

100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB



PUKA-PUKA

MONTHLY NEWS

PARADE



JANUARY, 2002

ISSUE #1 -02

FROM THE EDITORS' PUKA

By Ray and Aki Nosaka

May the spirit of joy and peace be with you as we bid aloha to the year 2001 and welcome to the new year of 2002. We all have high hopes of better things to come. We look forward to a year of a lot more happiness and a lot less of sadness, a lot more of love and a lot less of hatred, a lot more of peace and good will and a lot less of hostility and fighting. Everybody was (and still is directly or indirectly) affected by the tragic event that occurred in September. We pray that there will never be a repetition of that terrible disaster. Let us all give thanks for the priceless gift of love and time and use this gift to make this a better tomorrow for all mankind.

We wish to congratulate the following men who will serve as officers for the new year of the 100th Inf. Veterans Club: President, Stanley Akita;(C), First Vice-President, Denis Teraoka (D); Second Vice-President, Alfred Arakaki (A); Secretary-Treasurer, Albert Turner (S&D)

The editors and co-editor would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of the Chapter reporters for submitting their news each month, and to thank all of the PPP volunteers for coming out monthly to collate and mail out the newsletters. Without your help, there would be no PPP. We are grateful to say that inspite of the stormy weather and everyone being very busy, on November 29th there were around 45 volunteers who came out to help. Mahalo to: Bernard Akamine, Akira Akimoto, Ottomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Kunio Fujimoto, Tom Fujise, Mary Hamasaki, Saburo Hasegawa, Tokuichi Hayashi, Richard Hosaka, Ed Ikuma, Lawrence & Regina Kamiya, Isamu Inouye, Shigeru Inouye, Arthur Komiyama, Don & Kimi Matsuda, Philip Matsuyama, Y. Mugitani, Joichi Muramatsu, Nora Morihara, Tom Nishioka, Bessie Nakasone, Ray & Aki Nosaka, Saburo Nishime, Takeichi Onishi, Susumu Ota, Kenneth Otagaki, Robert Sato, Leo Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Clyde Sugimoto, Goro Sumida, James Tanabe, (MIS) Denis & Joy Teraoka, Masa Toma, Shigeru Tsubota, Martin Tohara, Ukichi Wozumi and Marie Yoneshige.

JOIN US AT THE BASH

60th Anniversary Celebration

June 29, 2002 is the Date. Clubhouse is the Place. From noon till ?? join in on the fellowship, food, and fun. See your old buddies, tell your tall tales, reminisce, and relax in the homey atmosphere of the Clubhouse.

But if that's not enough for you, then join in on the fun of a Monte Cassino night! A portion of the lounge will be cordoned off so that those who enjoy a friendly game of chance will have an opportunity to roll the dice, flip the cards, or spin the wheel. The games will begin some time in the late afternoon and run for a couple of hours.

Sound like fun? Then remember to sign up for the Bash when the Registration form is sent to you.

*Speech by Mr. Stanley M. Akita at the Arizona Memorial
60th Commemoration Celebrations: Kamaaina Day, Dec. 2, 2001*

Ladies and Gentlemen – Good morning,

December 7, 1941 – What was it like for the Americans of Japanese ancestry in the 100th Infantry Battalion? There were about 1,500 men who were drafted and were serving in the Army when the attack happened. The first thing they did was to segregate them from the other soldiers. Their guns were taken away and were given pick ax handles to guard the facilities. They were also classed as 4-C (enemy aliens.)

Then the so-called enemy aliens were sent secretly to Camp McCoy, Wis. When they reached San Francisco, they were transferred to a waiting train and told to pull down the window shades. It seemed like the so-called “enemy aliens” were a secret cargo.

After Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, they were sent down to Camp Shelby, Miss. for further training. Their training record was considered outstanding and so were sent overseas to Italy. In Italy they were assigned to do guard duty. That’s when our Col. Turner insisted that we came to Italy to prove our loyalty to the USA and we wanted to be involved in fighting the enemy instead of just being guards.

The Army records show what the 100th did in combat. Many times we’d go to battle and come out of it with only half strength. The other half is either killed in action or wounded. Records also show where the men of the 100th would sneak out of the field hospital not to run away but only to join their comrades in combat again.

General Mark Clark of the 34th Div. had this to say, “If you have more men like this – send them over.” I joined the 100th Infantry Battalion as a replacement right after the 100th went through one of the fiercest battles, which was crossing the Volturno River and attacking Monte Cassino.

For me Anzio was my first experience of what war was really like. You occupy foxholes with dead German soldiers around you. We fought all the way from Anzio to Leghorn. After Leghorn, we were shipped to Southern France. In France after liberating the town called Bruyeres, the entire 100th Bn. sneaked through a gap in the enemy line and attacked Biffontaine and captured 27 prisoners. I was one of six assigned to take the prisoners back to Hq. Altogether we had 27 prisoners, 11 wounded fellow soldiers and 6 riflemen as guards.

Not realizing the Germans had sealed the gap we went through the other day, we ran smack into a company of Germans. Now as a prisoner of the Germans and being a Japanese in the American Army, we were interrogated every chance the Germans had. Remember during WWII the Axis power of Germany, Japan and Italy? At one interrogation, a German officer’s comment was, “You are supposed to be fighting with us, not against us.”

That’s when I realized that the Germans also knew of our fighting ability. Not only General Mark Clark but the German Army also wanted us on their side.

