

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

POSTON

MEMORIAL MONUMENT DEDICATION

11:00 AM, TUESDAY MORNING

6 OCTOBER 1992



POSTON, ARIZONA

This Official Program
of the
POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT DEDICATION

Tuesday, 6 October 1992

Poston, Arizona

is

DEDICATED

TO

TED T. KOBATA

for his professional skill, leadership, tenacity and
use of his many special tools of the construction industry



Ted Kobata (l) and Masayuki Sunahara (r) studying the Poston Memorial Monument Plans.

and

to the "aging" volunteers who toiled with Ted Kobata
in Sacramento and on-site in hot and dry Poston, Arizona.

MASAYUKI SUNAHARA

SUSUMU SATOW

SID ARASE

MASAMI IWASA

JIM KOBATA

JIM NAMBA

NAT OHARA

GEORGE S. OKI, SR.

JAMES SAKAMOTO

GEORGE K. SATO

OSCAR SATOW

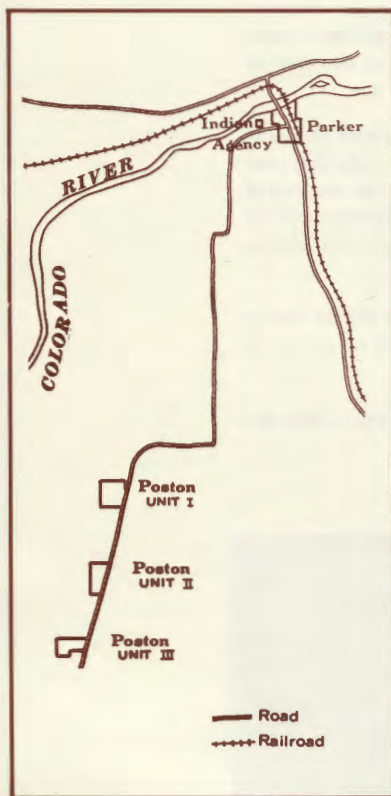
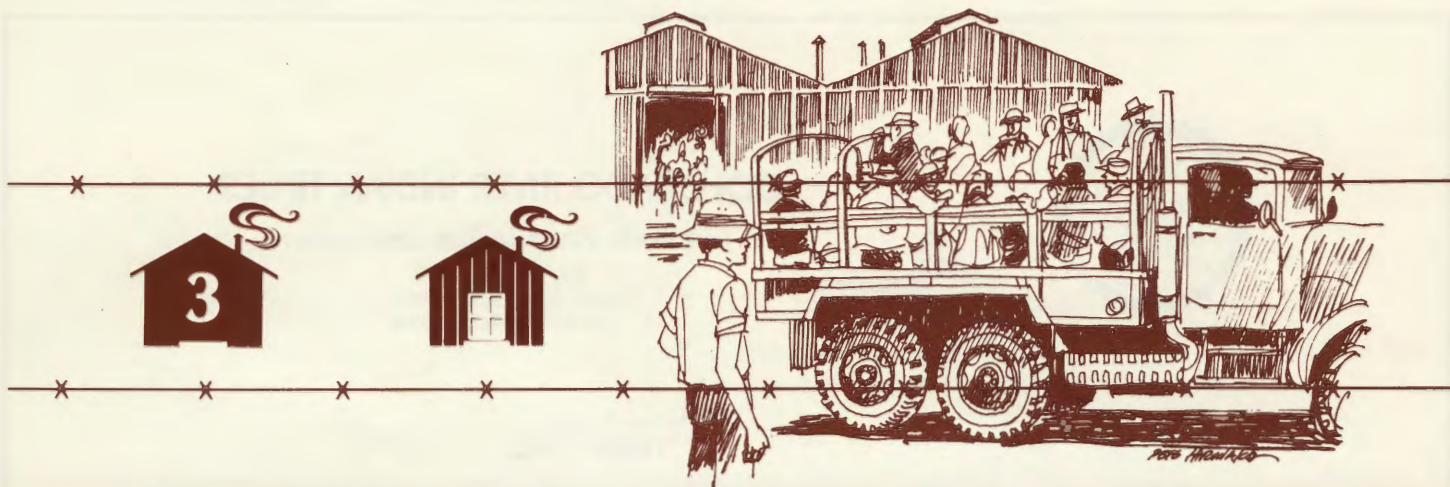
JAMES SUNAHARA

DUKE TAKEUCHI

KAY URUKAWA

GEORGE YOMOGIDA

*Thank you from all of us for giving us
a magnificent and beautiful monument.*



PROLOGUE . . .

. . . With a sudden lurch the train slowly started to move . . . ever so slowly at first . . . box cars, tankers, flat cars loaded with equipment moved past our window . . . a "breeze" created by the train movement was ever so welcomed as we "sat" in the passenger train for two and a half hours . . . the date: July 19, 1942 . . . the time, 6:17 PM . . . the place, Bakersfield train yard . . . the temperature, 101°F.

. . . MP's ordered the drawing of window shades as we moved out of the train yard . . . crying children . . . complaining adults as the temperature rose in the rickety train . . . a non-descript sandwich was "dinner" . . . coffee, tea or milk . . . the steam whistle whooping . . . the hastening rhythmic clickety clack as the train picked up speed heading east . . . the chugging engine, as we started our climb . . . cards were gradually put away . . . lights out . . . restless sleep . . . then total silence except for snores . . . people talking in their sleep . . . the train stopped . . . Barstow . . . time, midnight.

. . . sometime during the night the train continued eastward . . . the coolness of the desert night . . . the hollow clickety clack as we crossed on the railroad bridge . . . a gradual slowing . . . then stop . . . total silence . . . time 4:17 AM, July 20, 1942 . . .

. . . gradually the first light of the morning . . . someone said we're in Parker, Arizona . . . where's Parker? . . . slowly rising temperature . . . MP's leggings sighted through a crack in the shade . . . more leggings . . . must be hundreds of them out there . . . confined to the trains . . . out of water . . . rapidly rising temperature . . . finally at 10:15 AM we boarded open army trucks . . . caravaned through dust and heat . . . through the break in the dust we passed the MP gate...blocks and blocks of barracks...mesquites, arrow weeds and sand dunes...more barracks...hot, arid, dusty, community bathrooms, lousy tasting water...somehow we managed to stifle our feelings and sobs...so this is Poston...

