



PLEASE CIRCULATE!

NISEI VETERANS REUNION – 1985

P. O. BOX 23

WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

MEETING Held July 7, 1985 - Maui Marriott Hotel, Kaanapali, Maui

PRESENT: Zuke Matsui
Wilson Makabe
Bill K. Ishida
George Nakasato
Shiro Kashino
Jim Kawaminami
Monte Fujita
Hiroshi Takusagawa
Bob Hayamizu
T. Hirokawa
Earl I. Tanaka
Yasuo Okinaka
Tom Kinaga
Vic Izui
Robert K. Ohigashi
Thomas T. Sasaki
Kazuo Ishimitsu
A. Sakamoto
John Noguchi
Tom Masamori
Tom Nishio
T. Jack Oki
Mike Krekosky
Ray Orite
James Yamane
Howard Murakami
Leonard Wilkerson
Frank Sakamoto
Jiro Nakaso

Mr. Matsui thanked all of the representatives who assisted in encouraging people to come to the Reunion on Maui. The reunion would not have been a success without all of the participants.

He then called the meeting to order and asked if any organization or district would like to propose a bid to host the next reunion to be held in 1988.

An invitation from the MacArthur Era Trust of Brisbane, Australia, with endorsements from the Premier of Queensland and their Visitors Bureau were forwarded through Mr. Richard Oguro of the 100th MIS (ATIS) to Yasu for presentation at this meeting. In view of the fact that there were no price tags nor definite information, Zuke will write to them suggesting they present a proposal for the next reunion.

Mr. Wilson Makabe of Reno, Nevada, offered a proposal to host the 1988 Reunion at the MGM Grand Hotel in Reno, Nevada. Three sets of dates were proposed: May 18-22, June 8-12, and July 6-10, 1988. Based on the present room rate of \$58/ single or double occupancy, and with an anticipated 5-10% annual increase and 7% county room tax, the rate in 1988 will be approximately \$60 per day. For every 50 rooms occupied, there will be one complimentary room. Being a convention city, extensive facilities are available for banquets and all kinds of entertainment are readily available. By 1988 there should be six complete golf courses. There is a 52-lane bowling alley, indoor/outdoor tennis courts, swimming pools, movie places playing old classics, as well as parking for recreational vehicles. Visits to Lake Tahoe, the state museum in Carson City, and other interesting places can be arranged. Shuttle service by MGM as well as other bus transportation is available. There is a 10% rebate from bus companies. As for programs, financial assistance for such conventions is available from casinos. A group rate for dinner-show at approximately \$32.00 will include a prime rib dinner and show.

Wilson noted that in the summer months, the weather is about 10° cooler than Las Vegas. Fresh fruits are abundant during these months. He noted that the only problem he anticipates is the demand for hospitality rooms. As most of the socializing will be done in the hospitality rooms, there are two Japanese restaurants who will cater Japanese food, also orders could be brought in from Sacramento. There are about 30-40 Chinese Restaurants in Reno. For Company or Chapter night, there are many places and package deals available.

As for manpower, there are approximately 100 Japanese people in the community who are willing to assist. Wilson noted that he has had several conventions in the past and has had no problem getting their cooperation. Northern California I Company people have also offered to help.

In reply to a question regarding the Memorial Service, Wilson stated that there should be no problem. The florists will donate flowers, the National Guard will be happy to participate and the community has a beautiful concert band.

Zuke raised a question about a problem which may arise with another casino offering a package deal of \$25.00 for 3 nights and 3 meals. This would have to be dealt with by the committee.

Yasu discussed the possibility of getting a commitment for help from the Northern California groups. Jiro Nakaso stated that they are toying with the idea of working with San Francisco in coordinating a gathering of nisei veterans, upon arrival in San Francisco, will go to the Golden Gate cemetery for a memorial service, have lunch or dinner, and charter a plane, or take the Amtrak train, or Greyhound bus, and continue to Reno.

Bob Hayamizu talked about having satellite programs.

Wilson stated that he will be happy to work with the Bay Area management, Chamber of Commerce, and other members in Northern California.

A motion was made by Mr. Jim Kawaminami to accept the proposal presented by Wilson to host the 1988 Reunion in Reno on June 8-12, 1988. Motion was seconded by George Nakasato. Yasu pointed out that it will be impossible for some of the people involved in youth baseball to participate in June. All agreed that all dates will conflict with one group or another. Motion was carried unanimously.

Wilson noted that he will "tie down" 800 rooms and will welcome any and all suggestions for a great reunion.

On motion made by Jim Kawaminami, a round of applause was given to Zuke and his committee for a successful reunion on Maui.

Mr. Leonard Wilkerson, Executive Director of the 36th Division Association in Texas, thanked Maui members for a great reunion and invited everyone to come to Texas August 28-31, 1986, AMFAC Hotel in Dallas, to celebrate the 150th anniversary since Texas acquired its freedom from Mexico. He also looks forward to seeing everyone in Reno in 1988.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Kitagawa
Secretary, Steering Committee
Nisei Veterans Reunion-Maui 1985