



# 100<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB

PUKA-PUKA

MONTHLY NEWS

## PARADE

NOVEMBER 1, 1991

### FROM THE EDITOR'S PUKA

The 46th Annual Memorial Service was held at Punchbowl National Cemetery on September 29, 1991. The service emceed by Ken Saruwatari, featured beautiful choral numbers by the Pearl City Community Church choir, an inspiring message by Capt. Gary Ikuma (copy of his speech appears on the following page), impressive music by the Royal Hawaiian Band and the Invocation and Benediction by Rev. Donald Asman. Shigeru Inouye and his crew, composed mainly of his family, satisfied the larger than usual crowd with delicious refreshments. Thank you, Shigeru, for doing such a fine job year after year. Also, our sincerest appreciation to the Kaneohe Boy Scout Troop #216 and Scoutmaster Paul Kusunoki (A) for decorating the graves again this year. Chairmen Don Matsuda and Stanley Akita should be commended for a job well done.

Mahalo nui loa to Masa Toma (B) who almost single handedly constructed the Club 100 "tool shed". Masa spent over a week measuring, sawing, pounding, sweating, etc. to complete this glorified tool shed. (In case he is ever in the dog house with Marge, he will have first chance at moving in with the tools). We thank you very much for your hard work, and for your loyalty to the club.

We would like to print excerpts from a letter received from someone who wishes to remain anonymous: "The Puka Puka Parade has meant a great deal to me through the years. I am very thankful and grateful that I am able to keep up with the happenings and programs of the boys of the 100th. To my late husband, the 100th was part of his life." Enclosed was a check for \$50.00 for the PPP and \$50.00 for the Stained Glass Window. Thank you very much, Ms. Anonymous, for your generosity and for the encouraging words.

We would like to acknowledge the following donations:

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| For the Mother Club     | \$100.00 -from Club 100 Dance Club                           |
|                         | \$100.00 -Yoshiko Oshiro in memory of the late Sidney Oshiro |
| For the Stained Glass   | \$50.00 from Ben Tagami                                      |
|                         | \$50.00 from Charles Smith                                   |
|                         | \$50.00 from Yukio Takehara                                  |
|                         | \$50.00 from Masako Hamada                                   |
|                         | \$50.00 from anonymous                                       |
|                         | \$25.00 from Warren Fencil                                   |
| For the PukaPuka Parade | \$50.00 from Anonymous                                       |
|                         | \$25.00 from Warren Fencil                                   |

Thank you to the PukaPuka volunteers for helping with the October issue of the Parade on September 26: Bernard Akamine, Akira Akimoto, Otomatsu Aoki, Kunio Fujimoto, Ralph Fukunaga, Chester Hada, Stanley Hamai, Micheal Hamamoto, Ted Hamasu, Saburo Hasegawa, Tokuchi Hayashi, Isamu Inouye, Seiso Kameshita, Gladys Kawakami, Susumu Kunishige, James Miyano, Yoshikiyo Mugitani, Joichi Muramatsu, Tom Nishioka, Ray and Aki Nosaka, Seie and Evelyn Oshiro, Masaharu Saito, Kazuto Shimizu, Yoneko Shimizu, Sakae Tanigawa, Yukio Tanji, Thomas Tsubota, Jerry and Carol Yamahi, Kaoru and Sadako Yonezawa, and Rudy Yoshida.

**CLUB 100 MEMORIAL CEREMONY  
KEYNOTE SPEECH BY CAPT. GARY IKUMA, USN  
SEPTEMBER 29, 1991**

Distinguished Guests, Veterans, Families and Friends,

Good morning. It is indeed an exceptional privilege to be here to say some words of remembrance in tribute to many very brave men. I was very honored when I was asked by the Memorial Ceremony Committee to be the speaker for this event. I consider myself to have grown up as part of the Club 100 Family. I remember, as a youngster, attending many of the Club functions, especially those of Headquarters Company. I know many of the people that are here today. They are close family friends.

I can say that from the time I was a young boy, I was deeply influenced by the 100th, with its legendary military record of valor and courage, and its legacy of service to the country. My choice of the military as a profession, no doubt, was a reflection of this influence. Throughout my career, in locations around the world, many have made mention to me of the 100th and its Nisei soldiers. When asked if I have knowledge of anyone who was in the outfit, I have always said with immense pride that my father and his friends were soldiers of the Battalion.

This Memorial Service occurs on the anniversaries of several events. Fifty years ago, much of the world was already at war. Most of the European continent had been conquered by Germany and Italy. The Soviet Union was reeling from the German invasion, with the city of Moscow threatened. Japan was already in an all out war with China. For America, the storm clouds of war were quickly gathering on the horizon, but our country was still at peace. Most of the men who were eventually to form the 100th Battalion were being inducted into the Army through the peacetime drafts. Many were being trained at Schofield Barracks and then posted to the 298th and 299th Infantry, and the 3rd and 65th Engineers. The record of the Nisei Soldiers' patriotism and service to the country was being formed.

Over 49 years ago, the Troopship Maui steamed out of Honolulu, bound for the Mainland, carrying 1,432 troops of the forerunner of the 100th, the Hawaii Provisional Battalion. These men were sailing off to training for battle and to their rendezvous with history. Many would not live to see Hawaii again.

Today marks the 48th Anniversary of the 100th's first combat casualty. A week after the Unit landed at Salerno, the 100th fought its first engagement. Sgt. Joe Takata, Baker Company, the first Japanese American to win the Distinguished Service Cross, which is second only to the Medal of Honor, was mortally wounded by a shell fragment near Chiusano and Castelvetera, Italy. About an hour later, the 100th had its second casualty, Private Keichi Tanaka. Before the fighting ended in World War II, they were followed by 340 others. Seven more later fell in combat in Korea. Many of these brave men, including those who have passed on in the years since, are at eternal rest here at Punchbowl.

Our nation's military records are filled with gallant, illustrious units, but none equal the 100th, the most decorated unit of its size in U.S. military history.

While I have spent a career in uniform, I as a Naval Officer, cannot relate to what it must have been like to serve in the 100th, staring death in the face day after day in fierce ground combat. Only the Veterans know the full scope of the horrors, anguish, pain and suffering that were endured. I have, however, been fortunate to retrace some of the combat footsteps of the 100th. I have been to the dry, sandy, North African shores, where the 100th staged prior to entering the Italian campaign. I have been to the Beaches of Anzio and Salerno, walked the heights around Monte Cassino and crossed the Rapido River in the town of Cassino below. I have walked among the many crosses of the American Cemetery at Nettuno. While aboard Navy

ships off the shores of Anzio and Salerno, I have imagined what it must have felt like to be a young Nisei Soldier, getting ready to board a landing craft for the beachhead. These soldiers-- they are the men who made the name of the 100th immortal as one of the world's premier fighting outfits of all time. General Mark Clark remarked, "The 100th Battalion fought magnificently. These Nisei Troops seemed to be very conscious of the fact that they had an opportunity to prove the loyalty of many thousands of Americans of Japanese Ancestry and they willingly paid a high price to achieve that goal. I was proud to have them in the 5th Army."

The brave men of the 100th seized the opportunity to show what they were made of, and prove their patriotism to the country that had doubted their loyalty and treated them and their families unjustly. Their sacrifices and efforts, paid for in blood, paved the way for opportunities that were denied even to them at the time. That I stand before you today as a Captain in the U.S. Navy is an example of that opportunity. For you see, no one of Japanese Ancestry was allowed to serve in the Navy back then.

