

100th/442nd NEWSLETTER



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ONE PUKA PUKA

By Teri Fujikawa

The 100th members have been busy during the past few months attending many events. Notably, many members were getting ready to leave for a trip to Honolulu to attend the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the 100th but some also made the trip to Sacramento on June 23rd and 24th to attend the recognition of the Japanese American WWII Veterans for their war efforts by the California Assembly at the State Capitol. It was the result of a measure introduced by Assemblyman GEORGE NAKANO and passed by the State Legislature. Each veteran attending received an engraved Certificate of Recognition from the State Assembly.

Among the hundreds taking the walking tour of the State Capitol, observing and participating in the ceremony honoring the Nisei Veterans by the State Assembly were BEN and JEAN TAGAMI, MAS and ELMA TAKAHASHI, AL TAKAHASHI, Col. YOUNG O. KIM, STEVE TAGAMI, KEN and HISA MIYA, SAM and TERI FUJIKAWA,

Many thanks and appreciation go to Assemblyman GEORGE NAKANO, CHRISTINE SATO-YAMAZAKI and the capable staff at the 100/442/MIS Foundation who helped with the arrangements and logistics of the wonderful and impressive trip to Sacramento

Two days later, on June 26th, 30 local members left for Honolulu to attend the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the 100th. In spite of many months of planning and advanced reservations, our flight on Hawaiian Airlines was canceled when we arrived at the airport to check in. We somehow survived the miserable ordeal and was able to enjoy thoroughly the next four days of the wonderful activities planned by the 100th hosts and their Sons and Daughters Club.

The unbeatable Hawaiian hospitality throughout our stay – at the Clubhouse Bash and open house, tour of the Missouri, the memorable huge Hilton Waikiki Banquet for over 860 people – was, without a doubt, very special and will remain warm memories for years to come.

Mainlanders who attended the festivities were BEN and JEAN TAGAMI, HENRY and ELSIE HAYASHI, KEN and HISA MIYA,

WILLIAM and IRENE SATO, TOKE and RAE YOSHIHASHI, MAS and ELMA TAKAHASHI, AL TAKAHASHI, TED and CHIZ OHIRA, LLOYD TODA, DUKE OGAWA, TOE YOSHINO, WAYNE FUJITA, ED and AMY NAKAZAWA, GEORGE and JUNE KURISU, LELAND KURISU, STEVE TAGAMI, JODEI HIRATA, MITSU FUCHIGAMI, SAM and TERI FUJIKAWA. Also joining us from Fresno were MARY CATHERINE DOI, son, DARYL and friend, MIDORI TANI; from Las Vegas, Col. YOUNG O. KIM; from Seattle, FRANK and HARU NISHIMURA and from Idaho WARREN TAMURA.

Poignantly, MITSURU and MATSUKO DOI came to the Clubhouse Bash from Kauai to greet their many friends who were so happy to see MITSURU. He passed away in August. Our club will miss him especially at our annual mini-reunions for his generous help in the Hospitality Room and wonderful singing at the banquets.

Another loss to our club is PAUL YASAKI (A), an active member from Lompoc. PAUL was scheduled to travel with us to Honolulu for the 60th Anniversary Celebration. We will certainly miss him. His late wife, BETSY predeceased him some years ago.

We send the DOI family and the YASAKI family our sincere condolences.

Sunday, July 28th found some of the "cooks" from the 100th helping at the Annual MIS Steak Bake

Fundraiser. Barbequeing chicken on the outdoor grill were BEN TAGAMI, TOKE YOSHIHASHI, TED OHIRA, DUKE OGAWA and SAM FUJIKAWA. The Maryknoll Church auditorium was filled with many who enjoyed a delicious lunch of prime roast beef or chicken, baked beans, salad, cole slaw, corn on the cob, rice, sliced melon and assorted drinks. Many prizes were given out during the Bingo sessions and door prize drawings were held throughout the afternoon.

The proceeds from the event are donated to charities including the Go For Broke Memorial Foundation. The 100th members like to attend each year to support the MIS who always support many of our events.

At our club meeting on August 17th, we had a good time making more plans for the October mini-reunion.

Our September 1st deadline for registering was met by the following: JOHN SAKATO, BEN and JEAN TAGAMI, SAM and TERI FUJIKAWA, CHUCKIE SEKI, MITSU FUCHIGAMI, MAS ISHIDA, SAM and SARA TERASAKI, TONY MIYASAKO, YEIKI MATSUI, TOE YOSHINO, TED SATO, TED and CHIZ OHIRA, HARRY and YOSHI KIYABU, JAMES and MARY AKAGI, DUKE and DOROTHY OGAWA, CHARLIE and BESSIE OKAZAKI, HARRY and HARUMI SASAKI, WAYNE FUJITA, MAY FUJITA, HENRY and ELSIE HAYASHI, FUMI SAKATO, AILEEN YOSHINO, MICHAEL and GENE DOI, MARY CATHERINE DOI, DARYL DOI,