COVER

Sacramento Sansei Architect,
Ray Takata, FAIA, rendering
of the Poston Memorial
Monument.



COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

Colorado River Indian Reservation

ROUTE 1, BOX 23-B
TELEPHONE (602) 669-9211
PARKER, ARIZONA 85344

October 6, 1992

To my dear friends:

On this, the Golden Anniversary of the evacuation and internment of the Japanese Americans who were located in the Poston Camps, I am pleased to extend to you greetings of a warm welcome to the land of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

This year will mark an historical event in which a monument will be constructed and dedicated to stand in time as a reminder to all who shall see it, of the tragic episode which occurred during the years of 1942 through 1945.

During the time of the internment, the majority of the reservation lands were undeveloped and land subjugation and construction of the irrigation system were in the initial stages. So, the sight that your people viewed upon arrival was probably one of a desolate, hot, and brush covered land. The memory of the reservation as it was then is quite a contrast compared to what you see today. The remnants of the internment camps are hardly visible due to ongoing development, however, some small physical objects do remain and probably always will.

As time goes on and takes its toll, the physical remnants will disappear and all that will remain will be the memory of those years in your minds from which the knowledge of this episode will be passed on down to your younger generations.

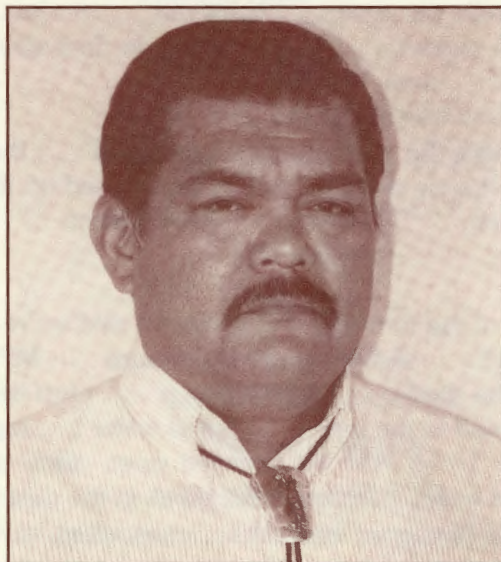
We are pleased to be able to participate with you in your preservation efforts of those years. May this monument stand as a reminder of an act that should never happen again.

Sincerely,

COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daniel Eddy, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel Eddy, Jr., Chairman
Tribal Council





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

ROBERT T. MATSUI
3RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

October 6, 1992

Dear Friends:

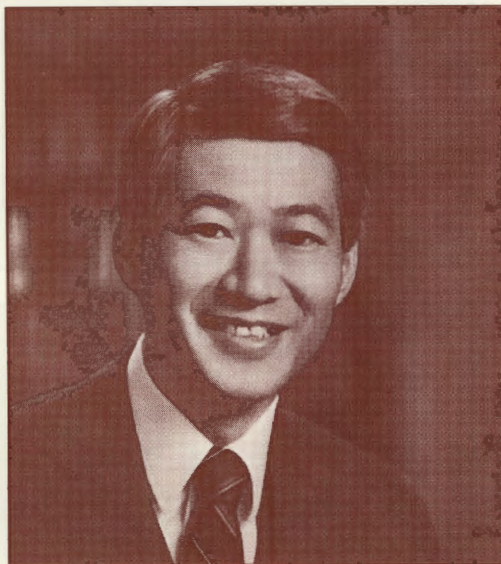
It is with great pleasure that I recognize the Poston Memorial Monument, not only as a symbol of remembrance, but also as a tribute to those individuals who assisted the Internees selflessly and to the twenty-four brave young men who gave their lives in the line of duty.

These individuals and their actions reflect the nobility, courage and valor of the American Spirit.

Very truly yours,

Robert T. Matsui

ROBERT T. MATSUI
Member of Congress





GOVERNOR PETE WILSON

October 6, 1992



It is with great pleasure that I join today with the former internees of Poston, their families and other guests gathered at the Colorado River Indian Tribes Land at Poston, Arizona as you dedicate the Poston Memorial Monument in honor of the many Japanese-Americans who served as internees at this camp during World War II.

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the evacuation, relocation and resettlement of Americans of Japanese ancestry. As a United States Senator, I supported legislation to redress the internment of Japanese Americans and give Americans of all generations the opportunity to know and understand exactly what happened between 1942 and 1945. This Memorial will serve that same purpose.

The Poston Memorial Monument honors the 17,867 men, women and children of Japanese descent who inhabited this camp. It also serves as a constant reminder that no individual should experience the type of unjust and unfortunate treatment received by these internees. We must let this human and political tragedy remind us that all Americans are entitled to the same level of equality and respect. Indeed, among the greatest gifts we can give to our children is to ensure that they learn from our nation's failures.

In addition, this monument pays tribute to the twenty-four young male Poston internees who served in the United States Armed Forces and bravely sacrificed their lives to defend and preserve the liberty of our nation. You can take great pride in knowing that these fine men gave their lives not in vain, but instead with a tireless loyalty and determination to uphold the principles and values for which our country stands.

Mrs. Wilson and I send our very best wishes to you today as you participate in this special dedication. This Memorial Monument should serve to reaffirm every American's obligation to stand for justice and values that make America worth fighting for.

Sincerely,

Pete Wilson

PETE WILSON

STATE CAPITOL • SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814



Secretary of State

SACRAMENTO 95814

October 6, 1992

George S. Oki, Sr., Co-Chair
Poston Memorial Monument Committee
P. O. Box 277118
Sacramento, CA 95827

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to have this opportunity to extend greetings to you on the occasion of the dedication of the Poston Memorial Monument.

I commend the committee on its many accomplishments and dedicated efforts in creating this monument in honor of the 50th year observance of the evacuation and internment of the Japanese-Americans and for your recognition of the men who gave their lives in service to this country.

Please accept my best wishes for a most successful event.

Sincerely,

Manh Jong Eu





*Summer 1991,
Hannah Satow and
Osame Doi find the
only remains of
Camp III.*



*April 30, '92, George
Oki, Ted Kobata,
Hannah Satow
discuss plans with
CRIT Director of
Planning Ron Moore.*



*July 28, '92, "Hutch"
Hutchinson, Ted and
Ron Moore site
preparation begins.*



*July 28, at the close
of the first day the
plaza begins to take
shape.*

In the beginning...