These men of the 100th, by their valor and with their lives, secured for all Japanese Americans, their full rights and respects as citizens of this Country.

So we gather here today to remember those gallant men who made the supreme sacrifice in combat and those who have passed on since the war. As President Truman once said: "You fought for the free nations of the world...you fought not only the enemy, you fought prejudice, and you have won. Keep up that fight, and continue to win...to make this great Republic stand for just what the Constitution says it stands for: the welfare of all the people, all the time."

Men of the 100th, those who are at eternal rest and those Veterans present, we in the Armed Forces of the United States salute you with pride, admiration and remembrance.

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*As I stood and listened to Capt. Ikuma speak, I just couldn't help but fight back the tears welling up inside of me--tears of pride and joy. Here is the son of one of our members who has worked his way up to that of a Captain, one of only five Japanese-Americans who holds that rank in the whole United States Navy. We are all proud of you, Gary!*

*Editor -- Ray*

**IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE:**

The sons and daughters will be holding an organizational meeting on November 3, 1991 at 12:30 P.M. at the clubhouse. As these young people will be playing a vital part in our 50th anniversary celebration, it is important that they get organized and set goals for their future. They will be the ones to carry on the legacy of Club 100.

Parents, offer to baby sit your grandchildren so that your son or daughter can take a couple of hours off to get acquainted with the other sons and daughters. We need to encourage them in any way possible so that they will eventually be able to take over the reigns of Club 100.

Headquarters News

By Ken Suehiro

Since our members enthusiastically said "yes" to the question of more luncheon meetings, Headquarters will again schedule another meeting soon. Please keep a lookout for announcements and make your reservations. I will try to explain how and who receives the various notices.

Mike Takahashi, our dependable go-getter, received a phone call from Francis Kamikawa about notices to Headquarters members. It appears that there is a misunderstanding about this matter.

Tom Nosse, our permanent treasurer, states that no dues notices are sent to members. Dues are collected at meetings, Family night parties, Christmas Party, Luncheon meetings or direct mail in to our clubhouse. Our dues policy is like that of our Mother Club. Only dues paying members receive notices that are printed in the Puka Puka Parade and are considered regular members. Some members pay the Mother club dues of \$18.00 per year (or \$50.00 for life membership) which means that they are regular members of Club 100, but, the member must also pay \$10.00 to Headquarters Chapter to become a regular member of Headquarters Chapter. In other words, you must pay both dues to become a fully active member (after all, it costs money to operate any club) In addition to the HQ functions, there are the Dancing classes, Ukulele classes, Golf Club, Karaoke classes, Green Thumbs, Bonsai and Craft and Knitting classes that would welcome your participation.

We served together for 4 years or more, and it is a unique feeling to be with guys you knew so well. You may not have any use for some of the guys--hell, its your business, but don't let that keep you from renewing your friendship with those whom you like. Don't be too proud or unforgiving--come and join us. Those who are non-active don't live only in the past--we don't have too long to live to enjoy our friendship. We see many at funerals but is then too late to tell the deceased that you liked him--do it now while we are still living. If you haven't already done so, just pay the current dues, and become an active. This will open the door for your son or daughter to join the Sons/Daughters group of the Club 100, and eventually take over after we pass on. COME ON! JOIN UP!!!

I was pleasantly surprised to receive a letter from Akiyoshi Kuriyama expressing his feeling of satisfaction that our club has finally obtained a computer. He says "about time". He started off his letter by saying that I "bitched about lack of material to write about". It is true that news is not easy to come by, but I'm not bitching. No skin off my back if no news.

Capt Gary Ikuma, Ed Ikuma's son, was the keynote speaker at our Memorial Service and he made us proud that a member's son attained the rank of Captain in the Navy. Now Gary, next step to become an Admiral! And I am happy and thankful that he chose the Navy. Unfortunately, Mr. Yamashita chose the wrong branch of service.

I attended the annual D Chapter reunion at Las Vegas. Sure was a terrific turnout--the place was filled with people from Hawaii and I'm sure everyone had a good time though most of us lost money.

Archie Kamisato was released from the hospital recently and is now minus his colostomy bag. I'm sure he is happy now that the bag is a thing of the past. Itsuki Oshita is in fine shape and he was happy that Archie need no longer carry around the bag. I'm hoping it won't be too long before Archie will be able to enjoy his first beer. Jean's condition is the same and I emphasized the importance of drinking her Mamaki tea two times a day - in the morning and at night. Who knows, it might help her condition.

Isao (Chubby) Ishii passed away quietly Sunday morning, Oct. 13th at home. Funeral services were held on Friday, October 18th at Makiki Christian Church. Our sympathy and condolences to the Ishii family.

Toshio Kokubun is still hurting since his accident in 1988. I just hope there will be change for the better in his condition.

Our Christmas party is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 21st. We are too old to work and worry about the food, so its catering. I'm sure HQ members will be receiving flyers as it is necessary to know how many plan to attend. Bring all of your grandchildren--and it will be a good time for our children to meet other member's children-- and to see how we have all aged gracefully.

Able Chapter News

By Tom Fujise

By the time you read the Puka Puka Parade from cover to cover, you must have read Richard Ishimoto's leaflet about the up-coming Christmas party on December 6th. Maybe you have already counted the changes in your fat wallet to see whether the whole family, or just you as an individual can attend the party. Stop--before you throw the leaflet into the rubbish can--fill out the registration form and mail it to the clubhouse. After all, where else can you feed your growing family on \$10.00, and on top of that, ride home with a bag full of goodies? The Christmas party committee can use all the help they can get. So please volunteer your services now. Let us all be Santa's helper and enjoy the company of your fellow Able members.

If your images of Italy and France are kind of fuzzy, now is the time to start sharpening into focus the Europe as you remember it. Some boys in Able Chapter are now laying the ground works for a European tour in 1993. Since the years slip by faster then you think, now is the time to register and prepare for the trip. If you are a Club 100 member, you can get in on this fun filled dream trip.

For details, contact the following members:

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|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Tommy Nishioka(488-9837) | Don Matsuda (988-6562) |
| Isamu Inouye (373-1184)  | Jiro Matsui (677-7749) |

Sgt Ben Tagami, who was with Able Company, 1st platoon, landed on Kauai with the Battalion colors under his arm on September 24th and reached his objective, the Kauai Clubhouse. He then advanced to Oahu and took a slight detour to reach the Club 100 and battle with Goro Sumida and his gang. After his campaign in Hawaii, he departed back to the mainland where he has established his home base in Gardena, California with his aide-de-camp, Jean. Their squad consists of three boys and a girl. Which by today's standards, makes for a pretty good size squad. Number one son, Hogan, is still single so you girls who are fishing for a male homosapien, get your line out and haul him in. Second son, Steward, and daughter Tracey, are married, but Arnold is in college and if he is as good looking as his father, he should have no trouble for dates.

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Dog Chapter News

By Helen Nikaido

Those attending the Dog Chapter's reunion in Las Vegas (Oct 6 - 9th) had a wonderful time. Unfortunately I couldn't cover the event as we had to cancel out at the last moment. I was informed that everyone had a nice time at the banquet, very satisfied, with no mix-up on the entrees. Ken Suehiro (honorary Dog Chapter member) was M.C., grace was said by Ed Harada, welcome speech by "Fuzzy" Fujimori, Jane Matsunami was in charge of the karaoke singing and door prizes were handled by Robert Yoshioka. Thanks to Kay Yoshioka and Lillian Fujimori for helping out. Karaoke performers were Jane Matsunami, Ruth Tsutsui, Motoyoshi Tanaka, Mitsuru Doi, Toe Yoshino and Ted Ohira.

