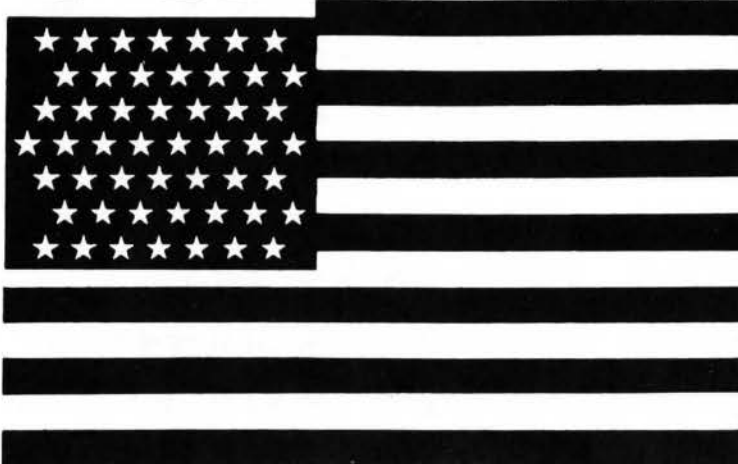


# STATEHOOD!



## House Sends Bill to Ike

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 12—Congress ended decades of procrastination today and sent to the White House a bill to give Hawaii the Statehood it has so long deserved.

The House overwhelmingly approved the bill this afternoon. The vote was 323-89. The time was 3:04 p.m. E.S.T. (10:04 a.m. H.S.T.). It was the same bill that passed the Senate 76-15 last night.

### More Statehood . . .

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 State Offices Lure Politicians

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**Stocks Late**  
 Because of transmission delay the New York stock Exchange quotations are being reported in this section.

**Honolulu Star-Bulletin**  
 HONOLULU, TERRITORY OF HAWAII, U. S. A., THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1959  
 Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Vol. 48, No. 61 \*\*\*\*\* Phone 57-911

Special Radio, Phone Lines Flash News

## Sirens, Bells Herald Statehood Arrival

The wall of loud defense sirens informed Honolulu today that Statehood was declared and finally approved.

Immediately afterward church bells pealed and a brilliant burst of music rang on the radio.

From 8 to 9 p.m. in the city here, the streets rang with music. Palace of Kalia, Kapiolani Park, the Maul, Community Center, Waialeale Shopping Center, Kalia Shopping Center, Kaneohe, Waipahoehoe, Center, Waipahoehoe, Moanalua.

Shopping Center, Kalia Shopping Center and in Paoua.

At 7:25 p.m. the international border will be lit at Sand Island.

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From 7:30 to 9 p.m. the Armed Forces will set off pyrotechnics off Leeward Coast.

Tomorrow, legislators and other Government officials are scheduled to proceed from Iolani Palace at 9 a.m. to Kamehameha Church, where an interdenominational service is to be held.

A joint concert by the Royal Hawaiian Band and Armed Forces bands is scheduled for 10 a.m. at the Palace.

At 11 a.m. a Statehood Commemoration Ceremony is to be held there.

At noon a 30-gun salute is to be fired from the Palace grounds. Simultaneously, Hawaii Air National Guard planes are to fly in formation over the legislative chambers.

There is Page 1-D, Column 1

**Faubus's Telegram**

Statehood support and congratulations came from many sources, including areas in the Deep South from where they were expected.

As an example, the United Press released a telegram today sent by Governor Orval E. Faubus of Arkansas, undated but held up until Congress had completed action.

Governor Faubus's telegram reads:

"For years I have favored and have openly supported Statehood for both Hawaii and Alaska. Please accept my sincere congratulations on your becoming the 50th State of the Union."

The primary election could be held no less than 60 or more than 90 days after the proclamation. A general election could be held no later than 48 days after the primary.

After the results of the elections are officially certified to the President, Governor Quinn will sign the proclamation admitting Hawaii as a state.

Governor Quinn of Hawaii said today he was not prepared to say how soon he could be ready to proclaim elections or what time interval would be allowed for them.

As the House roll call reached the 218 affirmative votes needed for passage, Governor Quinn, who was waiting here, telephoned a signal for celebrations to be touched off in Hawaii. This was about 8:57 p.m. (9:57 a.m. Hawaii Time).

It was a gesture the residents of the last incorporated territory under the American flag had waited for more than 50 years. Hawaii will be the first island state. But Alaska's admission as the 49th state had already broken through a long argument from some Congress members against admitting territories not joined geographically to the other states.

Congressional opposition, which had kept the door slammed shut on Hawaii, melted in the final hours of House debate.

Speaker Rayburn, Texas Democrat, who once said the Statehood Bill would pass over his dead body, came over in the last hour Representative Rogers, Texas Democrat, in the day's first mayor.

There is Page 1-D, Column 8

## ★ ★ ★ First Class Citizens Now ★ ★ ★





BY ARNOLD HIURA

## SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE 442ND



The years following the war remained wrought with challenges for returning AJA veterans and other Nisei. They continued to work, each in his own way, towards the democratization of society on the homefront — in politics, business, labor and education.

Before long, their children's generation was caught up in its own social and political revolution, which swept the country in the 1960s and '70s. The rapid changes which took place in those eventful decades often divided parents from children, creating an ideological chasm which came to be known simply as the "generation gap."

It has taken some time, but perhaps one of the most significant aspects of this year's Golden Anniversary is the growing movement of sons and daughters across the country to better understand, appreciate and perpetuate the legacy left to them by their fathers. In some cases, this interest has been spurred on by the realization of their fathers' advancing age, or even the passing of their fathers. For others, the Sansei's role as parents has pressed them to act on their responsibility to pass their family's heritage on to their children.

It is difficult to say just where the seed for a sons and daughters organization was first planted. A renewed interest in ethnic identity and cultural "roots" was a key part of the social revolution of the '60s and '70s. Such original concepts as ethnic studies programs and oral history projects often encompassed the deeds and contributions of the 442nd. The revelations triggered by discussions of the wartime internment of Japanese Americans and the drive for redress and reparations also galvanized the efforts of AJAs nationally and cast a proud spotlight upon the contributions of 442nd.

The earliest organized efforts to form a sons and daughters movement, however, appear to have originated in Seattle and Maui some 12-13 years ago. What began on a personal, family level eventually grew into broader efforts to gather information and memorabilia, and to inform the general public of the 442nd experience through exhibits and publications. Others increased their involvement by assisting in other public projects, such as participation in Veterans Day events.

One of the most ambitious projects to date has to be the efforts of the Maui Sons and Daughters of the 442nd to build a Nisei Veterans Memorial Center. In 1985, the group, supported by a broad coalition of Maui Nisei veterans, secured a two-acre parcel of land for the project in Kahului from Alexander & Baldwin, Ltd. Since that time, work has progressed to secure the necessary zoning changes, draft building plans, and raise the capital for construction.

Other organizations, including the Oahu Sons & Daughters of the 442nd, began meeting about two years ago. At last year's 49th anniversary, the group moved to the forefront by lending its organizational skills to plan the memorial service and banquet on behalf of their fathers. They have again worked shoulder-to-shoulder in putting together this year's Golden Anniversary event. Their efforts were recognized and rewarded recently, when the 442nd Veterans Club formally revised its by-laws to include sons and daughters

as full, voting members of the mother club.

The Sons & Daughters of the 100th Infantry Battalion, incorporated as a private, non-profit group, is currently sponsoring a scholarship and an essay contest. A separate, but related, organization, the Legacy Foundation, will spearhead educational programs, such as the exhibit presently on view at Kapiolani Community College.

Various workshops and lectures sponsored by sons and daughters organizations have embraced such topics as diverse as how to do oral histories to discussions of contemporary civil rights issues, including the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy and the related issue of Hawaiian sovereignty.

In this manner, each in its own way, the budding sons and daughters movement across the country ensures that the sacrifices made by their forebears will not only be remembered at this Golden Anniversary event, but will be perpetuated for generations to come.





## HONOR ROLL





## 100th Infantry Battalion — 100/442nd RCT

★ Matsuei Ajitomi ★ Tokio Ajitomi ★ John Akimoto ★ Victor Akimoto ★ Hideo Akiyama, ★ Harold J. Arakawa ★ Masashi Araki ★ Hiroaki Arita ★ Ralph Y. Asai ★ Shigeo Ashikawa ★ James Boodry ★ Onso Chinen ★ Cloudy G. Conner Jr. ★ Haruo Doi ★ Kenneth E. Eaton ★ Tetsu Ebata ★ George Eki ★ Kiyozo Enomoto ★ Harold C. Ethridge ★ Richard T. Fujii ★ Yutaka Fujii ★ Toshiaki Fujimoto ★ Sadami Fujita ★ Ross K. Fujitani ★ Takeo Fujiyama ★ Masami Fukagawa ★ Herbert M. Fukuhara ★ Roy S. Fukumoto ★ Chester T. Fukunaga ★ Kaoru Fukuyama ★ Stanley K. Funai ★ Satoshi Furukawa ★ Tatsumi Furukawa ★ Tsuyoshi Furukawa ★ Kenneth K. Furukido ★ Henry T. Furushiro ★ Shigeto Fuyumuro ★ Hiroshi Goda ★ Yeiko Goya ★ Seiichi Hamamoto ★ Fred Y. Hamanaka ★ Tamotsu Hanida ★ Kiyoshi Hasegawa ★ Mikio Hasemoto ★ Hisao Hashizume ★ Masao Hatanaka ★ Kunio Hatori ★ Harry M. Hayakawa ★ Donald S. Hayashi ★ Robert N. Hayashi ★ Torao Hayashi ★ Hideyuki Hayashida ★ Eiji Hidaka ★ Eddie K. Higa ★ Masao Higa ★ Takemitsu Higa ★ Wilson E. Higa ★ Yeiko Higa ★ Bert K. Higashi ★ Harold T. Higashi ★ Harry N. Hikichi ★ Tomosu Hirahara ★ Mitsuo Hiraki ★ Kazuo I. Hiramatsu ★ Jerome M. Hirata ★ Himeo Hiratani ★ Yutaka Hirayama ★ Gary T. Hisaoka ★ Richard M. Honda ★ Kay I. Horiba ★ Earl Hosoda ★ Max M. Hosoda, Jr. ★ Kihachiro J. Hotta ★ Toshio Hozaki ★ Kenichi Ichimura ★ Edward Y. Ide ★ Shigeo Igarashi ★ Kazuo Ihara ★ Isamu Ikeda ★ Roy Y. Ikeda ★ William Y. Ikeda ★ Henry S. Ikehara ★ James S. Ikeno ★ Tomio Imai ★ Larry M. Imamura ★ Masami Inatsu ★ Minoru Inoue ★ Masato Inouye ★ Masaji Irie ★ Mitsuo M. Iseri ★ George F. Ishii ★ Richard H. Ishii ★ Walter S. Ishiki ★ Hachiro Ito ★ Hisashi Iwai ★ Lawrence T. Iwamoto ★ Katsui Jinnohara ★ John A. Johnson ★ Chitoshi Kadooka ★ Yasuo Kagawa ★ Nobuo Kajiwara ★ James J. Kanada ★ Yasuo Kaneshiro ★ Isamu Kanetani ★ Masaichi Katsuda ★ Haruo Kawamoto ★ Toshio Kawamoto ★ Yutaka Kawamoto ★ Kikumatsu F. Kawanishi ★ Tetsuo Kawano ★ Yasuo Kawano ★ Albert G. Kawata ★ Satoshi Kaya ★ Stephen M. Kaya ★ Lewis A. Key ★ Paul Kimura, Jr. ★ Shomatsu E. Kina ★ Francis T. Kinoshita ★ Richard K. Kinoshita ★ Ronald S. Kiyabu ★ Edward Y. Kiyota ★ Kiichi Koda ★ Hayato Koizumi ★ James K. Komatsu ★ Katsuo Komatsu ★ Fred H. Komeda ★ Harushi Kondo ★ Yoshi Kubo ★ James K. Kubokawa ★ Jerry S. Kuraoka ★ Ichiji H. Kuroda ★ Masaji Kutara ★ Sunao Kuwahara ★ Saburo Maehara ★ Richard K. Magarifuji ★ Matsutada Makishi ★ Seiso J. Mana ★ Masa Mashita ★ Yoshito Masuda ★ Lawrence K. Masumura ★ Kiyoshi Masunaga ★ Masao Matsui ★ Kiyoshi Masunaga ★ Masao Matsui ★ Hiroshi Matsukawa ★ Sadao Matsumoto ★ Tommy T. Matsumoto ★ Kaname Matsunaga ★ Satoshi Matsuoka ★ Kazuo Matsushima ★ George M. Mayeda ★ Thomas T. Mekata ★ Yoshio Minami ★ Kazuo Mito ★ Toshio Miura ★ Charles M. Miyabe ★ Masayoshi Miyagi ★ Tetsuo Miyake ★ Thomas T. Miyamoto ★ Isami Miyasato ★ Tamotsu Miyata ★ Tsuyoshi Miyoga ★ Mitsuru E. Miyoko ★ Noboru Miyoko ★ Morio Mizumoto ★ Yukitaka Mizutari ★ Henry T. Mochizuki ★ Edward V. Moran ★ Kiyoto Mori ★ Haruto Moriguchi ★ Rokuro Moriguchi ★ Arthur A. Morihara ★ Hiromu Morikawa ★ Harold Morisaki ★ Joseph Morishige ★ Iwao Morita ★ George K. Moriwaki ★ Hiroshi Motoishi ★ Susumu Motoyama ★ Sadao S. Munemori ★ Sakae Murakami ★ Toshio T. Murakami ★ Richard K. Murashige ★ Mitsugi Muronaka ★ Roy I. Naemura ★ Grover K. Nagaji ★ Hiroshi Nagano ★ Setsuo Nagano ★ Martin M. Naganuma ★ Goichi Nagao ★ Hitoshi Nagaoka ★ Hideo Nagata ★ Kaoru Naito ★ Hirao Nakagawa ★ Hitoshi Nakai ★ Shigenori Nakama ★ Shinyei Nakamine ★ Edward E. Nakamura ★ Henry Y. Nakamura ★ Kosei Nakamura ★ Yoshimitsu Nakamura ★ Masao Nakanishi ★ Tsutomu Nakano ★ Robert K. Nakasaki ★ Raito R. Nakashima ★ Donald T. Nakauye ★ Saburo Nakazato ★ Yutaka Nezu ★ Takao T. Ninomiya ★ Takanori A. Nishi ★ Kazuo Nishihara ★ Shigeki Nishimura ★ Wilfred K. Nishimura ★ Charles J. Nishishita ★ Chieto Nishitani ★ Taro Nishitani ★ Suelo Noda ★ Yoshito Noritake ★ Al Y. Nozaki ★ Alfred S. Nozawa ★ Larry M. Ochiai ★ Masaru Ogata ★ Masayoshi Ogata ★ Tsugio Ogata ★ Edward Ogawa ★ Yoshio W. Ogomori ★ Teiji T. Oishi ★ Akira Ojiri ★ Donald M. Okamoto ★ Richard M. Okimoto ★ Toyokazu Okumura ★ Satoru Onodera ★ Kenneth Oshiro ★ Wallace H. Oshiro ★ Yeishin Oshiro ★ Randall M. Ota ★ Roy Ota ★ Tadashi Otaguro ★ Masanao Otake ★ Douglas K. Otani ★ Jiro Otsuka ★ Robert Y. Ozaki ★ George Y. Ozawa ★ Francis J. Perras ★ Roy T. Peterson ★ Neill M. Ray ★ Masatsugu Riyu ★ Herbert Sadayasu ★ Atsuo Sahara ★ Chuji Saito ★ Kinji Saito ★ Yoshinori Sakai ★ Louis K. Sakamoto ★ Robert I. Sakamoto ★ Uichi Sakamoto ★ Yoshio Sasaki ★ Toshio Sasano ★ Itsumu Sasaoka ★ Saburo Sato ★ Shukichi Sato ★ Kurt E. Schemel ★ Koichi K. Sekimura ★ Hihumi Seshiki ★ Hideo Shigeta ★ Masao Shigezane ★ Ted T. Shikiya ★ George M. Shimada ★ Roy K. Shimabuku ★ Hideo Shimabukuro ★ Takeo Shimizu ★ Roy R. Shiozawa ★ Kiyoshi J. Shiramizu ★ Kizo Shirokane ★ Henry M. Shiyama ★ David I. Suda ★ Sadami R. Sueoka ★ Theodore T. Sueoka ★ Itsuo Sugiyama ★ Michiru Sumida ★ Albert M. Sunada ★ George W. Suyama ★ Noboyuki Suwa ★ Edward H. Sweitzer ★ Takashi Suzuki ★ Teruo Tabata ★ Hitoshi B. Taguchi ★ George Y. Tahira ★ Boon E. Takagi ★ Itsuo Takahashi ★ Thomas T. Takao ★ Ronald K. Takara ★ Katsumi L. Takasugi ★ Shigeo J. Takata ★ Masaharu Takeba ★ Shoichi J. Takehara ★ Yoshinobu Takei ★ Robert M. Takeo ★ William H. Taketa ★ Tadashi Takeuchi ★ Toyoshi Tamura ★ Jack M. Tanaka ★ Keichi Tanaka ★ John Y. Tanaka ★ Matsusaburo Tanaka ★ Teruto Tanimoto ★ Katsushi Tanouye ★ Haruyoshi Tateyama ★ Yoshio Tengan ★ Henry M. Terada ★ Lloyd M. Teramoto ★ Shizuo Teramoto ★ Herman T. Teruya ★ Kenkichi K. Teruya ★ Michio Teshima ★ Theodore T. Tezuka ★ Shiro Togo ★ Patrick M. Tokushima ★ Minoru Tokuyama ★ Yasukichi J. Toma ★ Isami Tomita ★ Taro Tonai ★ Minoru Tosaka ★ Richard K. Toyama ★ Ichiro Tsukano ★ Kazumi Tsutsui ★ Yasuji M. Uchima ★ James K. Uejo ★ Kazumi Umemoto ★ Moriichi Uyeda ★ Daniel M. Wada ★ Kenneth Y. Wasada ★ Kozo Watanabe ★ Masaru Yamamoto ★ Thomas I. Yamanaga ★ Lei S. Yamashiro ★ Kazuo Yamashita ★ Joe R. Yasuda ★ Yoji Yasui ★ Yoshiharu E. Yoshida ★ Minoru Yoshimura ★