TOKE and RAE YOSHIHASHI, PAULINE YOSHIHASHI, PEGGY YOSHIHASHI, HARRY FUKASAWA, NOBY OKAMOTO, WARREN TAMURA, KEN and HISA MIYA, KOW and BETTY ITO, RICK and JAN GEARY, JEAN MIYASATO, MARY KATAYAMA, PEGGY DEVENY, BETTY PRUETT, SAM and SHERRY RICHARDSON, BILL and CARMEN POKA, JIM KATAYAMA, JERRY OKAZAKI, MITZI OKAZAKI, STAN and MARY SANFORD, DON and SETSUKO MIYADA, BILL and MARGARET OMOTO, JIM and VIRGINIA MIZUNO, BRENT PARKS, SHIZUYA HAYASHI, MIMI NAKANO, MILLIE FENCL, RONNIE KALVAITIS, ED and HELEN NAKASHIMA, TOSH and LOIS TANIGUCHI, TOM and GLADYS TSUDA, WILLIAM and IRENE SATO, LLOYD and MICHİ TODA, LLOYD, JR. and BETTY TODA, JEFF and JUNE FUKAWA, MAS and ELMA TAKAHASHI, HERSHEY and TERRY MIYAMURA, GEORGE and FLORENCE KINOSHITA.

We have to end this with the sad news that TERUMI "TED" YOSHIWARA (B) of North Hollywood passed away on August 26th in Las Vegas where he and his wife have been residing for the past eleven years. He is survived by his wife, SADIE, sons, TED, Jr., DEAN (CHRIS) of Moorpark, CA and JON of Portland, OR; eleven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren and sister, MITSUKO (KEI) OKUHARA. We will all miss him very much. We send SADIE and family our deepest sympathies.

EASY DOES IT

By Robert Ichikawa

MEETING

20 July 2002, Wednesday. E Company members met at Reikai's Kitchen in Li'l Tokyo for our monthly meeting. Thanks to HAGI for arranging the luncheon. We all enjoyed the tasty food.

Later President HIDEO WACHI conducted a short meeting. BEN gave out info for the E Company mini in Las Vegas at the California Hotel. If you haven't registered yet, get with it. JOU says the treasury is AOK. STERLING provided more information about the Veterans Administration.

There to enjoy were the following: M. FUJITA, R. ICHIKAWAS, H. KAWARATANIS, G. KUBO, M. KUNIHIROS, G. KUSUNOKIS, J. OKITSUS, J. ONOS, S. SUGAS, M. TAKAMINES, H. WACHIS, B. YAMANAKAS, and G. YOSHIHARA.

Thanks to the KUSUNOKIS and WACHIS for the snacks and BEN for the birthday cake.

TAPESTRY

9 August 2002, Friday. We had a special viewing of the 120,000 Tassel Tapestry displayed at JANM. Students from the Sunnyside and Tecumseh Middle Schools in Lafayette, Indiana created a 19' x 41' quilt with poems, letters, flags and memorabilia donated by the Japanese American veterans. The

quilt was made by students under the guidance of educator, LEILA MEYERRATKEN who was there at the exhibit with students IRELI OROZCO and KYLE EDGELL. They turned the Japanese American experience into a question of "Can this happen again?"

NISEI WEEK

11 August 2002, Sunday. The 100/442 was again honored to provide the Color Guard leading the 62nd Annual Nisei Week Parade. Guards carrying the Colors were: S. FUJIKAWA (100), R. ICHIKAWA (E) (for the 40th consecutive time, mm); N. IKUTA (I), T. TOKUDA (522) and relief man H. HAMAZAKI. Guards in uniform were: R. HAWKENS, R. NAKAISHI, K. SHIGEMITSU and G. YEE.

MEETING

17 August 2002, Saturday. E Company members again were fortunate to have reservations at Reikai's Kitchen. We were honored to have guests from Washington, D.C., KELLY/FUMI KUWAYAMA who were in LA to attend a brother's son's wedding. We were all very glad to see our good friend and buddy, KELLY/FUMI. All of us in E Company are very grateful to KELLY for tending to our wounds and other ailments. Thanks, KELLY and to all of the medics for that matter.

Those in attendance were: M. FUJITA, R. ICHIKAWAS, G. KANATANI, H. KAWARATANIS, G. KUBO, G. KUSUNOKIS, B. OGAWA, J. OKITSUS, S. SUGA, M. TAKAMINES, H. WACHIS, K. YAMATES and LYLE.

A short meeting was conducted by our President, HIDEO WACHI. BEN commented on TSUNE TAKEMOTO'S award in Honolulu and quoted from the medic book and the up and coming reunion in Honolulu on April 3, 2003. Treasurer JOU reports the treasury is in good shape. MIKE reported on the coming events for the 100th/442nd. KIYO reported on the 100/442/MIS Foundation.

Thanks again to HAGI for arranging for the luncheon and goodies.

IN THE NEWS

A photo of TSUNE/YAEKO TAKEMOTO appeared in the Tribune-Herald noting his induction into the Hawaii Army Museum Societies Gallery of Heroes at the US Army Museum in Fort DeRussy, Honolulu.

