

100th/442nd NEWSLETTER



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF 100TH/442ND VETERANS ASSOCIATION

VOL 37 #4

JULY 1998

LOOKING AHEAD

By George Nishinaka

I had finished twelve years of public school, four years of college and two years of graduate school. Then, as a "downer," I was told by a graduate school professor that although I had turned in my semester ending "blue book" on time that he was still not going to pass me. He said that although my ideas and answers were good, my grammar, punctuations and spelling did not meet his expectations of a graduate student. His comment was, "I am not now going to teach you how to write correctly; you should have learned that in high school." He was right, but high school was, at that time, over ten years back, for me. So, I silently just kept struggling.

Then, in 1953, on my first appointment after graduation as a Youth Project Coordinator, I had a supervisor who I, even to this day, owe so much to her. I was submitting, as directed, my regular monthly reports. It was during our staff conference when she remarked, like an echo to me, "Your reports are very interesting and thoughtful, but your grammar, punctuation and spelling are just not acceptable." She further stated that she could show me the particular kinds of mistakes I was making. She further continued on page 15

GO FOR BROKE MONUMENT UNVEILING CEREMONY & LUNCHEON

Program is being finalized to celebrate completion of
the Foundation's 10 year project

Gardena June 15, 1998. Young O. Kim (Retired), Chairman of the 100th/442nd/MIS WWII Memorial Foundation said, "Mark your calendar - October 17, 1998. It will be the unveiling of the "Go for Broke" monument. The Foundation is very pleased that many city and state officials will be in attendance. We are also especially honored that Los Angeles' Mayor, Richard Riordan has committed himself in person to attend the ceremony. Immediately following the 11 a.m. ceremony there will be a celebration luncheon at the Inter-Continental Hotel, featuring keynote speaker, Senator Daniel Inouye."

As a special way of saying thank you to our loyal supporters, the 800 luncheon attendees will receive a special, limited edition, of a 112 page commemorative book. This book will include all 16,600 names to be placed on the monument, the names of all those who gave a donation and the history of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service and the 522nd Field Artillery unit. Cost for the luncheon is \$40 per person.

Foundation Executive Director, Debra Nishinaka-Skelton mentioned that in order to produce the book in time for the luncheon, the Foundation would only list those who have contributed by August 15, 1998. She also explained that "Even though the Foundation's fundraising campaign will end this year, there are two reasons to make your gift to the Foundation now. Besides getting listed in the commemorative book, this will also be the last chance to receive a permanent listing of 40 character/space on the donor wall that will be standing adjacent to the monument. Families and groups can pool together their donations to obtain donor wall privileges that start at \$3,000. The level of giving will determine the placement and size of the lettering. Pledges can be counted towards donor wall privileges, paid over a three-year period. A deadline to be eligible for donor wall privileges has not been set, as the donor wall's construction will not start until after the October unveiling."

For those supporters who will be coming from outside of the Southern California region, the Foundation has secured special rates. At the Luncheon

EASY DOES IT

By Robert S. Ichikawa

USC ROTC

Saturday, 18 April, 1998. Promptly at 10 AM we attended the 14th Annual Presidents Joint ROTC Pass in Review at USC. Each of the following presented scholarships for the 100/442: R. ICHIKAWA (E) AF ROTC, H. TAKUSAGAWA (F) ARMY ROTC and K. YAMATE (E) NAVY ROTC.

MONTHLY MEETING

Saturday, 18 April, 1998. Meeting was brought to order by pres JAXON ONO. KIYO YAMATE reminded us about the 100/442 Cal Club dinner in October, December 5th dinner for Young Kim and in 1999 Branson. The following were in attendance: R. AKIYAMA, B. ENDOS, R. ICHIKAWAS, E. ITO & GARY, G. KANATANI, H. KAWARATANIS, S. KIYOMURAS, G. KUBO, M. KUNIHIROS & friend MARIE BECKHOLE, G. KUSUNOKI, J. OKITSUS, J. ONOS, S. SUGAS, M. TAKAMINES, L. URASAKI, B. YAMANAKAS, K. YAMATES & LYLE, R. YANAIS and B. YOSHIHARAS.

Thanks to TOBAN TEAM #4 for all the delicious snacks.

100/442 Raffle

Saturday, 9 May, 1998. The annual event was brought to order by Association President KIYO YAMATE, beginning with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

Everyone enjoyed the delicious BBQ prepared by the 100th and all the helpers too numerous to mention.

The drawing was M/C'd by DON SEKI (L) and all the able assistants. The \$3,000 big winner went to the well deserving BEN TAGAMI (100). The only E CO winner of a case of beer was KIYO YAMATE.

E CO members there were: R. ICHIKAWAS, J. OKITSUS, M. TAKAMINES w/ERIC, L. URASAKI, H. WACHIS, B. YAMANAKAS and G. YOSHIHARAS.

ARMED FORCES DAY

Site (Bunker Hill), the Inter-Continental is \$114 per night; and at the Monument Site (Little Tokyo), the Miyako Inn is \$85.50 per night. Rooms will be scarce, as the National Association of Travel Agents will also be holding their convention. To secure a room, the Foundation will need a check for the amount of the stay (indicate 8/16, 8/17 or both nights and one king or two double beds) by August 15, 1998.

For more information about the 100th/442nd/MIS WWII Memorial Foundation, please call 310/327-4193 or write to 100/442/MIS MF, PO Box 2590, Gardena, CA 90247. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax-exempt organization and was solely established to build the monument and develop its educational program.

LEGACY OF COMPANY E

They brought their vigor, their youth, their allegiance to the battlefield
Their voices resonated "Go for Broke, Go for Broke."

They bore quietly the indignity of their loyalty being questioned.
Their souls were pierced by the barbed wires imprisoning their families.

They fought till their bodies drained of strength refused to move.
Blood from wounds soaked the earth from Anzio to the Po Valley
From Voges Mountain to the borderline of France.
Tears burned their youthful eyes for fallen comrades.

As part of the 442nd, the most highly decorated combat team in U.S. Military history
Soldiers of Company E were awarded for their gallantry:

Purple Heart, Distinguished Service Cross,
Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Oak Leaf Cluster, the Silver Star

Friction between the mainlanders and the Hawaii born
Was replaced with a deep bond on the battlefield.
As one, they removed the bondage of prejudice for families back home.
The gates of ten concentration camps in the U.S. were opened
And today we celebrate redress.

Friendship warming the depth of each man's soul
Brings them back to the reunions year after year.
They relive the anguish of war as young men
They savor the laughter with friends
And thankful for another chance to get together

Their hands clasp each others and they exchange hugs.
As they bid each other farewell,
Voices echo **"WE'LL SEE YOU AT THE NEXT COMPANY E REUNION"**

Suma Yagi

Saturday, 16 May, 1998. Members of the 100/442 were again privileged to participate in the 38th Annual Armed Forces Day Parade in Torrance. Thanks to DR/Mrs GEORGE MIZUSHIMA and ALLAN/LINDA for allowing us the use of their vintage WWII Jeep and 6x6 truck. It sure beats walking. Color guards carrying the Co-

lors were D. KOCHI, S. SASAKI, D. SUNAHARA and M. SUSUKI flanked by S. FUJIKAWA (100) and T. TOKUDA (522). MIN KAMINISHI (L) drove the Jeep and ALLAN MIZUSHIMA the 6x6. Riding were: R. ICHIKAWA (E), G. ISHIHARA (522), D. KAWAGOE (AT), F. MORIMOTO (F), H. NISHIKUBO (L), T. OHIRA (H), F. SETO (AT), T. SUSUKI (522)

B. TAGAMI (100), M. TAKAMINE (E), and H. YOSHITAKE (100).

Association President KIYO YAMATE, R. NAKAISHI and NANI TAKAMINE were in the reviewing stand.

