



100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB

PUKA-PUKA

MONTHLY NEWS

PARADE

AUGUST 2006

ISSUE #07/2006

You are invited to a special event celebrating the life
of the late

CHAPLAIN ISRAEL A.S. YOST

and the publication of the book

Combat Chaplain:

***The Personal Story of the WWII Chaplain of the
Japanese American 100th Battalion***

Saturday, September 9, 2006 at 10:00 am

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse

(Note: Co-Editor Michael Markrich will be in attendance.

He is a freelance writer who was an instrumental part of this project. He is also a historian and a friend of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans. We are hoping one of Chaplain Yost's children will also join us. Copies of Chaplain Yost's book will be available for purchase: \$39 for hardcover, \$24.95 for paperback. For pre-orders, please contact Amanda at the Clubhouse via phone [946-0272] or e-mail [club100vets@yahoo.com] and indicate the number of copies desired.)



THE TRUE STORY OF CHAPLAIN YOST FINALLY TOLD IN COMBAT CHAPLAIN by Michael Markrich

**Prologue:
Israel A.S. Yost
Spring of 1984**

When I was a young man, a few months after my twenty-seventh birthday (I am now sixty-eight), association with a remarkable group of men was suddenly thrust upon me: I was assigned to the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) as chaplain.

The men were Americans of Japanese ancestry (AJA's), and all save a few of the original unit were from the then Territory of Hawaii. Their officers, both *haole* (Caucasian) and Nisei (AJA), were also from Hawaii. Committed to combat with the Fifth Army in Southern Italy in September of 1943, the 100th soon distinguished itself. It earned the title of *The Purple Heart Battalion*.

In June of 1944, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, composed of AJA's from both Hawaii and the Mainland, arrived in Italy; the 100th Battalion became the First Battalion of the 442nd but kept its own special designation as the 100th.

Except for the 100th's first week in combat, I participated in all of the military campaigns of the AJA's in Italy and France. I have written down the story of this unique experience, using the letters I sent my wife almost daily, the little journal I kept part of the time, and the accounts I have read and heard these past forty years.

Who in 1943 could have foreseen that a Lutheran pastor from rural eastern Pennsylvania would be blessed to live and tell such a tale?

So begins the memoir of Reverend Israel Yost. It is the story of a man's search for truth, dignity and faith in a time of terror and total war. There now have been many memoirs and personal histories written of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd. However, most of them have been written from a local Hawaii perspective. This is story from that of an outsider, a man who had rarely ever encountered an American of Japanese Ancestry before in his small town of Pennsylvania who was suddenly thrust among the men of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd. Through Yost's eyes we meet Spark Matsunaga, Ken Otagaki, Kent Nakamura, Dr. Katsumi Kometani and many others as young men. If he had never met an AJA before most of his troops had never encountered a Lutheran minister. At first because of his first name "Israel" many of the men in the 100th Battalion would think he was a Jewish rabbi. Nothing surprised them in the army.

Yost became their minister, their helper when they were wounded, the man who recovered their bodies when they died and who wrote the grieving letters home to Hawaii. Most of all he was their friend. Bonded together in a comradeship that took place during horrific combat, Yost eventually came to question his role as a chaplain giving aid to men who kill. He records in his memoir how he and his fellow soldiers had to think long and hard about the future they wanted for their children to justify what they had to do every day. This book besides being a compelling story is a unique window on a time that is now fading into distant memory.

As we Americans presently live in a time of war, the lessons of Israel Yost are as immediate today as they were at the time they were written. He believed in truth, in human dignity, in the value of religious faith of all kinds and above all in friendship. I came across his unpublished manuscript while working on an article on the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club five years ago and with the help of Monica Yost PhD, (Israel's daughter) and the University of Hawaii Press have helped to produce his book.

Reverend Yost died on June 25, 2000. He left his unpublished writings behind in a cardboard box hoping that others might one day learn from the lessons of his life. The day of publication has finally arrived. On September 9, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. a special function will be held in Turner Hall celebrating the story of Chaplain Yost. ~~Books will be on sale \$39.00 for hard cover and \$24.95 for paperback.~~



PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Robert Arakaki

Our 64th celebration is over. An estimated 400 veterans and guests enjoyed meeting old friends and making new ones. Our 65th celebration will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom, on June 24, 2007. Be sure to attend – it's going to be a big affair. More information will be printed in the *Puka Puka Parade*.

On June 30, Cliff Tanigawa visited our Clubhouse. He works for Boeing Aircraft and was responsible for initiating the naming of a C-17 Spirit of "Go for Broke." Although his proposal was rejected several times, he persisted and finally made it happen. Thanks to Cliff. More information regarding Cliff's efforts is published in this issue of the *Puka Puka Parade*.

On June 17, 2006, the Long Range Committee decided that the veterans will continue to enjoy the Clubhouse as they have done for many years. We want to emphasize that tearing down of the building will not be occurring in the near future. There will always be a place for our veterans to meet. More information regarding this matter is printed elsewhere.

At the July 14 Board meeting, club member Skip Tomiyama, who is associated with Ohana O Hawaii, an organization for the homeless, asked for a donation of \$260 and the use of our Clubhouse kitchen. The donation was approved but the use of the kitchen was denied due to liability issues.

Stanley Akita reported that minor repairs have been made to the apartment building. The House Committee is still waiting for three more estimates for reroofing the Clubhouse.

Office Manager Amanda Stevens updated the Board on the grants for the education research center and the apartment building.

**REMARKS BY PRESIDENT ROBERT ARAKAKI FROM
THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET
June 24, 2006 at the Ala Moana Hotel, Honolulu, HI**

Aloha and good morning distinguished guests, veterans, family and friends of the 100th and descendants. Welcome to our 64th Anniversary Year, 2006.

Please rise. May we observe a moment of silence for the fallen comrades, who so bravely sacrificed their lives and who are no longer with us?

Thank you.

To the members of the 100th, I'm honored to be standing here, before fellow members, as your President. I appreciate the support you have given me these past months.

To the fellow members of the Board, it is a great pleasure working with you. Thank you for your patience and advice.

To the Banquet Committee and to the hotel staff who have contributed so much time and energy for this memorable celebration, "Thank you - job well done." Can we give them a round of applause?

You notice how clean and good looking our Clubhouse is today? It all started at last year's Book and Bake Sale. Folks from the community heard about our Building Maintenance Fundraiser and the rest is history. Two people who were there from the beginning are Representative Scott Nishimoto and Kyle Chock, Director of Pacific Resource Partnership. They helped us forge a relationship with the carpenters and painters unions, which have done so much for us.

We are also thankful to Officer Steve Miller and the Sea Bees Construction crews. Also a big *mahalo* to Sgt. Maj. Harold Estabrooks of the 100th/442nd Unit and Sgt 1st Class Nakashima.

We can't forget Patty Kawaoka - Director of Housekeeping at the Miramar at Waikiki and her crew who adopted the 100th as their service project two years ago. We'd also like to thank so many others who have contributed their time skill and effort in giving our Clubhouse a real makeover.

Our Clubhouse is not just a building where we watch TV and play cards. It is a place where we come together as comrades, share memories of the past, build new memories with our friends and families and most importantly, it is a place where we honor those who have sacrificed their lives for our country.

Today I'd like to thank the veterans, spouses and our descendants for their support throughout the years and we'd also like to thank those who supported this club who are no longer with us. Thank you again.

Sons and Daughters don't forget. *KODOMO NO TAME NI*. For the love of child. *OYA NO ON*. Kindness of the parent. Descendants, carry on this legacy, don't forget, pass it on to your children's children for years to come. Thank you and *mahalo*.

In Memoriam

NAME	COMPANY	DATE OF DEATH
Raymond H. Harada	Company D	June 7, 2006
Noboru Sugahara	Company C/Maui	June 11, 2006
Michael Hamamoto	Company A/Rural	June 30, 2006
Donald S. Ishiki	Company HQ	July 8, 2006

Our deepest sympathy to their families

AN UPDATE FROM THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Long Range Planning Committee met on June 17 with almost 100% attendance of committee members. Discussions were led by our facilitator, Drake Beil.

