# Shenyang JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS

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Woniu

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Nor Dandong Sinŭiju Kusŏng Anju Kore

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Kaeso

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Namplo

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Haeju Paengnyöng-do Ongin

Kunsa

Masan Kwangju May 23 - 26, 1997

Chonju

Souvenir Booklet

Kangnüng

Kimch'aek

South ch'öngju Andong

Taejón Korea Pohang Taegu

Isan

strait sushima

Naun

# TO FORGET WOULD BE A DISHONOR TO REMEMBER WILL BE EVERLASTING

We Dedicate This Inaugural Reunion to the Memory of Those Who Made the Supreme Sacrifice in the Korean War. 1950-1953



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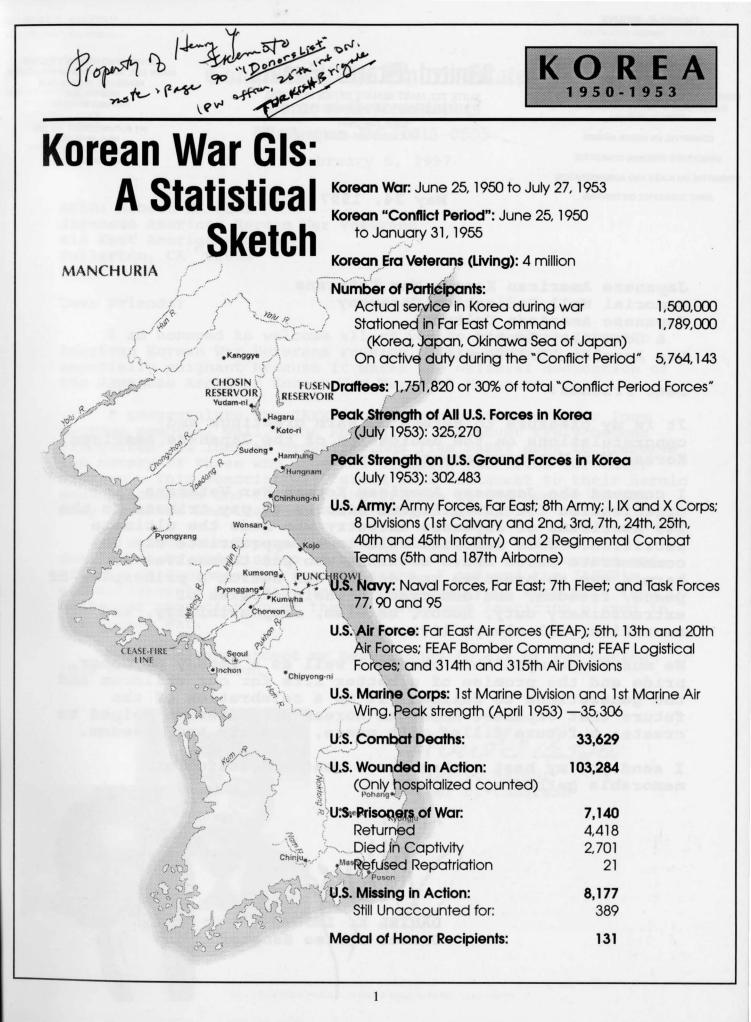
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DANIEL K. INOUYE

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> 101 AUPUNI STREET, NO. 205 HILO, HI 96720 (808) 935–0844 FAX (808) 961–5163

May 24, 1997

Japanese American Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall Dedication Ceremony Japanese American Cultural & Community Center Los Angeles, California

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to extend my warm greetings and congratulations on the dedication of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans memorial wall.

I commend the Japanese American Korean War Veterans organization for its diligent efforts to pay tribute to the 249 Americans of Japanese ancestry who made the ultimate sacrifice. This memorial wall is an appropriate way to commemorate those brave soldiers who put themselves in harm's way to preserve and defend our nation's principles of peace, freedom, and democracy. Their stories of extraordinary duty, honor, heroism, responsibility, and sacrifice will always live on.

We must look upon this memorial wall as a legacy of honor, pride and the promise of a better life for our children and the generations to follow. It is a celebration of the future that Japanese American Korean War veterans helped to create; a future filled with peace, equality and freedom.

I send you my best wishes for a most successful and memorable gathering.

Aloha,

DANIEL K. INOUYE United States Senator



ROBERT T. MATSUI

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE RANKING DEMOCRAT SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

WHIP AT LARGE

**Congress of the United States** House of Representatives Mashington, DC 20515–0505

February 5, 1997

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 2308 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515–0505 (202) 225–7163

> DISTRICT OFFICE: 8058 FEDERAL BUILDING 650 CAPITOL MALL SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 (916) 498-5600

Attn: Robert M. Wada Japanese American Korean War Veterans 410 West Amerige Avenue Fullerton, CA 92832

Dear Friends:

I am honored to welcome all of you to the first Japanese American Korean War Veterans reunion. This occasion is especially poignant because it marks the official dedication of the Japanese American Korean War Memorial Monument.

I congratulate the JAKWV for the completion of this long overdue memorial wall. The Korean War can never truly become "forgotten" as long as organizations like JAKWV seek to preserve the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. This memorial will stand as a testament to their heroic accomplishments and is a fitting tribute to the memory of the many Japanese Americans who died during the War.

I salute the Japanese American Korean War Veterans commitment to its mission of highlighting the achievements and efforts of Japanese American veterans. I commend the JAKWV's accomplishments thus far, and am confident your work will lead to a greater appreciation of the role Japanese Americans played in the Korean War.

Again, please accept my best wishes to all of you during this special occasion.

Sincerely,

latoui

ROBERT T. MATSUI Member of Congress



PATSY T. MINK SECOND DISTRICT, HAWAII

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 2135 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515–1102 (202) 225–4906 FAX: (202) 225–4987

DISTRICT OFFICE: 5104 PRINCE KUHIO FEDERAL BUILDING P.O. BOX 50124 HONOLULU, HI 96850–4977 (808) 541–1986 FAX: (808) 538–0233 Congress of the United States House of Representatives COMMITTEE ON STEERING AND POLICY

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT (on leave)

Washington, DC 20515-1102

#### MESSAGE FROM CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY T. MINK FOR THE FIRST REUNION OF JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS AND DEDICATION OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTER LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA MAY 23–25, 1997

It is an honor to be given the opportunity to extend my warmest aloha to the Japanese-American men and women who served the United States with loyalty and dedication during the Korean War and to their families on the occasion of this first reunion sponsored by the Japanese American Korean War Veterans organization. In particular, I want to acknowledge the presence of Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Hershey Miyamura.

The focus of this first reunion is the dedication of the memorial wall honoring the 246 Japanese Americans who lost their lives in the service of our country during the Korean War. These young men of courage and principle represent a great loss to our nation and to the families who lost beloved sons, brothers, husbands, and fathers. None of us knows how much each would have accomplished given a longer life, but we know that their families have carried a wound that can never be fully healed. I salute all of you for ensuring that the sacrifices of our honored dead and their families will not be forgotten.

To all the veterans of the Korean War and to all who have risked their lives and health in the service of America in conflicts around the world, I offer my heartfelt gratitude and admiration. You will not be forgotten.



Very truly yours,

PATSY T. MINK Member of Congress



**GOVERNOR PETE WILSON** 

May 24, 1997

I am honored to join with everyone gathered today in Los Angeles on the occasion of today's dedication of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall.

No one is more deserving of tribute than those brave men and women who answered our nation's call to duty, risked and sacrificed all and ensured the freedoms we claim as birthright. For their courage and commitment to duty, they have earned our lasting respect and heartfelt appreciation, and I commend the Japanese American Korean War Veterans for making this special project a reality.

To all Japanese-Americans who served in the Korean War, we are forever indebted, and we realize that without their courage and heroism, the world would not be a better place. California and indeed, the entire nation, are profoundly grateful for the sacrifices made by our veterans, and this memorial wall a well-deserved tribute to them.

Gayle joins me in wishing you the very best for an outstanding initiation ceremony and every future success.

Sincerely,

Pater

PETE WILSON

CAPITOL OFFICE: STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0001 (916) 445-7827

DISTRICT OFFICE: 221 EAST DAILY DRIVE, SUITE 7 CAMARILLO, CA 93010 (805) 987-5195

### Assembly California Legislature

NAO TAKASUGI ASSEMBLYMAN, THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT COMMITTEES: REVENUE & TAXATION Vice Chairman GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION INTERNATIONAL TRADE & DEVELOPMENT WATER, PARKS & WILDLIFE



March 28, 1997

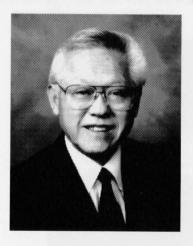
Korean War Veterans and Families:

I write to extend my endorsement and support for a Japanese American Korean War Veterans Memorial. I believe these patriots are owed and deserve this acknowledgment of their dedication and service to our country.

I have been honored to be listed as an Honorary Co-Chairperson for this important memorial which will serve as a a needed tribute for the sacrifices made by these veterans that traveled to a foreign land to defend democracy and American interests.

The best way to honor the memories of these soldiers is to share the story of the war and their bravery. This memorial would provide that recognition and opportunity for educating future generations about this page of America's history.

Thank you for allowing me to be involved in this worthy endeavor.



Sincerely,

ASSEMBLYMAN NAO TAKASUGI

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA LOS ANGELES

3243 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010 • Tel: (213) 385-9300 • Fax: (213) 385-1849

March 18, 1997

JAKWV 410 W. Amerige Ave. Fullerton, CA 92832

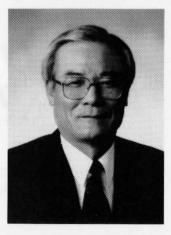
Dear Japanese American Korean War Veterans :

It is a great honor to extend my congratulations to the Japanese American Korean War Veterans organization, on behalf of the Korean Consulate General in Los Angeles on the occasion of opening a memorial wall honoring 249 brave Japanese Americans who sacrificed their lives in the Korean War.

This memorial is meaningful insofar as it recognizes the noble sacrifices of the Japanese Americans in the Korean War unfolding to many Koreans for the first time that Japanese Americans selflessly fought for the freedom of Korea. To the rest of the world, the Korean War has been called the "Forgotten War" but we Koreans have never forgotten the terror instilled, the suffering endured, and the help rendered to us.

Although the war cost the lives of more than 5 million people and completely devastated Korea, Korea has made great achievements both in democracy and economy. Without the sacrifice from our allies, including the 249 deceased Japanese Americans, it is truly hard to imagine developed Korea of today.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my utmost thanks to Mr. Robert M. Wada, President of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans organization and all of its members for their dedication in serving in the name of freedom and democracy world wide.



Sincerely,

Tae Hee Park Consul General



May 24, 1997

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I extend warm and cordial greetings to all who have gathered for the dedication of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans memorial wall at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center and to pay tribute to the many Japanese American soldiers who sacrificed so much for democracy and freedom.

I commend the Japanese American Korean War Veterans organization for your dedication and outstanding service to the Japanese-American community and for your efforts to reflect on the significance of this momentous event in our history.

Best wishes for a memorable and successful celebration.



Sincerely,

Mayor





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March 24, 1997

Mr. Robert Wada President Japanese American Korean War Veterans 410 West Amerige Avenue Fullerton, California 92832

Dear Robert:

Thank you for including me in this most special event -- the first Japanese American Korean War Veterans Reunion and Memorial Wall Dedication Ceremony.

As a veteran of the Navy, I share your enthusiasm and intense patriotism to the United States of America and I am pleased that you have chosen to honor the men and women of Japanese ancestry who gave their lives or are still listed as missing in the Korean War with the creation of a memorial wall.

It is especially fitting that you would take this opportunity to honor Hershey Miyamura. Being the only living Japanese American Medal of Honor recipient, Mr. Miyamura is a symbol of courage and sacrifice on behalf of our great Country.

Julie and I send our best wishes for a very memorable evening.

Sincerely,

DON KNABE Supervisor, Fourth District County of Los Angeles





RITA D. WALTERS COUNCILMEMBER City Council of the City of Los Angeles City Hall Room 260 200 N. SPRING ST. Los ANGELES 90012-4878 (213) 485-3351 (213) 485-8990 (FAX) (213) 847-6822 (TTY)

DISTRICT OFFICE 4409 South Main Street Los Angeles 90037 (213) 237-1088

May 24, 1997

Dear Friends:

My warmest welcome to you on the occasion of this very special tribute to Japanese American veterans of the Korean war. The Memorial Wall reflects the reverence and profound respect we so deeply feel for the 246 Japanese Americans who sacrificed their lives in the war. Your presence honors their memory.

I especially commend and thank all those who so generously gave of their time and resources in making this important memorial a reality.

My best wishes for a memorable evening.

Sincerely, eter

Rita Walters



LOCKHEED MA

May 24, 1997

Japanese American Korean War Veterans 410 West Amerige Avenue Fullerton, California 92832

Dear Friends:

Congratulations on the completion of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans memorial! As a veteran of the Korean War, I would like to extend my gratitude to all those who have contributed their time, effort and resources to making this memorial a reality

This important project will go a long way toward ensuring that the sacrifices of those who gave their lives in the service of this great Nation are remembered and honored. The example of the 246 Japanese Americans who lost their lives in Korea stands as a testament to our community's devotion to this country and to the cause of freedom. Your dedication to building this memorial is a fitting tribute to their sacrifice and their heroism.

Once again, thank you and my very best wishes.

Senior Vice President and Managing Director



#### JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS

Served throughout the world. 1950 - 1955

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Dear Veterans, Non-veterans, Families and Friends,

It is indeed an honor and a great privilege on behalf of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans and the Memorial Committee to welcome everyone to our first ever Japanese American Korean War Veterans Memorial Weekender.

In just nine short months, we have attained our initial goal of \$150,000 to assure us of the construction of our proposed memorial wall honoring over 247 Japanese Americans who gave their lives in the service of their country in Korea during the war from 1950 to 1953.

The fund raising is not over for us, as we must still fund other tributes and memorials in other areas of the United States. Additional funds are needed to finance a replica half scale memorial wall that will be displayed at museums, historical societies and other educational locations throughout the country. Plans include the display of the replica with a CD-Rom computered kiosk containing personal histories and stories of the Japanese American participation in the Korean War.

We thank everyone who has shown an interest in our organization and especially thank each of the donors who have made this memorial wall a reality.

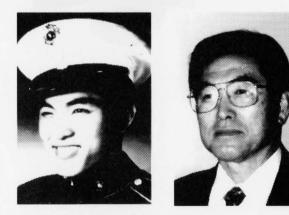
To forget those who never returned from the war in Korea would be a dishonor, but to remember them through this memorial wall will be everlasting.

