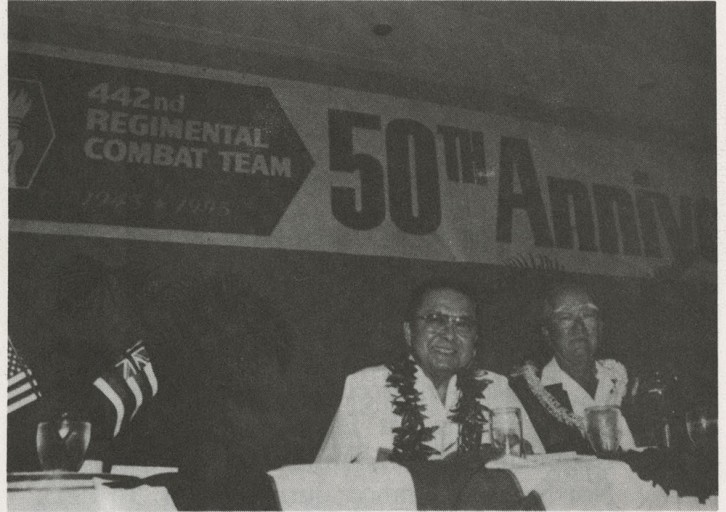


442nd Regimental Combat Team



Senator Daniel Inouye, Aloha Banquet



Sen. Inouye, Pres. Ron Oba, 442nd Club



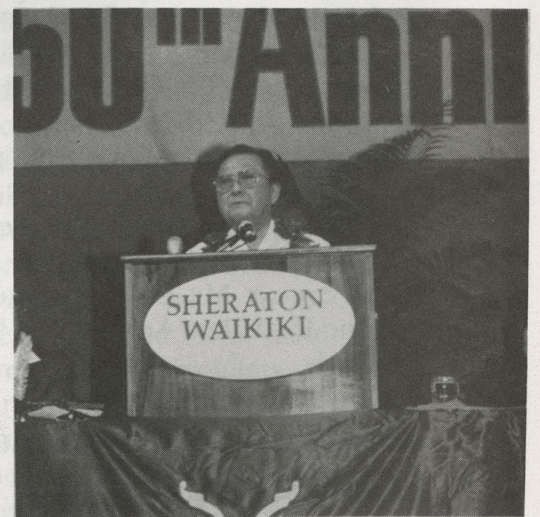
General Gordon Sullivan, Army Chief of Staff



Jun Yamamoto, right, getting hula lessons



Marching (?) down Kalakaua Ave.. Waikiki



Senator Daniel Inouye

50th Anniversary, Hawaii, March 1993



Dr. Franklin Odo receives thanks from Bill



GFBNVA contingent



Monique, Serge Carlesso; Ted Rodriguez, 36th Div; others



Dan & Maggie Inouye, Lil Masamori, Bill Marutani



Service at Punchbowl Cemetery



Tom Masamori, Turk Suzuki, friend, Chet Tanaka & friends

Fund Raising Meeting, L.A., January, 1993



Official GFBNVA flag



Rudy Tokiwa, Tom Masamori, Jack Nagano



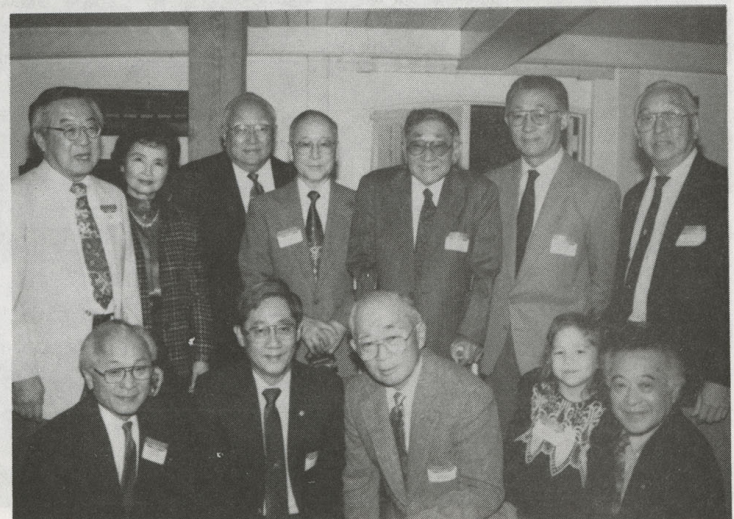
Turk Suzuki, Peter Okada, Paul Bannai, Jack Nagano, Mike Shimizu, Mark Kiguchi



