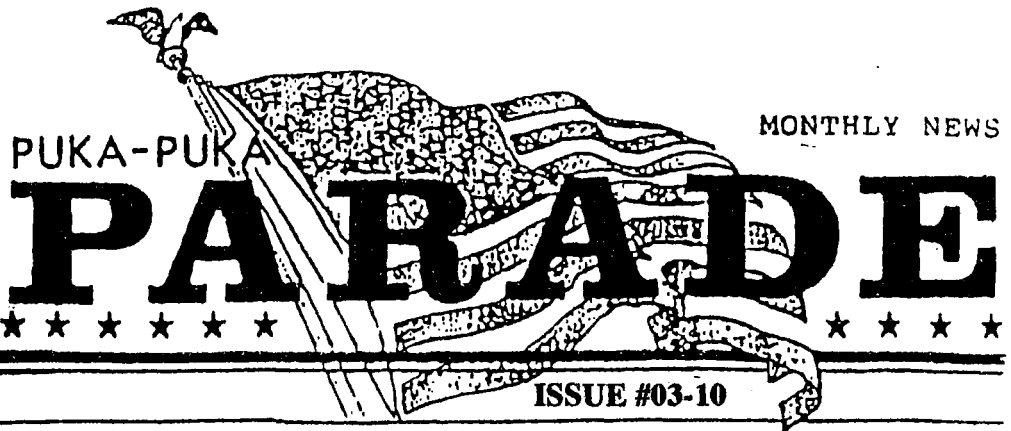




100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB



MONTHLY NEWS

NOVEMBER 2003

ISSUE #03-10

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (BOD MEETING, OCTOBER 10, 2003)

by Stanley Akita

The meeting opened with a moment of silence. Harold Dias, a board member of HDS (Hawaii Dental Service) reported that the HDS is honored to be a co-sponsor, along with the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans, for the event to raise funds and awareness for Lane Nishikawa's major motion picture, "Only The Brave." The movie will start production in Hollywood at the end of November. A viewing of Lane's two other short films (shown at the Hawaii Film Festival in 2000, one of which was the winner of the Best Short Film) will be shown at the event which is tentatively scheduled for November 21, 2003, 6:30 p.m., at Farrington High School Auditorium. The cost will be just \$10 per person. Bring all of your family, and please encourage your friends to attend. The movie is about the 100th Infantry Battalion.

The September Board minutes, Club Secretary's Report and Sec./Treasurer's Report were approved as circulated. The Board approved to repair the potential gas leak at the Apartment complex at the cost of \$36,000+. There was nothing to report for the House Committee. Stu Tsubota reported on the Memorial Service. [Due to the good leadership of Stu Tsubota, the hard work of Evelyn Tsuda, Pauline Sato, the Shigeru Inouye family and the rest of the volunteers, the Memorial Service was a great success.] The Board gave Stu Tsubota a round of applause for a job well done.

As for the 100th/442nd Joint Memorial Service Ad Hoc Committee, the voting deadline was October 8th. The votes were tallied and the results were 20 "yes" votes and 27 "no" votes. The "no's" won and there will be no joint service as yet with the 442nd.

General Shinseki was voted in unanimously as an Honorary Member at the September 2003 meeting. As of this date, we have 36 members and wives attending the General Shinseki Dinner at the Convention Center on November 12, at 5:30 pm.

There have been no takers, yet, to attend the Hawaii Army Museum's "Everyday Hero" breakfast honoring Fred C. Weyand at the Coral Ballroom (Hilton Hawaiian Village) on November 8 at 7:00am. Cost of the breakfast is \$35 per person.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30am, in time for all to have a good plate lunch.

58th ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

By J. Teraoka and E. Tsuda

Under an aquamarine sky with nary a blemishing cloud, over 400 veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion, their families, friends and many distinguished guests gathered to observe the 58th Annual Memorial Service at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific – Punchbowl. Among the dignitaries in attendance were Retired Generals David Bramlett and Eric Shinseki, Lt. Gen. James L. Campbell, Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, and Congressmen Neil Abercrombie and Ed Case.

The 111th Army Band of the Hawaii National Guard welcomed the throng with melodious strains of music appropriate for the occasion. Pauline Sato, daughter of 100th veteran Robert Sato, once again did a wonderful job of presiding over the ceremony with dignity and precision. The formal program opened with the color guard of the 100th Bn./442nd (USAR) bearing the flags and the 100th Inf. Bn. colors. The Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani gave the ritual invocation and in clear tones announced the names of 37 veterans who passed away during the past year. (One name inadvertently omitted was Robert Kaoru Miyamoto, who died Aug. 19, 2003.)

Using signage choreography, the men of the Pearl City Community Church performed while their choir sang "God Bless America." With his usual humor, President Stanley Akita welcomed the audience.

An opening speech by Col. Gene Castagnetti, Director of the National Memorial Cemetery, followed. (Printed elsewhere in this issue).

The 111th Army Band presented a special musical tribute to the 100th veterans. Wreaths were then presented from the Japanese Consulate, the 442nd Veterans Club, the MIS Veterans Club, the 1399th Veterans Club, the National AJA Veterans Council, the State Office of Veterans Services, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Sons & Daughters of the 100th Inf. Bn., and the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans.

In his beautiful "Prayer of Remembrance," the Rev. David B. Turner read the names of 19 KIAs whose families were in attendance. Following his prayer, the memorial address was delivered by Maj. Gen. Robert G. F. Lee, Adjutant General of Hawaii. His eloquent speech is reprinted elsewhere in this issue. His words of praise and admiration for the 100th veterans were moving and inspiring. Following this speech, the Pearl City church choir joyfully sang a medley of traditional songs.

The roar of a 21-gun cannon salute by the Field Artillery Bn., 25th Inf. Div. (Light), followed by the haunting strains of "Taps" and the helicopter flyover by the Hawaii Air National Guard gave a heartfelt tingle to those present. With the retiring of colors and closing remarks by Ms. Sato, the beautiful program concluded with refreshments served for the last time by veteran Shigeru Inouye, his wife and their committee. After 58 years of organizing the refreshments for each memorial service, the Inouyes are retiring and passing the responsibility on to others. During the service, Ms. Sato recognized and thanked the Inouyes for their many years of dedication and commitment.

Many thanks also to the following groups and individuals who contributed greatly to the success of the service: the Boy Scouts of Troops 99, 117 and 216 who placed flags on the graves; videographer Kunio Fujimoto; photographers Clyde Sugimoto, Wayne Iha, Pat Thompson and Ann Kabasawa; and the energetic sons and daughters, grandchildren and friends who undertook the task of decorating the hard-to-reach grave sites.

Following the service, the 100th Veterans' wreath was taken to the State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe by Stanley and Drusilla Tanaka; and the Sons & Daughters' wreath was placed at the Nisei Veterans' Memorial at Castle Junction on the Windward side. (For those who are not familiar with this memorial, it was erected by Earl Finch, beloved mentor of the AJA soldiers, in 1946 to honor the 14 Windward sons who gave their lives in Italy and France during WWII.)



58TH MEMORIAL ADDRESS BY MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT G.F. LEE

The following address was presented by Hawaii's Adjutant General, Major General Robert G.F. Lee, at this year's 100th Infantry Battalion's 58th Annual Memorial Service at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) on September 28, 2003.



Congressman Abercrombie, Congressman Case, Gen Shinseki, Gen Bramlett, General Campbell, General Olson, MOH recipient Shizuya Hayashi, Mr. Burge, Mr. Kuewa, Mr. Hinei, Mr. Silva, Mr. Akita, Mr. Oki, Judge Takao, Mr. Ihi, Mr. Sogi, LTC Joe Krakoviak Cdr, 100/442 INF, distinguished guests, and especially the veterans of the (one puka puka) 100th Infantry Battalion and their families, good morning and aloha. Gov Lingle also sends her warmest aloha to all of you.

It is my humble honor to address this gathering on your annual memorial service recognizing the 58th anniversary of your first combat casualty in Europe. On 26 Sep 1943, the 100th Bn, as part of the 34th "Red Bull" Div, landed in Salerno, Italy. Leading the regiment's advance on Montemilieto, the 100th Bn first encountered the enemy in Chiusana where SGT Shigeo "Joe" Takata was killed by enemy machine gun fire at 0915 on the morning of 29 Sep 1943.

