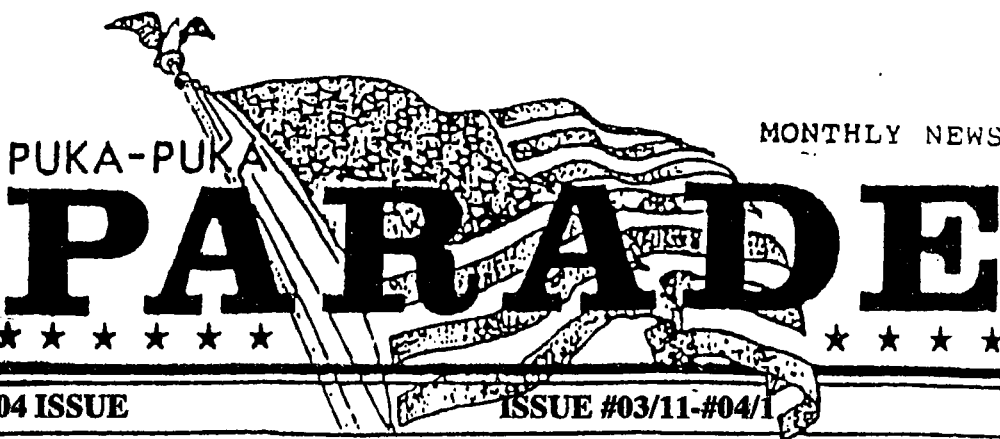




100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB



*To All Our Puka Puka Parade Readers
We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a
Happy and Healthy New Year!*



NO PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2004

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there was no Board of Directors meeting for November, therefore no report was submitted.

OCTOBER COLLATING VOLUNTEERS

by Joy Teraoka, editor

Even though we changed our collating day from Thursday to Friday, we had a good number of volunteers turn out for collating and mailing our newsletter. Thanks to the following volunteers: Yukie Akita, Bernard Akamine, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Richard Hosaka, Ed Ikuma, Shigeru Inouye, Larry and Regina Kamiya, Arthur Komiyama, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Masanori Moriwake, Joichi Muramatsu, Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Ray and Aki Nosaka, Kay Oshiro, Susumu Ota, Ken Otagaki, "Moro" Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Goro Sumida, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Ricky and Evelyn Tsuda, and Martin Tohara.

No collating in the month of December. Next collation will be on Friday, January 30, 2004.

Because printing the *Puka Puka Parade* is quite a tedious and tiring process, my staff and I thought it might be feasible to outsource the printing each month instead of leasing the Risograph on a yearly basis and using it but once a month. The Risograph leasing and maintenance contract costs around \$3000 a year. However, what we discovered, after getting bids from several professional printing sources, it would cost between \$847 to over \$1000 for just one issue! So, with those figures way beyond our budget, we have concluded it is more economical to continue leasing and printing on the Risograph machine. Well, guys (Bob, Suey, Mary and Evelyn), it's back to the sweat shop for us!

POST-MINI-REUNION:

By Ray & Aki Nosaka

Our heartfelt thanks to the Southern California Chapter for once again sponsoring and successfully putting over another mini-reunion. We especially thank you all for the time spent, for labor and thoughtfulness in planning each day's activities, and in keeping the hospitality room supplied with ono food and cold drinks for the four days. The hospitality room is what makes this a real reunion and the true reason why so many of us look forward to this annual get together. Of course we all know that none of this would have been possible if it had not been for Ben and Jean Tagami, Sam and Teri Fujikawa, and the other leaders and hard workers.

The Tuesday night (banquet) festivities opened with Doris Kimura singing our national anthem and Don Miyada leading all in the pledge of allegiance. We were pleasantly surprised by the appearance of Mr.

Pat Morita (Mr. Miyagi of *Karate Kid* fame). Our "master joke/story teller," Stanley Akita, graciously surrendered his allotted time to Mr. Morita who kept us all in laughter for several minutes. Following him there was more laughter when Charlie Nishimura and Hiromi Suehiro took turns in telling more stories – watch out, Stanley Akita, there is competition looming ahead. For some musical entertainment, the Hui O Aikanes (Ted Ohira, Ted Toguchi, Toe Yoshino, Evelyn Tsuda, Doris Kimura, Takako Uramoto, Tom Tsubota, Aki and Ray Nosaka) rendered a few numbers with some audience participation. Also joining in were Bob Aoki with his harmonica, and Kauai Masuda, a resident of Las Vegas and nephew of Toe Yoshino. Kauai entertained earlier during the fellowship hour. Skip Tomiyama delighted the audience by doing a hula number. Before the program came to an end, the "One Puka Puka Marching Song" led by Ray Nosaka, was sung by all of the men

This year there were two craft classes held, one conducted by Skip Tomiyama (Hawaiian Angels) and the other conducted by Chiz Ohira (Haole Angels). Their beautiful finished products were put on display at the banquet.

The ladies of the L.A. Chapter, created and presented each attendee with a "goodie bag" memento which was greatly appreciated. A grand time was had by all, and now we are all awaiting the decision of whether there will be another reunion next year.

Bob Arakaki reported on the two pre-Las Vegas jackpots that collected \$5 from each participant before the trip - one for the men and the other for the women. Bob Arakaki and Gary Nakayama "invested" for the men. Try as they may their luck failed them and they lost everything. With Carl Tonaki trying his luck for the women's team, within an hour his jackpot increased to \$319. All the ladies made \$16, with a \$15 tip left over for Carl. Definitely, the ladies were luckier than the men.....in other words, men, better luck next time!

BOB JONES 100TH/442ND "LOOKING BACK" EUROPE TOUR 2004

To veterans, families and friends of the 100th/442nd RCT you are invited to participate in another wonderful opportunity to "look back" and visit the sites in Europe where this outstanding regiment fought during World War II. Once again, Bob Jones (honorary member of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans and former TV news anchorman) will lead the tour covering the battle sites in Italy and France, plus other places of special interest. There will be excursions to Rome, Anzio, Terracina, Naples, Cassino, Pisa, Florence, Nice, and also Paris. The tour will depart from Honolulu on May 13 and return via Los Angeles to Honolulu on May 29, 2004.

Several years ago, Jones led members of the 100th on a similar tour that proved such a success, he was asked to do it again. Bob is one of the most respected and beloved authorities on the Nisei soldiers in WWII. Some say "his expertise is second only to those veterans who fought there."

It will surely be an exciting, meaningful and memorable trip for those who go. If you haven't made this pilgrimage, don't miss this opportunity to do so. For further information please contact:

Honolulu, Hawaii: Ms. Gaye Miyasaki or Mrs. Margaret Miyasaki - phone 373-4566
e-mail: gaye_96821@yahoo.com

Mainland: Ms. Nola Miyasaki phone 1-(315) 443-3445
e-mail: nnmiyasa@syr.edu

ANY INTEREST IN AN EX-MANOA HOUSING RESIDENTS' REUNION?

On the site where Manoa Shopping Center now stands, in the late '40s there stood a thriving community characterized by rows and rows of rather squarish and squat white washed wooden structures. This was the housing project created especially for ex-servicemen and federal workers and their families. It was called Manoa Housing, and surprisingly many notable people got their start there - "J. Akuhead Pupule" (Hal Lewis), Tad and Alice Morimotos (former State legislator), the Matsuo Takabukis, the Eichi Okis, the Gilbert Kobatakes, the Calvin Shimogakis, the Ray Nosakas, the Goro Sumidas, the Denis Teraokas, and the Wallace Chinens, to mention a few.