Ray Nosaka accompanied by Bert Morinaka of Stonecraft Memorial Company made a presentation to the Committee on a proposed memorial to be erected in the front of the Clubhouse. The presentation was well received and the proposal was referred to the Building Development Committee; however Mr. Nosaka was reminded that decisions on the development of a memorial rested with the Membership of the Club -- just as the recommendations of the Long Range Planning Committee will ultimately rest with the Membership.

The Vision Statement of the Club was reviewed. It appears below:

“A Vision for the Future.”

We will perpetuate the identity of the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) and its successor in combat action, the 100th Battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. To ensure the many sacrifices were not in vain, we will preserve and uphold the standards and traditions of the 100th as we maintain and develop records of their heroic achievements as the first all AJA battalion. We will perpetuate the traditions of continuing service to the community as we advance social welfare, promote patriotism, and an informed empowered democracy.

The Club is in the process of renovating and repairing both the apartment and Clubhouse buildings. It is our wish that the veterans continue to enjoy the Clubhouse as they have for many years. We want to emphasize that tearing down of the buildings on the property will not be occurring in the near future. This is just a possible Long Range Plan. We will ensure there will always be a place for the veterans to meet.

The Clubhouse will be a viable center and a place for all generations to meet. We will provide a means for social relationships and a place for recreation as we encourage ~~and promote assistance among the members and among the survivors of deceased members.~~ We will develop a permanent memorial to list the name of every veteran who served in the 100th. This also includes preserving the legacy of the 100th by having their experiences available to future generations of children who will hear their stories and understand their key role in the history of Hawaii. We have a media plan that builds on the legacy and creates visibility for things we stand for as well as a plan to enable veterans to pass on more through audio and video records. We will digitize existing media and make every effort to obtain the stories from all available veterans. In a self-supporting educational center, we hope to harness the passion, time, and resources of the future generations and make the legacy hands-on, experiential, and tangible. This focus will drive home the reason that people came together, found a way to serve and continue their service back home in Hawaii.

We will see increased activity from the Sons & Daughters organization (the 501c-3) as their membership again increases and their children and future generations become members. We conduct an inventory of their professions to enable us to plan for greater involvement and participation. To encourage this participation, we will develop a new descendants' chapter composed of sons, daughters, grandchildren and other family members as part of the veterans' club (the 501c-4). As the descendants join the veterans' club and achieve seats on the Board, the veterans' club will remain viable in future generations. We will see new coordination between the two groups, between the veterans' club and the Sons & Daughters organization that develops greater unity, leadership and committee participation. We will provide ongoing memorial services, banquets, scholarships and receive grants via the nonprofit Sons & Daughters organization to provide services and programs of benefit to veterans and others.

We could develop the property so that it is income producing, and envision a high-rise that will be run as a successful business. We envision a multistory community resource with underground parking and a range of sustainable living services that could include, but is not limited to senior units for family members, additional senior-care, child-care, student and/or faculty housing, a visitor center and a Legacy Library. This will create financial

independence and enable us to fund members' needs and to pay professional staff for property and event management."

Committees were formed to further refine the direction of the Club as specified in the Vision Statement (*above*). These committees and their leadership are presented below:

Decendants Chapter Committee

Chair: Denis Teraoka

Co-Chair: Warren Yamamoto

Charged with reviewing by-laws, creating language to set up new chapter, assure that it allows dual membership (in Descendants Chapter as well as Company Chapter)

Building Development Committee

Chair: Irene Anzai

Co-Chair: Alvin Oshiro

Educational Legacy Committee

Chair: Mimi Nakano

Co-Chair: Charlotte Unni

All three committees were directed to begin work immediately and to be prepared to make recommendations to the Long Range Planning Committee at the next scheduled meeting which will be on August 26, 2006. All subcommittees were urged to recruit additional members beyond the members of the Long Range Planning Committee to assist in their deliberations.

THANKS TO OUR PPP VOLUNTEERS by Joy Teraoka, Editor

The following volunteers helped collate and mail our July issue of the *Puka Puka Parade*: Bernard Akamine, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Ed Ikuma, Fumiko Inouye, Sally Inouye, Ed Kobata, Arthur Komiyama, Susumu Kunishige, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Philip Matsuyama, Masanori Moriwake, Joichi Muramatsu, Natalie Muramatsu (granddaughter of Joe Muramatsu), Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Ray and Aki Nosaka, Seiei Oshiro, Mrs. Patti Ossbold (daughter of Ray and Aki Nosaka), Susumu Ota, Mamoru Sato, Robert Sato, Hiromi Suehiro, Goro Sumida, Dot Tamashiro, Drusilla Tanaka, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Martin Tohara, Rikio and Evelyn Tsuda, Takako Umamoto and Ukichi Woizumi. To all of you, thank you very much.

IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE: From August, each month only one chapter will be responsible for providing the refreshments. Instead of two chapters sharing the task each month, only one will be assigned to bring some pastries. In August, Headquarters Chapter will be the first to initiate this new plan.

Again, our sincere thanks to those who have shown their support of our newsletter with contributions to the *Puka Puka Parade*.

**PUKA PUKA PARADE CORRECTIONS,
CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMENTS**

Dear Club 100:

This is a small note to say you folks are doing a fantastic job in devoting a page in your newsletter aimed at elder care. With veterans aging and passing away, these topics are very helpful and it could benefit the children who are caring for their elderly parents as well.

It is sad how our government will not provide free nursing and assisted living to our veterans. It is a right that I believe no one is fighting for. Even my letters to Senator Daniel Inouye are not even acknowledged.

I enjoy reading the articles in the *One Puka Puka Parade*. Just tell the guys to stay healthy and keep it going.

Thanks for reading.

(From) Steve Kohatsu

Son of Kenneth Kiichi Kohatsu (1919 – 2006), Headquarters Company

Eddie Yamasaki sent the following note and article regarding recognizing the signs of a stroke reprinted from the *New York Times* and the *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, May 14, 2006:

“You’ve likely received other responses to your ‘Recognizing a Stroke’ piece in the (July) *Puka Puka Parade*...Below is a clipping I had saved with my 442 buddies.”

THE BOTTOM LINE - Three-Step stroke test is incomplete

>>**The claim:** A stroke can be diagnosed in three steps.

>>**The facts:** Most people can spot the telltale signs of a heart attack. But a stroke?

Studies show that stroke victims sometimes fail to realize that they have suffered an attack or to seek medical help until crucial hours later. Minor strokes are sometimes dismissed as migraines or fatigue.

So when an e-mail message claiming that anyone can diagnose a stroke in three simple steps surfaced recently, it was tantalizing. It claims that an untrained bystander can tell whether people have suffered a stroke by asking them to smile, raise both arms slowly and recite a simple sentence. A small study presented at a meeting of the American Stroke Association in 2003 suggested the test.

But because the symptoms of a stroke vary widely, the three-step test can detect some victims but will miss many others, said Dr. Larry Goldstein, the director of the Duke Stroke Center. Some of the more common symptoms of a stroke, for example, are problems seeing, an unusual headache, sudden numbness and trouble with coordination or walking – all of which the three-step test overlooks.

In a statement, the American Stroke Association said it did not endorse the test. Goldstein added that people who suspect they suffered a stroke should call 911 immediately, since quick medical treatment is the only thing that can help.

>>**The bottom line:** The symptoms of a stroke can vary so widely that a three-step test may miss them.

2006 LEI TRIBUTE TO RETURNING 100TH BN/442ND SOLDIERS by Joy Teraoka, Editor

On July 20, 2006 at 10:30 a.m., the 100th/442nd veterans of World War II paid honor to the soldiers of Companies D and HHC of the 100th Bn/442nd Infantry who returned from the current war in Iraq. The stately color guard led over 60 troops into Turner Hall for the ceremony as the old veterans, wives, and friends sat with pride along the side walls. Doris Kimura sang the “*Star Spangled Banner*” and “*Hawai’i Pono’i*”.

The orange “ilima” lei which many of the 100th and 442nd wives made under the direction of Drusilla Tanaka for this special occasion were placed upon each returning soldier by one of the World War II veterans.

Bert Kuioka served as Master of Ceremonies, Lt. Colonel Colbert addressed the audience for his men, and Maj. General Robert G. F. Lee also praised the soldiers for upholding the honorable traditions of the 100th Infantry Battalion. The young men then sang their “*442 Fight Song*”.