MOTHERS DAY DINNER

Saturday, 16 May, 1998.

Our Annual Mothers Day Dinner was held at the Hong Kong Garden Restaurant in Carson. There to enjoy were the following: M. FUJITAS, R. ICHIKAWAS, E. ITO & GARY, G. KANATANI, H. KAWARATANIS, G. KUBO, J. OKITSUS, J. ONO, R. OZAWAS, S. SUGAS, M. TAKAMINES, L. URASAKI, H. WACHIS, B. YAMANAKAS, R. YANIS AND G. YOSHIHARAS.

Thanks to all for attending the fine dinner prepared by the Maitre'D Spencer.

ROBERTS PARK

Friday, 22 May, 1998.

A memorial Service was held at Roberts Park in Oakland by the E CO 100/442 Redwood tree that we of E CO planted when we had our mini-reunion there. A bronze plaque will be dedicated, honoring William Penn Mott former director of the National Park Service and East Bay Regional Park District. He was instrumental in obtaining permission to plant the redwood tree six years ago for E CO. (For information: J. TOGASHI NOCAL)

MEMORIAL SAN GABRIEL

Sunday, 24 May, 1998.

A memorial service was held at the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center for the KIA veterans of WWII, Korean and Vietnam wars.

M/C was Roy Iketani, colors posted by VFW Post 9902, Pledge by Mits Kunihiro, Invocation by Rev. Rick Iwanaga. Greetings by Richard Nakawatase, intro by Mits Kunihiro. Speaker was Allen Kunihiro. Floral Presentations were made by relatives, friends and other veterans. 100/442 members there were: R. Ichikawa (E), M. Kunihiro (E), F. Morimotos (F), K. Yamaki (H),

100th/442nd/MIS/1399 POST MEMORIAL CELEBRATION

Unveiling Ceremony - October 17, 1998



LAS VEGAS



Date / Location

October 18-22, 1998

California Hotel

\$95.00 per person (food & hotel)

\$15.00 per person (registration)

Bus is optional

GOLF

October 19th and 21st

\$65.00 per day

100th /MIS/1399 Chapter Night Banquet

October 20th @ California Hotel

\$20.00 per person

442nd Chapter Night Banquet

October 19th @ Fitzgerald Hotel

\$25.00 per person

Main Banquet

@ Fitzgerald - \$35.00 per person

and K. Yamaye (E).

EVERGREEN MEMORIAL

Monday, 25 May, 1998.

The Annual Memorial Day Service was held at the Evergreen Memorial Park. Ray Muraoka was the chairman. M/C'd by

Victor Muraoka, Colors by the 100/442 and the ROTC from El Rancho High School, pledge by Yosh Kunitsugu, Anthem by Rose Kaneshige, invocation by Rev Paul Nakamura, address was by Robert Wada. Floral

tributes were made by various organizations. Ending with the honor roll. Volley, taps and benediction by Bishop Noriaki Ito.

E CO members present were: R. Ichikawa, M. Fujita, M. Kunihiros, G. Kusunoki, M. Takamines, K. Yamates and Lyle.

BORN

April 9, 1998. April Marie Yoshihara 7lbs 5 oz to Mark and Denise Yoshihara. Congratulation to all and especially grandpa and grandma George and Ruth.

RETIRED

MIN FUJITA retired on April 2, 1998, after 25 years with the L.A. County Hospital Social Services. Congratulations Min!

TRAVELERS

Early May, George/Hagi Kusunoki took a 15 day tour to London where they met their daughter and then on to the Scandinavian countries. They had a great time.

In mid May, the R.Ichikawas and J. Okitsus went on a bus to Las Vegas staying at the Cal Club with the WLA Seniors Won some and spent some.

B. Yamanakas visited B. Aiharas down Vista way with their son Greg on the way to San Diego.

Kawaratanis and Yamanakas spent 5 days in Las Vegas at the Mirage Hotel with a mutual friend from Chicago celebrating their 50th anniversary. Ben said, "He ran into Fly Tamashiro from Hawaii."

R. Ichikawas spent time at the Stardust Hotel meeting with #2 son Ross, from Kauai who was attending a lighting show at the Convention Center.

SICK CALL

Nob Takashima is walking with a cane and taking it easy.

Ben Aihara is ok and resting.

George Furuichi has Lymphoma in the stomach.

Contact Ben Tagami at 310/327-4193 to reserve your space by June 30th.

.....
Cut along perforated line and complete information.

Name: _____ Phone# _____

Address: _____

Registration	# of people	_____ x	\$15.00	=	_____	
Food & Hotel	# of people	_____ x	\$95.00	=	_____	
Golf	Oct 19	# of people	_____ x	\$65.00	=	_____
	Oct 20	# of people	_____ x	\$65.00	=	_____
	Oct 21	# of people	_____ x	\$65.00	=	_____
100 th /MIS/1399 Banquet	# of people	_____ x	\$20.00	=	_____	
442 nd Chapter Banquet	# of people	_____ x	\$25.00	=	_____	
Main Banquet	# of people	_____ x	\$35.00	=	_____	

TOTAL _____

Check should be payable to 100/442/MIS Memorial Foundation
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2590, Gardena, CA 90247

Tok Shiomichi is taking it easy.

We wish you all well and will include you all in our daily prayers.

SORRY TO HEAR

About the passing of Shig Futagaki, also his boy died last February. Our sympathies to Chiyo and family.

January 29, 1998, Hideo Kawaratani's mother passed away at the Keiro Home in Gardena. She was 101 years old. Our thoughts to the Kawaratanis.

Shigenobu Sakahara passed away February 26th. Services were held at the WLA Buddhist Church on March 7th. Our hearts go to the family.

HOW IT'S DONE

By Mike Tsuji

Memorial Day saw our group meeting once again on the grounds of Evergreen Cemetery in Boyle Heights for the annual service conducted by the NVCC. The weather was quite cloudy; and for a while, it looked like rain could interfere. All went well, however.

Remains of H CO's James Karatsu (Second Platoon) and George Saito (Third Platoon), both of Los Angeles, are in-

terred at Evergreen. Others in H CO who were killed in action and who we honor each Memorial Day are: Walter Crone, First Platoon Leader; Jits Fujikawa, Hilo; Richard Hanaumi, Papaikou; Seichi Kaneshiro, Hilo; Isamu Kunimatsu, Anacostes, WA; Robert Kuroda, Aiea; Masayuki Miyaguchi, Ewa; William Murakami, Auburn, WA; Frank Shigemura, Seattle; Togo Sugiyama, CA; Ted Teramae, Onomea; John H. Yamamoto, Sanger, CA; John T. Yamamoto, Oceanside, CA.

They shall be remembered always.

After the Evergreen service the group drove out to the Green Hills Cemetery at Rancho Palos Verdes to pay our respects, once again, to the memory of Frank Saraye, our very first, First-Sergeant and savior of many a raw recruit entering the scary world of Army life for the very first time! "Chaplain-for-the-day" George Nishinaka brought the group to order by his timely remarks, including recitation of a most timely poem discovered by Dorothy Ogawa.

As usual, the Saraye family led by Hatsuye and daughter Sachi most graciously greeted us and then invited all pres-

ent for lunch at the Todai Restaurant.