All of the ladies received grab bags consisting of nylon scrubber, knitted dish cloth, pen holder and a souvenir pen.

During the day, there were tours to Hoover Dam, Laughlin, and shopping at the various malls and casino hopping.

Many thanks to Jane Matsunami for donating the nylon scrubbers, Mary Hamasaki for the dish cloths, Helen Nikaido for the pen holders and Robert Yoshioka for the souvenir pens. And lastly, many thanks to Chairmen, Robert Yoshioka and Kiyoshi Kami for the year long preparation, hard work and headaches in planning for this unforgettable reunion.

Rural Chatter Chatter

by Ted Hamasu

A beautiful Thursday morning for golfing, said my friend, Hama. Uh, uh, I said--we gotta go to da club house to help put da PPP to-geda. Too bad, commented Rudy, as we dodged the traffic from Pearl City to Kamoku Street. We got there in time to help set da tables for da helpers. I chose the last table with Jerry Yamaki, where you staple the folded PPP before you stick the names but was getting hard time because the thing no work good at all, until Mugi touched dat thing. You gotta see da staples come popping out like magic. Thanks to Mugi magic, we pau in about two hours, after which we enjoyed the coffee and pastries. The Rural Chapter guys there were, Rudy Yoshida, Michael Hamamoto, Yujio Tanji, M/M Yamaki, Mrs. Shimizu, Stanley Hamai, Seiso Kamisato, Masaharu Saito and Ted Hamasu. Thanks guys, for the kokua.

The Club 100 observed its 46th Memorial Service at Punchbowl National Cemetery on 29, SEpt, 91, under beautiful Hawaiian skies. The guest speaker for the occasion was U.S. Navy Captain Gary Ikuma. He is the son of M/M Ed Ikuma of Hq Chapter. I had the pleasure of meeting the Captain when he was a Commander while I was assigned to Atsugi, Japan. He and his family moved into a house just a few doors away from me. I introduced myself to him while he was working around in his house. When he said that his name was Gary Ikuma, I told him that I knew a person by the same last name whose first name is Ed. He said "yeah, that's my dad" Gee, what a small world to meet a friends's son way out in Japan. I'll say this, that I am very proud to have made the acquaintance of a sansei, U.S. Navy Captain.

Rural Chapter representatives, Walter Iwasa and Rudy Yoshida, placed flowers on the graves of our comrades in the Mililani and Diamond Head Cemeteries on Sept 28th, while Susumu Ota took care of our buddies' graves at Punchbowl on the morning of the Memorial Service. We thank Richard Takahashi and Walter for donating the flowers for the occasion, and thank the three for volunteering their services.

Takao Kubota was hospitalized for prostrate ailment, but is back home taking it easy now. He is still under observation and needs to have more check-ups to determine whether other things may have caused his discomfort. Hope everythink turns out okay.

There were a couple of names that I missed from the donors list at our picnic in July. They were Mr/Mrs. Taoka for their "oishii mochi dango" and several plants, and Mr/Mrs Shimahara for three cans of coffee. "Gomen na sai".

Our next dinner meeting will be held on Nov 15, 1991, at Dot's. Dinner will be served from 6:30 P.M.. We will be electing our officers for the coming year and picking two outstanding members for this year. All wives are welcomed, but don't forget your husbands, yeh.

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Baker Chapter News

By Yasuo Takata

The perpetual foursome, Rikio and Evelyn Tsuda, and Sonsei and Elaine Nakamura, went on a tour of Japan (Hokkaido and Tohoku) and thoroughly enjoyed it. For two weeks they were on a regular tour, but the 3rd week, they went on their own. They bought 7 day train tickets, and with Evelyn as their tour guide, they traveled through Southern Japan and never got lost--always caught the right train. Evelyn says she could read the hirkana but had some difficulty with the kanji. The biggest thrill in the northern region was the Seikan tunnel which is 30 miles long--extends from Hokkaido to Northern Honshu. There was a diagram in the front of the car which showed how far they were progressing and how deep under water they were.

On the way down from the North, they saw some of the devastation that was caused by the typhoon. Rooftops were gone, homes were leaning or down, mounds of lumber, trees, shrubs and all kinds of debris piled up.

Baker Chapter News (Continued)

In the southern part of Japan, they spent two days in Kyoto and Okayama where they had a chance to visit the "Minjo House", Katsura Roku (summer palace of the Emperor), and Himeji Castle. From Okayama they rode on the longest island sea bridge. Imagine going to Japan to ride through the longest tunnel and ride on the longest bridge in the world. They had fun riding on the Shinkansen. They visited the two bombed cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They were surprised at all the modern construction of today. They thought Nagasaki was similar to San Francisco with its hill, hills--they got pooped climbing those hills. Elaine commented that she could not understand their language (similar to Kumamoto Ken's 'bat'tem'). When I was a kid listening to the Kumamoto-ken old folks, I had difficulty understanding them at first, but later, I caught on.

Sonsei and Riki spent their evenings staying in the hotel and drinking beer and sake and just relaxing. All of them went to the Onsen to relax whenever they had a chance. Ha! but they did not tell me if it was communal or segregated!

Hajime and Helen Kodama were fortunate to have perfect weather all throughout their Australia/New Zealand tour. They saw sheep, sheep, and more sheep, but Hajime got a taste of lamb chops and is now demanding that Helen buy lamb chops. They found Mt. Cook, the ferry ride to Tasmania Sea, and Milford Sound all breath-taking sights. They seemed to have a wonderful trip, and the only thing tiresome was the long bus rides.

We hope and pray that Taro Suzuki is recovering from his heart surgery which he had on September 16th. Taro is about the oldest member in the Club 100.

WE are very sorry about the death of Richard "Dick" Oguro who passed away on October 14, 1991, at Kaiser Hospital. He suffered a massive cerebral hemorrhage and was in a coma for several weeks. Funeral services were held at Hosoi on Saturday, October 19th. His ashes were placed in the Columbarium at Punchbowl National Cemetery.

Hawaii Chapter News

By Jimmy Maeda

Memorial Service: Each grave marker at the cemeteries was beautifully decorated with anthuriums and other flowers for the Hawaii Chapter memorial service on Sunday, September 27th. The weather was excellent with the sun shining. J. W. Hanley, Chairman and Executive office of Orchid Island Auto Center, gave the memorial message. Rev. Thomas Okano, Riban of Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin conducted the Buddhist service. He was assisted by the various Buddhist ministers of Hilo. Barry Mizuno, Managing Director County of Hawaii, represented Mayor Lorraine Inouye. George Taketa, president Hawaii Chapter, welcomed the people present at the service. The service was well attended. We extend our thanks to the flower shippers and growers of Puna and Hilo for their donation for anthuriums and other flowers. The committee members extend their mahalo to the Hawaii Chapter members and wives for decorating the grave markets. The Memorial service committee was comprised of: Yasu Iwasaki, Stanley Ushijima, Motoyoshi Tanaka and James Maeda.

