CONSTITUTIONAL BICENTENNIAL

MIS Intelligencer

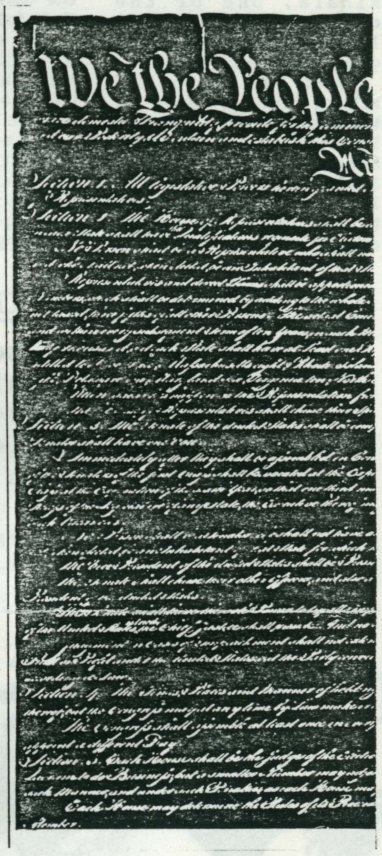
VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1 SAN FRANCISCO, CA FEBRUARY 1988

SMITHSONIAN

A MORE PERFECT UNION
JAPANESE AMERICANS AND THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION



During the opening months of World War II, almost 120,000 Japanese Americans, two-thirds of them citizens of the United States, were forced out of their homes and communities and into detention camps established by the U.S. government. Many of them would spend the next three years living under armed guard, behind barbed wire. *A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the United States Constitution* explores this period when racial prejudice and fear upset the delicate balance between the rights of the citizen and the power of the state. It tells the story of these Japanese Americans—a people who suffered injustice at the hands of their government and who have struggled ever since to correct that injustice and obtain the rights guaranteed all Americans by the Constitution. The exhibition is a case study in the process of constitutional decision-making and citizen action within the constitutional framework.



Showcase Of Shame

A Retrospective Scarred With Flashes of Pain

CONSTITUTIONAL BICENTENNIAL

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA FEBRUARY 1988

Exhibit tells Nisei story

DLIFLC honors early students

Photos by Brad Cole

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center commemorated the 46th Anniversary of the founding of the Fourth Army Intelligence School October 30.

The Institute celebrated by honoring the first graduating class, which matriculated in 1941. Six members of that class and the widows of two of their classmates attended.

Fort Ord's 7th Infantry (Light) Band performed. The DLIFLC U.S. Marine Corps Detachment drilled during the ceremony in front of Nisei Hall.

Col. Todd Robert Poch, DLIFLC commandant, welcomed the guests and speakers. The guest speakers were Col. Thomas T. Sakamoto, retired Army, a graduate of the first Intelligence School language class, Presidio of San Francisco, and Shigeya Kihara, one of the original Fourth Army Intelligence School language instructors.

Both Sakamoto and Kihara taught Japanese at the language school at the Presidio of Monterey: Sakamoto from 1950 to 1954, and Kihara from the Institute's beginning until 1958 when he became director of Research and Development of Foreign Language Programs for DLIFLC until his retirement in 1974.

After the ceremony, Poch and Tom Kawaguchi, head of the National Japanese-American Historical Society, cut the ribbon to officially open the DLIFLC "Yankee Samurai" exhibit.

The National Japanese-American Historical Society provided the expertise in the selection and reproduction of the photos and the technical proficiency for putting together the exhibit on display in the Nakamura Hall Auditorium.

The exhibition shows the contributions made by Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Poch and Roy Uyehata, president of the Military Intelligence Service Association of Northern California, officiated at the cake-cutting ceremony that followed.

The Military Intelligence Service Association of Northern California funded the "Yankee Samurai" exhibit.

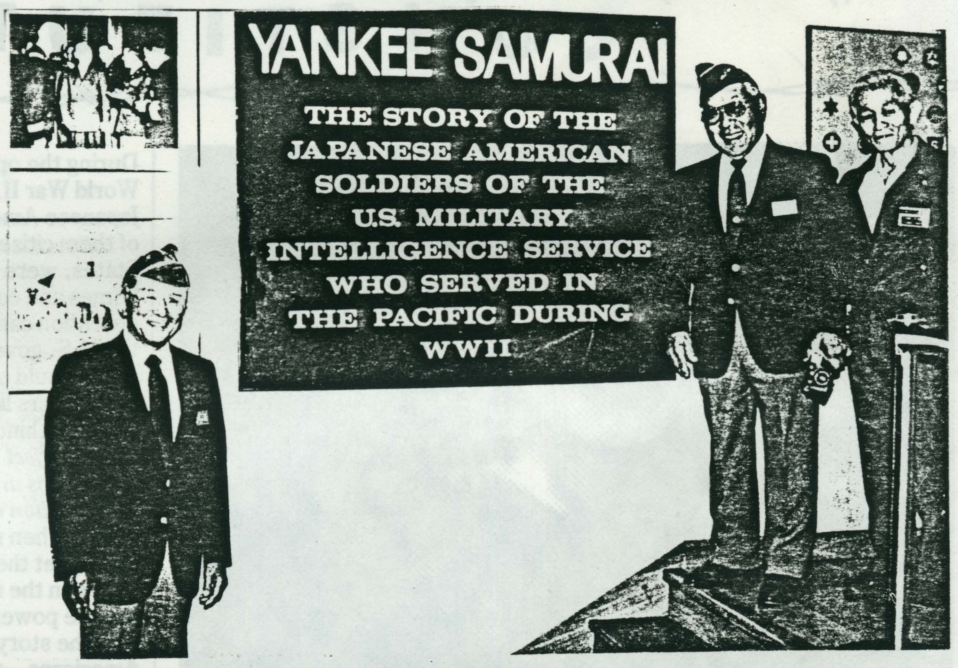
The Pancultural Orchestra performed and the Pancultural Variety Show took place on the inner quad after the ceremony.



Col. Todd R. Poch, DLIFLC commandant, greets retired Army Col. Spady Koyama at the DLIFLC birthday banquet.

46TH ANNIVERSARY

The memories of that dazzling 46th at DLI on October 30 linger on. MISers stood tall that day. Never, never in 46 years were they honored so spectacularly. Soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines, a full battalion marching in formation and standing at attention during the ceremonies, flags and guidons fluttering, band playing, rifle squad saluting and taps. Beautiful, beautiful, beautiful.



MIS SOUCAL ATTENDEES AT MIS 46TH
Hayato Kihara Mits Usui Jim Matsumura

YANKEE SAMURAI EXHIBIT

The only nisei soldier exhibit on permanent display at a major DoD installation. A state of the art exhibit with mounted photos and captions, huge murals and Pacific war campaign streamers. MISers and friends are always welcome to view this classic.



Lt. Pat Neishi discusses terms with a Japanese lieutenant general , east of Manila, Phillipine Islands 1945.



