



PUKA-PUKA

MONTHLY NEWS

# PARADE

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 DECEMBER 1, 1991
 

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As my second year term as President comes to an end this month, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of the members for their support and friendship. I just ask that you will continue to give your support and cooperation to the newly elected president.

Hazel and I wish you all a very happy, healthy holiday season.

George Hagiwara

## FROM THE EDITORS PUKA;

Ray and Aki Nosaka

We too, would like to wish all of the members, spouses, sons and daughters a very joyful and happy holiday season starting with Thanksgiving Day. WE would especially like to express our heartfelt thanksgiving to the people who so faithfully come out every month to help with the Puka Puka Parade. It is because of you that we are able to print and mail the newsletter out month after month. Special thanks to Evelyn and Seie Oshiro for all your help and thanks to your loyal crew who show up every collating day. This has been a happy year for some, a sad one for others, but all in all, we should be thankful for what we have--our homes, families, our freedom to say and do as we choose. As we look forward to the 50th anniversary next year, let us be thankful that we are still "one" and that we still have our clubhouse which is a second home to many of the guys.

We are sorry to announce that Paul Nanamori has submitted his resignation as Executive Secretary. Until a replacement is found, we will continue our efforts to service the office.

On November 13th, eight enthusiastic men and one woman came from Southern California to officially "kick off" the Memorial Foundation Fund drive here in Hawaii. The 15 minute video presentation was inspiring and the "pep talks" by Young O. Kim, George Nishinaka, Ben Tagami, Don Seki, Henry Yoshitake, Harry Akune, Buddy Mamiya, and Jack Pollard were very informative.

All of these men and Mrs. Seki came to Hawaii at their own expense to share their feelings regarding the monument to be erected in memory of all those who served in the 100/442 MIS during World War II. So when you receive a packet in the mail, please do not just set it aside or throw it out. Read it carefully and decide for yourself how much you can help to build this Memorial Monument to honor the members of the 100th, 442nd and MIS.

Once again, we would like to thank the following people for coming out on October 24th to help with the Puka Puka Parade: Bernard Akamine, Akira Akimoto, Otomatsu Aoki, Richard Arakaki, Tad Fukuda, Ralph Fukunaga, Chester Hada, Mary Hamasaki, Saburo Hasegawa, Tokuichi Hayashi, Ed Ikuma, Etsuo Katano, Gladys Kawakami, Arthur Komiyama, Richard Kondo, Susumu Kunishige, Jane Matsunami, Nick Nakabayashi, Bessie Nakasone, Tom Nishioka, Ray and Aki Nosaka, Yoshiichi Okazawa, Seie and Evelyn Oshiro, Elsie Oshita, Ken Suehiro, Mike and Bea Takahashi, Yuriko Takahashi, Masasuke Toma and Gary Uchida.

We would like to recognize and thank Able Chapter reporter, Tom Fujise, for his donations of a typewriter, a drill and a drill press for the work shop. Thank you, Tom.

You have probably seen some of our members on T.V. this past week and wondering what they are doing at Punchbowl Cemetery. As a community service, the 100th members are manning the information desk up at Punchbowl during this time before the 50th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1991. Thousands of people are expected to visit Punchbowl as well as Pearl Harbor and other other points of war-time interest. Mahalo to the following for volunteering their time and service: Bernard Akamine, Stanley Akita, Kunio Fujimoto, Iwao Fujimori, Chester Hada, George Hagiwara, Wallace Ichiyama, Isamu Inouye, Walter Iwasa, Edward Ikuma, Richard M. Kondo, Arthur Komiyama, Susumu Kunishige, Don Matsuda, Isao Nadamoto, Nick Nakabayashi, Stanley Nakamoto, Sonsei Nakamura, Raymond Nosaka, Tom Nosse, Yoshi Okazawa, Sueo Sakamoto, Robert Sakoki, Bill Saito, Mike Takahashi, Ben Tamashiro, Arthur Tamashiro, Mike Tokunaga, Martin Tohara, Tom Tsubota, Conrad Tsukayama, Ralph Uyeda, Stanley T. Takahashi, Yasuo Takata, Stanley Hamai, Henry Nakasone.