Before lunching however we visited nearby grave sites of Ted Ujiye, Slim Murakami and June Tsuji. Emi Ujiye and Janet Murakami's families were also present for more hellos and how-are-yous.

The lunch was a very festive one with food virtually overflowing the tables, especially, after the restaurateurs decided to share some plates remaining after closing for the lunch hour with the Saraye party. Guests on the other hand, many guests (us) displayed unusually hearty appetites. Many Thank Yous, to the Saraye Family.

Plans for the July Reunion in Honolulu must be all in order, as no new information has arrived. This is all rather moot at this time, as by "publication time" for this newsletter, the event will be history. Our best wishes, however, go to the Williamses in Arkansas who had to cancel their plans to join us. We hope everything is going fine for Maurice and Mary.

In closing, it must be sadly reported that Masa Honda's wife for many years, Angela passed away quite suddenly in mid-May after a short illness. Our sympathies and condolence go to Masa and his family. We will miss Angela greatly.

LOVE NOTES

By Hiro Nishikubo

Sunday, April 5th was the ground-breaking for the 100/442/MIS Monument in Lil Tokyo. The weatherman had predicted showers for the day, but it turned out to be a beautiful day. The well-organized ceremony went smoothly. L Co was well represented by Don and Sumi Seki, Sam Ikari, Ben Kitagawa and Hiro Nishikubo. Also, there were Yuri Suzuki



21

YOU GUYS DON'T GET THIS 'CAUSE YOU DON'T FIGHT

- 21. **YOU GUYS DON'T GET THIS 'CAUSE YOU DON'T FIGHT**
(The front line medics were subjected to dangers of combat as much as the riflemen, but they did not carry weapons to fight the enemy. The Combat Infantry Badge was awarded to each infantry soldier who faced the enemy in battle, but not to the medics.)



Printed by Fisher Printing Co., Inc.
Courtesy of Harry Kiyabu (H Company)

Cartoons by Jackson Morisawa (H Company)



Branson '99

TRIBUTE TO JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS

316 E. BROADWAY BLVD.
GLENDALE, CA 91205

1999 BRANSON TRIBUTE TO JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS

Brochures and registration forms for the May 17-23, 1999 Branson Tribute to Japanese American veterans are now ready for distribution. All Japanese American veterans, their family and friends are invited to attend this specially planned tribute which includes a welcome reception and gala banquet at the deluxe Chateau on the Lakes resort which will be attended by the Mayor of Branson, Chamber of Commerce and local veteran association members. Several other prominent dignitaries, including Senator Daniel Inouye and former President George Bush have been invited to the banquet. A remembrance tea for widows of veterans, a private show for the group by Tony Orlando, special entertainment at the banquet by the Lennon Brothers is planned. Reserved seating at eleven of Branson's top shows, two area attractions, daily American breakfasts and dinners, a welcome luncheon, first class hotels are included in the land price of \$1,195.00. Commemorative tee shirts as well as other favors will be presented to tour participants.

Several companies are planning their 1999 reunions in Branson as there will be hospitality rooms available at each hotel. Space is limited. In order to insure housing with company and unit groups and to receive a \$50.00 per person discount, registration should be received by August 17, 1998. For additional information or brochures, contact Eiko Yamamoto or Phyllis Anesetti at 800 304-5100, 818-246-1661, fax 818 246-1667.

CHASE TRAVEL SERVICE

PHONE: (818) 246-1661
(800) 304-5100
FAX : (818) 246-1667
chasetrav@flash.net

PROJECT DIRECTOR:

EIKO YAMAMOTO

All correspondence should be mailed
% Chase Travel Service

from Seattle L Company and Shig Yokote from Sacramento L Company, representing Sacramento VFW POST 8985.

Don and Sumi Seki traveled north to attend a fund-raising luncheon held by the L Co Chapter of Northern California. It was co-hosted by Feb Yokoi and Sus Satow. Also, there to greet them was Shig Yokote, Commander of VFW Post 8985. Later in the month of May, Don went back up there with Ben Tagami to host a Thank You Luncheon for the Northern California people for their support.

May 9th was Reverse Raffle Day. As usual, the food was good and everyone had a good time. The big winner was Ben Tagami with the second place going to Frank Fukuzawa and the third going to Tetsu Uyejie. L Company winners were Faye Doi and Sud Yonaki. Con-

gratulations to all the winners.

May 16th was the Armed Forces Day Parade in Torrance. Rain threatened, but it held off, and it turned out to be a nice day. The crowd was a little low, but the 100/442 was warmly received.

May 25th saw some of us at the Memorial Day ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery. Ben and Fudge Kitagawa, Sam and Yo Ikari, and Hiro Nishikubo were there. Again, the weather threatened, but the wet stuff didn't arrive. We placed the usual flowers on the four L Company graves there.

During the Monterey Park Cherry Blossom celebration, we had the opportunity to get together with Wendy Hanamura, daughter of L Company member Howie Hanamura of San Francisco. She was here to speak at the showing of her docu-

mentary, "Honor Bound." She came down for the April 17th showing at the Monterey Park City Hall. The next morning, we were privileged to have breakfast with her as she was leaving for home that afternoon. Those of us breaking bread with her were Seiji and Hazel Imamura, Sam Ikari and Hiro Nishikubo. Don Seki couldn't make it as he was busy at the Festival.

Sick Call:

Tak Hashimura is now at home after an operation on his stomach and a mild stroke. Needless to say, he had us worried as he couldn't swallow food for a while, but he is home now and recuperating.

Bob Takeshita in Spokane, Washington, is coming along just fine after his bout with a mild stroke he suffered a year and a half ago.

Both Yasuko and Em Miyoshi



PACIFIC FILM CURRENTS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 15, 1998**

**CONTACT: ELYSE P. KUKONU
(310) 265-9501**

Award-Winning 442nd Film Screening During Los Angeles Nisei Week

As part of the Los Angeles 1998 Nisei Week celebrations, the award-winning and critically acclaimed documentary-drama, "442: For the Future" will have an encore screening on Sunday, August 23rd at the Japan America Theater in Little Tokyo. The event will be followed by the Obon street dance festivities.

Board of Directors

Marissa B. Castro

Nationally premiered in 1997 at the Paramount Pictures Studios in Hollywood, the docu-drama has since been awarded the bronze medal at the 1998 International Houston Film Festival and became a finalist at the nationally-respected Charleston Film Festival. The docu-drama is about the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT), the first Japanese American combat regiment who battled in the European theater during WWII. It also highlights the significant role of the 100th and the 522nd Artillery.

John Chiang

Produced and directed by Patricia A. Kinaga, the educational piece had it's genesis as a tribute to her father-and-comrades, all veterans of the 442nd RCT. Patricia is the daughter of Thomas Kinaga of I Unit in the 442nd.

Warren Furutani

Chester Hashizume

The event is being spearheaded by the Honorable Katherine Doi Todd of the Los Angeles Superior Court and an active board member of the JACC and numerous community and philanthropic organizations. The event is also planned to have a panel discussion with veterans, possible survivors of Dachau and an educator in which they will share their experiences and provide a view of the events of the time.

Manabi Hirasaki

Thousands of young men, many of whom were interned at camps with their families, volunteered for the 442nd which became the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the United States. The 442nd joined other American combat units in liberating European cities and villages as well as the notorious Dachau death camp. Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii is a surviving veteran who fought side-by-side with his mainland brothers.