By the end of World War II, these brave "go for broke" soldiers from the 100th Bn and 442nd Regimental Combat Team would endure unimaginable suffering and take tremendous casualties, but would accomplish every mission assigned beyond expectations and emerge as the most decorated unit in the United States Army. They fought and died for their country, yet America at that time treated them and their families as second class citizens. You showed the nation and the world that patriotism is not linked to race or the color of a person's skin. Your exploits under fire would eventually lead to the integration of our Army.

Former Army Chief of Staff, General Eric Shinseki, recently recounted that he stood on your shoulders to reach as high as he could. I believe that is true not only for Americans of Japanese Ancestry who followed in the footsteps of these World War II veterans, but it applies to all ethnic minorities who have since excelled in the United States Armed Forces.

Today, the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry is a proud unit in the U.S. Army Reserve and also the round out battalion for the Hawaii Army National Guard's 29th Separate Infantry Brigade. During my military career, I was most fortunate to have served in the 100th Battalion for 15 years. I cannot begin to describe what it means to be in a company of heroes, veterans that built the legacy of the 100th Infantry Battalion and later the 422nd Regimental Combat Team. All of us who served with the 100th Battalion consider ourselves to be blessed simply because we had the opportunity to be mentored by you great heroes. I fondly remember the many sessions with 100th Bn and 442 Regimental Combat Team veterans like Senator Spark Matsunaga, Sunshine Fukunaga, and Chet Tanaka to name a few. It sure was an honor to have your former executive officer, Major James Lovell, as the reviewing officer for the battalion's change of command ceremony in 1988. Of course Senator Daniel Inouye of Easy Company, 2nd Bn, 442d Reg Combat Team, continues to serve our State and nation to insure a strong national defense.

Today's "go for broke" soldiers represent all faces of America throughout the Pacific. You can find "go for broke" soldiers from all islands in Hawaii, as well as American Samoa, Guam and Saipan. I think you will get a big kick when you hear your "Go For Broke" song sung in Samoan and Chamorro in addition to English.

You will also find our soldiers today very similar to the AJA soldiers of WW II who exemplify a quieter, more subtle form of patriotism. They are not the type to draw attention to themselves and don't wear their patriotism on their sleeves. Instead they carry it in their hearts. They are humble in demeanor but giants in courage.

Over the past two years, we have mourned the loss of several hundred of America's finest in Afghanistan and Iraq. Each one of these lives are precious and we owe them and their families dearly for their sacrifices. But the 100th Battalion and 442nd RCT would suffer casualties of 650 soldiers killed and more than 3,500 wounded over a 19-month time period in World War II. We will not forget your sacrifices and those made by your families.

Although our forces encountered some fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq at close range, our nation's military might moves with speed and lethality having the ability to strike enemy targets from afar. In World War II, our veterans squared off day after day against the enemy in close combat. It was not uncommon for these nisei soldiers to fire their weapons at point blank range against German machine gun nests. The bravery and tenacity of these scrappy AJA's, struck fear into some of the most battle-hardened shock troops the Nazis had to offer.

Our military doctrine of the 21st Century dictates that we engage the enemy with stand off, fire and forget weapons systems, but some things never seem to change for the infantryman. They still hump a heavy load on their backs and travel on foot where Humvees and helicopters can't get in. They secure the key terrain with boots on the ground because air power alone cannot guarantee control. Most importantly, they represent the best of America and like you, watch over and take care of their buddies all the time.

Your deeds and actions have set the standard for our soldiers. I want to assure our veterans that current and future generations of soldiers treasure your accomplishments and sacrifices and will continue the "go for broke" spirit and work ethic.

After WWII, you continued the fight for equality and fairness for all of us in the State of Hawaii. That is why you are the greatest generation. May God bless all of you and may God bless our nation as we fight this current generation's war against terrorism.

Aloha and thank you.

COL. GENE CASTAGNETTI'S 58TH MEMORIAL CEREMONY SPEECH

(Editor's note: Because of space limitations, with due apologies to Col. Castagnetti, we have had to condense the contents of his speech.)

GOOD MORNING AND ALOHA,

...ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, THE HONORABLE ANTHONY J. PRINCIPI, WELCOME TO YOUR NATIONAL SHRINE.

WE ARE GATHERED AT THIS CEMETERY TO PROVIDE A MEANINGFUL TRIBUTE, HONORING THE AMERICAN "NISEI" SOLDIERS OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION AND THEIR FAMILIES.

SIX DECADES AGO, PRESIDENT FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT SAID AT THE FORMATION OF THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, AND I QUOTE: "AMERICANISM IS NOT - AND NEVER WAS - A MATTER OF RACE OR ANCESTRY," BUT A COMMITMENT TO A REVOLUTIONARY IDEA CALLED DEMOCRACY. THAT HISTORIC STATEMENT ABOUT THE NISEI AMERICAN SOLDIERS COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRACY - LIKE MUCH OF AMERICA'S HISTORY, IS NOT BEING TAUGHT IN BALANCE IN OUR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES ANY MORE.

YOU MEMBERS OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION FOUGHT NOT FOR THE GLORY OF WAR - BUT FOR THE PRIZE OF FREEDOM - JUSTICE, OPPORTUNITY. YOUR SACRIFICES 60 YEARS AGO ENABLED BARRIERS OF DISCRIMINATION TO COME DOWN AND ALLOWED THE LIKES OF GENERAL ERIC SHINSEKI TO REACH THE POSITION OF CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE U.S. ARMY.

AS GENERAL SHINSEKI RECENTLY STATED AND I QUOTE: "THE SACRIFICES OF THE 100TH AND 442ND MADE IT EASY FOR JAPANESE-AMERICANS TO SUCCEED TODAY AND BECAUSE THOSE NISEI WARRIORS OF WORLD WAR II," HE, FOR ONE, HAS LIVED HIS PROFESSIONAL LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS, WITHOUT SUSPICION, WITHOUT GUILT AND TO RISE TO THE TOP. SIMILAR COMMENTS CAME FROM RETIRED LIEUTENANT GENERAL ALAN ONO, WHO STATED, AND I QUOTE: "I ALWAYS KNEW WHOSE SHOULDERS I WAS STANDING ON AS I COMPETED IN MY ARMY CAREER."

TODAY, AMERICA IS IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM TO PRESERVE OUR FOUNDING FATHER'S VISION OF DEMOCRACY. AMERICA FIGHTS TODAY TO PRESERVE THE PRIZE OF FREEDOM YOU CLUB 100 MEMBERS DEFENDED 60 YEARS AGO.

HOWEVER, THERE'S ANOTHER WAR, A CULTURAL WAR, GOING ON IN THE AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES WHERE, ACCORDING TO PULITZER PRIZE WINNER DAVID MCCALLOUGH, WIDE SPREAD IGNORANCE BY STUDENTS OF AMERICA'S HISTORY, POSES A SERIOUS THREAT TO AMERICA.

MR. MCCALLOUGH, SPEAKING TO A SENATE PANEL, INDICATED THAT ONLY THREE AMERICAN COLLEGES REQUIRE A COURSE ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION TO GRADUATE - "THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT, THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY AND THE U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY - - - - "THE REST OF OUR NATION'S SCHOOLS ARE TELLING STUDENTS AN 'UNBALANCED' HISTORY OF THEIR COUNTRY.

STUDENTS GRADUATE DISENGAGED FROM AMERICAN CULTURE AND UNAPPRECIATIVE OF DEMOCRACY, AND FREEDOM OF OPPORTUNITY THAT GENERALS SHINSEKI AND ONO HAVE ADDRESSED.

THEY ARE NOT TAUGHT THAT AMERICAN CULTURE IS FOUNDED IN SELF RELIANCE, INDEPENDENCE, AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

THE LIBERAL SCHOOLS, TEACHERS, COLLEGES, PROFESSORS AND MEDIA REPORTERS, FOCUS ON HISTORICAL INDIFFERENCES, ON AMERICA, NOT WHAT PRINCIPLES HAVE MADE THIS NATION GREAT.

... AS MR. MCCALLOUGH POINTED OUT TO THE U.S. SENATE PANEL ON "STUDENTS' IGNORANCE" OF AMERICAN HISTORY STATED, "THE AMERICAN STORY IS EXCEPTIONAL. THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WAS THE FIRST REVOLUTION OF A PEOPLE SUCCESSFULLY BREAKING AWAY FROM A COLONIAL POWER AND ESTABLISHING A FREE COUNTRY, WHERE THE IDEAS OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY, JUSTICE, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND FROM OPPRESSION, FLOURISH." THE HIGH SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES ARE FOCUSING ON STORIES OF AMERICA'S DARKEST MOMENTS, SUCH AS "SLAVERY".