With our deepest gratitude,

JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS

Mulada

Robert M. Wada President



### JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS

Served throughout the world. 1950 - 1955

#### May 24, 1997

Greetings to you all. As Chair of our Japanese American Korean War Veterans' 1997 Memorial Day Weekend, I want to thank all of you for attending our functions. I also want to thank all of the many committees and their chairs and the many volunteers for their tremendous effort, initiative and cooperation in making this weekend what it became. The committee members were so enthusiastic that they would immediately volunteer and no task was insurmountable. If something wasn't done or something was slipping through the cracks, they would volunteer to help. If they didn't know, you just needed to point them in the right direction. It was unbelievable. I cannot tell you how much pleasure it has been for me. The culmination of all of our effort is this great day. Finally, after nearly forty-four years since the end of the Korean War, we are able to memorialize those Japanese Americans who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Our dream has been fulfilled by all of you.

It is important to know that the Japanese American KIA's and MIA's died at a rate of 3.2 times greater than the rate of the general populace of the United States. Our community again gave our elite, young men to our country at a rate higher than the rest of America. Some of these men were even incarcerated behind barbed wire fences, with armed guards, during World War II, in what was then called, euphemistically, Relocation Camps, solely because of their ancestry. No one can ever question our loyalty again ...

Unknown to most, even to those who fought in the Korean War, this war changed the course of history. The Soviet Union, with its ally Peoples Republic of China, was implementing its grand plan of testing the resolve of the United States to defend its allies. What better way than to use the North Koreans to test this resolve by having them invade South Korea, which they knew was so ill prepared to defend itself. Had the United States not gone to South Korea to stop the onslaught, next would have been Japan, then Taiwan, Philippines, Southeast Asia and on to other countries.

The debt that we owe to the men on our Memorial and to the other American soldiers who died in the Korean War is immense. Because of their sacrifice, we were able to live the kind of life that we did. Every remaining day of our life is a gift that we received. Thank you, guys.



Gratefully.

Minoru Tonai Chair, 1997 Memorial Day Weekend

FICERS esident, Robert M. Wada ce President, Minoru Tonai cretary, Victor Muraoka easurer, Sam Shimoguchi ditor, Thomas H. Nakagawa

ARD OF DIRECTORS Endo ster J. Fukai Furushiro n Furushiro d Y. Hoshiyama orge H. Koga liam Koseki n Matsuzawa othy E. McDowell W. McDowell or Muraoka ard M. Nakata T. Ono Ove n Sakatani S. Seno Shimoguchi S. Shiraga Shishido ge K. Tabata Tomei ru Tonai o Uyematsu rt M. Wada ni Yamamoto mi Yagura

IORIAL COMMITTEE man: n M. Wada hairman: e K. Tabata rd M. Nakata u Tonai rary Co-Chairpersons: e Aratani annai ukuzaki Hirayama aniel K. Inouye obert T. Matsui n Mineta atsy T. Mink "Hershey" Miyamura, C.M.H. d Mori Jordon Nakagawa, USN Ret'd. Onizuka Park, Consul General blic of Korea blyman Nao Takasugi eno, MD

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# THE JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS STORY

### by President Robert M. Wada

For years I dreamt about bringing the Japanese American Korean War veterans together and perhaps someday build a memorial to honor those who gave their lives in Korea during the war. Apparently Min Tonai had a similar dream. One day in November of 1995, he called me to ignite the spark. I didn't know who he was at the time so when I asked him how we would get permission to place the memorial on the grounds of the JACCC, he emphatically assured me there would be no problem for the site. I thought to myself, "Who the heck is this overconfident guy anyway?"

Our purpose in such a venture was quite simple, deemed to be very necessary, and long overdue. Over the past years, the Korean War was being forgotten by our nation and even by our Japanese American community. It had been overshadowed by the exploits of the 100th/442nd/MIS and the Vietnam War.

Believe me, I am the first to agree, they certainly had their heroes, but we too had ours in Korea. There were individual heroics by men such as Congressional Medal of Honor Hiroshi "Hershey" recipient Miyamura; Distinguished Service Cross recipients Edward M. Ishibashi, Robert S. Kobashigawa, Fumio Moriyama, Wataru Nakamura, and Ichiro R. Miyasaki, who were all killed in action; Retired Colonel Dusty Toshio Aoyagi who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross as an enlisted man or the untold story of Noboru Nakamura who saw a grenade coming towards him and his friend John Iwamoto. Nakamura is purported to have caught the grenade in his chest, taking the full blast and saving the life of Iwamoto. An untold story which should have surely been Medal of Honor material.

There were probably many other DSC's as well as other decorations for heroism awarded to

Americans of Japanese ancestry during the Korean War. For example, Colonel John Juji Hada who received the highest decoration of the Republic of Korea, and it was personally presented to him by South Korea's President Syngman Rhee.

In Hada's recent letter referring to those who died in the war, he is quoted as saying, "We do not know the dignity of their birth, but we do know the glory of their death. They died unquestioning, uncomplaining, with faith in their hearts and on their lips, the hope that we would go on to victory."

If heroism is measured by the sacrifice of life, then our true heroes of the Korean War are those who have their names etched on this dream come true Japanese American Korean War Memorial Wall which we are dedicating today.

Someone once said, "War is hell." The men listed on our new Memorial Wall never had the chance to make the comparison between war and hell. They did, however, see the war and paid the supreme price.

We must always remember that they all died so young and so far away from their homes and their loved ones. In death, they were alone without being comforted by their mother, their father, their wife, or without being able to say goodbye for the last time to their relatives and friends. In the minds and hearts of their families, relatives, and friends are the etched pictures of only young boys. Those memories will always remain that of a very young boy, never ever a memory of him growing old.

By dying they never had the opportunity to return home to enjoy the thrill of parenthood of ever hear the word "grandpa." They never had the chance to grow old with us and suffer arthritic pains, sore backs, greying hair, losing their hearing, and all those good things that come with growing old.

It should give all of us here today, a reason to appreciate what we have and give our thanks to each of those who are listed on our Memorial Wall for their supreme sacrifice.

What hands of fate guide our destiny and the future of our lives? We all live with different religions, faiths, and beliefs. We go about our daily lives sharing our happy moments, experiencing sad moments and trusting our lives to

the powers that may be. For many of those who served during the Korean War era, they willingly offered their lives for our country and for people of another country they never knew. But whether by fate, the hand of God or for whatever reason, many never had to go to Korea; others did go, but were part of the vital support troops and yet many others fought or died without hesitating to show their courage, honor, and pride as an American of Japanese ancestry. For these reasons, we have to consider all those who served during this era, regardless of where they served, as Korean War veterans.

Many of the men whose names are engraved on the Memorial Wall were killed in the very early days of the war. Some died just days after arriving and yet others died just days before they were to return home.

I read a letter from one of the men who died in which he writes home and tells his family not to send him anything because he is scheduled for rotation home very soon. Can you imagine the devastating feeling the family experienced when first they received that happy letter and shortly thereafter receive a telegram from the President of the United States informing the family, we regret to inform you but your son, husband, or brother is not returning home after all.



JAKWV Memorial Committee

I believe it is for those reasons that I have worked so hard to make my dream become a reality. It has taken a lot of time, effort, and hard work on the part of everyone on the Memorial Committee and the Regional Coordinators. It is truly a gratifying feeling for them and for myself to finally have our dream come true. To accomplish it in such a short period of time was even more astounding, and it is something everyone here today can be very proud of.

The Memorial Committee hopes with this Memorial Wall that no one will ever forget there was a Korean War. We don't want anyone to ever forget the sacrifice and the price paid by those whose names are etched on our memorial and the heartache and the loneliness suffered by their families. For those of Japanese ancestry without Japanese surnames who may not be listed, we also pay special tribute to them and equally dedicate this memorial in their honor.

The 246 names on this Memorial Wall will not only be a constant reminder for our future generations of the price that was paid by all Americans of Japanese Ancestry, but deep down in my heart it will be a special memorial and an everlasting tribute to all of the 33,629 Americans who died for the defense and the freedom of South Korea.



Chosin Reservoir - As the long vehicle column ground to a halt while the infantry cleared the flanks up ahead, the parka-clad soldiers — many of them walking wounded, sagged to the roadside in utter exhaustion.



Chosin Reservoir - Never in any past war of our history have Americans shown greater courage and endurance.



The Chosin Few 100 Mountain Spring Road Waynesville, NC 28786

### Exclusive Fraternity of Honor THE CHOSIN FEW NOVEMBER = 1930 - DECEMBER

Whatever we were in that frozen long-ago and whatever we are now, we are bound as one for life in an exclusive fraternity of honor. The only way into our ranks is to have paid the dues of duty, sacrifice and valor by being there. The cost of joining, in short, is beyond all earthly wealth.

BATTLE of the CHOSIN RESERVOIR NORTH KOREA NOVEMBER -- 1950 -- DECEMBER

For Information, please contact: RONALD L. WALSH 4211 W. FIRST STREET, SPACE 97 SANTA ANA, CA 92703-4034 (714) 839-6331



This page is dedicated in memory of all those brave Japanese Americans, who made the supreme sacrifice in the Korean War, so that the rest of us could attain life to its fullest. We pray that their souls rest in peace.

> Dr. and Mrs. Ken M. Harada Family Dr. and Mrs. Harold S. Harada Family WWII Veteran 100th/442nd and Korean War

# IN MEMORIAM JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS

Those who served all over the world during the Korean War era will always be remembered for their service by a grateful nation.

In memory, we salute:

Akiyama, Albert Amano, Henry Arakawa, George Arakawa, Jack Endo, Masami Enomoto, Marvin Fujimoto, Lloyd Saburo Fujimoto, Robert Fujimoto, Tom M. Fujinaka, Eiji Fujinami, Kiyoshi Fukuda, Ronald Takeshi Fukuzawa, Ben Gozawa, Jimmy S. Hamamoto, Ben Hisaji Hayakawa, Kenneth K. Hayashida, Herbert H. Higashida, Sumio Hirami, Tatsuo Tom Hirano, Yasuo Hiratsuka, Tosh Ray Hirose, Donald T. Ichikawa, Ken Ida, Shigeru Imaye, Fred Hachiro Imura, Tsugio Inouye, Takeshi Iriye, Shoichi Ishibashi, Takao Ishii, Hiroshi Isobe, Iutaro

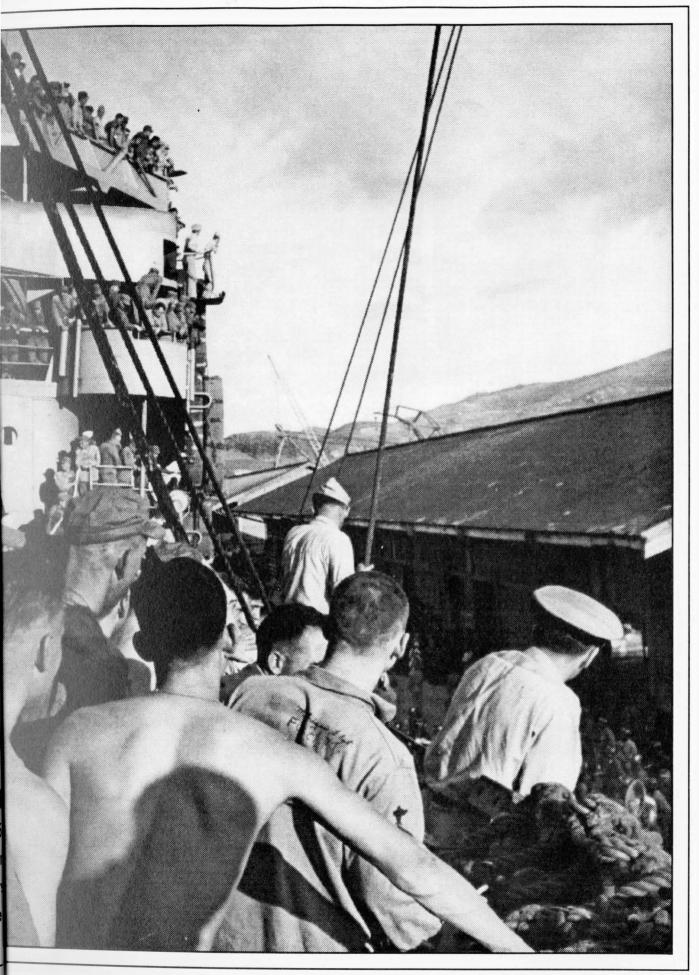
Itagaki, George Iwatsuru, Shogo Kado, David Kamigaki, Robert Kaminaka, Frank Kataoka, Tokuo Kato, Hideo Kato, Mitsuo Kawakami, Isamu S. Kawamoto, Larry S. Kikuchi, Ralph Kikuchi, Richard Kitahara, Katsuyuki Kondo, Ken Kotake, William T. Kunieda, Yoshiro Kunitomi, Tetsuo Kuraoka, Masaharu Kusumi, Yoshio "Yo" Maeda, Hiroshi Makishi, Joe Maveda, James Masaki Miho, Tom S. Mine, Kiyoshi Miyagishima, Tosh Miyashima, Art T. Miyashiro, Hiroshi Mizuno, Victor Isamu Morita, George Tadao Mukai, Jenkuro Zen Nakagawa, Henry

Nakama, Henry K. Nakamura, James T. Nakano, Kimiaki Nakaoka, Kivoto Kenneth Nakasako, Yutaka Nakashima, Dick Suyeyoshi Nakashima, "Jerry" Tohoru Nakasuji, Tohoru Nakauchi, Frank K. Nakayama, Sakae Nakayama, Takeshi Nimura, Herbert Nishikawa, Henry Nishikawa, Tohoru Nishimoto, Hisao Nozaki, Tom Obata, George Ohara, Joe Oishi, Robert Okanishi, Hideo Okazaki, Tom G. Okumura, Masanori Okumura, Yeizo Ono, Thomas Osawa, Hiroshi Oshiro, Roy S. Ozaki, Coolidge C. Pestana, Nobutoshi F. Saiki, George Saisho, Kazuji Sakai, Dennis "China"

Sakamoto, Ben Sakuma, Fumio Sakurai, James Senaha, Minoru Shimazaki, George Shimooka, Eddie Sigemoto, Harry Takagi, George Takamoto, Ben M. Takashima, Harold Takechi, Sam Takeda, Akira Tanaka, Kenzo Tanaka, Masanobu Tanji, Robert Togami, Kazumi Tsuboi, Jack Tsukimura, Henry H. Uyemura, Yasuo Uvesaka, Robert J. Wada, Jack J. Yamada, Manzo Yamada, Takamasa H. Yamaguchi, Teruji Yamano, Willy Yamashiro, George S. Yamauchi, Hiroshi Yonevama, Roger Yoshida, Clarence T. Yoshioka, Katsumi

The above memorial list is acknowledged as being incomplete. We apologize for omissions and request your assistance in attaining an accurate and complete list. If you know of any Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in our nation's armed forces from 1950-1953 and have since passed away, including and especially those of mixed heritage, please provide the JAKWV with their names, addresses and telephone numbers. Forward the information to: JAKWV, Robert M. Wada, 410 W. Amerige Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92832, (714) 992-5461 or Fax (714) 525-9761.







