

Bill: Enclosed is a copy of the resolution passed by our local Post.

I'm sending ~~me~~ the resolutions to: Tateishi, Inouye, Matsunaga

& Mineta.

Art



Chicago Basha Betel Nut

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA VETERANS ASSOCIATION

CHARTERED 1951

December 1979

CBI SCRAPBOOK

Basha member Art Morimitsu was recently honored, first being elected Commander of Nisei Post 1183, Chicago, then made a life member of the 124. Cavalry Association, Houston, Texas. He was also a featured speaker at the Reunion of the 34th Division Association, of which he is a member, at Des Moines, Iowa.

In his speech he related the work of the Nisei. (American citizens with Japanese ancestry) during WWII in the Pacific and elsewhere with creditable performance according to official war records of those campaigns. The famed 'Red Bull' 34th Division, of which Art was a member, was comprised of Nisei volunteers. They were released by U.S. authorities from the infamous concentration camps to which Japanese-Americans had been committed at the outbreak of Pearl Harbor out of fear they would collaborate as fifth columnists with the Japanese war effort. Whole families were uprooted and moved to concentration camps in the U.S. interior. Morimitsu stated that Senators Inouye (Hawaii), Church and McClure were now forming a commission to inform the American public that the U.S. Government had never acknowledged the wrong done loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry by imprisoning them without due process of American law.

Art served under a Lieutenant and a Major with the Mars Task Force in Burma. Only recently was Art able to discover that the Lieutenant is now Lt. General Jeffrey Smith, commanding the 1st. Army at Fort Meade, Md. and the Major of Burma days is now Major General Irby. Art has corresponded with both men. The Chicago Basha is proud of its member, Art Morimitsu!

Another chapter in Art's wartime life happened at the recent Basha Installation Dinner. Art had brought Photos and a Diary to the Dinner and showed them around. There was a pictorial record of Art's Army Group which had been ordered to arrange the surrender of the entire Japanese North China Army to Chinese Warlord Marshall Yen. The location was Taiyuan, Shansi Province, deep in the interior of North China.

There is a signed picture by Marshall Yen of Yen and Art. Other photos show the U.S. Army Group in the Yen compound. "Very interesting," said

Emil Tessari, who looked at the pictures. "This looks familiar," he added. "I was a Marine with the OSS and I was present too in the compound, I recognize it now. Sure. In fact that guy on the left in that photo here, a few feet away from Art Morimitsu, is me! I'll be damned. It sure is a small world." And thus the two men started a lively and animated conversation.

The Basha has a picture taken at the 1978 Installation Dinner where Art and Emil stand side by side receiving the China Medal from Consul General Hugh H. O'Young representing the Republic of China - and the two men did not realize that another year would go by before they would discover one another. Such is life at times.

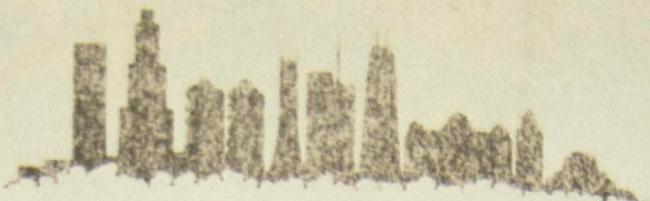
Emil and his wife Mary hosted a Basha party in September at their home in South Holland. Those who did not attend missed seeing something terrific in their home. It's Emil's study where he has displayed precious Chinese artifacts, scrolls and memorabilia of the cradle of Chinese history: North China.

Check if you are eligible for the CHINA MEMORIAL MEDAL which is awarded by the Republic of China. Must have served with U.S. Military or Red Cross in China at least 30 days during period December 7 1941 and September 2 1945. Joe Pacenti, whose address is listed on the back page will take your application and forward it for action to Col. Walker at National.

WANTED: Would you host in your home a small group (25) of Basha members for a Saturday or Sunday meeting? Program example: Screening of film Last voyage of the Queen Mary before becoming a museum in Long Beach harbor. Basha pays all expenses (food-drinks) & attends to cleanup of room. Please call Hostess Stella Burbie at 312 841 5678

National News

The Milwaukee Basha outdid itself again as Host of the National Fall Board Meeting in Milwaukee recently. It proved once more what their members Les Dencker and Dan Prestwor have been saying all along: Milwaukee brews not only good beer but leads as a town with good fellowship and "gemutlichkeit." Now come Vera Seder and Bill Lamp who served food that was out of this world. The Prime Rib plate, especially was lip smacking. When Vera Seder is in charge of nourishment everything runs smoothly. The meals were taken in the Astor Hotel, downtown. All in all another feather in the Milwaukee Basha cap. The raffle after the banquet again produced great satisfaction for the 100 plus diners. The Tallman couple from Chicago again walked away with a prize, each. A generous sprinkling of Chicago CBI'ers were in attendance and they say THANKS: The Browns, the Tallmans, the Merandas, the Bocklers, and Pacenti, Schramm, Ziermann and Tase Wilcox.



CHICAGO-NISEI POST No. 1183

The American Legion / 1046 West Wilson / Chicago, Illinois 60640 / 312 / 561-9152

5540 No. Kedzie Chicago, Ill 60625

WHEREAS, In the spring of 1942, over 120,000 individuals, the vast majority of whom were American citizens, were abruptly evicted from their homes in the west coast states and relocated into inland detention camps, and

WHEREAS, No charges were ever filed and no credible claims of wrong doings were lodged against these individuals, and

WHEREAS, These actions constituted a blatant violation of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution, and

WHEREAS, No remedial action has since been taken by the Congress of the United States, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that Chicago Nisei Post 1183 endorse passage of Senate Bill 1647 and House Bill 5499, and encourage Congress to act swiftly in establishing the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians Act.

Arthur T. Morimitsu

Arthur T. Morimitsu, Commander

Fred Tanaka

Fred Tanaka, Past Commander

Dated: Dec. 6, 1979

Resolution passed at regular monthly meeting held at 1647 W. Irving Pk, Chicago, Ill