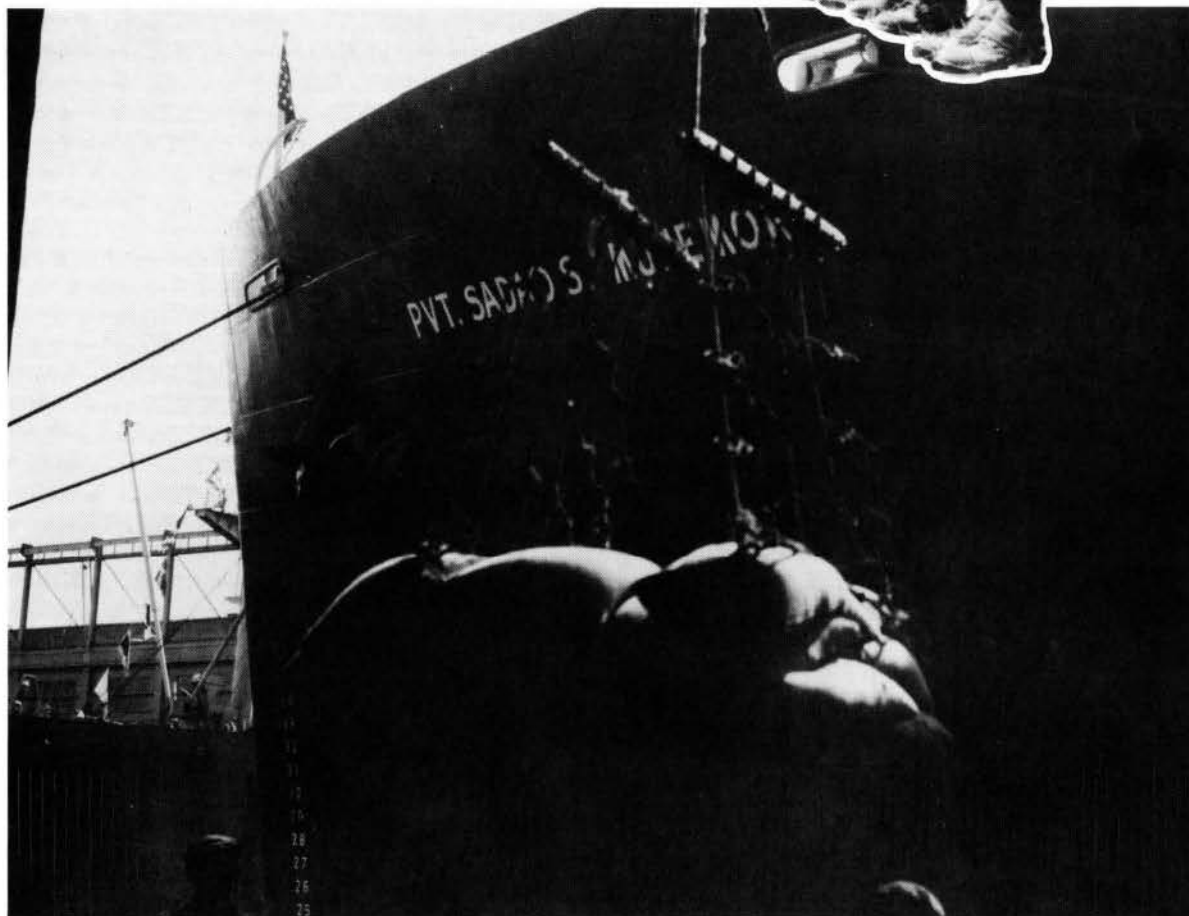
## 442nd Regimental Combat Team

★ Chester Abe ★ Zentaro Akiyama ★ Nobuo Amakawa ★ James Anzai ★ Yoshiharu Aoyama ★ James Arikawa ★ Kenneth

Asaumi ★ Shotaro Asato ★ Daniel Betsui ★ Joseph Burne ★ Howard Burt ★ Giichi Chinen ★ Genhatsu Chinnen ★ Danny Choriki ★ Walter Crone ★ Sadamu Daida ★ Hiroo Endo ★ Masaharu Endo ★ Robert Endo ★ Kaname Enomoto ★ Ralph Ensminger ★ Charles Farnum ★ Fred Fritzmeier ★ Abe Fujii ★ Manao Fujii ★ Jitsuro Fujikawa ★ Masaki Fujikawa ★ Hideo Fujiki ★ Noboru Fujinaka ★ Yasuo Fujino ★ Yoshimi Fujino ★ Teruo Fujioka ★ Wendell Fujioka ★ Akira Fukeda ★ Shigeo Fukuba ★ Ichijo Fukumura ★ Arthur Fukuoka ★ Katsumi Fukushima ★ George Funai ★ Mitsuo Furuichi ★ George Futamata ★ Roland Gagnon ★ Seikichi Ganeko ★ Kazuo Goya ★ George Gushiken ★ Victor Hada ★ Hatsuji Hadano ★ Eiichi Haita ★ Tom Haji ★ Katsuyoshi Hamamoto ★ Clifford Hana ★ Richard Hanaumi ★ Charles Harada ★ John Harano ★ Denis Hashimoto ★ John Hashimoto ★ Makoto Hayama ★ Stanley Hayami ★ Joe Hayashi ★ Tadao Hayashi ★ Henry Hayashida ★ Robert Hempstead ★ Katsumori Higa ★ Toshio Higa ★ James Higashi ★ Harold Higuchi ★ Robert Hirano ★ Genichi Hiraoka ★ Yasuo Hirayama ★ Masao Hisano ★ Yeiichi Hiyama ★ James Horinouchi ★ Kazuo Horiuchi ★ Paul Horiuchi ★ Robert Hoshino ★ Kiyoshi Iguchi ★ Masao Iha ★ Martin Iida ★ George Ikeda ★ Masao Ikeda ★ Lloyd Ikefugi ★ Kikuichiro Ikehara ★ William Imamoto ★ Thomas Inada ★ Ben Inakazu ★ Tadayoshi Iriguchi ★ Haruo Ishida ★ Minoru Ishida ★ Akira Ishimoto ★ Kosaku Isobe ★ Takashi Ito ★ Robert Iwahiro ★ Yoshi Iwamasa ★ Henry Izumizaki ★ Thomas Jichaku ★ James Kagihara ★ Tsugito Kajikawa ★ Fred Kameda ★ Bob Kameoka ★ Shinobu Kametani ★ Mitsuo Kami ★ Shizuto Kamikawa ★ Walter Kanaya ★ John Kanazawa ★ Frank Kanda ★ Takezo Kanda ★ Takeo Kaneichi ★ Katsuhiko Kanemitsu ★ Jiro Kanetomi ★ Seichi Kaneshiro ★ Tom Kanno ★ Akira Kanzaki ★ James Karatsu ★ Haruo Karimoto ★ Kenneth Kashiwaeda ★ Noritada Katayama ★ Joseph Kato ★ Kenji Kato ★ Yoshio Kato ★ John Kawaguchi ★ Richard Kawahara ★ Tetsuro Kawakami ★ Cike Kawano ★ Yasuo Kenmotsu ★ Tadashi Kijima ★ Leo Kikuchi ★ Matsuichi Kimura ★ Tsuguo Kimura ★ Mamoru Kinoshita ★ Toshio Kirito ★ Robert Kishi ★ Roy Kitagawa ★ Paul Kitsuse ★ John Kiyono ★ Sadaichi Kohara ★ Sadamu Koito ★ Shaw Kojaku ★ Tadashi Kojima ★ Nobuo Kokame ★ Jimmie Kokubu ★ Nobuo Komoto ★ Harry Kondo ★ Herbert Kondo ★ Howard Kondo ★ Seichi Kotsubo ★ Shigeo Kuba ★ Tadashi Kubo ★ Mitsuhiro Kuboyama ★ Thomas Kuge ★ Isamu Kunimatsu ★ Minoru Kurata ★ Robert Kuroda ★ Harry Kuroiwa ★ Clarence Land ★ Leonard Luna ★ Harry Madokoro ★ Ben Masaoka ★ Kay Masaoka ★ Dick Masuda ★ Eso Masuda ★ Kazuo Masuda ★ George Masumoto ★ Peter Masuoka ★ Carl Matsuda ★ Isamie Matsukawa ★ Dick Matsumoto ★ Goro Matsumoto ★ Kiyuichi Matsumoto ★ Noriyuki Matsumoto ★ Renkichi Matsumura ★ Shizuo Matsushita ★ James Metcalf ★ Katsuaki Miho ★ Isamu Minatodani ★ Tom Misumi ★ Kazuo Mitani ★ Larry Miura ★ Masayuki Miyaguchi ★ James Miyamoto ★ Yasuo Miyamoto ★ George Miyaoka ★ Tokio Miyazono ★ Timothy Mizokami ★ William Mizukami ★ Roy Morihiro ★ Haruto Morikawa ★ Toshiaki Morimoto ★ Takeo Morishita ★ David Mosley ★ Hachiro Mukai ★ Isamu Murakami ★ Kiyoshi Murakami ★ Tadataka Murakami ★ Kiyoshi Muranaga ★ Robert Murata ★ Hiroshi Nagami ★ Fumitake Nagami ★ Jim Nagata ★ Taichi Nagata ★ Hitoshi Najita ★ Masaru Nakagaki ★ Masao Nakama ★ Kotaro Nakamine ★ Joe Nakamoto ★ Seichi Nakamoto ★ George Nakamura ★ John Nakamura ★ Ned Nakamura ★ Tadao Nakamura ★ William Nakamura ★ Yasumitsu Nakano ★ Milton Nakata ★ Minoru Nakayama ★ John Narimitsu ★ Tetsuo Nezo ★ Shigeto Niide ★ Edward Nilges ★ Ban Ninomiya ★ Chikao Nishi ★ Akio Nishikawa ★ Joe Nishimoto ★ Tom Nishimoto ★ Toshio Numa ★ Masayoshi Oba ★ Sanichi Oba ★ Stanley Oba ★ Bejiman Ogata ★ Fred Ogata ★ John Ogawa ★ Sadao Ogawa ★ Abraham Ohama ★ John Okada ★ James S. Okamoto ★ James T. Okamoto ★ Ralph Okamoto ★ Tomiso Okamoto ★ Isao Okazaki ★ Takaaki Okazaki ★ Katsu Okida ★ Seiei Okuma ★ Susumu Okura ★ George Omokawa ★ Takeyasu Onaga ★ Lloyd Onoye ★ Choyei Oshiro ★ Sam Oshiro ★ Kazuo Otani ★ Akira Otsubo ★ Harumatsu Oyabu ★ Francis Oyakawa ★ Ralph Potter ★ Ben Roger, Jr. ★ Yohei Sagami ★ Thomas Sagimori ★ Masami Saiki ★ Calvin Saito ★ Carl Saito ★ George Saito ★ Masuto Sakada ★ Masuto Sakado ★ Atsushi Sakamoto ★ Masa Sakamoto ★ Noboru Sakamoto ★ Todd Sakohira ★ George Sameshima ★ Uetaro Sammonji ★ Tadao Sato ★ Takeo Sato ★ George Sawada ★ Kenneth Shibata ★ Masao Shigemura ★ Takeshi Shigihara ★ Tomoaki Shimabukuro ★ Akira Shimatsu ★ Gordon S. Shimizu ★ Jimmy Shimizu ★ Takeo Shintani ★ Toshiaki Shoji ★ Shinichi Sugahara ★ Kenji Sugawara ★ Hiroshi Sugiyama ★ Togo Sugiyama ★ Jiro Suzawa ★ Shigeo Tabuchi ★ Yoshio Tagami ★ Copper Tahara ★ Masaru Taira ★ Seitoku Taira ★ Iwao Takahashi ★ Mon Takahashi ★ Gordon Takasaki ★ John Takayama ★ Yoshito Takayama ★ Haruo Takemoto ★ Iwao Takemoto ★ Tami Takemoto ★ Tooru Takenaka ★ James Taketa ★ Shigeto Taketa ★ Kenji Takubo ★ Shigeo Takushi ★ Kuneo Tamanaha ★ Masao Tamanaha ★ Thomas Tamashiro ★ Masaru Tamura ★ Shimizu Tamura ★ Kei Tanahashi ★ Harley Tanaka ★ Jiro Tanaka ★ Saburo Tanamichi ★ Larry Tanimoto ★ Yukio Tanimoto ★ Mitsuo Tanji ★ Ted Tanouye ★ Masaru Tashima ★ George Tatsumi ★ Masaru Tengan ★ Ted Teramae ★ Clifford Tokunaga ★ Hidetoshi Tokusato ★ Harry Tokushima ★ Tsugiyasu Toma ★ Calvin Tomikawa ★ Hiroichi Tomita ★ Nobuaki Tomita ★ Shinsuke Toyama ★ Shichizo Toyota ★ Bertram Tsunemitsu ★ Kenichi Tsumaki ★ Masayoshi Uchimura ★ Howard Urabe ★ Theodore Uyeno ★ Shigeo Wasano ★ Hiroshi Watanabe ★ Kiyotoshi Watanabe ★ Theodore Watanabe ★ Floyd White, Jr. ★ Steve Yagi ★ Hideo Yamada ★ Raymond Yamada ★ Fred Yamamoto ★ George Yamamoto ★ John H. Yamamoto ★ John T. Yamamoto ★ Takeo Yamamoto ★ Tsutomu Yamaoka ★ Harry Yamasaki ★ Gordon Yamashiro ★ Setsuro Yamashita ★ Chiyoaki Yamauchi ★ Fred Yasuda ★ Arata Yasuhira ★ Hideo Yasui ★ Mitsuru Yeto ★ Masuichi Yogi ★ Hideo Yonamine ★ Hitoshi Yonemura ★ Kenjiro Yoshida ★ Minoru Yoshida ★ Mitsuiichi Yoshigai ★ Toraichi Yoshihara ★ Jacob Yoshimura ★ Saburo Yoshimura ★ Akira Yoshinaga ★ Isami Yoshioka ★ Shiyoji Yunoki ★