Some side lights of the memorial service--we thank Edward and Kazumi Harada for coming from Honolulu to help us decorate the grave markers and attending the service. Barry Mizuno, Managing Director for the County and formerly from Kauai was very happy to meet some of his father's Dog Company buddies from Hilo, especially Takao Miyao, the "ole sergeant". Barry was also surprised to find Nobu Okinaka here. Nobu hails from the other end of Kauai, namely Kilauea.

Long time honorary member, Shizuo Kiyosaki, died on October 13, at the age of 91 years. Funeral service was held on October 17 at the Hilo Hongwanji Mission. The deceased served for a long time as a director of AJA Memorial Baseball league. Our prayer of condolence to Mrs. Masae Kiyosaki and the other members of the family.



Hawaii Chapter News (Continued)

Japan Visitation: Immediately after the Hawaii Chapter memorial service, this writer left on a tour of Japan on September 30th. Our group comprising of the members and friends of Hawaii Shima Kumamoto Doshi-kai (October 1 to 15) was chased by Typhoon #21 and 25. We saw the damages made by Typhoon #19 to the apple orchards and fruits of Aomori and Akita. For the first time, we traveled to Shiretoku Penninsula and saw the Russian Island on the far end of Hokkaido, Kanashiro Island. Another new experience for the group was to go through the longest tunnel in the world, the Seikan Tunnel between Hokkaido and Aomori. I bumped into Sam Fujikawa and wife of the L.A. Chapter at Lake Akan. I stopped over Hiroshima City for overnight and saw Typhoon #19's damages to buildings of Miyajima Island by the strong winds. Many roofs were blown away by the wind, and the trees were damaged by the salt water spray. Going down to Kumamoto City by train we saw the damages done to the orange orchards by the wind and salt spray.

Philosophically, the Japanese people are saying "it is once in 100 years disaster". On the other hand the visitors from Hawaii to Japan are saying, "Things are expensive in Japan, however, enjoyable. Go while your legs can take you".

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Maui Chapter News

By Tom Nagata

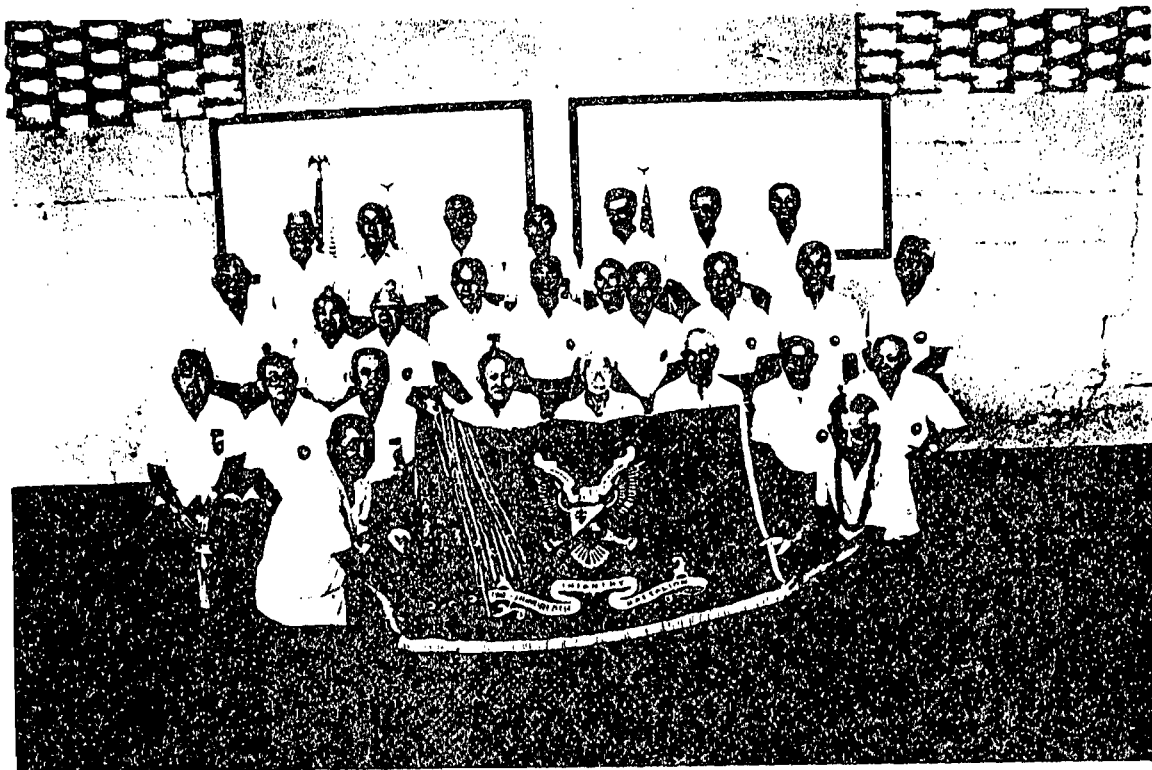
Maui Chapter members held their annual Memorial Service for the KIA and deceased members at 2 P.M., Sunday, September 29, at the Maui Veterans Cemetery, Makawao. Service Chairman, Goichi Shimanuki deserves much credit for the planning and preparation and the successful completion of this Memorial Service. He was also MC for the program, and it was a nice, warm sunny day as the service got underway. The Rev. Robb Kojima of the Wailuku Union Church conducted the service. Johnny Miyagawa led the audience in singing the National Anthem, and God Bless America. Masao Sato, Maui Chapter president, gave the welcome address, and in closing, gave a short history of the formation and training of the Battalion, and closed with a graphic account of the first day in combat in which the 100th suffered its initial KIA with the death of Sgt. Joe Takata. That took place on September 29, 1943 in the mountains of Southern Italy. William Nakahara was in charge of refreshments that everybody enjoyed following the service. Toshio Iwami and Akira Ishikawa were responsible for transporting the 4 large frames and stands for the deceased and KIA pictures. We are thankful that the Wataru Kaneshinas have given the Club 100 space in their storage area to house those large picture frames and stands.

WE extend our deepest sympathy to Yeiho Higa and family. His mother, Kama Higa, aged 91, passed away on September 26, 1991.

There will be a luncheon meeting on Tuesday, November 5th, at the Kahului Sizzler restaurant at 11:30 A.M. The nomination of officers will be on the agenda. Also, the dinner tickets for the Veterans Day banquet will be distributed for half price.

Since this writer will be off Maui for 16 days in October, the chicken-hekka dinner report may be delayed. Hopefully, some other writer may send in their account of the October 11th social.





September 25, 1991 Kauai Chapter with their new Battalion Colors

Kauai Chapter News

By Tsugi Takemoto

Memories! Memories! That's what it was all about as it was reunion time for many of the Kauai Club members.

First was the Company F Reunion in Hilo on September 20 to 22, 1991. Friday night was dinner at the AJA Club House; banquet held on Saturday at the Naniloa Hotel; and a candlelight memorial service Sunday closed the reunion. It was announced that 72 Co. F members had passed away and as there were 72 attending, as the deceased's name was called, a candle was lit. According to Shima, it was very impressive.

On behalf of the Kauai group, Shima says many, many thanks for all of the courtesies shown them. He especially mentioned Shizu Akamine who coordinated it all. A positive reaction is seen as the wives continue to meet and get to know each other better. Those attending from Kauai were Choichi and Doris Shimabukaro, Sadao and Kazue Kawamoto, Sakae "Maggie" Watanabe and Hakaru Takao.