TSUNE remembers when his platoon was pinned down by German machine guns. Staff Sergeant TAKEMOTO was platoon leader and on October 29, 1944, near Biffontaine he charged up Hill 617 for thirty yards firing his Thompson all the way. The rest of the platoon followed destroying the enemy stronghold. A dozen Germans counterattacked with burp guns firing. Then TSUNE organized a skirmish line flanking the enemy and routed the Germans and captured thirty four prisoners of war. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions. He fought in Italy and France and was hit twice in combat. He was awarded the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, Silver Star,

Bronze Star and the French Croix de Guerre, Silver Star and Legion Awards.

We hope that TSUNE will be upgraded to the Medal of Honor soon.

SACRAMENTO

When we were at the California Assembly session honoring the 100th/442nd/MIS on June 23rd, we chanced to meet former E Company member, MELVIN MURAMOTO formerly from Hilo now living in Sacramento.

TRAVELERS.

ROY/WUTA TSUYA traveled with a group from Hawaii on a European tour visiting all of the old battlefields. Tour guide was FRED IDA (G) with Bishop RYOKAN ARA of the Tendai Mission in Honolulu.

HIDEO/SHIZ WACHI toured the Seattle area visiting relatives and friends.

MILDRED NAKATA in Seattle in September visiting daughters there.

TOM/LILY MAEDA traveling to Torrance for LILY'S nephew's wedding. Then on to Las Vegas for the E Company mini.

HARUKO OYAMA toured Greenland, Iceland and the Faroe Islands on July 6th. Later back in Honolulu she visited the Kaneohe Marine Corps Base, where an archeologist and biologist pointed out the geologic features of the base.

CHIYOKO TAKEMOTO toured the national parks in the northwest on June 17-18 visiting Mount

Rushmore and many WWII relocation centers.

SICK CALL

ELAINE ITO with skin grafts on her leg.

FUIKO FUJITA mending.

KELLY/FUMI KUWAYAMA getting better.

ROY OZAWA taking it easy.

TOK SHIOMICHI coasting.

GEORGE/RUTH YOSHIHARA relaxing.

OUR PRAYERS TO ALL FOR SPEEDY RECOVERIES.

TAPS

GEORGE FURUICHI (80) passed on July 10th. Services were held at the Buddhist Temple in Mountain View on July 26th. Our sympathies to ROSIE and the family.

FOX HOLE NEWS

By Frank Morimoto

Congratulations!!!! F Company couple, FRANCES and MUNROE SHINTANI celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 22, 2002 in Odessa, Texas, where MUNROE has retired from teaching at the University. Children CAL, RACHEL and KIYOMI sent us an invitation which was misplaced so we were unable to respond.

During our combat days I never got to meet MUNROE because we were in different platoons. Later I learned that his sister-in-law was a

good friend of my wife, YURI in the 1930s in the Pasadena area. We hope they had a nice party and apologize for not answering their invitation.

TOM KAWANO. A very dear Army buddy who lived in Kingsburg, CA died on August 21, 2002, after losing a 5 1/2 week battle with pneumonia.

I met TOM at Fort Custer, MI and we served together at Camp Blanding, FL, Camp Shelby, MS and we served overseas together. He was assigned to K Company, 442, and fought in the Battle of Bruyères, the rescue of "The Lost Battalion," the Champagne Campaign and the Po Valley.

TOM was inducted into the Army in August 1941 at Fresno, CA and had his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO and was assigned to an engineer battalion. Then to Fort Custer, MI where he married his wife, MARY who came out of Topaz Relocation Camp. After the war ended in Europe he came back to Fort McDowell in October 1945 and was discharged in December 1945 at Camp Grant, IL.

They were blessed with three children, NORMAN, KENNY and JULIE and two grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the Kingsburg Buddhist Temple with burial following in the Kingsburg Cemetery.

KAM TOYOTA, I Company 442, rendered a great eulogy with RUDY TOKIWA, K Company talking about his combat experiences. I was an honorary pall bearer.

We had the pleasure of seeing "MIMI" MISAO YATABE, wife of ROBERT who was in K Company with TOM and KIYONO TOMINAGA, widow of MELVIN who we knew at Fort Custer. We had a nice visit with the family and it brought back many memories.

We send our sincere condolences to the family.

JIM MITA, F Company member from the Chicago area sent us an article about BILL MAULDIN, the fabulous WWII cartoonist for the *European Stars and Stripes* who is now living in a convalescent hospital in Santa Ana, CA. He would like to hear from veterans who served in the same units that he was assigned to. I have been trying to locate where he is hospitalized because I wanted to visit him but have not been successful. F Company member FRANK FUKUZAWA informed me that the 100/442/MIS Memorial Foundation sent him a card.

The 100/442/MIS Memorial Foundation held their Third Anniversary dedication of the Monument in Los Angeles on June 16, 2002 and it was a gala event with many veterans and their families participating in the program. General ERIC SHINSEKI honored us with his presence.

LET GEORGE DO IT

By Mary Karatsu

Will report next time.

HOW IT'S DONE

By Mike Tsuji

The Chapter met for regular meetings for the last two months at the Kiku Restaurant in Gardena, a Japanese-Korean place, carved out from what appears to be a former hamburger/fast food place. It is the latest find by TED and CHIZ OHIRA and the usual members showed up faithfully, as always.