Skip Tomiyama led the audience in singing “*Hawai’i Aloha*.” In Hawaii, our celebrations end with a wonderful feast, and so the soldiers, the vets, families and friends gathered together to enjoy the bounty of food and fellowship that followed.

STAN’S CORNER (Part One) by Stanley Akita

A young man wanted to get his beautiful blonde wife, Susie, something nice for their first wedding anniversary. So he decided to buy her a cell phone. He showed her the phone and explained to her all of its features. Susie was excited to receive the gift and simply adored her new phone.



The next day Susie went shopping. Her phone rang and to her astonishment, it was her husband on the other end. “Hi, Susie,” he said, “how do you like your new phone?” Susie replied, “I just love it! It’s so small and your voice is clear as a bell, but there’s one thing I do not understand though-“

“What’s that Sweetie?” asked her husband.

“How did you know I was at Walmart?” Susie replied.



IOLANI SCHOOL FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION **by Dante Hirata-Epstein**

(Editor's Note: This article is by our youngest PPP correspondent, Dante Hirata-Epstein, who is in the Third Grade at Iolani School. You may have seen him at the Clubhouse with his mom, PPP Technical Advisor Jayne Hirata-Epstein.)

Every summer, Iolani School has a parade and a performance to celebrate the Fourth of July. This was the 18th Fourth of July celebration at Iolani. The parade always comes first. This was the fourth time I participated in the celebration. It was held on July 3 since we didn't have school on July 4.

In the parade this year, summer school students waved flags and wore patriotic hats. They also wore red, white and blue shirts. They marched to the music that the upper school band played. My class watched and cheered on the parade. At the front of the parade, there was a cart covered with stars painted on it. People dressed as famous Americans such as Honest Abe Lincoln, Lady Liberty, Uncle Sam, and Betsy Ross rode on the cart. The Grand Marshall, Dr. Denis Teraoka, was also at the front of the parade. There were some dancers from the 100th Battalion and 442nd in the parade too. They had on t-shirts that said 100th/442nd on it. The parade started by the Kindergarten classes at Iolani and ended at the new Field House.

The performance took place at the Field House. This was a different place than last year. Uncle Sam and the other famous Americans made speeches telling about whom they were, what they did to help our country and introduced the dancers and singers. Some of the singers and dancers were the Magic School Bus Class of Iolani (my class) and the Fantasy, Fiction and Fame class. My class sang a remix of the Magic School Bus theme song about Iolani and the Fourth of July. During our performance, some people from TV were filming so I tried to wave to the camera and be on TV.

The dancers from the 100th/442nd did a dance with an American flag to some music. I don't know what type of dance they did but everyone enjoyed it and the music they danced to.

Dr. Denis Teraoka spoke about what the Fourth of July is really about and told us about the soldiers who died to make our country free. He also talked about the 100th Battalion and World War II and the Internment Camps. He told us about what the Americans did to the Japanese Americans during the war because the Japanese Americans were different and didn't look like them. Dr. Teraoka's speech (*see below*) made me feel happy and sad at the same time. I was happy because he was talking about how we were free but I was sad because he was talking about the people that died for our country.

During the performance, we sang a number of different patriotic American songs. At the end of the performance, the band played music again and we sang.

I liked the whole celebration. I can't pick out a favorite part. I hope that the veterans and their wives enjoyed the celebration also and that they will participate every year!

WHAT DOES THE FOURTH OF JULY MEAN TO YOU?

by Denis K. Teraoka, Grand Marshal

July 3, 2006 - Iolani School Fourth of July Celebration

As a veteran of the 100th Infantry Battalion, I feel honored to speak to you today for your Fourth of July Celebration. July 4 is a very special day in the history of America.

What comes to your mind when you hear the words, "Fourth of July"?

Some of you might think of the big parades in Kailua and Wahiawa where our military men and women, our marching bands, grandfather veterans parade down the streets and your own parade at Iolani School. Others of you might think of the spectacular fireworks bursting in the sky in dazzling colors over Magic Island.

But what is the meaning of these events? It is our way of celebrating America's birthday. It celebrates the day our nation won its independence and freedom from England. July 4 is the day we celebrate the signing of a document called the "Declaration of Independence."

Some day you will know that freedom is not free, because the men and women of the American

Revolution fought the English troops with their blood, sweat and tears before finally they could be rewarded with freedom from England.

You might think "Freedom" means we can do any thing, any time, anywhere, whatever we please, but that is not true freedom. True freedom is not free. Freedom demands responsibility. We paid for our freedom with the lives of many brave soldiers.

Little is known about this today but the 100th Infantry Battalion of World War II not only fought the Germans over the hills of Italy and through the forests of France, but we also fought to prove our loyalty to America to erase the discrimination and prejudice against us Japanese-Americans for the foolish reason that we looked like the enemy. This discrimination and prejudice affected about 120,000 people with Japanese faces. They were forced to leave their homes, get rid of all their belongings, and with only what they could carry in a suitcase were sent to concentration camps situated on the lonely desert or prairie lands of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. There were ten of these camps.

In June 1942, 1,432 men of the 100th Infantry secretly left Honolulu and landed in Oakland, California where they were then sent to Wisconsin for military training, and then to Mississippi for more training.

In 1943 the 100th landed in Italy and fought up the Western sector, liberating town after town, including Rome, Leghorn and Pisa. They were pulled out of the front lines, loaded onto ship, and sent to France in the cold winter of 1944, where they were ordered to rescue the "Lost Battalion." The 100th suffered 800 casualties trying to save 211 men of the 1st Battalion of the 141st regiment of the 36th Texas Division.

There is an oil painting of the rescue of the Lost Battalion titled "Go For Broke" which holds an important place in the Pentagon as one of the ten greatest battles fought by American soldiers from the Revolutionary War of the 1780s to the Gulf War of the year 2000.

In the spring of 1945, the 100th returned to Italy from France to continue fighting. It took the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team two days to break a defense line which the enemy had held for five months.

In July 1946 when the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team marched in Washington, D.C. upon returning home from Italy, President Harry Truman told us we fought not only the Germans overseas, but we also fought discrimination and prejudice at home, and we won both.

The 100th/442nd RCT became the most decorated military unit of its size and time in combat in the military history of this country. These soldiers wanted to end the prejudice, suspicion and discrimination they and their families faced because of their racial ancestry.

In the recently published book by Robert Asahina called *Just Americans*, he states, "So in the end, it was not demonstrations in camps or arguments in the courts, but bullets on the battle ground that won the fight for civil rights." (*Just Americans: How Japanese Americans Won a War at Home and Abroad*, Gotham Books, New York, NY),

The liberty and freedom we enjoy today are because of patriots and heroes like these of the past who fought to preserve our precious values. People of Japanese ancestry were subject to hatred and loss of their civil rights. But the Nisei soldiers rose above racism and served their country with loyalty and valor to win back the rights of equality and security that had been denied them.

Through all of these tough times, the men of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team were able to stand up to danger and suffering in order to live up to our battle cry "Go For Broke," which still lives on today in Hawaii with the U.S. Army Reserves.

To all of you today, I would like to repeat, as you go through life, remember, "Freedom is not free." You must be ready to defend the rights and privileges our country guarantees to each of us in its "Declaration of Independence." That is the true meaning of Freedom.

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The Puka Puka Parade is the monthly newsletter of the World War II 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Association (aka Club 100). It is published at 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826.
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WRITER-RESEARCHER VISITS CLUBHOUSE by Drusilla Tanaka

Mr. Sutegoroh Hashimoto of Fukushima, Japan, was in town and he wanted to interview original 100th Infantry Battalion veterans about their war-time experiences. The only problem was that he wanted to interview them in Japanese, so this reporter set about calling up veterans to see if they would be interviewed in Japanese. Just a few years ago, it would have been a battle to convince veterans to come to an interview, but this time, each one said "yes," right away! So, after collating on June 30, Mr. Hashimoto and others in his traveling party met with Bob Sato (A Co.), Ed Kobata (A Co.), Bob Takashige (B Co.), Sonsei Nakamura (B Co.), Shinko Nohara (C Co.), Saburo Nishime (D Co.), Martin Tohara (D Co.), and Ed Ikuma (HQ Co.). Also sitting in were Dr. George Suzuki and Archbishop Ryokan Ara of Tendai Mission of Hawaii.