Ann Kabasawa and Joyce Chinen have been wondering if there are people who would be interested in a

Manoa Housing Reunion. Joyce Chinen is especially interested in collecting stories and recollections about residents' Manoa Housing days.

If you are interested in participating in a Manoa Housing Reunion, please contact either Ann Kabasawa, ph. 734-0841 or Joyce Chinen, ph. 454-4720.

DR. KANEMI KANAZAWA PASSES AWAY

When Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japanese bombers on December 7, 1941, Kanemi Kanazawa was a police officer with the Honolulu Police Department. He also held a 2nd lieutenant's commission in the U.S. Army Reserves because he completed the University of Hawaii's Senior Reserve Officer Training Course in 1939. He was immediately called to active duty and was assigned to the Counter Intelligence Corps of the U.S. Army in Hawaii. There he worked with Police Captain John A. Burns and the Civilian Morale Ccommittee. This was considered a "choice" assignment.

However, he saw the formation of the 100th Infantry Battalion in the summer of 1942. The following year, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was formed and a large number of Hawaii's AJAs volunteered for duty. Kanemi then requested a transfer from the counter intelligence unit to join the newly formed 442nd.

After completing an advanced infantry officers' refresher course, he was sent to Europe as a replacement for the depleted 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate). He was wounded twice and was awarded the Purple Heart medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Distinguished Unit Badge, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

After World War II, several combat-wounded veterans in Honolulu and Los Angeles thanked him profusely for his noble gesture in requesting that the medics take care of the wounded enlisted men first before attending to his own injuries. He always thought of his men first. He had great traits - integrity, humility, kindness, loyalty and a sense of humor.

After the war he became the manager of the Contact Department of the newly established branch of the U.S. Veterans Administration. He urged all veterans who did not have a bachelor's degree to use the GI Bill of Rights benefits to further their education, with the purpose of improving the quality of their lives. He, too, returned to school to study dentistry, graduating from Northwestern University Dental College in Chicago. He became a highly respected dentist, serving as president of the dental society for several years.

Kanazawa's beloved wife Harumi died 26 years ago. His twin brother Kenji preceded him in death by just 23 days. Kanemi is survived by his two sons, Chris and Peter, and a daughter, Lisa Mizono, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Our deepest condolences to the members of his family.



WWII VETS CAN GET HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

Recently, in the *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, "For Your Benefit" column, (Sunday, November 16, 2003), the question was asked how Hawaii's WWII veterans who never had the chance to go back to school after the war, could receive their high school diplomas. The answer was: "The state Board and Department of Education has announced a program that will allow men and women to receive their high school diplomas if they left school prior to graduation. World War II prevented many Hawaii high school students from completing their studies. After the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, all public schools were closed by the military. Nearly all schools remained closed for one to two months and Oahu public schools did not reopen until Feb. 2, 1942. All veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces from Dec. 7, 1941, through Dec. 31, 1946, are eligible for the program. Contact the Board of Education at 586-3334 for more information."

LANE NISHIKAWA'S FILM BENEFIT WELL ATTENDED


On Friday, November 21, at Farrington High School, a well-attended benefit fund raiser was sponsored by the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans and the Hawaii Dental Service, for director/producer/actor Lane Nishikawa's next planned film, *Only the Brave*. Two documentary films - *Forgotten Valor* and *When We Were Warriors* - were shown. Nishikawa, along with guest emcee, vivacious Tamlyn Tomita, star of

many notable movies and handsome Greg Watanabe, also an actor, were present to promote the film. They expressed the reasons for using this media to convey to younger generations throughout the United States the importance of disseminating and perpetuating the history of the AJA during World War II - the racial discrimination and incarceration the Nikkei endured in concentration camps, and the heroic battles fought by the 100th/442nd RCT. By focusing on the AJAs' rescue of the "Lost Battalion," the film hopes to perpetuate the great legacy bequeathed to following generations who have undoubtedly benefited by the barriers of suspicion, prejudice, social and economic injustice that were eventually broken because of the sacrifice, courage, valor and unquestioned loyalty displayed by 100th/442nd RCT fighting men.

It was suggested that contributions of \$500 or over made in honor of a veteran would be acknowledged by displaying the veteran's name in the film credits. Tax deductible contributions to this project can be made to NJAHS/Only the Brave, 1684 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94115-3604. Indicate contribution is separate from NJAHS membership dues.

During an interlude between films, Amanda Stevens, secretary for the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans, presented outgoing president, Stanley Akita and his lovely wife, Yukie, with a gift of appreciation from that organization for his outstanding years of service. Amanda was also recognized by Lane for the excellent job she did in coordinating the arrangements for this event.

Howard Dias Jr., officiating emcee, did an outstanding job of opening and closing the affair.



In Memoriam

Seigi Adaniya	Company C	Passed away October 26, 2003
Oswald Kawahara	Company F	Passed away October 30, 2003
Kanemi Kanazawa	Company C	Passed away November 1, 2003

Our deepest sympathies to their families

Family Support Group Meeting

Sunday, January 25, 2004

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: Mr. Roy Matsumoto

Senior citizens' support services provided by Project Dana

Lunch cost: \$5.00

Reservations or contacts:

**Dr. Joyce Chinen, 454-4720; Kimi Matsuda, 988-6562
Bernard Akamine, 734-8738 or Marie Yoneshige, 536-9921**

SALUTE TO STAN AKITA, OUTGOING PRESIDENT OF THE 100TH INF. BN. VETS.

It is an undisputed fact that Stanley Akita has served more terms as president of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans than any other of its leaders. As president, Stanley served in 1987, 1988, 1995 and 1996, then another three years from 2001 through 2003. That is a total of seven years. Is there any wonder that he feels so much a part of this organization and has been so committed to it.

After graduating from Hilo High School Akita, a sansei from Honomu on the Big Island, left to train as an electrician at a vocational school in Honolulu. Then on December 7, bombs rained down on Pearl Harbor, not only changing the course of history, but also affecting the course of study for Akita. He returned to the Big Island. At age 19, he, along with many other Hawaii boys, volunteered to serve in the newly formed 442nd Combat Team. While training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, in November 1943, Stanley was among those deployed to Italy to become the first replacements for the depleted 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate). As a member of C Company, he fought through the battles from Anzio in Italy and then on to France.

Following the liberation of Bruyeres, the 100th headed into the dense forests of Biffontaine where they captured around 27 German soldiers. Two men from Company C, Mike Tokunaga and Minoru Norikane, were sent out to contact the ration patrol to get food to their men because they hadn't eaten all day. However, the two encountered so many Germans, they could not get through, and barely made it back to their unit. Akita had a strange feeling that something ominous was about to happen to him. Up to this battle he had been lucky to have escaped injury or death. He wondered if his luck would hold out. His CO assigned him to be one of six guards taking some of the German prisoners back to the rear. Included in this detail were others from the 100th/442nd--eleven medics, six wounded litter cases, and four walking wounded. That morning when their sergeant and his English-speaking German prisoner reached the top of a knoll, they discovered that a short distance beyond them were about 150 Jerries, relaxing. Reacting quickly to this perplexing situation, the sergeant instructed the English-speaking German prisoner to ask the Jerries if they wanted to give up and go to America. To some of the Jerries who were tired of the fighting, it seemed like a good exchange, but their officer in charge resisted and ordered them to surround the Americans, instead. In the ensuing confusion, three of the American soldiers were able to escape. However, Akita, who was giving water to wounded officer Lt. "Chicken" Miyashiro, observed too late that the Germans were disarming the Americans and surrounding them at gunpoint. They were now captives of the Germans. Totally demoralized, Akita thought it was the end. Unpredictably, October 23, 1944, was the beginning of an arduous and unforgettable journey for the young soldier.