We would like to acknowledge the following donations received:

|                                   |                 |         |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Stained Glass.....                | Osamu Nakagawa  | \$50.00 |
| Puka Puka Parade.....             | Anonymous       | 50.00   |
| Mother Club .....                 | Sadami Hamamoto | 50.00   |
| Stanley Akita Family              |                 | 50.00   |
| Doris Oguro, in memory of Richard |                 | 100.00  |
| Gladys Kawakami                   |                 | 25.00   |

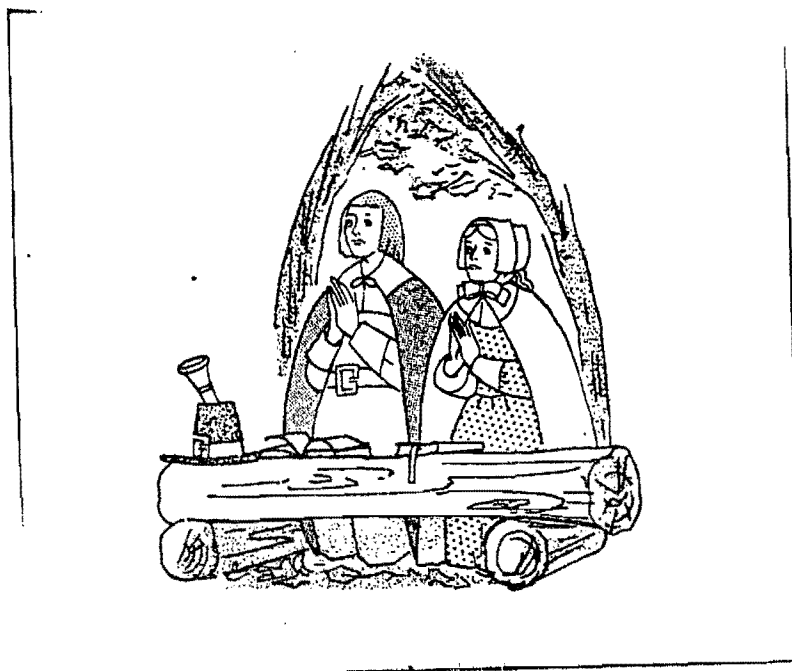
Thank you all very much.

Many of you will be saddened to hear of the death of Wilson Makabe. He passed away on November 3, 1991. Our condolences to the Makabe family.

Have you noticed anything new in the office? After many years of bare windows, vertical blinds were finally installed.

There are now 35 members who have signed up for Life Membership. The new membership cards will be sent to you as soon as the cards come back from the printers. We encourage all members to sign up by paying the \$50.00 and then not having to worry about paying annual dues hereafter.

Let us give thanks --



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF CLUB 100

Ann Kabasawa

The first meeting of the Sons and Daughters of Club 100 was held on Sunday, November 3, 1991, at 12:30 p.m. At this informal meeting there were about 30 sons and daughters present.

Drusilla Tanaka talked about the Sons and Daughters in the '60's (who were then in junior and senior high school) helping out at various projects their fathers were involved in. Eventually, graduation, army, college and career caused the group to go their separate ways. With this first meeting, we now know that there is a promising number of sons and daughters who would like to become more involved in forming an organization to perpetuate the legacy of the 100th. Some of the purposes of this new organization were discussed: having a place for veterans to meet and share experiences; recreational; custodians of the property; educational; historical; cultural; promote peace; scholarship.

Matt Matsunaga will be working on the incorporation of the Sons and Daughters.

50th Anniversary activities were discussed. The Sons and Daughters will be handling different phases of the 5-day celebration and much help is needed.

Following the meeting, we joined the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd Veterans for an intergenerational "beer bust," where fathers and mothers, sons and daughters and grandchildren got together to view a slide show and talk story.

You will be informed of the next meeting that will take place sometime in January. In the mean time, please think about officers, board members and any other suggestions to help in incorporating.

Thank you all for attending.

**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!!**

### HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS

By Ken Suehiro

Our sympathy and condolences to Wilfred Shobu and family. His father passed away on November 8, 1991.