#### **Korean Conflict 1950-55**

★ Wataru Higashida ★ Yoshio Ikeda ★ Minoru Kunieda ★ Joseph J. Matsunaga ★ Hideo Nakama ★ Ko Nishida ★ Masaya Saito ★





442ND RCT  
GO FOR BROKE  
COMMANDER

*Brigadier General Charles W. Pence and Mrs. Pence*







## BROTHERS IN WAR AND PEACE:

The 100th Infantry Story

BY RAYMOND NOSAKA



It all began when the first draft started. I was one of the inductees. On December 9, 1940, after a physical examination at the Hawaii National Guard Armory (where the State Capitol Building now stands), we were bussed to Schofield Barracks, where we were issued over-sized uniforms.

After having just a cold sandwich for dinner, we slept on Army cots in tents, and reported for roll call the next morning after reveille. A haole sergeant, who was obviously unfamiliar with Japanese names, struggled to call our names. I realized later why there were so many of us Buddhahead draftees. The other nationalities had received military deferments for holding jobs at defense plants such as Pearl Harbor, Hickam Field, Schofield, Kaneohe Air Base, Johnson Island and Midway, or because they worked at Hawaiian Telephone, Hawaiian Electric and the "Big Five" enterprises.

On the morning of December 7, 1941, I stood guard duty at Schofield. I could see black smoke on the horizon over Pearl Harbor, Hickam and Wheeler Fields and bombs falling at Schofield Barracks. Three months earlier, the Army alerted us for a possible enemy attack and provided us with live bullets. But, I still found it hard to believe that this was a real war going on.

On June 2, 1942, when all the AJA soldiers were assembled at Schofield, we were told that we would soon be sent to the mainland for further training. Three days later, we quietly sailed out of Honolulu Harbor. No one waved goodbye to us; no band music to bid us aloha. I felt very depressed thinking that I would never again return to Hawaii Nei. When we arrived in Oakland, California, we officially became known as the 100th Infantry Battalion.

Our first training site was Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. The local people there soon learned that we were not Japanese paratroopers from Japan as rumor had circulated. While stationed there, in November 1943, twenty-five enlisted men from Company B along with three officers were selected to go to Ship Island and Cat Island on a secret mission. Evidently, someone in high com-

mand presumed that persons of Japanese ancestry smelled differently and that dogs could track down and attack that scent. However, the four-month experiment of being "dog bait" revealed that we did not secrete any odors that would help the dogs differentiate us (and our ancestors) from other nationalities.

In January 1943, the 100th Battalion was transferred to Camp Shelby for additional training and maneuvers. Two months later, we joined our brothers in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. I had mixed feelings when I met up with my kid brother, who had volunteered for the 442nd — I was happy to see him for the first time in a couple of years, but sad at the thought of what might lie ahead for him.

On August 21, 1943, the men of the 100th embarked on the troopship *James Parker* for Oran, Africa. I will never forget that for six weeks we ate nothing but cold rations. (The Italian prisoners we guarded were served hot food, but we had to eat cold rations.) Finally, one day, we were served a hot meal when a sandstorm hit! Our plates were covered with sand — but I succumbed to the hunger and just scraped off the top layer and continued to relish the meal.

On September 22, with full packs on our backs, we dropped off at the Salerno beachhead. This is where the action began for the 100th Infantry. On September 29, Company B, 3rd Platoon, was assigned to spearhead the drive out of Montemarano. Rain poured down all through the previous night, soaked us thoroughly, and turned the ground into a muddy mess. We only

had time to dunk our rifles in some water to rinse out the mud before we started to move out. Just as we were going around a curve in the mountain, a barrage from German mortar and machine guns pinned us down. Sergeant Joe Tanaka became our first casualty there. Later, many more were wounded or killed.

Witnessing my buddies suffer and die left an indelible impact on me for the rest of my life. However, during this action, there was no time to dwell on the tragedies. Later when we pulled back for our first rest period, I knelt down and just cried like a baby, asking, "Why? Why?"

I was wounded on Hill 600 approaching Cassino. After two surgeries I was flown to North Africa and then back to Naples, where I learned that the 442nd was bivouacked nearby. Again, I searched for my brother. I was glad to see him but concerned that he would soon be leaving with his outfit for France. That was the last time I saw him until he returned home to Hawaii after being seriously wounded in Bruyeres.

I am not the only GI who had a brother in the 442nd — many other siblings served together. We all went through the same battles, faced and fought the same discrimination, and met the same challenge and fate.

Today, the Sons and Daughters of the 100th Infantry and the 442nd Infantry work together to share and record oral histories, information and data to preserve the story of their fathers — the men of the 100th Infantry and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

*Sincerely,*



*Como sta?*



*Pals*





## MEDICS

BY HERBERT AKAMINE



The Medics gathered for a farewell party at Camp Shelby after a year of training. One of the officers delivered a ringing, patriotic speech. He said no one but he would be the first medic in the front lines. Another medic told a leading Midwest newspaper that he was itching to confront the Nazis. Ironically, neither got to make good on his boast. They stayed back in camp. The party lasted late into the night, so relieved were the boys that the tough training days had ended. Combat, they thought, couldn't be too much tougher. Little did they know that the big red cross signs on their helmets would be inviting targets for German marksmen.

After the main body of medics left Camp Shelby, some stayed behind to train replacement AJA medics. Among these cadres were Toshiaki Tanaka, Akira Umehara, Frank Suzuki, Nani Fukagawa, Kiyoshi Ueda, Yoshio Shiroma, Carl Miyabara, Shigemi Nakamura, Lloyd Kawahara, and Joe Saito, who later went to medical school OCS in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Later the cadres disbanded and dispersed to various hospitals in Panama. Toshiaki Tanaka said that most of the patients in his hospital were veterans of the South Pacific but he did not encounter any animosity from them.

Among the workers at the hospital were the San Blas Indians. They stood only about 4 feet tall. Tanaka said Yoshio Shiroma stayed back a year in Panama to become an X-ray technician. At discharge time the Panama group joined other medics from Europe at Camp Beale, California. Toshiaki Tanaka recalled an eye-popping incident there. An officer came to greet the boys and the boys turned their backs on him en masse. The time had come for them to show their displeasure to this fellow who had made their military life so miserable.

A few of the medics left the cadre group to join the paratroopers. James Urano was the first. Carl Miyabara went through several paratroop camps during training. He recalled that at Orlando, a frightened airman had to be kicked off the flying plane during a parachute jump. At another time, a guy landed on a tree stump and broke his back.

At Camp McCall, Carl noticed many shell-shocked veterans. He was finally ready to go overseas at Fort Meade but a strep throat delayed his going. The war ended and he was discharged from service.

Shigemi Nakamura joined the paratroopers in October, 1944 at Camp Benning. Later he met James Urano at Camp McCall and Carl Miyabara at Fort Bragg. When his field artillery airborne unit went to Japan he was left behind and assigned to a recruiting mission in Oklahoma. Shigemi remembers a spectacular fight in Charlotte, North Carolina between Hawaii soldiers and 65th Division. During his stay in the states he saw his father in five different relocation camps.

The Germans captured Suelo Fujii at 9 a.m., October 23, 1944, near Biffontaine, France, together with James Kanaya and Masa Uchimura. After stops at Strasbourg and Stuttgart, his final destination was Stalag 7A near Munich. There he got assigned to medical aide duties. During Allied air raids, he carried limb-less patients from the top floor of the hospital to the basement. Food proved so scarce in camp that Suelo volunteered for outside work and scrounged for food in the countryside in order to avoid starvation. When the war ended, the U.S. prisoners were herded into a pit in a rock quarry, an ideal place for a mass burial. Suelo felt that God was with him on the day of his capture in spite of the hardships of

POW life.

George Minata, the man who came back from the brink of eternity, needed but two months to have his jugular treated. This happened at the 6th General Hospital in Rome. Later, he went to a reconditioning company to heal his leg wounds. He asked to return to the 442 but was detained to rehabilitate soldiers with arm and leg wounds so they could return to combat. George finally returned to the 442 when the Germans were being rounded up at Ghedi Air Base. There, he recalled, the boys took piles of German booty such as cameras, radios, lugers, and iron medals and stacks of Italian mille lira.

When the 442 moved to Leghorn, it fielded a football team, which beat teams from the 85th, 88th, and 91st Division teams. Its only loss was to the 92nd, by one touchdown. Minata played full-back. Nagata, the blocking back for Steve Van Buren at LSU, became his blocker. Other 442 players who George still remembers include Unkei Uchima, Wilfred Watanabe and Saburo Takayesu.

Ted Matsuo was one of the first to be wounded in action. It happened on the second day of battle. Some said he got a "million dollar" heel wound. They envied his good luck; no more of this grisly war. But the "million dollar" wound required a whole year of treatment.





## ANTI-TANK COMPANY

BY MASATO DOI



Riding jeeps and 2 1/2-ton trucks which hauled 7-mm cannons, we Anti-Tankers — a motorized unit — were often cussed at by our own envious infantry guys, who trudged forward in muck and mud as we rode by in comfort. Our company song: “We don’t have to walk like the infantry, ride like the cavalry, shoot like artillery, we don’t have to fly over Germany, we are the Anti-Tank...” (sing to the tune of “The old gray mare, she ain’t what she used to be . . .”).

Us guys — Tank-Busters — were a lucky bunch. By the time we landed in Naples, General Rommel (the Desert Fox) and his fearsome Tiger tanks had already been routed in Africa. The fighting in Italy and France raged in steep mountainous terrain or thickly-wooded forests, so that it precluded any significant tank activity. Enemy tanks were few and far between.