In the book *Japanese Eyes, American Heart*, Akita gives a fascinating account of his experiences as a prisoner of war. Despite the hardship, deprivation, and abject conditions they encountered Akita could also recount some of his experiences with a sharp sense of humor. Perhaps some of this humor, observed in the irony, absurdity and paradox of their experiences, helped him and others endure the hardship of their imprisonment.

Akita was a prisoner northeast of Munich in Stalag VIIA, with 499 other *haole* (Caucasian) POWs. He was among 20,000 Allied soldiers housed in flea and bedbug infested barnlike buildings where they slept on straw spread over the ground for their beds. For almost six months, from October 1944 to the latter part of April 1945, he spent the days clearing rubble and debris from Munich's railroad station and town. Everyday the POWs walked about two miles to reach the railroad station. As for work assignments, these details offered them opportunities to exchange cigarettes for edible civilian bread from some eager German ladies--a luxury they yearned for to replace the "sawdust" loaves that were their usual mealtime fare. They smuggled the loaves in the pocket linings of their overcoats. Since random searches by their guards took place when they returned to their prison camp, they had to be careful not to be detected. Once when Stanley's group was picked for the "shakedown," he hurriedly dumped his loaves. When the German guard saw Stanley, all he said was, "Look at that small soldier," and without the usual frisking he simply tapped Stanley's head and passed him on. Stanley related he could have kicked himself because he lost the chance to smuggle in his four loaves that day.

The prisoners could only take baths on Sundays. Their "bath" was a small stream running along side the barn. A road also ran parallel to the stream. What a hilarious sight it must have been to see 499 *haole* and one short AJA, all naked in the stream, bathing while automobiles merrily passed by. Another rather unsightly but funny "accommodation" was their "toilet," which was made from a log about six inches in diameter and 15 feet long that rested on an X frame. The men had to just hang their *okole* over the log and do their business. Akita, being so short, had to make sure to find a spot right next to the X frame so he could hang on to the support and not fall backward - a rather unpleasant experience, to say the least.

One night about 10 p.m., Stanley heard machine gun fire from the nearby woods. It sounded distinctly like American weaponry rather than German machine guns. It seems he was the only one who heard it. However, the next evening, a battle royal erupted which everyone heard. Knowing the Americans were near aroused the excitement of the POWs. A little after dawn, American tanks rolled into the village, and all the Germans had white flags hanging from their homes, indicating surrender. The POWs were once again the conquerors. When a tankman gave Akita a loaf of American bread, it looked like a lovely cake compared to the 23% wood-pulp German GI bread.

With the American tanks entering the village, Akita knew for sure he would be going home once again to see his parents, siblings, relatives and friends. With this assurance, he knew the war was finally over for him.

Akita learned that even in war, the enemy can have a humane and compassionate side. Prior to their capture, Akita said German prisoners often helped to carry the litters of the wounded 100th soldiers. And when the 100th soldiers became prisoners, the Germans offered to carry the litters whenever our medics appeared tired. Also, the Germans did not take anything other than rifles and weapons from their prisoners. Akita appreciated the mutual respect that was extended despite the brutality of war.

Even today, there is an Ex-POW Chapter in Hawaii. Stan and a group of about eight 100th/442 members (ex-POWs) get together every other week to "shoot the bull," or discuss POW matters. This shared experience reinforces a strong bond among them.

This year, when Stanley celebrated his 80th birthday, his daughter April paid tribute to her father. Besides giving us a bit of his history, she enlightened us about her father's many other activities and interests. In her tribute she expressed how blessed her father was to be 80 years old and still have so many relatives and friends to help him celebrate that auspicious occasion. Each one played an important role in his life - "like facets in a diamond, each importantly and collectively, made his life a beautiful and brilliant one."

The following is based on or excerpted from April's account of her father.

Eighty years ago, in the country town of Honomu on the Big Island, her grandmother, Yoshie Akita, woke up at 4:00 in the morning, started the fire on which she cooked the rice and breakfast for her husband and his brothers, then did her usual chores such as scrubbing a heavy load of laundry on a washboard. A short time later, Stanley Akita was born! Can you imagine that today?

Stanley grew up in a great, rambling house with his parents and his younger siblings - three sisters and two brothers. Unlike most people his age, Stanley was not a nisei but rather, a sansei - a third generation Japanese. He had the good fortune of having his life enriched with numerous aunts, uncles and cousins on both sides of his family.

The Akita house was actually known as the Akita Store, located on the main road running through the town. The store also included a gas station out front, a billiard parlor, and an ice cream parlor. It was a busy home with friends, relatives, and customers, coming and going, and visiting throughout the day.

While growing up, Stan enjoyed the freedom to run WILD, as his mom was busy running the Akita Store and his dad was busy teaching and being involved with many community organizations. Adventurous Stan played on the train tracks, and when the train passed by, he and his friends would simply press their backs against the side of the hill as the train passed inches from their noses.

In explaining to his grandson that bamboo is very supple and strong, Stan exclaimed he knew by experience because he used to dangle over cliffs while hanging onto the branches of a bamboo tree.

Life wasn't all fun and frolic - he had chores, too. One of his chores was to take the tobacco box upstairs to his matriarch grandmother whenever she called for it. He would dutifully carry the box upstairs, pull out the Bull Durham tobacco bag, and roll her a cigarette. Then he would proceed to roll one for himself. He and his grandmother would while away the time smoking together. This he "enjoyed" at the tender age of 13.

Another chore Stanley had was to feed the chickens. He and his friends would grab their buckets and walk to a certain wooden pier. However, there wasn't any WATER under THIS pier. People would roll their wagons to the end, then drop their load of horse manure over the edge. The boys would then run and jump from the pier into this pile. He said it felt so soft and so warm. There, they would romp and play for a long time. Before leaving, they would be sure to fill their buckets with maggots found deep within the pile to feed the chickens. When Stan's children asked, "Wasn't it smelly? And how the heck did you clean yourself after all that?" He said, "SIMPLE - like this (dusting off his hands)."

Akita's first REAL job was being a grounds keeper at the park in Hilo Bay. After the war, he moved to Maui and then to Honolulu where he worked as a civil engineer for the Department of Transportation.

In following the motto "For Continuing Service," Akita has been an active leader in many organizations. He served on the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Government Employees Association, Hawaii State Federal Credit Union, Tropicana Village Association and his favorite organization, the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans association.

To daughter April's admiration, Stanley has always had a great "sense of wonderment," and "he pursued each area of interest with a passion." Whether it was taking up photography, becoming a wine connoisseur, making fishing lures and tackles, creating craft jewelry, cooking gourmet food or becoming a gemologist, Stan studied each subject thoroughly then went on to excel in that area. He has won awards in photography, sold his jewelry at craft fairs, won fishing tournaments, created fine jewelry, and cooked dinners to rival Julia Childs or Martha Stewart.

April also mentioned how her father was super neat, orderly and very organized. She declared he was a handy person to have around because he could fix anything. Stanley's motto is, "No need brains if you have common sense."