With a phone call on September 23rd, we learned that Ben Tagami was coming on the 24th bringing with him the 100th Colors that had been ordered. He wanted to make sure we had them for the Memorial Service on the 29th. Greeting him at the airport were Mako Takiguchi, Mitsuru Doi, Wally and Tsugi Takemoto. After a quick lunch at Tip Top, it was decided that Ben would be house guest of the Doi's. Get together was planned for Wednesday night. During the day, Mitsuru, Mako and Kazu took Ben fishing at Menehune Fish Pond. Ben was very proud and happy as he caught two papio and that was one more than Mike Miyake had on his visit last June.

That evening we had a gathering at Hanamaulu Restaurant where we enjoyed a delicious dinner. Ben explained the other purpose of this visit which was to tell us about the 100/442MIS monument to be erected in Los Angeles, and why the committee in charge wants all of the names of those who fought in the War. He realizes that controversy still goes on. Of course, the colors were displayed that evening. Those attending were: Maxie and Shimoe Mukai, Kazu and Norma Senda, Mitsuru and Matsuko Doi, Mako and Lillian Takiguchi, Wally and Tsugi Takemoto, Tommy Matsushige, Choichi Shimabukaro, Sadao Kawamoto, and Kungo Iwai. Lillian Takiguchi made the dessert. Ben left the next day for Honolulu and referred to his visit as short and sweet, and very enjoyable. We can't thank Ben enough for being so thoughtful as to hand carry the Colors.

Kauai Chapter News (Continued)

Tsugi took off for Modesto, California on September 26 to attend the 51st reunion of her junior college class. To those who keep saying "where is that"?--it is in the middle of San Joaquin Valley, and known as the Home of Gallo Wine Company. She had never been to a reunion before, not even her high school, so this was a first. What to expect after all that time? She visited her high school journalism teacher who is 98 years young, and still writes for a senior citizen magazine. At the banquet, Tsugi met so many whose faces were familiar as she had been studying her yearbook. Standing out was the fellow who came up and said he had been looking for her at every reunion and talked about the good old days of riding the same bus. That she remembered. Where she drew a blank was the fellow who asked whether she recalled an incident in the third grade and proceeded to tell her about her about it. And the special thanks she got from another classmate who announced to one and all that she helped him graduate from high school. To Tsugi's surprise, she was introduced twice. One she figured on was coming the longest distance. There was competition from alumni who came from Maui and Virginia. She had a family reunion as her brother had come from St. Paul, MN. The other one was when the MC reviewed the outstanding events of 1940 and said that the college paper, The Collegian, had won all-American honors for the second time in that school history and Tsugi was the editor. All in all, she decided that reunions are a good thing.

Memorial Services were held on September 29 at the Kauai Veterans Cemetery. State Senator Lehua Fernandes Salling was the guest speaker. A guest singer sang Star Spangled Banner and God Bless America. Rev. Yuban Narashiba of Koloa Jodo Mission said prayers and Mrs. Yoshi Minami, only remaining Gold Star Mother, offered the incense. Koichi Takemoto and Ken Yoshimoto presented the wreath. Sgt. Florencio Delos Santos blew Taps. Ben Morimoto was the Master of Ceremonies.

100th members were very pleased to see representatives from the American Legion Posts 2 and 51, Dav, 442nd, Merchant Marine, Vietnam Veterans, MIS, MOPH and VFW. This was the first time that so many representatives were present.

The biggest attraction was the presentation of the 100th Colors with Battlefield Streamers.

Refreshments were served with Mitsuko Miyazaki in charge. Donations of baked goods were brought by Sally Arakaki, Matsuko Doi, Mildred Iwai, Dorothy Matsushige, Kinue Mizuno, Matsue Morikawa, Esther Shigeta, Doris Shimabukuro, Tomoe Shimatsu, Jane Sugawara, and Sachi Yoshimoto.

Trekking to Las Vegas for the Co. D reunion were Mako and Lillian Takiguchi, Kazu and Norma Senda, Kiyoshi and Chizu Teshima, Maxie and Shimoe Mukai and Mitsuru and Matsuko Doi. Forgot to find out where they met to deposit their earnings.

All in all, reunions are a time for memories, and one does remember the happy times the best.

SOUTHERN California CHAPTER NEWS

By Tad Hashimoto

September 21st was the evening of the 100th/442nd Veterans Ass'n general membership meeting and dinner held at the Memorial Hall (clubhouse) 6:30 P.M. The 100th chapter did all of the cooking. They were Henry Sakato, Sam Fujikawa, Douglas Tanaka, Mike Miyake, Ben and Jean Tagami, Francis Shiroma, Allan Dong, Carlos and Beverly Picazo. "F" Company helped set up the tables and chairs. "G" Co. brought a very large red, white and blue sheet cake with words "100th/ 442nd Reg." and "Go For Broke" with plastic soldiers all around the edge of the cake. "A" Battery supplied the vegetables, "H" Co. the coffee, tea and soft drinks, "L" Co. helped in the kitchen, "Anti TANK" took care of the bar, and our associate members helped all around.

Southern California News (Continued)

Our menu consisted of chicken, steak (cut into strips), fish, egg plant, corn salad, rice and the sheet cake for dessert.

President of the 100th/442nd Ass'n, Mr. Hank Yoshitake, made announcements, welcomed all and thanked everyone. A little below 200 persons attended. After the meal came Karaoke time with only a few volunteers. But when the evening ended, there were alot of volunteers in helping to clean up and put away the tables and chairs. Attending from the 100th were: Buddy and Lily Mamiya, Lloyd and Chuckie Seki, Al and Connie Takahashi, Nora Kim, Francis Shiroma, Hank and Kaz Yoshitake, Mike Miyake, Carlos and Beverly Picazo, Ben and Jean Tagami, Allan Dong, Jim and Haru Ishizawa, Sam Fujikawa, Young Kim, Douglas Tanaka, Toe and Molly Yoshino, Lloyd Toda, Eric and Irene Abe and Tad and Sue Hashimoto. WE missed Henry and Elsie Hayashi and upon inquiring, I was told by several of my buddies that the Hayashis were in Florida on a second honeymoon, "unquote".

Tne M.I.S. group generously donated \$200.00 to our Club in thanks for the successful cookout on July 28. The chief cooks were: Henry Sakato, Henry Hayashi, Lloyd Seki, Sam Fujikawa with helpers Henry and Kaz Yoshitake and Teri Fujikawa.

Club 100 would like to thank Kay Yamguchi for his generous donation of \$100.00 in appreciation for the get well card and flowers sent by the members. Kay had a third operation on his shoulder which he ruptured a while back.

On September 29th, many of the members met at round 10:30 A.M. at the Gardena South Bay Keiro Nursing Home. Present were: Elsie and Henry Hayashi, Lily and Buddy Mamiya, Nora Kim, Jean and Ben Tagami, Teri and Sam Fujikawa, Shiz and Ted Ohira, Sets and Dick Shinto, Beverly and Carlos Picazo, Allan Dong, Douglas Tanaka, Francis Shiroma, Henry Sakato, Toe Yoshino and frineds M/M Fred Lum. Henry Yoshitake, Sumi and Don Seki came a little later.

While the men folks were starting the fire, the Ladies cleaned and cut the vegetables, Nasubi (eggplant), Kabocha (Japanese pumpkin), Daikon and carrots.