832

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Dennis Nishikawa

Audrey Noda

Sharon Park

Jimmy Takeshi

Eric Yamaguchi

Ellen Yamamoto

Based on interviews of the veterans, Hawaiians and West Coast internees, the documentary-drama is narrated by international renown actress Nobu McCarthy, Saachiko, Daryl Kunitomi and Shaun Shimoda. The multi-ethnic crew included award winning film-makers Diana Lee and Eric Swelstad, editor Bruce Birch and cinematographer Steve Shibuya. The original music score is by Glenn Horiuchi.

The interview crew began at the 50th Anniversary Reunion of the 442 RCT in Honolulu, researched photo collections in the Bay Area, walked the dusty roads at the First Topaz Reunion in Utah, viewed archival footage at the Library of Congress and interviewed Senator Daniel Inouye on Capitol Hill. Manabi Hirasaki, Jim Mitsumori, Jim Makino and Jim Yamashita were among the local veterans who, along with Archie Miyatake, lent advice and assistance to the four-year project.

The event is open to the public and is planned to have two screenings; the first in the late morning and the second in the early afternoon. Tickets will be \$7.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children 12 years and under. Ticket sales, reservations and inquiries are being handled by the Japan America Theater Box Office (213) 680-3700 after July 17th. Additional inquiries are being handled by Elyse P. Kukonu at (310)265-9501.

looked fabulous at our April meeting. It seems they've recovered completely.

The rest of us are fine, except for our continuous battle to remember things.

Our next meeting is June 28+h. See you there.

FOX HOLE NEWS

By Frank Y. Morimoto

As Father Time creeps up on us, we begin to realize how precious our good health is to us. F CO members will remember Kaye Musashi as a vivacious live wire person who was the life of our reunions and Fox Chapter activities. She is now suffering from Parkinsons disease. We received a nice letter from her recently, and we send her our best regards. Also, her husband Sam who was an F CO runner is not in the best of health either, so it is doubtful, if we will see them in Las Vegas in June 1998.

Pres. Hiro Takusagawa heard from Sally & Pat Valenti of Florida informing that they wouldn't be coming to Las Vegas, but Pat supports the 100/442 Association by entering our Reverse Raffle regularly. For F CO members, the 1998 Reverse Raffle was a resounding success as for the second year in a row. An F CO member has won the second place major prize. Last year Sam Musashi won, and this year Frank Fukuzawa was the winner. John Fukusawa won a mini prize, and we took guest Eric Abe of the Monrovia Community Service Commission, who won two sacks of rice as did Yuke Iguchi. Ben Tagami of the 100th was the popular big winner. Sumi & Peter Fukasawa (522 F.A.) chauffeured Miyeko & John Fukasawa, Emi & Yuke Iguchi, Ocean Miyake, Yuri & Frank Morimoto and guest Eric Abe also attended. Pres. Hiro Takusagawa served

as F CO's K.P. He couldn't stay for the drawing but came very close to winning one of the major prizes. The super meal of barbecued steak, egg plant, tossed salad, corn and rice was prepared by Ben Tagami, Sam Fujikawa and the rest of the 100th wives and crew. 100/442 Association president, Kiyo Yamate kept us informed of upcoming activities. Our thanks to Hiro Nishikubo, Don Seki, Dave Kawagoe, Ted Ohira and others for conducting the raffle.

The Sons & Daughters performed the back breaking job of setting up the dining tables and conducting the Mini Raffle and selling souvenirs. Anti Tanker Frank Seto kept the bar well stocked with liquid refreshments, and he should be commended for his service and dedication.

Yuri & I attended a 100/442 MIS Foundation Board meeting recently through an invitation of 100/442 Association president Kiyo Yamate and found the meeting very interesting and informative. They are in the middle of a very important fund raising drive, and Hank Yoshitake chaired the meeting. F CO members Frank Fukusawa & Yuke Iguchi are on the Board and should be commended for their services and dedication.

On a sad note, Frank & Nami's son-in-law Clayton Takeshi Iijima was killed recently, and they went to Hawaii to attend a memorial service. F CO members send their deepest sympathies to the family.

In the late 1930's, Hal Hoshina of Pendelton, Oregon was known as "Homicide Hal" and was a very promising 118 lb welterweight boxer. He was a good friend of Chick Uno of Seattle, WA and 442 Anti Tank Veteran Frank Seto who was also a professional boxer. However, World War II and Pearl Harbor cut his career short. He married my sister-

in-law Misa Hondo in 1943, and they had three children. Henry the oldest was a helicopter pilot in the Viet Nam war and now works for the F.B.I. His daughters Carol Hayashi is a school teacher, and Debbie Fagen works at the Jet Propulsion Laboratories in Pasadena, CA. After the war, in 1945, Hal attempted to further his boxing career and went to Honolulu where he was very popular, but age took its toll and he had limited success in his comeback. He worked as a CocaCola salesman until he moved to Monrovia, CA. In 1950, he became an insurance salesman and worked for a G CO member Tets Asato until his retirement several years ago. For the last few years, he suffered Alzheimer and had several stroke operations and passed away in a Convalescent Hospital, May 14, 1998. May he rest in peace.

I was pleased to hear from Enoch Kanaya F CO B.A.R. man recently of Chicago, Il, who sent a sizeable donation to the 100th/442nd/MIS Memorial Foundation. He is Eric Abe's uncle, and he plans to attend the F CO Reunion, May 31 to June 5, 1998, in Las Vegas, NV. We also heard from Shig Yabumoto G CO 442 Inf of West Sacramento, CA who donated to the monument and qualifies him for a place on the donors wall. I served with Shig at Ft Custer, Michigan in 1942 & 43, and this is his military history: "I was inducted into the Army on April 4, 1941 and sent to Ft Ord and assigned to the 7th Division as an Aid Man. After Dec 7, 1941, the unit was deployed to Northern California with Willitts as our Headquarters, and we patrolled around Ft Bragg, CA. In March, 1942, all Kibeis & Niseis were separated from our units and sent to various camps. I ended up in Ft Custer, MI. There, I was assign-

BRANSON '99

BRANSON CITY'S TRIBUTE TO JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS

MAY 17-23, 1999

SPECIAL DELUXE TOUR PACKAGE

SPECIAL REDUCED RATES ESTABLISHED
FROM \$1,275.00 (INCLUDING AIRFARE)*

DELUXE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- 6 HOTEL NIGHTS
- WELCOME RECEPTION LUNCHEON WITH DIGNITARIES
- 6 FULL BUFFET BREAKFASTS
- 6 DINNERS, INCLUDING THE GALA BANQUET AT THE CHATEAU
- REMEMBRANCE TEA FOR WIDOWS
- TRIP TO SILVER \$ CITY
- 11 SHOWS, 2 OF WHICH ARE PRIVATE SHOWINGS
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PROJECT DIRECTOR
EIKO YAMAMOTO

ed to work in the Post Theater. With occasional weekends off, I worked long hours from 8 AM to 11 PM as a movie projectionist & cleaning the place. In early March 1944 (except for 3 of us), everyone was sent to Camp Blanding Florida. We ended up at Ft. McClellan, Alabama for basic infantry training. No sooner then that was over, I received a wire informing me that my father had died, so I went to his funeral in Poston, AZ. That meant that I didn't see a familiar face until I landed in Italy. From Italy to Marseille, France and on to Bruyeres where I was assigned to G CO. Then, we relieved the 142nd Texas Regiment. They were sure glad to see us. One of them said, "you are a sight for sore eyes." That and another remark that I heard when we stopped at an M.P. station for something to eat, one of the M.Ps said, "Hey, see those guys, they're good fighters." I will never forget those comments. After a couple of months, I was wounded. After about another month in the hospital, I got out only to learn the Regiment had been assigned to the French-Italian Alps (Champagne Campaign). Then off to Italy for our last Po Valley Campaign. There I was wounded again. By the time, I recovered, the war was over in Europe, and we were assigned to guard a supply depot. In November of 1945, it was back to the good old U.S.A. Before being discharged, I had thoughts of staying in the service and going to Japan as I had a sister living there with our grandmother. Our mother had died not long after she was born. But to do this I had to serve three more years. "No way" -- So I was discharged Nov 26, 1945.