Photos of Yankee Samurai Exhibit by Jim Rezek

In the heat of battle, Sgt. Harvey Fukuhara and Shoji Ishii interrogate POW at Aitape, New Guinea, April 1944. This photo represents the "Yankee Samurai" exhibit now on display at Nakamura Hall.

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John Aiso, Prominent Nisei and Jurist, Dies After Mugger's Attack

By PATT MORRISION and SANTIAGO O'DONNELL,
Times Staff Writers

It was a bone-chilling and windy December afternoon, and the elderly man was pumping gas into his car at the mini-market gas station on Hollywood Boulevard when another, younger man walked up.

He was tall—taller than the old man—and described by witnesses as looking like a "street person." He made a grab for the old man's wallet, and the man turned, to protect his money.

The tall man pushed. The old man fell. He struck his head on the asphalt when he fell—struck it hard. The transient-looking fellow ran off, empty-handed.

Two-and-a-half weeks later, in a hospital in Burbank, the city where he was born, 78-year-old John F. Aiso died.

Whoever the assailant was—and police have no suspects—he could not have known that the man he shoved to the cold asphalt of an Arco service station was a renowned member of the Japanese-American community, the highest-ranking Nisei in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II and the first Nisei judge in the United States, advancing from the Municipal Court bench to the State Court of Appeals.

Dies of Injuries

Aiso, a first-generation Japanese-American, died Tuesday at St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank from the head injury he suffered in the Dec. 13 attack.

The crude death—after such a distinguished career—sent shock waves through his relatives, friends and long-time associates.

"It's bizarre that a man of his position would die like that," said Warren Christopher, the senior partner at O'Melveny & Myers, where Aiso served for 10 years as special counsel after retiring from the bench in 1973, helping to establish the prominent law firm's Pacific Rim expansion.

Although he attended two East Coast schools, and practiced law briefly in New York, it was Los Angeles where he began—and Los Angeles where he came back to.

A Hollywood High School standout, Aiso first attracted national attention in 1925 by winning the school's oratorical contest on the U.S. Constitution, then withdrawing from the state finals to coach his high school colleague, second-place winner Herbert Wenig, to a national championship in Washington.

It was a gesture that was a pattern for his life. Christopher, who remembers Aiso's sense of humor, especially recalled his modesty and lack of self-importance: "There was never a question from a young lawyer that was too small or too trivial for him." Aiso went on to graduate from Brown University and Harvard Law School, before establishing a successful law practice in New York. But with U.S. entrance into World War II in December, 1941, Aiso enlisted.

Within three years he had advanced from an Army private to lieutenant colonel, and during the war, served as Military Intelligence Service officer at Ft. Snelling, Minn.

"He saved many lives by being able to know what the Japanese army was doing," said his surviving brother, Daniel.

After the war, he served as a Superior Court Commissioner until 1952, when he was appointed a Los Angeles Municipal Court judge—the first Nisei to hold a U.S. judicial post.

In 1957 he was elevated to Superior Court judge, and in 1968, then-Gov. Reagan promoted him to the 2nd District Court of Appeals.

"In the courts he was remembered for his solid opinions and his ability to listen. He was quiet but firm, the type of judge you would model yourself after," said Justice Lester W. Roth, 92, a colleague from the Court of Appeals, where Aiso served for four years.

After he retired from the bench in 1973, he joined O'Melveny & Myers.

"He was very important culturally," said Christopher. "He helped us understand the kind of advice and information that our Japanese clients would request from us." After retiring from law practice in 1983, Aiso dedicated most of his efforts to St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

"He was a very critical listener. A lot of times I would find myself preparing the sermons just for him," said St. Mary's pastor, the Rev. John Akiyoshi.

Aiso is survived by his wife, Sumy, his daughter, Ruth, and his son, John Jr. Services will be private.

For its part, Arco is offering $25,000 for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of Aiso's assailant, whom police describe as a black man, age 30 to 35.

Arco plans to post billboard signs with the reward offer outside the gas station, in place of its usual Super Sundae advertisements.

"He was very prominent in the Nisei community," said Daniel Aiso. "His death is a waste of a good life."

County Honors Aiso

LOS ANGELES — County courthouse flags were flown at half-staff last Thursday in honor of former judge John Aiso, the Los Angeles Times reports.

Aiso, 78, died Dec. 29 from head injuries suffered when he was assaulted at a Hollywood gas station. He was the highest-ranking Japanese American in the U.S. armed forces during World War II and became the first Nisei judge in the continental U.S. in 1952.

He served in the Municipal, Superior and Appellate courts in Los Angeles before retiring from the bench in 1973.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who knew Aiso for more than 40 years, asked that the flags be lowered.

In memory

John Aiso, the first chief instructor of the Military Intelligence School at the Presidio of San Francisco in 1941 and the first director of academic training at the Military Intelligence Service Language School in Minnesota from 1942 to 1945, died December 29 in Los Angeles.

Aiso, born December 14, 1909 in Burbank, California, laid significant groundwork for what later became the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center.

In 1946 he was given a direct commission as Major in the U.S. Army. In 1953 he was appointed judge to the Municipal Court of Los Angeles and to the Superior Court of Los Angeles County a year later. In 1967 he was appointed to the Appellate Court of the State of California. He served as justice pro tem of the state supreme court in 1972.

He is survived by his wife, Sumi, and his son and daughter.

A Tribute to John Aiso (Part I)

By SHIGEYA KIHARA

In the summer of 1941, with a global cataclysm fast approaching, the situation of Japanese Americans, so young and without organization and leadership, was uncertain and precarious.

They had no economic base. No political party courted their votes. They were non-entities in the power structure of America. As objects of prejudice and discrimination, they were less than second-class citizens; they were not even pawns in the ideological conflict between fascism and democracy that was engulfing the world.

The only thing going for them was that a small group of intelligence specialists in the Military Intelligence Division of the General Staff of the War Department, frantically planning for an almost inevitable war between America and Japan, knew from direct experience that the Japanese language posed complexities almost beyond Occidental comprehension.

Colonels Carlisle Dusenberry, Wallace Moore, Moses Pettigrew, Rufus Bratton and Clarence Heubner were convinced that Japanese Americans were loyal to America — and, more importantly, that they were the only Americans capable of performing Japanese-language military intelligence, without which America would have to fight a major war practically deaf, dumb and blind. Something had to be done.

Approval was obtained from the War Department for the establishment of a Japanese-language military intelligence school at the Presidio of San Francisco with a budget of $2,000. Lt. Col. John Weckerling, a former assistant military attache in Tokyo, was assigned to be Gen. John DeWitt's assistant chief of staff for intelligence and, concurrently, commandant of the new school.

Scanning the results of Capt. Kai Rasmussen's interviews of 4,000 Nisei draftees in Army training camps up and down the Pacific Coast in the spring and summer of 1941, Weckerling decided that Pvt. John Aiso at Camp Hahn in Riverside, Calif., was best qualified to become chief instructor of the new school.

Aiso, a graduate of Brown University and Harvard Law School and head of the legal department at a British-American Tobacco Co. subsidiary in Manchuria from 1937 to 1940, had been drafted and assigned to the motor pool at Camp Hahn by a sergeant who had remarked, "Just what we need, another lawyer."