In honor and memory of Samuel Akira Fujii and all the Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country, so that we could all live in freedom. Thank you.

> Joe Yuzuru Fujii and Family 1453 Lamont Avenue Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

# GROUND BREAKING March 1, 1997



### EXCERPTS TAKEN FROM THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT ROBERT M. WADA AT THE 47TH ANNUAL NISEI VFW REUNION HOSTED BY THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY NISEI VFW POST 4140 ON FEBRUARY 15, 1997



Robert M. Wada keynote Speaker: 47th Annual Nisei VFW Reunion hosted by San Fernando Valley Nisei VFW Post 4140

When I first began organizing this incredible group, at about the 3rd or 4th meeting, I opened with the statement, "Before I begin this meeting, I just want you all to know, I'm the first to admit that the Marines did not win the war in Korea by themselves." I got them so mad, look at what this incredible group did. With the help of our Fund Raising Committee and the Regional Coordinators, we have reached our initial goal of \$150,000 for the memorial in just 9 short months. I've had great support, but in return, a lot of name calling and cat calls!!! We still have a ways to go for other planned tributes and memorials, so we are still continuing with our fund raising.

But on the more serious side, there has always been something very unique happening with the Americans of Japanese ancestry during each of our generations.

For the first generation Issei, it was their foresight and just plain guts to come to a strange new country called America, start a new life, a family, and ultimately take their place in the history of our nation. Then in the next generation, Pearl Harbor and the beginning of WWII. The second generation older Nisei had to prove the loyalty of the Japanese Americans through their heroic efforts with the 100th/442nd and the MIS in Europe and the South Pacific. They did this even while their families were interned and deprived of their constitutional rights as American citizens.

After the WWII Nisei, came the generation of the too young for WWII Niseis and Sanseis who got their opportunity to answer the call to arms and again prove the loyalty and the bravery of the Americans of Japanese ancesury; only this time in the Korean War or known at that time as a "Police Action."

A full generation later, the Sanseis and perhaps Yonseis got their chance to show our community and our nation that they too were as loyal and as brave as their predecessors. Their opportunity came by way of the very costly and extremely controversial Vietnam War. If there were any Sansei draft dodgers who skipped to Canada during that period, I sure didn't hear about them. Now generations later, we see the Japanese Americans serving in Panama, Grenada, Desert Storm, and other areas of conflict. We are extremely proud of all Japanese Americans who served in our armed forces in war and during peacetime. But most important of all, we must always remember and pay special tribute to those who gave their lives to help us prove to our nation that we belong and that we have earned the right to live freely as Americans.

The term "Forgotten War" has a special ugly connotation for myself and for many Japanese American Korean War era veterans. We should not allow anyone to ever forget the war or forget those who died. It is our obligation to perpetuate their memory. I lost my home town Mexican-American friend, Bob Madrid, who I had known since kindergarten and it was I who asked him to join the Marines with me. Just a few hours before his death, God gave us a miraculous opportunity to visit for the last time. God brought us together to give Madrid his last touch of home. Bob's death has left an indelible ache in my heart for him and for all the young men who made the supreme sacrifice in Korea or in any war for that matter.



Dorothy McDowell at Korean Veteran display at 47th Annual Nisei VFW Reunion

We must remember that they all died so young and so far away from their homes and their loved ones. In death, they were alone without being comforted by their mother, their father, or without being able to say goodbye for the last time to their relatives and friends. They never had the opportunity to experience the enjoyment of parenthood or ever hearing the word "Grandpa." Without question, we, the survivors, are the lucky ones and we owe it to our KIA's and MIA's that they are never ever forgotten.

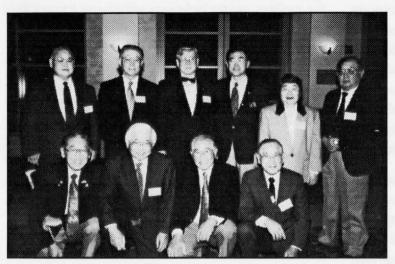
It is hard to visualize the older men and women around us today who served their country as very young men and women. It is hard to visualize them under strenuous training conditions and, in many cases, combat conditions with their now ever-so-common bad backs, arthritic conditions, being frail in stature, and pot bellies. We must always remember that those who died so young shall forever remain as young men; never having the chance to have a bad back or grow old with us.

I became involved in the JAKWV organization because we Japanese American Korean War era veterans all served together but under very different circumstances than our World War II predecessors. Our families were not living in internment camps and we, therefore, had nothing to prove and no obligation to serve whatsoever unless, of course, we were drafted. When the Korean War started, many of us still went ahead and volunteered to serve our country for our own various personal reasons.

> Throughout the years, the Korean War veterans and the Japanese Americans who served all over the world have generally been ignored by the public, the press, and even the Japanese American community. We were forgotten partly because of the continuing publicity surrounding the heroic stories and unique history of the 100th Bn., the 442nd RCT and M.I.S. during WWI,I and the many stories from the very controversial Vietnam War.

> But to the Korean War veteran, the war was just as real and as deadly as World War II and Vietnam, and it is time to recognize the war and pay an everlasting tribute to those who gave their lives. We must fulfill our obligation to them and to their surviving families.

The Nisei of WWII served with the pride and honor instilled in their minds and hearts by their Issei parents. With the same pride and honor, the Korean War era Japanese Americans also proved themselves, but did it under different circumstances. They did it on an individual basis in separate integrated units of the Army, Navy, and the



JAKWV Members at 47th Annual Nisei VFW Reunion Front Row L-R: Roy Shiraga, Ed Nakata, Nori Uyematsu, Ken Tomei. Back Row L-R: Goerge Tabata, Sam Shimoguchi, Hershey Miyamura, Robert Wada, Dorothy McDowell, Deen Matsuzawa.

Air Force. Yes, even the Marines. Taking nothing away from the 100th, 442nd, or the M.I.S., the Japanese Americans of the Korean War still proved that the Japanese Americans were loyal and were still good brave soldiers. They did it without the confidence of belonging to a segregated unit where bravery and confidence of support from your comrades was prompted by the parental guidance of not bringing shame in front of your brothers, cousins, or friends.

The Korean War veterans were also faced with their own unique situation and adverse condition of "looking like the enemy." There are many stories that can be told by Korean War veterans who faced serious life threatening situations such as the well known and documented story of the experience of Roy Shiraga.

History will never know what an all Japanese American unit would have or could have done in Korea. There were individual heroics by men such as Congressional Medal of recipient Hiroshi "Hershey" Honor Miyamura; Distinguished Service Cross recipients Edward M. Ishibashi, Robert S. Kobashigawa, Fumio Moriyama, Wataru Nakamura, and Ichiro Miyasaki, who were all killed in action; Retired Colonel Dusty Toshio Aoyagi who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross as an enlisted man, or the untold story of Noboru Nakamura who saw a grenade coming towards him and his friend John Iwamoto. Nakamura is purported to have caught the grenade in his chest, taking the full blast and saving the life of Iwamoto. An

untold story which should have been Medal of Honor material.

There were probably many other DSC's as well as many other decorations for heroism awarded to Americans of Japanese ancestry during the Korean War; for example, Colonel John Juji Hada who received the highest decoration of the Republic of Korea presented personally by President Syngman Rhee.

In Hada's recent letter referring to those who died in the war, he is quoted as saying, "We do not know the dignity of their birth, but we do know the glory of their death. They died unquestioning, uncomplaining, with faith in their hearts and on their lips, the hope that we would go on to victory."

Again, the Korean War was unique for the Japanese Americans. Not like WWII when the Navy, the Air Force, and especially the Marines were very restrictive when it came to accepting enlistments from the Nisei. In the Korean War, the Japanese American community was well represented by servicemen like Lt. Commander Harvey Kitaoka who as a naval aviator flew 81 missions from the Carrier Princeton over North Korea and the Yalu River. The Air Force had its fighter pilot, Ray Ito, who flew missions over Korea and ironically survived combat missions but was killed in an air accident in Korea. There were many other Air Force personnel, officers, and pilots. And we must not forget the many former members of the 100th/442nd/MIS who remained in the service and served in Korea. Louis Hirata, who was killed early in the Korean War, was a former member of the 442nd. Medal of Honor recipient Hershey Miyamura served with the 442nd before going to Korea. Many of these Japanese American career soldiers went on to attain the ranks of Lt. Colonel and Colonel.

The MIS story didn't end with WWII either. When the Korean War began, hundreds of Japanese Americans in the MIS were sent to Korea as interpreters. Just look at our rosters and backgrounds of many of the Korean War veterans. They were some of the first troops into the war. Many were trapped at the Port of Pusan, which was our last piece of real estate held in the early part of the war. Many of the Japanese Americans in the MIS were taken prisoner by the North Koreans. The stories of individual heroism and sacrifices by the Japanese American Korean War veterans proves their loyalty and perhaps as a cohesive unit they too could have made the Japanese American community very proud of those who served in the Korean War.

The Japanese American Korean War Veterans organization is not a matter of heroics or personal glorification. It is a matter of preserving the history and background of all Japanese Americans who served and to perpetuate the memory of those who never returned to live a full life, raise a family, and leave treasured memories for their children and grandchildren.

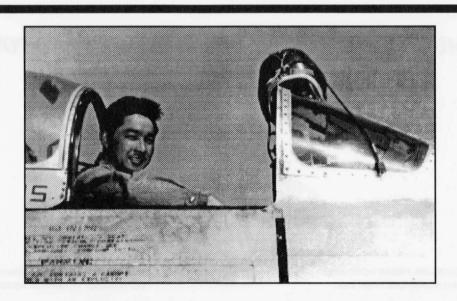
We must never forget those who made the supreme sacrifice, regardless of which war or conflict. All those young men who died shared the same fate. They lost their lives at such a young age and the memories of them held by their families and friends will always remain as young boys. Never the memory of a husband, father, or grandpa.

The Japanese American Korean War Veterans organization recognizes a Korean War veteran as a person who offered his life for his country and served all over the world. He willingly served wherever his Commander in Chief, the President of the United States, needed his presence.

Again, we thank the San Fernando Post for giving us this tremendous honor and opportunity to remind everyon...yes, there was a Korean War. The Japanese American community can be proud of those who served during the Korean War, and the 246 who died shall be remembered forever on our new Japanese American Korean War Memorial Wall.



JAKWV Display: John Yamano and Dorothy McDowell.



IN MEMORY OF LIEUTENANT RAY ITO after numerous missions, was killed in an air accident in Korea.

-Bacon Sakatani

### IN MEMORY OF ALL THOSE WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE DURING THE KOREAN WAR 1950 - 1953



WE MUST NEVER FORGET OUR KIA'S, MIA'S AND POW'S.



AMERICAN LEGION, COMMODORE PERRY POST #525 AMERICAN LEGION, SADAO MUNEMORI POST #321 DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, NISEI CHAPTER #100 100TH/442ND VETERANS ASSOCIATION

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, EAST LOS ANGELES NISEI MEMORIAL POST #9902 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, LOS ANGELES NISEI MEMORIAL POST #9938 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, SAN FERNANDO NISEI MEMORIAL POST #4140 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, GARDENA NISEI MEMORIAL POST #1961 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, KAZUO MASUDA MEMORIAL POST #3670 MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (MIS) CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GO FOR BROKE NATIONAL VETERANS ASSOCIATION KOREAN WAR NIKKEI VETERANS

## <u>ROLL CALL</u> JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS

The following is a list of names of Americans of Japanese ancestry and those affiliated with the JAKWV who served in all branches of the services during the Korean War era from 1950-1953. Their service all over the world during the Korean War is a credit to the Japanese American community and we salute each person listed and those who may have been inadvertently omitted.

Albert T. Abe Takuzo Ageno Seiji Aizawa Henry Ajima Hidekazu P. Akahoshi Albert Akiyama Herbert T. Amano George Y. Amimoto Richard S. Aoki Toshio Aoyagi Henry T. Arakaki Kazumi Arakaki Raymond M. Arao **Bill Asamoto** Morimizu Asato Harry Baba Hiroichi Baba Takeo Ban Mizuho Bobroskie Akira B. Chikami Edward I. Chikasuve Henry Corrales Martin W. Deasey Steven J. Doi Its Endo Donald L. Enriques Moses Eto Ernest Fujisaki Gene Fujita Chester J. Fukai Dale M. Fukamaki Tom Fukasawa Donald R. Fukuda Jack Fukuda Taro Fukumori Asami Fukumoto Shigeru H. Fukumoto Ronnie M. Fukuoka Takeshi Fukushima Morio Fukuto Harold H. Furukawa Tom Furushiro Henry H. Furuya George Ganeko Toya George

Kivo Goto Yoshio Hama Pete Hamagiwa Noboru Hamaguchi Mas Hamamoto Tad Hamano Charles O. Hamasaki Bill K. Hanaoka Kalvin K. Hara Harold S. Harada Kenji Harada Saburo Hasegawa Yoshinobu Hasegawa Kouii Hata Billy K. Hatano Ike Hatrchimonji Franklin Havakawa "Elwood, M" Hayashi Jack Herzig Henry K. Higa Kivoharu Hihira Sam Hirabayashi Jack K. Hirai Fibber Hirivama Hideo Hirose George Hirota Margie Hirota **Richard Hirotsu** Robert S. Horii Takashi Horii Takashi Hoshizaki Leo Hosoda Paul Hosoda Albert Ibaraki Tom Ida Kenneth Igawa Harry S. Iida Takashi Iinuma George S. Ikemiya Tom Ikemiya Henry Ikemoto Thomas T. Imagawa Shig Imai Howard Imamura William Imamura

Charlie Inatsuka Harry S. Inouye Masato Inouve Llovd Inui Dick Isawa George Iseri **Richard** Iseri Joev T. Ishihara Mas Ishihara Edward K. Ishii Tohoru Isobe Frank Ito John Y. Ito Min Ito Tom Ito John Iwamoto Henry T. Izuka Takumi Izuno Calvin Jeo Herbert Jeo Thomas Jeo Satoshi Kakuda John Kamada Masaru Kamada Mitsugi Kamemoto Joseph Kamikawa Frank Kamita Jimmie Kanava Tadashi Kaneko Arthur Kanemaru Yoshio Kaneshige Pat Kaneshiro John Kanno Stanley N. Kanzaki Mitsugi Kasai Taro Katagiri Tak Kataoka Arthur S. Katayama Tetsuo Katayama Mits Kato Tom Kawahara "Gene" "Moe" Kawamoto James Kawano George Kawasaki Richard Kawasaki