No other news except that my grandson is now a skilled tako fisherman, topping me several times in a row.

November luncheon meeting has been cancelled. The Professor is off island and we need to devote our time to our Christmas party. Mike says that a flyer will be sent to all active Headquarters members. Please plan to attend on December 21, 1991.

### ABLE CHAPTER NEWS

By Tom Fujise

Ho, Ho, Ho Merry Christmas to all you Able Members.

Able Chapter Christmas party is just around the corner so, members, get out your check book, if you already haven't done so and mail in your reservation--QUICK!

All your grandchildren are anticipating a good time at the party. December 6th is kind of early for Christmas, but Santa said better early than late. Santa said that the stores have already set the stage for an early Christmas mood anyway, so let's have a happy, happy Christmas this year. Then, let us all greet New Years with smiling faces.

## BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

By Yasu Takata

A couple of weeks ago, Bob Sakoki received a visitor from Japan Kenji Nagai. He was the one who sent us the music for the song "Roei no Uta" forty years ago. Based on this music, a Japanese combat song was composed by Takaki and B.J. Kimura while at the Italian war front. It was kept a secret until we returned home to Hawaii. The secrecy was because of the rule that only English be spoken at the front. The Baker chapter boys practiced the song and sang it at the 40th anniversary party.

Five of us had a get-together for Mr. Nagai and talked about old times.. He told us that he was having a problem locating an old friend. Our attempts to help him were unsuccessful because of the old address he had and all of the new development in the Waipahu area.

Due to my old age, I do not go out so much, but I do spend a lot of time reading, and the last book I read was "Our House Divided" by Tomi Kaizawa Knaefler. This is a personal story about 7 Japanese families who were divided by World War II, some in America and others in Japan. About their experiences, their feelings and confrontations which they kept to themselves throughout those years. This made me think of the time while I was working for the V. A. and I came across Kiyoto Enomoto, Baker Company, who died on Hill 600 in Italy. His parents were living in Niigata, Japan. I wonder how they felt when informed of their son's death.

Joichi Muramatsu, Christmas Committee Chairman for Baker Chapter, announced that our Christmas party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14th with cocktail hour from 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. then dinner. Tengu, the Magician is slated to perform some magic on the program with the usual Christmas carols being sung accompanied by the Ukulele group, and the appearance of Santa. There will be a drawing for the prizes. Donations will be gladly accepted. For further information, see announcements in this issue..

A Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year to you all!

## MAUI CHAPTER NEWS

By Tom Nagata

On Friday October 11th, members wives and guests enjoyed a delicious chicken hekka dinner at the Kahului Community Center. Group one leader, Satoji Arisumi, was the hardworking chairman of this dinner and he was ably assisted by members and wives of this group. Wataru Kaneshina offered grace, and it was guests and wives first at the heavily laden buffet table with loads of chicken hekka, sashimi, salads, and side dishes donated by the wives of members. Masao Sato, President of Maui Chapter, next introduced a representative from the Veterans Affairs Primary Care Clinic to explain what benefits are available to qualified veterans. The rest of the evening was spent in playing bingo games with Toshio Iwami, Akira Ishikawa and Iwao Takamori in charge.

The November 5 luncheon meeting at Sizzlers Restaurant was well attended. President Sato conducted the meeting after lunch. Secretary Edward Nishihara read the minutes of our last meeting, followed by the treasurer's report. Satoji Arisumi, chairman of the chicken hekka dinner gave his report. There were 52 present including two guests. Goichi Shimanuki, chairman of the September 29 Memorial Service next gave his report. Rev. Robb Kojima of the Wailuku Union Church conducted the service this year. Jack Gushiken, chairman of our annual Christmas-Installation dinner party, announced that this year's party will be held in the Maui Palms Hotel Longhouse on December 19, 1991. Cocktails at 5:30 P.M. and dinner at 6:00 P.M. Members will be contacted to take a head count. The following members have volunteered to serve: Satoji Arisumi, President; Ben Takayesu, 1st Vice-President; Johnny Miyagawa, 2nd Vice-President; Edward Nishihara, Secretary; Tom Nagata, Treasurer; Jack Gushiken, Director. This will be Arisumi's 4th time as president. We welcome Torao Kawano as an active member of Maui Chapter

Maui County Veterans Council sponsored a Veterans Day dinner at the Red Dragon Restaurant on Monday, November 11. In the absence of Masao Sato who is away on his 6th trip to Japan, Vice-President Ben Takayesu represented Club 100 during the candle lighting ceremony to honor the

memory of Wallace Maeda and Shigeru Tomita, active Maui Chapter members who passed away during the past year.