At another interrogation, the German officer asks, “Did you go to Japanese school?” My reply was, “Yes.” “What did they teach you?” “Respect the elders, listen to your parents, know the right and wrong of things and do not shame your family name.” “Are you an American?” “Yes.” “What makes you feel like an American?” “I was born in America.” “Do you know that a cat born in a fish market isn’t a fish?” But my reply was he belongs to the fish market. These two interrogations are etched deeply in my mind.

Americans were blessed with sixty years of peace and security...but our country was once again shaken to its core with the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11th. It was difficult to believe that we had been attacked. Once again, the greatness of America is coming forth.

America, is a country of color. We have at least one person from every country in this world living harmoniously as Americans. It takes a day like Dec. 7 or Sept. 11 for the nation of color to form a huge rainbow arching from Hawaii to New York. Its people of every race and religion coming together as one to support our great nation---one nation---under God---indivisible.

To our men and women in uniform who have dedicated your lives to serve our country so that Americans can continue to live in the security of peace and freedom...God bless you and your families...and God Bless America! Will the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans please stand to be recognized.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by **STANLEY AKITA**

December, 2001 Board Meeting

Apartment & House

Our broken bathroom door was repaired thanks to Sus Ota (Rural). Minor repairs to the apartment were discussed by chair Turner who has contacted two contractors for the cost to repair discrepancies.

60th Anniversary

As reported by chairman Dr. Otagaki, plans for the 60th is progressing nicely and everything is under control.

To rent or not to rent Turner Hall to outsiders

At our November meeting it was decided that the chapters were to have discussed the matter of whether to rent or not to rent Turner Hall to outsiders. It was voted unanimously by the chapter presidents not to rent Turner Hall to outsiders.

Medal of Honor Portraits in Turner Hall

At our November 1 meeting, Baker chapter member Rikio Tsuda and its president Robert Arakaki proposed that we display our medal of honor recipients' pictures in the hall. Clayton Kamiya, son of Lawrence Kamiya (C) arranged to enlarge the photos at no cost to the Club. Bob Arakaki and Rikio Tsuda made arrangements to have them framed. The total completed cost was a little over \$500, well under the estimated cost of \$800. Thank you Robert, Riki, Clayton & Clyde Sugimoto for a job well done. The photos look great.

Custodial

Tom Nakamura has decided to retire as our custodian as of Dec. 31. He has been coming in every morning from 5am – 8am. He has kept the clubhouse in "spic & span" condition. Amanda will take Tom's place starting in January 2002. When she was an office manager at her previous job, she & her staff had to take turns cleaning up, so she has experience in this type of work.

Wives and widows as regular members

Another item from our November meeting that was to be taken back to the chapters for discussion was to allow our wives and widows to become regular members of the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets. At our December meeting, it was unanimously approved by every chapter to allow our wives and widows to become regular members of the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets. Becoming a regular member means that a wife can become an officer of their respective chapters and become a representative of their chapter on the Board. The dues will be \$100 as a life member or \$10 annually. A General Membership Meeting will be held in the near future concerning this proposal.

Bonuses

The Board has unanimously approved to present Tom and Amanda a \$100 bonus each for a job well done.

DID ANYONE SEE MY BALLS?

Contributed by Stanley Akita

This guy comes home after a round of golf.

wife: "How was your golf today?"

husband: "Lousy! My eyesight is getting so bad recently I cannot see where the ball lands and I lost 6 balls today."

wife: "Why don't you take Jack along next time to watch where the ball lands?"

hubby: "Who's Jack?"

wife: "My brother, Jack."

hubby: "Why, he is 90 years old."

wife: "But his eyesight is still good and he can read the phone book without glasses."

So the following week hubby is on the tee with Jack behind him. "Whack," hubby drives the ball.

He turns to Jack, "Did you see the ball?"

Jack: "Yep!"

hubby: "Where did it go?"

Jack: "I forgot."

Wh-a-ck

SECRETARY'S REPORT (December, 2001)

by Amanda De Ponte

Club 100

Yoshi Tsukayama	(I.M. of Conrad Tsukayama "D")	\$1,000	Scholarship Fund
Edgar Hamasu		\$100	
Chieko Moriguchi	(I. M. of Biffa Moriguchi "A")	\$100	

PukaPuka Parade

anononymous		\$25	
Chieko Moriguchi	(I. M. of Biffa Moriguchi "A")	\$100	

Sons & Daughters

Erin F. Teruya	(I.M. of my grandfather Sakae Takahashi "B")	\$25	Sakae Takahashi Sch. Fund
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Donations 11/28/01 (Submitted by Art Nakayama)

Kihara, Arlene I.M. John Yuzo Kihara \$500 to Sons and Daughters

Takata, Alma \$1000 to Sons and Daughters

Seo, Tadao I.M. Helen Seo \$100 to Sons and Daughters Scholarship

Chinen, Jon \$300 to Club 100 Scholarship

Mr. AndMrs. Tommy Nishioka
\$100 to Sons and Daughters Scholarship I.M. Walter Moriguchi
\$100 to Club 100 I.M. Naoji Yamagata

Sato, Robert \$100 to Sons and Daughters

Tsubota, Shigeru \$100 to Oral History

Baker Chapter I.M. Doris Oguro \$15 to Sons and Daughters scholarship

Baker Chapter I.M. John Kihara \$25 to Sons and Daughters scholarship

Rural Chapter I.M. John Kihara \$20 Sons and Daughters scholarship

<p>Special thanks to the Ala Wai Students (The second grade class in room 26 and the fifth grade class in room 17) for making Christmas ornaments and helping to decorate our tree.</p>
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JOYS OF AGING

Contributed by Regina Kamiya

I have become quite a frivolous old gal. As soon as I awake, Will Power helps me out of bed. When he leaves, I go to see John, then Charley Horse comes along and when he's here, he takes a lot of my attention. When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day, I'm really tired and ready to go to bed with Ben Gay.