Poston Memorial Monument

During the Poston II reunion in the fall of 1989 in Monterey, an embryo of an idea to build the Poston Memorial Monument was hatched. Dialogue with the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) was established.

Hodge Kawakasaki, a retired architect, prepared the initial plan of a very conservative monument. At the suggestion of Hodge, Ray Takata, FAIA, was asked to prepare a monument in observance of the 50th year of evacuation and internment. On July 28, 1992, site preparation began with Ted Kobata in complete charge.

*G.S. Oki, Bessie Hamakawa, Hannah
Satow and Osami Doi pose in front of
"aging" Parker Train Station.*





POSTON

THIS MEMORIAL MONUMENT MARKS THE SITE OF THE POSTON WAR RELOCATION CENTER WHERE 17,867 PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY, THE MAJORITY OF WHOM WERE UNITED STATES CITIZENS, WERE INTERNED DURING WORLD WAR II. FROM MAY 1942 TO NOVEMBER 1945, ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE DESCENT LIVING ON WEST COAST FARMS, BUSINESSES, TOWNS, CITIES AND STATES WERE FORCIBLY EVACUATED BY THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY POSED A THREAT TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY. THIS MASSIVE RELOCATION WAS AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066, SIGNED BY PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT ON FEBRUARY 19, 1942.

THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO ALL THOSE MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO SUFFERED COUNTLESS HARDSHIPS AND INDIGNITIES AT THE HANDS OF A NATION MISGUIDED BY WARTIME HYSTERIA, RACIAL PREJUDICE AND FEAR. MAY IT SERVE AS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF OUR PAST SO THAT AMERICANS IN THE FUTURE WILL NEVER AGAIN BE DENIED THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AND MAY THE REMEMBRANCE OF THAT EXPERIENCE SERVE TO ADVANCE THE EVOLUTION OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT.

THIS MEMORIAL MONUMENT IS ERECTED IN COOPERATION WITH THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES, FORMER INTERNEES OF POSTON, VETERANS AND FRIENDS OF THE FIFTIETH YEAR OBSERVANCE OF THE EVACUATION AND INTERNMENT.

OCTOBER 6, 1992



POSTON

EVACUATION

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT SIGNED EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 ON FEBRUARY 19, 1942. THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER AUTHORIZED THE SECRETARY OF WAR OR ANY MILITARY COMMANDER DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY TO ESTABLISH ZONES FROM WHICH ANY OR ALL PERSONS COULD BE EXCLUDED OR EVACUATED. 120,000 PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY LIVING IN STRATEGIC WESTERN STATES WERE EVACUATED AND INTERNED BY MILITARY LAW IN FIFTEEN (15) WARTIME CIVILIAN CONTROL ADMINISTRATION (WCCA) CENTERS. THESE HASTILY BUILT DETENTION CENTERS WERE, IN MOST CASES, EITHER FAIR GROUNDS OR RACE TRACKS THAT WERE SURROUNDED BY BARBED WIRE FENCES AND PLACED UNDER HEAVY MILITARY SURVEILLANCE BY ARMED U.S. SOLDIERS.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

ON MARCH 18, 1942, PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT SIGNED EXECUTIVE ORDER 9102, ESTABLISHING THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY (WRA). THE WRA WAS A CIVILIAN AGENCY CHARGED WITH OVERSEEING THE MILITARY EVACUATION AND INTERNMENT OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY. THE WRA DEFINED A WAR RELOCATION CENTER AS A PIONEER COMMUNITY WITH BASIC HOUSING AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE INTERNEES FOR THE DURATION OF WORLD WAR II.

POSTON

POSTON WAS ONE OF THE TEN (10) WRA CENTERS CONSTRUCTED IN 1942. IT WAS PLANNED IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. INDIAN SERVICE, AS IT WAS SITED ON THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION, A HOT AND ARID AREA OF ARIZONA. POSTON WAS BUILT AS THREE SEPARATE UNITS (POSTON UNIT I, II AND III). THE FACILITY WAS NAMED AFTER CHARLES POSTON, A GOVERNMENT ENGINEER WHO PLANNED AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE ALONG THE COLORADO RIVER. WADE HEAD, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PAPAGO INDIAN RESERVATION OF ARIZONA, WAS APPOINTED POSTON PROJECT DIRECTOR. THE INTERNEES WITH THEIR LIMITED BAGGAGE BEGAN TO ARRIVE ON MAY 8, 1942 AND BY AUGUST 1942, THE POPULATION PEAKED AT 17,867. ALMOST OVERNIGHT POSTON BECAME ARIZONA'S SECOND LARGEST CITY.

POSTON (CONTINUED)

EACH UNIT WAS SELF-GOVERNED WITHIN THE GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE POSTON ADMINISTRATOR. THE COMMUNAL UNIT REVOLVED AROUND THE INTERNEES HOUSED IN A BLOCK OF FOURTEEN (14) BARRACKS, MESS HALL, LAUNDRY AND IRONING ROOM, AS WELL AS SEGREGATED LATRINE AND SHOWER FACILITIES. EACH BLOCK ELECTED A MANAGER AND COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE WHO MET WITH THE UNIT ADMINISTRATOR WEEKLY, OR AS NEEDED.

THE DOUBLE ROOFED, TAR PAPERED BARRACKS WERE 20 FEET WIDE BY 100 FEET LONG. THIN WALL BOARDS PARTITIONED THE BARRACKS INTO 20 FEET BY 24 FEET ROOMS, EACH ROOM HOUSING A FAMILY OF UP TO EIGHT INTERNEES.

THOSE WHO WORKED WERE PAID FOR A 48-HOUR WORK WEEK. THERE WAS A MAXIMUM SALARY OF \$19.00 PER MONTH FOR PROFESSIONALS, SUCH AS DOCTORS, MANAGERS, AND TEACHERS; \$16.00 PER MONTH FOR BLUE COLLAR WORKERS, COOKS, BAKERS, TRUCK AND TRACTOR DRIVERS AND WAREHOUSEMEN; AND \$12.00 PER MONTH FOR LABORERS.