Florence Miyahara, Paul Bannai



Bill Marutani, Tosh Okamoto, Wally Nunotani, Harold Harada



Marina-Culver JACL Installation Dinner

Photos by Tom Masamori & Shigeo Yokota

MIS Stories Told in Video Documentary

"Fifty Years of Silence" tells how MIS Nisei turned the tide of the war in favor of the Allied forces

By Barbara Hiura, Hokubei Mainichi

SAN FRANCISCO—Recovery was the theme of the National Japanese American Historical Society's premiere showing of "Fifty Years of Silence: The Untold Story of Japanese American Soldiers in the Pacific Theater, 1941-1952," held on Jan. 16 at Christ United Presbyterian Church in San Francisco Japantown.

A panel discussion with several of those who served in the Military Intelligence Service during and after World War II revealed the importance of breaking silence.

Japanese Americans who were an integral part of the MIS were sworn to secrecy, and their stories were kept from the public until 1972, when the Freedom of Information Act allowed them to talk about their role in helping to end the war with Japan.

The 50-minute documentary, produced by Sheryl K. Narahara and narrated by actor Lane Nishikawa, used oral history accounts, photographs and military records to explore the experiences of 12 MIS Nisei.

Known as Gen. Douglas MacArthur's "secret weapon," the Nisei, who were attached to every U.S. military unit in the Pacific, produced volumes of intelligence. They translated captured documents, intercepted radio messages, interrogated prisoners and helped flush Japanese soldiers and civilians out of caves. They were vital not only in how the war was waged but also how peace was negotiated.

Beginning slowly in 1941 with four civilian instructors and 58 recruits, the MIS Language School later developed into the present-day Defense Language Institute. The MISLS had to move from the Presidio in San Francisco to Fort Snelling in Minnesota when Japanese Americans were excluded from the West Coast.

Gene Uratsu, one of the early MIS recruits, recalled that classes met for eight hours a day and were followed by a compulsory study period in the evening five days a week. The groups were divided according to their

Japanese-speaking ability and the training was quite intensive.

Eventually, over 3,000 Japanese Americans were recruited from Hawaii and another 3,000 volunteered from the mainland concentration camps.

Translations by the MIS Nisei revealed Japanese battle plans, ultimately turning the tide of the war in favor of the Allied forces.

With mounting controversy in the camps over whether Nisei—who had been stripped of their rights as citizens—should volunteer for military service, Roy Takai recalled these words from his father: "Remember that you are an American citizen. You were born here, received your education here, and you owe your loyalty to the U.S. It is your obligation to fight for your country."

Many experienced this conflict, and Harry Fukuhara, an MIS veteran and a member of the NJAHS committee that oversaw the production of the video, felt that each case was different.

"The Nisei had no knowledge of Japan, so I think it was easier for them to fight for the U.S.," he said. "We volunteered not to fight in Europe but to fight against Japan. It was hard because...we volunteered from the camps. I think it boiled down to loyalty and patriotism and the desire to get out of camp."

Nisei women also served. Miwako Yanamoto heard about the need for language specialists while living on the East Coast and volunteered her services. In 1944, the Army started the Women's Army Corps, allowing women to serve for the first time.

Yanamoto was trained at Fort Snelling, where she took the same classes as the men, but was not trained for intelligence work. As an interpreter, however, she was assigned to overseas duty in Japan after the war.