Another talent we have observed is that Stanley can whip out his ukulele in a flash to strum and sing dozens and dozens of songs to everyone's enjoyment.

April recalled one of her fondest childhood memories when she was helping her Dad polish his shoes while they listened to some popular Italian songs. He would sing along as he got out his brush, polish, cloth and tin of water. April would put her foot in his big shoe to anchor it down so that he could easily brush and buff the different parts of the shoe. A strange memory? She thought so too, until she realized that "the strong feeling of security that was elicited by doing this mundane, routine activity with Dad" was so meaningful to her. She knew then that he would always be there for her and her sister in the days and years to come, giving them a sense of comfort, stability and peace. To his daughters, April and Cynthia, and to his wife, Yukie, these have been his greatest gifts to them, making their lives beautiful and brilliant.

Stan may be "small" in stature, but he is mighty in talent and leadership. Now that is a "tall" order!

With his myriad talents and interests, it is the right time for him to retire from his role as president of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans and to begin relaxing and enjoying his many hobbies.

Our best wishes and warm aloha for leading the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans over the past three years with devotion, commitment and dedication. We salute you for a job well done.



**MEMORIES: From Camp Shelby, Miss., to Louisiana Maneuvers and to Combat in Italy
By Saburo Nishime, Co. D**

The 100th Inf. Bn. members found Camp Shelby, Miss. quite different from Camp McCoy, Wisc.; so were Hattiesburg, Miss., and the South in general. Camp Shelby was just loaded with troops in training. Going into Hattiesburg, the 100th Bn. troopers saw something that they had never experienced before in Hawaii. It was the "Black" and "White" signs posted all over the place – in eating establishments, on buses, trains, etc. The members of the 100th were informed beforehand of the segregation that existed in the South and that the 100th Bn. was not going to change the South. The Buddaheads were warned not to patronize the black area and stay strictly in the white section. Today, this segregation does not exist; but once it really existed and the members of the 100th actually witnessed this condition, known as Jim Crow's Law. I don't think anyone in the 100th Bn. made any friends in Hattiesburg.

Capt. Jack Mizuha was the proud first commander of F Company and would have liked to have gone into combat with F Co. The 100th Bn. Commander, LTC Turner, transferred him to Dog Company. Capt. Mizuha let it be known to Dog Co. members that he was not pleased with LTC Turner's decision. There was one point Capt. Mizuha constantly emphasized and that was, as Nisei soldiers, we have to go into combat and make the necessary sacrifices; that only then, we will be able to hold up our heads as Americans.

When the 100th Bn. first moved into Camp Shelby, the camp still had "outhouses". For most of us from Hawaii who once lived in the country, "outhouses" were a part of living. While the battalion was still at Camp Shelby, the installation of water toilets was completed.

At Camp Shelby, the 100th Bn. trained in areas heavily wooded with pine trees. They had Negro and white families living in the area where military training was being conducted. The farmers' pigs roamed freely throughout these unfenced areas. We asked a farmer, "How do you know your pigs from the others?" and he replied, "My pigs will respond to my call."

The 100th Bn. could be out in the training area for days, even for a week or more. During these periods, the men would go without a bath and not get a haircut or shave. Most of the guys still could hardly raise a beard but due to my Okinawan ancestry, I could grow a thick black beard. I then weighed around 170 lbs. compared with the 135 lbs. when I was inducted. When Motoyoshi Tanaka saw me with my beard, he said, "You know, you look like that movie character actor named Akim Tamiroff. The name "Akim" caught on and my Army buddies and friends have since called me "Akim". Hardly anyone knows me by my first given name.

During the early days at Camp Shelby, when we camped out in the training area, it used to get pretty cold at nights, and there were occasions when the water in the top of our canteens would freeze over. There were also break periods when the battalion would go into a "non-tactical situation." On these occasions, we could build a small fire to keep warm. The green pine branches burned easily, and because the fire gave out plenty of black smoke, some Buddaheads looked like the blacks.

Living a greater part of the time out in the field when the weather was warm, all of us were bothered by chiggers. These were hardly visible bugs whose bites made our skin itch. The scars left from scratching the itch took weeks to disappear. The 100th Bn. Chaplain told us to apply sulfur powder on the skin to keep the chiggers away; but the battalion moved out of Miss. before any of us had a chance to try the sulfur powder.

When the 100th Bn. had a break at Camp Shelby, the men would enjoy visiting, drinking, going to the movies and USO shows and even having late night snacks. One evening, having a late night snack were Yoshio Kobayashi, George Ishii, Watanabe, and maybe a few others. They had a good size ham and were chomping away on it. George cut off a generous slice which he said he was taking to Harry Miyamoto, our platoon NCO, who had a separate room. Early the following morning, Edward Nishihara, the mess NCO, came rushing through the barracks looking for the ham which was missing from his kitchen. Only then did Harry realize where the ham that he partook the night before had come from. Harry condemned George as "That damn * * * bitch." Nishihara never did find the missing ham. The "kolohes" from the 2nd platoon got away with that one.

When the 100th first arrived at Camp Shelby, it was attached to the 85th Div. LTC Turner first went to see the commander of the 85th, who welcomed the 100th Bn.; and a mutual understanding was firmly established. It was close to summer when the 100th accompanied the 85th to the Louisiana Maneuver Grounds. Besides assuming certain tactical situations during this whole maneuvering period, the 100th did plenty of walking, and more walking, and some of them would be more than 20 miles a day, with full field pack. During the break periods, some of the men made crude fishing poles and went down to the shallow streams in the maneuver area and managed to catch some small fish. They cooked and ate the fish right on the side of the streams. Otherwise, this period during the Louisiana Maneuvers was all spent in the area.

When the 100th returned to Camp Shelby, the 442nd Regt. had arrived and was going through its initial training. The 100th Bn. participated in a parade with full personal combat gear. There was a group of reporters who witnessed the parade and who were quite impressed with the "crack" appearance of the troops. And, that would say, the 100th Bn. was fully qualified for combat.

We still had a few days so five men from Dog Company took a trip to New York. The five were myself, Mitsuo Oura, Rokuro Yamase, Yoshiyuki Ogata and Kazuo Nishihara. We took in all the sights and places of interest in New York, staying at the YMCA. On the way back we stopped in Washington, D.C., to take in a few places of interest; then without staying overnight, we boarded the slow train to Hattiesburg and on to Camp Shelby. Of this group of 5 men, Kazuo Nishihara was KIA in Italy.

When we returned to Camp Shelby, the 100th Bn. was ready to go overseas. The 100th left Shelby in August of 1943 for Camp Kilmer in New Jersey. At New York, the 100th Bn. boarded the troop ship JAMES PARKER. The lousy crowded condition in the hold was similar to the condition we had encountered when we sailed from Hawaii, so I spent all my time on the open deck. This uneventful trip took about 13 days. I don't recall the day-to-day happenings on this trip, except for one. Lt.

Tsubota was our 2nd Platoon Officer. I don't quite remember when Lt. Tsubota was assigned to Dog Company. To be prepared in any case when the ship might be torpedoed or start sinking we had to practice an evacuation dry run. On this one occasion, the alarm sounded and there was a mad scramble to follow the instructions as previously directed. I happened to be in the shower at that particular moment and I decided, hell, I wasn't going to bother to get into my uniform and try to make it to that training exercise. Lt. Tsubota confronted me later and asked, "Didn't you hear the alarm go off for the evacuation training?" I lied and replied, "No." He looked at me, shook his head, and knew damn well I was lying.