Aiso was reluctant to take the job and agreed only when Weckerling told him, "John, your country needs you." There was no way that Aiso could ignore that, but at that moment he could not have even vaguely sensed the importance of his acceptance, nor could he have imagined how the job would mushroom beyond the confines of that miserable, empty airplane hangar at Crissy Field.

However, it was to be a momentous event in the history of the 280,000 Japanese Americans in Hawaii and the mainland.

In the fall of 1941, nowhere else in the Army was there an official operation with a Nisei in charge with the responsibility of proving that Nisei were loyal and capable of performing vital national security tasks.

The entire future of the Nisei in the Army and in America had been placed on Aiso's shoulders.

If he had failed to meet the Pentagon's expectations and the school had folded, it is highly unlikely that another military or government opportunity would have been given to Japanese Americans for the duration. The cause of Japanese Americans would have been set back a full generation or possibly more.

It was fortuitous that the Pentagon budget to set up the school was so ridiculously inadequate. Weckerling could not go to the universities or other professional sources for expertise. He was limited to in-house and local sources for the skills and know-how to execute his mission.

The resources available to Aiso, beyond youth and determination, were minimal. Aiso and his instructors and students shared a common racial identity, the same bilingual, biucultural background and the same psychological and social burdens, pressures and stresses of Japanese Americans in those confusing and difficult days.

Without the intervention of ivory-tower theories or pseudo-scientific academic philosophies, the solutions to the military, academic, political and social problems of the new school were to be worked out within the Japanese American MIS family under the leadership of Aiso's father/*oyabun* figure.

By any criterion, the mission was a formidable challenge. The school was unique; no school to teach Japanese military intelligence to U.S. Army soldiers, Caucasian or Nisei, had ever existed before. It was a first-and-only experiment with no precedents, models, guidelines, theories, curriculum, programs, schedules or textbooks.

First of three parts.

Vets Remember Aiso as 'Brilliant,' 'Dedicated'

Retired judge John Aiso, who died Dec. 29, was eulogized by some of his Northern California colleagues.

Roy Uyehata of San Jose, president of the Northern California Military Intelligence Service Association, said of Aiso, "He was the highest-ranking Nisei in the MIS. We had a very high regard for his abilities and capabilities."

Uyehata, who first met Aiso at Camp Savage in May 1942, noted that Aiso was the guest speaker at an Oct. 30 banquet celebrating the opening of an MIS photo exhibit in Monterey.

"He said it would probably be the last time he would be able to come up here due to his failing health," said Uyehata.

Tom Sakamoto of San Jose was a member of the first MIS class, which began in November 1941. Aiso was the instructor of the 40-student class. Sakamoto later taught at Camp Savage and at Monterey.

Sakamoto went on to become a career military man and retired from the Army in 1970 as a colonel.

He kept in contact with Aiso. They would see each other occasionally at MIS functions and through their work with Sumitomo Bank. Sakamoto retired two years ago as senior vice president of the San Jose branch of Sumitomo, while Aiso was an advisor to the bank.

"John Aiso was the most brilliant Nikkei I have ever met," said Sakamoto, noting that for a Nisei "to graduate from Brown and Harvard way before World War II was quite an achievement."

"He was an extremely dedicated individual," Sakamoto continued, "and his death is a great loss for Nikkei in general."

Shigeya Kihara of Monterey, also a member of the Northern California MIS Association, described Aiso as "my mentor and close personal friend for over 46 years, the greatest Nisei I have ever known."

— Robert Tokunaga

Obituaries

YOSHIO HOTTA

EL CERRITO — Yoshio Hotta, 69, of El Cerrito died Nov. 22 at Oakland Naval Medical Hospital. He was born in Oakland.

Surviving are: wife, Virginia Hotta; three daughters, Eugina, Ann, and Donna Hotta; a son, John Hotta; and a brother, Shigeo Hotta of Minneapolis.

Memorial services will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 25, at 7:30 p.m. at Sycamore Congregational Church, 1111 Navellier St., El Cerrito.

ROBERT IMAZUMI

Passed away on January 4, 1988 in San Leandro.

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A Tribute to John Aiso (Part II)

By SHIGEYA KIHARA

Neither Aiso nor his first faculty, Aki Oshida and myself, who reported for duty on Oct. 18, 1941, had any professional teacher training, teaching experience or curriculum development knowledge, especially in such an exotic area as Japanese military intelligence.

An enormous amount of preparation had to be done in two weeks' time before Nov. 1, when the first class of 60 students was scheduled to report for training.

It took all of Aiso's intellect, educational background, legal experience, logic, common sense, drive and leadership to map out a general approach and to set up tasks and make assignments to Oshida and me to organize a course, prepare instructional materials and a schedule of instruction, make teaching assignments, reprint Naganuma Readers and purchase bilingual dictionaries in San Francisco and Berkeley.

Pvt. Arthur Kaneko had been tagged by Rasmussen to be an instructor and was there with the group on Oct. 18. He declined the teaching job, electing to be a student, but helped with preparations until training started.

Aiso was to develop an uncanny knack for assessing the strengths and capabilities of his instructors and students and assigning them to first-time-ever jobs as supervisors, course developers and teachers of general and specialized military intelligence subjects.

On Dec. 7, only six weeks after training started, Pearl Harbor was attacked. Suddenly, the school was no longer a contingency operation: it was for real.

Aiso found himself in a different ballpark. The chips were down with huge stakes for Japanese Americans, with no margin for error. The curriculum had to be instantly expanded to include subjects such as prisoner of war interrogation, *sosho* (reading and writing cursive Japanese), order of battle and translation of intercepted messages.

The urgency of the situation and the absolute requirement that graduates be able to perform under battle situations forced Aiso to make the course so intense and difficult that only 43 out of the reporting 60 students graduated in May 1942.

One group went into action in the Alaska Command, and another reported to Hawaii, then to New Caledonia, then into action on Guadalcanal in August 1942. The doubts of field commanders regarding the loyalty and intelligence capabilities of the Nisei were quickly dispelled, and the Pentagon was flooded with requests for more MIS operators.

This early validation of the confidence of the Military Intelligence Division in the loyalty of Nisei and of their foresight in establishing a Japanese military intelligence school led to a major decision that was to have an enormous impact on all Japanese Americans and their future in America.

Col. Pettigrew formally proposed the formation of a Nisei combat unit, with the endorsement of the commanding general of Hawaii. Overcoming some opposition within the War Department, Pettigrew persisted and pursued his plans. He finally obtained the approval of Assistant Secretary of War John McCloy, followed by President Roosevelt's letter of Feb. 1, 1943, authorizing the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team with the 100th as its first battalion.

In June 1942, the Military Intelligence Division reassessed the Japanese military intelligence training situation. It transferred the San Francisco school to Camp Savage in Minnesota, placed MIS under its direct jurisdiction, expanded the operation and laid down the objectives and general policies.

The Army provided logistical, personnel and administrative support, but the doctrine, development and execution of Japanese military intelligence training remained with Aiso, now director of training.