Awards and decorations:
Bronze Star, Purple Heart w/
O.L.C., Good Conduct Medal,

American Defense Service Medal, WWII Victory Medal, Presidential Unit Citation & Combat Infantry Badge.

Shigeru Yabumoto G CO 442nd

LET GEORGE DO IT

By Mary Karatsu

We were all saddened by the passing of one of the original "G Company Boys," Taki Handa.

Jim Makino gave the Eulogy at the funeral service, and here are a few excerpts: "It was 1943 at Camp Shelby, Mississippi when I first met Taki Handa and recall a gruff, tough voice, small in stature but one who could handle himself in any situation. He had the respect of those around him. Taki was in the 1st Platoon, and I was in the 3rd Platoon. After a year of training, the 442 RCT was activated (April, 1944) and went into action just north of Rome, Italy at Civitavecchia. Taki went through the whole campaign--from start to finish--always dependable and a "damn good soldier."

After the war, Taki and Ann were married in Chicago and returned to California where they adopted two girls. I also adopted a girl so we had much in common. When not deep sea fishing, we spent many hours of fun with dogs, fish, and at "G" CO family picnics and other outings. Taki worked at the L.A. wholesale vegetable market for many years.

Before retirement, Taki often told Ann to stay healthy so she could take care of him since his health was starting to fail. As fate would have, Ann fell ill and went into a coma, never to recover. Ann's passing was a terrible blow to Taki and something he was never able to deal with. Taki had difficulty breathing and went in and out of the hospital and convalescent home

much of last year. Several of us went to visit him, but since he was unable to talk, it was very difficult to really communicate. However, he did seem to respond whenever a familiar name or incident was recalled.

We will all miss the rough, gruff voice and his snappy answers, but we're sure Taki is at peace now and in a better place with his beloved Ann. So long, Buddy.

The NVCC Memorial Day services at Evergreen was well attended with representation from many organizations. The keynote address by Robert Wada of the Korean War Vets was "right on" and well received. After a hot dog lunch at Evergreen (no one seemed to know who we should thank for this). The Fujimotos, we, and many others, went to the Cultural Center and attended the first Vietnam and Korean Veterans Memorial Service. It was good to see Hershey and Terry Miyamura at both services, and we're looking forward to the "Hershey Story" - Honor, Duty & Country -- next week.

Just heard from Dorothy & Frank Kuroda, Allen Park, MI saying that they will be attending the AJA convention in Hawaii in July---looking forward to seeing them---as well as Joe Mochizuki from Indio who will be attending his first reunion in Hawaii. Harold Fukunaga informs us that over 80 "G" Co members and friends will be at the convention. Roy & Fumy Machida will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in Hawaii---Congratulations to the Machidas!

TANKBUSTERS

By Tak Hattori

First, perhaps, I should explain to some who have inquired about the missing

March Anti-tank news. I was down with the flu. I took my flu shots, but I guess the Australians wanted to get rid of some of their flu bugs so they wished them on to me.

This reporter missed the Antitank meeting on April 8, because we flew to Utah to visit our daughter's family and grand kids and check on our condo in Provo. We left on Sunday April 5th which is the day of the Foundation ground breaking. On our cable channel 21 in Provo is Los Angeles channel 5. I was watching the 10 O'clock news (11 O'clock there). There was a short news on the Foundation ground breaking and who should appear but FRANK SETO who gave a short talk. Frank is Antitank's best spokesperson. Also Hank Yoshitake and Young Kim gave a short talk.

Also, Frank along with Kune Hisatomi and Henry Ikemoto attended the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team's 10th Annual Reunion held in Palm Springs. Antitank Company participated in the Southern France Air invasion with the 517th PRCT. They were given the royal treatment and a standing ovation. Many came to talk with them and sent a heartfelt "thank you" to all A-T men and officers.

Captain Ferris bought a reverse raffle ticket and sent it to the Antitank Chapter. The Raffle will be held May 9th. Captain Ferris also plans to attend the Foundation's unveiling on October 17th, 1998.

This reporter has located another Antitanker by using my phone Search Software. He is Joseph Takenaka; 615 S. 6th St., Miles City, Montana 59301; Ph.(406)232-1802. I brought him up to date on the latest news and sent him the name and address list of Anti tankers and a sample of our Newsletter. I asked him what he had been doing since he

left Antitank. So far, I haven't received an answer from him, so I don't know what he had been doing.

This reporter attended a "Branson Committee" meeting on May 6th to make us aware of the "Branson Tribute to Japanese American Veterans." The Mayor of Branson and the Branson Chamber of Commerce has proclaimed May 17-23, 1999 as "Tribute to Japanese American Veterans Week" and will recognize and honor, during the week, all the visiting Nisei veterans for their patriotic service to our country, especially, during the WWII period by the 100/442/MIS. A gala banquet is being planned at which time the Mayor of Branson and members of the Chamber of Commerce will greet and personally welcome the veterans to Branson. The Lennon Brothers will provide special entertainment. Special reserved seating and recognition by entertainers are also planned at the most popular shows, ie., Andy Williams, Osmand Brothers, Lawrence Welk, Shoji Tabuchi, Jim Stafford, Doug Gabriel and Bob Vinton. The next meeting will be on June 10th, at the same place: Southeast Japanese School; 14615 Gridley Rd.

Norwalk, CA 90650. For more info, call Eiko Yamamoto, at 800/3040-5100 or 818/246-1667. If you are interested, plan to attend, as information and answers will be available by representatives of Chase Travel Service.

I believe, this is a magnificent gesture by the City of Branson, because it will make aware to the hundreds of thousands of people who come to Branson, the Japanese American Story and the part Nisei Veterans played in winning the battles of WWII. In my travels throughout the USA I am personally aware that a very large part of the USA

from the mid-west, to the north, south and east are completely unaware of the Japanese American evacuation into concentration camp during WWII. This tribute will open many eyes and ears that were completely closed before. I hope this will bring many JAs from the Mainland and Hawaii to Branson during this tribute to show Branson how much we appreciate this gesture. Not just veterans, but veteran's families, relatives, friends, grandchildren -- everyone. Besides, they put on some of the best clean entertainment in this country for the money.

On December 5, 1998, the 100/442/MIS and the Monument Foundation is having a grand "Salute to Col Kim." Col Kim has been deeply involved with the 100/442 Veterans Association, the Monument Foundation JANM, Keiro Home and many other JA organizations.

DATE: 12/05/98.
PLACE: Stevens Steak and Seafood House
5332 Stevens
City of Commerce
(213) 732-9856
PRICE: \$20.00/person
INFO: Contact Kiyoo Yamate
2116 Navarro Ave
Altadena, CA 91001
(626) 794-2639

Mary Sakai called to give me the latest and correct address of MAC MAMIYA:

1932 Sunrise Pl.
Mt Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 428-4387

NOTE: After January, 1999, the street number will change to 21290 Sunrise Pl. The rest of the address and phone will be the same.