The JAMES PARKER sailed past the Rock of Gibraltar and entered the Mediterranean Sea and docked at Oran in North Africa. At Oran, the 100th Bn. was attached to the 34th Div. replacing a battalion in the 133rd Regt. of the 34th. The 100th still retained its identity. While still in Oran, Lt. James K. Hopkins joined the 100th Bn. He was a combat veteran who had participated with the 1st Div. in the attack on Hill 609 in Tunisia. LTC Turner assigned Lt. Hopkins to Dog Company.

While the 100th Bn. was still in Oran, a few of us were detailed to go with the drivers to prepare the vehicles for invasion over water. Thick waterproof grease was applied on the vehicles where water might affect their operation. I remember the exhaust tail pipes were extended straight up 6 ft. or more with flexible metal tubing. The tire pressure was reduced to half its normal capacity. With all the waterproof precaution that was taken, all the drivers shouldn't have had any problems when the 100th Bn. landed on the Salerno beachhead. From landing crafts the 100th Bn. hit the beach at Salerno. The Allied Forces were in contact with the Germans somewhere inland. Since the 100th had two companies over normal battalion strength, Companies E and F were held in reserve as the 100th moved inland to contact the enemy.

The night before the morning the 100th Bn. was to first meet up with the enemy, the battalion experienced a heavy rainstorm. In the early morning hours, Lt. Tsubota was all wet and shaking like a leaf as he delivered the morning message.

That morning, we came across a gun with the bayonet driven into the ground and with a helmet draped over the gun, showing a neat hole through the helmet. This was Joe Takata's gun and helmet. He was the first 100th Bn. soldier to be KIA. Later in the day, two Artillery Controllers, who were accompanying the 100th, were KIA by a tree burst from an artillery shell. One of our officers remarked that it was unusual to be wounded or killed by a tree burst; but members of the 100th soon found out that a tree burst from an artillery shell is the most deadly.

The following day, Lt. Tsubota was leading one machine gun section of the 2nd Platoon when his group came under the shelling of a battery of German 88s. He was badly wounded by the shelling and had to be evacuated. He never again returned to Dog Co. It would be more than 40 years before I was to see him again. At this same shelling, George Ishii was KIA. He was the first in Dog Co. to be KIA.

Benevento: As I remember it, the 100th Bn. entered and passed through the town of Benevento in the night. It was very quiet and it seemed deserted. The only opposition seemed to be coming from an occasional single shelling. A little concentrated shelling was received as the 100th crossed a shallow creek to occupy a small hill past the town. The first real battle test for the 100th Bn. would come later at San Angelo d'Alife.

In Italy, after the first crossing of the Volturno River, we stopped to bivouac for the night. The location chosen for Dog Co. to bivouac was on a crossroad. The area around the crossroad was full of fairly new shell holes made by artillery shelling. Sure enough, the shelling started in the still dark early morning hours. The German gunners were zeroed in on this crossroad and the artillery shells were coming in at a pretty good rate. As soon as Capt. Mizuha gave the orders to evacuate, we started moving out rapidly. One of the shells landed in the rear of me and in front of Popeye Fujimoto. He took the full brunt of the exploding shell and was instantly killed. I was hit in the back of my right leg by shrapnel from the exploding shell. It felt like being hit by a sledge hammer. I could still keep going, so I got out of the shelling area. When daylight came, the German shelling stopped. By then, my left leg had gotten stiff and the ambulance crew had to pick me up and carry me to the ambulance. There was another wounded man in the ambulance by the name of Nakasone. He was wounded in the stomach area and was suffering in pain. I met him later in the hospital. They had operated on him and he seemed okay.

Meanwhile, Iwao Fujimori notified my 2nd Platoon members that he didn't think I would be coming back because I seemed to have been badly wounded. At the first aid station we came to, the medical sergeant gave me a Purple Heart medal. I carried the medal with me to a general hospital near the town of Casserta, Italy. I remember seeing Major Lovell recuperating at the hospital. My wounds weren't as serious as I first thought and, within a week, I was ready to be discharged. I was sitting on my bed

and had changed into the combat uniform I came to the hospital in, when Gen. Mark Clark came through, talking to and consoling the wounded. The General walked past my bed, looked at me and asked "100th Battalion?" I replied "Yes, sir." That was the only time I ever spoke with Gen. Mark Clark. When I was ready to leave the hospital, I came across Takashi Suzuki, who was in the hospital for a slight wound to his hand. I had known Suzuki from high school days on Kauai. Suzuki returned to his unit and was later KIA.

I returned to Dog Company, 2nd Platoon, and everyone was surprised I had recuperated so fast. The initial report was that I was finished. I showed the Purple Heart medal which I was carrying and everyone thought it was a beautiful medal.

I previously mentioned that Lt. James Hopkins joined us in Oran and was assigned to Dog Co. He was not a Nisei but was from Hawaii. Before anyone got to know him well, he was wounded in combat. He returned once to Dog Co. but immediately had a fall and badly injured his back. He never again returned to Dog Co. In 1945, while I was a DAFC worker in the Air Force in Japan, a friend and I went for a visit to Beppu; and while returning from Beppu on the Allied Train, James Hopkins, who now was a NCO, happened to be sitting across from my seat. He offered me a pork chop sandwich, which I accepted; but I never revealed to him who I was.



CHAPTER REPORTS ARE NOT ARRANGED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

ABLE CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nishioka

LAST ROLL CALL for A COMPANY CHRISTMAS PARTY on December 13 at 5:00 p.m. at 100th Clubhouse.

Our wonderful surprise for the night is KUNIO FUJIMOTO PRODUCTIONS showing of the 1986-1987 Christmas party on video. We will have magical moments re-living over 15 years ago. Imagine how young and spry you used to be! If you haven't signed up yet please sign up ASAP as the committee has been working hard to put together a Christmas party not to forget. Donation of prizes, beer, soda, desserts, appetizers, etc are welcomed.

This may come as a surprise to many of you as we mourn the passing in October of MRS GLADYS SUMIDA, wife of LEIGHTON GORO SUMIDA, A Company's President. By the time the Puka Puka has gone to press, the services will have been completed at the Mililani Mauka Mortuary on November 22. The Able Company members wish to convey deepest sympathy and condolences to the Sumida family for its tremendous loss. All of us of A Company will sorely miss GLADYS and her gracious generosity.

HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS

By Ed Ikuma and Jan Sakoda

Our annual HQ/Medic party is just around the corner and Jan Sakoda's committee is working overtime lately to assure this project is just as eventful as last year's.

Remember that the call-in date is by December 6 so grab your phone and call Dot Tamashiro at 734-5122; Jan Sakoda at 737-7778 or Ed Ikuma at 732-6884.

Due to the cancellation of the Board of Directors monthly meeting for November, there is not much news of board activities to relate.

Thank you to Ed Ikuma and Dot Tamashiro who have faithfully volunteered putting flowers on members' graves on 100th's memorial day weekend for many, many years. This year, Doris Aimoto, her son-in-law John Nakagawa, Glen Tamashiro (son of Dot) also helped put flowers on the graves at Punchbowl and Diamond Head. As our feet and eyes grow weaker, we need more and more help so consider volunteering putting flowers on our fallen comrades' graves next year. Many hands make light work!

