



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

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MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF MIS ASSN OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HELD AT SUMITOMO BANK CONFERENCE ROOM, BUCHANON MALL, SAN FRANCISCO, CA, FEBRUARY 22, 1987

President Joseph Kurata called the meeting to order at 1:12 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Joe Kurata, Tad Hirota, Tom Kawaguchi, Shig Kihara, Bill Oda, Gene Uratsu, Sukeo Oji, Noby Yoshimura, John Yamauchi, Roy Uyeata, Shiro Tokuno, Roy Takai, Dick Hayashi, Don E. White, John Shimoda and Walter Tanaka

MINUTES: Minutes of September 21, 1987 Board of Directors meeting and October 4, 1987 Semi-Annual General Meeting were passed out and read. The minutes were approved as read.

TREASURY REPORT: Treasurer Bob Midzuno was absent but President Kurata, who received the February 16, 1987 financial status of the Association from Midzuno, reported the following:

Checking account	-	\$506.93
Money Market fund	-	7,812.19
Savings account	-	246.49
		<u>\$8,565.61</u>

The Money Market fund includes \$456.90 which was returned to MIS NorCal by Harry Fukuhara and is ear-marked for use in publicizing Loni Ding's MIS documentary film when the film is completed (Board Minutes, dtd Sep 21, 1986).

OLD BUSINESS:

1. MEMORIAL PLAQUES FOR MISers SERVING IN THE PACIFIC WHO DIED DURING WORLD WAR II:

The Board of Directors had approved the establishment of plaques honoring the MIS war dead at the Admiral Nimitz Museum and a committee headed by Roy Takai was directed to further research the list of the dead for accuracy and so no one was left out (Board Minutes, 9/21/87).

Takai passed out a listing of MIS personnel killed during WWII (attached enclosure). All seventeen of those killed in the Pacific, including the Admiralty Islands, New Guinea, Saipan, Philippines and Okinawa, were proposed to be listed on three plaques, two plaques for those killed on Okinawa and one plaque for those killed in the rest of the areas.

Jackson Tsuchida of Seattle indicated that T/Sgt Eddie Fukui listed under Okinawa should be corrected to Eddy Fukui. T/4 George (Mitsuo ?) Shibata listed under Okinawa, who served in Alaska and was killed on Ieshima, listed at Golden Gate Cemetery as Mitsuru, is correctly Mitsuo, according to Yoshio Hotta who served with him in Attu/Kiska.

The plaques will have the following type wording: "In Memory Of The Men Of MIS Who So Unselfishly Gave Their Lives In The Battle Of Okinawa." "In Memory Of The Men Of MIS Who Courageously Served And Died On New Guinea, Admiralties, Saipan And Philippines."

for our country

*grateful
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MIS Southern California, in a letter from Harry Akune, indicated that in their meeting of Oct 29, 1986, they were willing to share in the cost of a plaque. Takai volunteered to prepare a letter from our next MIS NorCal president to MIS Southern California requesting their assistance in paying for the cost of a plaque. Each plaque is costing \$300.00 and MIS NorCal will pay for the cost of two of the plaques.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. BOOK COMMITTEE FOR JUDGE (RET) JOHN AISO:

Shiro Tokuno stated that he was invited by Paul Bannai to attend a VFW convention in Los Angeles. Tokuno and Art Morimitsu of Chicago were among the attendants. Bannai is chairman of the Book Committee.

Bannai asked Tokuno to help get MIS NorCal together with MIS Southern California to work on a book about MIS. Actually, two books are desired by the Book Committee, as a sequel to Joe Harrington's book, "Yankee Samurai". One would be an autobiography of pre-war and post-war events in the life of Judge Aiso; the other would be a story about the MIS. Judge Aiso had refused to write about MIS because he was not in the field - he was primarily involved in academics.

Hank Kuwabara had indicated that it was too much of a job for one person (Aiso) to prepare a book on John Aiso and the MIS.

Tom Kawaguchi stated that National Japanese American Historical Society ("NINJA") has an eight hour tape on John Aiso. NINJA is willing to cooperate but conditions set forth by Southern California have been impossible. NINJA will release John Aiso's tape and he can do what he wants with it, but their Southern California conditions have been difficult. All materials collected by Harrington, Loni Ding and Shig Kihara also could be used.

A motion was made and passed by the Board of Directors that the above matter of an informal request for cooperation be tabled until a formal request for cooperation is received from Southern California.

2. MIS EXHIBIT AT DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE (DLI):

In January 1987, President Kurata and Allan Iwasaki from NINJA, together with Kihara from Monterey, met with the Commandant of DLI and Major Alejandro, Asst Dean of Asian Languages at the Presidio of Monterey. The Commandant and Alejandro were very much enthused about the proposed MIS EXHIBIT. The EXHIBIT will be displayed in the large Conference Room of the Auditorium of Nakamura Hall.

3.

Major Alejandro would like to see the Japanese Language group get an exhibit in before some other language group gets into the hall.

Kurata stated that this was an opportune time to get the MIS EXHIBIT in while there is a Commandant friendly toward Japanese Americans.

NINJA is willing to donate a mini MIS EXHIBIT; however, Eric Saul has reported that more material is now available and, therefore, the EXHIBIT can be upgraded to a first class exhibit. Kawaguchi stated that photos upgraded to 16" x 20" will cost \$50 to \$55 each, those upgraded to 20" x 24" will cost \$80 each, and four major murals will each cost \$200 to \$300. Sixty photos and four murals are involved at a cost of \$3,000 to \$5,000.

MIS NorCal should have a say in what goes into the EXHIBIT. Saul has concurred on this and a committee of Gene Uratsu, Tom Sakamoto and Roy Takai will have a hand in helping in the selection of the photos.

Major Alenjandro is interested in showing the academic portion, the war years and then the post war years, including Camp Savage, Fort Snelling and Presidio of Monterey years.

DLI has graduated 150,000 students over the years in 40 languages. The yearly class number is 5,000 students. The average student has a two-year level of college education and many of them go into the education field after service. These students will come in contact with the YANKEE SAMURAI or MIS EXHIBIT in the auditorium.

Kawaguchi advised that in dealing with the Department of Defense, the loan of the EXHIBIT should be on an indefinite basis but subject to an annual renewal. Ninja, at present, has the money to start the project and can tell MIS NorCal when they need more money.

The Board of Directors passed a motion approving MIS NorCal carrying out this EXHIBIT project. MIS NorCal will work upon a fund drive to raise the funds and inform other MIS clubs and individuals in all areas for assistance.

Kihara suggested a Fund Raising Committee with outgoing President Joe Kurata as Chairman. Kurata graciously accepted the position of Chairman.

3. DECISION MAKING:

Board members pointed out that most decisions of the Association are made at Board meetings. These decisions are announced to the general membership in the general meetings. It was felt that the general meetings should be shortened or abbreviated in order to get on with the dinners. There are, however, certain activities, such as electing of Board members, which require the vote of the general membership.

4.

In the event there is any complaint about decisions made by the Board by the general membership, it was suggested that such members volunteer to join the Board of Directors in order to participate in the decision-making process.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Tanaka
Walter Tanaka, Secretary

Incl: MIS Personnel killed during WWII.