YES, AMERICA PARTICIPATED IN THE SLAVE TRADE OF AFRICA IN THE FIRST 100 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE. HOWEVER, WHERE IS IT TAUGHT THAT AMERICA IS THE ONLY NATION TO ABOLISH SLAVERY WITH THE BLOOD AND SACRIFICE OF AMERICAN SONS DURING THE U. S. CIVIL WAR.

... RECENTLY, SECRETARY OF STATE COLIN POWELL WAS ASKED IF THE U.S. PLANS FOR IRAQ AND THE MIDDLE EAST WAS AN EXAMPLE OF COLONIZATION OF TERRITORY AND LAND GRAB BY PRESIDENT BUSH. POWELL ANSWERED THAT "OVER THE YEARS, THE UNITED STATES SENT MANY OF ITS FINE, YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN INTO COMBAT TO FIGHT FOR FREEDOM BEYOND OUR BORDERS. THE ONLY AMOUNT OF LAND WE HAVE EVER ASKED FOR IN RETURN IS ENOUGH SPACE TO BURY OUR DEAD OF THOSE THAT DID NOT RETURN HOME!"

YOU MEMBERS OF THE 100TH BATTALION RECOGNIZED THAT FACT LONG AGO WITH YOUR MEMBERS BURIED IN THE ABMC CEMETERIES OF ANZIO, NETTUNO, SALERNO, ROME, EPINOL, FLORENCE.

AS WE PASS THE TORCH OF LIBERTY TO THE NEXT GENERATION, WE MUST ASK OURSELVES, WHAT CAN WE DO - CAN ONE SMALL VOICE MAKE A DIFFERENCE? - THE ANSWER IS WE MUST FOLLOW THE CLUB 100 SLOGAN - "FOR CONTINUED SERVICE" - WE MUST BE VIGILANT TO ENSURE THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TEACH THE VISION OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS, THE CONSTITUTION, THAT THE GREAT AMERICAN EXPERIMENT THAT EMERGED FROM WESTERN CULTURE AND THE JUDEO-CHRISTIAN HERITAGE BE TAUGHT IN BALANCE.

YOU MEMBERS OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION WHO EXPERIENCED THE WORST AND BEST OF AMERICAN PRINCIPLES - NOW YOU NEED TO CONTINUE THE BATTLE TO EDUCATE STUDENTS AND VISITORS THROUGH YOUR "TALK STORY" PROJECTS, AND I KNOW THAT THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS HAVE HEARD YOU SPEAK ON CHARACTER, INTEGRITY AND THE LOYALTY THAT NISEI AMERICANS DEMONSTRATED FOR THEIR COUNTRY, IN WAR AND PEACE, THROUGH YOUR "CONTINUED SERVICE".

THE MEMBERS OF THE CLUB 100, EVEN IN YOUR MOST SEASONED YEARS, NEED TO CONTINUE WITH YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE "SLOGAN" AND PRESENT A BALANCED HISTORY SO THAT THOSE WHO SEEK TO DESTROY THE POSITIVE IMAGE OF AMERICA, CANNOT CONTINUE TO DEFLATE RATHER THAN UPLIFT OUR NATION.

... OVER THE LAST DECADE THE CLUB 100 CITIZENSHIP VOLUNTEERS, THROUGH YOUR COMMITMENT TO "CONTINUED SERVICE", HAVE DEFENDED AMERICA WITH YOUR "JAPANESE EYES AND AMERICAN HEARTS", AND YOU ARE LIVING TREASURES OF A BALANCED AMERICAN HISTORY OF FREEDOM, EQUALITY AND JUSTICE. I SALUTE YOUR "CONTINUED SERVICE" TO YOUR NATION, YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOUR FAMILIES.

I WANT TO RECOGNIZE MR. STANLEY AKITA, AND THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VOLUNTEERS WHO SERVE AT THIS NATIONAL SHRINE ON WEEKENDS, PROVIDING NOT ONLY GRAVE LOCATIONS TO VISITORS, BUT TEACHING VISITORS ABOUT THE BASIC IDEAS OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY, JUSTICE, CIVIL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS, FREEDOM AND UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLES. YOU HAVE DONE THIS FOR 13 YEARS - FOR 676 SATURDAYS, AND MADE AN ENORMOUS CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATING THE VISITORS TO THIS NATIONAL SHRINE.

... WOULD STANLEY AND YUKIE AKITA, GLENN AND DOT TAMASHIRO, BERNARD AND JEANETTE AKAMINE, AL AND PAULETTE ARAKAKI, DENIS AND JOY TERAOKA, "CHINA" YAMASHINA, HELEN NIKAIKO, MARTIN AND DOT TOHARA, DON AND KIMI MATSUDA, JOE MURAMATSU, RAY AND AKI NOSAKA PLEASE STAND TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR THE TIRELESS VOLUNTEERISM AT THIS NATIONAL SHRINE. YOU TELL THE TRUTH AND YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH "CONTINUED SERVICE".

U.S. SENATOR DAN INOUE'S LETTER ON 58TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

United States Senate

Dear Friends:

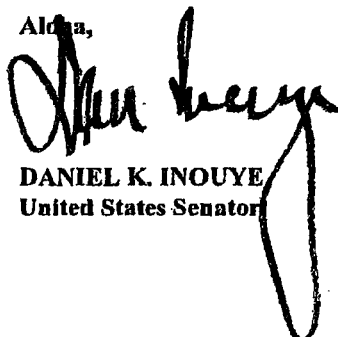
Thank you for your kind invitation to join you for the annual memorial service commemorating the anniversary of the first 100th Infantry Battalion soldier killed in action. Regrettably, I am unable to be with you, but please know that my thoughts are with you.

On September 29, 1943, in Italy, Sergeant Shigeo "Joe" Takata of the 100th Infantry Battalion became the first rifle-carrying Japanese American to die in action. Walking the point, he drew fire from a hidden German machine gun nest. Seriously wounded and dying, he continued to expose himself so that he could locate the machine gun nest for his fellow soldiers to silence, which they did.

Sergeant Takata's extraordinary courage and willingness to put himself in harm's way was the first display of the inner strength and determination of the fighting men of the 100th, which would become known as the "Purple Heart Battalion." He and thousands of others in the 100th and other segregated units gave their lives or were wounded in combat. They proved without a doubt that love for the United States and the willingness to defend its democratic principles are not limited to any particular ethnic group.

Let us always remember the legacy of courage and strength of character of Sergeant Takata and others like him. We must never forget.

Alma,



DANIEL K. INOUE
United States Senator

DKI:my

NO JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICES WITH THE 442ND VETERANS CLUB by S.Tsubota

On October 9, 2003, the Ad Hoc Committee met at the clubhouse and counted a disappointing number of votes. Tom Nishioka (Able) and Ted Hamasu (Rural) counted the votes separately and their results were confirmed by Shigeru Tsubota (Dog), Chairman. The outcome of the voting, which is indicated below, was given to President Stanley Akita:

"Yes" votes = 20
"No" votes = 27
"Illegal votes" = 9

In view of the above, the annual memorial service will continue to be held on the Sunday closest to September 29, as is currently observed each year. No joint services will be held with the 442nd.



ARKANSAS REUNION TOUR BEING ORGANIZED by Stanley Akita

The University of Arkansas in partnership with the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) will be conducting a seminar to re-connect with former internees, veterans, families and friends who were at Jerome and Rohwer Relocation Camps. Based on the information given to us by the JANM, I have tentatively made up a tour to begin at St. Louis, Mo. to see the Arch which is an engineering marvel, then bus to Branson to take in a show, then head south to Little Rock for the seminar. After a few days in Little Rock, we head south again to visit two relocation camps (Jerome/Rohwer) and then head to Camp Shelby. I called Camp Shelby and talked to a Mr. Richard Rice and asked him one favor. I explained to him that all these past 60 years, we have told our wives and children about what we ate while in the army--things like C-rations, 5-in-1 or 10-in-1. So I introduced myself to Mr. Rice and told him that we are the veterans of the 100th Bn./442nd Reg. I also offered to pay for the food. Mr. Rice's reply was, "Don't worry---we'll do anything for the 442nd. free." They also have a museum that has a replica of the old hutment where we slept. Our wives will also be able to see the hutment. Then we head to New Orleans for a couple of days where we will be able to see the Super Dome, and the French Quarters. Then we fly to Las Vegas for 3 days. We will get the Hawaiian Package at the California Hotel. Then back home. You must call this office to get the tentative cost for a 14 day trip. You'll have to call as we cannot put any price in the PPP.