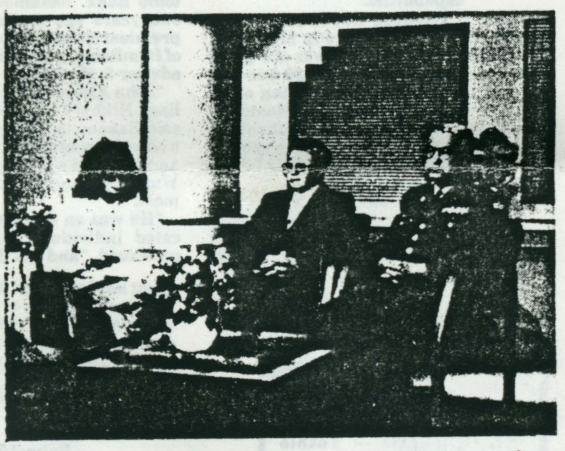
One attempt was made to bring in outside expertise. In 1943, a certain Professor Leon Henderson of Columbia University, who had authored a well-regarded book on Japanese literary grammar, was brought in to lecture and advise on training matters. He immediately picked up the sobriquet "Hen Chan" or "Queer Bird" and was a total disaster as a member of the faculty and staff. That ended further efforts along this line.

Second of three parts.



Staff Sgt. Kenneth Uni of Honolulu, Hawaii, interpreter for the 25th Div., questions a prisoner at regimental command post, Luzon Island, P.I., 1945.

TV Program Looks at Internment



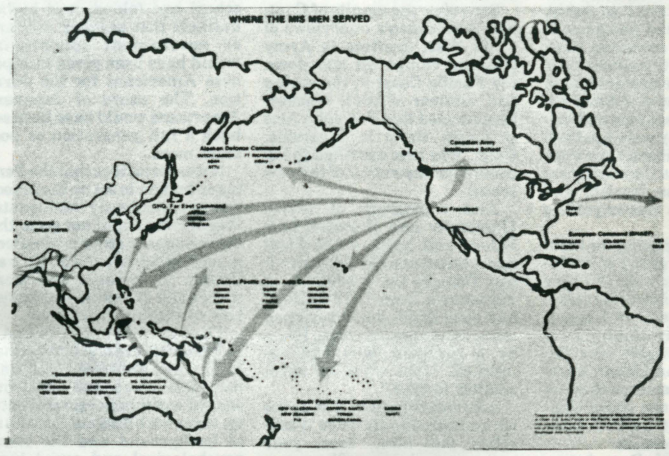
(Left to right) Pilar Montoya, program moderator for Spectrum, with guests Robert Kashiwagi and Shiro Tokuno.

SACRAMENTO — The World War II internment of Japanese Americans was the focus of the television program, "Spectrum," aired over KRBK, Channel 13, on Dec. 19.

Pilar Montoya, public affairs director for the station, served as program moderator. Divided into three segments, the program focused on the internment, Nisei soliders and redress.

Appearing as guests were Mary Tsukamoto, Kiyo Sato-Viacrucis, 442nd veteran Robert Kashiwagi, M.I.S. veteran Shiro Tokuno, Jerry Enomoto and Dr. Howard D. Garber.

In the redress portion, it was reported, Enomoto, a member of JACL, got into a heated debate with Garber, a member of Citizens for Truth. The two took issue over the constitutionality of the incarceration. Enomoto took the stance that the Constitution was violated, while Garber felt the incarceration was justified. The two went head-to-head, each remaining steadfast in their positions.



Japan Govt. Honors Two Local Nikkei



Consul General Tatsuo Arima (left) presented Medals of Honor from the Japanese government to Masatatsu Yonemura of Oakland (second from left) and Yoshio Yamada of Stockton for their contributions to U.S.-Japan relations. The two honorees, accompanied by their wives, Toshiko Yonemura and Clara Yamada, took part in the Dec. 24 ceremony at the consul general's residence. *(Photo by Robert Tokunaga)*

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MIS DINNER MEETING

The Spring 1988 MIS Dinner Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 26 at the Officers Club, McClellan Air Sacramento, CA. SHIRO TOKUNO, TOM FUJIMOTO and TOM SASAKI are in charge of arrangements. A general meeting is scheduled for 4:30, social hour at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00.

Make your reservations on the clip out coupon on the last sheet of this newsletter or phone SHIRO at [redacted] Bring a friend, MIS, 442, your children. MISers from anywhere who may be in the NorCal area are cordially invited.

Bring a door prize. The more the better. Sacto meetings are always fun.

Tom Sakamoto to Lead Garden City Golfers

SAN JOSE — The 37th annual awards and installation dinner of the Garden City Golf Club will be held at the Radisson Hotel on Friday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m.

Club officers to be installed are: president Tom Sakamoto, vice president Al Nakatani, secretary Randy Takahashi, treasurer Jeffrey Yoshida, handicap chairman Bob Santo;

Starters Art Yotsuya and Harry Kimura, historian James Okida, NCNGA Rep. Cappy Utsunomiya and club reporter Toby Hirabayashi.

T. Hirabayashi

A Tribute to John Aiso (Part III)

By SHIGEYA KIHARA

With the objective of doing everything in his power to train his men so that the tragic war could be brought to an end even a day sooner, Aiso set the standards and the pace by personal example, strength of character, effort and dedication. He drew the best out of his Kibei and Nisei staff.

In the total absence of trained and experienced Japanese-language instructors, Aiso went to the Japanese American community and the relocation camps for leads.

Kibei with high school and university educations in Japan were sought; Waseda and Meiji men predominated. Vernacular newspaper reporters and Japan-America trading company employees who had lost their jobs with the outbreak of war were a good source. Salesmen, engineers, businessmen, nursery operators, university students, and even communists and gamblers were interviewed, hired and trained.

They came from Manzanar, Tule Lake, Minidoka, Poston and other camps and from all corners of the U.S. Top students from each graduating class were kept on for a year or so as enlisted instructors. 100th Battalion transferees from Camp McCoy in Wisconsin, especially Hawaii Chugakko men, were superb.

Aiso developed a staff of over 150 supervisors, course developers and instructors, the largest and best ever Japanese-language faculty in the U.S.

Student problems come with the turf of school principals and presidents. The students who reported to MIS were far from homogeneous and brought with them a never-ending variety of administrative and pedagogical problems.

There were American-born and Japan-educated Kibei and American-born and American-educated Nisei; city slickers and country farm boys; college grads and kids just out of high school; "buddhaheads" from Hawaii and "kotonks" from the mainland; and, eventually, discontents from Camp Holabird in Maryland who were diverted to MIS when the European war ended.

There were Caucasians; university ROTC officers with a semester or two of Japanese; BIJs (Born in Japan); Gripsholm exchange ship repatriate missionaries and businessmen; officer candidate students (OCS) from the University of Michigan preparatory school; a class of Marine Officer graduates of the Navy Japanese School at the University of Colorado; and a class of Canadian Japanese military specialists.