We extend our get well wishes to Mrs. Kiyoshi Hotta, who was hospitalized recently.

#### DOG CHAPTER NEWS

By Helen Nikaido

Dog Chapter's reunion in Las Vegas was very successful and now they are thinking of having the next reunion in Reno in 1993. Maui will be the host for 1993.

Dog Chapter's election of officers will be held at the November meeting. Better come and defend yourself if you son't want to be railroaded.

A belated congratulations to Karleen Chinen who is the editor for the Hawaii Herald. Karleen is the daughter of Wally and the late Kay Chinen.

Sadashi and Jane Matsunami were off to the Big Island on the weekend of November 14th to visit their relatives.

#### KAUAI CHAPTER NEWS

By Tsugi Takemoto

Suddenly dawned on me that the Holiday season is closer than I thought. It is already November and Thanksgiving upon us.

A call was issued to the 100th members asking if any had parents who came from Yamaguchi prefecture in Japan. The numbers were sparse, but we were told that the NHK Broadcasting Station of Yamaguchi City was sending an announcer and a TV crew over on October 26. Ben Morimoto, Wally and Tsugi Takemoto went to the Kauai Veterans Cemetery as that was chosen as the locale. At least the announcer spoke English, somewhat hesitantly. It was explained that they were taping for a December 7 release. Both Ben and Wally were asked how and why they were in the 100th. Must say Ben can give the right answers on the spur of the moment. Wally put his reply in a more every day language. "Yamato-dashhi" was one phrase used. Tsugi was asked what she thought when she heard that the 100th Infantry was formed of niseis. However vague her answer was, reflecting back on it now, she realizes that she was already behind the barbed wires and what news came in was in bits and pieces. She learned more when the MIS was recruiting and due to the wonderful record of the 100th, the 442nd recruitment began. Now she knows what she should have said.

Saturday, November 9, was a busy day for eight members who attended the ground breaking ceremony for the Kauai Veterans Center. Later all rode the float (an Army 2 1/2 T truck) in the parade. The 100th always says they will participate but they won't walk. Their old age is showing.

Representing the 100th, with the Colors in the middle of the truck, were Larry Sakoda, Bunkichi Matsuyoshi, Jack Hada, Wally Takemoto, Mako Takiguchi, Kelly Fujimoto, Tommy Matsushige, and Hakaru Tao. Bunkichi arrived with harness as he wanted to carry the Colors, but the wind was a little too much.

The Christmas luncheon is set for Sunday, December 15, at the Panda Garden Chinese Restaurant, Kauai Village, in Waipouli, at 12 noon. Dorothy Matsushige and Doris Shimabukuro are in charge. A grab bag gift exchange is planned and all the ladies are asked to bring a gift worth \$5.00 or more.

At this writing, Ko Takemoto is scheduled for aneurism surgery on Friday, November 15, at Queen's Hospital. (The Editors called Ko's sister's residence, and was told that Ko is doing nicely although still in Intensive Care--we wish him a speedy recovery)

The next luncheon meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8, at the TipTop Restaurant in Lihue at 12:00 noon.

**HAWAII CHAPTER NEWS**

By Jimmy Maeda

The annual end-of-the-year get-together of Hawaii Chapter will be held on Sunday, December 15, at the AJA Veterans Hall on Haihai Street from 10:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. It will be a family affair. The committee working on the project is comprised of the following members: Chairman, Kazuma Taguchi assisted by Motoyoshi Tanaka, Charles Nishimura and Tsugio Kaisen. Your team captains will contact you for reservations and with further details.