The latest former but "original" member to show up regularly is none other than RODNEY SHIOSAKI, tough-guy mortar man from Lt. MAURICE WILLIAMS' Third Platoon. RODNEY volunteered from the Big Island, then settled in the Los Angeles area in 1956, working as a machinist with the County. He is now a great grandfather and, like the rest of us, lives in retirement in Alhambra.

Another new regular member is KEN SHIGEMITSU, current Association President and grand-nephew of the late H Company member, SOICHI MIOTA of Honolulu. KEN has been doing an excellent job with the position he automatically or unfairly inherited upon joining which is to represent H Chapter on the Association Board.

The latest event in the pipeline is the pending 60th Anniversary Celebration in Honolulu next April, commemorating the six decades that have elapsed since the activation of the RCT. Details of the four day affair should be released officially by the Association shortly.

Another coming event is the Association's General Meeting on Saturday, September 7th, which was formerly held annually at the Association's Hall. With the sale of the Memorial Hall, it appears that a decision was made to hold this year's General Meeting at the Golden Dragon Restaurant at 960 North Broadway in Los Angeles' Chinatown.

Finally and thankfully, Executive Chef BEN TAGAMI and assistants, HENRY HAYASHI, SAM FUJIKAWA and others of the 100th Battalion Chapter will be relieved of slave duty not having to prepare again the steaks and other good things for all the hungry former GIs, their wives, kids and guests. Other chapters will also be resting on their laurels (and chairs) this year, not having to bring pots and pans full of other parts of the usually generous menu.

Recent correspondence included Thank You letters from HATSUYE SARAYE, EMI UJIYE and LABECCA PADDOCK. LABECCA was kind enough to enclose a photograph of BRYSON'S gravestone engraved with "H Co., 442nd Infantry," in remembrance of the love and respect of the people he served with.

MILDRED TAHARA of Honolulu and HIMI MORISHIGE of Denver mailed generous contributions in memory of their respective spouses, 'FAT' TAHARA, Third Platoon Section Sergeant and Postwar Vietnam era Colonel and Brigade Commander and SHIG MORISHIGE, Second Platoon machine gunner and postwar Big Man in the Denver area American

Legion, as well as golfing fanatic who spent much time on the course with none other than Golf Champion, SLIM MURAKAMI. Thank you all.

ITEM BT ITEM

By Marian Yamashita

Summer has come and gone and it's time for another newsletter.

Just last week, a couple of days after Labor Day, JIM and AMY MIYAMOTO pulled up stakes in Norwalk after 45 years and moved to Mill Creek, Washington, where one of their sons, ROBERT and his family live. Because JIM and AMY are getting on in years they felt they should be closer to their family. They will be living in a senior care home where their meals will be furnished. JIM has been secretary for I Company for many years and both he and AMY have been great supporters of the club. We will miss them and hope they will be down periodically to visit. In case anyone would like to get in touch with them, their address is Merrill Gardens, 14905 Bothell-Everett Hwy, Mill Creek WA 98012.

Another person on the move is LOUISE KASHINO. After living in the same house for 45 years in Seattle, practically all her grown up years, raising her family and all, she has sold her home and is moving into a condo nearby. Her new address is 1515 E. Yesler Way, Apt. 307, Seattle, WA 98122. She feels that her phone number will not change.

I Company's bus ride to Las Vegas has been filling up fast. Some in California have chosen to drive instead. Altogether 46 people have decided to attend this no-host mini-reunion at the California Hotel for a few days of R&R, feeding the slot machines and rolling the dice.

In addition to the SoCal bunch we will be joined by DOT and LAURA SUZUMOTO, CB and GAY SAKAMOTO, BRUNO and ELLEN YAMADA, all from Hawaii; MUZZY KIMURA from Palo Alto; PAT and TOM WATANUKI from Apple Valley; ENRO and YONE OKADA from Hesperia, BILL OKAZAKI from Denver and GEORGE MORIHIRO and KACHI IKEDA from Seattle..

Although we anticipate many individual fellowships, the only official get-together will be a no-host luncheon at the Main Street Hotel on Wednesday, October 9th between 10-11:30 am. California coupons will be honored. Others will be assessed \$7.95. A gratuity of 17.5% will apply in all cases. See you all there!

The third and final golf tournament of the year for I Company was held in Oceanside on July 10th with FRANK KINOSHITA in charge.

The golfing was great as usual, but the stop at the 19th hole at the KINOSHITA home for all the great food that TAMI, FRANK'S wife, had prepared was fabulous. Although the guys go to golf, they look forward to the delicious food.

The winners were HARRY YOSHIMURA in first place, FRANK KINOSHITA, second place, and IKE

ITO third. Good luck to others next time.

Recently BILL NAKAGAWA, local member of I Company passed away of cancer. Our heartfelt sympathies go to his wife, PAULINE and the children. We will all miss BILL.

If you are planning to attend the 442nd Veterans 60th Anniversary Reunion in Hawaii in April 2003 and have not received the official registration form, contact the 442nd Veterans Club, 933 Wiliwili St., Honolulu HI 96826; telephone: (808) 949-7007. Pleasant Holidays is the official travel and hotel accommodations tour agency. Their mainland contact phone number is (800) 818-9080.