There were classes of Chinese American and Korean American GIs and classes of Nisei and Caucasian WACs. All of these groups constituted their own can of worms, which Aiso had to manage to fit somewhere in the constantly evolving mosaic of MIS training.

After Pearl Harbor, commanders in Pacific Coast training camps had discharged Nisei or ordered them sent to posts in the interior. Many who were qualified were sent to Camp Savage, where the second class started training in June 1942.

In the same month, further induction of Nisei into military service was halted by Selective Service, who changed their draft classification from 1A to 1C or enemy alien.

The right hand of the Army, the Military Intelligence Division, desperately needed them; the left hand of the Army, including Gen. DeWitt — Lt. Col. Weckerling's boss — believed that "a Jap is a Jap" and brought about the evacuation of Japanese Americans into camps.

Despite the muddled and confusing situation, the Military Intelligence Division sent MIS recruiting teams into the 10 relocation centers for volunteer students and instructors.

In December 1942, Col. Joseph Dickey and Oshida were sent to Camp McCoy, where the 100th Battalion was training, and came back with 100 of the best la..guage men to ever come to MIS.

In June 1943, Col. Rasmussen, Tets Imagawa and I were sent to Camp Shelby in Mississippi, where the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was training, and came back with 250 more students.

In September 1943, Sgt. Edwin Kawahara and Corporals Kenji Goto, Benjamin Tashiro, Masaji Marumoto and Randolph Ideue were sent to scour the four main Hawaiian Islands and came back with 350 volunteers.

In January 1944, the draft for Nisei was reinstituted by the Selective Service as a result of the courageous action of the 100th in Italy and the outstanding service of MIS men in the Pacific. This assured a steady flow of students to MIS.

With rapid growth of the training program, decentralization of control became necessary. Aiso was no longer able to maintain his personal contact with all of his instructors and students. More and more, he came to conduct a lonely vigil over his expanded training operation and ever-increasing administrative load. It was inevitable that he became a lightning rod for all MIS problems.

The Military Intelligence Division increased its levies for more intelligence officers from Col. Rasmussen, who in turn pressured Aiso for more graduates. The faculty protested that the teaching load was too heavy.

The students, being GIs, bitched about the tough training schedule, their unsympathetic instructors, compulsory evening study sessions, classroom and barracks inspections, Friday retreat formations, the four-hour Saturday morning examinations, weekend passes, the humidity and heat of summer and the cold of winter.

In some student barracks and some corners of faculty rooms, Aiso was hated and reviled as a toady and hatchet man for Col. Rasmussen. But this is a price that all leaders in difficult times pay. Aiso never lost his cool, his dignity or control. He administered his program efficiently, graduating class after class as the war dragged on.

By the end of the war in September 1945, Aiso had turned out 6,000 specialists in military intelligence. Now the curriculum had to be changed to civil affairs to prepare students for occupation duty in Japan. It was done.

In January 1946, Aiso was given a direct commission as a major and assigned to Gen. Charles Willoughby's Civil Information Section, G2, SCAP as legal assistant to purge the Japanese government of militarism. He retired from the Army in 1947 and reentered the practice of law in Los Angeles.

In 1953 he was appointed as a judge in the Municipal Court of Los Angeles and, four years later, to the Superior Court of Los Angeles County. In 1967 he was appointed to the Appellate Court of California. He also served as justice pro tem of the state Supreme Court in 1972.

Thus did John Aiso carry out the responsibilities that he had accepted at the Presidio of San Francisco in 1941, little knowing how far or where his mission would take him and his fellow Japanese Americans.

His 6,000 graduates in military intelligence served in every theater and campaign in the Pacific and Asia. Gen. Willoughby, MacArthur's G2, stated that the MIS men shortened the war by two years and saved a million casualties.

Aiso's first graduates passed the acid tests of loyalty and intelligence worth in Alaska and Guadalcanal in 1942, which led directly to the formation of the 442nd, whose exploits in Italy and France stirred the imagination of Americans and contributed to the acceptance of Nisei as full-fledged American citizens in the postwar era.

His wartime MIS men went on to participate in MacArthur's enlightened occupation of Japan, the rebuilding of that country as a democratic ally of the U.S., and laying the foundations for the economic revival of Japan.

Aiso was the key Nisei figure who paved the way to changing the status of Nisei in America from one of prejudice and exclusion to one of trust, dignity and acceptance.

In the process, he brought life and meaning to the democratic principles enunciated in the U.S. Constitution when President Roosevelt and Congress failed to protect the rights of Japanese American citizens. John Aiso was a great World War II Nisei.

Last of three parts.

Stockton Man Has Medals on Display in D.C.

By CARLOS RAMOS
Stockton Record

STOCKTON — While Richard Hayashi was fighting for America in World War II, his family was confined to detention camps for three years.

Yet he served his country with pride and today he doesn't feel bitter.

"My mother (just before entering a Stockton relocation center) told me America was my country and I had to be loyal," Hayashi said. "I did what I felt I had to do."

That's not to say Hayashi approves of the ironic twist in U.S. history that confronted about 30,000 Japanese Americans who served in the military during World War II.

He doesn't.

"This is something that should be made sure never happens again," the 68-year-old Stockton man said. "It goes to show that our Constitution is nothing more than a piece of paper and all people can potentially have their rights taken away."

For the next five years, Hayashi will have the opportunity to display to the nation his sentiments in a special — and controversial — manner.

Hayashi, a 22-year Army veteran, donated 14 military ribbons he earned for meritorious and courageous duty to the Smithsonian Institution for display in a new exhibit addressing Japanese Americans' role in World War II.

The exhibit, "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution," depicts how 120,000 Japanese Americans lived in detention camps from 1942 to 1945.

Also featured is the contribution of Japanese American soldiers during the war. The exhibit opened in October with a whirlwind of political banquets and speeches lauding the program for its social significance and denouncing an era when the Constitution failed to protect all Americans.

"It feels so good to know my ribbons are on display for people to see," Hayashi said. "But the whole exhibit is what's really important for people to understand."

The program, however, has spurred a hotbed of racial and political outcry. Anglo veterans feel the Japanese are receiving special treatment and point to the thousands of American soldiers who were held captive by the Japanese during the war.

The Smithsonian has been flooded with several thousand letters protesting the exhibit.

"We've never had a project that prompted so many people to write," said Susan Foster, Smithsonian public affairs official. "But we've also received just as many positive letters thanking us for the display."

Included in the exhibition are models of reconstructed internment camps, photograph collections of people being forced into the camps, and audio and visual presentations of camp experiences.

Hayashi and several other Japanese Americans from Stockton attended the show's opening.

"The display was very touching," said Hayashi, who saw his parents and three brothers and sisters once during the three years they were interned. "Many people were crying."

For George Tabuchi, 60, owner of Tabuchi's Department Store in downtown Stockton, the display brought back bitter feelings.

"I feel most bad for the elderly people and my parents who were interned," said Tabuchi, who was a student at Stockton High School when he and his family were whisked away to the detention camp. "My father had his clothing store taken away. And then he died the same year we were released (1945). I can't help but feel bitter."