Henry Hayashi brought a portable Butane stove and the ladies fried the Nasubi outside in the parking lot. The kitchen stove was used to cook the kabocha, donated personally by Henry and Elsie Hayashi fresh from their own garden. He also grows lots of flowers which he donates to the 100th or 442nd activities and to his church.

Allan Dong made stew, Henry Hayashi made fried rice and Shiz Ohira made cucumber kim chee. That ws the lunch menu for the work crew. Allan Dong cooked all the chicken thighs at his home and cut the steaks. Beverly Picazo picked up all of the vegetables at the whole-sale market.

In the afternoon the charcoal was good and ready and the corn was roasted over the coals by the men, and then the steaks. Everything was ready by 3:30 P.M.. Dinner was then served by the 100th chapter.

Our thanks to the faithful volunteers who always seem to be there when needed. Not only do they donate their time and labor, but money out of their own pockets. Fumi Sakato regretfully couldn't be there to help because she was taking care of her ailing Mom. Our get well wishes to Mom.

*The Editors would like to commend the 100th So. California Chapter for living up to the Club 100 motto "for continuing service". Ray and Aki*

At the 100th meeting on August 14th, it was voted on and approved by the members present that a \$100.00 donation be sent to the Camp Shelby Museum and Memorial.

Southern California News (Continued)

An announcement was made in regards to the 442nd Las Vegas trip on December 13th to 15th. You must pay ahead and if there is a cancellation, no refund will be made. You must get someone to replace you or the sum will be a donation to the Las Vegas trip.

Also announced was - The 442nd RCT will be celebrating its 50th Golden Anniversary in Honolulu, Hawaii in March of 1993. The headquarters will be the Princess Kaiulani Hotel and the reunion dates will be March 24 to March 28, 1993.

Saburo (Pluto) Nobuhara, 72 years old, born in Honolulu but was a resident of Los Angeles, passed away on September 29, 1991. He was a member of Dog Company. Our condolences to his wife, Gladys Toshie Nobuhara and the family.

\* \* \* \*

F COMPANY NEWS

By Kenneth M. Higa

The reunion was over. The visiting members and wives left the Big Island. Then, the rains came! A thunderstorm originating from the upper Hamakua Coast region on Sunday afternoon, September 22nd, moved southward with its torrential rains toward Hilo flooding certain areas in the afternoon and evening.

Thank the Lord, Fox Company has been fortunate to have had nice weather whenever it held its reunion in Hilo--a condition that is extremely conducive to successful reunions. Hence, the 1991 get-together held during September 20 - 22nd was terrific! Everyone had a grand time.

Friday, September 20: The festivities began with the Friday Friendship Nite at the AJA clubhouse. A warm welcome was extended by the Hawaii group to the visiting members and wives. Each person received a beautiful yarn lei, a box of Macnut candies, and two small pots of "Blue Hawaii" orchid seedlings. Hayato Tanaka, Fox Company's orchid magnate donated the seedlings.

Ah talk about food! Kazuma Toguchi, chairman for this function, saw to it that there was plenty to eat on the table. Ono local kine pupus donated by the Hawaii ladies were: boiled peanuts, boiled soy beans, Korean style chicken, Korean style squid, mixed nuts, opihi appetizers, pipinola appetizers, smoked fish, surimi tempura and warabi. Bachelor Hiromu Kobayashi donated smoked pork. Also, a gallon of pickled onions and cucumbers was donated by Sue Kaneshina of Maui, and Portuguese sausage from the Kauai gang.

The onolicious buffet dinner was catered by the ever popular Cafe 100.

For dessert, the Hawaii ladies donated apple cake, blueberry cake, blueberry cheese cake, jello, mandarin orange cake, mango jello bar, papaya cake and shortbread manju.

Following dinner, it was entertainment time--karaoke, jokes and door prizes. The Hawaii gals really out-did themselves. They also donated most of the door prizes. Thank you very much, Shizu Akamine, Misao Enomoto, Jill Fujimoto, Toshiko Ito, Mary Kagawa, June Kurokawa, Ethel Nishimura, Yasuko Okajima, Hinae Okinaka, Masayo Santo, Akiko Shimaburkuro, Mamie Sumida, Yasuko Taguchi and Kay Yamamoto for your generous contributions of pupus, desserts, and door prizes.

The guys who made door prize donations were: Toshiaki Ito, Hiromu Kobayashi, Nobu Okinaka, and Albert Shimizu. There were enough prizes for everyone.

Fox Company News (Continued)

Saturday, September 21: The Saturday night Banquet was held in the Kilohana Room of the Hawaii Naniloa Hotel.

A huge computerized reunion banner, done gratis by Frank Clay, Comptroller of Food Fair Super Market, blazed across the stage. Seitoku Akamine spent much time applying the finishing touches on the banner by highlighting it in blue with yellow outline. The Akamines, with timely help from Hinoe Okinaka and Masayo Santo, did the painstaking task of putting up the banner in time for the banquet..

The evening's program started off by Kenneth Higa saying grace, followed by the steak dinner. Kenneth had no problem "putting away" his piece of steak, as well as his wife's share. Bea doesn't eat meat, period. Poor Amos Nakamura, he was struggling away trying to cut his steak, but all of his efforts was to no avail. T.S.! Hey, Brah, it isn't what you think. T.S. stands for "tough steak".

The formal program included the introduction of officers, guests, and announcements of the Club 100 1992 reunion. The guests were the widows of fallen comrades of Company F, Hawaii, and George Taketa, President of Hawaii Chapter, Club 100.

Kenneth Higa gave the highlights of the up-coming 50th Anniversary celebration to be held in Honolulu during June 24 - 28, 1992. Most importantly, he strongly encouraged everyone to make plans to attend.

The entertainment portion of the program included Karaoke, group singing, group dances, hula and magic show. The Golden Girls of Big Island- Jill Fujimoto, Mary Kagawa, Jane Kurokawa, Ethel Nishimura, Hinae Okinaka, Masayo Santo and Akiko Shimabukuro, dressed in costumes befitting the dance, performing a Modified Tanko Bushi. Presumably, some of the gals wished they had more than two hands. It was sort of hilarious seeing them trying to do the hand motions properly and at the same time keep the mustaches from falling off of their faces. Nevertheless, the Golden Girls performed admirably considering they had only one hour of rehearsal.

The menfolk, not to be outdone, ushered in a group called the "Flower Children". Hiromu Kobayashi, Yasuyuki Kurokawa, Charles Nishimura and Nobu Okinaka clad in floral costumes, did their thing. Their performance? Plenty okay for doing the dance without any rehearsal! Shizu Akamine, the lady with many ideas, was the choreographer.

The Golden Girls and the Flower Children must be complimented for their willingness to get in the act. Take a bow, guys and gals!

Amos Nakamura, a born showman, was his usual self doing magic tricks in his own inimitable style. His performances are always enjoyable for he is a master entertainer

I almost forgot to mention the photo taking time just before the cocktail hour. First to have their group picture taken was the menfolk, then, each table group.

Sunday, September 22: The Memorial Service, held in the Kilohana Room, was an impressive and touching ceremony.

Fox Company's honcho, Hakaru Taoka, gave the invocation. Here on, address him as "Abbot" Taoka--he is deserving of the title.

The songbird of Fox Company, Sylvia Kawahara, to my estimation, gave her best performance to date as she sang the Lord's Prayer. She sang it so beautifully and movingly.