PPP VOLUNTEERS ENJOY "THANK YOU" LUNCH by Joy Teraoka, Editor

Following our September collation we were happy to have had close to forty volunteers enjoy bento lunches (ordered by Amanda Stevens). It was our way of saying "thank you" to those of you who help send out our *Puka Puka Parade* newsletter throughout the year. Your valuable service is truly appreciated by both the *PPP* staff and those who receive the newsletter.

September's volunteers were: Yuki Akita, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Ted Hamasu, Ed Ikuma, Shigeru Inouye, Susumu Kunishige, Arthur Komiyama, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Masanori Moriwake, Joichi Muramatsu, Mitsuo Nagaki, Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Aki Nosaka, Susumu Ota, Ken Otagaki, Robert Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Goro Sumida, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Mataka Takeshita, Rikio and Evelyn Tsuda, Shigeru Tsubota, Tom Tsubota, Martin Tohara, Ukichi Wozumi, Marie Yoneshige, Moro Sato, and Tokio Kikuji. Thank you so much.

Our sincere thanks to those of you who have shown your appreciation of our newsletter with generous monetary contributions. Your moral support keeps us going! Mahalo nui loa.



IMPORTANT NOTICE: We will be collating our last (December 2003, #03/11) PPP issue in November. There will be no printing or collating in December. Our first 2004 issue will start with "February 2004, #04-1." Please see Calendar of Events on the last page of this issue.



The PukaPuka Parade is the monthly newsletter of the World War II 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans association (aka Club 100). Published at 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826

CAMP DARBY IN ITALY HONORS CURLY NAKAE, MOH

George Watanabe, our friend and liaison in Italy, sends us the following news item:

Our new Darby commander LTC Chuck Leaming told me, "George, before I leave this base in 2 years I want to have our main gate named after Curly Nakae." I gave him copy of the letter from our great Sen Dan Akaka addressed to me ref the Main Gate to be named for Curly and a letter to him from Dept of the Army ref the main gate to be named after Curly so things look good and I'm very happy. Curly, you know, won the MOH only 7 miles from present day Camp Darby on the Arno River just east of Pisa.

TO ALL WHO WENT ON THE FORT BENNING MONUMENT DEDICATION TRIP IN 1999

Jerry Conner, of Newnan, Georgia, was our contact person for the trip in October 1999. He is the first cousin of the late Cloudy Gray Conner, who was KIA, Dog Company. Jerry and his friends gave us good advice in planning our trip (which many still say was the best trip ever), recommending places to visit, like FDR's home in Warm Springs, making reservations for us at clean, affordable motels, and arranging meals for us at restaurants that are usually closed on Sundays (or we would have starved). He met us at the airport and even invited us to his church for supper. Jerry has kept in touch with us on the monument—remember it wasn't completed at the time of the dedication because they did not inscribe the number of Medals of Honor—and has donated some artifacts of his cousin's to the National Infantry Museum there.

Jerry and his wife Tippie and other family members will be visiting Hawaii in late January 2004. Let's show them our Hawaiian Hospitality and host a pot-luck lunch at the Clubhouse. Save the date, Saturday, January 31, 2004, 11 a.m. More details in the next issue of PPP. Any questions, suggestions, please call Drusilla Tanaka at 235-1343 (evenings).

100TH/442ND LINE DANCERS HIT MID-WEEK AND PERFORM IN PUBLIC

Our line dancing class hit the October 8, 2003, issue of the newspaper, *Mid-Week*. In her article "Getting In Line," Susan Sunderland wrote on the current popularity of line dancing and mentioned Sandy Zook's classes at the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans clubhouse. There is a wonderful picture of Sandy, Kay, Alice and Bea costumed in their vests and straw hats, kicking up their heels to the lively music of a cha-cha line dance.

On Wednesday, October 8, the group entertained the patients at Kuakini's Hale Pulama Mau auditorium. Then on Saturday, October 11, eight of us bravely joined many other line dance classes at the Ala Wai Palladium for a great Jamboree. Each group performed two line dance numbers. Wearing our signature costume vests and straw hats, we danced with American flag kerchiefs that waved and floated as we twirled and turned to the music of "Texas Cha Cha" and the "Rose of My Heart" waltz. We won enthusiastic applause. It was fun and I'm sure Sandy was proud of us.

So all you couch potatoes, come on down to the clubhouse on Wednesdays from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and get that body moving and a-grooving. Classes will resume in mid-November.

FUND RAISER FOR LANE NISHIKAWA'S ONLY THE BRAVE MOVIE

The **100th INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS** and **HAWAII DENTAL SERVICES** request the honor of your presence at the benefit film screening of Lane Nishikawa's **WHEN WE WERE WARRIORS** and **FORGOTTEN VALOR** on Friday, November 21, 2003 at the Farrington High School Auditorium at 6:30 pm. All AJA Veterans and their spouses or one guest are free, For everyone else the cost is \$10.00 per person. Proceeds from this event will benefit the making of his new film, **ONLY THE BRAVE**. Mr. Nishikawa will be in attendance to discuss this project. Movie star, Tamlyn Tomita, will be the Special Guest MC. **ONLY THE BRAVE** is based on the Nisei regiment's rescue of the "Lost Battalion," the Texans of the 141st Regiment, during World War II. It recounts the four days during which the 100th/442nd RCT fought through German lines to save 211 of their fellow Americans while suffering over 800 casualties.

WHEN WE WERE WARRIORS – is a story of constitutional rights, civil rights and, ultimately,

human rights. Two men face unfathomable obstacles and persevere to find humanism in their lives and the world that surrounds them. The film opens in 1955 with Sam Yamamoto, a Nisei being called to a meeting at the Presidio in San Francisco with Leon Ehrlich, a Jewish man who has immigrated to the U. S. and is now an officer in the army. As the scene unfolds, we realize that Sam liberated Leon from the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany during WWII. They form an incredible bond that lasts the rest of their lives, as they survive personal injustices, social prejudices, and psychological wounds. (33 minutes)

FORGOTTEN VALOR – [Winner of Best Short Feature, Hawaii International Film Festival in 2001] It's been over 50 years since WWII, and the U. S. Army has determined that 20 Japanese Americans should be upgraded to the Medal of Honor for their bravery. For 442nd veteran George Fukuoka, this tears open emotional wounds and he suddenly disappears. Colonel Kim, the only Korean American who fought alongside the Nisei regiment and one of their most respected officers, sets out to find him. As he connects with George's family and friends, he learns of the post traumatic stress disorder that has tormented George since his return home from the war. Time becomes crucial – Colonel Kim must find George, who is wrestling with the decision to join the ghosts of his fallen comrades. (43 minutes)

Lane Nishikawa is from Wahiawa, Oahu. He had four uncles who served with the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 522nd Artillery, M Company/442nd and the M.I.S. He has dedicated his life to creating stories about the Japanese American experience and continues to be one of our strong voices in the theater and film.

For questions, please call Amanda Stevens at the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans office at #946-0272.



MEMORIES: THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION (SEP) by Saburo Nishime, Dog Co.

While still at Boom Town, the Battle of Midway was going on. All military were restricted to the base, so most of us had no chance to meet with our family members. I remember one fellow, Clifford Kutaka, managed to get out of the base and go into town. I asked Clifford how he did it. It was simple. He just showed his pass, which he had held over from the last time he was in Boom Town. That pass was still good. I had my pass from the previous period, but now it was too late for the Battalion was ready to pull out.

Word came down that our organization would now be known as the Hawaiian Provincial Battalion. It was June of 1942 when the members of the Hawaiian Provincial Battalion got on the Oahu Railway coaches at Schofield Barracks. As the train moved out passed the Schofield Laundry, a group of tearful Nisei young women silently watched the coaches loaded with Nisei soldiers pass by, going on to whatever there was, in the future horizon to come.

At the Army Pier in Honolulu Harbor, all the Battalion members got on an old converted transport called the *S.S. Maui*. The *S.S. Maui* also served in World War I as a troop transport. We were all assigned to bunks stacked around four high in the hold of the ship. The maximum number of bunks was installed. The smell in the hold was really stinking bad, and the crowded condition aggravated all that was bad in the hold. I myself never went down in the hold to sleep. I slept on deck throughout the trip.