LOVE NOTES

By Hiro Nishikubo

On August 8th, we had our bi-monthly luncheon meeting at the Kiku Restaurant in Gardena. We had a big crowd attending. Those attending were AKI and TAKI MINAMIDE, SAM and YO IKARI, DON and SUMI SEKI, BEN and FUDGE KITAGAWA, TOM MORI, KIYO TAKABAYASHI, STANLEY TAKEMOTO and HIRO and BETTY NISHIKUBO. It was good to see FUDGE out again and on her feet after her hip problem. We hadn't seen STAN for some time. He looks good.

Topics we discussed at the meeting included the 60th Anniversary Reunion in Honolulu, April 3rd to the 6th, 2003. We haven't received the details yet but we're expecting them shortly.

We also discussed the upcoming mini-reunion in Las Vegas on November 4th to the 8th. Those of us planning to attend are AKI and TAKI MINAMIDE, SUMI and DON SEKI, YO and SAM IKARI and TOM MORI. We hope YO MORI will be going. She has been under the weather a bit. FUDGE and BEN KITAGAWA plan to be there as well as BETTY and HIRO NISHIKUBO.

We missed HAZEL IMAMURA at this meeting. We hope she's all right and just forgot about the meeting.

It looks as though this will be our last meeting at Kiku's as they are closing for lunch from now on. I guess we'll have to find another place for our October meeting.

This past August we had some sad news. We lost several L Company members and one widow. We learned that SEIICHI "FRECKLES" OSHIRO and JACOB JICHAKU of Hawaii have passed away. They were active and valued members and will be sorely missed. "FRECKLES" added so much to L Company events with his music. JAKE together with GENRO KASHIWA started the L Company memoirs which now has grown to six volumes. Our deepest condolences go to their families.

Then we received word that SACHI IZUMI of Chicago had passed

away. It was a shock as her name was on the list of people from the Midwest who would be coming to the Las Vegas mini-reunion as she had been doing for the last five years or so. Our condolences go to her family.

There is one more piece of sad news to report. On August 30th we paid our last respects to JACK YOSHIMOTO who was in Headquarters Platoon. Those of us at his service at Green Hills were SAM and YO IKARI, AKI and TAKI MINAMIDE, TOM and YO MORI, DON SEKI, BEN KITAGAWA and HIRO and BETTY NISHIKUBO. He had a wonderful service. He is buried at Green Hills Cemetery in Rancho Palos Verdes. Our condolences go to his extended family.

On a lighter note, DON and SUMI SEKI, AKI and TAKI MINAMIDE, KIYO TAKABAYASHI and HIRO and BETTY NISHIKUBO made it to the Educational Foundation Picnic in Torrance. The food was terrific and served on time. The day was very pleasant and everyone seemed to be visiting and catching up with each other. We all had a good time. Thanks, "Hanashi group," for a great picnic.

Our sick list seems to be getting smaller. We haven't heard from TAK HASHIMURA in a while, so I have to assume he's coming along OK. MINO KAMINISHI is still the same. It was good to see YO MORI at JACK'S service. She says she's still hanging in there as are all of us. YO IKARI gets around with a lot of help from SAM.

That's about it for this time. Notices for our October luncheon meeting will be sent at the end of September. See you all then.

TANKBUSTERS

By Henry Ikemoto

In July 2002 we received a letter postmarked, Honolulu, HI. It was from GORO and YAYOKO INABA, Holualoa, HI 96725;

Enclosed was a clipping from the WHT (West Hawaii Today) Newspaper, June 10, 2002, with a modest note by GORO. "This article appeared in our local paper. Hope all is well with you folks. We are both OK."

With permission from YAYO, I am quoting most of the article for the Tankbuster Report in the 100/442 Veterans Association Newsletter.

COUPLE CARRYING ON FAMILY HOTEL TRADITION

By Ann C. Peterson
WHT Correspondent

GORO INABA was born in 1916 and still resides on the Big Island in the town of Holualoa. He was named GORO since his birth rank was the fifth, and the Japanese word for five is "go". Jindero, his father, emigrated from Fukuoka, Japan in 1898 and was one of few free laborers who came to Hawaii. He tried plantation work but did not like it so he walked from Hilo to Kona to find other work. He was one of the first to plant coffee trees in the area now called the Kona Coffee

Belt. Around 1900, Jindero started working for a German emigrant, Luther Aungst. Aungst started a private telephone company that covered Ka'u to Waimea, and then, he opened a garage in the building that is now the Kona Art Center. In the meantime Inaba's mother left Hiroshima, Japan and came to Hawaii. She worked as a maid for a Honolulu kamaaina family. She knew two English phrases: "Thank you" and "Good morning." Life was difficult for her. Kona was attracting a growing population of Japanese, and she moved to Kona, met Jindero and married him.