THAT'S LIFE

Contributed by Stanley Akita

Life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer you get to the end, the faster it goes.

ATTENTION ALL 100TH VETERANS!!!

We are taking Chapter pictures of all Oahu Veterans for the 60th Anniversary Souvenir Booklet on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2002 at the Clubhouse. The schedule for picture taking is as follows:

9:00am	Able Chapter
10:00am	Dog Chapter
11:00am	Charlie Chapter
12:00noon	HQ and Medics
1:00pm	Fox
2:00pm	Baker Chapter
10:00am	Rural Chapter at Dot's (Sun. 1/20/02)

Neighbor Island Chapters and So. California Chapter, please submit a group picture by January 31, 2002.

We will also be having Individual/Family/Buddies Portrait Photo Sessions at the clubhouse during the 60th Anniversary celebration. If you are interested, please read the info about the 60th Anniversary Celebration in this issue and check off the bottom of the sheet next to photo session.

Please contact Ann or Clyde at 734-0841 or e-mail annkaba@aloha.net if you have any questions.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS VERY IMPORTANT!!!!

MAUI CHAPTER NEWS

By Stanley Izumigawa

The Maui Chapter held its final gathering of the year 2001, a Christmas 11:00 am buffet lunch on Friday, December 14, at the Kahului Beach Terrace. Of the 48 in attendance 18 were member veterans, the balance being spouses, widows and guests. "Butch" Arizumi handled arrangements and wife Ann provided table decorations which the ladies got to take home. Wataru Kaneshina did the blessing.

Guests included Clarence Matsumoto, president of the Maui 442nd and Chuck and Aly Hazama. Chuck, a Korean War vet, is president of the Maui AJA Veterans who recently hosted 100th and 442nd veterans at a dinner and program.

The Maui 442nd has invited all original 100th Infantry members and spouses to its New Year's Social on Saturday, January 5, 11:00 am at Kahului Community Center.

Clarence Matsumoto installed the 2002 officers: President-Stan Izumigawa, Vice President- Satoji "Butch" Arizumi. Secretary-Ed Nishihara, Treasurer-Tom Nagata, Auditor Goichi Shimanuki and Directop-Willie Goo. Willie is starting his second year, Stan and Butch their sixth, and Ed, Tom and Goichi their umpteenth.

Since we will not be meeting again until March we tried to get some membership feedback on the question of wives and widows membership and their eligibility for holding office but with two other groups also having luncheon and lined up at the buffet counter it was to say the least kind of hard to get a discussion going.

That aside, looking around you could tell that everyone enjoyed being there and chatting with friends which is really what its all about.

We concluded with the veterans gathering for a group picture, of which you know about.

Among those who usually make it but whom we missed this time were Haruo Ikeuchi, Wataru Michioka, Takeshi Omura, Jack Gushiken, Kunio Ogawa and Art Kurohara.

LOOKING BACK

by Joy Teraoka, Co-editor

Sometimes it's good to just "talk story" with members of the 100th at the clubhouse, because often their anecdotes reveal some very interesting facts. This came to light recently when I listened to Kunio Fujimoto talk about his father who served as chief steward to Queen Lili'uokalani. Just think, not many can make the claim of having served royalty! But from about 1912 until her death in 1917, such was the case with Hikosuke Fujimoto.

Hikosuke, who was born on April 10, 1887, in Yamaguchi-ken, Japan, ventured to Hawaii as a young man and probably first worked on a plantation. Eventually he married a young picture-bride, Kikuyo, from Iwakuni-shi. She was born on October 16, 1898. (Although Hikosuke passed away at the age of 72, Kikuyo is still living at the age of 103!)

As a young couple, the Fujimotos moved to Honolulu. Through a stroke of luck, Hikosuke obtained a plumb position as chief steward to the deposed queen of Hawaii. He and Kikuyo were given comfortable living quarters above the horse stables on the spacious grounds of Washington Place where Queen Lili'uokalani resided.

As her steward, Hikosuke was constantly at her side to do her bidding. If she wanted something from the store, Lili'uokalani gave him the money to purchase whatever it was she wanted. During social or official functions at Washington Place he was there to help her whenever needed. She trusted his honesty and dependability implicitly. In fact, except for her personal Hawaiian poi pounder and her Portuguese "chariot driver," the rest of her household staff were Japanese. She felt the Japanese were responsible, trustworthy and hardworking.

According to Hikosuke, Queen Victoria of England gave Lili'uokalani an enormous diamond ring which the queen of Hawaii wore to many social functions. However, the ring, being too large for her finger, kept falling off her hand. Each time this happened, Hikosuke would dutifully pick up the ring and return it to the queen. So much did she treasure this precious gift from Queen Victoria that each time he retrieved it, she mentioned gratefully that she must not lose it. Unfortunately, after her death he never learned what happened to that spectacular ring.

On September 1, 1917, a little girl was born at Washington Place to the Fujimotos. As Queen Lili'uokalani's birthday was on September 2, she felt it her auspicious duty to give the child a Hawaiian name. She bestowed the beautiful name "Kealohilani" on the infant. Especially in those days, a little Japanese baby born at Washington Place was most extraordinary, so when Fujimoto went to register her birth he told the registrar that the queen named his child and that she was born at Washington Place. The registrar found that information so interesting, she recorded the birthplace as "Washington Place" rather than "Honolulu." Many years later when Governor George Ariyoshi's wife, Jean, heard this story, she requested a copy of Kealohilani's birth certificate which she wanted to include in a collection of facts about Washington Place. Also one of the curators of Bishop Museum made a request for Kealohilani's unique birth certificate. (Today there remains a street in Waikiki between Lili'uokalani and Ohua Avenues called "Kealohilani." It runs between Kalakaua and Kuhio Avenues. Nearby on Paoakalani Avenue was the queen's summer home.)