Nomination of new officers and election of officers for the year 1992 will also take place. Please make a special effort to attend.

**FIFTY YEARS AGO December 7, 1941; The question is: WHERE WERE YOU ON PEARL HARBOR DAY?**

Flash back!! As young adults in our early 20's, Robert Sakoki, George Inouye and Jimmy Maeda, all of the 3rd draft, were members of Headquarters Detachment, 299th Infantry (HNG), 2nd Bn. stationed in one of the new barracks in General Lyman Field. Needless to say, we were all in shock on that day. Our assignment on December 7, day and night, was to man the telephones at Headquarters. This writer recalls the young Lieutenants, Mits Fukuda, Masao Koga, Harold Marques and a few others reporting to duty on December 8, 9, and 10. December 7, 1941 was an historic event in our lives, and the beginning of many happenings to follow as members of the U. S. Army and citizens of the United States of America

What was your story of December 7, 1941?

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER NEWS**

By Tad Hashimoto

It was 100th family night on October 19th at the 442nd Memorial Hall.

There was stew and chow mein concocted by Chef Allan Dong. Ben Tagami made Miso Shiru (Soy bean soup), Henry Sakato cooked the kabocha (Japanese pumpkin) brought by Henry and Elsie Hayashi which was grown in their garden. Rice and salad were also served.

The following persons brought dessert: Kazuko Yoshitake, jello; Irene Abe, strawberry pineapple jello; Elsie Hayashi, lemon Merange pies; Teri Fujikawa, German chocolate cake; Kei Yamaguchi, lemon pie; Chuckie Seki brought Takuan that her friend had made.

Present were: Albert & Connie Takahashi, Ben & Jean Tagami, May & Wayne Fujita, Buddy & Lilly Mamiya, Eric & Irene Abe, Lloyd & Chuckie Seki, Henry & Elsie Hayashi, Sam & Teri Fujikawa, Henry & Kazuko Yoshitake, Toe & Molly Yoshino, Lloyd & Michi Toda, Harry & Harumi Sasaki, Mori & Sachi Shibata, Ted & Sadie Yoshiwara (from Las Vegas), Harry, Fukasawa, Kei Yamaguchi, Allan Dong, Carlos & Beverly Picazo, Match Kumamoto and Henry Sakato.

Our thanks to the volunteers who arrived early to set up the tables and chairs and to those who helped put them away and clean up when the evening ended.

Thanks to Henry Sakato for most of the information supplied to this reported who didn't make it due to a previous commitment.

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans of Southern California members and friends wish all the happiest of holidays and a healthy happy New Year!

Rural Chapter held its last dinner meeting of the year on November 15th at Dot's with a very good turn out of twenty two members and wives. The agenda for the evening was Election of Officers, Selection of two outstanding members of the year, Preparation of the Installation and New Years Banquet, Reports of Committees and the Prexy report on the Board of Directors meeting.

Officers for 1992 are: President, Masaharu Saito, Vice-Pres. Ted Hamasu, Secretary, Rudy Yoshida, Treasurer, Jerry Yamaki, Auditors, Lefty Mizusawa and Susumu Ota. Our outstanding members of the year are Masaharu Saito and Masato Fujitani.

The Installation and New Years party will be held on Sunday, Jan 19, 1992 from 12 noon at Dot's of Wahiawa. The cost of food will be \$12.00/person, plus chapter dues of \$6.00 and Club 100 dues of \$10.00 for yearly paying members or \$50.00 for Life members. So, the total cost/members will be \$28.00 or \$68.00. Left Mizusawa was appointed chairman and he promises lots of Bingo and door prizes plus some entertainment, so you all come, yeh. Since it is our 50th anniversary, lets make it a memorable one.

Prexy, Walter reported the happenings at the Directors meeting. He reported that our previous executive secretary was, to put it mildly, not on the ball for not paying our taxes on time, etc. I hope that the new Board will learn from his mistakes.