One afternoon, without fanfare, the *S.S. Maui* pulled anchor, and while coming on to Pier 11, which is near the Aloha Tower, there on the second balcony of Pier 11 was a lone young Nisei-looking *wahine*. She was running around all excited. Whoever the *wahine* was--probably somebody's wife, daughter, or girlfriend--who knows? That *wahine* on the balcony of Pier 11 was soon left behind and the *S.S. Maui* sailed out of Honolulu Harbor.

On this trip there were quite a number of *haole* families, evacuating Hawaii without their male spouses. LTC Turner's son, Bert, was a 15-year old kid with the Turner family. What Bert remembers about this trip was the constant sound of crackling of dice.

A few days out, the Battalion got news that the United States had scored a great victory at the Battle of Midway. This battle in the Pacific seemed to have turned the tide of the war with Japan.

Feeding the troops on these transport ships was a continuous all-day chore. Two huge meals were served to the troops. There was always a long line waiting to be served. The food was served on large iron food trays. During that period, aluminum was for making airplanes.

Us [sic] privates were always scheduled for K.P. duty. One found out early, the worst K.P. duty to get

caught in was picking up the washed trays. The trays would just keep coming out of the washer, and with the huge number of troops on the ship, one would keep wondering when the hell the trays were going to stop coming. I found out early, the best thing to do when reporting for K.P. duty was to report early so one could pick what chore to do.

I happened to notice a lone albatross following the ship. I remember Shukichi Sato commenting that these birds would follow the ship all the way to port.

On this trip, I recall when a day when the ocean was almost smooth like glass. But, when nearing the California coast, the waves really got huge, and many of the troopers on K.P. duty got seasick and had to be replaced.

It was about the seventh day when the skyline of the Golden Gate Bridge, through the haze of the late afternoon, loomed straight ahead. As the *S.S. Maui* approached the Golden Gate Bridge, just about all of us 1,500 bumpkins from Hawaii were on the deck of the ship, looking up and staring at the massive structure of the bridge as the *S.S. Maui* passed under it and sailed into San Francisco Bay and continued on to dock at an Oakland pier.

The Battalion immediately boarded pullman coaches which were run by coal burning trains. About this time information was received indicating that the Battalion would now be called the 100th Infantry Battalion (SEP).

When we woke up the following morning we found that we were somewhere in the Sierra Nevada mountains. Looking out the window, although it was June, patches of snow still covered the ground.

As far as can be recalled about the next part of the journey, which was over the Rockies, were of rocks and more rocks, with no vegetation or trees in sight. When the train finally got to Salt Lake City, Utah, it was late in the afternoon. From Salt Lake City, it must have taken most of a 24-hour period to get to Grand Junction, Colorado, a town located 7,500 feet up in the Rockies.

Early the next morning, the porter informed us that we were now in Denver, Colorado. After leaving Denver, the travel was now through states where the chief farm product was corn. There were green fields of corn, corn, and more corn, all day long. I didn't see any farmers around. An occasional jack rabbit could be seen.

Finally, arriving at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, the train pulled off to a siding and unloaded the members of the 100th Battalion. Camp McCoy at that time was a "tent city" for the troops.

It was here at Camp McCoy, the 100th Infantry Battalion really got organized. Numerous stories had been circulated on why the Niseis were shanghaied out of Hawaii, true or otherwise, but now at Camp McCoy, the 100th Infantry Battalion began extensive training to become a combat unit. I became a member of Dog Co. under Capt. Jack Johnson and later, under Capt. Jack Mizuha.

Notices were sent out to the companies for suggestions for a design for the 100th Infantry Battalion flag. Larry Sakoda, a member of our 2nd Platoon, submitted his design for the flag. Sakoda showed members of the 2nd Platoon his design. The design was an American Eagle with outspread wings, holding a ribbon in its beak with the words: REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR. The 100th Battalion command accepted Larry Sakoda's portion of the design. The lower portion of the flag, which reads: ONE HUNDREDTH INFANTRY BATTALION was designed Keiichi Kimura of Hq. Co. This information came from Edward Ikuma of Hq. Co., who knew Keiichi Kimura. Kimura in post-war civilian life was an artist. The prize money for designing the 100th Battalion flag was \$20, and the money was split between Larry Sakoda and Keiichi Kimura.

When the 100th Battalion first got to Camp McCoy, the troopers found that Wisconsin had plenty of beer. After a full day of training the beer drinkers would get together, along with their buddies, and buy a whole bunch of bottled beer. They would set the beer on the floor in front of them and start drinking. The *haole* soldiers would ask the *buddaheads*, "You drinking all that?" The 100th Battalion commander's advice to the troopers was, "Don't try to drink Wisconsin dry for this is where they brew all that beer."

Charlie Diamond, who was not Japanese, was quite a character. We understand that Charlie was born in Tokyo, Japan, of Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian parents. Because of his birthplace, he was picked to be in the all-Nisei battalion. Charlie was older than most of us. Capt. Jack Johnson appointed Charlie as motor vehicle NCO for Dog Company. Charlie served in that capacity and rotated home for discharge with the first group. Even in retirement, Charlie still managed to score some credibility when interviewed by a

stateside *haole* reporter.

At Camp McCoy, where the 100th Battalion was initially stationed, the following were the NCOICs in Dog Company: Martin Tohara was the 1st Sgt. of Dog Company; Herman Teruya was the T/sgt. of the 1st Platoon Heavy Machine Gun; Harry Miyamoto was the T/sgt of the 2nd Platoon Heavy Machine Gun; Tadayoshi Hamasaki was the T/sgt. of the 3rd Platoon, 81MM Mortar. In combat all three of the above T/sgts were field commissioned as 2nd lieutenants. Lt. Herman Teruya was KIA at Anzio.

After having been in Camp McCoy for awhile, it wasn't long before somebody came up with an Hawaiian logo for the 100th Infantry Battalion. It was "One Puka Puka." One company had "One Puka Puka" laid out on the snow and that photo was shown in newspapers in Hawaii. We all referred to ourselves from Hawaii as *buddaheads*. The Hawaiian Niseis were still not in close contact with the mainland Niseis and considered the mainlanders as acting like a bunch of "hard heads," and somebody came up to calling them a bunch of *kotonks*. Eventually these terms became permanent, and the Hawaiian Niseis were the *buddaheads* and the mainland Niseis were the *kotonks*.

The towns near Camp McCoy were Sparta and La Crosse, Wisconsin. The majority of the time, while the 100th Battalion was at Camp McCoy, there were only a few military troops around, so the 100th members managed to get around and meet the civilian population and made many friends. Also, quite a number got married to Wisconsin girls. The dance hall at La Crosse was highly patronized by the 100th soldiers.

Much later, the 2nd Division moved into this area, and some of the 100th members, while in town, had scuffles with the 2nd Division troopers. What can be said is the *buddaheads* of the 100th Battalion more than held their own against the 2nd Division troopers.

The training at Camp McCoy started off with the basics, which all of us had already gone through once before at Boom Town. The 100th Battalion organized a special platoon to be trained in marching like the West Point cadets. This platoon got to be a show piece and it made a number of trips for show purposes. Talking stories with Robert Sato, he said he was a member of this special platoon. There was a movie showing this special platoon, and at one time the 100th Battalion had this film (or maybe borrowed it). I wonder what became of it?

I recall one full dress parade while the 100th Battalion was in training at Camp McCoy. Since the 100th could not form a military band, a drum and bugle corps was formed. The drummer for the corps was Edward Harada of Dog Company. At that time the 100th Battalion was still training with the old 03 rifles. For the parade, all the companies assembled in company groups. Capt. Taro Suzuki called the battalion to attention. From the reviewing stand, LTC Turner barked out the command, "Pass in review." The drum and bugle corps started off, followed by Hq., A, B, C, D, E, and F Companies. Seeing the troops in dress uniform and marching in perfect unison was enough to give one "goose pimples." When each company marching group arrived just before the reviewing stand, the Company Commander, facing the company, would give the command, "Eyes right." All heads would turn right in perfect alignment, with eyes on the reviewing stand. Passing the reviewing stand, the command would be, "Eyes front," and the parade would continue on to the terminating point. There were a few civilian spectators who came to watch the parade.

