

100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB



PUKA-PUKA

MONTHLY NEWS

PARADE

SEPTEMBER 2000

ISSUE #2000-9

The honor of your presence is requested at the

55th Memorial Service

of

Club 100

Veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion

on

Sunday, September 24, 2000

9 o'clock a.m.

*National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
Punchbowl*

(Wear your Club Shirt. Please do not turn on your car alarm.)

FROM THE EDITOR'S PUKA

by Don Matsuda, Editor

My grandson, Ben, who lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is just now starting to become interested in the history of our wars. He's asking some tough questions. Here is an e-mail I sent to him recently:

Ben, some wars are good. Some wars are bad. George Washington fought a good war, to free America from the Red Coat soldiers. Abraham Lincoln fought a good war to free the slaves. Grandpa and his buddies fought to free your great grandmother and other Japanese Americans locked up behind barbed wire fences. That's why Grandpa's outfit, the 100th Infantry Battalion had more medals than any other outfit.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Don Matsuda

By the time you read this report, the MOH celebrations will already have taken place. We scuttled the parade and planned a motorcade. Now, it's going to be a motorcade and parade combined. We can only hope the Medal of Honor recipients will have been honored with a great three-day celebration—a Sunset Memorial Service at Punchbowl; a motorcade-parade from historic Chinatown through Waikiki to Fort Ruger, and a banquet at the Hawaii Convention Center. The problem is—no money. I hope the banquet MC, General David Bramlett, doesn't have to call for volunteers to wash dishes after dessert. By the way, the General is one officer you can really salute—if you know what I mean. He does a lot for us.

We can be proud that the 100th families shelled out a lot of hard earned money, even though some big money outfits did so little to honor the men who did so much for them. And what about our Sons and Daughters on the Parade Committee who worked their hearts out for a parade? We owe them something. Our heartfelt apologies to them and all the groups that worked and spent so much to participate in the parade. We have a lot of good people in this town contributing their time and money. We owe them something. It's a matter of honor. And no matter what—we will honor the MOHers. We'll volunteer to wash dirty dishes, even. How's that for honor?

Beaucoup grazie to Denis Teraoka and the rest of the hardworking gang for putting together the Post Parade Pupu Party in our clubhouse. I know it will be a success. We really look forward to getting together with our MOH men. Give those poor guys a chance to meet and talk story with their own.

We knew them personally. I trained with Bill Nakamura in the 7th recruit platoon back in Shelby. He got along easily with everybody—well liked, but a tough fighter. He had a solidly built body, and it doesn't surprise me that he starred in football back home. His action in battle comes as no surprise, too. I knew his big brother in D company of the 442nd. I can't remember his name, but he was that tall good natured guy with a scarred face. He liked to tell me about his misadventures back home in Seattle.

Kiyoshi Muranaga's brother Ken was a replacement in A Company, 100th. He joined us at Menton. I remember sleeping with him in a cave-like place, between the rocks, safe from the occasional shells landing some distance away. We had great times together whenever we hit a town. Ken "Morenga" was the kind of guy who wasn't afraid to back you up in a bar-room brawl, either. Like his brother, maybe. But Kiyoshi was a good soldier. Not like us. That's what our weapons platoon buddy, Kure, who knew Kiyoshi back in Shelby kept telling us. They say in combat, the good guys die and what's left over is kuzu. How true. Have another beer, fellow kuzu.

55th Anniversary of the End of World War II: The USS Missouri Memorial Association, Inc., has extended an invitation to all members of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service, and 1399th Engineers to attend a ceremony commemorating the 55th anniversary of the end of World War II aboard the fantail of the Battleship Missouri Memorial. The ceremony will take place on Saturday, September 2, at 8:45 a.m. Guests should be seated by 8:30 a.m. Presenting the keynote address will be U.S. District Judge Susan Oki Mollway, whose father, Eichi Oki, is a veteran of Company K, 442nd RCT. Also speaking will be Admiral Dennis Blair, Commander-In-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Command.

The Ford Island Bridge will be open for the ceremony from 7:45 – 8:30 a.m. For those without private transportation, trolley service to the Missouri will be available starting at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park. For more information, please call 536-7177.

"Honoring Hawaii's Heroes" is the ceremony's theme—we hope many of you Club 100 members will be able to share in the tribute.