The Reps of Club 100 and other AJA organizations on the LA AJA Vets Memorial Fund raising committees, met with the organizers of this Memorial, led by Young O.Kim and his group from the Mainland on Nov 13, 1991, at the Clubhouse. We were shown the scale model of the memorial and a video tape of the reasons for building this memorial

According to Young O. Kim, every.thing is in place and will break ground in about 120 days, hence the visit to raise the funds. The estimated cost of the Memorial is \$2.5 million. The number of names to be engraved is approaching 15,000. These names includes all AJAs who fought in WW II, regardless of where they were. A massive undertaking just to assemble all the names. KIAs, recent deaths and living AJAs names will be engraved. The estimated cost/name is \$200.00. Only your given name and last name will be used, due to space limitations on the Memorial. There is a four inch thick folder with the names at the clubhouse office, so if you are known other than your given name, or nickanme, you should have it corrected. For example, in my case, I was known as Mitsuo Tanaka during the war years and had it changed to Mitsuo Hamasu later. I checked in the folder and sure enough, I was listed twice. In order to correct any discrepencies, like spelling or name change. you'll have to wait for a correction form from the Names Committee, which will be sent to our clubhouse for distribution. First thing you should do, get down to the clubhouse and check your name.

You may extend the amount of your contribution up to three years in monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual payment. All you do is write it on the pledge section of the contribution card as to how you want to pay it. If you have any questions, call me at 455-3341, preferably in the afternoon. You know, the best thing about this is that it is tax deductible.

Let us all "kokua" to make this Memorial a lasting legacy to this country and to the rest of this world, that at one time in history, an oppressed ethnic group of citizens of this country was thrown into concentration camps and they ultimately proved that love a country should not be judged by the color of their skin or the features of their faces, that no one should ever be treated as we were in a free and great country like ours.

Sometime lastmonth I cllled Kenzo Endo, to find out how he was getting along. Mrs. Endo answered, and said that Kenzo is in Vegas enjoying the night life there. "Oh, that's good, I thought he was in the hospital", I said. We talked about his medication etc, and according to her, the doctors are surprised that Kenzo does not suffer any side effects from Chemo-Therapy. She said "he should be back tomorrow night". One night, I met him at a gathering and he looked good.

According to Kenzo, ""Life in the hospital no mo fun,so galla go to Vegas and enjoy life once in a while" Guess you're right, Kenzo, but don't over do it, ok and take care.

The Iwasas made like tourists and flew to Maui early this month to enjoy the silversword blossoms. Walter said that they were a little late in getting the news and acting on it, for the blossoms were not at its peak. Well, Walter, you'll catch it one of these days, so don't give up.

The Shimizus are off to the land of moocho moola Vegas, checking on their previous investments, and if they feel lucky to invest some more. Hope Tamo took his mascot along for good luck. Yoneko and Tamo, I'll keep my fingers criss-crossed.

Richard Fujita is getting a little better, but relies mostly on his wheel chair. He lost part of his stomach due to a growth of tumor. He advises that everyone should get a physical exam once a year if possible. Don't wait too long, for it may be too late. He visits his doctor bi-monthly, to have a check-up and is trying to make the best of the situation. He visited Big Island in August and plans to go to Vegas in December to make some spending money for Christmas. Ei, Richard, don't forget your green frog, for good luck. I hope you make a bundle, and take care, yeh.

CLUB 100 MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR December, 1991

CHRISTMAS PARTY SCHEDULE - ALL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS CANCELLED FOR DECEMBER.

|                   |                    |                                 |                         |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ABLE .....        | Friday, December 6 | ....5:00 P.M.                   | Clubhouse               |
| BAKER .....       | Saturday, Dec 14   | ..... 5:00 P.M.                 | "                       |
| CHARLIE .....     | Sunday, Dec 15     | ..... 5:00 P.M.                 | "                       |
| DOG .....         | Sunday, Dec 22     | ..... 5:00 P.M.                 | "                       |
| HEADQUARTERS..... | Saturday, Dec 21   | ..... 5:00 P.M.                 | "                       |
| MAUI .....        | Thursday, Dec 19   | ..... 5:30 Cocktails-Maui Palms |                         |
|                   |                    | 6:00 Dinner                     |                         |
| KAUAI .....       | Sunday, Dec 15     | ..... 12:00 noon                | Panda Garden REstaurant |
| HAWAII .....      | Sunday, Dec 15     | ..... 10:00 A.M.                | AJA Veterans Hall       |

CLUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

|                         |                       |                  |               |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| BOARD OF DIRECTORS..... | Thursday, December 12 | .....Board Room  | ....7:00 P.M. |
| GREEN THUMBS .....      | Monday, December 9    | ..... Hall       | ... 7:15 P.M. |
| 50TH ANNIVERSARY .....  | Saturday, December 14 | ..... Board Room | ...10:00 A.M. |

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ATTENTION: BAKER CHAPTER MEMBERS - CHRISTMAS PARTY Saturday, Dec. 14, 1991

COST: \$5.00 Adults  
\$2.00 Children 12 to 18 years of age  
Free Children below 12 years

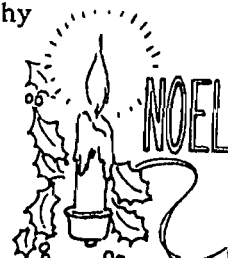
TIME: 5:00 P.M. Parking at Ala Wai School.

Just come and pay at the door. If you wish more information, call Joichi Muramatsu, Riki Tsuda, Roy Nakatani, Robert Aoki or Yasuo Takata.

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The Puka Puka Parade will take a vacation in December so the next collating date will on January 23, 1992 with Baker and Rural supplying the manpower.

The Editors wish you one and all a very blessed Christmas, and a happy, healthy New Year!  
Ray and Aki Nosaka



We are pleased to share with you this message delivered by J. Walsh Hanley and submitted by Jimmy Maeda:

It is a great honor for me to have been invited to join the members of Club 100 and the other AFA veterans in commemorating this anniversary of first combat in World War II. I share with my friend Jimmy Maeda, who invited me today, a hobby of studying history. The areas that are of special interest to me are Hawaiiana, Pacific Ocean Anthropology, World War II History, and Japanese History. If you think about these historical areas, the AJA community in Hawaii is somewhat of a focal point common to all. The activities of you men and your comrades almost fifty years ago form an important part of this history.

I'll digress here for a brief moment to touch on something that some of you may be wondering about. I am not related to Lt. Col. James M. Hanley who commanded Second Battalion and was later XO of the 442nd. I also checked with Tony Hanley at Matson and he is not related either. I tried to establish contact with Col. Hanley during the last few weeks but was unable to do so.

I grew up in an army town--El Paso, Texas, home of Fort Bliss--and even worked there as a life guard at the officer's club. I have always considered myself a patriot and an avid supporter of our military. The history of our military is the most exciting study of valor that exists. It is a grand history that all can be proud of and the 100th Battalion is a special and important part of this history.

Several years ago Hiromu Yamanaka, who was then Big Island chairman of the Army Civilian Advisory Group for Support Command Hawaii, asked me if I would serve on that group. At the time, the Army in Hawaii was a support command headed by Major General Herb Wolff. Thru Herb's efforts, the Army in Hawaii was elevated to a major command status and re-designated U. S. Army Western Command. Herb, by the way, is now a Senior Vice-President at First Hawaiian Bank. I was appointed chairman of the Big Island membership of the Civilian Advisory Group a few years ago and enjoy very much this continuing association with patriots who are kept in close liaison with the Army and briefed on their activities. During the years in CAG, I have attended the Army Birthday Ball in Honolulu each year. The opening toast at these affairs is always the same--"To our fallen comrades!"

We are gathered today for the same reason--to salute fallen comrades--the comrades who fell in war and those who fell later. They have all joined a different chapter of that Club 100 formed so many years ago.

One of my favorite colleagues on the Civilian Advisory Group was Bishop Harry Kennedy, the former Episcopal Bishop of Honolulu. He was a chaplain during the war and eventually ended up in Guam. One of his favorite "war stories" was about how he was saved by a tardy airman. During a visit to Tinian, he was informed of an airman who wished to be baptized but the airman was on a mission that was late in returning. The Bishop remained on Tinian to baptize the young man and let the VIP plane return to Guam without him. The VIP plane was lost on the return trip and never found--no survivors. But Harry's story was not about his luck at staying alive. Nor was it about some miracle of faith that saved him. His story was a story about the joy of being alive.