It was in September 1942 when the majority of members from Hawaii were experiencing snow for the first time.. Just about this time, the movie *Holiday Inn* was showing in the base theater. In this movie, Bing Crosby would come out and sing the all-time favorite, "White Christmas." After the snow in September, it was a period of "Indian summer," and the snows didn't come again until Thanksgiving. After that it was snow, snow and more snow for the rest of the winter the 100th was at Camp McCoy. The song "White Christmas" would always bring on nostalgic memories of long, long ago at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

The second platoon will remember Lt. John Prentice who once was their platoon officer. In the dead of winter, with heavy snow on the ground, Lt. Prentice would call out, "Port arms," then "double time march." The platoon then would prance around in double time for the good part of an hour. This was SOP all the working days of the week. To us Lt. Prentice became known to the 2nd platoon troopers as "Double Time Prentice." Later on, Lt. Prentice transferred to the Hq. section. There Lt. Prentice took the Hq. section out on his well known "double time march." Lt. Prentice practically "killed" the members of Hq. Section who weren't conditioned for this "double time march" training. Lt. Prentice never got to be popular with his troopers in Hq. section.

It was well into the winter when an inspection team came to check if the 100th Battalion was qualified for combat. The 100th went out in the snow and went through a mock attack exercise. The 100th Battalion

did extremely well, especially in the deployment and coordinated firing of the machine guns. The colonel with the inspection team declared that the 100th Infantry Battalion was ready for combat.

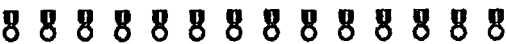
It was around Xmas of 1942 when I went over to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to visit my brother Ralph, who was a student at the University of Michigan. Together we went to Detroit to see Irving Berlin's stage show, *This Is The Army*." This stage show, later on, was made into a movie, and Ronald Reagan was the Master of Ceremonies of the show.

On my way back from Ann Arbor, I met Juichi Muranaka and Kiyoto Mori in Chicago. Both of them were Dog Company members and were just back from visiting New York. The three of us went to see the *Sonja Henie's Ice Show*. Kiyoto Mori was later KIA at Colli.

When we got back to Camp McCoy, it was January 1943. We got word that the 100th Battalion was moving out. The snow was still heavy on the ground when the 100th troopers boarded the pullman coaches and pulled out of Camp McCoy for good. For many members it was a fond farewell to friends, and to others who had girlfriends and wives.

The train travelling down south was soon out of the snow area. After an uneventful journey, the 100th Battalion finally got to its destination, which was Camp Shelby, Mississippi, near the town of Hattiesburg.

Next: Mississippi and Louisiana Maneuvers, and Into Combat in Italy.




In Memoriam

Melvin Isoji Iwaishi

Company E/B

Passed away October 1, 2003

Our deepest sympathy to his family



Readers: Please note in this issue the chapters' reports have not been arranged in alphabetical order.

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

by Warren Iwai

The following members were present at our meeting of October 13: Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Philip Matsuyama, Larry Kamiya, Norman Oda, Manabu Hongo, Saburo Ishitani, Rusty Nakagawa, Chick Miyashiro, Oscar Miyashiro, Yoshio Anzai, Takeichi Onishi and yours truly. Count them, 13 guys on the 13th of October, the lucky guy being Norman Oda making his first appearance in ages. There was no important business so we had our usual talking story meeting. Our Christmas party will be held at the clubhouse on December 20, Saturday. More info will follow shortly.

Larry Kamiya missed the September meeting because he fell and hurt his ribs. Be careful guys - you ain't what you used to be!

Katherine Kuwada passed away on September 15 at the age of 98. She was a pioneer in special education and an outstanding special ed. teacher. Our sincere sympathy to Goro and the family. Mass was held at Star of the Sea Catholic Church on September 24.

Many of our members are in Las Vegas this week for the mini-reunion. Our reporter, Hiromi Suehiro, will provide us with the highlights in the next Charlie Chapter News.

The next meeting will be on Monday, November 17 at the clubhouse. Lunch will be served. See you there.

RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

by Ted Hamasu

Our heartfelt thanks to the DAV of Hawaii for letting Rural Chapter of the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets. use the Kakesako Hall for our meeting place on 19 Sept. 03. We had six members present and they were Secretary Masaharu Saito, Treasurer Susumu Ota, Auditor Mitsuo Nagaki and members Hiroshi Matsuura, Matakishi Takeshita and Ted Hamasu.

Before entering the hall, I noticed a garden of plants enclosed by a fence and in the center there was a sign that said, "In Memory of Jerry Yamaki." When Jerry was alive he used to tell us that they went to Keehi Lagoon at the DAV grounds every Wednesday to clean up and weed the areas. As I looked at the plants I could picture Jerry smiling and taking care of the plants in that enclosed area.

We thank Bull Saito and Susumu Ota for decorating our comrades' graves at the Mililani Cemetery a day before our Annual Memorial Service. I tagged along to have some idea of the number of graves there were to be decorated. Our thanks also to our S&D for their KOKUA at Punchbowl and other cemeteries. Most of us "old guys" have a hard time going up and down the hills, so it sure is a big help to have someone help us. Mahalo Nui Loa.

Our 58th Annual Memorial Service was held on a beautiful Sunday morning at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. After a little confusion in parking my car I approached the ceremonial area and was handed a program sheet. The front page was replete with names of dignitaries and officials who were to participate in the ceremonies.

As I turned the page to the inside there was a full page of names of our comrades who passed away after our memorial service last year. There were 37 names listed on that sheet. Thirty-seven of our comrades who were able to attend last year but are no longer with us and are up in heaven with all the rest of our comrades who passed away before them. Life is short we all say, but 85 years is a long time when you think back.

After the ceremony we had our 21-cannon salute and a helicopter flyover which concluded our 58th Memorial Service.

We were invited to the refreshments that Shigeru Inouye and his family of helpers have been providing for the past years and this will be his last, for he says he's too old to continue and he recommends younger people to take over the task. Many thanks, Shigeru, for your untiring help in providing the refreshments for the past 40 some odd years.

The Ad Hoc Committee that was to look into combining the Memorial Service with the 442 RCT met to tabulate the votes of the members of the Club which numbered a disappointing 47 valid ballots. There were 20 ballots for Yes and 27 ballots of No votes. Where was the rest of the membership??? I have no idea of the number of present active members, but I'm sure we have more than 47 who could have voted. There were a number of ballots with no names so they were not included in the count. The 442 RCT was notified of the outcome of our vote by the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, Stu Tsubota.

The chairman of the Apartment and House committee reported to the BOD that the gas lines of the apartment should be replaced before any mishap occurs. The GO AHEAD permission was granted and will take a couple of weeks to finish the project. The approximate cost \$36.5 K.

100th/442 Tour goes through St. Louis to Jerome and Rohwer Relocation Centers in Arkansas, Branson, New Orleans and Las Vegas before leaving for home. Call the 100th office for the cost and dates.

Mr. Lane Nishikawa, in conjunction with the 100th and the Hawaii Dental Service is showing the show, *WHEN WE WERE WARRIORS* and *FORGOTTEN VALOR* on Friday, Nov 21, at the Farrington High School Auditorium at 6:30 PM. Cost/person \$10.00 will go to make his new movie *ONLY THE BRAVE*, which is based on the rescue of the Lost Battalion by the 100/442 RCT. If interested, call the Club office.

General Shinseki (RTD) will be invited to a testimonial dinner by the AJA Council and others at the Hawaii Convention Center on 12 Nov. 03 from 5:30 PM. If interested, call the Club office for more details.

Our next meeting will be held at the FLAMINGO RESTAURANT, Pearl City, 803 Kam Hwy, Telephone 456-5946, from 11:AM on 21 Nov. 03. See you there. (Across from the Pearl City Shopping Center and makai side of Kam Hwy).

MAUI CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nagata

Maui Chapter joined with the Maui 442nd Veterans Club to observe this year's KIA Memorial Service on Sunday, September 28, at 2 p.m., at the Makawao Veterans Cemetery. Stanley Izumigawa is president of both clubs this year. David Fukuda, son of the late Major Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, was the guest speaker; and Maui Chapter's Masao Sato gave a short account of his experience on the first day of battle on

September 29, 1943, in Italy, when Sgt. Joe Takata of B Company died in battle.

The floral tribute by the veterans was assisted by the grandchildren. Mrs. Lyn Axelson, daughter of Goichi Shimanuki, read the list of the Maui KIA. The Reverend Ron Kubota of the Makawao Hongwanji Mission gave the invocation and benediction. Boy Scout Troop 1 of the Kahului Union Church with Scoutmaster Leonard Nagata in charge, assisted in the opening ceremonies and also during the presentation of the miniature American flag lapel pins to each veteran by the Boy Scouts.