The couple worked for Aungst for 27 years, then left to start their own business. The town of Holualoa was developing into quite a city with a sugar plantation, coffee farms, stores, barber shops, pool halls, bakery, laundry and even a theater. In 1926, they built the Kona Hotel which still operates to this day by family members. Mr. Inaba's specialty was to serve T-bone steaks in the hotel dining room. Back then, the dinner cost \$1.50 and went up to \$2.50. Coffee which was grown in their small orchard was roasted and served to appreciative guests. The town also had an M.D., Dr. Hayashi who lived across the street from their home. He made house calls even in the middle of the night. His son took over the practice in later years.

Inaba's boyhood memories were of good times, balanced with chores and swimming, fishing, sandlot baseball and other games.

During WWII he served with the 442nd RCT, Anti-Tank Company in Italy. "We were one of the troops to invade Southern France. We went in on gliders." His wall is decorated with photographs from the reunions attended with his veteran friends.

Inaba met Yayoko, his wife in Holualoa. She was born on Maui, grew up on Lanai, went to school in Oahu and became a social worker with the Department of Public Welfare. She met him through his brother while on a 1948 Outreach Program to Kona. Together they worked in the hotel to provide a home atmosphere for the workers who came to develop the area. They served meals until 1990, when the task became too difficult. Goro and Yayoko have four children. Their children and grandchildren are in and out of their home and they enjoy being grandparents. Hopefully, one of the children will continue the hotel business. They have many guests from Europe. During a recent week they hosted guests from Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Poland and Germany. Since their rates are reasonable and they don't mind sharing the bathroom, their European guests are comfortable.

Goro enjoys making preserves and roasting his special blend of coffee, not for sale, but to give to friends. When they go to Los Angeles for a visit, they always provide the Anti-Tank group with the specially marked coffee label, "GORO MEI."

Their success, happiness and healthy longevity gives the rest of us hope for the future.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our annual social with the ladies. It will be held on October 19, 2002, Saturday at

Huff's Restaurant
7148 Edinger Avenue
Huntington Beach, California
714-841-9934

Please call Roy Nishio at 714-993-2092 by October 14, 2002 if you plan to attend.

HIGH ANGLE

By Tadd Tokuda

Just returned from fishing! Well, we had a very busy August.

On August 9th, we attended the special showing of the "120,000 Tassel Tapestry" at the Japanese American National Museum. The tapestry was made by the students of Tecumseh Middle School in Lafayette, Indiana. It was a large (19' x 42') quilt with 120,000 tassels representing the issei and nisei who were incarcerated in the concentration camps. This quilt includes poems, letters, flags and original memorabilia. The video of the making of this monumental project explained the idea "Can this happen again?" The teacher Mrs. Meyerratken brought three of her children plus two students.

On August 20th, we had a meeting which was well attended.

SEIKO ISHIHARA taught the women how to make a Christmas wreath from the plastic holder for 6-pack drinks. Thank you, SEIKO.

Next meeting will be on October 15th at Merrit Park Club House and then we will be going to Las Vegas from October 22nd to October 24th.

Next Newsletter deadline:

November 1, 2002

LATE DELIVERY OF NEWSLETTERS

From what I can determine the May issue of the *Newsletter*, which was sent to the printer before May 14, which is the day the MOH European Tour left LAX, was received by the members in late July. I called the mailing company to inquire if there had been a problem.

The lady said the *Newsletter* went to the post office on a "timely basis" and postal receipt was received on a timely basis. Occasionally the post office will misplace a mailing. It is easy to lose track of a small job lot.

As of the date the September issue goes to the printer, the July issue of the *Newsletter* has not been

received. I sent it to the printer before the 15th of July.

I will note the date that the September issue of the *Newsletter* is sent to the printer and note the date that the issue is received.

This collapse in delivery is unconscionable and not fair to the members who have expectations of delivery nor is it fair to the reporters since each issue contains the date of the next deadline. This issue will go to the printer late because I was forced to call reporters for their reports.

If the *Newsletter* were appended to a medium with a greater circulation number the problem of delay in delivery can be ameliorated.

WALKING IS GOOD FOR YOU?

It is well documented that for every minute you exercise, you add a minute to your life. This enables you, at 85 years of age, to spend an additional five months in a nursing home at \$5000 per month.

My grandmother started walking five miles a day when she was sixty. Now she's 97 years old and we don't know where the hell she is.

The only reason I would take up exercising is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.

I joined a health club last year and spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to show up.

I have to exercise early in the morning before my brain figures out what I'm doing.

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

I have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.

The advantage of exercising every day is that you die healthier.

. If you are going to try cross-country skiing start with a small country.

And last but not least, I don't exercise because it makes the ice jump right out of my glass! (What does this mean? mm).

ITALY MEDAL OF HONOR CEREMONY
INTRODUCTION SPEECH (NOT MADE)

BY

COONEL CHRISTOPHER KEEGAN

23 MAY 2002

In October 2001, I was fortunate to have a similar talk at the dedication of the Medal of Honor Memorial in Riverside, California National Cemetery. Twenty-two Japanese American soldiers of the 100th/442nd Regiment of World War II had their names enshrined on the only monument dedicated to all Medal of Honor recipients. It is a beautiful memorial and contains the names of 3,420 Medal of Honor holders who so gallantly served our nation. When the tall, thin cypress trees - each representing a Medal of Honor - reach their full height, it will be an awesome and beautiful shrine to visit and behold. While it took a little over half a century (56 years) to honor these Japanese American soldiers today, it took over a century and a half to establish a memorial to all the most gallant and brave men who earned the Medal of Honor.

