



EDUCATION



SEWING SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS

DAN INOUE SAYS....

"Poston II High School, Poston, Arizona".

I am providing this information regarding my high school education, throughout my college days and continuing through my Armed Services days and the many years in my employment with the State of California.

As I recall the experience approximately 45 years ago, it makes me realize how important that period was in determining my future. It started in the Summer of 1942 when I worked at the "adobe production facilities" mixing mud and straw and setting the blocks out to dry in the hot Poston sun. These adobe blocks were the building blocks for the classrooms where I spent two years and received my diploma on June 8, 1944 when 88 seniors from the class of '44 graduated.

It is truly remarkable in that the community leaders took up the challenges to overcome the tremendous obstacles and hardships to provide the education facilities. It was through the dedicated efforts of our principal, Dallas McLaren

and all the many staff members that made our high school one to be proud.

It was here that I was inspired to consider going to college and to aspire for higher goals. I applied for a scholarship that was sponsored by the community and in the application indicated that I wanted to go on to college so that I would be financially better able to help out my family, especially the younger brothers and sisters. I am the second oldest in the family of ten children. Apparently, the selection committee was impressed with my attitude and I was one of the recipients of a \$100 scholarship. This was a considerable sum in those days where the internees earned \$16-\$19 per month. It is remarkable that they had the concern and foresight to help develop the young people for the future.

I was accepted at Wayne University in Detroit and soon after graduation took the "free ride" East on the train to start my college education. Due to my limited financial resources, I managed to survive by taking odd jobs as dishwasher and pin setter in a bowling alley until I

got a position as a "houseboy" with a caucasian family from where I commuted to classes.

It wasn't long before I was drafted into the Army. After completion of basic training, I was sent to MIS language school at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. I served in Japan as an interpreter for the Technical Intelligence Unit and was discharged from the Army in November of 1946.

After helping my family in the difficult period of adjustment to re-establish our life in Sacramento, I enrolled at U.C. Berkeley to complete my education in engineering. I went to work for the State of California where I have been employed continuously for over 35 years.

43 years have passed since graduation and I feel grateful and fortunate that Poston II High has set me on the right path. I will always be proud to say that I am a graduate of Poston II High.



Poston II High School teachers 1942-43