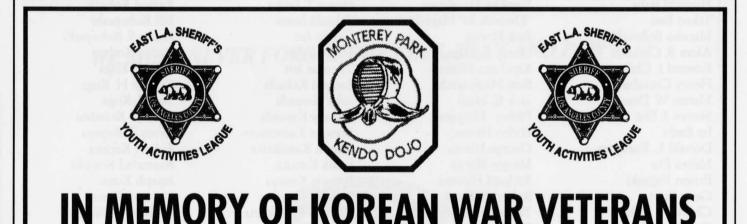
Tak Kawasaki Daniel K. Kawashima Zitsuo Kawashima Ted Kijiya **Richard Kimura** George Kiriyama Donald Kirkman Takeshi Kitamura Asao Kitani Kazuo Kitani Richard Kitano Roy Kitano Harvey N. Kitaoka Ken Kobara Elmer Kobashi Edward H. Kobata Katsuji Kobata Bill Kobayashi Isamu S. Kobavashi Fumio Kodani George Koga George H. Koga Ted H. Koga **Richard Koizumi** James T. Kojima Robert Kojima Raymond Konishi Joseph Kono Norman Kono William K. Koseki Seiji Koshimizu Minoru Kozawa Pat Kuga Kenzo Kumagawa Kwanji Kumagawa Takeo Kumagawa George Kumazawa Mitsuru Kunihiro Kimi Kunisaki Ed Kunishige Raymond Kunitsugu Jerry Kurakazu Jun Kurumada Harry K. Kuwabara Philip Kuwabara

Howrad K. Kuwada **Richard** Lewis Fred Lopez Ralph Maki Eddie M. Makimoto Harold H. Makishima Ed Marugame Yukio Masai Inouve Masato Peter Shin Masei Tom Masuda Hideo Mateda Boysan E. Matsu Kenji Matsuda Hisao Matsumoto Mas Matsumoto Teruo Matsumoto David K. Matsuoka Walter Matsuoka **Bill Matsushima** Deen Matsuzawa Bryan Mayeda Emiko D. McDowell Jack McDowell Joseph J. McKeon George Minakawa Damon Miura Dale Miyadi

Florence Mivahara Atsuhi A. Miyamoto Sam Miyamoto Tom Mivamoto Hiroshi H. Miyamura Katsumi Miyasaki George Miyata Haruto Miyatake Hayanari Mizoguchi George Mizushima Albert Monuki Bill Mori Nobuo Mori Eddie I. Moriguchi Ames I. Moriki James M. Moriki Kazuo Morimoto Tamotsu T. Morimoto Robert Y. Morinishi "Roe, H." Morisawa Hisashi Morita John Morita Rov Mukai Jack Mukai Akinobu Murakami Mits Murakami R. M. Murakami Roy Murakami

Takanori Murakami Dan Muramoto Roy Y. Murano Harold Muraoka Victor Muraoka Tak Murase Hank Nagahori Hide Nagamine Yasuo Nagamine Ray Naito Tadao Naito Wally Nakagami **Bill Nakagawa** George Nakagawa Mike K. Nakagawa Roy M. Nakagawa Sammy Nakagawa Thomas Nakagawa Winslow Nakagawa Yoshiharu H. Nakagawa Russell A. Nakaishi Yoshio Nakaji Masahiro Nakajo James K. Nakama Harro Nakamura Henry Nakamura James M. Nakamura Yukiyo Nakamura

Yoshio Nakano James Nakao Tom Nakashima Stanley T. Nakasone Edward M. Nakata Tad Nakawaki Joe Natsuhara Stanley Niitsuma Jay K. Nishikawa Tadao Nishikuni Frank Nishimoto Nick Nishimoto Norman Nishioka Bruce S. Nishiwaki Jimmy Nishiyama Herb Nitta Mas Nobuto Ben Noda Jack Y. Nunokawa George Obata Setsuo Oda Joe Oekawa Fred Ogasawara Tsutomu Ogawa Jun Ogimachi John Ohara James T. Ohashi Sukeo Oji



# MONTEREY PARK KENDO DOJO East L.A. Sheriff's Youth Activities League 4360 Dozier Avenue • Los Angeles • California 90022

*Contact:* Arthur I. Murakami (562) 692-4943 Howard Okada Richard R. Okada Rov Okamoto Paul Okamura Kunitaka Okinaka George K. Okino Setsuo Okino Edward Oku Masaru Okuda Bob Omatsu Taketomo Onaga Yujio Onaka Nathaniel Ono Paul T. Ono Takashi N. Ono Kei Oshiro George Oshita Frank M. Ota Mitsuru Owara Kiyoshi Oyama Ken Ove C. Robert Ryono Harry K. Saito John J. Saito Minoru Saito George Sakai Edwin Sakamoto George Sakamoto Shingo Sakamoto Thomas T. Sakamoto Bacon Sakatani Steven S. Sako Tadao Sakuda Walter Sakurai James Sasahara George Sasaki George K. Sato Akio Sawada Tsutomu Sawamoto June Sekiguchi Sam S. Seno Kenneth Serikawa Kirk Shibata Fred Shibuya Thomas N. Shigekuni Harry Shigemoto Kivoshi Shimabukuro Frank M. Shimamoto John K. Shimashita Harry Shimazu

Hideo Shimazu Al Shimizu Hitoshi Shimizu Rov H. Shimizu Shigeru H. Shimizu Yasuo Shimizu Sam Shimoguchi Susumu Shinagawa **Richard Shindo** Richard Shinozaki Henry Shiosaka Roy S. Shiraga Stanley Shirai Lawrence H. Shishido Bill Shishima **Bill Sogabe** Frank Sonoda Ted K. Soyeshima Asama Sueda Jim Sueoka Tom M. Sugamura Seiji Sugihara Tommy Sugihara Albert Sugimoto Jun Sugiyama William M. Sugiyama Marshall Sumida Stanley Susuki Fred Suzukawa George K. Tabata Tomio Tadaki Hirotoshi Tagashira Shig Tahara Henry M. Tai Jun Taira Thomas I. Taji Chikara Takaha Yoneji Takaha Gene J. Takahashi Hiroki Takahashi Paul N. Takahashi William Takahashi Joe Takaii Jack Y. Takamoto George Takara Wallace K. Takata Floyd Takeuchi Roy T. Takevama William Takigawa Minoru Takimoto

Yoshio Tamaki Goichi Tamave Akira Tamura Yukio Tamura Fred K. Tanaka George Tanaka Kay Y. Tanaka Kivoshi Tanaka Michio Tanaka Roy Tanaka Susumu Tanigawa George S. Tanioka Seichi Tanisawa Masavoshi Tanno Isao Tanouve Morris Tatei Haruo Tatevama Ben Tatsumi Kinya Tatsumi Minoru Tatsuno Haruo Tazumi Roy A. Tekawa Sam Tochihara George Tokeshi Keichi Tomei Ken Tomei George Tominaga Jim A. Tomita Dale Tomota Minoru Tonai Frank K. Toyama Susumu Toyoda Kivoshi K. Tsuchii Tom T. Tsuji Wally Tsukamoto Motoo Tsuneyoshi Ben Tsurumotro Mike K. Tsutsui Thomas Uchiyama Charles Ueda Herbert T. Ueda Hurley Ueda Ken Ueda William M. Ueki Ted T. Ura Herbert Ushigome Tatsugi Ushigome Jim Ushijima Bob Utsumi Donald N. Utsumi

Tomio Uwate Florence Uveda Toshio Uveda Albert Uvehara Roy T. Uyehata Francis Uvematsu Norio Uyematsu Rav Uvematsu Ben T. Dr. Uyeno Kiyo Sato Viacrucis Bill Wada Henry T. Wada Robert M. Wada Sam Wada Ted T. Wada George M. Wakiji Kaz Watanabe Moritada Watanabe Shigeo Watanabe Kivo Wattari Katsumi Yagura Al Yahanda Robert T. Yajima Johnny Y. Yamada Henry Yamaguchi Tosh Yamaji Hiroaki Yamamoto Thomas I. Yamamoto Thomi Yamamoto John Y. Yamano Robert M. Yamasaki Haruo Yamashiro Shoji Yamashita Stanley K. Yamashita Tak Yamashita Ted Yamashita Sid Yamazaki Iwao Yokooji George Yokota Kiyomi Yonamine George Yonegama Tosh Yonekura Tom Yonemura Kiyomi Yonomine Stanley Yoshida Tomio Yoshida George Yoshinaga James M. Yoshinaga Stanley Yoshino **Rik Yoshizawa** 

The above compiled list of Americans of Japanese ancestry along with other veterans affiliated with the JAKWV was prepared from our best available sources. If your name or someone you know is not listed and should be, please forward their names, addresses and telephone numbers to: JAKWV, Robert M. Wada, 410 W. Amerige Avenue, Fullerton CA 92832 (714) 992-5461 or Fax (714) 525-9761.



Crossing an enemy-made footbridge. The 24th Division advanced to positions northwest of Ch'ongp'yong-ni by 23 March.

## **IN MEMORY OF**

## MITSURU GOTO HIDEMARO S. ISHIDA YUKIWO TANOUYE

AND ALL WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE FOR THEIR COUNTRY

SGT MAJ, RET'D PAUL & SHARLENE ONO

# "FOREVER CONSECRATED TO OUR HEROIC DEAD" OF THE KOREAN WAR 1950-1953



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS LOS ANGELES NISEI MEMORIAL POST 9938 P.O. Box 8153, Crenshaw Station Los Angeles, CA 90008

2nd/4th Tuesdays 442nd Memorial Hall 1438 Oak Street • Los Angeles, CA 90015

### THE NISEI LEGEND OF THE KOREAN WAR HIROSHI "HERSHEY" MIYAMURA CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR



Every war has its heroes and the Korean War was no exception. The most famous Japanese American of the Korean War, Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura began his life as the son of an immigrant coal mine worker in Gallup, New Mexico.



He grew up in a family so typical for the Nisei before World War II. In 1944 Hershey entered the U.S. Army and served a short term with the Nisei 442nd Regimental Combat Team just in time to return to Washington, D.C. for the ticker tape parade down Pennsylvania Avenue.

Returning to Gallup, New Mexico, Hershey reenlisted in the Army Reserve Corps. It was then that he married Terry Tsuchimori in 1948.

At the outbreak of the Korean War, Hershey soon found himself in Korea with the 3rd Division all the way north to the Yalu River. The Chinese then entered the war and Hershey soon found himself pushed back to Pusan.

Reversing the role and pushing the Chinese north beyond the South Korean Capital of Seoul, Hershey found himself in the thick of battle with the Chinese forces that had crossed the river below his perimeter. Outnumbered, Sgt. Miyamura who was the squad leader for the machine gun crew, ordered his men to retreat to the rear while he alone kept the enemy busy with his arsenal of machine gun, rifle and a couple of cases of hand grenades. He, himself had to abandon his position when they began dropping phosphorous bombs on him.

By now, the Chinese soldiers had his position surrounded and Hershey found himself face to face with the enemy. The two Asian soldiers squared off, recognizing each other as the enemy by their

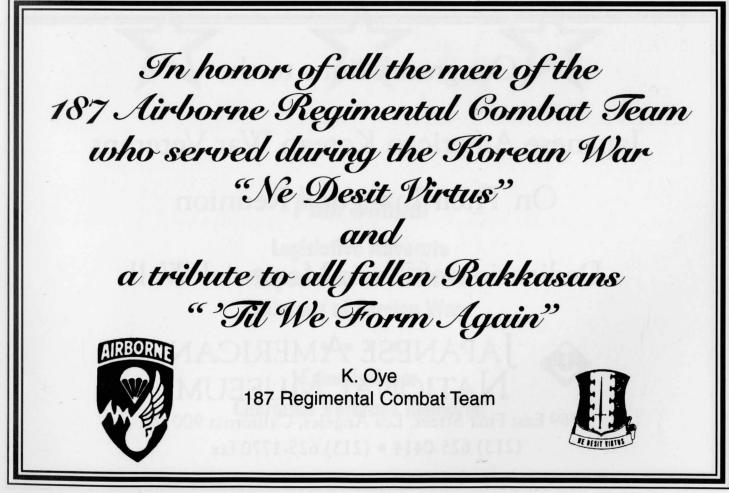
uniforms. Miyamura had prepared himself by fixing the bayonet onto his rifle and he attacked the other soldier who had a concussion grenade. When Hershey withdrew his bayonet from the other man's body, he fell flat on his back and at the same time, the enemy grenade hit his leg. Hershey immediately kicked it away but when it exploded, a piece of shrapnel became embedded in his body. Now wounded, Hershey struggled to get away from the enemy, but he could not. He decided to play possum and laid there hoping the enemy troops would leave him for dead. About an hour later at daybreak, someone spoke to him in English, "Get up! You are my prisoner. We have a lenient policy for our prisoners." Sgt. Miyamura was now a prisoner of war.

For nearly two and a half years, Hershey suffered in the prisoner of war camp coping with dysentery and malnutrition. Malnutrition caused his hair to fall out in huge clumps and night blindness was another symptom caused by the lack of a proper diet.

Hershey was among the last groups to be released from the camp. On August 21, 1953, his group was placed on a truck which took them to the train station for the long awaited trip to Freedom Village located in Panmunjom, Korea.

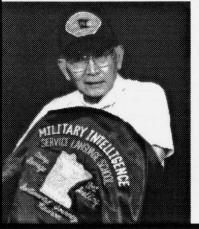
At Freedom Village, after lengthy debriefing sessions and being checked physically, Hershey was informed of his being awarded the nation's highest award for bravery, the Medal of Honor. The Pentagon had known about his brave deeds in saving his squad while single-handedly fighting off the enemy until he was forced to retreat, and knew that his retreat came only after killing more than 50 Chinese soldiers. However, they did not disclose his actions for fear of retaliation while Hershey was being held as a prisoner of war.

Upon his return to the United States, Hershey was formally presented the Medal of Honor by then President Dwight David Eisenhower in October of 1953. The ceremony took place at the White House with Hershey's family, including his father, witnessing the impressive ceremony.









<u>Top Left</u>: Capt. Dale R. Buis and WOJG Mitsugi Kasai Practice Chinese-Cantonese dialect tones in 1950. Buis and a sergeant were first killed in Vietnam War. Buis' name appears first on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial under April 1959 in Washington D.C. The language training sent Mits to Korea in 1952.

<u>Top Right:</u> Mits participates in the repatriation of Chinese anti-repatriate POWs (UNC Camp No. 3) to Taiwan and pro-repatriate POWs (UNC Camp No. 8) to Mainland China. The two camps were located on Cheju Island, Korea.