The MIS Nisei faced racism within the armed forces, the ever-present threat of being killed by friendly fire, and, in the event of capture, the animosity of the Japanese Imperial forces.

Personal indignities included loss of rank, as in the case of Sgt. Torao Neishi, who was demoted to private when he joined the MIS. He was told that he had to earn his stripes.

Richard Hayashi, who fought with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Europe as
please see MIS Stories, page 12

MIS Stories

continued from page 11

well as the MIS, recalled being on special leave to visit his family in the Rowher, Arkansas, camp. Although he was in uniform when he approached the guard, "I was frisked, bodysearched," he exclaimed. "Can you imagine that—an American soldier to be embarrassed that way?"

One Nisei suffered more at the hands of the Japanese Imperial Army. Richard Sakakida, a special agent whose job was to find out Japanese military secrets in the Philippines, was captured and tortured. In the eyes of the Japanese, he was a traitor to Japan.

Sakakida stated that his attitude toward his captors was, "You're not getting anything out of me. You can kill me."

How he survived is a story of courage as well as physical and mental strength. Sakakida said that after days of brutal interrogation, he thought, "I may be better off dead. But I had two things in my mind.

"First was my mother. How would she know what had happened to me if I died? And the colonel's last order on Corregidor stuck in my mind. I still had a mission to carry out. I think these two things made me undergo whatever...they gave me."

Sakakida underwent six months of torture before escaping from prison with the assistance of Filipino guerrillas. He then fulfilled his mission by consistently sending intelligence reports to MacArthur.

During the postwar occupation of Japan, the MIS Nisei gained another perspective on "the enemy."

Uratsu felt sadness at the plight of Japanese civilians. "I felt kind of sorry for these Japanese civilians who had undergone many years of hardship. Supply lines were cut off. People in Japan were destitute," he said.

The speakers agreed that the video, reduced to less than an hour from 54 hours of taped interviews, is an important contribution to the growing body of work on the Japanese American experience.

"So much of the MIS story needed to be told," stated Tom Sakamoto, who served as moderator. "The purpose of the interviews Sheryl did was to once and for all build up the NJAHS repository for videotape data...

"This is important because the public still does not know what a tremendous role the MIS did during the Pacific War and the occupation. We had the video made as a vehicle to reach out to the veterans and to the public," he explained.

Sakakida said he felt rage and hatred toward his interrogators. After all, I'm just as human as anyone else, and all during the war I told myself, 'When the time comes, you're going to get it.'

"But when the time came, when I approached them, they were beaten, they looked like hell. When I saw that, I cried. How a person can change. When the war is over, it's over."

"Yankee Samurai" Shown at 442nd Reunion in Hawaii

Late reports have come in that two showings of the documentary on the exploits of the 442nd/100th with the new addition of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion were given at the recent reunion. This new addition was financed by the GFB-NVA members and associates.

The showings were well attended, with comments of "...very moving story" and "highly impressed..." freely given by the viewers.

President Bill Marutani and VP Jun Yamamoto spoke for GFB-NVA while George Oiye and Susumu Ito covered for the 522nd.

Next Fund Raising Committee Meeting, June 4,5 in LA

The newly formed Fund Raising Committee will meet at the Hacienda Hotel, near the Los Angeles International Airport, on June 4 and 5, Friday and Saturday. For Calif., call (800)262-1314; nationwide (800)421-5900; and local (310) 615-0015 and make your own reservations. Hotel rates of \$49 per night have been obtained.

This has been changed from the previous week so that it can coincide with the planned Memorial Dedication of the Private First Class Sadao S. Munemori U.S. Army Reserve Center Hall at the Veteran's Hospital, planned to be held on June 6, 1993.

Others wishing more information of the Munemori Dedication should contact Paul Bannai, (310) 327-0717.

Munemori Dedication Building to be Dedicated to World War II Hero

Special Release to GFB-NVA.

LOS ANGELES—A building at the U.S. Army Reserve Center in West Los Angeles will be dedicated to a Japanese American Congressional Medal of Honor recipient who was killed during World War II while attacking a German stronghold in Italy.