Instead of engaging in our primary tasks of tank-busting, we engaged in other back-breaking, dangerous, and dirty work as litter bearers for the wounded and dead; as foot-mules carrying ammunition and rations up and down mountain trails and through forests up to the front lines; as replacement frontline riflemen guarding flanks; as securers of strategic positions and reconnoiterers of enemy positions; and as sweepers of hazardous mine fields.

For three months during the war, Anti-Tank Company separated from the 442nd. In July of 1944, we were mysteriously detached from our regiment just below the Arno River. Our unknown mission: to be trained as glider troops and join in the 7th Army’s airborne invasion of Southern France.

Our D-Day was August 15th, 1944. Attached to the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment, our gliders were towed by C-47 tug planes from Rome. Anti-aircraft flak caused the C-47 pilots to cut our gliders loose prematurely — but thank heavens it was over the countryside and not over the Mediterranean Sea. The unfortunate ones were the glider pilots (not 442nd men) who, sitting in the nose up front, were crushed to death as some of us landed in tree-tops and rough and hilly terrain.

Until we rejoined our regiment in the Vosges Mountains in late October, we trucked through village after village north of Nice, meeting some enemy resistance but mainly being hailed as liberators by the villagers who threw flowers and blew kisses at us as we rode in. They were a little curious about our looks, guessing that we must be "Anamis" from French Indo-China (now Vietnam). Soon enough, they came to love us as "Japonnais-Americans."

During the "Champagne Campaign," Anti-Tank's first platoon made history by capturing a one-man German submarine in the Bay of Menton, a feat not duplicated by any other Allied troops. Actually, our guys had drooling thoughts of having a helluva sashimi party when they first spotted the "monstrous fish" in the ocean.

A sober thought: on this Golden 50th Reunion, we remember and pay tribute to our comrades who were killed in action and those who have passed away since. And a sobering remembrance: the smothering prejudice that blanketed the Japanese-American community and precipitated the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.



*Perfect landing*

*Secret weapon?*





## SERVICE COMPANY

BY ALEX OKA



Service Company personnel unanimously agreed they'd want to be assigned to their Company if they had to go to war again. They had access to vehicles for transportation as well as protection, food supplies, clothing, and other niceties.

In reality, the Service Company was indispensable, providing services which enabled the Regiment to fight properly. The men were constantly under pressure to perform their hazardous duty under fire. They earned the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque and Combat Infantry Badges.

Service Chapter had its beginning soon after the 442nd Veterans Club was established. Adrian Hayashi and Masaji Kurozumi attended the first organizational meeting at the Nuuanu YMCA. They were the organizers of Service Chapter. Hayashi served as the first chapter president and the chapter meetings were held at the home of Masaji Kurozumi. Shiro Nagasako became the next chapter president. Captain Matheson was the honored guest at the 10th Anniversary Reunion in 1953.

After Tom Tanaka became chapter president, meetings were held at his home in Veterans Village. This was the period of the annual Christmas parties held at Fort Delicatessen.

The 1963 officers were: Sam Yamada, Masaji Kurozumi, Ichiro Hasegawa, and Toshio Yamashita. This was the time of the annual camp at Sunset Beach. The mess sergeant at these camps was Sam Yamada, while Ralph and Grace Chinaka assisted with supplies and equipment.

Several chapter members participated in the 1972 tour of Japan. Highlighting that tour was the audience with Crown Prince Akihito, the present Emperor of Japan.

In 1974 Alexander Oka served as Third Vice President of the Veterans Club and participated in the 30th Anniversary celebration in Bruyeres, France. In 1975 and 1976, Oka served as the Treasurer of the Club.

1979 marked a significant year in the Chapter history. This was the first time that a member of Service chapter served as President of the Mother Club. The other event was the Nisei Veterans Reunion when both Captain Hawkins and Sergeant

Royal Manaka made their appearances at the reunion.

At the 1982 Reunion in Los Angeles, Royal Manaka, Sho Saito, and Philip Ichino acted as hosts.

The 1983 Chapter officers were Masaji Kurozumi, Sam Yamada, Otto Hori, and Toshio Yamashita.

In 1984, Ralph Chinaka led a group of Service Chapter members to the 40th Anniversary celebration in Bruyeres, France.

Richard Hashi and Kunio Kikuto hosted the celebration of the 1985 AJA Veterans Reunion held on Maui.

A tour to Washington, D.C. for the opening ceremonies of the Japanese-American exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution highlighted the year 1987. Ralph Chinaka and James Miyake coordinated the tour. Also that year, Harold Riebesell

was elected president of the National Japanese American Historical Society.

In 1988, Ralph and James again led a tour to the Reno reunion, followed by the post-convention tour of Western national parks.

The 1990 Kona reunion was coordinated by Ralph Chinaka and James Miyake. The 1991 Chapter Mini-Reunion included a tour to Las Vegas, arranged by Takao Ito. Also, in 1991 and 1992, James Miyake served as Third Vice President of the Club.

In 1992, Chapter officers were Masaji Kurozumi, Sam Yamada, Ichiro Hasegawa, and Ralph Chinaka. The Chapter Coordinator for the 1993 Reunion is Ralph Chinaka assisted by Tom Tanaka and Allen Masuda. Masaji Kurozumi, as Chapter President, has served on the 442nd Board of Directors from 1967 to the present.



*Overseas  
At Home*



*Transportation wizards*



*Managers*





## CANNON COMPANY

BY TOORU KANAZAWA



Cannon Company received a note from the recently bereaved widow of one of our members. Linda Fujioka of Montebello, CA, writes: "Will you please add Willie's name to the list of Cannoneers — I don't see his name listed, and I promised Willie before he died that I would send his name to you. I don't know what section he was in — maybe you can get the information from Masami Ohara or Kaz Saiki."

Pfc William T. Fujioka, known to his buddies as Willie, will be listed as a Cannoneer in the 5th Section of the 3rd Platoon of Cannon Company. His loyalty, to his last breath, moves us deeply.

The funeral was held on August 12 at the Evergreen Baptist Church in Rosemead. Tom Makabe, Reiko and Tom Hanami, Chuck Maeda, Mary and John Kashiki attended the services. The Kashikis sent a floral wreath on behalf of the Cannoneers.

This "Golden Anniversary" Reunion marks a half century in the lives of the 442nd veterans. On average, we are in our 70s. This may well be our last big hurrah!

We cannot see past the immediate terrain, but we can pause to look back over the road thus far traveled and mourn for those who died in action. Six casualties do not compare with the losses of a rifle company, but each death was felt as deeply:

Pfc. Kiyuichi Matsumoto, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

Corporal Yoshihara Aoyama,

Los Angeles, CA, and Heart Mountain

Pfc. Tetsuo Hamada, Puunene, Maui, Hawaii

Technical Sergeant Minoru Nakayama,

Los Angeles, CA

Second Lieutenant Hitoshi Yonemura,

Los Angeles, CA, and Heart Mountain

Pfc. Tadao Sato, Seattle, WA and Minidoka

To honor Minoru Nakayama, Alameda's City Planning Commission announced on October 5, 1992 that one of the city's streets will be named Nakayama Court.

During the battle of the Lost Battalion in the Vosges Mountains of Eastern France, Oct. 26-30, 1944, nine of the Cannon Company's 13 forward observers, radiomen, agent corporals, and drivers

who worked at the front were wounded. All won Bronze Stars and/or Distinguished Unit Badges.

Of particular note was the rapid advancement of Masami S. Yoshinari, Portland, OR, who joined the 442nd in 1943 as a Buck Sergeant, and earned battlefield promotions to Second Lieutenant and First Lieutenant by 1945. He won a Silver Star with oak leaf cluster, a Purple Heart with two oak leaf clusters, and a Distinguished Unit Badge. Fred Tanigawa earned a battlefield commission to Second Lieutenant. George Buirkle and Second Lieutenant Gerald A. Gustafson earned battlefield commissions to First Lieutenant.

Cannoneers have successfully assumed the responsibilities of civilian life. Space limitations prevent a listing of names, but a few are given here as representatives of the many:

John Ushijima — State Senator & Senate President

Nadao "Najo" Yoshinaga — State Senator

Seiichi "Shadow" Hirai — State Senate Clerk

James Kamo — City Prosecutor

Keiji Kawakami — University of Hawaii Regent

Toshiro Suyematsu — County Judge in Wyoming

Masaru Koike, M.D. — Urologist

Shuki Hayashi — Professor, University of California-Davis

Tooru Kanazawa — Author, "Sushi and Sourdough"

John Kashiki — KASH, Inc., Proprietor

(Due to space limitations, only highlights selected from "Close Support, the History of Cannon Company," are reported here.)

*Sun babes*



*Bull's eye*





## 2ND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

BY BERT NISHIMURA



*Top brass*



*The brood*

Second Headquarters company differs from the usual rifle company. It housed the command staff and front desk support to all units of the battalion. Its Communications platoon was responsible for maintaining wire and line communications.

Second HQ also included an Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon, an Ammunition and Pioneer platoon, and an Anti-Tank platoon. The company provided technical and logistical support while maintaining its own combat capabilities. Personnel suffered casualties early in the war.



*Handwritten note:*  
H. M. ...  
1st ...

*Handwritten note:*  
Landscape photo of camp



## EASY COMPANY

BY SHIGEYUKI YOSHITAKE



The story of Company E begins in Hawaii, similar to that of other units in the 442nd RCT. The boys' parents believed in sacrifices to send their children to school as a means to improve the children's social and economic status. Some were public school teachers, or attending UH and other schools of higher learning.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor would change the lives of many people. Service in the Hawaii Territorial Guard, Varsity Victory Volunteers, and eventually in the 442nd unit became the choice of many young AJAs.

Initially, the Company was led by Captain Ralph Ensminger from Hawaii, followed by Captains Tom Akins and Tom Crawley. During the fighting in Europe, many recruits who started out as Buck Privates would rise to leadership roles, including those who received field commissions: Teruo Ihara, Daniel Inouye, and Kei Yamato; and those who served as First Sergeants: Toshio Anzai, Daniel Aoki, and Riki Fujioka.

Men like Tsuneo Takemoto would receive the Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry in action. Other recipients were Daniel Inouye and George "Joe" Sakato. During the 50 years following its formation, the group has remained active, getting together often (every year since 1985) to keep alive the friendships that developed during combat and in peacetime.

These get-togethers have been at NVR sites as well as in Denver, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Oakland, Washington, D.C., and, of course, in Reno and Las Vegas. Easy Company plans to stay active for many more years to come.

*Shelby hotshots*



*Chicken sl...t*



*Na Wahine*



*Kane*

*Up from the ranks*





## FOX COMPANY

BY RON OBA



It was a stormy day at sea. Hurricane-force winds howled and waves crashed over the bow of the Liberty ship, the *S.S. Elbridge Gerry*, as it crossed the Atlantic Ocean. The ship had embarked from Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia on May 1, 1944. The men of Company F had just left Camp Shelby after completing fifteen months of training and shattering time-honored 3rd Army records in ob-

stacle course, field training, sports, and fist fights at Camp Shelby and in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. If the stormy voyage across the Atlantic was an omen of events to come, it presaged the actual experiences of the men of the 442nd Regimental Combat team.

The first day of combat turned into a nightmare. F Company was ready, willing and full of guts on that fateful morning as it pushed off in the dark before the rest of the Battalion was ready to follow suit. Like a lost child in the woods, F Company, as the reserve, thought it was following nonchalantly behind the safety of E and G Companies, which had not started their forward march. The men were caught in the open and fired upon by an 88 mm SP gun and three M-4 (Tiger) tanks. Three men were killed, 10 wounded, and 12 missing in action according to the National Archives files. Within a few days all of the missing returned to F Company except for Tsuguo Imai and Henry Tateishi.

Like well-trained soldiers, the men of Company F regrouped and retaliated to defeat the enemy under the able leadership of their officers and sergeants. The men matured overnight as many heroes emerged through their unselfish sacrifices, such as the three Distinguished Service Cross recipients: Kiyoshi Muranaga, Kazuo Masuda and Yukio Okutsu; 18 Silver Star recipients: Henry Oyasato, Mas Chomori, Danny Hokama, Kiyoshi Takeuchi, Toshio Endo, Masa Agena, Clifford Tokunaga, Mitsuo Tanji, Mike Tsugawa, Kiyomi Yamada, Abraham Ohama, Susumu Nakahara, Rihachi Nagata, Jimmy Shimizu, Richard Yorita, Tom Akins, Joe Hill and Jack Rodarme. These men are only a few of the many heroes of Fox Company, which suffered 49 killed in action and 109 wounded, many with three Purple Hearts.

Fox Company also earned three Presidential Unit Citations for extraordinary gallantry in action, participated in two successful Task Forces.

Under the command of Major Emmett O'Connor, a special task force of F and L companies was formed to repel the German tanks and infantry moving against the Regiment south of

Belmont (northeast of Bruyeres). The Task Force swept behind our own lines and along the top of a ridge at dawn to strike north at the enemy's left flank, completing a long "end run." As the Task Force struck from the enemy's rear, it captured 54 prisoners, killed 80 Germans, dislodged a tank, and captured an antitank gun, three ammunition carriers, and many rifles and guns. In the meantime, E and F Companies engaged a group of 100 bicycle troops, destroyed the Germans, and captured six prisoners.

Fox Company joined Company B to form the Fukuda Task Force with a platoon of Anti-Tank men. From the vicinity of Mt. Nebbione, the Task Force marched all night to reach Mt. Grosso, south of Aulla, and then directed murderous artillery barrages at the German field artillery batteries which had thwarted the Regiment's advance. Enemy casualties: 48 killed and 135 captured. This action broke the enemy's back. Soon after, the war ended in Italy and F company received Presidential Unit Citations for gallantry in action for its participation on the two Task Forces.

The men of F Company paid a dear price to prove that the first day's debacle was only a minuscule part of their greater effort in fighting the battles of Hill 140-132, the Arno River, the Vosges Mountains (including the townships of Bruyeres, Belmont and Biffontaine), and finally the Gothic Line and Po Valley campaigns. The Champagne Campaign in Southern France was a bubbly affair that soon burst when the troops moved back to Italy.