Tabuchi said he chuckled when he saw the living quarters models, which showed where several families lived — in long barracks, separated by bed sheets used as partitions.

"They looked too nice and new," Tabuchi said. "The real thing was much worse."

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CONSTITUTIONAL BICENTENNIAL

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA FEBRUARY 1988

'Color of Honor' Tells Story of Community's 'Treasures'

By JEANNE WAKATSUKI HOUSTON

Against a brilliant blue sky, a stark silhouette of a man holding a shovel intrigues the eye. Over sounds of metal scraping against rock and dirt, his voice drifts. " . . . Letters, photos, scroll paintings. We buried them all in our backyard. Forty years ago."

Thus opens filmmaker Loni Ding's "Color of Honor," her recent documentary about the 442nd RCT which was screened at the International Film Festival in Honolulu on Nov. 29.

Playing to packed houses, the film was anticipated with sharp interest and emotional intensity, with many in the audiences seeing themselves or others who they recognized as buddies and acquaintances. At the end of each of the six showings, standing ovations and tears expressed the depth of feeling this film unleashed.

The image of father and son digging up their cultural treasures so long buried in the backyard acts as powerful metaphor for the underlying thread woven throughout the rich tapestry of this film.

"Cultural treasures" representing values passed on from one generation to another are movingly articulated through the choices of two groups of men — the military intelligence soldiers serving in the Pacific and Japanese American protesters within the Army as well as draft resisters incarcerated at Heart Mountain.

The men interviewed made their decisions on the basis of loyalty to their families and country. All honorable. And all rooted in the traditional values taught them by their parents.

Until 1974, the archives about Nisei in the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific War were classified, shrouding in secrecy their difficult and heroic work, which is acknowledged to have been vastly important in shortening the war in Asia by many months.

Ding states, "It's still largely unknown . . . it was a secret operation. America didn't want Japan to know we had Nisei on our side, and we also wanted to protect any relatives the soldiers may have had in Japan . . . It's been said MacArthur was the best prepared, in terms of military intelligence, of any of the Allied commanders."

Their names erased from letters sent home to families, never officially recognized because of the mission's delicate nature, these 6,000 soldiers led dangerous and lonely lives as interrogators and interpreters. Attached to units in pairs, the Nisei had constant white bodyguards who protected them from U.S. soldiers mistaking them for the Japanese enemy.

They fought in every campaign of the Asia-Pacific war — from India, China and Burma to the Philippines, Saipan and New Guinea, and when Japan surrendered, they were invaluable interpreters for Gen. MacArthur.

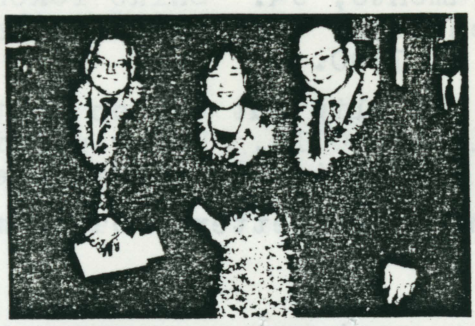
Another aspect of Nisei military experience kept under wraps for many years was the little known draft resistance movement by the Fair Play Committee in Heart Mountain, Wyo. The film reveals that 85 Nisei youth, charged with conspiracy to resist the draft, were imprisoned at Ft. Leavenworth, a federal prison. These men took the position that it was unconstitutional to put a man in a concentration camp because of potential disloyalty, and then draft him into the Army.

There were also protesters within the ranks of the military. Nisei and Kibei who volunteered or were drafted before the war were shuttled from one Army camp to another, given menial tasks and isolated from other soldiers. They were virtually treated like prisoners. When their families were interned, they protested and were subsequently detained in detention barracks. Known as the "D.B. (detention barracks) Boys," these 28 soldiers were vindicated in court many years later.

Throughout this film, one is touched by the emotional honesty and sense of integrity expressed by the men and those who knew them.

From interviews with villagers in Bruyeres, France, and retired World War II officers of the Asian front, one sees the deep respect felt for the Nisei soldier. At the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Bruyeres by the 442nd, the mayor expresses gratitude — not only for the village's survival, but for the friendship with the Nisei, who were "polite, considerate and respectful of the family."

The famed 442nd freed the French village prior to entering the Visognes Forest to rescue the Lost Texas Battalion, a grinding campaign which cost many lives and earned them the recognition of being the most-decorated unit of World War II.



Attending the Washington, D.C., premiere of "Color of Honor" in October were (from left) Tom Crouch, curator of the Smithsonian exhibit on Japanese Americans; San Francisco filmmaker Loni Ding; and Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii).

Ding has worked on "Nisei Soldier" and "Color of Honor" for more than five years. When asked how her dedication to this subject matter began, she stated, "When the redress hearings took place in San Francisco, I went to view them and was struck by the human drama unveiling before me.

"I'm a filmmaker interested in issues and struggles and notions of justice. I was not interested in just the military story. I was interested in what happens to men forced to make almost intolerable choices. 'The Color of Honor' is about something that went wrong in American history and how one people dealt with it."

"Nisei Soldier" won numerous awards, among them a Northern California Emmy, a gold medal from the New York International Film and Television Festival, and a Golden Eagle from CINE in Washington, D.C. Ding herself has been a recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and currently serves on the California Council for the Humanities.

At the Hawaii International Film Festival, a prestigious event honoring films of the Pacific Rim that further cultural understanding, Sen. Spark Matsunaga sponsored a viewing and reception for Ding at the East West Center. The film was also screened at the Arizona Memorial Theater and the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

In October in Washington, D.C., it was shown as part of the inaugural activities surrounding the Smithsonian's exhibit, "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution." Rep. Norman Mineta of San Jose has requested that the film be shown to Congress before the session ends this year.

As a Japanese American who experienced the internment, who has relatives who fought in the 442nd, and a brother who served in the Military Intelligence Service, I was profoundly moved by this film.

I feel admiration and a deep sense of gratitude to Loni Ding, a Chinese American, who with her films has contributed a great service to the Japanese American community.

Like the metaphor of father and son digging up their memories that had been buried for 40 years (a true incident), Ding helps us recover our communal "treasures" by digging up facts from the past and documenting them so aesthetically and sensitively on film.

In "Color of Honor," we find the admirable cultural value of honor — honor expressed in different ways by different men, but always underlined by the same theme: loyalty to family and to country.

The writer, who lives in Santa Cruz, co-authored Farewell to Manzanar *with her husband, James Houston.*

NATIONAL ASIAN AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION and the FILM ARTS FOUNDATION and
Art Agnos, Mayor Elect of San Francisco
Senator Alan Cranston, Senator Spark Matsunaga,
Congresswoman Barbara Boxer,
Congressman Robert Matsui,
Congressman Norman Mineta,
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi

Cordially invite you to attend the Celebration of the West Coast Premiere & Benefit

THE COLOR OF HONOR
a documentary film on the Japanese American soldier in World War II
by ***Loni Ding***

Sunday, January 31, 1988

AMC KABUKI 8 THEATRES
1881 Post Street (at Fillmore), S.F.