Another interesting facet of Hikosuke's position, was that the queen would rely on him when dignitaries from Japan came to visit. She asked him to teach her Japanese, but the reverse happened instead, and he became fluent in the Hawaiian language. Many years later his son, Kunio, was stunned to hear his father and another elderly Japanese gentleman, Mr. Nakatsu, engaged in a lengthy conversation in Hawaiian--not Japanese.

Queen Lili'uokalani passed away on November 11, 1917, soon after the birth of Kealohilani. Upon her death, it was contended that two culprits, in order to make some personal gains, falsified a will and placed it beneath her bed pillow. (Much later officials discovered it was fraudulent.) Unfortunately, the false will deprived Hikosuke of his paycheck, so he couldn't afford to buy a suit to wear to the queen's funeral. Dejectedly, in his everyday clothes, he walked all the way to Nuuanu Avenue near the Royal Mausoleum to view the funeral procession. As it went by, some of the Washington Place staff saw him standing there and urged him to join the march. Embarrassed by the lack of a suit to wear to honor his deceased queen, he shrugged off their calls and sadly watched the procession go by without him.

Soon after, a Colonel Iaukea appointed Hikosuke as caretaker of the queen's summer home on Paokalani Avenue. The Fujimotos moved there, and in 1919 their first-born son Kunio was born. From 1917 to 1937 the Fujimotos lived in the queen's cottage. From 1937 to 1967 they leased another Waikiki property on Paoakalani for thirty years. In the meantime, Hikosuke's family grew in both age and

number. Hikosuke found work at the nearby Moana Hotel and Kikuyo was hired as a housekeeper at the luxurious Royal Hawaiian Hotel.

Today, Kunio has many fond memories of those early years when Waikiki was his home and the area from the beach to the Ala Wai and the site of the Natatorium to the Kapiolani polo field was his playground. His mother, Kikuyo, at the amazing age of 103, still recalls nostalgically those days when her husband Hikosuke proudly served the great and gracious Queen Lili'uokalani of Hawaii.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE MEDAL OF HONOR EPIC INDUCTIONS by James T. Tanabe

I am a veteran ten years the junior of WWII veterans. At the events held in honor of the Congressional Medal of Honor Awardees, I had the honor of rubbing elbows with Nisei and other Pacific veterans who served in WWII. My reflections are from one casual, pure chance encounter with one veteran, name unknown, where not a word was spoken. For that man, the occasion would not be even remotely significant. But it had a thought provoking effect on me.

At the August 27, 2000, Medal of Honor Banquet at the Convention Center, I accompanied a veteran who was a little unsteady on his feet to the rest room. Another WWII Nisei veteran was just finishing up next to me. When I finished washing up, I saw the same gentleman return to his spot with paper towels. He was a mite slow, but with a slightly embarrassed twinkle in his eyes, he bent down and gently wiped up the floor! I almost blurted out, "No need, the janitor will . . ." Good thing I held my tongue, for had I spoken, I would have robbed him of his unassuming act. This candid moment taught me yet another thing about these humble men of valor.

Here was a Nisei veteran of WWII, perhaps in his 80's, who was being honored with his Medal of Honor buddies, a man representing 30,000 Nisei soldiers of the 100th, 442nd, MIS and 1399th Engineers, whose deeds of heroism amid suspicion and prejudice are legendary. He had a homespun dignity. His humble act went unnoticed. He was unaffected by the celebrations and salutes. This man's behavior is not unusual for his breed. I'm glad I didn't intervene. I would have robbed him of his simple dignity, and denied myself a valuable lesson. His act humbled me, even put me to shame. I pondered what made him what he is. The stuff he is made of runs deep. Did he volunteer for service from a plantation like my cousin, a Medal of Honor recipient who volunteered from a Maui sugar cane plantation village? These men, including the mainland Nisei who volunteered from barbed wired concentration camps where their families were imprisoned, came from farms, shops and generally from the working class. They were taught to clean up after themselves, to expect no quarter, to ganbaru [Japanese] (don't give up), 'oni pa 'a [Hawaiian] (don't quit). They are not given to excuses. They are accountable for their actions. They are reliable and dependable, qualities that mark a man. And the rewards for exercising these virtues were to them intrinsic. They are the generation who grew up with no one waiting on them.

Regardless of race or culture, men and women from such upbringing manifest these same qualities. They are cut from a special cloth. The Nisei and other minority soldiers fought prejudice and won with pride and dignity. The men of that generation fought the war out of duty and loyalty and did it with extraordinary distinction. They believed they only did what anyone else would have done, in combat or any life situation. Deeds count, not talk. They are pure class, unpretentious, and demonstrate timeless values! No wonder they were selflessly intrepid in battle, sacrificing themselves for their buddies and country. No wonder they don't consider their deeds as valorous, only as having done their expected duty. Praise or recognition is not their reward; only the knowledge they did the right thing by their comrades, country and family.

I hesitated to write about this unpretentiously private occurrence. I beg the gentleman's forgiveness for my presumption. Still, I felt I should share my experience, as this story is too richly evocative, too universally compelling, to keep it to myself. And I am richer for sharing it.

I'm glad this man and his buddies were in the battlefields preserving our freedom.