However, the boys were not without compas-

*The invincible  
squad*



sion and love for the children they met. Soon afterwards, F troop "adopted" the children of an orphanage and held a heart-warming party for the children. Each soldier chose a child by lottery to host. The men spent days buying clothing, toiletries, footwear and, of course, sacks of American candies and beverages which the children especially enjoyed.

#### **Post-War activities**

F Company veterans and their wives have participated in many major reunions, but the post-reunions hosted by the chapters topped them all. The idea of having mini-reunions in between the major reunions began as the members started to age and their numbers started to dwindle.

The veterans on the mainland took an active part in the AJA Redress and Reparation effort that culminated in an apology and monetary compensation by the U.S. government for their internment.

Tom Kawaguchi and Hank Oyasato were instrumental in forming the National Japanese American Historical Society in San Francisco. Fox members have contributed generously toward the 100/442/MIS Memorial in Los Angeles. Many will be contributing toward the Camp Shelby Memorial and the monument to be erected in Washington, D.C. under the aegis of the Go For Broke NVA, Inc.

After Hurricane Iniki devastated the island of Kauai, Fox members from across the mainland and Hawaii made a concerted effort to help the Fox veterans on Kauai who suffered damages to their homes as well as physical injuries. Fox buddies generously donated \$11,760 to their fellow veterans with the motto: "We helped each other on the front lines; we need to help each other in times of disaster."

Heroes were made of scared, brave soldiers — all of F Company.





## GEORGE COMPANY

BY HAROLD FUKUNAGA



As we look back 50 years, we can see many things which affected our lives. However, the combat period from June 1944 to May 1945 must surely be etched in the minds of all who participated. G Co. carried out its responsibilities, as ordered, ever advancing to finish the war, in spite of the casualties incurred. We incurred our share of those who were killed in action and many more who were wounded in action.

Some of the highlights during that period were: June 25, 1944, our first day in combat, when we finally realized that this was the real thing and that guys could get killed; July 2, when we captured four enemy prisoners and three vehicles, because the enemy troops drove their vehicles into this tiny village that we had occupied earlier. Fred Ida was bold enough to yell "Halt!" to the drivers of the enemy vehicles, as if he were a traffic cop. Luckily, they didn't open fire on him before being captured. On July 4, the German army pounded us for hours on end with mortar and artillery fire on Hill 140. This lasted for three days and we suffered 16 dead and 40 wounded. In spite of the heavy casualties, we advanced to our objective.

The transfer to France and the Vosges Mountains in October and November of 1944 turned into a new type of war for us. The heavily forested area, with its accompanying tree bursts, and the cold and dreary weather of rain, sleet and snow made it the most miserable campaign. The names Bruyeres and Biffontaine became known to us as liberated towns. The casualties from enemy fire, compounded by many cases of "trench feet" or frostbite, reduced the company strength from 220 to 85.

We got treated to a "Champagne campaign" from late November 1944 to early March 1945, when we received assignment to defensive positions on top of the Maritime Alps near Castillion, France. This assignment was like a picnic, compared to the other two campaigns. We received three-day passes to Nice, our rest area. Hotels provided us with clean sheets and we enjoyed this luxury, even if only for a few days.

The last campaign in Italy, from April, 1945,

required us to break through the Gothic Line, which could not be breached for six months before our arrival. We struggled to climb steep mountains, named Mt. Carchio, Mt. Belvedere, and Mt. Brugiana, rising thousands of feet. We also passed towns and forts such as Massa, Carrara, Castelpoggio, Fort Monte Bastione, and Marciaso, until the end of the war in May.

We counted three Distinguished Service Cross medal recipients: George S. Iida, Shinyei (Rocky) Matayoshi, and Yoshimi R. Fujiwara.



*Retired G-Men*

*The G-Men*





## HOWE COMPANY

BY JACKSON MORISAWA



Company H, commanded by Captain Christopher Keegan, supported the rifle companies of the Second Battalion. The captain was a very caring person, but a strict disciplinarian. He remained in the Army and retired as a colonel, but still maintains contact with his "boys" and remains the respected leader of the "H" veterans.

The company consisted of the headquarters unit, two heavy machine gun platoons, and a heavy mortar platoon. During an assault, a machine gun platoon was assigned to each of the two assaulting companies, with the mortar platoon covering the front line advance. When the rifle companies assumed defensive positions, the heavy weapons platoons set up the main line of defense.

During training at Shelby, some became skeptical about being in a heavy weapons unit because they heard that the machine gunners' life span was three minutes long. Fortunately, the 442nd, an offensive unit, rarely subjected the machine gunners to "holding the fort" in a retreat situation.

Ideally, soldiers in a heavy weapons unit should be big men to tote the large, water-cooled machine guns and tripods that weighed nearly 60 pounds. Not so in Company H, as the men chuckled over the irony of having big squad leaders.

Bob Kaichi and Paul Tahara became the first in Company H to receive Silver Stars for valiant action. The two set out on reconnaissance on the first day of combat when an enemy barrage caught them alone. Kaichi and Tahara brought two badly wounded Company F men back to safety through both enemy and friendly fire. Being in enemy territory, their own forces mistakenly fired at them. The pair received commendations not only for their rescue of the wounded soldiers, but also for retrieving valuable intelligence information. They received their medals from King George VI and General Mark Clark during a rest period in Vada about a month later.

1st Lieutenant Charles Farnum Jr. won a Silver Star posthumously, and 2nd Lieutenant Walter Crone also died in action.

Staff Sergeant Robert Kuroda earned a Distin-

guished Service Cross posthumously for eliminating enemy machine gun crews attacking an Allied supply party in the area of La Borquaine, France. Kuroda eliminated the first crew by approaching close enough to effectively toss a grenade in their midst, and attacked a second crew with a Tommy gun he retrieved from a dead officer. He lost his life in the process. Kuroda Field at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki honors him. His brother Haruto, who served in the 100th Battalion, also earned a DSC.

Company H was fortunate to have had numerous qualified officers such as Paddock, Ryan, Williams, Peterson, Stefnagle, Gleicher and Meyer. Gleicher was captured by the Germans. Many of the AJA non-coms — including Yutaka Yoshida, Takao Hedani, Bob Kaichi, Frank Okusako, Willie Kuroda and Don Okamura — all proved to be outstanding and received well-

earned commissions. Yoshiyuki Tahara received his commission after the war and served in Vietnam as a colonel.

After the war, H Company veterans have enjoyed many years of wonderful relationships in Hawaii and on the mainland. The "ole man," as we lovingly call Colonel Christopher Keegan, has been our leader. We were fortunate to have had Wally Nakashima (deceased), the true "first sergeant" who kept the bunch together with his tight reign imbued with love and dedication. Others, like Ted Ohira, Ted Ujiiye, Lloyd Toda, Toe Yoshino, Duke Ogawa, Harry Kiyabu, Eddie Hashimoto and Charles Okazaki, to mention a few, have been instrumental in keeping H Company together for these many years.

The Golden Anniversary is truly a significant milestone for the veterans of H Company.



*For distinguished service*

*Looking good*

*I think I need glasses*





## 3RD HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

BY ERNEST UNO



We came from all over the Islands, this disparate bunch of eager patriots who served as cooks, gunners, truck and jeep drivers, radiomen and wire stringers, ditch-diggers, and message-runners. In the early post-war years some of us struggled to get an education under the GI Bill while others of us got a jump-start on our chosen vocations.

Who are these one-time strapping young men, now graying and world-wise? We're known as ISAMU, SHIGERU, FRANK, PAPPY, DAVID, ROBERT, TWO-BITS, HAJIME, HAROLD, TAKE, SAM, TOMMY, CHARLIE, EDDIE, MAXIE, and HIDE TO. For the most part, we settled in and around Kaimuki to raise our families, and we have met regularly, like clock-work all these years, on the third Friday of each month to have a couple of beers and talk story of those days in uniform — from the first big boat ride to the mainland to back home to our family and friends. I've gotta admit that the details of war-time exploits have been embellished with each telling, but the events were for real.

One doesn't think back on those early times after the war without remembering that it was PAPPY who served as chapter president and Mr. Welcome Wagon for a number of years. Who hasn't gotten, at one time or another, an ashtray fashioned out of a coconut or a pendant of polished opihī shell for the missus made by his busy hands?

In those early years, with little ones in tow, we attended picnics and beach parties sponsored by the mother club, sold tickets for circuses and sumo tournaments, and competed in bowling and softball leagues. Those were the fun times. Although the years have dimmed our memories, there were also times of struggle: keeping families together, putting and keeping a roof over their heads, providing a good education for our children, and setting a little aside each month to take care of those rainy days that were sure to come.

Looking back, the years haven't dimmed the fond memories of the Memorial Day weekends we spent with our families in Punaluu: MAXIE,

TWO-BITS, and CHARLIE in the chest-deep surf trying to catch our dinner; SAM in a corner of the cabin with his handful of paperbacks; sitting around the campfire at night, singing (I can still hear EDDIE's rendition of "Lili Marlene"), telling stories, and roasting marshmallows. We well remember how SHIGERU shocked the little ones when he hopped around on his one foot as he got ready for bed! Oh, how we savored the beef stew that came out of the big pot our wives cooked, and TWO-BITS' special pancakes!

In recent years, with the kids grownup and on their own, we ventured up to Wainapanapa, Maui, to camp and fish. We tired of that and looked for fun — things to do on each of the neighbor islands. Recently the SASAIs, KUWATAs, NAKAMURAs, and WATANABEs were guests of the PERLSWEIGs in Havertown, PA, and the OYEs in Vineland, NJ, when they visited Philadelphia and Atlantic City.

This reminds me of those buddies on the mainland — our kotonk friends who've kept in touch with us all these many years — AL (Kariya), HORSE (Tadama), and MO, who was honored posthumously by the VFW Post of Bainbridge Island by having named it the MO NAKATA VFW Post 4268.

An annual event locally that has drawn us even closer is the placing of flowers on Memorial Day at the graves of all our former buddies interred at Punchbowl. The KIAs are: T. KANDA, S. KAMIKAWA, J. KAGIHARA, K. WATANABE, R. YAMADA and T. HIGA; former veterans are: H. MATSUDA, M. ISARA, E. TSUBATA, M.

YAMADA, S. MORIOKA and, most recently, A. HOSHIJO. We gathered at the home of HAJIME and LANI to arrange the bouquets of home-grown heliconias, red ginger, anthuriums and ti leaves before taking them up to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. We followed up with a barbecue dinner and socializing and fellowship in the spacious yard of the MATSUURAs.

I'd never live it down if I didn't acknowledge those who supported us through the good times and bad, gave birth to, raised and nurtured our children, and in many cases now are called on again to baby-sit grandkiddies. These are: HARUMI, two JANETs, two GRACEs, DORIS, EDNA, YAEKO, LANI, MERILYN, IRENE, MICHI, ELAINE, CLARA, FRANCES and SA.

Who says we're getting old? FURUYA is still playing softball, as is FRANK. CHARLIE is out on the tennis courts daily keeping up with men and women half his age. Among others, BOB, TAKE and IRENE, SHIGERU and JANET take karaoke lessons. And while my golf is questionable, I do walk the back nine carrying my clubs almost every weekday morning. And there are others of us who keep young chasing after "mago," our little grandchildren, and keeping them out of harm's way. As we get poised to celebrate the great and glorious 50th Anniversary of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, this brief backward glance should serve as a clue to the hopes and dreams for tomorrow that still live in each of our hearts.

*Then and now*





## ITEM COMPANY

BY MINO SUZUMOTO



Once upon a time, many years ago, at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, our late Captain Ralph Graham, in probably his very first speech to Co. I began with, "I have just received a message from the American Red Cross informing me that my brother has been captured at Bataan!" In an emotionless voice he calmly continued, "From here on in, the motto of this company will be, 'The difficult we will do immediately. The impossible will take a bit longer.'" Yet, in retrospect, the West Point graduate and ex-football player (destined to become a Major in combat) turned out to be the fairest officer ever.

Combat-wise we can say without hesitation that we more than carried our share at the Battle of Belvedere, Hill 140, and the Rescue of the Lost Battalion, perhaps the "costliest" of all our encounters in the ETO. But, we must have done something right along the way. Otherwise, why would the 36th Division, active in Texas, list the names of three Nisei soldiers (picked at random and all from the ranks of Company I) and credit them with making the initial contact? Those three men were: Mutt Sakumoto of Wahiawa, HI; Tak Senzaki of Los Angeles, CA; and Hide Takahashi of Ontario, OR.

We forged our mettle on the peacetime front, too. We aggressively pursued statehood for Hawaii, culminating in a plebiscite held on June 27, 1959. As a 442 community service project at that time, the men of Item Co. silk-screened a thousand bumper strips, urging the public to vote for statehood. No need to tell you about the fantastic results! And the rest, they say, is history!

Also, during our formative years as a veterans group, we participated in every club-sponsored sports program. We've always managed to attain pinnacle status, attendance-wise, at 442nd Club social events. So consistent were we over the years that we decided to adopt a new motto for ourselves: "We may not be the best, but we're hard to beat!" I have no doubt that our Captain, wherever he may be, will rest well with that one.



*To the rescue*



*Mon Ami*

*There's reason  
to smile*







## KING COMPANY

BY JOE H. SHIMAMURA AND EICHI OKI



In the springtime of their lives they rallied to a call made memorable eighteen years later by President John F. Kennedy: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." When the call for volunteers for the U.S. Army came in 1943, Nisei responded in overwhelming numbers — from Hawaii Nei, from California, from Oregon, from Washington, and from other parts on the mainland to form the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

They knew not where they would be sent or what they would be doing, but they asked no quarters. Innocent, green, brash, earnest, big-hearted, gung-ho, they embraced the opportunity and accepted the challenge to serve their country at a time when young Americans were called upon to give their lives. Little did they realize it then, but they established a record in training and in combat as one of the finest units in the country. The design of their shoulder patch depicted a hand holding a torch — a symbol of freedom and liberty. They adopted the motto of "Go For Broke" during their training in Mississippi and took that rough-hewn spirit of Go For Broke with them when they engaged in combat in Italy and France.