The ceremony, to dedicate the Private First Class (PFC) Sadao S. Munemori Army Reserve Center Hall, will begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 6, at 1250 Federal Ave., near the intersection of Wilshire and San Vicente, the 311th Corps Support Command (COSCOM) recently announced.

PFC Munemori was a member of the Army's most-decorated World War II unit, the 442nd "Go For Broke" Regimental Combat Team, composed almost entirely of Nisei, many of whom came from the greater Los Angeles area.

The ceremony's invocation will be given by the former chaplain, after which his former platoon sergeant—who also had taken part in the battle and witnessed the death of the young soldier—will relate the action that led to PFC Munemori receiving the nation's highest military honor.

The Reserve Center's 800 Army reservists and uniformed present-day Japanese American active duty and Reserve personnel—from all military services—will create a backdrop for hundreds of expected guests, which will include local, state and national military, political and civic leaders.

Music for the hour-long ceremony will be provided by the 300th Army Band.

PFC Munemori was a member of the 442nd RCT's Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion. On April 5, 1945, near Seravessa, Italy, his unit was pinned down by a withering enemy gunfire and hand grenade barrage. The soldier took command of his squad when his regular leader was wounded and disabled.

Making frontal one-man attacks through direct enemy gunfire, PFC Munemori knocked out two German machine gun emplacements. Then, retaliatory gunfire and showers of hand grenades from other enemy emplacements

rained down, and he was forced to withdraw to a shell crater occupied by two of his comrades.

But, before he could reach relative safety, an unexploded grenade bounced off his helmet and rolled toward the crater. To save his men, PFC Munemori rose into the heavy gunfire, and threw himself upon the grenade, smothering its explosion with his body.

By his swift and heroic action, PFC Sadao S. Munemori saved the lives of two of his men at the cost of his own. And he had played a major part in helping to clear the path that led to his company's ultimate victorious advance.

Munemori Center Seeks Financial Help

Special Release to GFB-NVA.

LOS ANGELES—The dedication of a West Los Angeles U.S. Army Reserve Center building to a Japanese American Medal of Honor recipient, PFC Sadao S. Munemori, who was killed during World War II combat, is proceeding despite funding difficulties.

Because of severe government monetary cutbacks, only limited funding has been provided for the dedication ceremony. Consequently, "The Munemori Fund" has been established in care of the 311th COSCOM (Corps), 1250 Federal Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025 (310/445-2800, FAX 310/473-8226).

Interested donors and those wishing to participate may write to the donation address, or to the listed telephone or fax numbers.

Contributions will finance items necessary for the ceremony, that cannot otherwise be rented from or donated by local businesses. These include mailing and postage, a portable sound stage, public address system, seating, and even refreshments for the several hundred national, state and local military, political and community dignitaries and guests who are expected to attend, many from the Southern California Japanese American Community.

Everyone is invited to the dedication to be made posthumously on behalf of PFC Munemori.

Editor's note: A military display of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and WWII soldiers will be presented before and after the ceremony.

Shelby's Memorial Lane 100/442 Monument to be Dedicated in '93

From Pacific Citizen, Dec. 1992

CAMP SHELBY, MISS—The "Go For Broke" 100/442 Monument, up since April, 1992 along Camp Shelby's "Memorial Lane," will be dedicated during the 50th anniversary ceremonies of the activation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team being planned for September, 1993, according to Lt. Col. Herbert M. Sasaki (ret.), project coordinator, of Hattiesburg.

The 442nd was activated on Feb. 1, 1943. The 100th Battalion from Hawaii had been training about a year at Camp McCoy, Wis., was briefly stationed at Shelby to complete Third Army maneuvers in Louisiana before being shipped out Aug. 11, 1943 to North Africa and combat. The 442nd shipped out to Italy in April, 1944.