Also Henry Ikemoto received a change of address for KIYO FUJIMOTO and forwarded it on to me. I have updated all my address/phone list with these changes. Kiyoo's address and phone:

5239 N. Via La Heroína
Tucson, AZ 85750.
(520) 529-2487.

Please make these changes
in your address and phone
list.

This reporter was busy most
of the Armed Forces Day Morn-
ing, but after finishing mow-
ing the lawn and cleaning up
the yard, I saw the B-17 and
B-24 fly over our house as
they do on Armed Forces Day.
I decided to go to the Tor-
rance Airport to see these
WWII planes we saw in Europe.
The planes are in top condi-
tion and brought back memor-
ies of the war we were in.
There was a man there making
"dog tags," and I decided to
get a couple made for my
personal identification. As
I filled out the information
card to print the tag, he
asked if I was in the "fam-
ous" 442. I said yes and our
company, the Anti-tank CO,
participated in the airborne
invasion of Southern France
by glider. A man nearby heard
our conversation and came
over to me and said that he
was a DC-3 pilot that towed
our gliders into that inva-
sion. We talked for quite a
while, and he remembered the
paratroopers and the gliders
that crashed upon landing.

ONE PUKA PUKA

By June Kurisu

Ben Tagami was able to en-
joy the 100th's Family Dinner
on April 8 without having to
do the cooking, thanks to
Carlos and Bev Picazo. The
menu consisted of tamales,
chile relleno, enchiladas,
beans, rice and salad. They
were assisted by Ken Dong and
his keikis. Cecilia was very
helpful in serving the deli-
cious mocha chiffon cake pro-
vided by the Fujikawas. Thor-
oughly enjoying the fine cui-
sine and company were Elma &
Mas Takahashi, Harry Fukuzawa

Sadao Munemori
Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient

Munemori family had a small vegetable farm near San Fernan-
do Road and Glendale Avenue. Yaeko recalls that her brother
Sadao used to love playing football, swimming, fishing, and
he was a fan of popular music Big Band. He was the all
American boy. Yaeko also remembers that when they fought as
kids, Sadao would tease her by saying "I will have a ship
named USS Munemori after me, and I will not let you on it.

A month before Pearl Harbor, Sadao Munemori volunteered for
the Army, so his brother could remain at home to run the farm
and support their family. He was nineteen years old. He was
sent to the MIS Language School and had attained the rank of
sergeant, but he decided he wanted to be with the 442nd
Regimental Combat Team. He had to take a loss of rank to
private to get there. By the time, his family had been sent
to Manzanar Camp. Munemori was among the first replacements
sent by the 442nd to the 100th Infantry Battalion, following
the Battle of Cassino. He had fought in the breakout from
the Anzio beachhead, the battle to take Lanuvio on the road
to Rome, up the Italian coast, across the Arno River, and in
the battles of Bruyeres, Buffontaine, and the rescue of the
Lost Battalion in France.

Sadao was a fun-loving boy who got along well with the old
timers of the 100th from Hawaii. He even learned to speak
the Hawaiian crazy pidgin dialect and hoped to go to Hawaii
after the war. His only peculiarity was that he preferred to
eat potatoes instead of rice, but his friends tolerated this
aberration and called him "Spud." He liked that nickname.
He claimed that potatoes in Glendale were the best in the
world. Sadao bragged to the members of his outfit about how
wonderful Glendale was. He could not wait to go back home.

Munemori had taken charge of his squad when its leader was
injured. Fighting besides him were two Nisei privates. When
a machine gun started firing, they all ducked into a shell
crater. The machine gun had to be silenced. So Munemori
crawled from the hole and knocked out two machine-gun nests
with hand grenades. By then heavy enemy fire was concentrat-
ing on him, and he ran back to the crater. He stopped at its
edge and was preparing to throw another grenade when an enemy
grenade bounced off his helmet and rolled down into the
crater. There wasn't time to throw it out, so in a split-
second decision, Munemori threw himself on top of the
grenade, bending his head over his chest and hunching his
shoulders to smother the blast. He was killed instantly.
The other two men suffered only minor wounds, but they were
haunted the rest of their lives by the memory of Munemori's
sacrifice to save them.

In thirty-two minutes the Nisei had driven the Germans from
the crucial rockbound entrenchment that had repelled unending
persistent attacks for more than five months. Private Sadao's
torn body was found in the shell crater. He was declared one
of the heroes of the crucial battle in the Apennines.

At Manzanar, California, internment camp, Munemori's family
was handed the War Department notification of Sadao's death.
Munemori was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Three
years later the ten-thousand-ton troop ship Wilson Victory
would be renamed Pvt. Sadao Munemori, the first to honor a
Japanese American.

Irene & Bill Sato, Fumi Sakato, Ted & Chiz Ohira, Douglas Tanaka, Chuckie & Lloyd Seki, Michi & Lloyd Todda, Connie & Al Takahashi, Young Kim, Harumi & Colleen Sasaki, May & Wayne Fujita, Jean & Ben Tagami, Beverly & Carlos Piccazo, Ken Dong & family, Yeiki Matsui, Teri & Sam Fujikawa, Elsie & Hank Hayashi and June & George Kurisu.

The City of Monterey Park, east of the city limits of Los Angeles, revived the Cherry Blossom Festival with educational programs, entertainment and food booths. One of the programs was the showing of "Honor Bound," the video by Wendy Hanamura, a story that needed to be told about her father, Howard, a member of L CO, relating his growing up in California, joining the 442nd, and serving with them in France where he was wounded. Following the film, Hank Yoshitake told the story of the 100/442nd to a captivated audience of city officials and guests.

Chief Cook Ben was back in the kitchen on May 9 for the Association's Annual Reverse Raffle. The Tagami's ticket was the last one pulled. It was a long coming, after years of contributing, several people mentioned. Without the raffle, the Hall's taxes and insurances couldn't be paid. Kitchen Krew assisting Ben were Jean Tagami, Chiz & Ted Ohira, Hisa & Ken Miya, Amy & Ed Nakazawa, Fumi Sakato, Teri & Sam Fujikawa, Douglas Tanaka, Hiro Takasugawa, Mike Takamine, Robert Ichikawa, other men who manned the barbecue outside, Mark Susuki and other Sons and Daughters of the 100/442 as well as a mysterious lady whose name is not known. I'm sure that all who partook of the steak dinner thanks them all.

A photo in the Rafu Shimpō showed Sam Fujikawa at the

Sadao has the US Army center at Wilshire and Federal named after him, Munemori Hall. Evergreen cemetery holds the remains of many of the 100/442 soldiers, but in the middle of the memorial there is a monument that goes 30 to 40 feet into the air with a life size statue of Sadao in his uniform. It is truly a remarkable sight. Sadao Munemori, a member of the most decorated unit of WWII, and the most decorated soldier of the 100th infantry, was extremely proud to call Glendale his home.

Editor's Note: The Munemori statement was read at the City of Glendale's Memorial Day Service, May 25, 1998. Copy of the statement was submitted to the Newsletter by June Kurisu, 100th Battalion Chapter News Reporter. Thank you.

Armed Forces Day parade in Torrance where he carried the colors. Ben Tagami and Hank Yoshitake were also there representing the 100th.