<u>Bottom:</u> Mits attended the 1942 Military Intelligence Service Language School Reunion in 1992 at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

•CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DEDICATION OF JAKWV MEMORIAL•



A SALUTE TO THE JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS for honoring those who paid with the Supreme Sacrifice during the war in Korea.





#### Paul Bannai

Legislative Advocate Department of California Veterans of Foreign Wars

....

Commissioner California Veterans Memorial

#### MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (MIS) PLAYED MAJOR ROLE AT ONSET OF THE KOREAN WAR

The MIS story didn't end with WWII. When the Korean War began, hundreds of Japanese Americans in the MIS were sent to Korea as interpreters.

The lack of trained American soldiers in the Korean language and the knowledge that the Korean people were fluent in the Japanese language prompted the U.S. Army to send hundreds of Japanese Americans to Korea immediately. They were some of the first troops into the war. Many were trapped at the Port of Pusan, which was the last city and area held in the early part of the war.

Many of the Japanese Americans in the MIS were killed in action, while others were taken prisoner by the North Koreans. Some died in prison camps and others suffered permanent disabilities as a result of their captivity as prisoners of war.



FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY SERVICE DURING THE KOREAN WAR FROM 1950 - 1953,



JAKWV PROUDLY SALUTES THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE MIS.

#### In Honor of MAJOR (Ret'd) KIYOSHI SAKAMOTO

Who Commanded and Led a Large Contingent of Military Intelligence Service Personnel to Korea During the Early Days of the Korean War. IN TRIBUTE TO THE MEN OF THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN KOREA.



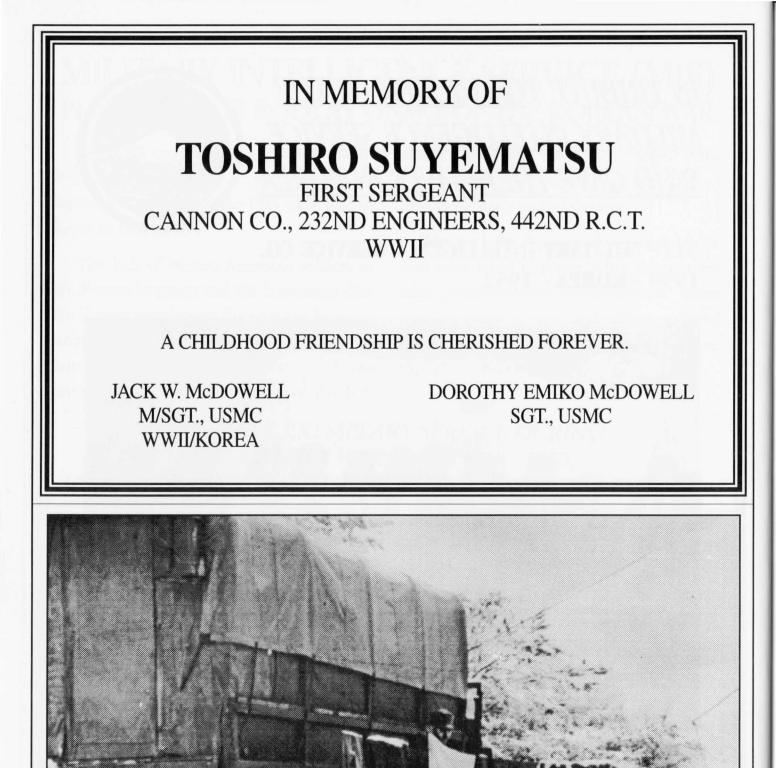
511<sup>™</sup> MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE CO. 1950 - KOREA - 1952



<u>Standing, left to right:</u> Shigeo Watanabe, Harry Shimazu, Bill Sogabe, Sam Miyamoto, Wally Tsukamoto, Tsutomu Sawamoto, Mits Kato, Yoshio Hama, Henry Yamaguchi, Toru Isobe, Sid Yamazaki.

<u>Seated, left to right:</u> Lloyd Inui, John Morita, Mas Ishihara, Masayoshi Tanno, Asao Kitani, Hideo Shimazu, Jack Fukuda.

Not pictured: Albert Ibaraki



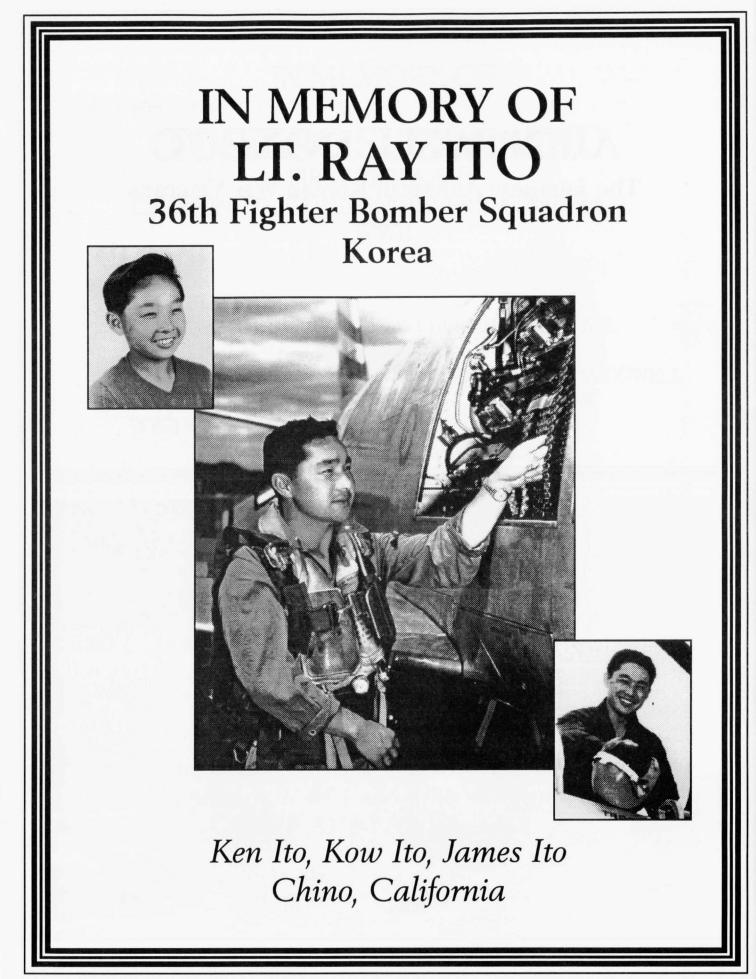
Wintery washday in the 24th Division area, 24 November.

# A JOB WELL DONE TO

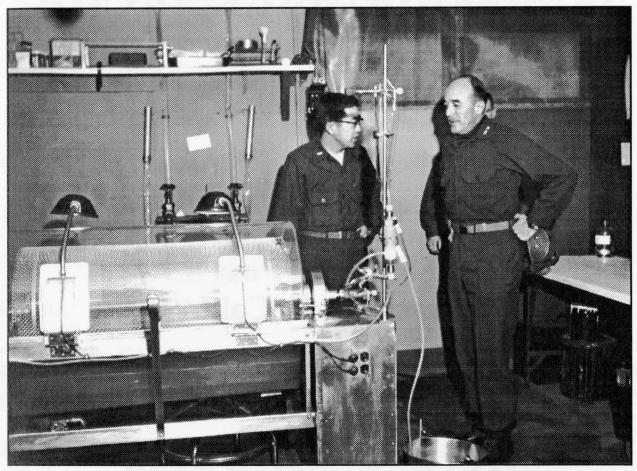
#### The Japanese American Korean War Veterans



#### SAN JOSE NISEI MEMORIAL POST 9970 Hosting the 48th Nisei VFW Reunion February 13, 14, 15, 1998



#### **MASH Hospital-First Dialysis Machine**



U.S. Army Photo: Jan 17, 1954- 1st Lt. Benjamin T. Uyeno, of Cleveland, Ohio, shows Surgeon General of the Army, Major General George E. Armstrong the only artificial kidney in Korea at the 48th Surgical Hospital during Gen. Armstrong's visit to medical installations in Korea.

#### Dr. Benjamin Uyeno's Tour of Duty in Korea

My first contact with Korea was at Pusan in March 1953, and then to my permanent duty station at the 48th MASH (Mobile Army Surgical Hospital) just a few miles north of Seoul and near pan Munjon. As a non surgeon my duties was that of a triage officer delegated to see all admitting casualties and determine disposition. I soon was trained to operate the only kidney machine known as the Klopf model and to care for G.I.'s in kidney failure. From Middle of 1953 our men were affected with a serious illness very similar to our modern E-coli virus causing a hemmorhage with viral illness that was life threatening. Since one phase of this disease had to do with kidney failure our MASH was assigned the task of caring for all those who contracted this plague. When we had to use the kidney machine it was premature ancient model known as the Klopt model. This was the machine I was showing Major General George Armstrong when he came to inspect our MASH on occasion of his inspection when he became our new Surgeon General of the 8th Army.

During the last 8-10 months of my tour in Korea, the Mash allowed me to have a Korean clinic where I saw between 100-110 patients daily. The army paid for all the meds and the help I needed to care for them.

My tour in Korea was a fascinating and rewarding period and I would not change it for any other time of my life.

# CONGRATULATIONS ON THE DEDICATION OF THE JAKWV WALL

Veterans of Foreign Wars Nisei Memorial Post 9902 Monterey Park, California

#### IN HONOR OF ROY S. SHIRAGA

From his family:

Bernice Shiraga - Dean Shiraga - Lynn & John Middleton Yomiko Murakami - Richard & Masako Murakami - Arthur & Hisako Murakami Eugene & Elaine Murakami - Roy & Katherine Otamura Daniel Murakami - Harold & Barbara Keimi and his many nephews and nieces

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO DIED IN THE KOREAN WAR FOR THE FREEDOM OF SOUTH KOREA.

PARK PLAZA INVESTMENT COMPANY

WAYNE S. DOIGUCHI PRESIDENT AND CEO

95 S. MARKET ST., STE. 540 SAN JOSE, CA 95113 TEL: (408) 280-0290 FAX: (408) 280-0292 IN MEMORY OF BEN TAKAMOTO FROM A PLACE REFERRED AT EARLIER TIMES AS MAYHEW

- Boyhood Friend

#### **5th Regimental Combat Team**

25 of our Members that made the Supreme Sacrifice

Clarence H	. AKI	Seiso	NAKANA*
Takeshi	FUJITA	Roy T.	NAKASHIMA
Haruo	FUKAMIZU*	Seinojo	NAKATANI
Yoshi	IKEDA	Thomas N.	OTAGURA
Albert A.	ISHIMOTO	James N.	SAKAMOTO
Osamu	IWAMI	Nobumi	SHIBAO
David T.	KANESHIRO	Robert	SHIMABUKURO
Hiroshi	KIRIU	Kenneth K.	SHIMOGAWA*
Takashi	KOCHI	Nobuyuki	TAKESHITA
Shozo	KUWAHARA	Suso	TSUNDA
Samuel S.	MIYAHIRA	Noburu	UEHARA
Wilbert Y.	MIYASATO	Alfred S.	UTEHARA

Tomoyoshi MIYASHIRO

\* ADDED FROM OUR SPECIAL ORDERS: FUKAMIZU & NAKANA, "C" Co. 5th Inf. 12 Sept. 1950 & SHIMOGAWA, "E" Co. 5th Inf. 20 Sept. 1950

#### 5th R. C. T. Association 1-888-221-8418 (Toll Free)



#### In Memory of all those who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the Korean War.

#### IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO DIED IN THE KOREAN WAR.

Robert & Nadine Pike Sgt., D Co., 1st Tank Bn. 1st Marine Div., USMC Korea



In Memory of friends and family of those who served. From the Japanese-American Citizen's League Las Vegas Chapter. Japanese American Korean War Memorial

"To Honor & To Remember"

- a fellow Korean War vet -

George Kiriyama Los Angeles School Board Member District Seven

#### IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LIVING TO HONOR THOSE WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE

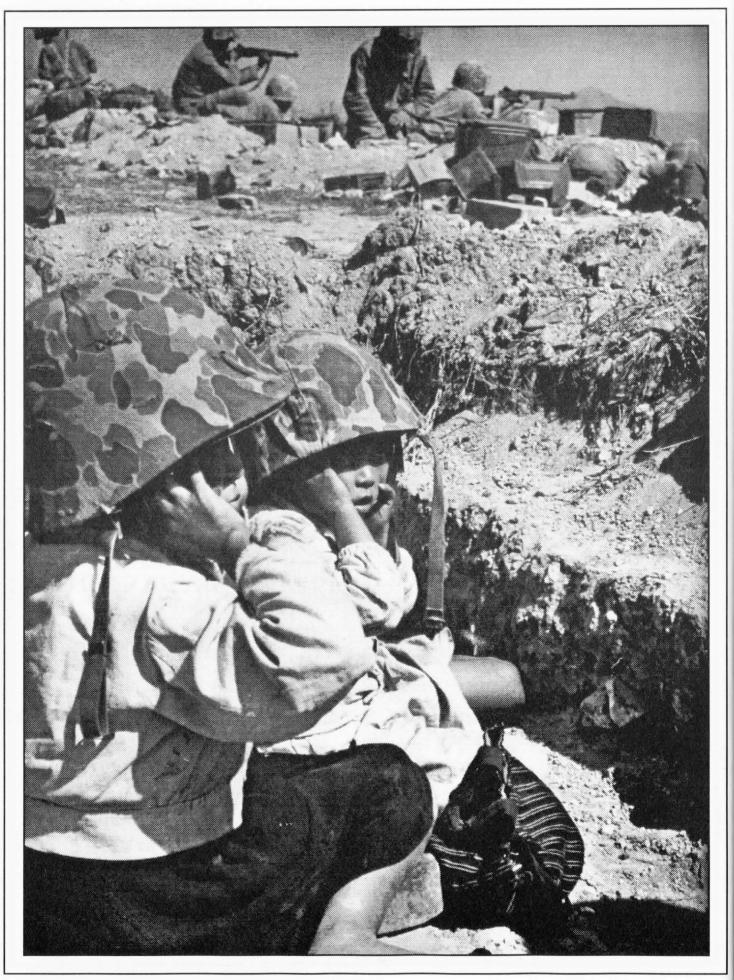
Countries where Japanese Americans made the supreme sacrifice - - -

Austria- Burma - France - Germany Grenada - Cuba - Hawaii - Italy - Japan Korea - Leyte - New Guinea - Okinawa Philippines - Saudi Arabia - Vietnam

Congratulations to the Japanese American Korean War Veterans for a job well done. It appropriately stands along side of the Japanese American Vietnam War Memorial as a grim reminder of the supreme sacrifices made by their fellow comrades. The message given by these Memorial Walls are that "we must never allow our War Dead to be forgotten." They are the true Heroes.