The questions prompted plenty of participation; the memories were still crystal clear and the discussion was lively. This reporter regretted not paying more attention in Japanese school, for there was much laughter, arguments, and stories shared. It was obvious that Mr. Hashimoto had done extensive research into the history of the 100th Infantry Battalion, for he had photos, maps, and other documents which helped to jog memories. As for the arguments - it can be concluded that no one is right or wrong, for it has been shown that if there are ten witnesses to an event, there will be ten different versions of what happened. Finally, after more than two hours, the group broke for lunch, generously provided by Dr. Suzuki. Mr. Hashimoto presented the Club with several gifts in gratitude, including a monetary donation and several copies of his book, *Maunakea no Yuki (The Snows of Maunakea)*. *Maunakea no Yuki* features the life story of one of the first immigrants from Japan, Tomizo Katunuma, who is also Dr. Suzuki's grandfather.

Mr. Hashimoto later sent a video to the Club along with his thanks, and he expressed his desire to return to Hawaii for more interviews. He mentioned that he had interviewed Hideo Tokairin (B Co./Rural) on a separate occasion. To borrow the books and video (no English translation), please see Amanda Stevens in the Clubhouse office.

We look forward to Mr. Hashimoto's completed work based on his research and interviews with our veterans. *Mahalo* Mr. Hashimoto and thank you for helping to tell the story of the 100th Infantry Battalion in Japan.

Veterans, if your family came from Fukushima province, Mr. Hashimoto would like to meet you on his next visit. Please leave your name and phone number with the Clubhouse office.

SHINSEKI GALLERY OPENS AT U.S. ARMY MUSEUM

On Thursday, July 20, 2006, the U.S. Army Museum located at Fort DeRussy, dedicated a new gallery to Retired General Eric K. Shinseki. The General stated, "This is really a story of an American soldier and an immigrant family's journey in this country...So, I hope people will see it less as one person's accomplishment and more as an American story about immigration in this country and what hard work and education can provide." Shinseki is the first Hawaii native and first Asian-American to attain the rank of four-star general. This koa-lined gallery includes his full-dress four-star uniform, awards, pictures and other treasured memorabilia.

Major General Benjamin R. Mixon, the Commander of the 25th Infantry Division who is deploying with 7,000 Hawai'i soldiers to Iraq, stated that, "Shinseki epitomized and personified the quiet, thoughtful warrior - reluctant to speak of himself," During the Vietnam War, Shinseki was wounded several times, including the partial loss of his foot. When addressing large audiences he often introduced himself by beginning simply with, "My name is Shinseki and I am a soldier." His inspiring leadership and impressive army career has won him a place of honor at the Army Museum.

We, of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization, congratulate our honorary member, Retired General Eric K. Shinseki.

STAN'S CORNER (Part One) by Stanley Akita

Bubba and Ray (Tennessee mechanical engineers) were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing. "We're supposed to find the height of this flagpole," said Bubba, "but we don't have a ladder."

The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a few bolts, and laid the pole down. She then took a tape measure from her pocket, took a measurement, and announced, "Eighteen feet, six inches". Then she walked away.

Ray shook his head and laughed, "Ain't that just like a blonde? We ask for the height and she gives us the length."





MAJOR GENERAL JASON KAMIYA TO COMMAND JWFC

Major General Jason K. Kamiya (son of Larry and Regina Kamiya, C Company) will replace Marine Major General Jon A. Gallinetti as the new Commander of U.S. Joint Forces Command's Joint Warfighting Center and director of joint training. The change of command took place on Tuesday, July 25, 2006, in Suffolk, Virginia. As the Commander of the Joint Warfighting Center, Kamiya will ensure U.S.-based forces are prepared for multi-service/multi-national operations. In addition, he will assist with real-world contingency planning.

He served as Commander of the Southern European Task Force (Airborne) in Vicenza, Italy, and in a variety of infantry and air assault units.

His proud parents are waiting for August when he will return to the Islands for a short vacation.

NAMING THE C-17 SPIRIT OF "GO FOR BROKE"

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

As the adage goes, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." That is exactly what Clifford Tanigawa did in his attempt to have a McDonnell Douglas C-17 named in honor of the 100th/442nd RCT. Although we have run articles on the June 14, 2006, ceremonies held at Long Beach, California and Hickam Air Force Base and we mentioned that Tanigawa was instrumental in having this plane named the Spirit of "Go For Broke," very few know how much effort it took on his part to actually accomplish this task.

Early in the 1990's, the Air Mobility Command/PA connected with the McDonnell Douglas C-17 facility held a Name the Plane program. One of the criteria in designating a name for a plane was that it should have an "airlift tie" which also fits the mission slogan "Always Ready, Performs Any Where and Anytime." In October 1998, as an employee of the Long Beach, California facility, Tanigawa submitted his entry form, suggesting: (1) Spirit of the 100th/442nd and (2) Spirit of "Go For Broke." He felt strongly about wanting to honor the heroic efforts of the 100th/442nd. However, months later, in March 1999, when he inquired about the status of his nomination, he was informed the program had been terminated.

Tanigawa, still determined to pursue the possibility of designating one of the C-17 cargo planes with a name that honored the 100th/442nd Nisei soldiers of World War II, wrote directly to the authorities at the Air Mobility Command/PA. He provided them with historic documentation of the many awards, citations, heroic deeds and honors these soldiers had earned during their spectacular service in Europe despite the discrimination and prejudice they faced on their own home front.

Tanigawa felt so strongly that these men deserved such recognition, he continued to write letters to whomever he thought might help him mobilize this project. Many encouraged him to continue to educate the public on the legacy of the 100th/442nd, but none pushed to get the C-17 named Spirit of "Go For Broke." That is until he wrote to Major General Robert G.F. Lee, Adjutant General of the Hawaii National Guard. With much enthusiasm, Lee replied it was an excellent and most appropriate name for an aircraft based in Hawaii. He also felt it honored the current "Go For Broke" soldiers in Iraq. Lee forwarded Tanigawa's suggestion to the U.S. Air Force for consideration.

After several months, on March 29, 2006, Tanigawa received a letter from Major General Lee informing him that Pacific Air Forces commander, General Paul Hester, was personally involved with this submittal and that after final coordination of the process, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff General John Corley would be the approving authority for naming the aircraft.

Finally, Tanigawa's dream came true when he learned the seventh C-17 cargo plane would carry the name Spirit of "Go For Broke." It would be so honored with special ceremonies at the Boeing McDonnell Douglas plant on the plane's departure from Long Beach, California and upon its arrival at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii. Veterans of the 100th/442nd on both sides of the Pacific were present and recognized with heartwarming ceremonies commemorating this special occasion.

Our sincere thanks to Clifford Tanigawa and to Major General Robert G.F. Lee for their determined effort and faith in making the C-17 Spirit of "Go For Broke" become a reality.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again - that's how dreams come true.

**REMARKS OF VICE ADMIRAL ROBERT K.U. KIHUNE, USN (Retired)
June 3, 2006 at the Go for Broke Memorial, Los Angeles, CA**



(Editor's Note: Mahalo to Teri Fujikawa to forwarding a copy of this speech. Teri stated that June 3 was an extremely hot day so Vice Admiral Kihune decided halfway to skip over a portion of his speech, shortening it so the audience wouldn't have to sit in the sun too long. Teri and her husband, Sam, had the pleasure of sitting with Vice Admiral Kihune at a luncheon after the speech and found him to be an "exceptional wonderful person." Vice Admiral Kihune is the nephew of Kazuo Kihune of the 1399th Engineering Construction Battalion, Company C.)

Aloha and good morning ladies and gentlemen.

Shortly after I retired from the Navy in 1994, I was asked to chair the planning committee for Hawaii's commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the end of World War II. This commemoration was held in September of 1995. It was during the planning of this commemoration that I first became closely acquainted with the veterans of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS). While the contributions of these Japanese American veteran organizations were significant in making the 50th Anniversary a total success, I was awestruck by the many stories I heard from different individuals of this unique band of brothers. There is no question that their acts of bravery are of significant pride to me, but the huge numbers of casualties that Japanese Americans sustained in key battles of World War II were a sobering reminder of the price our military personnel have had to pay to maintain the freedoms we so often take for granted. While our focus today is to honor and commemorate our Japanese American warriors who served in World War II, let us not forget our fallen comrades of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, because they too served valiantly and with honor.