The highlight of the service was the "Lighting of the Candles". As Chochi Shimabukuro called out the names of each of our fallen comrades, a member, wife or widow stepped up front and lit the candle for the fallen comrade whose name had been chosen at the Friday Friendship Nite. This novel idea was the brainchild of the innovator, Shizu Akamine.

Fox Company News (Continued)

Charles Nishimura, the musician, crooner and joke teller was the emcee for the Saturday nite and Sunday morning functions. His famous words are "I am not the best, but hard to beat!" No truer words were spoken, Charlie. Your performance was great.

Special Bouquets: A good friend of Shizu Akamine, who wants to remain anonymous, gave plenty of anthuriums and dendrobiums to make enough bouquets for each visiting member and extras for shut-in members. Many thanks to the anonymous donor.

Hi-Lo: The HHHI'S are bending low! Why? Because they have shamed the so-called stronger sex. Alice Hayashi, the lone wahine golfer, was the winner of the golf tournament. For two consecutive years she has beaten the boys. It's fortunate for the boys that she only started playing in the tournament from 1990. Otherwise her string of victories would be much longer. And so, if you see Mike Hamamoto, Ted Hamasu, Paul Hayashi and Ken Iha walking around with heads bent low, you know the reason why. They have lost face by losing to the weaker sex. I think you guys more bettah make hara kiri.

Kudos: Co-Chairmen Shigeru Ito and Charles Nishimura should be proud of the reunion and the committee chairpersons, members, wives and all who pitched in with plenty of "labor of love" to make the 3-day affair a very successful one.

The visiting members and wives from Kauai, Maui, Oahu and Mainland, extend many thanks for a most enjoyable and memorable weekend in Hawaii.

Girl Friday: Her name is not listed in the program or in any of the committees, but she was of much help to Shizu Akamine. Shizu, who was involved in almost every phase of the reunion, stated that this particular person seemed to be endowed with ESP because everytime she needed help, Girl Friday was right by her side. Who is this lady? She is none other Tsukasa Santo's wife, Masayo.

The Old Reliables: A very appreciative thank you to Rudy Yoshida, our reliable and diligent secretary, for doing so much--airline bookings, car rentals, hotel reservations, etc--for the Oahu Group. Also for coordinating the money details with the other island coordinators.

Mahalo also to Kenzo Endo, our perennial treasurer, for handling the collections and payments.

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1992 Officers: Company F officers for the new year are:

President ....Ted Hamasu  
V-President...Kenneth Higa  
Secretary ...Rudy Yoshida  
Treasurer ...Kenzo Endo

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Our deepest condolences to Paul Maruo on the loss of his beloved wife, Ivy. She passed away on Thursday, October 11, 1991. The Memorial service was held at the Nuuanu Memorial Park Mortuary on Wednesday evening, October 16, 1992.

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100th/442nd/MIS World War II Memorial Foundation  
1438 Oak Street, Los Angeles, California 90015

In response to Raymond Nosaka, editor of Puka Puka Parade, for a series of articles about the Japanese American World War II Veterans Memorial Project, which highlights the 100th/442nd/MIS veterans, Young Kim, George Nishinaka, and Al Takahashi have pooled their information together to present the Project story in five articles. "The Japanese American World War II Veterans Memorial Project In Retrospect" is the lead article, to be followed in subsequent issues with "The World War II Japanese American Memorial Concept," "The 100th/442nd/MIS World War II Memorial Foundation," "The Design Competition," and concluding with the article, "The Fund Raising Campaign."

JAPANESE AMERICAN WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL PROJECT  
IN RETROSPECT

The Japanese American World War II Veterans Memorial to be located in the First Street North Plaza Development in Los Angeles, adjacent to Little Tokyo and the Civic Center, probably had its genesis as a conceptual interest as early as 1945 when the war ended in Italy. There are many accomplishments and stories about the 100th, the 442nd and the MIS. Their motivation to prove loyalty to America, their early realization that their stories must be told and retold and that the stories should never be forgotten (The late Senator Spark Matsunaga stated this at every veterans reunion.), are all germane to the important "why?" of this veterans memorial. There were many public accommodations and recognitions. There were magazine articles, newspaper releases, news real coverages, books, and even a movie, "Go For Broke." There followed more media coverage and even documentary movies, TV coverages and video tapes. It is important to note that the first book about the 100th Battalion was Thomas D. Murphy's book, "Ambassador in Arms" 1954; the first book about the 442nd RCT was Orville C. Shirey's book, "Americans - The Story of the 442nd Combat Team" 1946; and the first book about the MIS was Joseph D. Harrington's book, "Yankee Samurai" 1979. All three first books were interestingly authored by non Japanese Americans. However, there ultimately followed many other notable publications: "Go For Broke" 1982 by Chester Tanaka; "Bridge of Love" 1985 by John Tsukano; "The Unlikely Liberators" 1987 by Masayo Duus; and "John Aiso and the M.I.S." 1988 by Tad Ichinokuchi. But are these enough?

In Los Angeles, in the late Seventies, there was a group of 100/442/MIS veterans who were concerned and saw the need to further perpetuate the story and its legacy for the future generations still to be born. The earliest thought was to create a 100/442/MIS museum (A 100/442/MIS Museum Foundation was actually incorporated.); but fortuitously, at about the same time, a community group was also thinking about a Japanese American museum. The members of the veterans group, included Nancy Araki, Sam Fujikawa, Monte Fujita, Wimp Hiroto, George and Toyo Kanegai, Jim Kawaminami, Young Kim, Buddy Mamiya, Yosh Nakayama, Ben Tagami, Vince Tajiri, Mike Tsuji, Harry Yamamoto, and Art Yoshimura, joined hands with the other group members lead by Bruce Kaji around the idea for a Japanese American museum. Soon after, the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) was born; and at its earliest Board meeting, a concept was re-percolated that there was an appropriate need to include a "World War II Period Room" as an integral part of the Museum's efforts to capture the total Japanese American experience in America: from Japan in the 1800's, to America in the early 1900's, to the current and future Japanese American experiences yet to be unfolded. Since the 100/442/MIS story was thought to be one of the focal exhibits of the 1940 period in the Museum's overall plan, the 100/442/MIS veterans have whole heartily supported the Museum's efforts, then and now.

Since the JANM was to be located in the old Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple as part of the First Street North Plaza, there was keen interest in the developmental phase of the RFP (Request For Proposal) to be put forth by the City of Los Angeles (It is important to know that the land to be developed is owned by the City of Los Angeles and will be only leased to a developer who can meet the specifications of the RFP.). Thus, as the RFP was being developed in the mid-eighties, the Museum was following the process to assure the inclusion in the RFP specification for the developer to provide a minimum of 65,000 square feet of additional new space for the Museum so that the JANM can be designed to qualify as a minimum 100,000 square foot world class museum. It was during the presentation to the City officials for the need of additional space for the museum and for an increase in monetary support from the developer that the idea of a veterans memorial to be located in the Central Plaza was presented. The City of Los Angeles agreed that this impor-



tant historical period for the 100/442/MIS World War II veterans deserved to be remembered; and thus, it was incorporated by title, "The Japanese American World War II Veterans Memorial," into the City's RFP. In 1987, after the RFP was offered, five developers responded. The winning developer was Michael Barker who will have the first right to present a final plan to the City for final approval and acceptance by the City.