The five large picture frames and stands are under the care of Wataru Kaneshina who keeps them in his storage room during the year and puts in pictures of each veteran who passes away. Akira Ishikawa and son Lloyd bring up the pictures from Wailuku to Makawao each year. Mrs. Lillian Miyagawa and her family take care of the refreshments after the service. Mrs. Jill Ross, daughter of Stanley Izumigawa, was busy working quietly in the background coordinating all the details. Mahalo to all the members of the Maui Sons and Daughters of the Nisei Veterans for sponsoring the KIA Memorial Service. We also extend our thanks to Mrs. Mary Hamasaki of Honolulu who attended our Memorial Service and brought extra copies of the latest *Puka Puka Parade*.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Melvin Isoji Iwaishi, 87, of Honolulu, former Maui Chapter member, who died on October 1, 2003. He served in E and B company during WWII. Services were held at Nuuanu Memorial park Mortuary on Sunday, October 12, 2003.

DOG CHAPTER NEWS

by Helen Nikaido

Dog Chapter Christmas Party

Date: December 21, 2003 (Sunday)
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Place: 100th Inf. Bn. Clubhouse
(Parking available at Ala Wai School)



RSVP: "Jits" Yoshida at 845-7753
or Helen Nikaido at 734-5552



We need the head count by December 7, 2003.



Dog Chapter's luncheon was held on September 19 at the Pagoda Restaurant with 24 members, wives and widows attending. They were happy to see each other--almost forgot about eating--had to remind them to eat first, then visit later. Enjoying the delicious food and fellowship were Mary Hamasaki, Ed and Kay Harada, "Doc" and Mildred Hosaka, Ruth Ishizuka, Rhoda Kawamata, Mitsuko Kurisu, Jane Matsunami, Ken and Florence Mitsunaga, Stella Nakayama, Saburo Nishime, Etsuro Sekiya, Ben and Gloria Tamashiro, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Martin and Dorothy Tohara, Yoshi Tsukayama, "Jits" and Mildred Yoshida, and Helen Nikaido. It was good to see Ed Harada; he's looking good. He said the doctor told him he could travel, so he'll be going to Las Vegas at the end of the month. Lots of luck. Thank you, "Jits," for your help in collecting the money.

You may think that we always go to the same place but Saburo, our president, and I feel the location is ideal for those who don't drive, there's ample parking, and the variety of foods at Pagoda for those who are watching their diets provides many choices. Call Saburo if you have a preference for going elsewhere.

The September 20 meeting was attended by Saburo Nishime, "Jits" Yoshida, Martin Tohara, Denis Teraoka, "Doc" Hosaka and Ken Mitsunaga.

Our deepest sympathy to Moriso Teraoka and family on the passing of his beloved wife Fumino, who passed away on September 23, 2003.

This year's memorial service held on September 22 was different from previous years. Instead of the 21-gun rifle salute, they had a 21-gun cannon salute and a helicopter flyover. It was an impressive service.

To Shigeru Inouye and family and volunteers, many thanks for providing and serving the refreshments year after year.

Those who have attended our past two Christmas parties know what wonderful entertainment we have had as Tony and Violet Kinoshita's daughter Sandy and Friends performed for us. She also entertained at the 100th's 61st Anniversary banquet at the Ala Moana Hotel. So our heartfelt "Congratulations" to Sandy as she has been chosen as one of the semi-finalists in the Al Waterson & You Karaoke talent contest at Don Ho's restaurant located at the Aloha Tower Marketplace. Is it too much wishful thinking to hope she might sing for us again at this year's Christmas party? We'll just have to wait and see.

ABLE COMPANY NEWS

by Tom Nishioka

Save Saturday, December 13. It is the date for the Able Chapter Christmas party. Chairman Tommy Nishioka and his committee have been working hard so that keikis as well as adults can have a fabulous time at the last party of the year. Please submit your registration as soon as possible so that the Christmas committee can plan for the food and the door prizes. You can pay at the monthly meeting or send your check to the clubhouse with the registration form. We are truly grateful for any donations of door prizes. At the upcoming Company A meeting on November 22, at 8:00 a.m., there will be ono kine breakfast and clean-up of the grounds to follow.

Able Company Christmas Party

Date: December 13, 2003
Time: Cocktails: 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Dinner: 6:00 p.m.
Cost: Guests: \$10.00
Chapter members: \$5.00
Children under 12: Free!



(Please purchase a grab bag gift for your child not to exceed \$10.00.
Remember to help Santa out by putting your child's name on the gift.)

Place: 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse
(Parking at the Ala Wai Elementary School)

Deadline: December 6, 2003

Send payment to: 100th Inf. Bn., Able Company
520 Kamoku Street
Honolulu, HI 96826



Donations welcomed: Door prizes beer, soda, desserts, etc.



Registration Form

Name: _____

Member(s) (\$5.00) _____ x \$5 = _____

Adult Guest(s) (\$10.00) _____ x \$10 = _____

Children (Ages) _____ x free = _____
(Please list ages of children attending)

Total = _____

BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

By Evelyn Tsuda

We received a generous donation from Kay Takaezu in memory of her husband Billy. Also we received a check for \$250.00 from Jim Metcalf in memory of Harry Katahara. With the help of generous donors like Kay and Jim, we will be able to carry on the chapter activities. Thank you very much, Kay and Jim.

Five chapter members, wobbly knees and walking canes notwithstanding, reported to Punchbowl on Sept. 27 to spruce up and decorate the graves for the memorial service. They were Bernard Akamine, Robert Arakaki, Fred Kanemura, Riki Tsuda and "China" Yamashina. Without the help of the youngsters who turned out in full force, the objective of decorating each grave and niche would not have been met.

A special thanks also to Suzie Kaninau (daughter of James Kawashima), her relatives and friends who did a splendid job bundling chrysanthemums into beautiful bouquets – almost 600 of them – and also creating the beautiful wreaths which were presented at the service.

At the chapter meeting on October 18, Hajime Yamane announced that he will not be able to serve as president next year. Everyone then looked to Joe Muramatsu to lead the members and he graciously accepted the nomination.

FUN!!! PRIZES FOR ALL!!! ONOLICIOUS FOOD!!! ARTS & CRAFTS!!!

HAVE YOUR FAMILY PHOTOS TAKEN!!!

CO. B ANNUAL FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Date: Saturday, December 6, 2003

Time: 4:30pm

**Place: 100th Inf Bn Veterans Clubhouse
Parking at Ala Wai School**



**Cost: 13 years and older \$10.00
Children Ages 6 – 12 \$ 5.00
Children under 6 years are Free**



**RSVP by Tuesday, December 2, 2003 by calling
Dennis or Karen Tanigawa at 236-4585 or 232-4336**

**Parents/Grandparents please bring a grab bag gift
for each child not to exceed \$10.00**

**DONATIONS OF PRIZES, DESSERTS, TSUKEMONO
AND OTHER ITEMS WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

**Help is needed for the Christmas party.
Please call Karen or Dennis Tanigawa if you can help.**

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY NEWS

By Ed Ikuma & Jan Sakoda

Headquarters meeting was held on Saturday, October 11, 2003 at 10:00 with 12 members present. One of the major items covered at this meeting was the election of officers of our Chapter for the fiscal year 2004. Results are as follows:

**President: Edward Ikuma
Vice President: Seisaburo Taba**

**Treasurer: Arthur Komiyama (assisted by Elsie Oshita)
Secretary: Janice Sakoda**

Minutes for the September meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report showed a beginning balance of \$2,194.85 and an ending balance of \$1,767.94. The amount of \$374 was reimbursed to Ed Ikuma for the chapter luncheon at On On Restaurant, and \$52.91 was reimbursed to Ed Ikuma for chapter meeting refreshments over the past several months.

A belated thank you to Pat Akimoto for her delicious mango bread, which she shared at our September meeting. And thank you to Frances Okazaki for bringing the ono pastries for our October meeting. Feel free to share your baked goods at our chapter meetings!!!

Volunteering to serve as co-chair for the next Headquarters get together in early 2004 are Elsie Oshita, Pat Akimoto, Dorothy Tamashiro and Doris Aimoto.

The \$100 check donated to Headquarters Chapter by the late Margaret Higa way back in 1999 is finally in the process of being restored to our treasury. Somehow the original check was never credited to our account and now after clearance by the 100th Battalion CPA, a new check will be issued sometime next month. Our thanks, Margaret.