Americans of Japanese Ancestry War Memorial Coalition joins a grateful community in saluting the Japanese American Korean War Veterans for not compromising in honoring their war dead on their Memorial Wall.

AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WAR MEMORIAL COALITION P.O. Box 151341 Del Valle Station - Los Angeles, CA 90015



IN FOND MEMORY OF MY GOOD FRIEND FROM CAMP DAYS, TOHORU TAKAI, WHO WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED, WHILE LEADING HIS SQUAD ON PATROL AT THE CHANGJIN (CHOSIN) RESERVOIR AND DIED IN A PRISON CAMP, SOMEWHERE IN NORTH KOREA. HE LEFT HIS BELOVED WIFE AND A SON HE NEVER SAW.

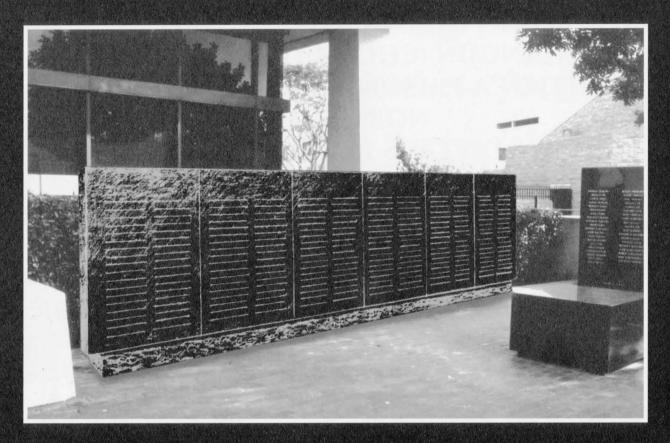
TOHORU, I'M SORRY IT TOOK SO LONG TO BUILD THIS MEMORIAL FOR OUR KOREAN WAR HEROES, WHO GAVE THEIR PRECIOUS LIVES, SO THAT WE WHO REMAINED WERE ABLE TO LIVE IN A BETTER WORLD.

WE THANK YOU AND WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU. MAY YOU REST IN PEACE

49

Your Pal from Amache, Min Tonai 24 May 1997

#### IN MEMORY OF THE AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES DURING THE KOREAN WAR 1950-1953



Kazuaki Akazawa Yutaka Amano Tatsuo Arai James Seifuku Arakaki Seichi Arakaki Wilfred H. Arakawa Hiroshi Asada Thomas T. Asato Harry M. Chinen Hachiro B. Endo Paul A. Eno John S. Eshima Samuel Akira Fujii Junichi Fujimoto Hitoshi Fujita Takeshi Fujita Haruo Fukamizu

Ralph T. Fukumoto Yoshimi Fukumoto Thomas Y. Funakoshi Isaac Furukawa Seiken Ganeku Mitsuru Goto **Raymond Goto** Satoshi Goto Masao Gova Gilbert M. Gushiken Yoshinobu Gusukuma Hiroshi Hagino Yoshio Hagiwara Mitsuo Hamada Patrick K. Hamada, Jr. Kenichi Hamaguchi Rodney N. Hamaguchi Richard Y. Hayakawa Sadayasu Higa Yutaka Higa Walter W. Higashida Aranari Arthur Hiraga Edward K. Hirakawa Rin Hiraoka Louis M. Hirata Jiro Hirokane Jack A. Hiwatashi Shigeo Hiyane Tomio Honda Tamiya Ikeda Yoshio Ikeda Mark Inokuchi Edward M. Ishibashi Hidemaro S. Ishida

Mitsuyoshi Ishida Wallace K. Ishikawa Kivoshi Ishimizu Albert A. Ishimoto Robert S. Ishimoto Ray Ito Yukinobu Ito Yeikichi B. Itokazu Osamu Iwami Shogo Iwatsuru Isamu Izu Franklin N. Izuo Fred T. Kanekura David T. Kaneshiro Harry Y. Kaneshiro Hayato Kaneshiro Jack S. Kaneshiro

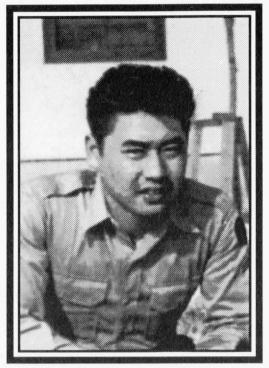
Masayoshi Kawahara Suveo Kawahara Masami Kawamura William M. Kawashima Minoru Kaya Masayuki Kihara Seiki Kimura **Richard Kinoshita** Hiroshi Kiriu Tetsuo Kiyohiro Robert S. Kobashigawa Takashi Kochi Satoru Kojiri Ken K. Kondo **Richard Yasuyuki Kono** Muneo Koshimizu Sueo Kovanagi Arthur M. Kozuki George M. Kumakura Masaru Kumashiro Minoru Kunieda Susumu Kurosawa Shigetoshi Kusuda Kivomitsu Kutsunai Shoso Kuwahara Lawrence K. Machida Hanford K. Maeda Haruo Maeda Ralph S. Masatsugu Heishin Matsuda Holly T. Matsuda Kumaji Matsuda Joseph J. Matsunaga Jun Matsushige Jimmie H. Mayemura George Y. Minakata Kenneth A. Misaki Alan T. Miyahira Samuel S. Miyahira Donald S. Miyajima Robert K. Miyamoto Ichiro R. Miyasaki Wilbert Y. Miyasato Daniel T. Miyashiro Tamotsu Miyashiro

Tomoyoshi Miyashiro Harry Y. Miyata Shigeo Miyazaki Tsunematsu Mizusawa Akeji Morinaga James M. Morisako Eiji Morishige Tetsuo Moriuchi Koichi Moriwaki Fumio Morivama Haruo Moriyasu Shizuo Motoyama Tadao Murakami Tsukasa Muraoka Yukio Murata Ernest A. Nagai Hiroshi Nagamine Hideo Nakama Seiso Nakama Noboru Nakamura Wataru Nakamura Satoshi Nakasato Yeichi Nakasato Roy T. Nakashima Shinichi Nakata Seinojo R. Nakatani Raymond J. Namba Lawrence Y. Nihei Richard K. Nirei Richard K. Nishida Warren T. Nishihara **Charles Nishimura** Kenichi Nishiyama Fredrick M. Nitta Daniel J. Niwa Tadashi Obana Neil N. Ogasawara Suetoshi Ogata Takeo Ogusuku Arthur I. Okamura Togo Okamura Hisao Okimoto Clifford H. Okinaga Hiroshi Oku Jitsuo Ono

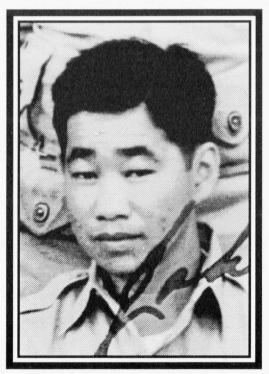
Milton T. Onomura Alfred E. Oshiro Edward Oshiro Paul H. Oshiro Mitsuvuki Ota Thomas N. Otaguro Bill M. Otomo Masaaki Saito Masaya Saito **Tsugio Saito** Allen T. Sakamoto James N. Sakamoto Kenneth M. Sakamoto Minoru Sasaki Takeshi Sasaki Michael Susumu Sato Shoji Sato Henry T. Senaha Hiroshi Shibao Nobumi Shibao Lawrence Y. Shima Robert Shimabukuro Shingo Shimabukuro Calvin Shimata Kenneth Shimogawa Toshio Shimonoya Robert M. Shinde Nobuo Shishido Takashi Shishido Herbert H. Suzuki Charles S. Tahara Theodore Takafuji Sam O. Takahara George K. Takahashi **Richard Takahashi** Tohoru Takai Herbert T. Takamatsu Ben M. Takamoto Nobuyuki Takeshita Harry F. Takeuchi Charles Y. Tamaru Kaname R. Tamashiro Osamu Tamura George H. Tanonaka **Kiyoshi Tanouye** 

Yukiwo Tanouye Shinji Tengan Richard R. Tokunaga Daniel T. Toma Haruo Tomita Casey N. Torikawa Sadato Tosaki Jack S. Tsuboi George T. Tsuji Sueo Tsunoda Harry Tsuruoka Noboru Uehara Seiho Uejo Mitsuo Uemura Yukio Ujimori Archie M. Uno Akira Uota Paul K. Ura Takaya D. Uragami Robert T. Uyeda Alfred S. Uyehara Takeo Uyehara Andrew R. Watada Richard M. Watanabe Muneo Yaka Nobuji Yamagata Tsugio Yamaguchi Yeiji Yamaguchi Timothy S. Yamakawa Taketo Yamane Harold S. Yamasaki Joichi Yamashita Gary K. Yasunaka Thomas H. Yokomichi Tetsumi Yokooji Katashi Yokotake Itsuo Yoneshige Kanji Yoshida Elmer J. Yoshihara Toshiharu Yoshikawa Tatsuo Yoshino Shigeo G. Yoshioka Don R. Yumori

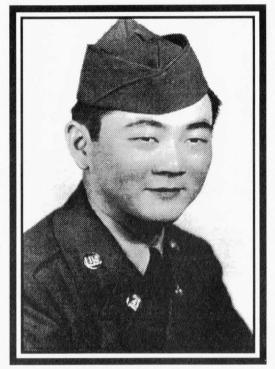
The memorial wall will help fulfill our obligation to those who never returned and to their families. The memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice in Korea during the war from 1950 to 1953 shall be perpetuated forever.



Sgt Yutaka Amano 12/11/50



Pvt John Shigeru Eshima 8/13/50



Pfc Hachiro "Bob" Endo 10/10/51



Pvt Samuel "Sammy" Akira Fujii 10/4/51



Pvt Junichi Fujimoto 2/15/51



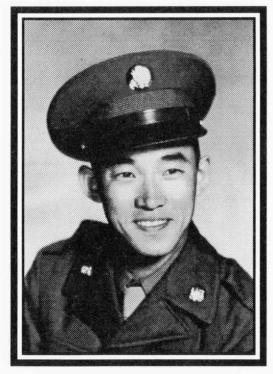
Pfc Mitsuru Goto 10/23/50



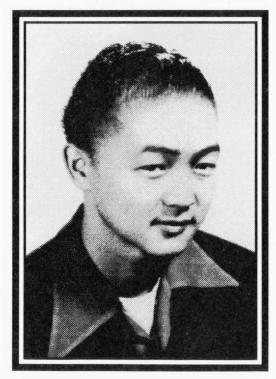
Sgt Isaac Furukawa 7/25/50



Cpl Hiroshi Hagino 5/17/52



Pfc Kenichi Hamaguchi 8/12/50



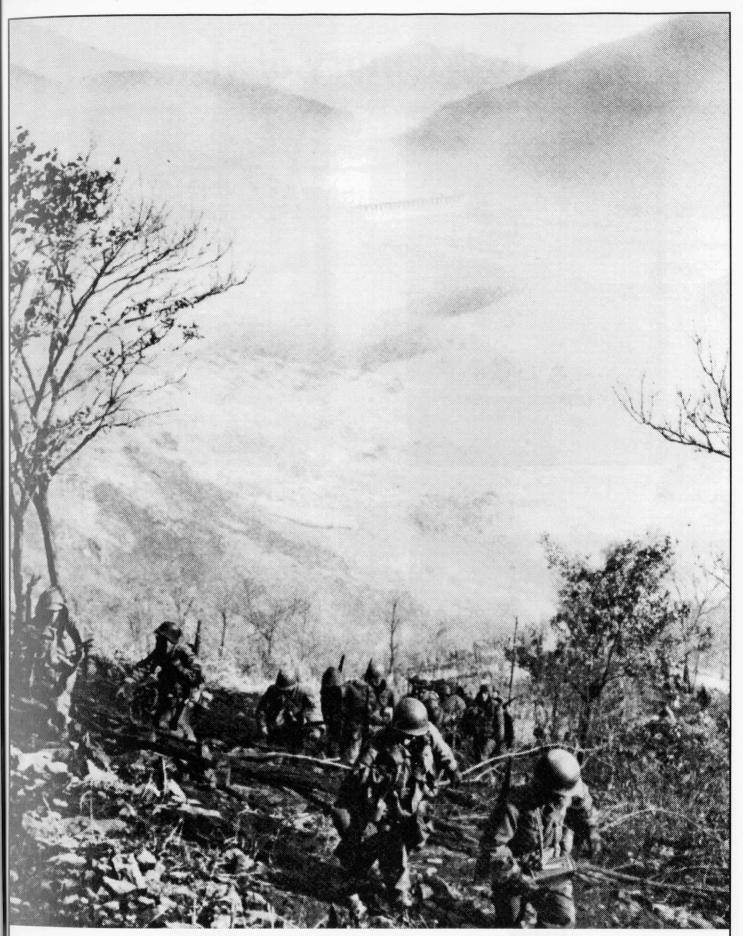
Pfc Rodney N. Hamaguchi 7/5/50



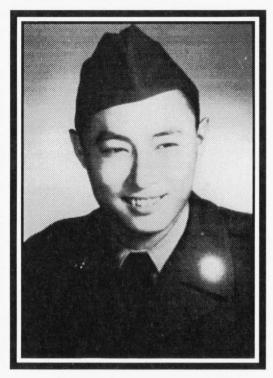
Sgt Jack A. Hiwatashi 9/7/51



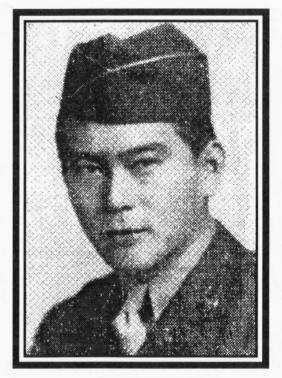
Pvt Shigeo Hiyane 9/3/51



After crossing the Hongch'on River, men of the 5th Infantry tackle another enemy-held hill, central sector, 19 March.