Memorial Lane, with its row of military markers of other units which had trained here, winds through Camp Shelby to the military museum, where one room is being prepared by the National Japanese American Historical Society of San Francisco for the story of Japanese American troops which trained here prior to making WWII military history.

Besides the 100th and 442nd, the monument further lists two other Nisei units trained at Shelby, Co. S, Military Intelligence Service, and the 171st Infantry Battalion.

Sasaki added the monument is dedicated to the 900-plus young men who lost their lives in Europe, "so that those of us who came out of that war alive could again become first-class citizens who were illegally confined in concentration camps—for too many stupid and ignorant reasons."

Pomona, Calif.-born Sasaki is the last of the 442nd veteran in active military status posted in Mississippi. After the war, he returned to Mississippi and retired in 1982 after nearly 30 years as container division sales broker for International Paper Co. Among the three Japanese Mississippians counted in the 1990 Census, Sasaki said the monument and the museum exhibit "will have to speak up for us to the future generations" in the Deep South.

Tax-deductible contributions toward the "Camp Shelby Project" should be mailed to the 100/442 Veterans Association, 1438 Oak St., Los Angeles, CA 90015.

Camp Shelby, today the nation's largest field training site for the Army Reserves and National Guard units, was named for Isaac Shelby, Revolutionary War hero and the first governor of Kentucky.

Camp Shelby Museum Dedication set for May 8

By Bacon Sakatani

HATTIESBURG, MISS—It was reported at press time that the dedication for the Armed Forces Museum at Camp Shelby will be held on May 8, with an estimated 6,000 to 7,000 personnels from various branches of the Armed Forces participating.

According to GFB-NVA member Lt. Col. Herbert Sasaki (ret), the room dedicated to the 100th/442nd/MIS's contribution to WWII will be readied by the National Japanese American Historical Society. Some 100,000 soldiers go through Camp Shelby annually.

"The people in the South know nothing about Japanese Americans and what they did during the War. This exhibit will have a great educational value and will be a permanent one," he stated.

The dedication will be for the people in the Southern states, but Sasaki added that some Nisei veterans from other parts of the country will be in attendance.

"Because of the 100th/442nd celebration planned for next year in France, the monument dedication for this year at Camp Shelby may be postponed to either before or after that event," Sasaki noted.

Contributions are still needed for the monument even though it has already been erected. Sasaki can be reached at (601) 584-7228 for more information.

From the Membership Chair

By Bacon Sakatani

Current membership counts are: Life 126; Associate Life Paid 2; Regular 242; Associate 21; and Organization 6; total 397. Other non-paying members total 61, which brings to a total of 458 mailed newsletters.

Of the 269 Regular, Associate and Organizational members on annual dues, 80 are behind on their payments. This seems to indicate that many had their arms twisted by veteran friends or relatives, or perhaps they feel that the benefits are not worth the dues payments.

We have an important job ahead of us in erecting our monument in Washington, D.C. The following "Letter to the Editor" appeared in the *Rafu Shimpo*, Los Angeles, after the recent Hawaii reunion:

Last Hurrah

Editor:

Unaccustomed as I am to writing "Letters to the Editor," I felt I must do this one...

I have just returned from attending the 50th anniversary reunion of the 442nd and 100th infantry regiments in Honolulu, Hawaii...and I am still so full of pride and indescribable feelings of sadness, because this may well be the last hurrah for these great soldiers, who did so much for our great country of the U.S.A. and for the generations to come.

My brother, James (deceased), served with the Regimental Headquarters Company of the 442nd RCT. I attended the reunion with his widow, Alice, only to be her companion so that she would not have to travel alone. I shall never regret having made that decision.

Among the 3,000 who attended all the events were some vets on crutches, some in wheelchairs, many with canes, etc. and who even opted to march in the parade on Saturday (despite their handicaps).

It was truly a sight to behold. The finale at Punchbowl Cemetery, where many veterans are buried, with American flags, furling all along the long drive to the top was breathtaking. Daniel Inouye, one of their buddies, gave an eloquent speech as usual.