HEALTH CARE WAS PROVIDED BY INTERNEE MEDICAL DOCTORS, DENTISTS, PHARMACISTS, NURSES AND NURSES AIDES. A HOSPITAL WAS MAINTAINED IN UNIT I AND CLINICS IN BOTH UNITS II AND III.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS WERE HASTILY RECRUITED FROM THROUGHOUT AMERICA, BUT MANY OF THE INSTRUCTORS WERE INTERNEES WHO WERE EITHER COLLEGE STUDENTS OR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES. CLASSES RANGED FROM PRE-SCHOOL THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE. INITIALLY, CLASSES WERE HELD IN DESIGNATED EMPTY BARRACKS. LATER, CLASSES WERE HELD IN ADOBE SCHOOL BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED WITH BRICKS MADE BY THE INTERNEES. ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES IN ENGLISH WERE PROVIDED FOR THE ISSEI, FIRST GENERATION JAPANESE-AMERICANS, AND WERE VERY WELL ATTENDED.

MANY INTERNEES BROUGHT WITH THEM PACKETS OF GARDEN AND VEGETABLE SEEDS. THE SMALL GARDEN PLOTS BETWEEN THE BARRACKS WERE SO SUCCESSFUL THAT A FULL-SCALE IRRIGATED FARMING PROGRAM WAS INSTITUTED. THE HARVEST FROM THESE FARMS YIELDED BOUNTIFUL CROPS OF MELONS AND ASSORTED VEGETABLES. A CHICKEN RANCH AND A HOG FARM WERE ALSO SUCCESSFULLY ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED.

AS INTERNEES SETTLED INTO THE ROUTINE OF CAMP LIFE, SPIRITUAL LIFE WAS STRENGTHENED. CHURCH SERVICES WERE CONDUCTED FOR BUDDHISTS, CHRISTIANS AND THOSE OF OTHER FAITHS. IN ORDER TO COPE WITH THE BOREDOM OF CONFINEMENT, INTERNEES SEARCHED FOR AND DEVELOPED MANY PURSUITS. TALENTS WERE UNLEASHED TO CREATE MANY PAINTINGS, HAIKU, AND OTHER WORKS OF ART. PERIODIC TALENT SHOWS AND MOVIES PROVIDED ENTERTAINMENT. BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL WERE THE TWO MOST POPULAR SPORTS WITH COMPETITIVE BLOCK TEAMS VYING FOR UNIT AND ALL-POSTON CHAMPIONSHIPS. A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER WAS PUBLISHED TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS AND TO REPORT EVENTS WITHIN EACH CAMP UNIT.

POSTON (CONTINUED)

SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

IN 1943, MORE THAN 1,200 INTERNEES VOLUNTEERED TO SERVE WITH THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM. MOST OF THESE VOLUNTEERS WERE NISEI, SECOND GENERATION JAPANESE-AMERICANS WHO WERE AMERICAN CITIZENS BY BIRTH. THEY LEFT THEIR PARENTS AND LOVED ONES BEHIND IN CAMPS LIKE POSTON TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR THE UNITED STATES ON THE BATTLEFIELDS OF ITALY, FRANCE AND GERMANY. THE 442ND EMERGED AS THE MOST HIGHLY DECORATED U.S. ARMY UNIT IN WORLD WAR II. OTHER INTERNEES SERVED IN THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IN THE PACIFIC THEATER WHERE THEY PERFORMED WITH VALOR AND DISTINCTION IN THE WAR WITH JAPAN. IN THE FALL OF 1943, THE NISEI BECAME DRAFTABLE AS THEIR SELECTIVE SERVICE CLASSIFICATION WAS CHANGED FROM 4-C, ENEMY ALIEN, TO 1-A.

NISEI MEN AND WOMEN SERVED IN NEARLY EVERY THEATER OF OPERATIONS WITH HONOR, COURAGE AND PRIDE TO HELP PROTECT AND PRESERVE FOR ALL AMERICANS THE SAME CONSTITUTIONAL FREEDOMS THAT WERE, AT THAT VERY TIME, BEING DENIED THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES.

RESETTLEMENT

IN THE FALL OF 1942, MANY INTERNEES RESPONDED TO THE URGENT CALL FOR WORKERS TO ASSIST IN THE HARVEST OF THE SUGAR BEET CROP IN THE MOUNTAIN STATES. ANOTHER VANGUARD OF THE RESETTLEMENT WERE COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS WHO WERE ASSISTED BY THE NATIONAL STUDENT RELOCATION COUNCIL, THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF SERVICE COMMITTEE AND NUMEROUS INDIVIDUALS. IN 1943 MANY INTERNEES RESETTLED IN THE MOUNTAIN, MIDWEST AND EASTERN REGIONS OF THE U.S. FOR EMPLOYMENT AND A BETTER WAY OF LIFE.

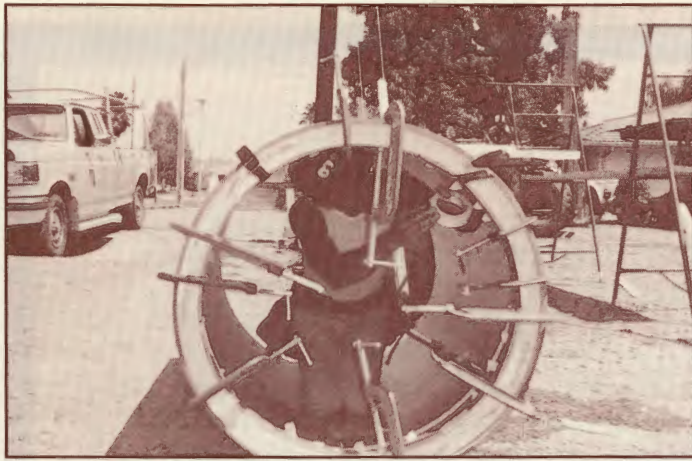
ON DECEMBER 17, 1944, THE WAR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THE REVOCATION OF THE WEST COAST EXCLUSION ORDERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2, 1945. THE FOLLOWING DAY, WRA DIRECTOR, DILLON S. MYER, ANNOUNCED THE CLOSURE OF ALL WRA CENTERS BY DECEMBER 31, 1945 AND THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE ENTIRE WRA PROGRAM BY JUNE 30, 1946.