Chaired by Elsie Oshita, Pagoda Hotel Restaurant was the scene on October 15th of a luncheon get-together for about a dozen "expatriates" from the now disbanded Club 100 Karaoke-kai. Headquarter Chapter attendees were Arthur and Frances Komiyama, Bea Shimoda, Elsie Oshita, Nancy Nakamura, and Ed Ikuma. We didn't see Nancy for awhile since her brother, Chester Hada, passed away but she

looked great at this gathering. Our belated condolences to Nancy and family on the passing of Chester.

Our condolences also to the family of Al Sakoda, who recently passed away. Al and Vicki Sakoda (daughter of Gary Uchida) were very active in our past Christmas parties.

There will be no Headquarters Chapter meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, January 10, 2004 starting at 10:00 a.m.

Have a safe and healthy Holiday Season. Hope to see you at our Christmas party!!!

HEADQUARTER & MEDIC 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 keikis, as well as 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 it at 4:00 p.m. Much of the 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 keikis 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.

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

by Warren Iwai

Meeting: Eleven members were present at our November 17 meeting. The main item on the agenda was the election of officers for calendar year 2004. The outcome was as follows: President -- Kazuto Shimizu; Vice-president -- Warren Iwai; Secretary -- Hiromi Suehiro; and Treasurer -- Carolyn "Skip" Tomiyama.

Charlie Chapter Christmas Party



Date: December 20, 2003 Saturday, 5:30 -- 8:30PM

Place: Club 100 Clubhouse

Parking: Ala Wai School

Cost: Members, wives, widows and children under 12 years -- FREE

All others --\$5.00

Party notice has been sent to members and your response is requested by December 10th.

Seigi Adaniya passed away on October 26, 2003. Our sincere sympathy to Renee and family. Memorial service was held on November 8, 2003. Seigi was a sergeant with our first platoon. We have lost a dear comrade and friend -- we will miss him.

Kanemi Kanazawa passed away on November 7, 2003. Our sincere condolences to the family. A memorial service was held on November 8, 2003. Lt. Kanemi Kanazawa was a platoon leader in Italy and executive officer and company commander in France with Company "C". He was also the family

dentist for many of us. We will miss him - his smiling face and encouraging words.

The following is the Las Vegas Mini-reunion report from our special correspondent, Hiromi Suehiro.

Las Vegas never changes. No matter how often you go there it is the same. The California Hotel is located at the same site where the hotel was erected a zillion years ago. The slot machines Goro Sumida plays are situated at the same place the machines were placed since the hotel opened for business. Ninety percent of the people keep losing. So why do they keep going back? It only fortifies what I said a few years back that people gamble for the thrill of losing.

One thing changed at our mini-reunion. The ladies from Hawaii gave the ladies from the mainland a day off from hosting the hospitality room. The ladies from Hawaii enjoyed playing host and the ladies from the mainland appreciated the day off. This novel idea was long overdue and the protagonist was none other than Aki Nosaka. She is one of a kind.

Hershey Miyamura and his wife, Terry, again treated us to Mexican chili and tortillas. Norman Oda and I had two servings. I am a Tabasco man so I love hot stuff.

Charlies who made the trip were: Yoroku and Edith Ito, Stan and Yuki Akita, Stanley and Doris Kimura, Rusty and Alice Nakagawa, Oscar, Hisako and Earl Miyashiro, Norman Oda, Seichi Hoashi from Kauai, and yours truly. Sam and Teri Fujikawa, Mas and Elma Takahashi, William and Margaret Omoto from California and Warren Tamura from Idaho made up the mainland Charlies.

Yoshio Anzai gave us a scare when he was confined to the hospital on the second day. His son Bert came to tell me that his dad was alright but would remain in the hospital for a few days. I called the hospital after I returned home and Bert told me that Yoshio just finished a sushi plate and miso soup so he must be A-OK. Yoshio called me after he came back to tell me that he has completely regained his health. Bert and Diane will be coming to our Christmas party.

There were no big winners among the Charlies what with Yoshio in the hospital and Takeichi and Dorothy Onishi who were no shows due to health reasons. Rusty Nakagawa saved the day for Charlie by hitting the jackpot.

How often have we uttered, "It is a small world," whenever we run into a stranger who happened to know someone we know. It happened to me in the elevator I caught to take me to the hospitality room. There was a couple in the elevator and the man asked if I was from Maui. When I replied I was from Honolulu the man who called himself Akira Miyamoto said he was from Walnut Creek, California. I told Akira that a couple I know recently purchased a unit in the Senior Citizens Retirement Complex in Walnut Creek. You guessed it. Akira and his wife, Jina reside there. I asked Akira to look up Toshimi and Lillian Sodegami as they could use a friend.

I didn't say it!

BEING A HUSBAND IS A LOT LIKE ANY OTHER JOB - IT HELPS IF YOU LIKE THE BOSS.

Thank you, Hiromi. You are a wonderful reporter.

NEXT MEETING -- DECEMBER 15 -- See you there.

KAUAI CHAPTER NEWS

by Ann Yotsuda

Kauai Chapter's new officers for the coming year are: President, Tommy Arakaki; Vice President, Bunkichi Matsuyoshi; Secretary, Norma Senda; Treasurer, Shimoe Mukai.

President Tommy Arakaki was hospitalized at Tripler Army Hospital on Oahu in October.

The annual memorial service was held at the Veteran's Cemetery in September.

Our annual Christmas party will be held on December 7, at the Kauai Lagoon (Marriott Hotel).

MAUI CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nagata

Maui County observed Veterans' Day with a luau at Kihei, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a program sponsored by the Maui Sons & Daughters of the Nisei Veterans Club. State Office of Veterans Affairs Administrator Bill Staton was the MC for the program and the Maui VFW Chapter members provided the standard and color guards for the opening ceremony. Members of the 442nd Veterans Club of Maui had on display their WWII decorations and war souvenirs at the Kaahumanu

Shopping Center in Kahului where the program was held. Maui Chapter members Stanley Izumigawa, Tom Yamada and Masao Sato were on hand for the program.

Christmas party chairman Satoji Arisumi has set **December 16, Tuesday, for the 11 a.m. luncheon** at the Waikapu Maui Tropical Plantation. Group leaders will call you to have a head count prior to the event. Incoming officers will be installed at that time. There will be a \$5.00 charge for each diner and lunch will be served - not like last year's Christmas lunch where you helped yourself at the buffet table.

F COMPANY NEWS

by **Kenneth M. Higa**

Our annual reunion luncheon held on September 21 at the Wisteria Restaurant was enjoyed by all. The greetings to each other were happy moments, the food was plentiful and delicious, and the chitchatting went on and on . . . Charles Nishimura, the emcee, did a good job cracking jokes, making announcements and introductions, but he didn't get the chance to say his "last words." Thinking the program was over, the members started packing the leftover food before it was time to say, "*Sayonara*, see you next year." For the entertainment program, we can always count on Ted and Kitty Hamasu. Ted, "the voice," can really belt out songs and Kitty, an accomplished Japanese classical dancer, can perform like a pro.

One of the reasons we continue to hold our annual luncheon is that it smokes out "da-kine, long-time-no-see fox." We were certainly happy that Saburo Inamasu, Toshiaki Ito, Amos Nakamura and his wife, Hatsumi joined us in celebrating another chapter in the annals of F Company.

We thank the following for their very generous monetary donations: Seitoku and Shizuko Akamine, Shimoto Enga, Humi Iha, Toshiaki Ito, and Sally Taoka. We also thank the following for the goodies: Mary Jinnohara - sekihan and tsukemono; Choichi and Doris Shimabukuro - manju; and Sally Taoka - mochi.