I have been associated with the men of the 100th/442nd since 3 February 1943. They impressed me then. They were more American than I. There was something special about these men. Not only had they been involved in some of the most trying experiences of their lives - rejection, discrimination, families in so-called relocation camps - but as a group they developed and retained a special bond - like a band of brothers that eventually became a family that has remained strong for almost six decades. They became part of my family - more than just friends - my wife and I and my children cherished their friendship. It's the main reason why we are here. We are family.

What makes a great combat unit? President Lincoln is known for many things, but I like one of his phrases, "Our life consists of friendships." From activation through combat, the 442nd built Esprit de Corps by having "Family Friendship Parties" every month, in each company, our families, officers, wives, and enlisted men. These gatherings continued after the war and are living testimony today that their comradeship, the family, and friends are an important part of our lives.

In the 59 years that I have been associated with the men of the 442nd, there is one word that embodies all of its accomplishments. The word is "consistency." It is non-negotiable, the bottom line, an unforgiving record that confers medals upon those who perform not once but burn bright with the repetition of achievements. It is a record of heights reached, character tested, and courage born. It is the awesome greatness of "Legendary Valor" - 22 Medals of Honor and 8 Presidential Unit Citations.

I'm not going to repeat Captain Burkes' excellent review of the battles of the 100th/442nd, but I want to give you a couple of examples of what became known as "Legendary Valor" in a unit that gained more medals for bravery and more Purple Hearts

and, finally, more Medals of Honor than any other unit in American military history. Indeed, the 100th/442nd became known as the "Purple Heart Unit" – over 3,600 Purple Hearts and 550 Oak Leaf Clusters. In my company two men had four Purple Hearts; over 130 had one or more.

BELVEDERE-SUVERETO: This provided the first taste of combat for the combined 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team. The 2nd and 3rd battalions initiated the attack. The 3rd battalion was stopped by the enemy at Suvereto; the 2nd battalion gained its objective – the ridge line east of Belvedere – by 0900. The 100th battalion, using the gap provided by the 2nd battalion's seizure of the ridge east of Belvedere, employed in a column of companies, outflanked the enemy at Belvedere, destroying a German battalion-plus – a brilliant maneuver. In this action, a member of F Company, 2nd battalion, a 60mm mortar Sergeant from F Company, received a Distinguished Service Cross – later upgraded to a Medal of Honor, and the 100th battalion received a Presidential Unit Citation.

HILL 140: This is a misnomer. Hill 140 was actually a low knoll that extended west from a ridge line varying from 212 to 277 feet. Again, the 2nd battalion was out front, with the 3rd battalion in the valley south and west of Hill 140. It took three days and four nights to clear the ridge line. The mortar platoon of H Company fired 1,200 rounds in support of both battalions. G Company lost all its officers except the company commander; H Company lost three officers (1 KIA and 2 WIA) plus 15 enlisted men. This action resulted in 7 Distinguished Service Crosses – four later converted to Medal of Honor (3 from G Company, 1 from E Company).

PASTINE-SAN LUCE: Sgt. Sugiyama, a machine gun squad leader, killed two enemy riflemen and a machine gun crew with grenades, led an attack of E Company riflemen against a counter-attacking enemy force, destroying two more enemy machine guns with grenades, killing five. In his attempt to destroy a third enemy machine gun, he was killed by a burst of enemy fire. I observed the entire battle. The Observation Post was a building called the Pink House. It provided a clear observation north and went to the sea. Consequently, the location was under constant enemy fire. Three radio operators were KIA and several observers wounded, including myself. I was hit twice by enemy shrapnel. In the dusk on my way back to the company command post, I captured a German soldier. He was as surprised as I was. After the fall of San Luce, the enemy retreated almost to the Arno River and was leaving Leghorn-Pisa. It was a wonderful and well-earned sight to behold the Leaning Tower! Taking Pastina and San Luce opened the road west to Leghorn and Pisa. This action earned the unit 3 Distinguished Service Crosses (for men from G, K, and H Companies.), two of which were upgraded to Medal of Honor (G and K companies). The other Distinguished Service Cross went to H Company's Sgt. Sugiyama.

TO THE ARNO: During this part of the campaign, the 100th battalion received six more Distinguished Service Crosses – all of which were later upgraded to Medal of Honor – as well as another Distinguished Unit Citation. The 2nd and 3rd battalions earned 13 Distinguished Service Crosses, 7 of which were later converted to Medal Of Honor, for a total of 13 Medals Of Honor for the 442nd in this phase of the campaign.

TO THE PO RIVER: The 100th/442nd received three more Medals of Honor after it returned from France to Italy, for a total of 16 Medals Of Honor received during the Italian campaign. On a ridge overlooking the Italian Sea on 21 April 1945 near San Terenzo, Lt. Daniel K. Inouye's dreams of becoming a doctor died. There he lost his right arm when a German grenade smashed his right elbow. He received the Distinguished Service Cross - later upgraded to Medal of Honor - for destroying three enemy machine guns and spent two years in Army hospitals. He later became the first Japanese American elected to Congress and the Senate. When he was notified that he would receive the Medal of Honor, Dan said, "I'm deeply gratified to my nation for this extraordinary honor. He said further, "The making of a man includes many mentors. Credit should be given to my parents, grandparents, my officers, and the gallant men of my unit. This is their medal, and I will receive it on their behalf."