Since the earliest recorded history, there are countless stories of acts of courage and heroism of great warriors and great armies. But the story of our Japanese American warriors who served in World War II is one of the most unique stories of America's relatively short history and is a story that is rightfully being documented by the Go For Broke Educational Foundation because it is a story that must never be forgotten.

The story begins with immigrants from Japan in search of a dream, in a land founded on the principles that all men are created equal, and that people are endowed with certain unalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The story continues with the struggles of these people to make a living, as workers on plantations and farms, as servants, as yardmen, and as laborers in different businesses.

But based purely on their race, they were reduced to second class citizenship. Although Americans by birth, our *Nisei*, the second generation Japanese Americans, experienced the same discrimination as their parents, the first generation *Issei*.

But despite these struggles, the Japanese American population worked hard and began elevating themselves from labor and field workers status to take on more professional occupations and to open their own family businesses. And despite their successes in a nation they loved and despite their strong loyalties to America, American unfortunately was not ready to accept Asian in the upper echelons of any organization, be it business or government.

Facing these pressures, it was not uncommon, then, to see Japanese Americans working, playing, and socializing only with other Japanese Americans. Having strong family and moral values, the Japanese were not ones to seek confrontation at places where they were not welcomed. This strong socialization among their own kind, however, were often viewed with suspicion and created the perception that Japanese Americans refused to blend into the American society. This perception fanned the flames of further discrimination.

Therefore, when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, it was not difficult to cast the Japanese Americans as threats to the United States, despite the fact that they were as loyal to America as any other citizen. The sneak attack on Pearl Harbor enhanced the perception of other Americans that Japanese Americans could not be trusted and that they must be removed from positions that may have even the slightest impact on the security of the United States. As a result, many of the 5,000 Japanese Americans who were already in our armed forces on December 7, 1941 were summarily discharged. Those of draft age were classified as 4-C, enemy aliens. Furthermore, Japanese Americans were closely watched for signs of loyalty in Japan. Because of this anti-Japanese

mania, approximately 112,000 Japanese Americans were removed from their homes and relocated to camps in other regions of the United States by Presidential Order. While they never met the same fate as Jews in Germany, it is difficult for me to see these so called relocations camps to be anything but concentration camps.

Although abandoned by their nation and despite the loss of almost everything they had built for themselves in the land that was supposed to be a land where dreams came true, bands of *Nisei* stepped forward to answer the call of a skeptical nation looking for additional military personnel to overcome the axis powers of World War II. As a result, new combat and military support units consisting predominantly of Japanese Americans were formed. These included the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service.

But the story does not end there, because while these Japanese Americans wore the uniform of the highly respected United States military, they still had to fight the battle of prejudice and discrimination in and outside the military.

After hearing the stories of our *Nisei* veterans of World War II during my planning meetings, I wondered to myself "How can these men perform at such heroic levels in combat in defense of the very country that had abused and mistreated them for so very long?" I can only tell you what I thought I heard, what I saw in their eyes, and what I felt in the warmth of their hearts.

First and foremost, despite the hardships they had to endure, America was home and they loved their home. Second, if they, the Japanese Americans, were every going to "visibly" prove their love and loyalty to America, it would have to be done by them, the *Nisei*, through their performance in combat. Third, they no longer could remain on the sidelines and watch as political decisions were being made by other groups. America was founded by the people and for the people. And they were "the people", too. They had to be part of the process to get laws passed to correct the wrongs experienced by Asian Americans and other minority groups. And fourth, in order to break down the walls of continued discrimination against their race, they must prove themselves through deeds, performance and meaningful contributions for the overall good of their nation.

The rest is history. Japanese Americans have more than proven their love and loyalty to their country. ~~The 442nd Regimental Combat Team is the most decorated combat unit in the history of the United States military.~~ Twenty Congressional Medals of Honor were awarded to certain members of the 442nd. Members of the 442nd also received over 18,000 individual decorations for bravery, 9,500 Purple Hearts, and seven Presidential Unit Citations.

Until recent years, the Military Intelligence Service was never truly recognized for its contributions in bringing the war in the Pacific to a conclusion sooner than it would have taken otherwise. Their significant contributions were captured in the words of Major General Charles Willoughby, the Intelligence Chief of General Douglas MacArthur, when he said: "6,000 *Nisei* in the war of the Pacific saved over one million American lives and shortened the war by two years."

This unprecedented record of achievement of Japanese Americans re-enlightened the vast majority of Americans that neither race nor religion defines an American. Consequently, Japanese Americans began involving themselves in the political scene immediately after World War II and today, Hawaii's senior senator, the Honorable Daniel K. Inouye, is one of the most respected and most powerful lawmakers on Capitol Hill, aside from being one of the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. And today, proudly, Japanese Americans are in every walk of life and contributing significantly to the well being of our economy and our communities.

There is no question that the legacy of our Japanese American warriors of World War II is far reaching. While they had to suffer the devastating consequences of discrimination and prejudice, they fought back with positive remedies to correct these unjustified atrocities and helped, in no small way, to reshape American into a better place to live for all races. I would not even try to guess what our nation would be like today if there had never been a 442nd Regimental Combat Team or the Military Intelligence Service. How would Japanese American be viewed today if they had not volunteered to serve in our armed forces during World War II? Being of half-Japanese ancestry myself, would I have been accepted into the Naval Academy? Would I have been accepted into the Officer Corps of our United States Navy and offered the same wonderful opportunities that I was provided during my naval career?

I'll never know the answers to those questions, but I do know that it was the legacy of our Japanese American veterans of World War II that opened the door of opportunity for me and other

Asian Americans to compete on a level playing field with other Americans. But these opportunities were not only initiated by those veterans, who, by God's good graces, came back alive after World War II. These opportunities were also provided by those who so valiantly gave their lives in combat so that all future Americans, regardless of race, religion, or gender would be provided the same opportunities that are guaranteed in the United States Constitution.

As we salute our fallen comrades and our surviving veterans of World War II, those of us who are veterans and are still here today must remember that God has spared us to continue his work. And part of that remaining work is to never let what happened to our Japanese Americans during World War II ever happen again in America to any race or religion.

To our World War II veterans here today, Tom Brokaw has referred to you as "the greatest generation." I simply refer to you as "the greatest." But greatness is not found in possessions, power, position or prestige. It is discovered in character, goodness, humility, and service – all of the qualities that have epitomized our Japanese American warriors of World War II, both the living and the dead.

I want to extend my sincerest *aloha* to all of you for taking time out from your busy schedules to be here today to honor and commemorate our Japanese American warriors of World War II. May you all continue to be guided by God's brightest navigation star and may you experience nothing but fair winds and following seas.

Mahalo and thank you for attending this ceremony today.

DOG CHAPTER NEWS by Helen Nikaido

Congratulations to Ryan Yoshida who graduated in June from Oregon University with a degree in architecture. Ryan is the son of Clyde and Jo-Ann Yoshida and grandson of Jitsuri and Mildred Yoshida. Mildred attended the graduation ceremony with her son and daughter-in-law. She said it was so hot she came home all sunburned.



Also congratulations to Hisashi Imura, grandson of Denis and Joy Teraoka. He earned his second degree, *magna cum laude*, in the Athletic Trainer program at San Jose State University. Hisashi will be working as an athletic trainer for the Oakland Raiders.

A get-well wish goes to Jane Matsunami as she underwent hip replacement surgery recently. Hope you are feeling better. Take care, Jane.

Saburo Nishime said Dog Chapter had a good turnout at the Anniversary Banquet. Everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship. Michael Harada and his committee did a wonderful job.

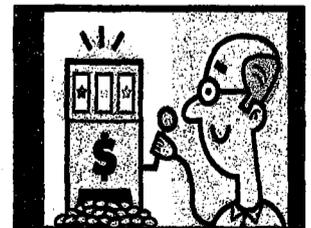
DIS AND DAT by Ray Nosaka

REMINDER: MINI - REUNION LUNCHEON / MEETING

If you are planning to attend this meeting on Sunday, August 6 and have not yet called, please do so immediately. Please call Ann Kabasawa (734-0841) or Aki Nosaka (737-4864).

Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Flight information will be given out after that. Those of you who have a balance to pay may do so at this time. Parking is at Ala Wai School.