1992

DURING THE FIVE DECADES FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II, THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A BLOOMING GARDEN BY A SERIES OF INNOVATIVE IRRIGATION AND HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS. STILL THE HOME OF THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES, IT NOW STANDS AS A TRIBUTE TO ARIZONA'S BRIGHT AGRICULTURAL FUTURE. VERY LITTLE REMAINS TO REMIND THE PUBLIC OF WHAT TOOK PLACE IN THIS PEACEFUL VALLEY FIFTY YEARS AGO, WHEN THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WERE TAKEN FROM THEIR HOMES, NUMBERED, TAGGED AND THEN HERDED INTO PLACES LIKE POSTON WHERE THEY WERE HELD CAPTIVE BY THEIR OWN COUNTRY UNTIL THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FINALLY REALIZED THE FULL MORAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT IT HAD DONE TO ITS OWN CITIZENS.

HENCE, WHAT HAPPENED IN POSTON DURING THOSE FEW YEARS, 1942-1945 SHOULD BE A CONSTANT REMINDER THAT ALL AMERICANS WITHOUT QUALIFICATION OR EXCEPTION HAVE THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO LIVE IN THAT SOCIETY GOVERNED BY REASON AND LAW AND BY TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

OCTOBER 6, 1992



George Yomogida works on a complex design on the 3 feet diameter shaft tube form.



Unloading the monument form in Poston.



Ray Takata, FAIA, Ted, Masami Iwasa, Sid Arase and Kay Urukawa at work.



L-R: Duke Takeuchi, Sus Satow, Jim Kobata, Ted, Sid Arase, Mas Sunahara, Jim Namba and Nat Ohara preparing to leave for Poston.

Monument form in place. Ted inspects for true position with Sid Arase.



Ready to leave.

**Corporate &
Organization Donors**

Sacramento JACL
Mike Sawamura, President

Florin JACL
Andy Noguchi, President

Poston III Reunion
San Diego

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Lee Shapiro

Tom's Printing
Daniel Tom

Takehara Landscape
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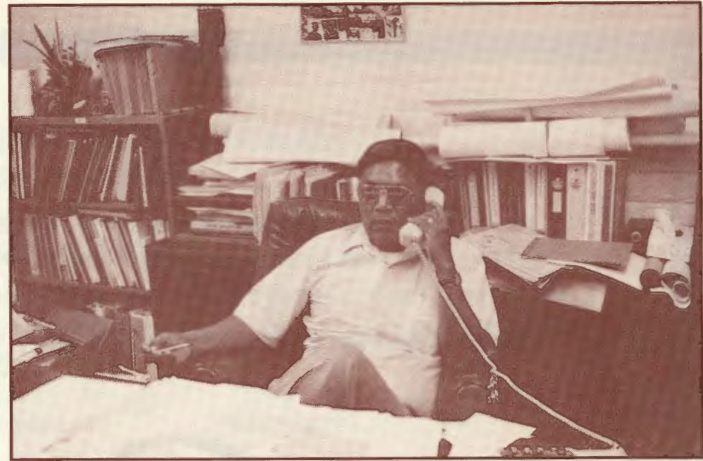
Kobata Construction
Ted Kobata

Yomogida Construction
George Yomogida

Union Bank
Ray Kozuma

*Individual donor list
begins on page 17.*

*Ron Moore, liaison,
CRIT Director of
Planning, a most
helpful friend.*



*Member names of the
"aging" work crew
written in concrete.*



*The top of the
monument. A
bird's eye view.*



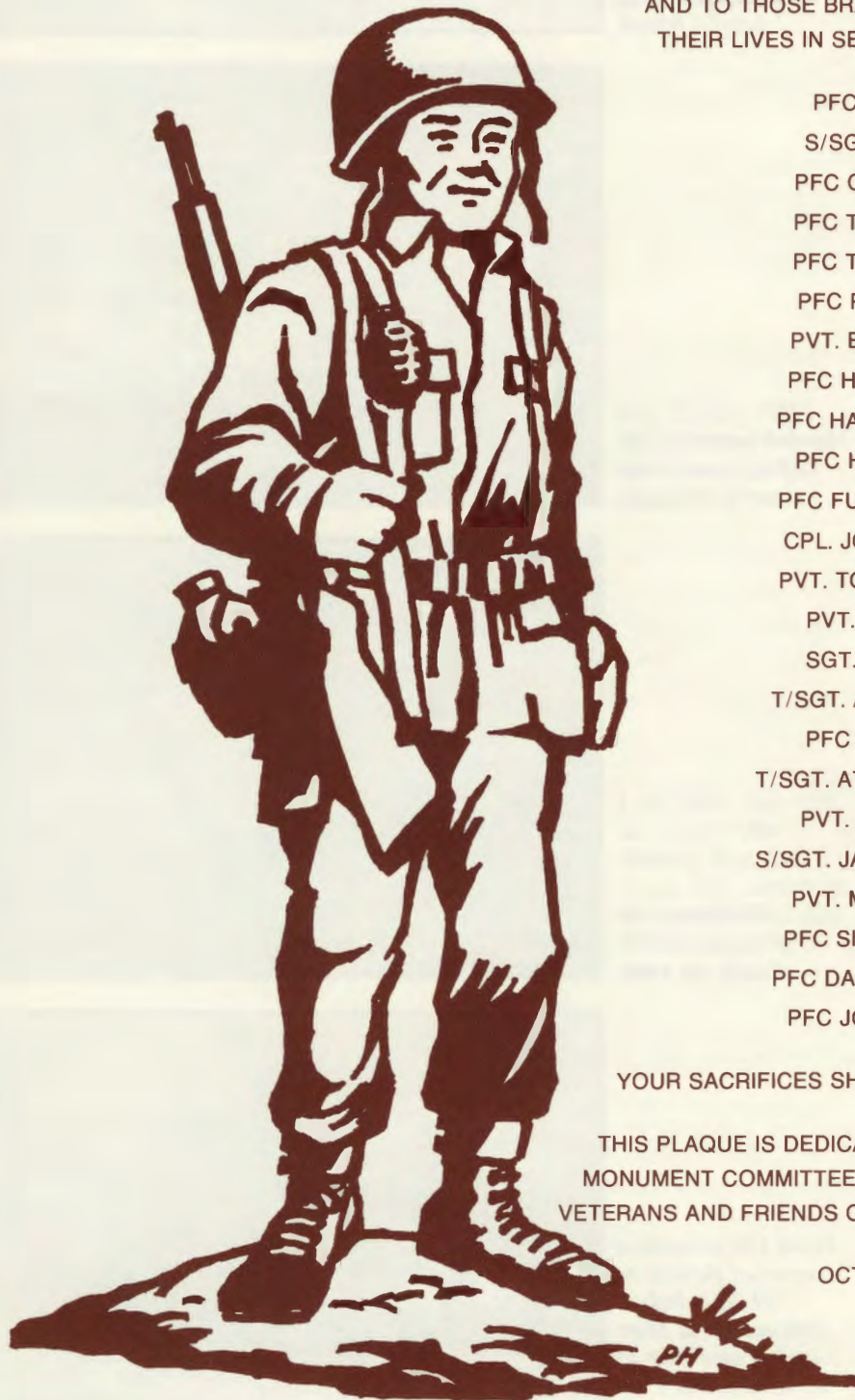
*Tricia Oki presents a
bouquet of flowers to
'91 Miss Indian
Arizona Karla Starr
and Poston hats to
'92 contestants. First
official function
September 23, 1992.*