A VIGNETTE FROM FRANCE: I had the privilege of writing recommendations for four Distinguished Service Crosses, one of which was converted to a Medal of Honor for Staff Sergeant Robert Kuroda for actions in Bruyères, France. Sgt. Kuroda, a mortar platoon section leader, volunteered to lead a group of his mortar squad and men of the 2nd battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company to dislodge an enemy force that had stopped the battalion's supply unit from reaching E and F companies.

At this time I was acting battalion S-3, and had not released H Company to my Executive Officer. While discussing the situation with Lt. Farnum of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Lt. Hadani and Sgt. Kuroda of the mortar platoon stopped in the vicinity. After listening to a discussion of the problem, they volunteered to help clear the area for the supply unit. It was then decided to attack at first light with the men from the battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company plus a squad from the mortar platoon and elements of the Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon under Lt. Farnum and Sgt. Kuroda. The Vosges Forest provided darkness so intense that you couldn't see a tree at a two-foot distance. In this darkness they organized for their attack.

Leading his men in advance of the supply unit, Sgt. Kuroda encountered heavy fire from the enemy occupying a heavily wooded slope. He attacked an enemy machine gun and killed three enemy gunners with grenades. He then fired clip after clip of rifle ammunition, killing or wounding three more of the enemy. As he expended the last of his ammunition, he observed that Lt. Farnum had been struck by a burst of fire from another enemy machine gun. Rushing to the officer's assistance, Sgt. Kuroda found that

Lt. Farnum, had been killed. Picking up the lieutenant's submachine gun, Staff Sgt. Kuroda advanced through continuous fire toward another machine gun and destroyed the position, killing all occupants. As he turned to fire on additional enemy riflemen, he was killed. Sgt. Kuroda's courageous action and indomitable fighting spirit ensured the destruction of enemy resistance in the area. Lt. Farnum's actions also merited a Distinguished Service Cross but the award was lowered to a Silver Star by 36th Division Headquarters.

President Truman, when he presented the eighth and final Presidential Unit Citation on the 100th/442nd colors, said, "I can't tell you how much I appreciate the privilege of being able to show you how much the United States thinks of what you have done. You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice, and you won."

Through the ages, men of all nations and all races have fought well and died well. Once in a while a man under extraordinary circumstances flings down the gauntlet of death, defies fate, and is unwilling to say farewell to the conflict in order to move others or change the conflict to his or her unit's advantage. Chance and chance only decides whether we live or die, and it's remarkable when we do live. It is my honor to introduce one man who did, one man who on the 29th of November 1943 near Cerasuolo, Italy acted with such conspicuous gallantry at the risk of his life to earn the Medal of Honor.

He was born and raised in the sugar plantation town of Waialua in Hawaii. He worked in the machine tool shop of the sugar factory until, at the age of 24, he was drafted into the US Army in September 1940. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, CMH Hayashi and all other soldiers of Japanese ancestry were placed in a unit called the "Hawaiian Provisional Battalion" and placed under suspicion because of their ancestry. After finally convincing the US Army Command that they wanted to fight for the United States – not just patrol the beaches in Hawaii – the unit was designated the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) and sent to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin for training in June 1942. The rest is history, as Private Hayashi and his comrades fought their way through many battles in Italy and France. It is my pleasure to introduce Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Shizuya Hayashi.

**CASUALTIES
OF THE
100TH/442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM**

ROME TO THE ARNO

	Officers	Enlisted
KIA	16	223
MIA	2	15
WIA	88	928
Total	106	1,166

IN THE VOSGES, FRANCE

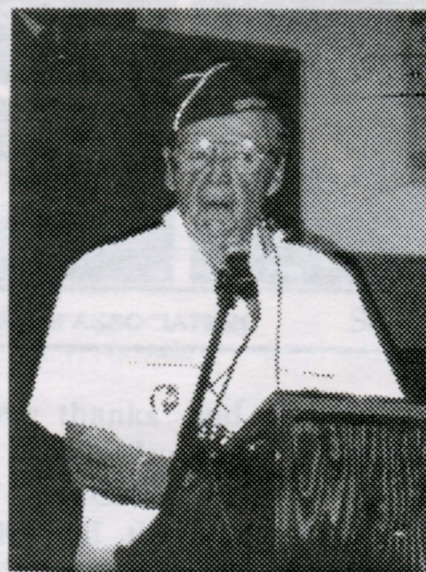
	Officers	Enlisted
KIA	8	155
MIA	4	78
WIA	91	1,149
Total	103	1,382

PO VALLEY, ITALY

	Officers	Enlisted
KIA	4	92
MIA	0	3
WIA	30	892
Total	34	987



Joe Kuroda
Introduced Col. Keegan



Colonel Christopher Keegan



Shizuya Hayashi
Medal of Honor



Our Gang

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