Pvt Tomio Honda 9/28/51



Sgt Yoshio Ikeda 8/12/50



A1c Hidemaro Saito Ishida 1/29/53



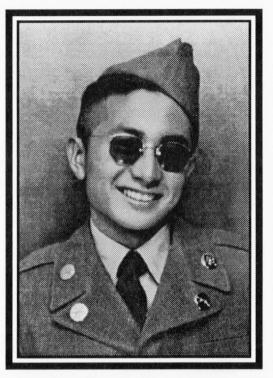
2nd Lt Ray Ito



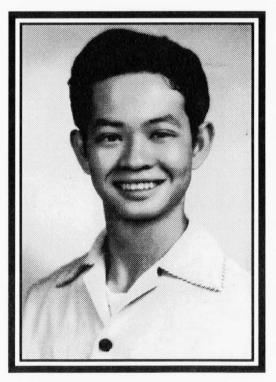
Pfc Osamu Iwami 8/9/50



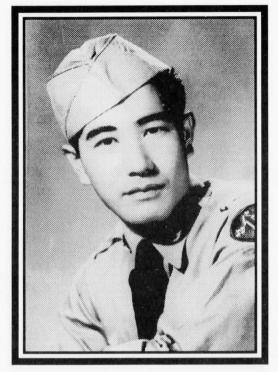
Pfc Minoru Kaya 7/20/50



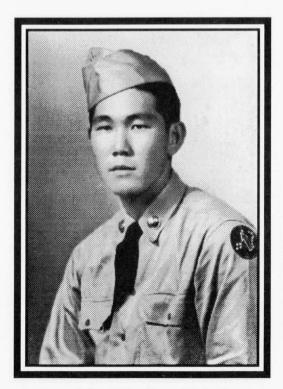
Pfc Shogo Iwatsuru 9/6/51



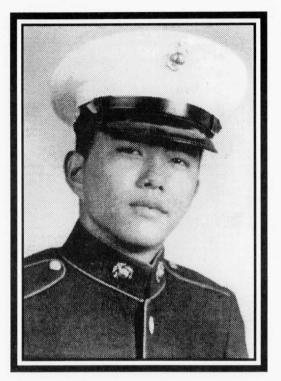
Sgt Tetsuo Kiyohiro 10/12/51



Sgt Robert Shinye Kobashigawa 10/3/51



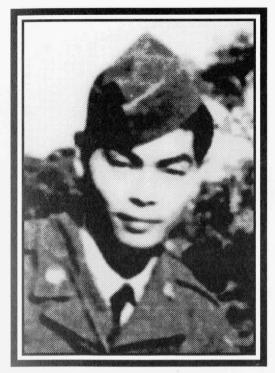
Pfc Muneo Koshimizu 10/5/51



Cpl Richard Yasuyuki Kono 8/12/52



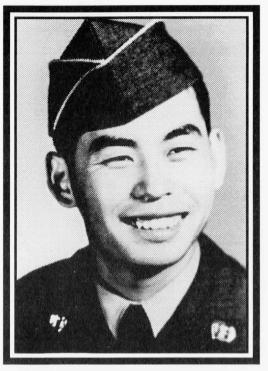
Pfc Masaru Kumashiro 9/8/51



Cpl Jun Matsushige 11/13/52



Pfc George Minakata 2/12/51

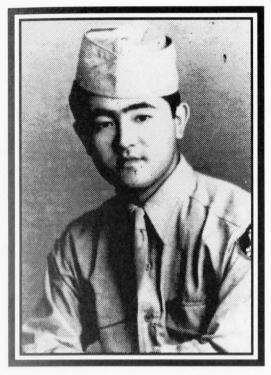


Sfc Jimmie H. Mayemura 11/4/51



Pvt Ichiro Roy Miyasaki 6/12/52

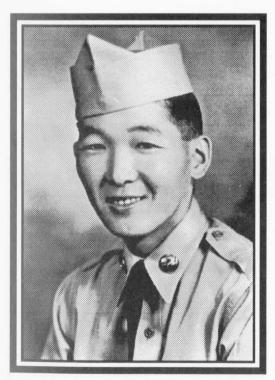




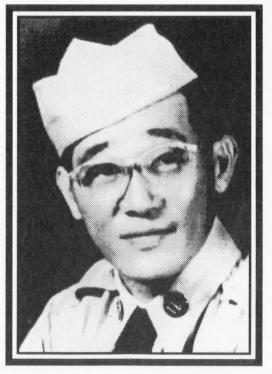
Cpl Wilbert Y. Miyasato 10/14/51



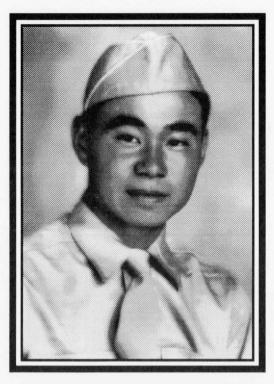
Pfc Koichi Moriwaki 9/20/50



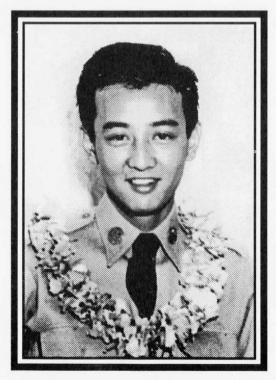
Cpl Haruo Moriyasu 5/23/51



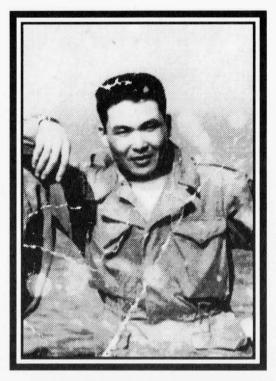
Pfc Noboru "Pop" Nakamura 9/18/51



Pfc Wataru Nakamura 5/18/51



Pfc Frederick M. Nitta 9/8/51



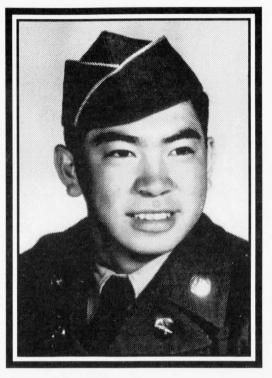
Pfc Satoshi Nakasato 7/20/50



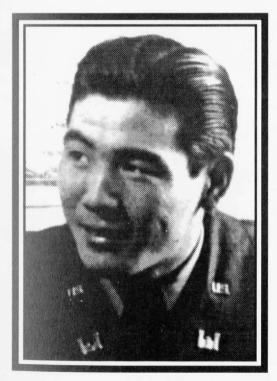
Pfc Tadashi Obana 10/14/51



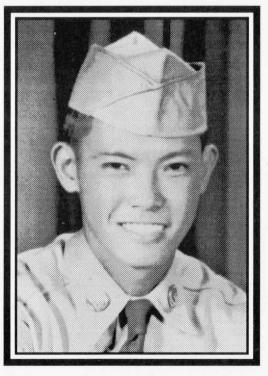
Pfc Arthur I. Okamura 10/14/51



Pfc Togo Okamura 11/23/51



1st Lt Bill N. Otomo 2/7/51



Pfc Allen T. Sakamoto 10/15/52



Pfc Michael Susumu Sato



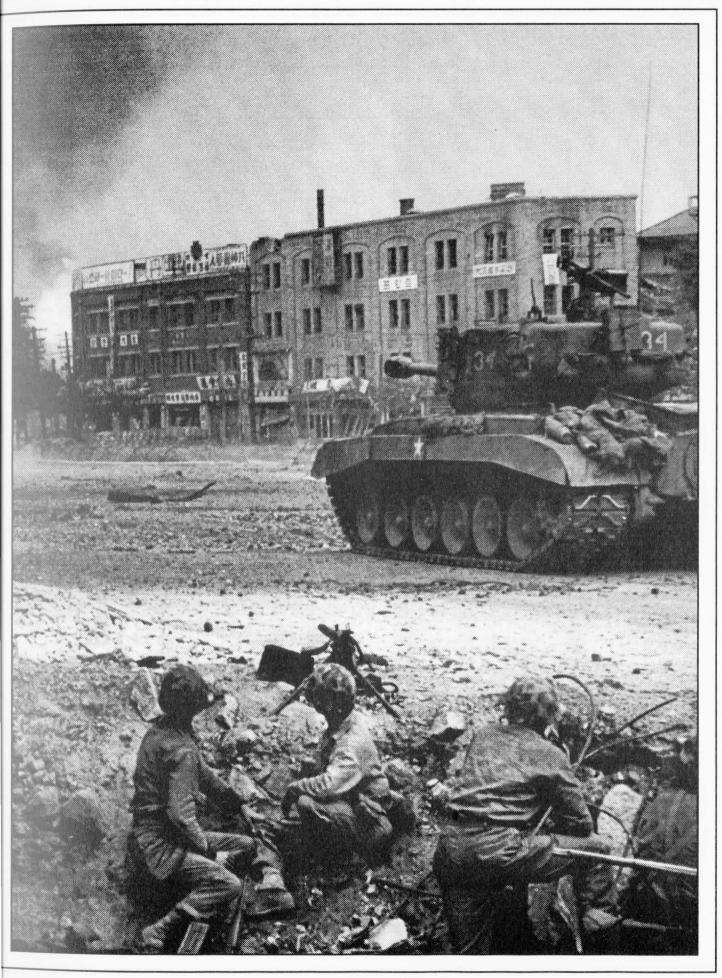
Pfc Henry T. "Tomo" Senaha 9/20/51

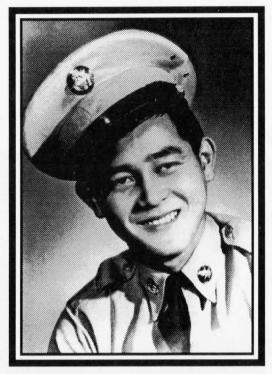


Pfc Shoji Sato 10/6/52

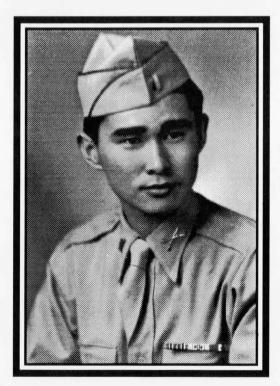


Pfc Lawrence Y. Shima 4/7/51





Pvt Herbert H. Suzuki 8/7/50



Capt Sam Osamu Takahara 7/20/50



Sfc Charles Satoru Tahara 9/17/51



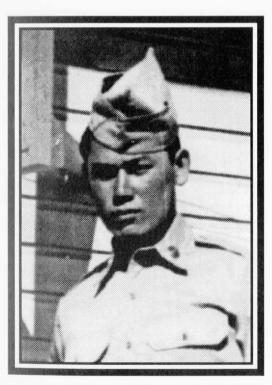
Cpl Tohoru T. Takai 6/30/51



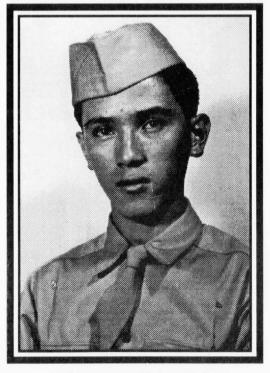
Pfc Ben Mitsugi Takamoto 7/29/51



Pvt Osamu Tamura 9/9/51



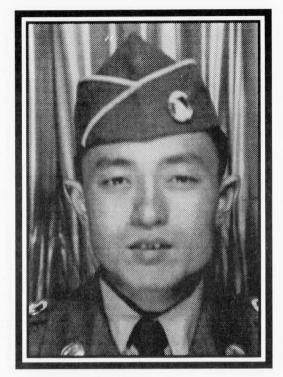
Pvt Yukiwo Tanouye 9/7/51



Sadato Tosaki 9/4/50



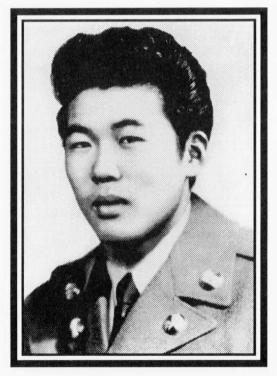
Cpl Archie M. Uno 5/19/51



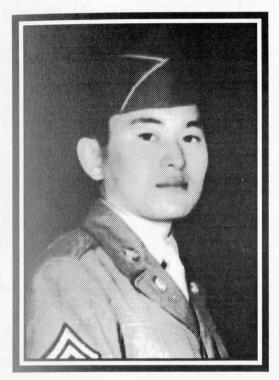
Pvt Akira Uota 7/8/53



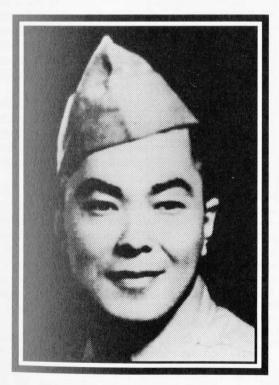
Cpl Paul Konomu Ura 6/29/52



Pfc Takaya Dixon Uragami 11/22/51



S/Sgt Andrew R. Watada 1/7/51



Pfc Elmer J. Yoshihara 8/12/50



Pvt Gary Kaname Yasunaka 4/25/51



Cpl Don Ron Yumori 3/30/52

#### **沙RAFU SHIMPO TOZ**

#### KIA, MIA Korean War Vets to Be Remembered at May 24 Event

Had he lived, he would be 76 years old this year. But PFC Wataru Nakamura isn't here. The clean-cut 30-year-old was killed in action in Korea on May 18, 1951.

While he may be gone, he, along with 247 Japanese Americans killed or missing in action from the Korean War, will be remembered during a ceremony on Saturday, May 74

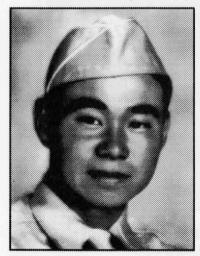
The ceremony will include a memorial wall dedication in the Veterans Court of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, located at 244 S. San Pedro in Little Tokyo.

Nakamura, born in Los Angeles in 1921, attended Jefferson High School. He and his family-parents, three brothers and two sisters-were interned in Rohwer. Arkansas, during World War II.

Nakamura served with the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Europe, and after his discharge, settled in Chicago. He was in the Army Reserve when the Korean conflict broke out in June 1950. His reserve unit was activated, and he was eventually assigned to the 38th Infantry Regiment of the Second Division in Korea.

Near P'ungch'on on the night of May 17, 1951, Nakamura's unit sustained a vicious attack which neutralized communications between the First Platoon and the Company I command post.

A citation on his posthumous



Wataru Nakamura

**Distinguished Service Cross reads:** 

"... At approximately 0430 hours on 18 May, with intermittent rain and fog increasing the darkness of early morning, Private Nakamura volunteered to check and repair the damaged line, and unaware that the enemy had infiltrated and captured heavily-fortified friendly positions, moved forward until he came under a withering hail of hostile fire.

"Disregarding his own safety, he made a one-man assault, silencing a machine gun and its crew with his carbine and bayonet and destroying two enemy positions with grenades, but when his ammunition was expended, he was forced to withdraw in the face of overwhelming odds.

'After falling back, Private Nakamura met a carrying party, briefed the officer in charge and replenishing his ammunition, returned to engage the hostile force. Supported by rifle fire, he wiped out an enemy position and attacked the remaining bunker, killing one and wounding another enemy soldier before he was mortally wounded by grenade fire."

The citation goes on to state, "Private Nakamura's intrepid actions and consummate devotion to duty reflect the highest credit on himself and uphold the honored traditions of the military service.