A special group tour especially tailored to 100th family members and friends is being planned for the fall of 2004. Destinations include some major cities, including St. Louis, New Orleans, several World War II relocation centers and Las Vegas. Interested persons, please call the Club office or Integrity Travel for details.

Headquarters Company meeting will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2003, 10:00 a.m., at the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets. clubhouse.

Remember to mark your calendar for Sunday, December 14 for our annual Christmas party. If the keiki want to make gingerbread houses, make sure you come early! See the Christmas party announcement below.

IMPORTANT NOTE: OUR NEXT CHAPTER MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, STARTING AT 10:00 A.M.

HEADQUARTERS & MEDICS CHAPTER CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year's Headquarters' Christmas party promises to be another fun and exciting evening. There'll be something for the seniors and the keiki, as well as making our traditional gingerbread house. Because the party will be held on a Sunday, and we want to end early, gingerbread houses will be made before dinner. If you or your kids want to make gingerbread houses this year, we'll make them at 4:00 p.m. Dinner will be catered but any donations (tsukemono, sushi rice, dessert, pupus, soft drinks) will be very much appreciated. Here are the details:



Date: Sunday, December 14, 2003
Time: 4:00 p.m. Make Gingerbread Houses
5:15 dinner
Cost: \$10 for adults
\$5 for children between 5 and 12 years old


Parking: Available at Ala Wai School

RSVP: Dorothy Tamashiro by December 6, 2003 – 734-5122



Remember to bring a gift for the keiki for Santa to hand out. Please keep the gift under \$10.

Mark Sunday, December 14 on your calendar NOW for this year's Headquarters Christmas party and be sure to tell your kids to save this date too!! Some of your children don't get the Puka Puka Parade so it's up to you to let them know.



ONLY THE BRAVE

A new film by Lane Nishikawa, author and filmmaker of
"When We Were Warriors" and "Forgotten Valor"

THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS And Hawaii Dental Service

cordially requests your presence at a special benefit film screening of

FORGOTTEN VALOR and WHEN WE WERE WARRIORS

**Two Short Feature Films - Written and Directed by
LANE NISHIKAWA**

**Special Guest MC
TAMLYN TOMITA
(Star of KARATE KID II and THE JOY LUCK CLUB)**

**Friday, November 21, 2003 - 6:30 pm
Farrington High School Auditorium: 1564 North King (free parking is available)**

100th/442nd RCT and all AJA Veterans and their spouse or one guest are free!!

**Everyone else – we only ask \$10.00 per person Admission
(your participation and donation will be greatly appreciated)**

Lane Nishikawa will be in attendance to take questions from the audience and discuss his newest film project, **ONLY THE BRAVE**, a new dramatic feature length motion picture about the 100th/442nd Regiment's rescue of the Texas 141st in France during World War II. All proceeds will benefit the making of the film. Please come and help us support this historic project.

WHEN WE WERE WARRIORS – is a story of constitutional rights, civil rights and, ultimately, human rights. Two men face unfathomable obstacles and persevere to find humanism in their lives and the world that surrounds them. The film opens in 1955 with Sam Yamamoto, a Nisei being called to a meeting at the Presidio in San Francisco with Leon Ehrlich, a Jewish man who has immigrated to the U. S. and is now an officer in the army. As the scene unfolds, we realize that Sam liberated Leon from the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany during WWII. They form an incredible bond that lasts the rest of their lives, as they survive personal injustices, social prejudices, and psychological wounds. (33 minutes)

FORGOTTEN VALOR – [Winner of Best Short Feature, Hawaii International Film Festival in 2001]
It's been over 50 years since WWII, and the U. S. Army has determined that 20 Japanese Americans should be upgraded to the Medal of Honor for their bravery. For 442nd veteran George Fukuoka, this tears open emotional wounds and he suddenly disappears. Colonel Kim, the only Korean American who fought alongside the Nisei regiment and one of their most respected officers, sets out to find him. As he connects with George's family and friends, he learns of the post traumatic stress disorder that has tormented George since his return home from the war. Time becomes crucial – Colonel Kim must find George, who is wrestling with the decision to join the ghosts of his fallen comrades. (43 minutes)

Lane Nishikawa is from Wahiawa, Oahu. He had four uncles who served with the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 522nd Artillery, M Company/442nd and the M.I.S. He has dedicated his life to creating stories about the Japanese American experience and continues to be one of our strong voices in the theater and film.

**If you have any questions, please call Amanda Stevens at the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans office at #946-0272.
Special thanks to Dream On Events, Harold Dias, Jr., Sons & Daughters of the 100th Inf. Bn, the 442nd office staff
PukaPukaParade editor & staff & all who volunteered to make this event possible.**

SECRETARY'S MAHALO REPORT

By Amanda Stevens

The following donations are acknowledged with many thanks:

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans

Takahashi, Beatrice Setsuko	In memory of Mike Takahashi	\$100
*Takayama, Fred & Kimiko		\$100
Tsubota, Shigeru & Mieko	(58th Annual Memorial Service)	\$100
Yoshioka, Lyn T.	In memory of Robert Yoshioka	\$100

Puka Puka Parade

Kawasaki, Sayoko T.		\$50
*Nishida, Florence	In memory of Yoshiharu Nishida	\$100
*Takayama, Fred & Kimiko		\$100

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Scholarship Fund:

\$1,000 and above:

Kamemoto, Kazuo (Honolulu)		
Nishimura, Frank K. & Haru (Seattle, WA)	In honor of Sakae Tanigawa, celebrating his 88th birthday	

\$500 - \$999:

\$100 - \$499:

Akita, Clyde (Waimanalo)		
Arakaki, Thomas (Koloa)		
*Arisumi, Satoji (Wailuku)		
*Higa, Kenneth (Honolulu)	In memory of Beatrice Higa	
Kawasaki, Sayoko T. (Maple Valley, WA)		
*Miyashiro, Charles & Florence (Hon)	In memory of Howard Miyashiro	
Ota, Susumu & Margaret (Wahiawa)		
Sekiya, Walter M. (Wahiawa)		
Tanimoto, Kazue (Hilo)	In memory of my late husband Larry Isao Tanimoto	

Up to \$99:

Akamine, Bernard & Jeanette (Honolulu)		
Akita, Sumi & Kazu (Kaneohe)		
Baker Chapter	In memory of Harry Katahara	
Maki, Shiro (Wahiawa)		
Matsuda, James [Trustees] (Cedar Rapids, IA)		
Nagasako, Roy (Honolulu)		
Saito, Masaharu (Wahiawa)	In memory of Harry Katahara	
*Takahara, Ben F. (Kaneohe)		
Yoshida, Tomoye (Kaneohe)		

* = changes or additions made since the last PPP issue

STANLEY'S CORNER

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast to her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?" Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white." The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Momma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2003

ABLE.....Saturday, November 22.....8:00 am
BAKER.....(Saturday, November 15.....)1:00 pm
CHARLIE.....Monday, November 17.....10:00 am
DOG.....Saturday, November 15.....9:00 am
HQ.....Saturday, November 22.....10:00 am
RURAL.....Friday, November 21 ...Flamingo Restaurant...(Pearl City)....11:00 am
BOARD MEETING.....Friday, November 14.....10:00 am
GREEN THUMBS.....Monday, November 3.....Lounge.....10:00 am
100TH GOLF CLUB LUNCH.....Tuesday, November 1810 :00 am
LINE DANCING.....Wednesday, November (?).....9:00 am

(Call the Clubhouse office for the date **Line Dancing** resumes)

NOTE: The next issue will be for **December 2003**. Deadline for articles will be **Nov. 18, 2003**.
(Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.) Puka Puka Parade
collating will be on **FRIDAY, November 28, 2003, 8:30 am**. Able and Charlie Chapters are
responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua.

THERE WILL BE NO PPPARADE ISSUE OR COLLATING IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.
*We will be taking a holiday vacation. The next issue will be for February 2004. Deadline for articles
will be January 20, 2004. Collating will be on FRIDAY, January 30, 2004, 8:30 a.m. (Rural and
Baker Chapters) are responsible for refreshments.*

For PPP chapter news and articles: joykiku@hawaii.rr.com (no attachments to joykiku, please) or
vetsofthe100thbn@yahoo.com (attachments okay.)

IMPORTANT New e-mail address for club business, questions or correspondence:
vetsofthe100thbn@yahoo.com

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans
520 Kamoku Street
Honolulu, HI 96826-5120

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NOVEMBER 2003 ISSUE

A blessed Thanksgiving to you!