TRIBUTE

TO ALL MEN AND WOMEN WHO HONORABLY SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES IN DEFENSE OF THIS NATION AND ITS PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY TO THOSE AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY, WHO, DURING WORLD WAR II, FOUGHT SO VALIANTLY FOR THEIR COUNTRY WHILE THEIR PARENTS AND FAMILIES WERE BEING INTERNED IN THE POSTON WAR RELOCATION CENTER WITHOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW.

AND TO THOSE BRAVE YOUNG MEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY:



PFC HIROO ENDO
S/SGT. ABE M. FUJI
PFC CHARLES FUJIKI
PFC TADAO HAYASHI
PFC TORAO HAYASHI
PFC PAUL HORIUCHI
PVT. EUGENE INOUE
PFC HENRY IZUMIZAKI
PFC HARRY MADOKORO
PFC HACHIRO MUKAI
PFC FUMITAKE NAGATO
CPL. JOHN NARIMATSU
PVT. TOM T. NISHIMOTO
PVT. KONGO NITTA
SGT. JOHN OGAWA
T/SGT. ABRAHAM OHAMA
PFC LLOYD ONOYE
T/SGT. ATSUSHI SAKAMOTO
PVT. JOE SHIOMICHI
S/SGT. JAMES K. SHIRAMIZU
PVT. MICHIO TESHIMA
PFC SHICHIZO TOYOTA
PFC DANIEL TSUKAMOTO
PFC JOHN YAMAMOTO

YOUR SACRIFICES SHALL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED.

THIS PLAQUE IS DEDICATED BY THE POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT COMMITTEE, FORMER INTERNEES OF POSTON, VETERANS AND FRIENDS OF THE FIFTIETH YEAR OBSERVANCE.

OCTOBER 6, 1992

POSTON MONUMENT DEDICATION PROGRAM

Colorado River Indian Reservation

Poston, Arizona

11:00 AM, 6 October 1992

10:30 AM	CONCERT:	John Woody, Band Master	Parker High School Band
11:00 AM	OPENING CEREMONY:	Rev. Tom Kurai Masakazu Yoshizawa	Taiko Dan Shakuhachi
	MOHAVE BIRD DANCE:	Mohave Indian Tribe	
	OPENING REMARKS:	George S. Oki, Sr.	Master of Ceremonies
	POST COLORS:	Color Guard Capt. Duane A. Dannewitz	Ft. Huachuca, U.S. Army Honor Guard Detachment
	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:	Dale E. Howard	Commander American Legion Freeman Sharp Post #70
	INVOCATION:	Rev. Lloyd K. Wake, Ret.	Glide Memorial Methodist Church San Francisco, CA
	AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL:	Sachiye Endo Sugita	
	INTRODUCTIONS:	George S. Oki, Sr.	
	GREETINGS:	Daniel Eddy Jr., Chair Kei Higashi George K. Ikeda Katsumi J. Takashima Rudy Tokiwa	Colorado River Indian Tribes Camp I Camp II Camp III WWII Nisei Veterans
	MOHAVE BIRD DANCE:	Tommie Miller Tashina Sky Harper	Ms. CRIT Little Ms. CRIT
	SPEAKER:	Hon. Robert T. Matsui	Congressman, California 3rd District
	UNVEILING ANNOUNCEMENTS:		
	TRIBUTE:	Osame Doi, Joanne Iritani Richard "Babe" Karasawa	
	21 GUN SALUTE:	Honor Guard Capt. Duane A. Dannewitz	Ft. Huachuca, U.S. Army Honor Guard Detachment
	TAPS:	Bugler	
	BENEDICTION:	Rev. Marvin Harada	Orange County Buddhist Church
	RETRIEVAL OF COLORS:	Color Guard	Ft. Huachuca, U.S. Army
	RECESSIONAL:	John Woody, Band Master	Parker High School Band
	CLOSING CEREMONY:	Rev. Tom Kurai Masakazu Yoshizawa	Taiko Dan Shakuhachi
12:00 Noon	FINIS		

SINCERE APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE TO

... THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES FOR THEIR KIND COOPERATION AND IN PROVIDING THIS LAND TO BUILD AND ERECT THE POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT.

DANIEL EDDY, JR., CHAIRMAN
RUSSELL WELSH, VICE CHAIRMAN
JAMES R. ALCAIDA, SECRETARY
ELDRED ENAS, TREASURER

AND

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
CONNOR BYESTEWA, JR.
HERMAN D. LAFFOON, JR.
LAWANDA E. LAFFOON
DENNIS R. PATCH
RAYFORD H. PATCH

... THE MANY ORGANIZATIONS, MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO ASSISTED THE JAPANESE-AMERICANS PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY DURING THOSE DARK HOURS OF EVACUATION AND INTERNMENT.

... THE MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO CAME TO THE WAR RELOCATION CENTERS AS ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS, PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS AND HELPED THE INTERNEES MAKE THE BEST OF THE TRYING CONDITIONS OF INTERNMENT.