His remains are interred at Ever-

green Cemetery. Robert M. Wada, president of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans which organized the fund drive for the memorial, stated, "How sad to realize that these Japanese American comrades, along with the many non-Japanese KIAs and MIAs, never had the chance to ever have children of their own. Each young man died without the benefit of being held or comforted by his parents or family in death. They died alone in battle so far away, and it is our obligation to see that they are no longer alone and will never, ever be forgotten."

The memorial dedication is part of a May 23 to 26 weekend full of events, including a golf tournament and banquet. For more information, contact Wada at (714) 992-5461.

#### **Devotion of a Sister**



**Arthur Okamura** 

This is the story of Natsuko Okamura, a sister whose love and devotion was shown by her many letters sent to her brother Arthur in Korea long after his death.

When Arthur's company, A Company, 5th Regimental Combat Team, was assaulting enemy held hill bunkers on October 14, 1951, the company's assault was halted by heavy bursts of enemy machine gun fire. While the unit was pinned down, Pfc. Arthur Okamura discovered an enemy mine field in the path of his comrades. Without regard for his own safety, he exposed himself to the intense fire and began clearing the mine field.

Pfc. Okamura worked four hours under direct observation of the enemy and had cleared most of the area when one of the mines detonated and mortally wounded him. His heroic deed was directly responsible for saving his comrades' lives and inspired them to capture the hill.

Pfc. Arthur L. Okamura and his sister Natsuko wrote to each other almost weekly, as did his other friends, ever since Arthur had arrived in Korea. Both her returned unopened letters to Arthur and his letters to her reveal a heartwarming story. In the weeks following Arthur's death. Natsuko and her family were completely unaware of his death. Natsuko was not receiving any mail from Arthur so she began writing letters to him more often, even daily.

It was not until later when the family was officially notified of Arthur's death and Natsuko's unopened letters to Arthur were returned by the Army did she stop writing to her brother Postmarks on the unopened letters to Arthur show dates almost daily for about a month after his death. Such love and devotion from a sister is a story that has no ending.

# IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL SUSUMU SATO

## Our memories of you are treasured.



Edward & Jo Ann Sato Tom & May Sato York & Amy Sato Hiroshi & Florence (Sato) Nagamoto

#### IN MEMORY OF A FRIEND WHO WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

#### ROBERT BANUELOS MADRID REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA



PFC. ROBERT B. MADRID D COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 1ST MARINE REGIMENT 1ST MARINE DIVISION, KOREA KILLED IN ACTION SEPTEMBER 13, 1951

TED T. WADA T/SGT., US ARMY K CO., 442ND R.C.T., WWII 11TH AIRBORNE, 32ND REGT., 7TH DIV. KOREA HENRY T. WADA SGT., USMC 1ST MARINE REGT., 1ST MARINE DIV. KOREA

ROBERT M. WADA SGT., USMC 1ST TANK BN., 1ST MARINE DIV. KOREA

# TRIBUTE AND HOMAGE

# **TO OUR FALLEN COMRADES - AT - ARM**

## **KOREAN WAR**

June 1950 - July 1953



**M.I.S. ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, INC.** 

# To the Everlasting Memory of Our Fellow Terminal Islander,

# TAKAYA DIXON URAGAMI.



# The Memory of You will be with us Forever.

**Terminal Islanders** 

# CONGRATULATIONS TO GEORGE K. TABATA AND ALL JAPANESE AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS ON THEIR SERVICE AND THE DEDICATION OF THE MEMORIAL. OUR SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES.

Jerry & Jamie Yamamoto

IN MEMORY OF OUR FALLEN COMRADES WHOM MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE TO DEFEND OUR AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE. MAY THEIR SOULS REST IN PEACE FOR THEY ARE THE TRUE HEROS.

> Hiroshi H. Miyamura "CMH" Korean War 1951 U.S.A.

## IN MEMORY OF ALL THOSE WHO DIED IN THE KOREAN WAR

The names on the Japanese American Korean War Memorial Wall will be a constant reminder to our future generations of the involvement and the losses suffered by the Americans of Japanese ancestry in fighting for the freedom of South Korea.



#### **KAZUO MASUDA MEMORIAL VFW POST 3670**

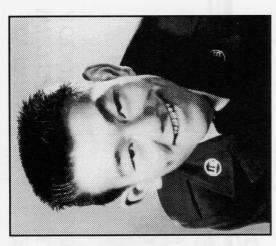
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P.O. Box. 2236 • Cypress, California 90630-1836

# HIDEMARO ISHIDA A Sister's Memories

father a Buddhist priest and mother a poetess and teacher of the Japanese Tea Ceremony, As the first born son, Hide Hidemaro was born the first of seven children, our held a rery special place in our family.

Our parent's hopes, dreams, and aspirations for Hide are embodied in the name they gave to him, "Hide," which means "the rising sun," and indeed, like the sun, Hide was bright and sunny with a vinning smile and outgoing personality



was being defained for "three days of questioning," but it was two long years before we saw him again. He was incarcerated as "internee of war." Hide, at age 9, became the "head of the family" and acted as interpreter for my mother and grandmother. The family was first sent to Ianforan and then to Topaz, From time to time, Hide would say, "Let's write to President Roosevelt and ask him to return Papa." We wrote many letters but received no response. We were finally reunited in February of 1944 at the internment camp in Cuystal City, Texas. From a young age, Hide felt responsible for the family, especially after our father was taken away by the FBG. The day after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. We were told that he

father was notified that he was on the deportation list. He requested a hearing, and Hide, now age 13, vent with him to plead our case. He told the panel, "We are American citizens. This is our country. You can't send us to Japan. If you send our father to Japan, who will take care of the children? We need our father," We were granted release in April of 1946 and returned During the camp years, Hide was active in sports and school activities. He served as student body president of our grammar school After the war ended in August of 1945, our to California

The postwar years were financially difficult. Hide worked during the summers as a gardener's helper or picking funits on farms. He went to George Washington High School, making the All-City team in broad jump and playing for the GBA basketball team. Shortly after he started SF City College, the Korean War broke out. I'm going to prove that I'm just as American as anyone else.

He was stationed in Okinawa and served as gunner, After a close call on his 21st mission when the plane was forced down into enemy territory, Nide wrote me a letter saying that if anything happened to him, I was to tell our parents to use the insurance money the Air Force would pay them, for a down payment on land in the hot springs region, "onsen" which our parents enjoyed so much. This was the last time that we heard from him.

Postocript: I went to an Armed Services Family Update meeting in Oct. 1996 and received the enclosed case report My biother Kaz and I submitted blood samples in response to their request to be used to do some DMA testing for identification of bone marrow remains received from the North Korean government.

Helen Ishida

IN TRIBUTE TO THE HEROS WHO GAVE OF THEMSELVES IN ACTION IN THE KOREAN WAR

> Ko Sameshima, 1st Lt USAF, 6147th Tactical Control Squadron Fifth Air Force, Korea, 1950-51

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT B. MADRID AND

A TRIBUTE TO THE WADA BROTHERS TED • HENRY • ROBERT

**REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA** 

George Kanatani E Co., 442nd RCT, WWII



In Memory of TAKESHI NAKAYAMA

Shige & Nancy Nakayama

# *In Memory of* HIROSHI NAGAMINE

Grade Sgt. 25th Inf. Div. 35th Inf. Div. Service No.: RA 29 038 234 Date of Birth: Nov. 13, 1930 Date of Death: June 20, 1951

## WEST POINT United States Military Academy

For information in the High Desert area contact

Cecil A. Ryder, Jr. Colonel, USA(Ret.)

Admissions Field Representative

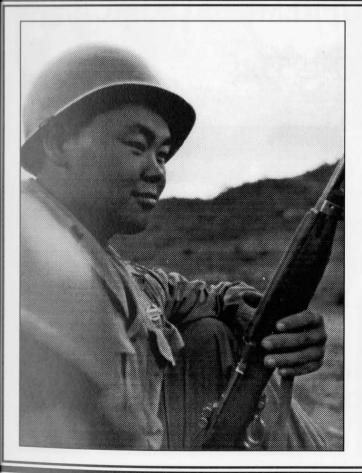
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# $\star$

In Loving Memory of My Husband KENNETH KIYOSHI HAYAKAWA, A Japanese American Korean War Veteran, Who Passed Away in Torrance on Oct. 20, 1991

Carol T. Hayakawa



#### **GEORGE KIYOSHI TABATA**

In honor and admiration of our husband and father, for his brave service in the Korean War, and for his dedication to the Japanese American Korean War Veterans.

We are proud of you!!!

With Love from your family, Lynnie Tabata Terry and Valerie Sato Benny and Cheryl Yanguas



# NATIONAL VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. PAYS HOMAGE AND TRIBUTE TO THOSE BRAVE COMRADES OF THE KOREAN WAR WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE, 1950 TO 1955.

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JAMES T. SUZUKI, President HITOSHI SHIMIZU, Treasurer BACON SAKATANI, Membership Chairman

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In memory of Korean War Veterans

# TOKUO KATAOKA ROY S. OSHIRO DENNIS "CHINA" SAKAI



*We miss their companionship..... but memories of their friendship will be with us always.* 

Don Enriques Muneo Hamano Harry Kuwabara Deen Matsuzawa Ben Murata Hank Nakano Herb Omura Mas Sugihara Norio Uyematsu Robert Wada Masami Yamachika Jim Yamashita





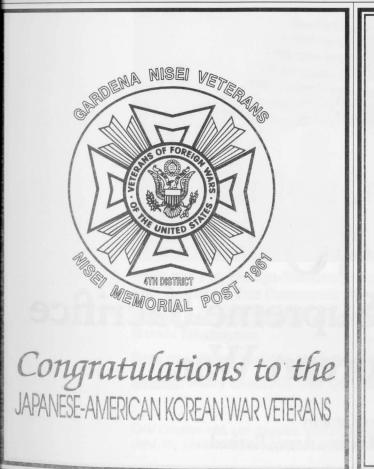


In Memory Of Ichiro "Roy" Miyasaki April 23, 1931 - June 12, 1952 Tumyong-dong, Korea

Awarded Awarded
Awarded Awarded
Distinguished Service Cross
Two Purple Hearts
Korean Service with Bronze Star
United Nations Service Medal
Good Conduct Medal
National Defense Medal

Dedicated 1960
Miyasaki Hall
(former Army Reserve Center)
Rexburg, Idaho

Honoring His Life and Service, The Miyasaki Family





Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Grindstaff



Roy, Bernice & Dean Shiraga and Lynn & John Middleton



# To the Memory of: HIDEMARO ISHIDA TOGO OKAMURA

God Bless Your Brave Souls.

Stanley N. Kanzaki New York, NY



In Honor of the 246

# Who Gave the Supreme Sacrifice in the Korean War.

Taro Katagiri Colonel, United States Army, Retired \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

### Nisei Chapter 100 DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

TO HONOR THE NISEI VETERANS WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE IN KOREA AND TO ALL NISEI VETERANS WHO SERVED

Also: In Memory of "Mr. DAV" Hideo "Hit" Okanishi



<u>Front row:</u> Roy Shiraga-Treasurer, Takuji Iizuka-Adjutant, Akio Sawada-Commander, Paul Bannai-Sr. Vice Commander, Fumio Yoshida-Service Officer

<u>Second row:</u> Yukio Masai, Tosh Ishii, Kazuo Kiyomura, Mrs. Frank (Yuri) Fujino, Hiroshi Takasugawa

<u>Back row:</u> Henry Kushida, Yosh Kaneshige, Henry Castrellon, Jim Tokushige <u>Missing:</u> Henry Sakato-Jr. Vice Commander

DAV Chapter 100, Los Angeles, was organized by DAV National Service Officer Frank T. Fujino on June 25, 1949, and was chartered by DAV National Headquarters on October 27, 1949.

# IN MEMORIAM

Tamiya Ikeda Shogo Owatsuru Ken Kondo Ben M. Takamoto KIA's IN SACRAMENTO AREA

This page is respectfully dedicated by the Korean War Veterans of the Sacramento Area and participating organizations:

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# IN MEMORY OF Tohoru "Jerry" Nakasuji

# We Miss You



Rose Y. Nakasuji Lauren K. Nakasuji

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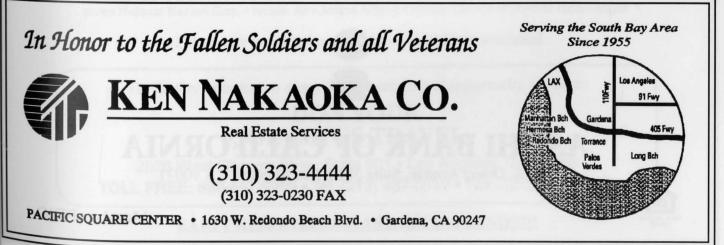
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The rifleman fights without promise of either reward or relief. Behind every river there's another hill — and behind that hill, another river. After weeks or months in the line only a wound can offer him the comfort of safety, shelter, and a bed. Those who are left to fight, fight on, evading death but knowing that with each day of evasion they have exhausted one more chance for survival. Sooner or later, unless victory comes this chase must end on the litter or in the grave.

General Omar Bradley



# MAJOR U.S. COMBAT UNIT CASUALTIES IN KOREA



2nd Infantry Division



**7th Infantry Division** 



24th Infantry Division



**3rd Infantry Division** 



5th Regimental Combat Team



8th Army

The units listed below account for 96% of the Americans killed by hostile action in Korea. Wounded in action include only those actually hospitalized.

Unit	Killed in Action	Wounded in Action
2nd Infantry Division	7,094	16,575
1st Marine Division	4,004	25,864
7th Infantry Division	3,905	10,858
1st Cavalry Division	3,811	12,086
24th Infantry Division	3,735	7,395
25th Infantry Division	3,048	10,186
3rd Infantry Division	2,160	7,939
Far East Air Force/5th Air Force	e 1,200	368
5th Regimental Combat Team	867	3,188
45th Infantry Division	834	3,170
Naval Forces Far East/7th Flee	et 458	1,576
187th Airborne Regimental		
Combat Team	442	1,656
40th Infantry Division	376	1,457
1st Marine Aircraft Wing	258	174

29th RCT was attached to the 24th ID and later assigned to the 27th and 35th Inf. Regts. of the 25th ID. It lost 313 men KIA on July 25-26, 1950 alone. Figures are included above.

In addition to the units listed, 1,432 Army personnel assigned to outfits independent of the divisions and RCTs were also KIA.

Source: *Battle Casualties of the Army*, 30 September 1954 (Office Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1, Dept. of the Army) and other sources.



187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team



**40th Infantry Division** 



**1st Marine Division** 



**1st Cavalry Division** 



**25th Infantry Division** 



**5th Air Force** 



45th Infantry Division



1st Marine Aircraft Wing