Mahalo to PukaPuka Volunteers: Many thanks to the following people who came out on July 27 to collate and mail out the August issue: Bernard Akamine, Otomatsu Aoki, Robert Arakaki, Kunio Fujimoto, Saburo Hasegawa, Richard Hosaka, Ed Ikuma, Isamu Inouye, Shigeru Inouye, Masaru Kadomoto, Lawrence and Regina Kamiya, Arthur Komiyama, Susumu Kunishige, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Albert Matsumoto, Philip Matsuyama, Y. Mugitani, Joe Muramatsu, Roy Nakayama, Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Ray and Aki Nosaka, Takeichi Onishi, Susumu Ota, Leo Sato, Robert Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Masa Toma, Rikio and Evelyn Tsuda, Ukichi Wozumi, Marie Yoneshige and to Jeanette Akamine, Cecilee Tanaka and Don Matsuda for proofreading. Thank you, Aki Nosaka for compiling the list of volunteers!

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

In this issue: Texts of speeches by Army Chief of Staff, General Eric Shinseki; prayers by Rev. David Turner; a poem by member Hiroshi Minami; article by Mike O'Callaghan, guest speaker at 58th Anniversary Banquet in Las Vegas.

DONATIONS INVITED: *Hawaii's Medal of Honor Salute* is a massive undertaking by the Oahu AJA Veterans Council, the US Army Pacific, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the State Office of Veterans Services, the City and County of Honolulu, the National Cemetery of the Pacific, and many other state and county agencies. The Club 100 Mother Club has donated \$1,000.00 toward the fundraising efforts, but much more is needed. If you would like to make a donation, please send it to Club 100, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu Hawaii 96826 and indicate that it is for the "Salute." The 442nd RCT Foundation will be acknowledging all tax-deductible contributions.

Mahalo to those Club 100 members and friends who have made donations to date. You should be receiving a thank-you letter-receipt from the 442nd RCT Foundation.

- Bernard Akamine
- Otomatsu Aoki
- Alfred Arakaki
- Rev. Don Asman
- Jack Hada
- Stanley Hamamura
- Richard Hamasaki
- Seiju Ifuku
- Yoroku Ito
- Gladys Kawakami
- Don Matsuda
- Evelyn Miyashiro
- Kenneth Muroshige
- Charles Nishimura
- Harry Oka
- Sons and Daughters of the 100th Infantry Battalion
- Rev. Harry Suga
- Sakae Takahashi
- Ben Tamashiro
- Dorothy Tamashiro
- Tami Tanabe
- Stanley Tanaka
- Rikio Tsuda
- Bert Turner
- Ukichi Wozumi
- Jitsuri Yoshida

“ABOVE AND BEYOND” the video-documentary produced by KITV to commemorate *Hawaii’s Medal of Honor Salute* will be re-broadcast on Saturday, September 2, at 6 p.m. on KITV, Channel 4, Cable 6. There are no plans to sell the video. The station advises viewers to record it directly from the broadcast.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE VA: Ron Yonemoto asked that this information be passed on to 100th Battalion veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart. If a veteran is a recipient of the Purple Heart, he is entitled to free audiological testing and hearing aids as well as eye examination and eye glasses.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY’S REPORT

by Drusilla A. Tanaka

Club Caps and Shirts: Those who ordered caps and shirts but have not yet picked them up are reminded to pick up your order. We will hold them for 30 days. After that, they will be returned to the inventory and sold on a first-come, first served basis.

Please remember to send in your “Registry of Potential Members and Associate Members.” We will send an application form to each of your eligible descendants.

Mahalo nui loa to the following donors for their thoughtful and timely gifts to Club 100:

- \$100 from Joe Oshiro (A)
- \$50 from Elaine Yamasaki in memory of her brother Kent Nakamura (Medics/HQ)
- \$50 from Elaine Yamasaki and Frances Hirata in memory of their brother Kent Nakamura (Medics/HQ)
- \$200 from Tomeno Odo in memory of Everett “Action” Odo (B)
- \$50 from an anonymous B Chapter member for the Post Parade Party
- \$500 from Stella Saito in memory of William Saito (E/A)
- \$100 from Bob and Kay Ogata in memory of his brother Masayoshi Ogata (D/KIA)
- \$30 from Richard Hosaka (D) for the Post Parade Party
- \$100 from Roy Kitaoka (D)
- \$10 from Motoyoshi Tanaka (D/Hawaii)
- 6 interisland airfare coupons from Cyrus Higa of City Travel Center Corp. for Neighbor Island Chapter Presidents’ airfare to attend “Salute” events in Honolulu
- videotapes of the *Hawaii’s Medal of Honor Salute* weekend have been donated by Kunio Fujimoto. Kuni had an unusual vantage point from the back of a 5-ton Army truck.