Screening - $10 donation
Reception and preferred seating for screening - $25 donation

Advance tickets recommended
RSVP by Monday, January 25, 1988
Free parking available

COLOR OF HONOR has been shown in Chicago, courtesy of ART MORIMITSU in November, at DLI on October 30 and will be shown in Los Angeles in March courtesy of MIS SouCal.

Negotiations are under way with PBS for showing it nationwide.

Thank you sincerely, LONI for recording our story so eloquently on film. You are an amazing person. Many happy returns of the day.

Aratani Honored for Contributions at Fund-raiser



Pacific Citizen Photo by George Johnston

CONGRATS, BY GEORGE—George Aratani speaks to the audience at a banquet held in his honor at Los Angeles' Century Plaza Hotel on Nov. 4.

LOS ANGELES — "Brighten the Future" was the slogan for Kenwood Electronics and Mikasa Dinnerware Chairman of the Board George Aratani, honored Nov. 4 at the Century Plaza Hotel for his contributions to the Japanese American community. Almost 1,400 people attended the testimonial dinner for the 70-year old Nikkei, who is also co-chairman of the board of Keiro Health Care Services, Inc., operators of the Japanese Retirement Home, Intermediate Care Facility, Keiro Nursing Home, Minami Keiro Nursing Home and South Bay Keiro Nursing Home.

Recognition for Aratani's philanthropy and involvement came from community organizations including the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, the Japanese American Optimist Club, Keiro Services/Japanese Retirement Home, the University of Southern California, the Hiroshima Kenjin-Kai of Southern California, Inc., the Boy Scouts of America, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and a variety of Buddhist groups.

Aratani, originally from Gardena, Calif., studied business administration at Japan's Keio Daigaku before returning to the U.S. in 1939 because of his father's death. During WW2, he spent time at the Gila River relocation center before teaching the Japanese language at the Military Intelligence School at Camp Savage, Minnesota. He married Sakaye Inouye in 1944, and they are now grandparents to seven grandchildren.

During his speech, Aratani updated the audience on the problems caused by the earthquakes of Oct. 1 and 4, as well as progress a new 124-unit facility scheduled to open next year. The tremors resulted in the abandonment of the 98-unit building of the Japanese Retirement Home of Third Street and Boyle Avenue in Los Angeles.

NATIONAL AJA VETERANS REUNION

The MIS Hospitality is not on the 1988 National AJA Veterans Reunion Committee. We are only in support of the AJA Veterans Reunion, so all informations, questions or arrangements to the 1988 National AJA Veterans Reunion should be address to:

Mr. Wilson Makabe, Co-Chairman
National AJA Veterans Reunion

Reno, NV 89509

About 50% of the raffle ticket sales in support of the 1988 National AJA Veterans Reunion sent to our MIS Norcal members have been sold. The raffle tickets sent to other MIS groups through out United States have not returned as yet, but we still have several months for their sales to come in. At the present time the over-all sales of the raffle tickets are at 30% sold.

More information in regards to the MIS Friday night get-together dinner should be finalized by the next newsletter.

Thomas Sasaki, Chairman
1988 MIS Hospitality Room

CONSTITUTIONAL BICENTENNIAL

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA FEBRUARY 1988

Bannai Addresses Asian Students' Problems

By CLAYTON S. FONG

SACRAMENTO — With Gov. George Deukmejian's recent appointment of Dr. Hideko Bannai to the California Community Colleges Board of Governors, Asian Americans are now represented on the state's four major educational boards.

Currently, Yori Wada serves on the UC Board of Regents, Dr. John Kashiwabara on the CSU Board of Trustees, and Gloria Hom and Agnes Chan on the State Board of Education, which oversees K-12 public schools.

Bannai believes one of the most important responsibilities she and her colleagues have on their respective policy-making boards is to help raise awareness among California educators about the special needs of Asian American students.

"Although Asians are generally perceived as successful students, many of them face language, social and economic barriers in the educational arena," asserts Bannai, a nationally recognized expert in the field of intercultural education.

In addition to addressing the problems facing Asian students, Bannai is very enthusiastic about the role she will play in helping to shape the future of a system which made it possible, because of its open enrollment and tuition-free policies, for her to pursue a college education.

Bannai, whose parents immigrated from Japan during the 1920s, was born in Burbank and raised in Glendale. She was a student at Hoover High School at the outbreak of World War II and was interned with her family at the Manzanar War Relocation Center.

As a result, she completed her high school education behind barbed wire, and it wasn't until decades later that she returned to school as what is now referred to as a "re-entry" woman.



HIDEKO BANNAI

"I was a housewife and mother of three growing children when I enrolled as a part-time student at Harbor College," says Bannai.

"Back then, most people considered mature women too old to realize any practical benefit from a college education. However, in recent years, their career potential has been perceived with more seriousness and, consequently, more support services are now being made available."

Bannai says she was initially motivated to further her education for her own "increased enjoyment," not in order to pursue a career — and it's obvious that she enjoyed learning, because in the years that followed she earned one degree after another.

After completing her Associate of Arts degree requirements, Bannai transferred to California State University Los Angeles, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a secondary teaching credential.

She taught for a while in public high schools, and when her husband Paul was elected to the California State Assembly, she enrolled in a graduate program at the USC School of Education.

"With my husband home only on weekends, I had the time to pursue my graduate studies," explains Bannai, who in 1978 earned her Master's degree in education with a specialty in teaching English as a second language (TESL) and two years later completed a Ph.D. program in intercultural education.

She began teaching at USC in the School of Education. Her responsibilities since that time have included the development of a Master of Science degree program in TESL and state-authorized bilingual teaching programs in Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean, Filipino, Vietnamese and Japanese.

Bannai, who has presented research papers at educational conferences throughout the nation, has been very busy since Deukmejian appointed her to the board which oversees California's 102 community colleges. In addition to her teaching duties at USC, she is director of the TESL Institute and is involved in the search for a new chancellor of the community college system.

She lives in Gardena with her husband, who is retired after having served as chief director of memorial affairs for the Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C. Their son Don is in marketing and their two daughters, Kathryn and Lorraine, are both attorneys.

Fong is a community liaison for the Governor's Office of Community Relations.

WWII Bushmasters' Story Is Finally Told

"Bushmasters: America's Jungle Warriors of World War II," by Anthony Arthur. (Thomas Dunne Book-St. Martin's Press. 304 pages. $18.95.)

Early one morning in 1945, Gene Uratsu woke up in the Philippines with a bad hangover and a glimpse of terror. Inches from where Uratsu lay in his bunk was the murderous face of a Japanese soldier. With eyes closed again, the American waited for death, but nothing happened. Opening his eyes, he saw the motionless enemy and, with a peculiar feeling of familiarity, he nodded. The Japanese soldier nodded back. Only then did Gene Uratsu realize that he was staring at his own reflection in a mirror.