For your information, here is the list of your fellow "re-unioners" who will be flying with you (or joining you) on Sunday, October 22: Betty Ajitomi, Carole Akasaki, Akira & Pat Akimoto, Robert & Nancy Arakaki, Catherine Fujimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Toshiko Fukuda, Matsue Furushima, Ed & Miyoko Hashimoto, Sophie Hatakenaka, Patsy Hayashida, Seichi Hoashi, Beatrice Hosokawa, Yoroku & Ayako Ito, Stanley Izumigawa, Ann Kabasawa, Merle Kaneshiro, Catherine Kikuchi, Dorothy Kikuchi, Ed Kobata, Don & Kimi Matsuda, Kenneth & Florence Mitsunaga, Joyce Mitsunaga, Oscar & Hisako Miyashiro, Earl Miyashiro, Lorraine Miyashiro, Candace Morita, Masanori Moriwake, Fusako Murai, Linda Murai-Menendez, Harriet Nakamura, Helen Nakashima, Gary Nakayama, Jessie Nakayama, Charles Nishimura, Ray & Aki Nosaka, Norman Oda, Patti Osebold, Avin Oshiro, Seie Oshiro. Hiroshi Shimazu, Goro Sumida, Carl Tonaki, Jane Tonaki, Tom & Miki Tsubota, Takako Umamoto, Irene Umamoto, Fumiko Wood, & Marie Yoneshige. There will be additional names of people who will be attending the banquet only.



The Hui Hanele O Aikane (Co. B. Ukulele Class) will resume practicing on Wednesday, August 16, at 9:30 a.m. We hope that we can perform a hula number in addition to our singing for the mini-reunion crowd. Anyone wishing to join us will be welcomed.

RURAL CHAPTER by Ted Hamasu

HOORAY! JOY GOT IT THIS TIME -- MY PPP REPORT, THAT IS!

It turned out to be a beautiful day for our 64th Anniversary Banquet. We were on our way at 8:30 a.m. to pick up Mrs. Shimizu and arrived at the Ala Moana Hotel at about 9:00 a.m. I knew off hand that we were the early birds. They said the doors would be opened at 9:00 so we were just on time.

Mike Harada the MC gave me some tickets to buy drinks for the Rural Chapter members which I passed on to Bull Saito because I was involved with the music group and was seated with Charlie Nishimura's and Seiso Kamishita's families. It was a pretty good crowd -- a little over 400. This year we missed the Sumida family and Mrs. Enomoto, but Seitoku and Shizuko Akamine were there. I met Hayato Tanaka in a wheelchair accompanied by his daughter and grandson, Karl Singson. His grandson won one of the 100th Scholarship awards. Congratulations, Karl. Hayato and I served in the same 100th Infantry platoon, F Company.

Just a reminder: The next Annual Banquet will be our 65th, which will be a three day affair -- the BIG ONE. So, be prepared. And it's gonna be held about the same time as this year's.

A telephone call from Amanda jolted me because she told me that Michael "Hama" Hamamoto passed away on June 30, 2006. She received the call from Robert Hamamoto (Hama's son). Our deepest condolences to Grace, Michael's loving wife, her family and relatives. The funeral service was a private affair with no monetary gifts. Hama, as we used to call him, was my golfing partner in our younger days and he was a fun guy to be around. He was always talking, even to himself. Well, Hama, you rest in peace and wait for us.



No meeting in August for Rural Chapter.

HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS by Ed Ikuma and Jan Sakoda

Pardon my oversight! I neglected to include Pat Akimoto's name in the Clubhouse cleanup roster. Pat is one of our faithful, behind-the-scenes workers who gets the job done.



The 64th Anniversary Banquet has come and gone but we are left with happy memories of seeing and talking with old friends. The Headquarters and Medic chapters were well represented. Some friends we haven't seen in awhile were: Mr. and Mrs. Shigeru Ushijima who flew in from Hilo just for our reunion banquet, Hidenobu Hiyane, Richard Yamada and Akiyoshi Kuriyama (Radio Group, Communications section). Representing Medic Chapter included: Bessie Nakasone, Sophie Hatakenaka, Fumi Inouye and her family, and Yaeko Yokoyama's daughter, Janice Trubitt. Gary Ikuma came in all the way from Washington, D. C. for this event. We thank Seisaburo Taba, Headquarters Representative for the Banquet Committee, and his very able assistant Dot Tamashiro, for making this one of the best turnouts in recent years for Headquarters Chapter. Next year, our 65th Anniversary is going to be the Big One. The Anniversary/Banquet Committee is planning three days of events and festivities so be in good health and eat plenty of brain food (right, Mac Moriwake?) so you can join us next year.

In the meantime, while we await the 65th reunion, our Headquarters/Medic Chapter will be having a get together on Saturday, September 9, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. at the Treetops Restaurant (former Paradise Park) in Manoa. We'll be combining our monthly meeting with this get together so we will have a short meeting before eating. This is the only notice you'll receive (since the PPP will probably come out after September 9) so mark your calendar and call Elsie Oshita (734-2349) or Pat Akimoto (941-6577) to RSVP. Make sure you call before September 1 as we need to give the restaurant a final count by then. Why not call NOW before you forget!

Congratulations to Ed and Hazel Ikuma on their granddaughter's graduation from the University of Hawaii in Marketing and Management. Jennifer Naguwa is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma and Golden Key International Honor Society. Both are very prestigious honors. (I looked up information on the University of Hawaii site and found that Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest recognition a student can receive in an undergraduate or master's program. To be eligible for

membership in Beta Gamma Sigma, a student must rank in the upper 7% of the junior class and upper 10% of the senior class. Membership in the Golden Key International Honor Society recognizes the top 15% of academically successful juniors and seniors at 333 college and university chapters around the globe.) Congratulations, Jennifer! As part of your extended *ohana*, we are very proud of you too!

Congratulations also to Aaron Oshita, 19, grandson of Elsie and the late Tony Oshita, for winning two silver medals in the 2006 USA National *Karate-Do* Federation National Championship and Team Trials held in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on July 14 to 16, 2006. This is only Aaron's second time going to Nationals. Aaron won a silver medal on his first competition last year! Aaron holds a second degree (*nidan*) black belt. This is such a major accomplishment considering Aaron has been taking *karate* for only six years. Aaron is currently a sophomore at the University of Hawaii (he graduated from Aiea High School in 2005) and is considering a major in journalism. When Aaron is not going to school and participating in *karate* events, he works at the Nuuanu YMCA in the sports program and as a lifeguard. *Karate* runs in the family as his father, Art, and his brothers Kyle, 16, and Jay, 11, all have black belts too. According to Mom Cindy, *karate* has made such a positive impact on Aaron, Kyle, and Jay. Their grades, focus, discipline and confidence levels have all improved.

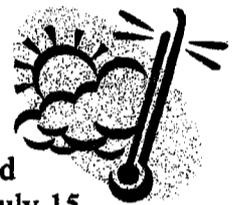
Our sincere condolences go to the family of Hichiro "Hash" Hashimoto who passed away on June 1, 2006 at age 87. Hash was with the Communications, Wire Section.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 12 at 10:00 a.m. at the Clubhouse. Please make every effort to be there.

Remember, if you have any news to share with our Headquarters/Medic *Ohana*, call Jan Sakoda at 737-7778. We love hearing about and getting to know members and their families.

MAINLAND CHAPTER NEWS by Sam Fujikawa

Summer weather has descended upon us and we are all feeling the exceptional heat that seems to be continuing to make us wish for cooler conditions. The 100th's activities have been rather quiet this month with many families taking vacation trips or keeping active volunteering at the Go For Broke Office and downtown at the Monument site. We did have our monthly meeting on Saturday, July 15 at the Go For Broke Offices in Torrance. Present were President Sam Fujikawa, Vice President Ben Tagami, Treasurer Harry Fukasawa and Secretary Amy Nakazawa. Members present were Chuckie Seki, Fumi Sakato, Mas Takahashi, Steve Sato, Ken and Hisa Miya, Ed Nakazawa, Harrison Hamasaki, Hank and Elsie Hayashi, Jean Tagami, and Teri Fujikawa.



All veterans are urged to participate in the upcoming *Nisei* Week Parade on Sunday, August 13 at 4 p.m. Arrangements are being made for WWII vintage vehicles so the veterans will be able to ride instead of marching along behind the flags and color banners.