Club 100 thanks the following donors to the PukaPuka Parade:

- \$50 from Evelyn Miyashiro
- \$100 from Anonymous Kauai Chapter member

Mahalo to Robert T. Sato for representing Club 100 at the anniversary celebration of the Omotesenke Tea Association. He also represented the Club at the anniversary celebration in Japan more than 20 years ago.

Otanjoobi omedetoo gozaimasu to the following new Octogenarians who will be 80 years old in September: Thomas Kaihara (A/Mainland) and Masasuke Toma (B)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT—REPLACEMENT REUNION—As of this date, forty (40) replacements have indicated they will attend the reunion scheduled for September 23, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. at the Club 100 Clubhouse. To enable us to prepare enough food and beverages so no one will go hungry, we are requesting those of you who are planning to attend the get-together, to mail in your payment of ten dollars per person to either Stanley Akita, 1387-1 Hunakai Street, Honolulu, HI 96816, or to Hiromi Suehiro, 2634 Nakookoo Street, Apt. C-3, Honolulu, HI 96826 by September 11, 2000, so we can get the exact count. We are going to have a great time renewing friendships, recounting the training and battle experiences, and we even have a guy from Seattle who is swimming over so he can meet all of you. Wives are included and door prizes will be given away. Stan and Hiromi are looking forward to our first replacements reunion and hopefully make this an annual event.

Note: This is the same day as the decorating of graves at Punchbowl for the Memorial Service the next day. Please come to the clubhouse as soon as you are done with your duties at Punchbowl. Park at Ala Wai School.

Hawaii's Medal of Honor Salute Sunset Memorial Service, August 25, 2000, at Punchbowl—the following prayer was offered by The Reverend David B. Turner:

Gracious God: We enter into this sacred place today and seek your presence. May the reassurance of your constancy be felt through the emotions of this day. Amidst the memories and stories of valor, may we also be reminded of the humor, the humaneness and the very honor in which these men whom we honor lived their lives. May the vibrancy of this day—the blue of your sky, the green of your land, the breath of your breeze, the splendor of your changing sun—define our memories and hopes. For, we remember that it is not only in battle that these men distinguished themselves, it is also in the very lives they lived, the people they touched, the families they enlivened. As they have sacrificed may we be emboldened to give of ourselves. As they and their families have set aside dreams in order for a nation's dreams to be real, may we look to the ideals that are beyond each of ourselves and fashion those very dreams into our own. As they have served, may we continue to serve in their stead.

We pray your gentle presence upon us this day, and we rest assured in the presence of these fine men within your loving hands. Thank you, God, for the gift of these men, may the events of today be a reminder of how we are forever enriched by the beauty of the blessing of their lives. Amen.

The following is General Eric Shinseki's speech as it was prepared for delivery on August 27, 2000, at the Hawaii Convention Center, on the occasion of the luncheon banquet for *Hawaii's Medal of Honor Salute*. It is not a transcript of the speech given.

"Honorees; families and friends of our Honorees; distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

"Aloha, everyone—it's good to be back in Hawaii. Patty and I thank you for including us in these festivities to honor our Medal of Honor recipients. My name is Shinseki and I'm a soldier. But today, I think I speak for all of us, especially those of us who serve in uniform—regardless of service—as we honor these very special Americans.

"This summer has been a special time—full of celebration and commemoration. This past June, the Army celebrated its 225th anniversary of service to the Nation—older than the republic itself. We also observed the 50th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War and the 56th anniversary of the D-Day landings at Normandy. We commemorated the valor of such units as Task Force Smith, the first U.S. unit to take on the North Korean invasion in 1950, and the Military Intelligence Service, which was finally awarded its Presidential Unit Citation for valorous actions rendered during World War II. And then we shared that very special moment with the entire nation when the President stood onstage on

the South Lawn of the White House to honor 22 very unique and special Americans and their families—22 uncommonly brave men from a variety of common backgrounds.