[This article was written with many consults to accommodate the private nature of the story portion. The 100th Infantry's president-writer, Don Matsuda, advised on composition. The 100th's Bernard Akamine, Conrad Kurahara, Ray Nosaka; the Military Intelligence Service's Iwao Yokooji, Tadao Taketa, Frank Takao; the 1399th Engineers' Thomas Takemoto; Gen (Ret) Fred C. Weyand; the National Cemetery of the Pacific's Gene Castegnetti; U.S. Office of the Interior's Gary Barbano; HI VA's Walter Ozawa, et al, gave encouragement A special mahalo to my wife, Yoshie, for patiently proofreading and encouraging my writing the vignette.]

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRIG. GEN. JASON KAMIYA

by Joy Teraoka, Co-editor

Our congratulations to Brigadier General Jason Kamiya for becoming the commanding general of the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. His previous appointment was assistant division commander in charge of support operations for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

His parents, Larry and Regina Kamiya, and his brother Clayton flew to Louisiana for the change of command ceremony. As a member and son of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans, Charlie Chapter, Jason continues to bring honor to our organization, to Hawaii, and to his family.

Our best wishes to General Kamiya. Our prayers are with him as he assumes this new position.

THANKS FROM BOY SCOUT TROOP 216

The following letter was received by Bernard Akamine from Boy Scout Troop 216 after they volunteered their help at this year's 56th Memorial Service at Punchbowl.



TROOP 216
CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
KANEHOHE, HAWAII



November 9, 2001

Mr. Bernard S. Akamine, Chairman
56th Memorial Service Committee
Club 100
520 Kamoku Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Dear Mr. Akamine and fellow Club 100 Veterans,

Thank you very much for your generous monetary contribution to our Boy Scout Troop 216. We will be using it for our troop expense. Your kind and generous support is greatly appreciated. Thanks for the photo. Our boys always enjoy this patriotic annual event. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Doreen Louie
Treasurer
Troop 216

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.

BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

by Bernard Akamine

I contacted Mrs. Doris Suzuki (Teiji Oishi's niece who came to our November chapter meeting to seek information about him from his former comrades), and I gave her this information. On November 30, I got a telephone call from Kungo Iwai who lives on Kauai, telling me that he worked with Teiji Oishi at the Elks' Club in Waikiki. They both worked there while going to school as students at U.H. Teiji was a bartender and Kungo was the headwaiter. The haole club members could not pronounce their names so Teiji got the name "Tags" and Kungo was called "Chuck." Kungo said that he named his first son Teiji and his second son Chuck. He and Teiji went on pass to New York and all over the east coast. He has lots of snapshots of Teiji. Luckily, Hajime Yamane still had her telephone number.

Conrad Kurahara's son is an oral surgeon and a very good one, says Ann Kabasawa.

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

by Warren Iwai

MEETING: Sorry but there is no news of December 17th meeting because this article was submitted before the meeting.

In closing the year 2001 we wish to thank our officers, Kazuto Shimizu, President; Toshimi Sodegami, Vice-President; Hiromi Suehiro, Secretary; and Roy Nakamura, Treasurer, for the terrific job they did for us in 2001 and another Big Mahalo for continuing to serve again in 2002. *Arigato gozaimashita.*

Charlie Chapter's next meeting is on January 21, 2002, at the HALE KOA HOTEL. This is a luncheon meeting beginning at 10:00 AM. The cost is \$10.00 per person. We need a minimum of 40 people, so please respond by January 8, 2002. The response has been good, but the more the merrier, so join the gang for a Happy New Year gathering. Send your payment to Club 100 Charlie Chapter, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826.

From my family to your family, we hope you all had a very Merry Christmas; and here's wishing you a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year. *Akemashite, shinnen omedeto gozaimasu.*

LADIES' CORNER: On December 4, 2001, the ladies who have benefitted from Skip Tomiyama's generous spirit of "Aloha" enjoyed a luncheon in her honor at the Willows. Those who attended were Alice Nakagawa, Yukie Akita, Kay Oshiro, Doris Kimura, Regina Kamiya, Betty Iwai and Joy Teraoka. We hope to have more girls join in on the art of hula - a perfect way to exercise, relax and have fellowship.

PLEASE NOTE: SKIP'S HULA CLASSES ARE OPEN TO ALL 100TH INF. BN. VETERANS, WIVES, WIDOWS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS. Classes are held each Monday at 10:00 AM. For the year 2002 starting date, please call the Clubhouse.

(JT Editor's note: The indomitable Skip just had a triple-bypass operation in October. We are amazed and astounded that she is already up and about with more energy than the rest of us combined! We want to thank Skip for her loving and giving spirit she willingly shares with others. This must be the spark that makes her recover so fast. Bless you, Skip; don't overexert yourself because we love seeing your beautiful smile--and "lovely hula hands!")

DOG CHAPTER NEWS

by Helen Nikaido

While volunteering at the Punchbowl Visitors' Center on Saturday, December 8, there were some of the survivors of Pearl Harbor who asked where they could find the names of their buddies missing in action. One young tourist (haole) asked if there was any information in Japanese. I looked at him and asked, "Do you speak Japanese?" He replied that his wife was Japanese.

Your Dog Chapter officers for "2002" are President Saburo Nishime, Vice-President Richard "Doc" Hosaka, Secretary Mary Hamasaki and Treasurer Jitsuri Yoshida. Please support your officers and come to the meetings.

"HAPPY NEW YEAR." DON'T OVEREAT! STAY HEALTHY!