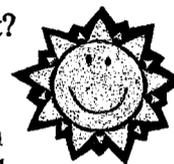
Also discussed was the latest on the Go For Broke National Educational Center plans to build their facility adjacent to the Monument downtown and the need to raise 15 million within the next three years to put towards the construction of the buildings. Also an appeal from Christine Yamazaki and Wayne Osako (Teacher Training Program Coordinator), to spread the word about the Teacher Training Workshops being held to teach students about importance of the legacy of the *Nisei* in WWII. Please contact them at Go For Broke National Education Center, 370 Amapola Ave., Ste 110, Torrance, CA, 90501, (310) 222-5702, Fax: (310) 222-5700, Email: wayne@goforbroke.org.

Harry reports that the additional following people have registered to attend the Mini Reunion in October: Carol and Mark Fong, Wayne Fujita, May Fujita, Mitzi Okazaki, Eileen Okazaki, Stan and Mary Sanford, Mas and Elma Takahashi, Ken and Yoshiko Muranaga, Toshimi and Lillian Sodetani, Roy Fujita, Kay and Esty Kobashi, Kiyomi Kobashi, Harrison Hamasaki, Carol Akasaki, Milton Matsushita, Ruth Oda, Henry and Elsie Hayashi, Sharon Shimazaki, Gail Tanaka, Don and Sets Miyada. Plans for slot tournaments which have become very popular are being made. As the list of names from the Mainland as well as from Hawaii grows longer, we are looking forward to seeing everyone in October.

FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP REMINDER TO KEEP COOL THIS SUMMER by Drusilla Tanaka

By now most of you are familiar with the sad ending to young pro golfer Michelle Wie's bid in the John Deere Classic when she was forced to withdraw due to heat exhaustion. Heat exhaustion can strike anyone, not just athletes playing in the sun on hot humid days. Seniors are prone to suffer from the heat and dehydration, but there are simple things that can be done to prevent what can become a life threatening situation.

- Drink plenty of water. Sip it throughout the day to replenish the fluids lost through perspiration. Don't wait until you are thirsty to drink. It may be too late. It's best to avoid certain beverages, such as alcohol, coffee and some teas which may increase the effects of dehydration.
- Stay indoors. Use fans, strategically placed. Turn off unnecessary lights.
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat when outdoors. (Be sure your ability to see is not impacted by the brim.) Wear light-colored and loose-fitting clothing.
- Do you emerge from your bath only to begin perspiring again because of the heat? After taking a hot bath or shower, gradually turn off the hot water until the cooler temperature is comfortable for you. Run the water over your legs – the calves and thigh muscles are the largest muscles in your body – gradually turn the water to the coolest you can tolerate and run it for a few more minutes. When you emerge from your bath, you will be cooled down and the coolness will remain for several hours. But, nothing can replace putting the water INTO your body.



Keep cool this summer and we will see you on January 28, 2007. Announcement of the 2007 Family Support Group Schedule of Sessions will be made in the December issue of the *Puka Puka Parade*. Suggestions for topics may be made by calling any of these FSG Committee members: Joyce Chinen (454-4720), Kimi Matsuda (988-6562), Marie Yoneshige (536-9921), Robert Arakaki (737-5244), Bernard Akamine (734-8738), Jerilyn Yamashiro (235-3990), Drusilla Tanaka (235-1343 or e-mail at datanaka@juno.com)

SONS AND DAUGHTERS NEWS by Drusilla Tanaka

Mahalo nui loa to the following donors for their thoughtful gifts which were received between June 19 and July 17, 2006:

For the Veterans Club:

Mrs. Pat Arakaki	\$500 in memory of Richard "Pluto" Arakaki
Mrs. Florence Fuchigami	\$100

For the Building Fund:

The Chun Family (Dave, Roslyn, Koren, Robb)	\$100 in memory of Bessie Chikako Ichimura
Mitsuru and Ellen Kunihiro	\$25

For the Puka Puka Parade:

Mrs. Florence Fuchigami	\$100
Mitsuru and Ellen Kunihiro	\$25
Mrs. Gloria Tamashiro	\$100 in memory of Ben Tamashiro

For the Sons and Daughters in memory of Bessie Chikako Ichimura:

Mrs. Adele Tsukamoto	\$25
Annette M. Ishitani	\$20
Mr. and Mrs. Darrell M. Hamamura	\$25

For the Sons and Daughters Scholarship Fund:

Shizuya Hayashi and the Nakano Family	\$50 in honor of Ken Mitsunaga's birthday
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VIBRANT EVOLUTION by Alexandra Furukawa



(Editor's Note: Alexandra Furukawa is the recipient of the Warren Fencil Scholarship for 2006. She is a high school student in Walnut Creek, CA and is planning to attend New York University in New York, NY. She is a well-rounded young woman with numerous awards and accolades for her musical abilities, foreign language skills and academic accomplishments. She is the granddaughter of Sam Furukawa of B. Co. What follows is her scholarship-winning essay).

Every generation of our world, in every region, has experienced and will experience trials concerning the most difficult aspects of life. It is an astonishing testament to the courage and perseverance of the human race that we have so far attained a stage of such success, albeit relative (humanity's ordeals have hardly reached resolution). Both the *Nisei* Japanese-American generation of World War II era and today's 21st century generation have witnessed the difficulties life has posed, in situations that carry both differences and intrinsic similarities.

Perhaps the most trying challenges the *Nisei* faced during the mid-twentieth century were those painfully imposed by their fellow Americans; prejudice and racism. It is devastating and disheartening to realize that, essentially, when the American government found an enemy in the

Japanese nation, it found a target in its own innocent people. High school curriculum often includes a mention of Executive Order 9066, which mandated the evacuation and internment of all Japanese-Americans on the West Coast. However, it is difficult to appreciate, from reading blank, expressionless textbook explanations, the profoundly hollow sensation that surely engulfed the hearts of these feeling, living human beings. Yet through it all, the *Nisei* masked hurt and anger with the term *shikata ga nai*, meaning “it can’t be helped,” and endured the internment period and the war’s multifaceted destruction with a resilience that proved admirable.

Not only did the *Nisei* bear emotional burdens during the World War II era, but they were also constantly aware of the nation’s critical eye on them, and yearned strongly to prove themselves both as Americans and humans. When the chance came for Japanese-Americans to volunteer as soldiers in America’s armed forces, many seized their opportunity with striking eagerness. They achieved staggering success in their goal to prove themselves, as the 100th Infantry, 442nd Regiment, one made up predominantly of Japanese-Americans, emerged from the war as the most decorated combat unit of its size, with records of service that survive today. Naturally and unfortunately, proof of valor came at the price of numerous lives – losses that demonstrate the incomprehensible physical challenges of war. In these losses lay yet another challenge, borne by the families of the *Nisei* soldiers back in the dusty, dreary internment camps; the emotional disaster wrought by the death of a loved one.

Somehow, however, at the end of the war in 1945, as the *Nisei* veterans returned home, it appeared that they still had not achieved the recognition or support of their American brethren. Despite their sufferings, they received little compassion. A clear degree of racism remained in many Caucasian Americans who continued to mistakenly blame the Japanese-Americans for the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Indeed, attempts by *Nisei* to regain the pace of the lives they had been leading before the war proved to be struggles. Some Japanese-Americans were refused living space purely based on their appearance. Nevertheless, individual efforts of the strong-minded *Nisei* thrived in arenas such as medicine and politics. As a result, Americans began to understand that although the term “Japanese-American” denoted a Japanese heritage, it signified, equally as importantly, an American identity.

Although the 21st century generation (generally called the *Yonsei*, or fourth generation Japanese-Americans) is far apart from the *Nisei* in cultural and psychological experience, it faces many of the same issues as its older relatives. For example, prejudice, unfortunately, is universal. A stereotype has emerged of the “smart Asian,” which, although initially intended to be flattering, now often carries connotations of resentment and tones of cruelty, when spoken by non-Asians. Such an emotionally confusing stereotype resembles, to an admittedly lower degree, the confounding detainment of the *Nisei*, who were punished for being themselves when they had done nothing wrong. Therefore, this younger generation must take the initiative to demonstrate that it possesses many more valuable traits than intelligence alone. Often, such an individualistic task proves difficult, as there rests the unimposing characteristic of Japanese modesty in most *Yonsei*. Of course, this is not always true, and it sometimes happens that one of the greatest challenges, for the 21st century generation, is rather to retain ties to the ancestral Japanese culture. Probably, the *Nisei* did not face this problem very strongly, because their parents were usually native Japanese (the parents of the *Nisei* were called *Issei*, a term signifying “first generation” – the original immigrants – and using a modification of the word *ichi* or “one”). However, it is notable that the *Nisei* were considerably more American than Japanese, having been raised most of the time in the U.S. This might have created a sort of looseness in their connection to native Japanese culture.