Oswald Kawahara of Florida passed away early Thursday morning, October 30. He was the youngest member of F Company. Oswald joined the 100th at Camp Kilmer just before we shipped out to North Africa. He was a "gung ho" F trooper. Living miles away from Hawaii didn't stop him and his wife Sylvia from attending our reunions. They came every year. We will miss him very much. Inurnment will be held at the National Cemetery at Punchbowl at a later date. We extend our deepest sympathy to Sylvia and family. May he rest in peace.

DOG CHAPTER NEWS

By **Helen Nikaido**

REMINDER:

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Dec. 21, Sunday - 1:00 TO 4:00 pm - At the Clubhouse

Cost: Adults - \$10.00

Children 12 -18: \$5.00

Children under 12: Free

Please bring a gift for each child not to exceed \$10.00.

Parking at the Ala Wai School

Any donations of desserts, door prizes, etc. will be greatly appreciated.

Sandy and Friends have again consented to entertain at our party. How lucky we are!

Hooray! The following members showed up for the Nov. 15 meeting: Saburo Nishime, "Jits" Yoshida, Martin Tohara, "Doc" Hosaka, Ken Mitsunaga, Denis Teraoka and Shigeru Tsubota.

The One Puka Puka Japan Autumn tour, escorted by Kazuo "Opu" Hiranaka, left Honolulu on Oct. 26 bound for Japan. We sat in the first-class section so the 8-hour flight wasn't too bad. After entry procedures, we proceeded to Shiba Park Hotel where Mr. Sugiyama, the manager, was waiting for us.

Next day we took a train from Hamamatsu Station to Kannai Station in Yokohama, from where we continued by taxi to the Kanagawa-ken Shiminkan to see the Sakamoto Fuyumi Enka show. It was raining "cats and dogs" but the show was so entertaining and enjoyable, it was worth it. Her singing was superb and the taiko performer was terrific.



Next day was free for shopping, etc., so some went on a boat ride on the Sumida-gawa and to Asakusa. On Oct. 30, we went by bus to the 5th Station of Mt. Fuji. It was a clear day with no clouds in sight. Mt. Fuji, with snow-capped top, was magnificent, awesome, beautiful – it was a sight to behold. Several years ago when we went to the 5th Station, it was cloudy, cold and rainy, the scenery was entirely different.

In Shimizu, we visited the Baienji Temple, the resting place of Shimizu-no-Jirocho, a notorious “oyabun” who later changed his ways and helped to develop the Shimizu area agriculturally. We visited a sushi museum – so many varieties, a haven for sushi lovers. We enjoyed sushi at one of the restaurants. At Makinohara Tea Farm, we learned how the Japanese tea is processed and tasted a variety of teas. We then bussed to Senzu, where we boarded a local train to Ikawa. We enjoyed the sights and autumn colors along the 18-mile route.

In Atami, we visited the Museum of Arts, where there was an escalator so long that there was a break in between. It went up and up until we reached the golden tearoom decorated with gold. I thought I was going to heaven.

At the Yokohama Hakkeijima Sea Park, we enjoyed the hi-tech Aqua Museum which is populated with thousands of sealife of many species. We saw seals, penguins and porpoises perform – they were cute and smart. We continued to “Umi Hotaru”, a man-made structure which is part of the highway across Tokyo Bay from Kawasaki City in Kanagawa-ken to Kisarazu City in Chiba-ken. The name came about because the lights of the structure at night look like fireflies flying around.

We stayed at first-class hotels and they served us “ono” French cuisine and Japanese foods (too many courses). At Omaezaki Onsen, Rhoda, Betty, Stella and I were treated to shaved ice after our bath. What a surprise that was. At that onsen, Stella and I had the whole place to ourselves when in came Rhoda, who told us that it was co-ed; that at certain times, it was for women; and at other times, it was for men. Thank goodness, no man came in while we were there.

In Tokyo, “Opu” took all of us to eat “kuro buta” (black pig) in Roppongi. The chef prepares the food in front of you as you eat. I couldn’t eat the tongue. In Okinawa, I tried the pig’s ear which was crunchy and delicious. In Roppongi, we ate tempura where the chef cooks it and serves it hot. Yummy! We went to Sakai’s for yakitori. We sat at the counter where the chef prepared the food and served it as soon as it was ready.

One day, Rhoda went out with her relative and she saw a dead body floating fully clothed in Tokyo Bay. How gruesome!

On this trip, nobody wanted to sit in the first seat (bald head row); they wanted to sit in the back. I usually sit in the back because I fall asleep but this time, I had no choice but to sit up front – had a bird’s eye view of everything. This trip was a short one but fun and enjoyable. The group consisted of Kazuo “Opu” and Mildred Hiranaka, Alex & Taeko Fujise, “China” Yamashina, “Pro” Tanaka, Mrs. Tamura, son Kenneth and grandson Daniel, Rhoda Kawamata, Betty Sonoda, Stella Nakayama, and Helen Nikaido. Our thanks and appreciation to “Opu” for taking care of us and going out of his way to do things for us.

There will be no Dog Chapter meeting in December. The next meeting will be on January 17, 2004, at 9:00 a.m. The present officers will serve again in 2004. **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

by Ted Hamasu

The scene was the Tree Tops Restaurant way up in lush green Manoa Valley. The day was 2 Nov. 03. The occasion was the gathering of the Memorial Committee and assistants who helped in decorating the graves of our comrades who are buried in the various cemeteries. There were about 40 of us led by chairman Stu Tsubota, gathered at the restaurant to rehash our 58th Memorial Service enjoying the ono food and thank all for their kokua. Missing from the Rural Chapter were Susumu Ota and Masaharu Saito who placed flowers at the Mililani Cemetery.

After returning from the luncheon I called Susumu Ota and found out the reason he was not at the restaurant was his car broke down, and Masaharu Saito had another engagement, so he couldn’t be there. I thanked him for their assistance and told him that he missed a good luncheon.

This PPP will be the last for the year 2003, so this scribe will take this opportunity to wish all of the Rural Chapter and 100th OHANA a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year and pray that all will be for the better next year. **MELE KALIKIMAKA , HAUOLI MAKAHIKI HOU**

from the Rural Chapter.

Our next gathering will be the New Year's and Installation Party at Dot's in Wahiawa on 18 Jan. 04, Sunday, at 10:00 a.m.. See you all there.



CLUB 100 GOLF CLUB NEWS

by Warren Iwai

The Club 100 Golf Club and Century Golf Club members decided to wrap up its golf history on December 31, 2004. The Club 100 Golf Club was started in January 1948 with charter members such as our "Old Man" Farrant Turner, "Doc" Katsumi Kometani, James Lovell, Dr. Richard Kainuma, Taro Suzuki, Eugene Kawakami, Larry Amazaki, Itsuki "Tony" Oshita and a host of old-time golfers.

Any golfer still able to swing his "old driver" is welcome to join up for the last time. The first tournament for 2004 begins at Olomana Golf Links on January 7 at 9:30 AM. Call the tournament chairman, Sonsei Nakamura. Okay golfers, give Sonsei a ring.



Mele Kalikimaka

"Mele Kalikimaka" is the thing to say
On a bright Hawaiian Christmas day;
That's the island greeting that we send to you
From the land where palm trees sway,
Here we know that Christmas will be green and bright,
The sun to shine by day and all the stars at night.
"Mele Kalikimaka" is Hawaii's way
To say a "Merry Christmas,"
A "Merry, Merry Christmas,"
A "Merry, Merry Christmas to you."