You who are here today should share this kind of joy. You should celebrate the joy of being alive. This is one of the causes for which your comrades fell. Your successes in life and longevity are what it was all about. So, today, remember with fondness the fallen comrades, but make no apologies for being alive. Stand proud and tell them we are yet here. We are still enjoying what we all fought for. And--it was all worthwhile.

(9)  
JAPANESE AMERICAN WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL  
PROJECT

(second article/series of 5)

MEMORIAL CONCEPT

There are as many concepts regarding veteran memorials as there are memorials. One given is that probably no veterans memorial at its inception had ever enjoyed unanimous agreement as to either its physical design or the text of its memorial concept. For war stories from the American Revolution to the recent Desert Storm, involving American soldiers, invariably evokes very strong personal feelings so that as more persons become involved, there emerges the many shades of differences.

As for the Japanese American World War II Veterans Memorial Concept, it was in late 1988 that along with the creation of a memorial task force, a need for a written memorial concept statement became evident. The 100th/442nd Veterans Association, the MIS Club of Southern California and the 100th/442nd/MIS WWII Memorial Committee, adopted a concept statement which enhanced the three organizations to focus and coordinate their efforts. The concept paper was shared with Japanese American veteran leaders in the Los Angeles Area along with Michael Barker, the developer. The memorial concept did evolve and continues to modify but it maintains its original base concept. In resolution form, it is as follows:

- WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles wishing to develop the area adjacent to the Civic Center, bounded by First Street, San Pedro, Temple and Alameda.
- WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles in its RFP called for a Japanese American World War II Veterans Memorial to be located in the Central Plaza.
- WHEREAS, the 100th/442nd/MIS World War II Memorial Foundation had successfully introduced and received acceptance and support by the developer Michael Barker regarding the Memorial Concept.
- WHEREAS, the Concept is to inscribe the names of World War II veterans, highlighting the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service to give special recognition to their serving in segregated units during World War II.
- WHEREAS, the Concept evolved from a need to immortalize Japanese Americans who fought in combat in the European and Pacific Theater of Operation to liberate others when 110,000 Japanese Americans were being denied their freedom without due process in wartime American concentration camps.
- WHEREAS, these 442nd men, stated President Truman, "fought for the free nations of the world...fought not only the enemy... fought prejudice and won." In Europe, they became the most highly decorated regimental unit in the United States Army history.
- WHEREAS, in the Pacific, the Japanese American men of the MIS, stated General Charles Willoughby, "saved countless Allied lives and shortened the war by two years."
- WHEREAS, on August 10, 1988 at the signing ceremony of the redress legislation into law, President Reagan said, "My fellow Americans, we gather here today to right a grave wrong...we admit a wrong...we reaffirm our commitment as a Nation to equal justice under the law ...And now let me sign H.R. 442, so fittingly named in honor of the 442nd."
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the 100th/442nd/MIS World War II Memorial Foundation invites fellow veterans and citizens, **"JOIN US IN HONORING THOSE WHO OFFERED THEIR LIVES FOR AMERICA."**

Like, the State of Pennsylvania's Memorial at Gettysburg, paying tribute to the over 35,000 Pennsylvanians who fought in Civil War, all their names, survivors as well as the 534 KIAs, are recorded on bronze plaques around the monument.

Like, Representative Marcy Kaptur of Ohio who has introduced H.R. 2807 to establish a national memorial to honor members of the armed forces who served in WWII, both deceased and living.

Like, President Lincoln's Gettysburg address,...."The brave men, living and died, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here; but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced...."

The Japanese American World War II Veterans Memorial is an American Monument which will like-wise commemorate and immortalize the 13,634 names of the Japanese American World War II veterans, survivors and the KIAs who together did make the difference. For, the Japanese American veterans of World War II restored the honor of the Japanese American community by establishing its loyalty and thereby leaving a legacy of patriotism and the inalienable rights to first class citizenship for their children and all Americans.



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on  
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