Today’s world views progress as an ultimate goal, and, at times, this goal is so overpowering that the modern teenager or adult begins to neglect his ties to a world he regards as “in the past.” I am, I regret to admit, part of this group in the younger generation. However, the fact that someone’s heritage – whether Japanese, German, Egyptian, Peruvian, or any other – was of more prominence in the life of a grandparent does not mean it lacks relevance today. People’s histories and backgrounds form a part of their very cores, and it is through embracing the core of being that self-understanding becomes feasible. An obvious resolution to any neglect of history is to indulge in the stories of elders or to experience the culture directly. I believe that, through understanding one’s own heritage in these ways, it will be possible both to strengthen relationships with the past and one’s kin, before the opportunity fades, and to better understand one’s very self. Once accomplished, this feat can aid in proving the outstanding uniqueness inherent in every individual.

The past has shown that to prove oneself to the world, while proving to oneself that one has a true place in that world, is an enormous undertaking; the future will prove this many additional times.

But in the end, it is life's great challenges that fortify the essential nature of our world, and lend an undying character to the art of being.

(Please Note: Essays by scholarship recipients Kyle Singson and Mark Sakaki will be published in upcoming PPP issues).

A PEEK INTO THE PAST

Sakae Tanigawa (B Co.) wanted to share these nostalgic photos from 1948 that were taken at the Tanigawa Home on 10th Avenue in Palolo. Sakae has generously donated these photos to our Clubhouse archives.

The photo at the top right shows Lt. Fitzhugh, Yukio Yokota (B Co.), Yasuto Furusho (B Co.) and Katsumi "Kats" Maeda (B Co.) gathered around the hibachi. Can't you just smell that *teriyaki* chicken? *Ono!* It's nice to see that nobody has changed at all in 60+ years.



The photo at the bottom right shows Sakae and his wife, Stella Tanigawa, with Lt. Fitzhugh and his wife. Fashion savvy folks will notice the *Bette Mau Mau* and the "cats-eye" glasses that were highly in vogue at that time.



To put these photos into historical perspective, here are some important events that occurred in 1948: North and South Korea, Burma, Israel, the People's Republic of China and West Germany were founded. Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated in India and



Apartheid began in South Africa. The Frisbee and Velcro were invented and the first Polaroid camera went on sale. McDonalds was founded in San Bernardino, California. George Orwell wrote the book *1984*. The U.S. Army was racially integrated as a result of Presidential Executive Order 9981.

If you have any photos from the past or the present that you would like to see published in the *PPP*, please send them to the *PPP* Editor or drop them off at the Clubhouse. All photos will be returned. Please provide any identifying information, if available. *Mahalo*.

Oh, and in case you were wondering, on the left is a current photo of Sakae!!!

The opinions expressed in the Puka Puka Parade are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans association. We welcome readers to send signed, written comments to the following address: PPP Editor, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96816 or via e-mail to club100vets@yahoo.com or joyteraoka@mac.com.

OFFICE "MAHALO" REPORT - AUGUST 2006 ISSUE
by Amanda Stevens and Evelyn Tsuda

We acknowledge receipt of the following donations, with much thanks:

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans:

Sutegoro Hashimoto (Japan)	10,000 yen
Paul Kusunoki – IM of Pluto Arakaki	50.00
Paul Kusunoki – IM of Ralph Fukunaga	50.00
Co-workers of Robert Hamamoto his father – IM of Michael Hamamoto	191.00
Susumu Ota – IM of Satoshi Furuya	20.00

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Scholarship Fund:

\$100.00 - \$499.00:

Rainbow Drive-In Ltd. – IM of Seiji Ifuku

Puka Puka Parade:

Sally Inouye 20.00

Miscellaneous:

Kunio Fujimoto has again furnished a copy of the video which he taped at the 64th anniversary banquet at Ala Moana Hotel. It is available at the Clubhouse office. Thank you very much, Kuni Fujimoto, for adding to our collection of memorabilia.

LOST AND FOUND!!!!!!

Did you forget anything at the Clubhouse, etc.? Check the following list:

- 1) Prescription glasses found at the 64th Anniversary Banquet (Ala Moana Hotel)
- 2) Man's jacket left at the Clubhouse on Clean-up day
- 3) 2 Umbrellas left at the Clubhouse



Please call the office and identify your lost item. If the items are not picked up in a month, they will be donated to a non-profit organization.



A note from Amanda,

This past month has been so incredible with many activities and opportunities to reach out to the community. First we started with the Family Day Picnic on July 1. In attendance were Robert Arakaki, Stanley Akita, Ed Ikuma, Shigeru Tsubota, Mieko Tsubota, Warren Yamamoto and myself. The 100th had a booth at the picnic and met with many people from the community. They met with relatives of veterans, Ed Kubo, Norman Sakamoto, Sam Aiona and more. It was a wonderful day. The Iolani School 4th of July event was so emotional, there was not a dry eye in the house when the Line Dancers performed "God Bless the USA." On July 14, Rikio Tsuda, Paul Kusunoki and Evelyn Tsuda met with a Boy Scout Troop which came from California. These young men presented a wreath at Punchbowl for veterans who were killed in action. It was so fitting to have Mr. Kusunoki there along with Mr. Tsuda and Evelyn. Mr. Kusunoki certainly has a heart for the scouts being a troop leader for so many years. Masayo Duus visited the clubhouse last month on the collating day. She took a picture with Ray Nosaka and Ed Ikuma. Many of the veterans were so delighted to see her. The Lei Ceremony, on July 20, was such an emotional and memorable event. It was so special to see the generations come together, a time to pay our respects to the soldiers of yesterday and today. On July 21, Ed Ikuma and Martin Tohara went to Punchbowl to meet with about a dozen teens from California and six teens from Hawaii. The organization was the ARK, which stands for *At Risk Kids*. These teens, children of military families, have been faced with a number of challenges. Some of these challenges include coming from a family of newly divorced or separated parents, a parent who has been either physically or mentally disabled by war and much more. The children were very appreciative to spend some time with these fine veterans. Mr. Ikuma and Mr. Tohara shared some history of the 100th with the youngsters and even shared a few laughs. It was a very touching scene. I am in the process of communicating with the State and City agencies and moving on to the next step to secure the grants that the club has been awarded for the Apartment Building Project and for the Educational Resource Center. I'll keep you posted. Have a wonderful August. Aloha, Amanda

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2006

ABLE.....	Saturday, August 26.....	8:00 am
BAKER.....	Saturday, August 19.....	1:00 pm
CHARLIE.....	Saturday, August 12.....	10:00 am
DOG.....	Saturday, August 19.....	9:00 am
HQ.....	Saturday, August 12.....	10:00 am
RURAL.....	No Meeting	
HAWAII CHAPTER.....	Check date.....AJA Vets Mem. Hall.....	Check time
MAUI CHAPTER.....	Tuesday, August 1.....Asian Sports Bar.....	11:00 am
BOARD MEETING.....	Friday, August 11.....	10:00 am
LINE DANCING.....	Wednesday, August 2, 7, 16, 23, 30.....	9:00 am
EXERCISE.....	Wednesday, August 2, 7, 16, 23, 30.....	10:30 am
CRAFTS/CROCHET.....	Tuesday, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.....	9:00 am
HUI HANELE O AIKANE.....	Wednesday, August 16.....	9:30 am

Deadline for the PPParade September issue will be August 15, 2006. (Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.) Collating will be on FRIDAY, August 25, 2006, 8:30 a.m. Headquarters Chapter is responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua.

**Note new e-mail address for PPP: Chapter news and articles (Spam Alert! Show SUBJECT or your message will be deleted): <joyteraoka@mac.com>
 Club business, questions or correspondence, address to: <club100vets@yahoo.com>**

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans
 520 Kamoku Street
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AUGUST 2006 ISSUE
Happy Admissions Day



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