One Puka Puka Japan Autumn tour escorted by Kazuo "Opu" Hiranaka left on October 18 via JAL 79 about 1 p.m., bound for Kansai Airport, Osaka. The airport check-in at Honolulu wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. After an 8-hour flight, we arrived at the Kansai Airport, (Friday - lost one day). It

was a smooth flight, but too long.

Next day we had a full day sightseeing in Osaka. We saw countless numbers of homeless people living in tents near and around the Osaka Castle. As we cruised by Aqua-liner along the river banks, we saw these homeless people fishing, I guess, for their dinner. As we crossed the many bridges, the ceiling of the boat came down, some of the bridges were very low. We enjoyed the Kaiyukan Aquarium where there were many varieties of fish. I didn't know they had so many different kinds of balloon fishes and jelly fishes. In Umeda City, we enjoyed a panoramic view of the city atop the floating Garden Observatory. Instead of a garden, it was just a mist coming down--the garden was on the ground. In Osaka we ate at Dotonburi, a district where they have rows of eating places. We enjoyed the fugu (balloon fish)-no-chili (soup) and fugu-no-sashimi. I have never eaten fugu before, so I hesitated to eat it, but I tried and it was delicious. People stood in line to eat the fugu. I saw this couple eating tempura and I was curious so I asked them and they said it was fugu-no-tempura and the other was fugu-no-karaage. Looked "ono" but we were full. I surely had my fill of fugu.

We left Osaka to board a bullet train for Fukuyama and continued by bus to Matsuyama on the island of Shikoku via the "Shimanami Kaido." This highway connects Honshu at Hiroshima-ken and Shikoku at Ehime-ken. We visited the Kosanji Temple which was built by a Mr. Kato over a span of 30 years in memory of his beloved mother and presently memorializes all mothers. It was a raining "cats and dogs" but Paula, Mildred, Setsuko, Rudy and I went. Good thing we didn't catch colds.

In Hagi we visited the popular Akiyoshidai Safari Land. I thought I was in Africa. The camel would come right in front of our bus and wouldn't move until the caretaker came with the jeep and give some food. There were tigers, lions, leopards, goats, elephants, cheetas, and others. Lions were lying in the middle of the road having a siesta. It was really interesting.

We left Fukuoka for Naha, Okinawa. As we arrived in Okinawa, walking through the terminal, I was impressed with all the beautiful potted orchids on each side. Upon arrival, we enjoyed lunch at a local restaurant. They served so many varieties of dishes, and they just kept coming. It was so delicious, especially the pig's ear--so crunchy. After lunch, we proceeded to the Shuri Castle and Shurei-no-Mon Gate. We visited the old naval headquarters. We walked a narrow, steep stairway and narrow corridors--was kind of spooky. Himeyuri Park was a peaceful park. We saw the cave where the wounded soldiers were treated. We visited a cactus farm with so many species of cactus. Leaving Okinawa, we flew back to Tokyo to spend three nights there.

My roommate was looking high and low for this rice pot (bunka nabe). She went to Mitsukoshi, Ameyo-cho on the train (the last time she says she bought one there). We went to the department store across--no luck. Next day "Opu" and Sugi-san took us to Tsukiji to do some last minute shopping. Sugi-san asked the clerk about the bunka nabe and, lo and behold, they had it. That made my roommate's day. She wasn't aware of the "be-det." When I told her about it, she tried it and liked it. She got hooked on it and used it every chance she had. I noticed the toilet tissue lasted longer.

While in Tokyo we had lunch at the noodle restaurant. It's so popular you had to stand in line. As soon as you leave the next person sits down. This young guy sat across from me; he felt uneasy as I wasn't a national. He couldn't slurp his noodles down. His two friends next to us slurped loudly and fast. Poor guy.

Every time we get back to Tokyo, "Opu" takes us to this sukiyaki restaurant. Unfortunately, the "mama" closed her restaurant because of the "mad cow" scare, people weren't eating beef. It was sad we couldn't see the "mama" this year.

It was a good trip. I ate foods that I haven't eaten before, like fugu, pig's ear; I had my fill of my favorite undagi--got to go on a safari without going to Africa.

We had 12 people on the tour: Paula Asato, Alex and Taeko Fujise, Kazu "Opu" and Mildred Hiranaka, Nancy Nakamura, Stella Nakayama, Helen Nikaido, "Pro" Tanaka, Setsuko Yamagata, "China" Yamashina and Martha Yamashiro.

Many thanks to "Opu" for taking good care of us; it was a most enjoyable trip.

RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

by Ted Hamasu

The Chapter officers for 2002 are President Ted Hamasu; VP Harry Kamikawa; Secretary Masaharu Saito; Treasurer Susumu Ota; Auditors, Toshio Mizusawa and Michael Hamamoto.

On Sunday 2 December 2001, the veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd RCT, the MIS and the public were invited to the 60th Anniversary Memorial Service of the bombing of Pearl Harbor at the USS Arizona Memorial visitor center. The program started at 08:00 AM and being Sunday we did not have the crowd that we expected. I feel that we, as members of these organizations, should strive to attend those functions which the Park Services sponsors in honoring us AJA Veterans. **IF WE DO NOT ATTEND, WHO WILL?** Yes, I agree that we did our share during WWII, but when the public shows its appreciation for what we did, as veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion we should turn out in force to show our gratitude to the sponsors of this Memorial Service. I counted only a hand full of our members at the service. We should strive to do better.