It was in September of 1988. George Higa, then president of the 100th/442nd Veterans Association, authorized the creation of a Memorial Task Force which was expanded to become the 100th/442nd/MIS WWII Memorial Committee as it was authorized by not only the 100th/442nd Veterans Association but the MIS Club of Southern California, as a joint committee. The two organizations equally underwrote the initial operations of the committee by providing "seed money" \$500 each for such items as stationary, copy service, postage, etc.

It was in October of 1988. A rendering of the Plaza development plan was made available by Michael Barker. The Museum group, for one, was unhappy because not enough additional square footage was provided for in the plan. The 100/442/MIS group was unhappy because the memorial was moved from the Central Plaza to a corner location (The RFP called for the memorial to be in the Central Plaza). A meeting was arranged with Michael Barker. The result was that the up-dated rendering now correctly locates the memorial in the central plaza. A World War II Japanese American Memorial Concept paper was also presented to Michael Barker who liked the idea and committed his support.

The drive for the 100/442nd MIS Memorial Monument is now under way here in Hawaii. The following people have already sent in their donation to the Memorial Foundation office in Gardena, California.

| <u>\$500.00 - \$1,000</u> | <u>\$101.00 - \$499.00</u> | <u>\$25.00 - 100.00</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Kauai Club 100            | Tom Ibaraki (A)            | Mitsuru Doi (Kauai)     |
| Isam Inouye (A)           | Fred Kanemura (B)          | James Iwasa (B)         |
| Samuel Sakamoto (A)       | Peter Kawahara (Kona)      | James Maeda (HILO)      |
| John Kihara (Rural)       | James Kawashima (B)        | Sadashi Matsunami (D)   |
| Robert Nakamura (HQ)      | James Miyano (B)           | Tom Nishioka (A)        |
| Tamotsu Shimizu (Rural)   | Itsuki Oshita (HQ)         | Sueo Sakamoto (A)       |
| Raymond Nosaka (B)        | Mikio Takahashi (HQ)       | Ken Saruwatari (HQ)     |
| Robert Takashige (B)      | Arthur Tamashiro (HQ)      | Hiroshi Shimazu (B)     |
| George Taketa (Hilo)      | Hakaru Taoka (Rural)       | Francis Shinohara (B)   |
| Ernest Tanaka (B)         |                            | Ken Suehiro (HQ)        |
|                           |                            | Goro Sumida (A)         |
|                           |                            | Rikio Tsuda (B)         |

If you wish to have more information regarding this worthy project, call the office and ask for an informational brochure and envelope..

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**  
**FOR CLUB 100'S 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
**June 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 1992, in Honolulu, Hawaii**

Wednesday, June 24- Registration and Hospitality Room

Thursday, June 25- Golf tournament at West Loch

- City bus tours

- Welcome Night Bash at the Pagoda Hotel

Friday, June 26- Golf tournament at Navy-Marine course

- More City bus tours

- Club house evening get-together

Saturday, June 27- Anniversary luncheon banquet at Pacific Beach Hotel

Sunday, June 28- Memorial Service Breakfast at the Pagoda Hotel

Look for registration information in the January Puka Puka Parade.

The following article was submitted by Abraham Alapai (A) who resides in Tomah, Wisconsin, and is reprinted here with the permission of Akira Toki (A).

Mr. Toki has recently become a life member of Club 100.

## Holiday/War Memories are etched on heart and mind of veteran

Madison native Akira Toki, 75, had never met prejudice until he was drafted into the Army in 1942, "one of the names drawn out of the fishbowl by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt".

His father, Henry Toki, emigrated from Japan to Washington state in 1910 and moved to Madison shortly after marrying fellow immigrant Sueno Toki in 1914.

"We were the only Japanese family in town," Toki said. "I thought I was as good as anybody else."

When he, along with many other Japanese soldiers, was assigned to a desk job instead of combat duty, he was furious.

"I used to crab to my commanding officer because they wouldn't let me do what I wanted to do for our country," he said.

When the famed 100th Battalion from Hawaii "showed that we could be trusted," the 26-year-old Dane County truck farmer eagerly embraced the opportunity to be thrown into some of the fiercest fighting of the war. In the Allied drive up from Italy into southern France in 1943 and 1944, he saw the

200-member 442nd Regimental Combat Team reduced to 21 by deaths and serious injuries.

"I think at that time we were under pressure to prove that we were loyal Americans," he recalled. "It was our pride that we had to do it even if we had to get killed or wounded."

The former infantryman was one of the lucky ones in his company. His head injury, from artillery shrapnel, took him out of action only long enough "to walk back to the aid station and get patched up."

Active in the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Toki appears in many veterans ceremonies at the Capitol as part of the honor guard for the Madison Veterans Council.

However, remembrance is a year-round activity for him.

He spends each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the VA Hospital in Madison as a crafts volunteer.

The honor guard of which he is a member also provides ceremony and rifle salutes at funerals, 65 so far this year. It is Toki's duty to remove the flag from the coffin and to present the folded banner to survivors.

Each time he folds his nation's ensign with military precision, war-time memories seem as vivid as the colors.

"That's why I feel real bad when I see people have flags on beach towels or Frisbees," he said. "It's not to be handled that way. It's a sacred thing."

Reprint courtesy The Milwaukee Journal

## THE WISCONSIN PURPLE HEARTER



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### CLUB 100 MONTHLY BULLETIN for November, 1991

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#### CHAPTER MEETINGS

ABLE . . . . . Saturday, Nov 23  
BAKER . . . . . Friday, Nov 15  
CHARLIE . . . . . Monday, Nov 18  
DOG . . . . . Saturday, Nov 16  
FOX . . . . .  
HDQRS . . . . . Thursday, Nov 21  
RURAL . . . . . Friday, Nov 15  
KAUAI . . . . .  
MAUI . . . . . Thursday, Nov 5  
HAWAII . . . . .

Lounge 8:00 A.M.  
Lounge 7:30 P.M.  
Board Room 10:00 A.M.  
Board Room 8:00 A.M.  
  
Lounge 7:30 P.M.  
Dot's Drive Inn 6:30 P.M.  
  
Kahului Sizzler 11:30 A.M.

#### CLUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board of Directors . . . . . Thursday, Nov 14      Board Room 7:00 P.M.  
Bonsai . . . . . no meeting  
50th Anniversary      No meeting in November  
Select . . . . . No meeting until February, 1992  
Green Thumbs . . . . . Nov 30 and Dec 1 - Green Thumbs Show - Club House  
  
DAV Hanele . . . . . Thursday, Nov 21      Board Room 7:30 P.M.

Deadline for announcements and news for the December issue of the Puka Puka Parade is November 15, 1991. The collating date will be November 21st with Team II (A & C) responsible for providing the manpower.

REMINDER: CHRISTMAS PARTY SCHEDULES: (Mark your calendars now)

ABLE..... December 6, 1991  
BAKER ..... December 14  
CHARLIE ..... December 15  
DOG ..... December 22  
HDQS..... December 21

CONGRATULATIONS to Chaplain and Mrs. Vost who just recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Our best wishes and ALOHA to you!

\* \* \* \* \*

Perhaps some of you noticed and are wondering what happened to the colorful P.P.P. that you are used to receiving. Well, to help cut down on expenses, we have reverted back to using the plain white paper with coloring added occasionally. This does not, by any means, affect the news or announcements that are printed.

Editors - Ray & Aki



**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

CLUB 100  
100th INF. BN. Veterans  
520 Kamoku Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

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