... THE MANY ORGANIZATIONS AND NEWLY FOUND FRIENDS AND PEOPLE THROUGHOUT AMERICA WHO MADE RESETTLEMENT EASIER AND LESS PAINFUL.

... THE PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHTS OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY FOR CITIZENSHIP AND CIVIL RIGHTS AS MANDATED BY THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

... RAY TAKATA, FAIA, DESIGN OF THE POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT.

... STEPHEN HAMAMOTO, CE, ENGINEERING.

... PETE HIRONAKA, ART AND DESIGN.

... TED KOBATA, KOBATA CONSTRUCTION, AND THE MANY VOLUNTEERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND ERECTION OF THIS MONUMENT.

... TOM TAKEHARA AND TAKEHARA LANDSCAPE, DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM AND LANDSCAPE.

... RON MOORE, LIAISON; DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES.

... THE MANY PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT AND THEIR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO BUILD THIS POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT.

THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US
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Installation of the 3 ft. diameter sauna tube form.

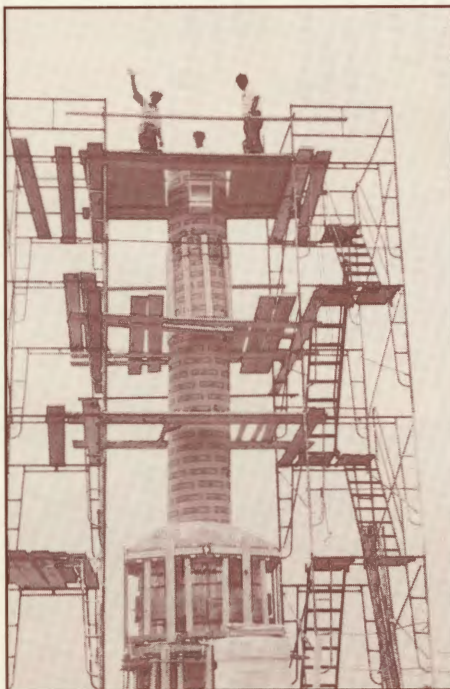


This is not an 8 to 5 job. At the crack of dawn.



Ted Kobata and Mas Sunahara washing off the concrete retardant

Ted Waves to indicate that the monument pour is complete. Sid Arase and Mas Sunahara almost 40 ft. above the landscape.



*Putting our name in concrete.
John Sunahara,
Mas Sunahara,
Jim Kobata,
Duke Takeuchi,
Ted Kobata,
Sid Arase,
Jim Namba
and Sus Satow.*



Leaving for home after 5 weeks on the job site in Poston, Sus, Ted and George Sato.



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Ted Kobata and George Yomogida adjust drinking fountain water flow. A very welcome donation from Tom Takehara and families on these hot Arizona days.

Final touches...

The checkered walkway to the plaza. Ted Kobata made an ingenious device to create this pattern with the aid of polyethylene film.



Kay Urukawa finishes the task of putting up the protective chain fencing.



Two Georges, Oki and Yomogida, put finishing touches with chipping hammers.



Brian Masunaga and Rick Hobbs unload the palm trees from Riverside, California.



Jim Kobata, Oscar Satow and Kay Urukawa tugging the stubborn cable.



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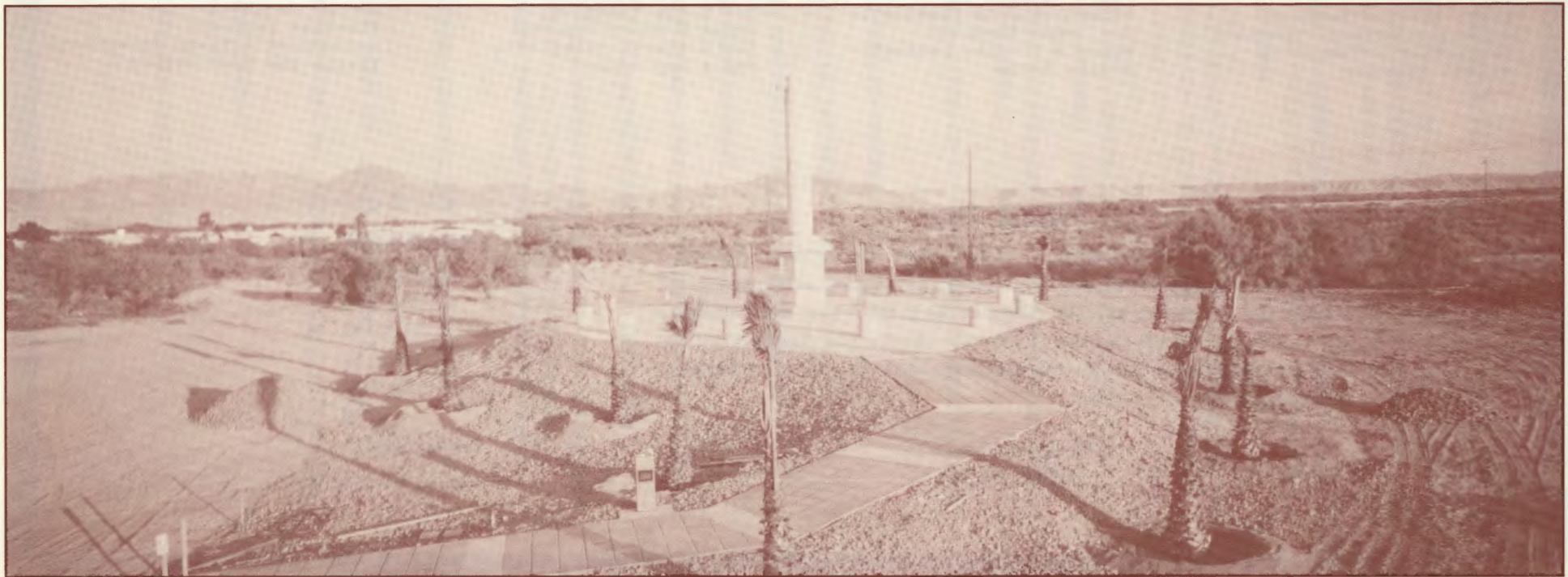
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 Grace Okamoto
 Alice Okuno

*The final concrete
pour of the walkway,
September 18, 1992.*



*This panoramic photo captures
the scale and grandeur of the
Poston Memorial Monument.
The mountains and mesa that
we watched many sunrises on
the eastern horizon 50 years
ago from Poston.*



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Thank You!