Memorial Day saw a good turnout of Association members and wives at the City of Glendale's memorial service honoring their native son, posthumous Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Sadao Munemori. Stanley Izumigawa, Maui 100th Chapter president A CO member and comrade of Munemori in France, spoke eloquently. Too eloquently, perhaps, because the audience seemed to have been looking forward to hearing some of the pidgin that Munemori learned from Stanley and other men from Hawaii. The program was a touching tribute to Munemori and the other native sons who lost their lives in the wars. Anglo veterans in their unit caps made themselves known to our veterans, talked to them and wanted photos taken with them. Floral wreaths with the logos of the 199th and the 442nd and another one from the 100th in Hawaii were displayed beside the monuments. Many pictures were taken by all who had cameras. Hank Yoshitake, Bill Sato, Yeiki Matsui, Hank Hayashi, Ben Tagami and George Kurisu represented the 100th. The Tagamis took Stanley to the memorial service at Evergreen Cemetery where Stanley saw the Munemori monument for the first

time. I'll send a copy of the program to George Nishinaka and the Nosakas with hope that they can find room to print the story of Munemori's life and exploits in an issue of the newsletter.

Our First Lady Teri Fujikawa was so kind to give me the names of the 100th members who attended the memorial service at Evergreen Cemetery Hershey & Terry Miyamura, Harumi & Colleen Sasaki, Harry Fukasawa, Douglas Tanaka, Fumi Sakato and her sister, Mas & Elma Takahashi, Bill Sato, Carlos & Beverly Picazo, Ben & Jean Tagami, Henry Hayashi, Lloyd & Michi Toda, Ted & Chiz Ohira, Sam & Teri Fujikawa, and our visitor from across the blue Pacific, Stanley Izumigawa. The cover of the program showed a close up of the statue of Sadao Munemori with a smiling face.

May 30 divided our vets to attend two events. At the ROTC awards and program honoring Sadao Munemori, a graduate of Abraham Lincoln High School, it was a pleasure to see such fine young men and women receiving awards for their outstanding service in the ROTC program. Members of the Association were called to the stage as a plaque with a replica of the Congressional Medal of Honor in honor of Munemori was presented to the high school. Members of the 100th in attendance were Yeiki Matsui, Bill Sato and George Kurisu. Association

president Kiyo Yamate was one of the 442nd veterans also attending. The other program at the Los Angeles Police Academy in honor of Asian Pacific Heritage month was attended by Ben Tagami, who carried the 100/442 colors, Hank Yoshitake and members of the Association and Sons and Daughters.

At the Los Angeles City Hall, the City Council passed a resolution honoring the Memorial Foundation on the monument which will be unveiled in October. Young O. Kim received the award. Thirty Association members were present. Rita Walters, councilwoman for Little Tokyo where the monument will be placed, told the audience that the segregated 100/442nd went to war while their families were behind barbed wire, 9,500 Purple Hearts awarded to their members.

From the Grandparents Corner: Bill and Irene Sato's grandson Matthew led the Pledge of Allegiance at the groundbreaking for the Go for Broke Monument. Sam & Teri Fujikawa have full time jobs now learning to be good grandparents to Kiana while her parents work.

ITEM BY ITEM

By Marian Yamashita

Here it is time for another article for the 442nd Newsletter. I am hoping that everyone received the March issue which was old news, but am hoping the rest of you out there got the more current issue, because I did write the article.

Recently, Dick Shinto's wife, Sets, had a very scary and freak accident near her home. They live in Montebello in front of a big wash and accidentally drove into the wash, demolishing her car. Though she spent several days

in the hospital after many tests & x-rays, luckily, came out with no broken bones or any serious injury, other than a hairline fracture that should get better with time & rest. But unfortunately, they have had to put their trip to Japan on hold.

Because of our age, seventy plus, we are slowly losing some of our friends. One especially that Item members will remember is Ernest Makita from Delhi, California who passed away recently. Though he was unable to attend any reunions, he will be remembered fondly by all. Other members who passed on are Henry Sakamoto who was living in Salinas with his son and Koichi Furutani who spent some time in Orange county before making it back home to Kauai. He had been confined to a wheel chair after suffering a stroke.

Fred Hamaishi, formerly of Los Angeles, has now moved up to Pleasant Hills to live with his son. This news came from Frank Shimada who stated that Fred had lost his voice and with Frank's 30% hearing they had difficulty in carrying on a conversation. He never mentioned whether it was over the phone or? It's tough trying to lip read over the phone.

Our most recent meeting was held in May on Mother's day at Oiwake restaurant in J-Town with a rice buffet dinner. Those in attendance were Jim & Saki Kawaminami, Tak & Mary Sensaki, Fred & Bea Matsumura, Jim & Amy Miyamoto, Jim & Marian Yamashita, Shuji & Chieko Taketomo, Bill Okazaki, Dick Shinto, and from Utah, Enro & Yoneko Okada with their son, Steve. And a surprise appearance by Tommy Harimoto who happened to be in town from Honolulu.

I CO had their 2nd round of golf at Los Amigos golf course. First place went to Tak

Senzaki, 2nd to Frank Kinoshita and 3rd place to Fred Matsumura. There will be another round in June at Lake-wood golf course which is the 3rd and final round for the year. It's the best 2 of 3 round to be declared "I" golf champ for 98. I understand Tak got his 2 best games in already and doesn't have to show unless he feels that someone is going to shoot a net score in the low 50s.

Fred & Bea Matsumura recently became new grandparents to a bouncing girl named Lonnie - our congratulations to them and their son, Dane and his wife.

Although, by the time you read this the AJA Veterans reunion in Hawaii would be history, but I hope those fortunate enough to attend enjoyed it. It may be the last of the major get together involving the WWII Veterans.

That's it, till next time!

IN TRIBUTE

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXTENDS ITS DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN THE PASSING OF

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| HENRY SAKATO | CO B |
| KAY ISHIBASHI | HQ |
| JOHN IZUMI | 522 |
| SHIG FUTAGASHI | E CO |
| TAKI HANDA | G CO |

IN TRIBUTE AND RESPECT TO THEIR MEMORY, ALL DIRECTORS STOOD IN REVERENCE AS THE BOARD ADJOURNED ITS MEETINGS ON APRIL 4, 1998 AND MAY 2, 1998.



We Niseis owe a debt of gratitude to the men who fought for rights of American citizenry guaranteed by our Constitution. We are beneficiaries of those sacrifices. Their valor proved to the nation the fervent American souls beneath almond-shaped eyes and Japanese names, resulting in the respect and acceptance enjoyed by Niseis today.

GO FOR BROKE

The United States flag draped their coffins
While their souls felt too much pain
So many voices never feeling
the stroke of the pen.

From Anzio to the Po Valley
From Voges mountain
To the borderline of France
Battlegrounds were streaked

From Anzio to the Po Valley
From Voges mountain
To the borderline of France
Battlegrounds were wet with tears
From souls
Pierced by the barbed wire
Surrounding one-room barracks
In desolate deserts-"Property of U.S. government."

The United States Army issued khakis
To Nisei soldiers of the 442nd Combat team
The United States Army issued khakis
To soldiers who stood in watch towers with guns
Pointed toward families of Nisei soldiers

Nisei soldiers dragged limbs
Till their bodies refused to move

"Go For Broke"
"Go For Broke"
Echoed above sounds of guns and mortar
Echoed above muffled moans of pain

With every gain on enemy's stronghold
Nisei soldiers silently dreamed:
Gates opening
Fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters
With the two suitcases
Allowed under Executive Order 9066
Exiting from the concentration camps:

freed from suffocating desert dust
scorching sun
winter's blistering cold
from crowded one room quarters
from community mess halls

Niseis soldiers silently dreamed of voices:
"Japanese Americans are loyal American Citizens."