The first day of action for the men of K Company began in Italy at an early morning hour on June 26, 1944. Before the day was over, the company suffered its first fatality: Shizo Matsushita from Kukuiaiu, Hawaii. For his valor in the company's first battle on Hill 140, Technical Sergeant Ted Tanouye, who was subsequently killed during the Arno River campaign, became the company's first recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross (the nation's second highest award for military valor). Ted was later buried next to his old buddy, Technical Sergeant Atsushi "Sak" Sakamoto, in the Japanese cemetery in Los Angeles. "Sak," a beloved platoon sergeant, died in the small town of Luciano, where some of the fiercest house-to-house combat took place between the Company and a diehard group of German SS soldiers, who were eventually driven out. Harry Madokoro, a BAR man, was posthumously awarded the company's second DSC for his brav-

ery there.

The next campaign in Italy turned out to be nerve-wracking for the rifle squads, ordered to go on reconnaissance and combat patrol day and night to find a way to cross the heavily mined Arno River. Three captured Germans finally gave a detailed account of the mine layout, enabling the company to complete the mission of crossing the river and marching triumphantly into the town of San Mauro.

The push to rescue the Lost Battalion in the Vosges Mountains of northeastern France in October 1944 turned out to be the bloodiest of all battles for the Company, with Joe Hayashi, Gordon Yamashiro, Fred Yasuda and Masuichi Yogi all being posthumously awarded the DSC. For their valor, Fujio Miyamoto and Jim Tazoi, who are both still living, were also awarded the DSC, the company's seventh and eighth. Though successful, the rescue mission proved costly. From an original contingent of more than 200 men, the company was decimated in number to about 30, the highest number of casualties in the 442nd (excluding the 100th Battalion).

Now in the winter of their lives, as they look back fifty years to their salad days and to the sacrifice and example of their comrades, living and dead, the aging veterans pay homage to the many who gave their all to serve their country so nobly and so selflessly. It is time also to pass on the torch to their children and future generations and leave to them the legacy and spirit of "Go For Broke." In the words of the late U.S. Senator

Spark M. Matsunaga, an officer in the legendary 100th Battalion, "our endless battle against discrimination and injustice — to make ours a greater nation in a better world."



*Achtung!*



*Go For Broke  
Kingsmen*



## LOVE COMPANY

BY YOSHIJI AOKI



Fifty years! Why, putting that figure in perspective even in our contemporary world, fifty is more than the usual span of life in many countries. What can anyone say that has not already been repeatedly said or written about the 442 Regimental Combat Team?

It is safe to say that many of our lives would have been vastly different without the sacrifices of our comrades. Yes, there would be those who would have achieved their life goals, even in our individual chapters. But what about the countless others whose lives would have been mired in prejudice, with little chance for upward mobility? Could we say that there would not have been "the Wave" of the '50s without the services and sacrifices of the 100th and the 442nd? Or that the GI Bill hasn't helped upward mobility? Or that our experiences in the war emboldened us to new ventures?

We of Love Chapter have much to be proud of, but we worked hard at it, too. Our Oahu Chapter has always had a good turnout at our monthly meetings, but it just didn't happen by accident. By good fortune, we've had members who were willing and able to provide dinner for our monthly meetings for more than 35 years, and perceptive members who knew we needed to keep actively involved in community projects to create a spirit of togetherness and a sense of purpose. Those Love Chapters on the Neighbor Islands, Los Angeles, the Bay Area, Sacramento, and Seattle have replicated these expectations. In reading the Go For Broke Bulletin, it is reassuring to see that attempts are being made for change. For sure, the formation of the Sons and Daughters group was a step in that direction.

By all accounts, those from the Mainland had to overcome even more prejudice and hostility than we locals did, including a good dose from us when they joined the unit. Yet, here we are 50 years later, all successful in our own way, gathered at our largest reunion ever, lasting friends for many years. How our horizons have enlarged and how our attitudes have matured because of these associations.

And, yes, there are things that a military group

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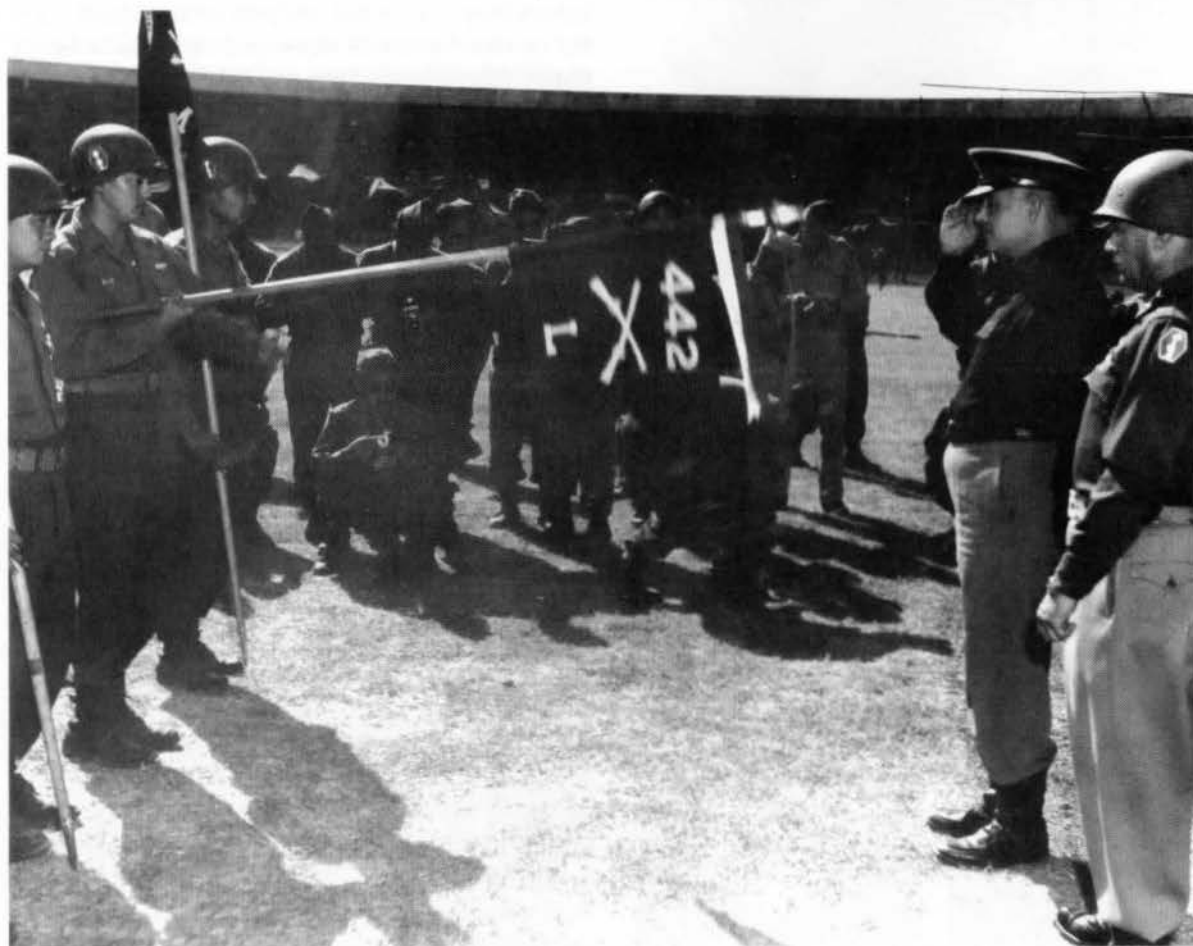
can legitimately be proud of. When "the Lost Battalion" is mentioned, a sense of pride swells in having saved the 86 Texans, even when counting our many casualties. Or Bruyeres, or any of the many locales where each one of us witnessed acts of heroism we didn't think possible. Again, we should always be cognizant of the heavy cost of lives and never, ever, forget.

Way back in 1943, when the War Department formed our segregated group, how many of us realized what the results might be? Whatever the motives, in this instance at least, segregation worked!



*Citation*

*Bruyeres*





## MIKE COMPANY

BY TADAO BEPPU



The years 1993-1994 will have special meaning to various friends and groups in Hawaii. Some of our Hawaiian friends gathered at the venerable Iolani Palace last year on the Fourth of July, to memorialize the annexation of the Republic of Hawaii to the United States in 1894. You will be hearing words like "kanaka maiolo," sover-

eighty, blood quantum, ceded lands, and a "nation within a nation." Our friends will be appreciative if we make the effort to learn these terms, and their significance in Hawaiian history.

### Potpourri

You will notice that many of our daughters' names reflect the travails of the paesanos of the 442 with lovely ones like Tina, Michelle, Monica, Lisa, Carla, Anita, Carmella, Lena and Paula. Evidently, our men did not meet many with male gender — names like Virgilio, Giovanni and Benito.

We wonder if Shinkichi Tajiri, messenger extraordinaire of M Co., is still doing his share of enhancing art in Europe, which has been his home for forty years. He studied art with the late Isamu Noguchi, Nisei sculptor, whose stark, subtly nuanced work in stone and steel made him a major figure in modern art. Like Noguchi, Tajiri did his work in stone, which they both regarded as a medium that expressed the strength of nature. Afficionados, I'm sure, have seen Shinkichi's friendship knot at the entrance to Little Tokyo in Los Angeles.

### Mabuhay and Salamat!

Some of us wonder what happened to a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Navy from Philippines who helped some of us find a place to sleep in Marseille in 1944. Lodging had been scarce at that time because of the war. Our new friend was on his way to Toulon to meet his Greek-born wife, held in a German prison for women. His three children were fighting in the French underground. Oh, yes, we did supply his wife with K-rations, cigarettes and chocolates.

### Ronald Ross Hempstead

We don't have much correspondence from the commissioned officers of M Co., and so it was like a bolt out of the blue to receive a letter from Ronald Ross Hempstead, son of the late Captain Robert Hempstead, who was killed in action near the Arno River in 1944. He had never seen his father, nor even a photo of his father. Although he now lives in Switzerland, he studied at Berkeley, where he received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D degrees. It will not be a surprise if Ronald Ross

Hempstead writes about the 442 and the Japanese-American experience. Says the younger Hempstead writer: "I plan to devote the coming months and perhaps years to researching your experiences in Northern Italy. Although I've sought to learn more of the story for decades, I am prepared to pursue it full time. Four dozen years after your landing near Livorno on 28 May 1944, I'll be walking from there to Florence — having been in both locations many times as recently as the past month. This year I'll be retracing your steps on the exact dates of your operation culminating in San Colombano on 23 August. In further preparation for that pilgrimage, I'll be returning still again to the National Archives in Washington. I'll be working there in March and April with a researcher in the Military Section, who is an associate of one of my colleagues at the United Nations here in Geneva."

#### **Blackout Special**

Those who are worried about the Hawaiian Punch that is placed in escrow for the last three surviving paid-up members of M Co., please rest assured that our old reliable Sgt. Ralph Tomei has built a beautiful glass case for this bottle — brewed in 1941 and unopened since! *C'est la vie.*

#### **Vitamins Galore**

Thanks to Dick and Sumi Tochiyama, members of M Co. are loaded with vitamin B-12, calcium and vitamin D. They prevailed on their friends John and Billee Gogian of Palos Verdes to supplant the diets of the locals with steaks, chops,

shrimps and chicken. We suspect that Dick told them that we were subsisting on sushi and pickles. That's better than saying "sugar cane and pineapples."

#### **Tempus Fugit**

We remember an editorial critical of the efforts of some old men who were seeking a little more compensation for their services as yard men to the more affluent members of war-time Hawaii. Many of these old men who had helped build the sugar cane and pineapple industries in their youth now found their patriotism questioned in their twilight years. The editorial on the front page reprimanded them for their indiscretion when many of the younger generation (their sons and grandsons) were busy in the war effort. I guess patriotism can be stretched and twisted to fit the times. *C'est la guerre!*

*Mike gunners*



*Sospel warriors*

*Showing off*



*Jap-Jerry?*





## 522ND FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION ABLE BATTERY

BY HARRY TOKUSHIGE



Today, as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary, we cannot help but be thankful for the camaraderie which has bound us together and the opportunity which was provided to us to regain our pride and self-respect as Americans.

On March 14, 1943, some of us only reached the age of eighteen, unshaven, not knowing what coffee and beer tasted like and never having heard of marijuana. Others had already hit their twenties and thirties. For us youngsters, Army life enhanced us culturally and forged us into "men" in a jiffy.

"Two and a half happy years together and lifetime of memories," wrote Abraham (Sad Sack) Sakamoto on September 29, 1945 in an article entitled "Dear Joe" which appeared in the 522 publication "High Angle." Following are some excerpts from that article:

"I remember you, Joe, when you first came into the Battery. You seemed bewildered, lost and alone. Disillusioned, too. I didn't blame you; after all you had just left behind unhappy experiences within barbed wire fences only to see once more drab and ugly barracks. But you got over it. Hutment 6 became your home, too. Remember?

"Remember basic and unit training? Regimentation, discipline, uniformity — as if we were a bunch of regulated automatons. Remember maneuvers and the wilds of Louisiana and our first taste of C-rations?

"Italy, our first glimpse of war-torn Europe . . . hungry, ill-clothed, and homeless. Italy and our baptismal fire at Grosseto. But all wasn't the grim business of fighting. Remember our first unpleasant taste of raw, red vino? And the pass to the Eternal City of Rome, and Via Roma in gay Napoli? I can still hear the city's cry of 'Hey Joe . . .'

"Remember France and the rain, the mud, the snow and the cold? The bitter fighting up in the Vosges Mountains. Then Sospel and Menton and the Riviera and Nice. Nice, naughty, but delightful. Nice and champagne and cognac, tres jolies mademoiselles and jitterbugging. Au revoir to fascinating France was pretty painful, huh?