Your generous contributions have made the Poston Memorial Monument possible. Because of the ongoing reoccurring maintenance and upkeep, you may desire to make contributions in the future. You will find a pre-addressed envelope on page 27 for your convenience. Again, thank you for your contribution, and we will appreciate it if you will tell a friend or encourage a former Postonian.

George Makishima
 PMMF, Treasurer

CATEGORIES

6	\$1,000 up
5	500-999
4	250-499
3	100-249
2	50- 99
1	- 49

Partial Listing

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

IT IS DIFFICULT TO FIND WORDS TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO THE MANY PERSONALITIES WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TIME, EFFORT, AND COUNTLESS HOURS OF TOIL IN NUMEROUS TASKS TOWARDS THIS MASSIVE PROJECT WHICH BEGAN MORE THAN THREE YEARS AGO.

...TED T. KOBATA, FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE, SKILL, PLANNING, LOAN OF THE MANY TOOLS OF THE CONSTRUCTION TRADE AND HIS LEADERSHIP TO RAMROD THIS PROJECT TO ITS COMPLETION...FOR NEARLY THREE MONTHS OF LIVING ON THE JOB SITE IN POSTON, ARIZONA.

...TO THE "AGING" VOLUNTEER CREW FOR YOUR COUNTLESS HOURS OF TOIL IN THE HOT ARIZONA SUN IN THE BUILDING OF THIS MAGNIFICENT MONUMENT. YOUR DETERMINATION TO COMPLETE THIS PROJECT IS PROOF POSITIVE THAT YOU STILL HAVE "IT" WHEN YOU SET YOUR MIND TO IT.

...DANIEL EDDY, JR., CHAIRMAN AND THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBE'S COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND CONTRIBUTION OF THE LAND TO BUILD AND ERECT THIS MONUMENT.

...THE CRIT DEPARTMENT HEADS AND STAFF FOR EXPEDITING THE PROCESS AND COOPERATION AND FRIENDLY ASSISTANCE HAVE MADE THIS TASK EASIER AND POSSIBLE.

...BRIAN MASUNAGA AND TAKEHARA LANDSCAPE FOR THE PLANTING OF THE PALM TREES AND INSTALLATION OF THE DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

...DAVID ARNOLD OF L.A. SALES FOR HAULING THE PALM TREES TO ARIZONA.

...TOM AND TOSHI TAKEHARA AND FAMILY FOR THE DONATION OF THE DRINKING FOUNTAIN.

...RAY TAKATA, FAIA, DESIGN OF THE POSTON MONUMENT; STEPHEN HAMAMOTO, CE ENGINEERING

...HODGE KAWAKAMI, ARCHITECT, DRAWINGS FOR THE INITIAL MONUMENT.

...ALVIN AND DOROTHY KUNISHI, SACRAMENTO TOFU FOR A STEADY SUPPLY OF FRESH TOFU AND TOFU MILK.

...THE MANY VENDORS AND CONTRACTORS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE BUILDING OF THE MONUMENT.

...THE MANY COMMITTEE PERSONS WITH VARIOUS TASKS FROM WRITING THE MONUMENT TEXT, ACCOUNTING AND DISPERSING FUNDS, KEEPING MINUTES, PLANNING A BARBEQUE LUNCH IN PARKER AND MYRIADS OF TASKS IN PLANNING AND DETAILING THE NUMEROUS "THINGS" THAT MUST BE DONE TO PUT A PROJECT TOGETHER AND ITS COMPLETION.

...THE MANY GENEROUS DONORS AND IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT.

...AND TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED THEIR TALENTS IN SOME WAY BEHIND THE SCENES.

...WE ARE ALL VERY PROUD OF THE POSTON MONUMENT AND THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION ON DEDICATION DAY, 6 OCTOBER 1992.

OTSUKARE SAMA DESHITA!
DOMO ARIGATO!

THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS.

THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

DANIEL EDDY, JR., CHAIRMAN

RUSSELL WELSH, VICE CHAIRMAN

JAMES R. ALCAIDA, SECRETARY

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TOM MASAMORI SUE YAMAMOTO

*Ted T. Kobata and
George S. Oki, Sr.,
inspect the walkway
to the plaza. The final
concrete pouring and
placement, Friday,
18 September 1992.*





EPILOGUE . . .

. . . as time went by we relocated . . . to Salt Lake City, Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia, New Jersey . . . to further our education or to seek gainful employment . . . to Camp Shelby or Camp Savage to serve our nation . . . some never to return . . . the supreme sacrifice . . .

. . . V-J Day and later peace . . . the imminent closure of Poston, some returning to their former home sites . . . others elsewhere . . . to start life anew . . . the challenges were many and enormous . . . but so were opportunities . . .

. . . the Nikkei have done well . . . agriculture, business, doctors, educators, flower growers, lawyers, politicians to zoologists . . . in every walk of life a Nikkei has excelled . . . raised families . . . participated in local civic affairs . . . built new churches . . . senior citizen centers . . . business and professional careers . . .

. . . the Issei population gets "thinner" with each passing day . . . the Nisei grayer, older and retiring from a lifelong career . . . the Sansei approaching the peak of his career or education . . . the younger Yonsei seeped in education or enjoying their grandparents . . .

. . . we have almost come full circle . . . many reparations have been made . . . formal apologies . . . legislative bills to complete the reparations appears imminent . . . we have dedicated this magnificent monument . . . in observance of fifty years since evacuation and internment . . . reaffirming our conviction and to ensure that the constitutional rights are very sacred . . . that the tragic events of 1942-1945 will never again be repeated . . . leaving another legacy . . . our history, culture . . . but most important our children . . . and "As Time Goes By" their children . . .

PLEASE MAIL YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Poston Memorial Monument Fund
IRS #95-1276018
C/O Union Bank, Downtown Office
P.O. Box 1167
Sacramento, CA 95806

POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT



ARCHITECT
RAY TAKATA, FAIA

ENGINEERING
STEPHEN HAMAMOTO, CE

CONSTRUCTION
TED T. KOBATA