey, SS, CIB
 Capt Robert Braxton Smith, DUB, CIB
 Capt Joseph W. Stevenson, BS, PH, CIB
 Capt George Shiyogo Takahashi, MB
 Capt Saka Takahashi, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
 Capt California S. Ushiro, BS, MB
 Capt Fletcher W. Vowell
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 Capt (Ch) Masao Yamada, LM, PH olc, DUB
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 2ndLt Wilbur Harold Blanchard, PH, CIB
 2ndLt Merrill F. Butler, Jr.
 2ndLt Albert Byron Chipman, Jr., PH, CIB
 2ndLt Joseph J. Cunningham, BS, CIB
 2ndLt Masuo Chomori, PH, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt William John Collins, CIB
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 2ndLt Edward T. Davis, SS, BS, PH, CIB
 2ndLt William Davenport, SS, BS, CIB
 2ndLt Carlo Joseph Dileo, CIB
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 2ndLt Jack Gail Earp, PH, CIB
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 2ndLt Takeji Kinoshita
 2ndLt Joseph Y. Kiyonaga, DUB, CIB
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 2ndLt Lewis Kovacs
 2ndLt George M. Komachi
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 2ndLt *Minoru Kurata*, PH, CIB
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 2ndLt Carl Leland Lang, PH, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt *Clarence E. Lang*, PH, DUB, CIB

2ndLt John Lewis Mapes, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Manfred Lloyd Minzer, Jr., CIB
 2ndLt Jimmie T. Nakayama, BS, PH, MB
 2ndLt Matsuhei H. Nishimura, BS, PH, D.B. CIB
 2ndLt Yoshinaru Nishida, PH, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Mitsuo Nitta
 2ndLt Ichiro Okada, SS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Tsugio D. Okumura, DUB, CIB
 *2ndLt Harry Eugene Oliver, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt William C. Oshiro, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
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 2ndLt Bernard Leon Perlsweig, BS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
 *2ndLt Ralph Jay Potter, Jr., CIB
 2ndLt Robert J. Regan, BS, PH, CIB
 2ndLt Arthur LaVerne Rizer
 2ndLt Edward W. Roll
 2ndLt Bernard Rosen, PH
 2ndLt Toratsugu Ryusaki, BS, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt William Crosby Shaw, Jr., DUB, CIB
 2ndLt George S. Shepherd PH, DUB, CIB
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 2ndLt Arthur Delos Sloan, PH olc, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt James C. Secord
 2ndLt Colonel Verdell Sober, PH, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Toshimo Sodemani, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Alfred John Stefnagle, PH, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt *Kei Tanahashi*, SS, PH, CIB
 2ndLt Nobuo F. Tanigawa, CIB
 2ndLt Shigeo George Teraji, SS, PH olc, DUB, CIB
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 2ndLt Joseph B. Williams, BS
 2ndLt Harold L. Wheeler
 2ndLt Susumu Yamada, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Yoshio Yanagawa, BS, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Yutaka Yoshida, SS, BS, PH, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt *Hitoshi Yonemura*, SS olc, PH olc, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Tsutomu Yoshida, PH olc, DUB, CIB
 2ndLt Edward Zukowski, PH, CIB
 2ndLt Michael Paul Zupkas
 CWO Albert Atsushi Koby, CIB
 CWO Thomas Nishitani, CIB
 WOJG Phillip N. Ichino, CIB
 WOJG Joe Iwaoka, BS, CIB
 WOJG Hideo Kajikawa, CIB
 WOJG James N. Yamamoto, CIB
 Capt John Gallagher Craig
 Capt John Moliema
 Capt Oral E. Stanton
 1stLt Charles H. Tinsley, Jr.
 2ndLt Malcolm E. Aldrich
 2ndLt Howard W. Arnold
 2ndLt John T. Duffy
 2ndLt Nagao Fujita
 2ndLt Harmon W. Jordan
 2ndLt Joseph B. Kazlauskas
 2ndLt Yale Laitin
 2ndLt Francis D. Murray

Corrections:

1stLt Teruo Ihara
 2ndLt Robert H. Kaichi

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