"And at last to Germany . . . The Siegfried Line

and the maddening, unrelenting drive across the vaunted defenses of the Rhine, across the Danube, up to the foot of the Bavarian Alps. The V-E and cease fire . . . Remember our last drink together with the boys in the Cafe Engel?"

Yes, indeed, they were two and a half happy and trying years together and a life-time of memories. But let me hasten to say that these boys are now 68 to 80 years young. We have lived a life-time since. Most of these young men took advantage of the G.I. Bill, a few indulged in the "52-20." We have served our communities well as entrepreneurs, government officials, and professionals. All in all these quiet young men have become millionaires in their own way — blessed with loving wives, caring sons and daughters, and adorable grandchildren — all this coupled with good health and continued friendship among our families. Who could ask for anything more!!! Lucky we live in America!!



## BAKER BATTERY

BY S. DON SHIMAZU

Greetings and welcome to all members of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion and their families who have assembled to fittingly observe the 50th Anniversary of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT).

For all of us, whether we were Headquarters, Able, Baker, Charley, or Service Battery it is a time to renew old friendships and a time to remember many things. It is a time to remember those who are no longer with us; a time to give thanks to our God for preserving and sustaining us to this moment; it is a time for still more documentaries to leave to posterity; it is a time to share of the happenings of the intervening years; it is a time to rededicate ourselves to the service of our communities and our nation; and a time to prepare our Sons and Daughters Chapter to carry on with the 442nd torch.

Do you guys remember how the "Kotonks" and the "Buddhaheads" got integrated in the course of time from the peach-fuzz days of basic training at Camp Shelby to the maneuvers in the ice and snow of Louisiana until we were finally judged fit for overseas duty? Do you also remember our first firing demonstration for the 34th Division? We almost killed the general and all of our own field-grade officers that time, but ask Kats Miho or read his account in the book entitled *Boyhood to War*. When we joined the action north of Rome around Suvereto and Belvedere, there were no SNAFUs in our firing. All parts of the unit, from top echelon planning, reconnaissance, survey, fire direction, communication, gun crews, forward observers, and supplies functioned well; all parts had to perform for the results we achieved.

Do you remember the time we "time-fired" Hill 140 near Castellina? Word used to get back real fast to us on the effectiveness of our fire, and sometimes even more; like the account of how the normally very composed Lt. Col. James M. Hanley, CO of the 2nd Battalion, forgot himself and jumped up and down in almost boyish glee at the sight of the beautiful air-burst barrage. Remember also the TOT (Time-on-target) on Cecina? That one involved everything from short-range





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cannons to long-range "Long Toms" of all units on our side within range of that unfortunate town with travel times of shells calculated to make them all burst at the same time.

After the Arno campaign, the entire RCT joined the 7th Army in the Bruyeres area of the Vosges Mountains in France where the terrain and especially foliage changed dramatically. Italy, where our forward observers could see almost everything from far away, proved barren by comparison. In Bruyeres the dense forest and lush undergrowth necessitated that almost every explosive round fired, whether ours or the enemy's, be a time-fire round. Such conditions rendered difficult artillery support with pin-point accuracy.

The density was so bad that our Battalion survey section was once called upon to carry survey control from the rear to locate our infantry positions on the battle maps. We accomplished that by unknowingly going through minefields because the signs "Achtung Minen" faced the other way. As we came upon the infantry, we began to see the trip wires of the German anti-personnel mines running everywhere and some of our infantry fatally wounded. We also saw some of our tanks with their treads blown off and units of infantry with non-coms in command. In retrospect, we were very lucky throughout. Even in Italy, when enemy artillery bracketed our survey teams a few times, we pulled through without casualties. Those were the days when Kaoru Sakima, our survey section in-house entertainer, regaled us with his comical antics.

The rescue of the Lost Battalion at such great cost to the 442nd will live on forever as one of the high points of World War II in Europe. Things could have turned out differently for all of us if we had carried out a direct order by the 36th Division to fire on a particular set of coordinates which, in reality, were the coordinates of the Lost Battalion. Our fire direction center and/or the forward observer team must have recognized the error immediately and, therefore, held fire; but think of the consequences which might have erupted nationwide starting from Texas if we had fired and wiped them out! The Lost Battalion was not only saved once; it was saved twice!

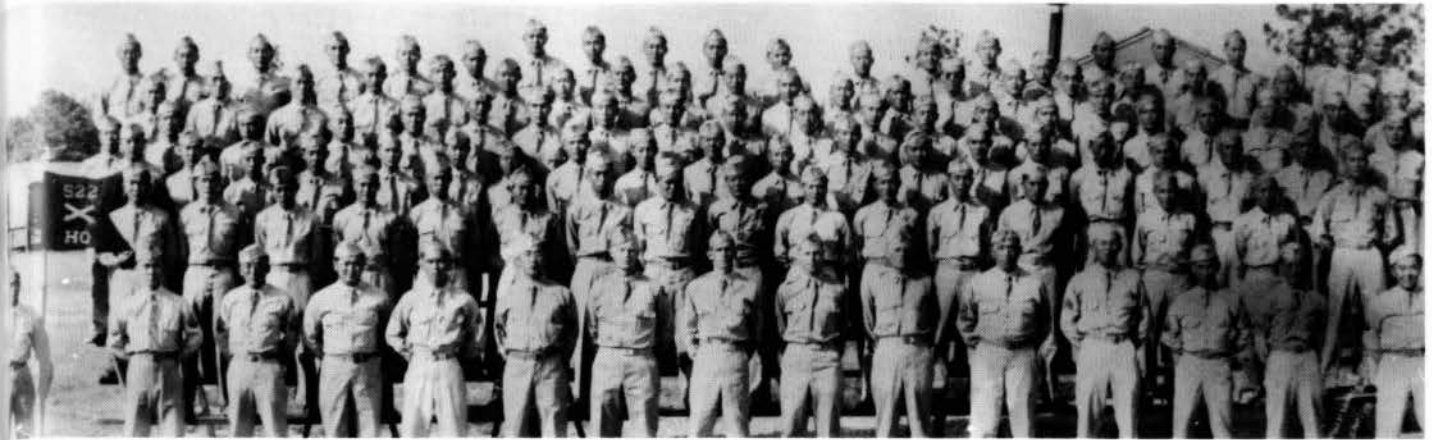
Do you guys still remember southern France and the French Maritime Alps? With a holding action and rebuilding time for the infantry in effect, our guns had to fire interdiction rounds at

the high settings practically every hour. The placement of our guns in deep valleys surrounded by mountain peaks compelled the high settings. The survey section retains fond memories of that time because they kept busy surveying fall back positions — three deep — for our gun batteries just in case. On flat ground, duck soup; but in that terrain of peaks ad infinitum with ice, snow, strong winds and fog? It was tough lugging our gear all the way to the top of a snow-capped peak only to get socked-in by fog up there and having to come down to do it all over again; and that used to happen time after time. But, we did it. For many, however, it was a time for passes to Nice and to enjoy the many inducements offered. Remember the nice shops, night clubs, pretty mademoiselles, the jitterbugging, and all the bartering with cigarettes, chocolates, coffee grounds? Some guys, I know, have real good stories to tell. Right, Mike and Sam?

After the Champagne Campaign, do you remember how we got separated from the RCT? The Infantry and Engineers returned to Italy, while we went north to help cross the Rhine River and breach the Siegfried Line. The war in Germany, however, once we crossed the Rhine and the Siegfried Line, was not an infantry-type war anymore. It became a war of movement of armor, tanks, and artillery. Fast-moving situations presented fewer and fewer targets as our concentrated fire power decimated the enemy. Targets spotted simultaneously by several outfits left to a contest of speed, accuracy and effectiveness of fire among the various artillery units. On many occasions, the 522 would spot, fire, and finish a mission before the other units could get their first round out. We even forced a German unit to surrender solely with our artillery power. Not only that, in those final months and weeks in Germany our unit routinely handled three separate fire missions simultaneously over one radio channel! And nobody else could do that! Anyone who doubts any part of this can check with Yuki Akaki, who was T/Sgt in our Fire Direction Center. We used to call each other: "Hey, 24!" with affection knowing that 24 carat stood for the purest gold.

The final days in Germany saw us in a so-called "rat race" with our 522 often in front of everyone else on our side. We saw enemy jet aircraft fly over us for the first time. They flew through our P-47 formations so fast that it looked like our

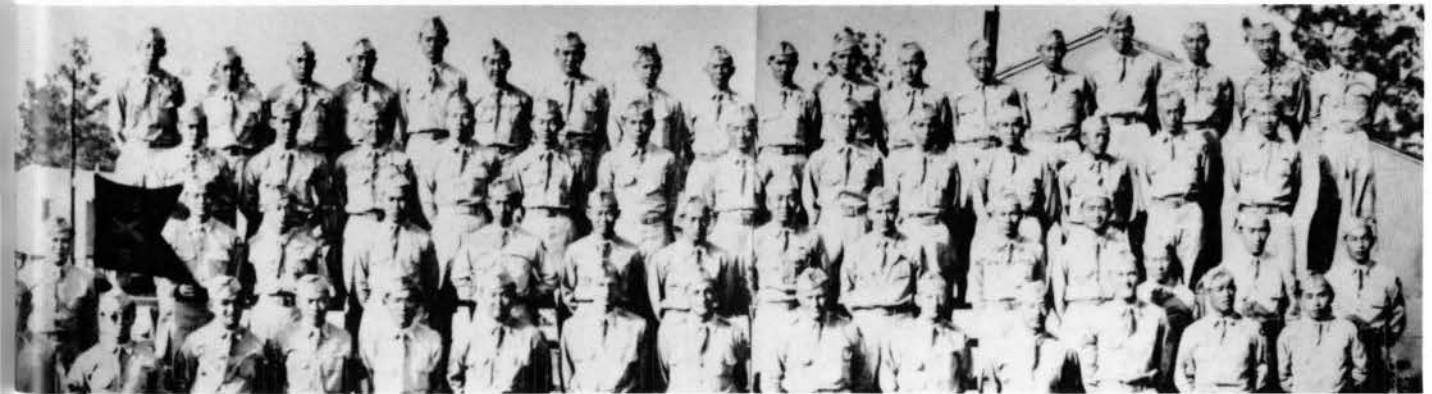
# 522ND FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION



HEADQUARTERS (HQ): Command Post, Administrative, Survey, Radio & Wire Communications, Fire Direction Center, Liason & Forward Observation.



BAKER (B): Instrument Section, Four Gun Sections of 105 MM Howitzers, Forward Observation & Liason, Wire & Radio communications, & Air Defense.



SERVICE (SV): Ammunition & Ordnance Delivery & Storage, Transportation & Quartermaster Support, Logistic Reinforcement, & Radio Communication.

P-47 formations so fast that it looked like our planes were standing still. We saw Hitler's tremendous system of super-highways (autobahns) which doubled as airstrips for landings and take-offs. We saw many of the jet planes parked under the trees along the super highways and many still in crates. Fortunately, they appeared so late in the war.

It was only a matter of days later, on April 29 or 30, that the 522 ran into the various Dachau concentration camps. The war in Europe ended on May 8, 1945. By then, we were past Munich, past Berchtesgaden, and deep into Austria. After the war, the 522 remained in occupation duty around Donauworth, Bomenheim, and Mertingen.

We trust that the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd RCT will take up the 442nd's torch which has seen so much in war and in peace and carry it to still greater and nobler heights for America the Beautiful, the home of the brave.



*The riflemen's angel*



## CHARLIE BATTERY

BY ED ICHIYAMA

Aloha and welcome to the 50th Anniversary Reunion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It is difficult to believe that 50 years have elapsed since fate dictated that we be assigned to "C" Battery, 522nd Field Artillery Battalion.

Some of us were still in our teens then and the youthful exuberance and indiscretion we displayed seem incredible when we look back through the eyes of our present matured serenity.

Do you recall some of our more adventurous souls venturing forth into enemy territory while the war was in full bloom, risking their lives to expropriate lugers, rings, cameras, etc? Ah, the indiscretion of youth.

How about the time Naka Sakamoto and three guys from the other three gun sections got summoned into Captain Gus' tent? It resulted from Lieutenant Eyerly commandeering the firing pins from each of the four howitzers when they should have been on guard duty at 4:06 a.m. in France during combat. By way of explanation, each guy said he had to relieve himself on the hill at the precise moment that Lieutenant Eyerly

made his rounds. Sheer coincidence? Ah, the callousness of youth, thought the duly impressed Captain Gus who promptly punished all of them to Battery confinement picking up cigarette butts.

However, not all of our days of youth existed in a picnic-like atmosphere. We suffered and endured the rain and mud of Italy and the snow and cold of France and Germany. Some of us participated in the rescue of the Lost Battalion as forward observers and if that experience did not humble us or impart humility, nothing will. Can any of us forget the sight of the emaciated, gaunt, skeleton-like figures of the Dachau Jewish prisoners, aimlessly wandering around the snow-covered countryside of Munich?

But our youthful minds and emotions have matured and these shared experiences have undoubtedly sharpened our collective resolve to make the world a better place for our children. As our grandparents and parents made sacrifices to make our lives in America a little easier we should similarly continue to make sacrifices to combat bigotry and hatred. Sitting on our laurels

does not suffice.

I am proud that we have made our mark in politics, business, law, medicine, academia, government, and other notable positions in the private sector. Perhaps we can do more to show America that the Japanese-Americans are as deserving of equal treatment as any other ethnic group in the United States.

We can, for example, be involved in the Japanese-American museum in Los Angeles. This museum highlights the hardships our grandparents and parents encountered upon their arrival in Hawaii and in America and includes their ultimate demeaning experience of internment. Manabi Hirasaki, a trustee of this museum and one of its original prime movers, believes that being involved in this museum represents one of the more rewarding experiences he has had since his discharge. Let us join Manabi and his wife Sumi in preserving for posterity our ancestors' role in creating a better America for all Americans.