STANLEY'S CORNER

by Stan Akita

A man who smelled like a distillery flopped on a subway seat next to a priest. The man's tie was stained, his face was plastered with red lipstick, and a half bottle of gin was sticking out of his torn coat pocket.

He opened his newspaper and began reading. After a few minutes the disheveled guy turned to the priest and asked, "Say, Father, what causes arthritis?"

"It's caused by loose living, being with cheap, wicked women, too much alcohol and a contempt for your fellow man!"

"Well, I'll be damned," the drunk muttered, returning to his paper.

The priest, thinking about what he had said, nudged the man and apologized.

"I'm very sorry, I didn't mean to come on so strong. How long have you had arthritis?"

"I don't have it, Father, I was just reading here that the Pope does."



SECRETARY'S MAHALO REPORT

by Amanda Stevens

The following donations are acknowledged with many thanks:

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans:

One Puka Puka 2003 Japan Autumn Tour	\$50
Koko Head Senior Citizens Club	20
Shigeru "Stu" and Mieko Tsubota	100 (For 58 th Annual Memorial Service)
Hifumi and Kinue Yamada	50

Puka Puka Parade:

Stanley & Doris Kimura	\$100 – In memory of Tadashi Umamoto
Cheryl K. Hoffman	25 – In memory of Tadashi Umamoto
Margaret S. Miyasaki	25
Fusako Murai	25

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Scholarship Fund:

\$100 to \$499:

Blight, Dr. Edward and Carolyn (NC)	
Izumikawa, Burt T. (CA)	In honor of Stanley Izumigawa
Nakahodo, Fumiko (Kaneohe)	
Tanaka, Motoyoshi & Shizue (Hilo)	
Tanaka, Wayne and Carol (Hilo)	

To \$99:

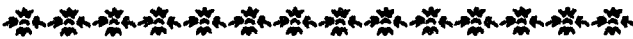
Bernard & Jeanette Akamine (Honolulu)

SPECIAL THANKS to Kunio Fujimoto for the 58th Annual Memorial Service footage. The video is available at the Clubhouse for your viewing.

Contributions to the Scholarship Fund in lieu of koden:

The 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans have donated \$40 to the 100th Inf. Bn. Scholarship Fund in memory of each of the following veterans who passed away between Sept. 22, 2002 and Sept. 22, 2003:

Wallace S. Chinen (D)	Roy K. Nakamura (C)
Richard Endo (D)	Thomas T. Nakamura (A)
Jack K. Gushiken (C)	Edward Masato Nakao (D)
Chester Hada (C)	James N. Noji (D)
George Hagiwara (C)	Kenichi Suehiro (HQ)
Susumu Hata (D)	William Takaezu (B)
Masaru Kadomoto (A)	Mikio Takahashi (HQ)
Edward Itsuo Kajiwara (HQ/Mainland)	Iwao Takamori (B/Maui)
James Kajiyama (HQ)	Wallace Takemoto (HQ)
Asao Kase (C)	Tetsuo Takeoka (B)
Harry Katahara (B)	Masasuke Toma (B)
Masao Koga (HQ)	Tadashi Umamoto (C)
Robert Matsumura (A/Rural)	Kiyoshi Uyeno (C)
Wataru Michioka (D/Maui)	Sakae Watanabe (D)
Robert Kaoru Miyamoto (D)	Ralph Hitoshi Yoshioka (B)
Isao Nadamoto (B)	Robert K. Yoshioka (D)
Seikichi Nagamine (Medics)	



We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
And a Happy New Year.

Good tidings to you wherever you are;
Good tidings for Christmas and a
Happy New Year!



FORT BENNING MONUMENT REUNION AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Jerry and Tippie Conner of Newnan, Georgia, are looking forward to their first visit to Hawaii and to visiting the clubhouse and meeting all of those who went on the 1999 trip to Fort Benning, Georgia. Please come to the Clubhouse on Saturday, January 31, 2004, around 11 a.m. for a pot-luck lunch reception for the Conner Family.

Jerry's first cousin was Lt. Cloudy Gray Conner, who was KIA, D Company. Prior to the trip to Georgia, Jerry contact the office to see if anyone remembered his cousin. Sakae Takahashi spoke with Jerry for about an hour by long-distance and then in Georgia, Young O. Kim shared his memories. After Col. Bill Pye's untimely passing, Jerry took the lead and made arrangements for our tour group throughout Georgia, scouting out affordable motels and arranging meals at restaurants that are usually closed. On our final night, his church invited us for a home-cooked meal, Georgia style, including musical entertainment.

Now, it's our turn to reciprocate and have them experience Hawaiian hospitality, 100th-style. This event is open to all who would like to share aloha with the Conner Family. If you would like to participate, please call either Drusilla Tanaka at 235-1343 or Kimi Matsuda at 988-6562. There will be no further notice, so mark your calendars--January 31, 2004, 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse. Bring a "local" dish to share. Bring your ukulele, harmonica or lovely hula hands.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2003

ABLE.*	.....Christmas Party, Saturday, December 13	.....100th Clubhouse.....	5:00 pm
BAKER.*	.....Christmas Party, Saturday, December 6	.....100th Clubhouse.....	4:30 pm
CHARLIE	.....Chapter meeting, Monday, December 15	.....	10:00 am
"	.....Christmas Party, Saturday, December 20	.....100th Clubhouse.....	5:30-8:30 pm
DOG*	.....Christmas Party, Sunday, December 21	.....100th Clubhouse.....	1:00-4:00 pm
HQ*	.....Christmas Party, Sunday, December 14	.....100th Clubhouse.....	4:00 pm
BOARD MEETING	.....Friday, December 12	.....	10:00 am
GREEN THUMBS	.....Monday, December 1	.....Lounge.....	10:00 am
KAUAI	.....Christmas Party, Sunday, December 7	.....Kauai Lagoon	.....11:00 am
MAUI	.....Christmas Party, Tuesday, December 16	.....Maui Tropical Plantation, Wai Kapu	.....11:00 am
LINE DANCING	.....Wednesday, December 3, 10, 17 only	.....	9:00 am

*** indicates no chapter meeting in December**

NO COLLATING IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2003

NOTE: SEE CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2004 ON LAST PAGE



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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2004

ABLE.....Saturday, January 248:00 am
BAKER.....Saturday, January 17.....1:00 pm
CHARLIE.....Monday, January 12.....10:00 am
DOG.....Saturday, January 17.....9:00 am
HQ.....Saturday, January 10.....10:00 am
RURAL.....New Year's & Install. Party...Sunday, January 18.....Dot's in Wahiawa.....10:00 am
BOARD MEETING.....Friday, January 9.....10:00 am
GREEN THUMBS.....Monday, January 5.....Lounge.....10:00 am
100TH GOLF CLUBWednesday, January 7.....Olomana Golf Links.....10 :00 am
LINE DANCING.....Wednesday, January 7, 14, 21, 28.....9:00 am
FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP.....Sunday, January 25.....Clubhouse.....11:00 am
FT.BENNING MONUMENT REUNION..Saturday, January 31....Clubhouse.....11:00 am

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. (Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.)

Collating will be on FRIDAY, January 30, 2004, 8:30 a.m. Rural and Baker Chapters are responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua.

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

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DECEMBER 2003/JANUARY 2004 ISSUE

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