I am sure that the sons and daughters of these 442nd veterans have no doubts in their mind that these dads did this not only to over-

come prejudice, but so that the future generations could walk proud with their motto, "Go For Broke" on their minds forever.

That reunion, with its speeches, parade, services—need not, should not—be the "last hurrah." It will long be remembered and cherished, but it will fade with time.

What we need is a "last hurrah" built with granite and bronze to last forever. So those 80 members who are behind on their dues, please hang on a little longer—exciting things will begin to happen.

Please submit your dues payment directly to the treasurer:

GFB-NVA

PO Box 2525

Culver City, CA 90231-2525

Any inquiries about membership should be made directly to me:

210 N. Shadydale Ave.

W. Covina, CA 91790

(818) 338-8310

Any member having veteran friends that may be interested in finding out what our goals are via the newsletter before joining can send in these names to me.

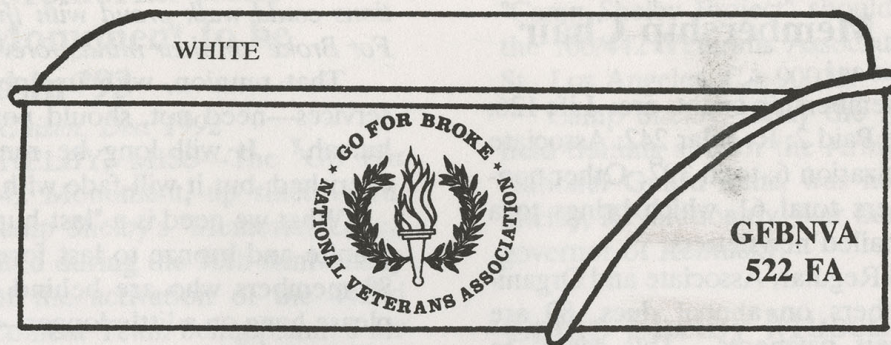
Regular and Associate (non-veteran) fees are \$25 per year, Life is \$300 and can be paid in \$100 increments and organizational fee is \$100 per year.

From the Editor

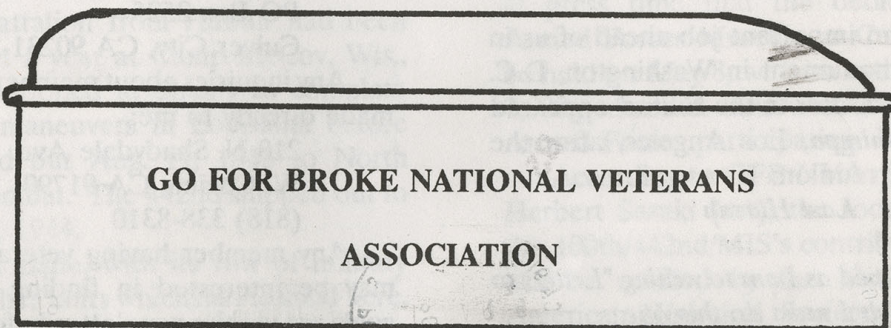
By Bacon Sakatani

I am striving to bring newsworthy articles you may not have seen or have access to. Trying to please a diverse group of veterans throughout the U.S. and foreign countries is a difficult one.

If you have any suggestions or comments, or news of interest to the membership, please get them in to me at the above address.



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|------------|-------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| BRAID: | GOLD/YELLOW | OPTION: | ORGANIZATION IDENTIFICATION |
| CAP BODY: | ROYAL BLUE | | 442nd RCT; USN; WAC; USANC; |
| LETTERING: | GOLD/YELLOW | | USSS; 232 CE; MISCAN; MISUSA; |
| | | | USAF; KOREA; VIETNAM |



GFBNVA CAP PROPOSAL

Go For Broke National
 Veterans Association
 P.O. Box 2525
 Culver City, CA 90231-2525



William Kochiyama
 545 W. 126th St. Apt 3-B
 New York
 NY 10027