Uratsu's moment of terrifying self-reflection as a member of the Bushmasters, the 158th Infantry Regiment, is detailed in Anthony Arthur's fascinating book. Uratsu's drinking companions of the night before had nearly as much reason to suspect their own reflections as did the Japanese-American, for his companions were American Indians, whose own physical similarity to the enemy had already led to dangerous confusions. Not even the 25 percent of the Bushmasters who were of Latino descent were safe from mistaken identity, as a young Mexican-American soldier discovered when he was "captured" and beaten by American Marines convinced he was Japanese.

In prose that has the rare and, in writing about war, invaluable qualities of both clarity and restraint, Arthur follows this famed mongrel regiment from training in the jungles of Panama to the festering island-by-island warfare in the Pacific. From the government Indian School in Phoenix, by way of the Arizona National Guard, had come the grandson of the famed Apache fighter, Geronimo, as well as Pima, Papago and Maricopa soldiers whose grandfathers had fought against Geronimo. In all, Indian soldiers from 22 tribes would join the Bushmasters, helping to account for the 25,000 American Indians who fought in World War II — a percentage of the Native American popular far greater than that of the U.S. population who would see active duty.

The Indians and Hispanics from the Southwest would join soldiers of typical mix-and-match ethnic heritage from across the nation to create finally a uniquely integrated military unit. To tell his story, Arthur wisely focuses on a handful of representative Bushmasters. Their stories constitute a superb piece of writing.

Louis Owens

NEW MEMBERS

HARRY TAKAGI

Grelan Pharmaceutical Co.

BYOKI MIMAI

General John Weckerling is quite ill

Mrs Emma Rasmussen is scheduled to be operated on for an arthritic hip in early 1988.

Masanobu Nakano is in critical condition in Los Angeles.

Kazuma Fujita has had two colon operations recently, but is recovering well at home in Seattle.

MIS VETERANS OAHU, HAWAII 1988 OFFICERS

President, DONALD IWAI, Secretary, JAMES SATO, others, SAM ISOKANE, HERB MIYASAKI, NORMAN KIKUTA, and KOON HIN CHOY

BOOK REVIEW

THE JAPANESE EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGE, A Commitment To Children, Merry White, 1987.

Merry White observes Japanese society and provides insight into the cultural heritage of Japanese Americans. Japan is a society with total commitment to children, especially on the part of mothers. Social cohesion, economical survival, world status and respectability are goals. Duty, work and sacrifice are stressed over hedonism and individual rights.

MIS SPRING DINNER MEETING, Saturday, March 26, Officers Club, McClellan AFB Sacramento, CA

To: SHIRO TOKUNO

Sacramento, CA 94837, telephone

Number Attending: _____

Name: _____

Main Course is Filet Mignon. If chicken cordon is desired, check ☐

Dinner is $12.50. Remittance with reservations will be appreciated.

CONSTITUTIONAL BICENTENNIAL

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA FEBRUARY 1988 8

Sumitomo Offers Reward for Info on Aiso's Assailant

LOS ANGELES — Sumitomo Bank of California has added its name to the list of organizations offering a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect in the death of former State Appeals Court Justice John F. Aiso, the Rafu Shimpo reports.

Sumitomo's board of directors, of which Aiso was a member, made the decision to offer the reward.

Frank Omatsu, Sumitomo senior vice president, said that board members were "shocked" by Aiso's death and that the decision was a "very emotional" one.

"He was a model for all of us," said Omatsu. "I was told by my parents to be like John Aiso."

Aiso, 78, was at a gas station in Hollywood on Dec. 13 when a man described by witnesses as looking like a transient attempted to rob him. When Aiso resisted, the man pushed him. Aiso struck his head on the asphalt and the man fled.

The wartime director of the Military Intelligence Service language school died 2½ weeks later at a Burbank hospital. The cause of death was listed as blunt-force trauma to the head.

The suspect is described as Black, aged 30 to 35, about 5'8", weighing 150 to 160 pounds, and with a moustache and a slight goatee.

Arco, owner of the gas station where the attack took place, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors have each offered a $25,000 reward. The $10,000 from Sumitomo brings the total to $60,000.

北米毎日とわたくし



スタクトン支社長　平野清

今年二月は北米毎日新聞創刊四十周年にあたります。これを機に過去四十年間を回想して、支社の先輩諸氏に敬意を表したいと思います。

初代支社長は長野県出身の遠藤照治氏、戦前は日米新聞スタクトン支社長、戦後は北米毎日創立者の一人で、保険業も兼任した人格高潔な知識人でした。当時は未だ一世の全盛時代で、有志家達は冠婚葬祭など機会あるごとに、競って雄弁をふるう傾向が顕著で、遠藤氏は自由民権の士を彷彿させるような能弁家でした。遠藤氏の死去で、同氏夫人しげるさんが第二次支社長に就任。しかし自動車の運転が出来なかったことで活動が制限されたのと神経痛が悪化、短期間で引退。

しばらくして福岡からの帰米二世、堺タマオさん（堺正男氏夫人）が第三代支社長に就任しました。堺さんはスタクトン学園（仏教会付属日本語学園）教師として人望が高く、学識豊かで温厚な人格者でした。一世から二世時代への過渡期に、二十年間、家庭の主婦として子女養育のかたわら、健筆をふるい、新聞を通じて地域社会に貢献、教師として日本語教育の普及に寄与した堺さんも神経痛のため引退を決意しました。一九七五年九月頃、所用で堺さんを訪れた妻月野に「適任者がなく困っております。支社を引受けて頂けませんか」と依頼されました。

私達の本職はホテル業ですが、当時は夫婦共にサンホーキン・デルタ大学の日本語講師もしており、非常に多忙でした。しかし種々と考慮の結果、新聞を通じて日系地域社会に役立つことが出来、また長年の念願である日米友好親善に多少でも貢献ができると思い、夫婦で引き受けることにしました。これが七五年十二月一日で、堺さんとサンマテオの池田早苗氏の推薦でした。池田氏は北米毎日創立者の一人で重役を務め、私の所属する中北加日系人委員会会長でした。

また当時本社のマネージャーであった一丸嘉久蔵氏一家は戦前から親交があり、遠藤支社長他界後、支社担当を嘱められたこともありました。それから二十年後、堺さんの後任として第四代支社長に就任することになったのも、北米毎日とは何か深い因縁があったことと思われます。

北米毎日新聞は時代と共に編集方針も人事も漸次刷新、購読者諸氏に満足して頂けるよう、二十一世紀に向って努力しております。本社、支社共に、今後とも何卒よろしくお願いします。

NATIONAL AJA VETERANS REUNION

Interest is building up for the 1988 Reunion at Bally's Reno, June 8-12. Kenji Goto says fifty MISers are coming from Hawaii.

A MIS Hospitality Room has already been set up by Tom Sasaki and there is more and more talk about a MIS dinner on Friday, June 10. Tom is willing to make the arrangements, but he has to know names and numbers. Please let Tom know immediately.

TOM SASAKI
Reunion 1988, MIS Hospitality Chmm
[redacted]
Sacramento, CA 95822
Telephone: [redacted]

TB

CONSTITUTIONAL BICENTENNIAL

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SALINAS, CA PM JAN 27 1988 93901



FIRST CLASS

Loni Ding
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