As a member of the BOD of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans we were invited to attend the fourth forum of the Universal Values for a Democratic Society Nisei Veterans Endowed Forum Series sponsored by the UH at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel on 6 December 2001, from 09:00. Being a country bumpkin from Pearl City who does not frequent Waikiki too often, I asked Stanley Akita whether they were driving from the Clubhouse. The answer was, "We will be leaving at 08:00 because we need to take our Colors for this occasion." To be at the clubhouse by 08:00 AM meant I had to leave home about 06:30 to avoid the heavy traffic into town. Fortunately although it was heavy, the traffic kept on moving and I arrived at the clubhouse at 07:00 and had a short nap before we were ready to leave for the hotel. Robert Arakaki offered to chauffeur us to our destination. On the way I kept wondering what this thing was all about. After registering and having a nametag made, we waited for the session to start. While waiting we met the new State Veterans Administrator, Retired General Cockett. He commented that the recent change of name from Club 100 to the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans was a right move and it sounded more appropriate.

We were instructed by Stanley to sit separately so we found a table with student cards placed around the table with a couple of spaces without any student card and sat down. Being ignorant of what this was all about I looked around and the other tables were the same, lots of student cards and a few no card spaces. Ah, now I kind of caught on to what this was all about. The students were gonna ask the veterans questions about the war, and the veterans were to explain what it was all about and how they felt. Our table was occupied by an adult and four young students. We found that the adult was Mr. Wayne Yoshino, principal of Hanalani High School in Mililani with some of his students, Timothy Kelly, Brooks Infante, Vincent Wu, and Shannon Lee.

The session started with the presenting of the Colors and the singing of our National Anthem and Hawaii Pono, followed by the presenting of the Colors of the 100th Infantry Battalion and other veteran organizations. The keynote speaker was the Honorable Robbin Higgins, Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs, who spoke on "The Core Values in Time of Crisis" followed by a question and answer period. As things went on I kept wondering when the students were gonna pop their questions to us, because after the question and answer period, they served us bento at about 11:15 AM. Since Stanley had to leave for the clubhouse, Mrs. Mimi Nakano asked me to take Stanley's place at her table because there were no veterans. At the table I met her students, Marie Cabasag, Betty Ann Leslie, Lauren Maida, Tarah Serapion, Michael Remular and Chad Hayakawa from Leeward Community College. After lunch Mrs. Nakano asked me to tell her students how it was like going to school back in my days. So without a prepared speech, I started off from my birth date and the arrival of my parents from Japan, where I was born and what we did when growing up in the coffee fields and sugar plantation. I talked about money values when we could purchase a cone of ice cream for a nickel and get into the theatre for a dime. Since money was hard to come by, we made our own toys like sling shots from tree branches, tops made of wood and nails. Just when I was getting warmed up, it was time to leave, so Mrs. Nakano asked me to stop by LCC on Tuesday to continue this dialogue. Unfortunately I had to decline as I had an engagement on that date. Well, it was a good experience to have participated in this forum series.

Friday, December 7, I received a call from Stanley Akita asking me to come down to the club house at 2:00 PM to meet some people from Japan who wished to speak with the veterans of the 100th Infantry Bn. Since I did not have anything going, I accepted his invite. At 2:00 PM, I arrived and met the usual members who are there every day and was offered a beer from Hiromi Suehiro, which I accepted with a big smile and a thank you. As we were shooting the bull the guests arrived and we sat down around a makeshift table with seats around it and started the introductions. Some were veterans of the Japanese Army and Navy and some of them were businessmen. There were a couple of ladies in the group. Their desire was to see Pearl Harbor and to meet the veterans of the 100th. Stanley had some sushi platters for

the occasion and Goro Sumida put out some pipi kaula for our beer chaser. The beer flowed freely and one of the guests wanted to sing, so we joined in the singing and had a wonderful hour of fellowship. We invited them to come to our 60th Anniversary party next year. Since they had other engagements, we parted with *Ki o tsuke te okaeri nasai* (be careful on your way home).

I found out that Michael Hamamoto was released from the hospital and is recuperating at home under the watchful eyes of his private nurse, his loving wife Grace. *Gambare, Hama.*

Members, wives, widows, S & D and their children and friends of Rural Chapter: You are cordially invited to attend our annual Installation and New Year's Banquet to be held at Dot's Restaurant in Wahiawa on Sunday, 20 January, 2002 from 10:00AM. The cost for the banquet is \$10.00 for members and wives. The S&D will pay the same amount but their children will be free. Widows of former members will be the guests of the chapter. We will have bingo games, so all donations are welcome. You all come and enjoy the fellowship.

We will be taking our chapter picture so please put on your Club shirt. These pictures will be put in an album and shown at our 60th Anniversary Party in June 2002. You may pay your Club and chapter dues at that time.

Merry Xmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year to all.

ABLE CHAPTER NEWS

by Don Matsuda

Thanks to all for the Christmas party. It was great to see our sons and daughters and their kids running around the hall. Like old times. No doubt, anyone at the party could see that Able Company men and sons are the greatest; their wives and daughters are the greatest and prettiest. The same can be said for all their calabash. And above all, it's plain to see that all their grandchildren and great-grandchildren are way above average.

Goro Sumida is the new president of Able Chapter. He will see to it that we are well supplied with drinks and food. A chicken hekka party is in the works. Goro will be in charge of the bar for the 60th Anniversary festivities. He always has good helpers. Hope they serve the drinks and not drink them up.

We have three new members--Avin Oshiro, Margaret Morikawa, and Sharon Tanaka. Avin did a great job on the trees in front of our clubhouse. All our wives, sons, and daughters are welcome to join our chapter. You can become a member by just coming to our next meeting and having a good breakfast on us. No big deal.