- 57 Distinguished Service Crosses**
- 1 Distinguished Service Medal**
- 12 Oak Leaf Cluster**
- 560 Silver Stars**
- 22 Legion of Merits**
- Soldier's Medal**
- 38 Oak leaf clusters, 4000 bronze medals**
- 9486 Purple Heart Medals**
- Army Commendation**
- Division Commendation**
- Croix De Guerre (French)**
- Distinguished Unit Citation**
- Meritorious Service Unit Plaque**

Speak of their valor
*"The most highly decorated combat team
In United States Military history."*

But personal voices muted
Aches of their souls
Carried to their death.
Pain of disfranchisement
Covered by earth.

Weren't Germany and Italy also at war with the U.S.?
Why did only the American citizens of Japanese
ancestry have to prove their loyalty?
Why weren't citizens of German and Italian ancestry
also put behind barbed wires?

Nisei soldiers felt the weight
to these questions on the battleground
They dragged them
like shackles
On wounded limbs.

Suma Yagi
Seattle, Wash.

100/442 MAIL BOX

Read your last issue of the 100th/442nd Newsletter and note that you hadn't published the winter months narratives of the WWII history of the 442nd RCT. Enclosed for your use are the months of December, 1944 and January, 1945. I can't locate the February, 1945 narrative; however, I will be sending you the March, 1945 narrative before too long. You'll have to guess at some of the words which appear rather indistinct on some of the pages retrieved from the National Archives by Sus Yamamoto (Hq 2nd - transplanted buddahead in Maryland).

I hope the narratives have been helpful to the vets trying to recall and explain the events of those days to their family. Also, I hope it assists those involved in developing their oral histories. After all, so many years have passed - the "gray matter" up stairs is starting to breakdown and needs some coaching.

Aloha
Bill
W.Y. Thompson

Editor's Note: Thank you and all the readers of the 100th/442nd Veterans Newsletter also thank you. Over the past many months and years, you have been one of the most prolific contributors of the now many de-classified 100th/442nd Regimental Journal Reports which we have been reproducing in our bi-monthly newsletters. Now we learn that Sus Yamamoto is another person we owe thanks to for helping us to share these reports with our veterans. Incidentally, you may be interested to know that the other two contributors who have been helping in this process are Franz Steidl and Jack Herzig. Collectively, we all thank you.

Back in November, 1997, the Newsletter acknowledged that we were at that time still missing (4 months) December to March of 1945. We do have the December and January reports which you mentioned in your letter. We have been delayed in the computer inputting process, but hopefully, we will be able to start sharing the reports again in our next September 1998 issue. As you have acknowledged, the March 1945 report that you will be sending the Newsletter will then leave only the February 1945 report to locate. Regardless if and when, we do find and put into print the lost and last report, it will be our consolation that we will have provided our readers the official 442nd RCT Regimental history from June 9, 1944 to April 30, 1945.

Always a last editor's request, if anyone can locate the maps used during this period of 1944-1945 where the 442nd was, the Newsletter would be interested, because when the hill numbers and other designations were mentioned in the reports, one had the difficulty of knowing the more exact relative locations of the units as they were named or identified.

On Saturday, December 5, 1998, the 100th/442nd Veterans Association is having a "Salute" to Col Young Oak Kim. The Association in conjunction with the M.I.S. and the Monument Foundation is having a luncheon, at the Stevens Steak and Seafood House, 5332 Stevens Place, City of Commerce. \$20.00

For additional information call me.
Kiyoo Yamate, 626/794-2639

...acknowledging receipt of papers sent...in connection with Nisei OSSers, recruited

from the 442nd RCT.

...14 names will carry the 1st and last names only...on the monument.

... kindly mail me Newsletters which (will) contain the articles about the Nisei OSS so that I can mail them to our HQ in Honolulu Archives for preservation and posterity.

Thanking you in advance
Takeo Tanabe

Editor's Note: The Nisei OSS story will be offered in our Newsletter, ASAP.

....Dorothy Matsuo, wife of Medic's Purple Heart husband, Ted Matsuo, is now following up on her book, Boyhood to War, with an upcoming 2nd book, Silent Valor: The Story of the 442nd Medics.

She would appreciate greatly any impute from, especially, 442nd line veterans....to add to her story book of the 442nd Medics.

Please contact directly:
Dorothy Matsuo
3038 Lanikauia Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
808/988-2564

Harry F. Abe, M.D.
21 Joyce's Way
Bay Shore. NY 11706

I am trying to locate an "old buddy" of mine, Yoshimi Kawaguchi (D Co 100th).

If anyone can help me, I would appreciate the help. My name, address and phone #:
Herbert "Florida" Kimura
5355 Fifth Ave So
St Petersburg, FL 33707
813/321-3213

CHAPTER REPORTS
DUE
AUGUST 3

LOOKING AHEAD

clarified to my relief that I didn't have to go back to basic Grammar. She would help

me to identify the kinds of mistakes I was making. Interestingly, my problem areas turned out to be: dangling participles, agreement in series, split infinitives, redundancy, spelling, and proper use of articles, adjectives and adverbs. Parenthetically, she also suggested that I use simple sentences rather than complex sentences. But to this day, I still like to use even compound-complex sentences, maybe, as a challenge. She also informed me that I seem to write profusely, but I could better watch my using too many "flowery" words. I did and I still do. Admittedly, perhaps, for my own jollies.

I was obviously shown, taught and helped. For on my next appointment seven years later, in 1959, as Executive Director of Special Service for Groups (SSG), one of my first administrative directive to staff, at that time, numbering only eight in total, was that all SSG written reports, thereafter, leaving the SSG office must not only have good content and accurate information but must be presented grammatically correct, etc., etc. To the clerk-secretaries (remember this was in the 1960's), I even added that these written reports must look visually good.

It was a surprise to me at the time, but soon after, I learned that not only many of my own professional staff but too many other college graduates in the field also did not know how to write well or correctly.

Thus, at SSG, I had to edit personally many reports before they could go public, but as SSG grew and when the opportunity came to recruit new staff, I made it my own priority to recruit and to hire a staff person who could not only write well but could

also help edit SSG reports and proposals. I then found out that I was in turn able to concentrate more of my own time to managing and just for conceptualizing. The change must have been good and the timing was even good for within the next twenty-five years, SSG was transformed from a single "detached juvenile gang" Los Angeles service to becoming a national multiple service agency in training, research and service delivery in the health and social service field with a specialty in working with ethnic minority communities. By the time, I retired in 1985, SSG had grown to over 100 staff members with over 15 projects of which 5 projects were national in scope.

Upon retirement in 1985, I like many typical retirees became immersed in volunteer work. A case in example, in 1987, I fortuitously inherited as a volunteer the editorship of the 100th/442nd Newsletter. It has not only been a personal challenging trip but a very long trip in time, a ten year trip. The chapter reporters filing their bi-monthly reports, on the 3rd of every even months of the

year, came in a variety of forms - typed, hand printed or in "long hand." I, thankfully, do not see the copy stories until they have been inputted into the word processor by my associate. My task, then as the copy editor, is to review each copy and if needed to correct the grammar and spelling, etc. which then takes me back again to the 50's in time, over 30 years ago for me.

Fortunately, today, the spelling is no "big deal" for a dictionary is now programmed into computers which, incidentally, also helps to catch "typo's."

Moreover, although I do try also to catch mis information and/or sentences that make no sense, I do miss some. But these are for sure "computer errors?"

Editor's Note:

I am dedicating this column to my Youth Project Supervisor Miss Alice Collins; and I belatedly and publicly wish to thank her and to acknowledge the help and personal kindness which she extended to me so many years ago.

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