*Fire control*



*Dachau*



## 232ND COMBAT ENGINEER COMPANY

BY WALTER T. MATSUMOTO



### Vada Remembered

One of the saddest and lowest moments in the 232nd Engineers' experience overseas happened during the rest period following our first month of combat in Italy in August, 1944.

The company was bivouacked in an olive grove near Vada, enjoying a restful summer day when a monster of an explosion, not too distant, rocked the countryside. A miniature "mushroom" was noticed rising in the direction of the blast and gradually dissipating into the sky.

Sensing something big and ominous, I got hold of Kosei Shimabukuro, my jeep-driver, and sped off to the site about a quarter-mile away. Upon reaching the area, we proceeded to the center of attention, which was once a two-and-a-half ton truck, in which a load of anti-tank mines had exploded. The tires were blown to shreds and the truck-bed blown clear of everything and forced about a foot into the ground. The rear of the cab was pushed forward against the dash-board by the blast, killing the driver, who was seated behind the wheel. Chaplain West supervised removal of the driver's body, the top of which was sheared off at the chest. This gruesome sight will be difficult to forget.

We found Yo Tatsukawa walking around aimlessly, shocked and stunned by the blast. He said he was about 30 feet from the truck when the explosion occurred. Although he was knocked down and suffered a severe concussion, he escaped bodily injury.

Tatsukawa, of Denver, Colorado, was one of three 232nd Engineers on the mine instructional team of the 109th Combat Engineer Battalion of the 34th Division, to which the 232nd was attached. The other two men were Daniel Betsui of Kauai and Masao Iha of Kunia, Oahu. All three were bright young men, around 20 years old and from the first platoon.

The entire team was comprised of 15 men, 12 from the 109th and augmented by three from the 232nd. The 109th team was experienced and well-trained and had conducted similar sessions many times in the past without incident.

On this particular day, a familiarization session of enemy anti-tank and anti-personnel mines had just been completed for the 442nd's 3rd Battalion. As the men dispersed and returned to their respective Company areas, the mines and miscellaneous paraphernalia were being collected and

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loaded onto a truck when, without any warning, the explosion occurred. It was believed that about a ton of explosives went up in the blast.

Nine men were killed, seven from the 109th and two from the 232nd. Since Betsui and Iha were conspicuously absent, we asked Tatsukawa what had happened to them. He replied, somewhat incoherently and in tears, that he believed they were killed by the blast. He added that he thought they were among the several who were blown to bits. Adding to the already chaotic and sad situation was the unfortunate death of a member of M Co., struck by a piece of flying metal while in his Company area.

The entire episode was like a nightmare. If not for faulty handling of one man, who mistakenly loaded a box of detonators onto a truck loaded with mines, it might not have happened. Mercifully, he was one of those lost in the blast. His identity is believed to be known only to God.

#### **232nd Minesweepers**

The 232nd Combat Engineers Co. had the unique distinction of being the only unit in the U.S. Army comprised entirely of AJAs — officers and unlisted men. The officers were all college graduates with engineering degrees.

The oldest man in the Company was Yukio Matsumoto, a 39-year-old blacksmith from Idaho. The youngest was 18-year-old Charles Ijima of Honolulu. Like all of the public high-school seniors who volunteered for the 442nd, he was granted his diploma in advance of his graduating class.

Another unique feature of the Company was that it had four sets of brothers, namely: Arthur and Bert Kikukawa of Molokai; Eddie and Walter Nakasone of Maui; Richard and Edward Murakami of Ewa; and Hichiro and Walter Matsumoto of Honolulu. Although most of them were wounded, they all returned home safely from the war.

The Company's first casualty was Dick Matsumoto, killed on a reconnaissance mission one week into our initial campaign in Italy. He was also the first Engineer awarded the Silver Star medal for his heroism.

The Engineers suffered 10 KIAs and received 99 Purple Hearts (See "Americans" by Orville C. Shirey). Because of the high casualty rate, Captain Pershing Nakada sought to get the Combat Infantryman Badge for the men. The request was eventually denied by the Adjutant General, as

well as the Awards section of the Department of Defense.

Beginning with the 10th Anniversary Reunion in Honolulu in 1953, four Engineers have attended every 442nd reunion (13 in all). They include Gilbert Kobatake and Walter Matsumoto (Honolulu), Hiroshi Arisumi (Maui), and George Yamada (Los Angeles). All four are expected to attend this year's 50th Anniversary.

## **232ND ENGINEERS & 206 BAND**

BY HICHI MATSUMOTO

"50" — that magic number. 50th state. *Jinsei wazuka gojunen* . . . man's lifespan only until a few years ago. THIS, our 50th year since joining the Army. Wow. Amazing. *Taishita mon. Arigatai.*

The 232nd Engineers' exploits in World War II have been well documented for posterity by the media. No need to tell people what they already know. But what the general public doesn't know is only E, F & G companies of the 2nd Battalion and I, K & L companies in the 3rd Battalion, all line companies, earned more Purple Hearts per company than the 232nd Combat Engineers. Like who da guy said: "You can look it up." And, too, they rode on tanks into battle. Combat — wasn't only *kazarimon*.

Walter Matsumoto, Joe Sato, Kosuke Imori, Ben Ono, S.T. Fujioka and Stanley Nakamura were da "*sewanin*" who hustled and got the 232nd Engineers on their feet and going. The last four mentioned are no longer with us, but left their everlasting, enviable mark. There could be others but the above mentioned automatically come to mind.

In the beginning, our chapter survived rough and tough formative years. By hook or crook we tried to get guys to attend meetings. Oh, sure, they paid their dues but to plan and accomplish things you needed bodies. In time, more and more came out and built the chapter into one of the more formidable ones. To create interest and lure them, we held meetings at any place imaginable — Nuuanu YMCA and Kosuke Imori's (deceased) Harbor House Cafe were just two of the places. *De Mukashi no days, ima kangaete miruto, plenty ato no hanashi ga aru.* It wasn't funny then — more like *hagaa-ness*.

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Our 206 Band brothers and we Engineers joined as one at first but some band diehards wanted to keep their own identity — be self-supporting rather than be a small frog in a big pond — asked and received the blessing to go on their own. In time, they found out that with very limited personnel, everybody was an officer in some kind of capacity every year. *Akiramete* asked again if they could be “reinstated.” Of course, we welcomed them back with open arms . . . a big plus for both sides. Our motto was, and still is: “The door is always open.”

“*Chirimo tsumoreba yamato naru*” — early days, we did just that. With careful planning, hard work, successful projects and in later years, generous contributions and donations from members and friends. So, today, in our twilight years, money is the least of our worries, a healthy treasury, use ‘em whenever/whatever needed. Get left over? No, pass ‘em on to our Sons & Daughters.

Thanks to Teiji & Michiko Chinna for letting the boys “take over” their North Shore beach-house for the annual stag night. It became da “social event” of the year until *tatta konoaida made*. And the generous sponsors that clothed and outfitted our “super athletes” — softball, bowling, and basketball — *oomukashi*. Namely, Gilbert Kobatake, Tommy Hirao (Nisshodo), Herbert Komori (Kapahulu Fender Shop) and Jimmy Kuwaye (Kuwaye Brothers Trucking). And in

later years Ken (Tommy & Sue — both deceased) Kiyosaki. Gary Kawate & Jimmy Nakamura, our refreshment and pupu connoisseurs. Masao Yamasaki (secretary) and Monte Okamoto (treasurer). To Hisashi Kubota of Tennessee (deceased), Eddie Sato of Chicago and others for their contributions to the 442 Bulletin.

Much aloha and many thanks to our Neighbor Island hosts. *Shimani iku tanbini, itsumo yoh sete morawareta*. Big Island — Fred (deceased) and Midori Fujimoto; Maui — Hiroshi and Edna Arisumi; Kauai — Roscoe (deceased) and Barbara Haruki; Molokai — Art “Primo” Kikukawa; and L.A. — Ikuto, George and Mary Yamada chanto waiting and ready to spoil you.

Our travel agent/agency was Tommy Kiyosaki and the trips he designed and led are too numerous to mention.

Looking for greener pastures, Kiyo Kimura took off to L.A. in the 1960s . . . their gain, our loss. After some 25 years, retired from work and came back home . . . our gain, their loss.

Thanks to all the members and wives for so unselfishly giving their time, effort, and material things down through the years. Not that the chapter couldn’t have made it without all da kokua, but sure made it a lot easier and so much better.

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NO CAN FORGET!





## THE 171ST STORY

BY IWAO YOKOOJI



The 171st was organized as a matter of rule and not by exception. It was a product of the system when segregation had been the order of that period and implemented by our federal government fifty years ago.

We had heard of discrimination against blacks on the mainland, but here in Hawaii racial harmony existed, leaving us unaffected and unconcerned until the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

The panic created by that bombing raid prompted the mass evacuation of all Japanese from the Pacific Coast and many from Hawaii into relocation camps surrounded by barbed wire and armed guard towers. Nisei soldiers on active military service in Hawaii were stripped of their weapons. The Navy and Marine Corps would not accept Niseis into their ranks. The few on active duty in the then Army Air Corps were discharged from service.

On the day of the attack on Pearl Harbor, an urgent call came over the radio to have all defense workers report to their place of work. The Niseis found themselves confronted at the gate of the former Kaneohe Naval Air Station by armed Marine guards. With bayonets affixed to their rifles, the guards called attention to a sign boldly emblazoned on the fence which read, "No Germans, Japs, or dogs allowed." Needless to say, prudence required a hasty retreat.

In early April 1943, we moved to Camp Shelby, Mississippi to train with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. There, we suddenly confronted a most perplexing situation, for we were neither white nor black. The signs in the restaurants and restrooms read "Whites Only" and "Blacks Only." Our Caucasian officers assured us that we were considered white.

In the war scenario, the 100th Infantry Battalion preceded the 442nd into combat in Europe.

The 100th landed at Salerno, Italy, on September 22, 1943, and fought its way up the Volturno River Valley. Heavy battle casualties suffered in the initial three months of fighting riddled the ranks. In spite of their battered condition, they were ordered to scale the rugged heights of Monte Cassino, where one of the greatest tests of men and weapons of World War II raged.

The engagement in that bitter struggle left the 100th Battalion decimated and incapable of functioning as a fighting unit until considerable replacements were accomplished.



Meanwhile, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team entered the final phase of their year-long training at Camp Shelby. In the midst of a large unit maneuvers, messages circulated among the men of the "Go For Broke" regiment calling for replacements for the 100th Battalion.

It was a sobering moment to suddenly realize that months of training and preparation had finally honed us to combat readiness. Ready we were! But we were not ready for the disturbing news that our ranks were to be defiled. Our year-long training had helped us to assess each other's strengths and weaknesses, so essential for the optimum performance of a fighting unit.

Moreover, the separation from those we had learned to trust and depend on for survival brought on sudden shock and drained some of the men — physically and emotionally. It proved especially difficult for those whose rifles and packs we had sometimes helped to carry — sometimes even their bodies — and also for those we had helped to dig foxholes for at the end of a long march.

Nevertheless, the ranks of the 442nd were depleted by the calls for replacements until the 442nd moved overseas in April 1944. At this time the members of the 1st Battalion were transferred to the other companies of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions. The 1st Battalion remained at Camp Shelby with a selected number of officers and senior non-commissioned officers. The 100th Battalion, already in Europe, replaced the 1st Battalion as the lead battalion of the Combat Team.

The 1st Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Sherman Watts, was subsequently redesignated as the 171st Infantry Battalion (Separate) on September 5, 1944. During the interim period before being redesignated as the 171st, we were required to wear the 2nd Army patch. Upon redesignation, we were authorized to use the 442nd shoulder patch. It officially signaled the designation of replacement training for the 100th and the 442nd.

The War Department, forerunner of the present Department of Defense, segregated ground forces by race. Black soldiers were assigned to an all-black unit, whites to all-white units, and Japanese Americans to their own 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It became inevitable, therefore, that an all-Nisei pipeline for replacements was to be established in the view of the segregation policy of the U.S. Armed Forces.

The 171st continued to train replacements that were in great demand because of the heavy casualties suffered by the 100th and the 442nd, until its deactivation on February 19, 1945. Prior to deactivation, most senior non-coms were sent to Fort Benning, Georgia for officers training. The remaining personnel went to Europe or to the Military Intelligence Language School at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, for ultimate service in the Pacific War.

*Top cadre*



*Color Guards*

*Visiting*





## 442ND LIVORNO

BY HENRY KUNIYUKI



Livorno Chapter members unanimously agreed to dedicate their Chapter page in this booklet to their parents, many of whom have long gone on to their reward. Members felt that our parents, who carried on bravely during our war years, suffered the most — deeply concerned about our well-being in war-torn Europe and affected by stresses on the home front. Okagesama-de, we returned safely to continue our lives after World War II.

The enormous casualty rate of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during its European campaigns required a constant stream of replacements. Their AJA counterparts were recruited from various U.S. Army Basic Training Centers throughout the continental United States, many of whom were from Camp Shelby, Camp Fannin and Camp Hood.

After our return home and upon the organization of the 442nd Veterans Club in 1946, some of us remained with our original outfits and some decided to form separate chapters. Despite assignments during and after combat to the various elements of the 442nd RCT, the camaraderie nurtured during basic training and overseas duty influenced some sixty returning members to form the Livorno Chapter of the 442nd Veterans Club, primarily through the efforts of the late George Miki. The chapter was named Livorno after the Italian seaport of Leghorn, which became the last assignment as occupation troops after the end of hostilities in the Apennine Mountains and Po Valley and after our return from the Milano-Genova-Como areas of Northern Italy.

In addition to active participation in the chapter, some of our members have served the Mother Club with distinction. Recognition of the late George Miki's leadership led to his election as the fourth President of the 442nd Veterans Club. Henry S. Kuniyuki currently serves as the President-Elect of the Mother Club and was the first Livorno Chapter President. Raymond Tanaka has served as the 442nd Veterans Club Treasurer. His recognized financial acumen pointed the way to his appointment as treasurer of the 50th Anniversary Reunion. Other members, too numerous to