Our sons, daughters, and grandchildren want to hear more stories about us. For starters, here's one of mine: I started out as a mortar ammo-bearer in the weapons platoon. I dodged shells like a scared rat. No heroics. I never dodged bullets fired directly at me--just stray ricochets. I never shot directly at a Jerry, but I shot directly at a chicken in Anzio. The carbine is a surprisingly accurate gun--the chicken was a full three inches away. Maybe it thought I would feed it. The ironies of war--it had an egg in it. Delicious. It turned out that the poor thing belonged to the crew of a tank that was parked behind our house. They kept it for the eggs.

"Grandpa, what did you do in the war?"

"I shot a chicken."

GREETINGS FROM ALA WAI STUDENTS

December 12, 2001

To the Veterans of Club 100 and their Family,

We feel very fortunate this year to share Christmas with you. Through the tree decorating and singing, we come together with excitement and joy. Christmas is a time of sharing and giving. We would like to share our other thoughts of Christmas through the ornaments that we have made.

We also chose particular shapes for our ornaments. First are the bells. Weeks before Christmas, we hear the bells jingling and see their shapes in many places. A long time ago, bells appeared in Christian churches and on Christmas Eve or day, they announced the birthday of Jesus. Later the poor rang hand bells on the streets and collected alms, just as charities do today. Bells send the message of joy and the giving of joy.

We think of Christmas when we see a pine tree decorated with ornaments and colored lights. According to one story, a missionary was cutting down an oak tree that some tribesmen thought was sacred. As the tree fell, a young fir tree sprang up. He said it was the tree of Christ and a symbol of goodness and love that should be taken into their homes.

At the top of many Christmas trees is a star. We see it on a Christmas card or the shape of a cookie. At the time of the first Christmas, a star appeared over Bethlehem. It guided the wise men to honor the event. Others also used it as a guide. The star has become a symbol of hope.

Finally we made some paper cranes. Some of us have read the story Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr. She was one of the many people who suffered the after-effects of the atom bomb. During her illness, Sadako folded paper cranes. In Japan, legend says that cranes live for a thousand years, and that the person who folds a thousand paper cranes will have a wish granted. Sadako wished that she would recover from the fatal disease. She folded 644 cranes before she died. There is a monument to Sadako in Hiroshima's Peace Park. The inscription reads:

This is our cry,
This is our prayer,
Peace in the world.

Each year people place paper cranes at the base of the statue to recall the tragedy of war and to hope for peace. By folding paper cranes and using them as Christmas decorations, we show our hope to live in a world without war.

So to all of you at Club 100, we wish this Christmas will be a time of JOY and LOVE, and the HOPE FOR PEACE.

Love,

The Ala Wai Students from

The Second Grade Class in Room 26 and the Fifth Grade Class in Room 17

Contributions will be made to the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Scholarship Fund in memory of the following members who passed away from October, 2000 to October, 2001:

TAKAO KUBOTA	F/C
RICHARD HARA	D
TATSUO "BAKER" MIYASHIRO	C
TOSHIO HAMATAKA	B - MAINLAND
JAMES ISHIMOTO	A
DALE M. EBISU	HQ-
DONALD KIYOSHI HAMADA	HQ
NIKICHI "NICKY" IWAI	MED
HARRY OKA	RURAL
TARO SUZUKI	A
WILFRED SHOBU	HQ
ARCHIE SHUNICHI KAMISATO	HQ
MASAO IRAHA	D
KENICHI "KENBO" IHA	B
A. A. "BUD" SMYSER	HONORARY
GEORGE JOJI OUE	D - HAWAII
MASAYOSHI KAWAMOTO	C
JAMES W. LOVELL	HQ
SAKAE TAKAHASHI	B
TOSHIO ANAMIZU	B
TAKESHI "LEFTY" KIMURA	C
NICHOLAS NAKABAYASHI	A
MITO FURUMOTO	A
FRANCIS M. KUDO	C - MAINLAND
HAROLD "BLACKIE" TANAKA	C
HENRY S. YOSHITAKE	A - MAINLAND
JITSUO KOBAYASHI	A
KIYOSHI "BUTCH" HOTTA	D - MAUI
SHIGERU ITO	B
CONRAD C. TSUKAYAMA	D
HACHIRO SHIKAMURA	B
JOHN KIHARA	B - RURAL
MICHIYUKI "KELLY" FUJIMOTO	D - KAUAI

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY, 2002

ABLE..... Saturday, Jan. 26.....8:00am
 BAKER..... Saturday, Jan. 19.....1:00pm
 CHARLIE Monday, Jan. 21.....(Hale Koa).....10:00am
 DOG..... Saturday, Jan. 19.....9:00am
 HQ..... NO MEETING.....
 RURAL (Party)..... Sunday Jan. 20.....(Dot's).....10:00am
 KAUAI..... To be announced.....
 MAUI..... To be announced.....
 HAWAII..... To be announced.....
 BOARD MEETING..... Friday, Jan. 11.....10:00am
 GREEN THUMBS..... Monday, Jan. 7.....10:00am

Deadline for articles for the February, 2002 issue is on Tuesday, January 22, 2002.
 (Please submit your articles on time or your article will not be included in the issue!!)

ATTENTION Our new e-mail addresses for the PukaPuka Parade chapter/S&D news & articles are: TERAOKAD001@hawaii.rr.com or annkaba@aloha.net.

For club business, questions or correspondence, e-mail us at ppparade@aol.com

The PukaPuka Parade collating will be on Thursday, January 31, 2002 at 8:30am. Baker & Rural chapters are responsible for providing the manpower & refreshments, but everyone else is welcome to kokua☺

Club 100
 Veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion
 520 Kamoku Street
 Honolulu HI 96826-5120

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