‘You know, it’s entirely fitting that we are holding these commemoration activities here in Honolulu, because it is here where for so many this journey really all began, crystallized by the surprise attack on the Pacific fleet moored at Pearl Harbor. We live with the results of that attack in so many ways, even today. Our nation’s unyielding commitment to trained and ready warfighting forces available on a moment’s notice is an acknowledgment to all that Pearl Harbor will never happen again. That attack thrust this nation into war, and all of you here have personal histories that define what that really meant. The Pacific became one of two major theaters of operations, and all of you, as individuals and as communities, were touched by it and were called upon to make sacrifices. No matter where you stood on 7 December 1941, that “Day of Infamy” as President Roosevelt proclaimed it, your lives were forever changed—education plans put on hold, some marriages deferred, others moved up to accommodate service in uniform; families torn apart. And all of our communities sacrificed for the successful outcome of the war. The Asian-Pacific Islander community was particularly touched—Hawaiians, Guamanians, Samoans, and other South Pacific Islanders—felt the direct impacts of a war in their backyard and sent their men to fight it.

“The war touched the Asian community as well. Twenty thousand Chinese Americans fought in World War II. In New York City alone, 40% of the Chinese male population was inducted into the various services, the vast majority of them into the Army. Most of these men did not have families stateside—their wives and children were, for the most part, still in China. They had no personal stake in the war, and yet, they volunteered to wear the uniform and demonstrate their allegiance to America.

“Fourteen thousand Filipino Guerrilla fighters fought with U.S. forces for three years to defend their homeland by providing critical intelligence from behind enemy lines. In addition, a thousand Filipino Americans joined them in conducting clandestine operations against the Japanese.

“The community most directly touched was the AJA community—Americans of Japanese Ancestry. Because the attack was carried out by naval striking forces of the Empire of Japan, they, more than most, suffered in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor. Early distrust and suspicion turned to a tide of discrimination and hatred against which the AJA community could do little to buoy itself. Any effort to publicly proclaim loyalty to the nation sounded hollow and tinny in the face of growing paranoia about the safety of the homeland. But the AJA community was not the only one to suffer discrimination because those who distrusted and those who discriminated could not distinguish between Americans of Japanese or Chinese or Korean ancestry or any number of other Asiatic looking peoples. When you lack that kind of sophistication, well, you just discriminate fairly—you treat them all the same. And in response to the mistrust and discrimination, the men of all these communities, individually and collectively, stood and demanded the right to bear arms as American citizens. Out of such patriotism came the legendary units like the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 1399th Construction Engineers Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service—one of our lesser known units because of the secrecy that shrouded all of their operations—but heroic nonetheless. And out of such patriotism came the honorees we celebrate today.

“We all bled to meet the obligations of citizenship. And in doing so, we began the chapter in history which today brings us together nearly 59 years after the attack on Pearl Harbor to honor 22 very brave Americans who met a standard for service and courage unknown to most of us—even those of us who have seen and tasted battle.

“Let me call their roll one more time—there is a wonderful resonance to the reading of their names—names that ring familiar to those of us raised in Asian-Pacific Islander communities all across our great and wonderful country: Staff Sergeant Rudolph Davila, Private Barney Hajiro, Private Mikio Hasemoto, Private Joe Hayashi, Private Shizuya Hayashi, Second Lieutenant Daniel Inouye, Technical Sergeant Yeiki Kobashigawa, Staff Sergeant Robert Kuroda, Private First Class Kaoru Moto, Private First Class Kiyoshi Muranaga, Private Masato Nakae, Private Shinyei Nakamine, Private First Class William Nakamura, Private First Class Joe Nishimoto, Sergeant Allan Ohata, Technician Fifth Grade James Okubo, Technical Sergeant Yukio Okutsu, Private First Class Frank Ono, Staff Sergeant Kazuo Otani, Private George Sakato, Technical Sergeant Ted Tanouye, Captain Francis Wai. They fought in Italy and in France and in the Philippines. They wore the insignia of the 7th Infantry Regiment, the 24th Infantry Division, the 100th Infantry Battalion, and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. They fought in places like Leyte, Biffontaine, San Terenzo, Mt. Belvedere, Bruyeres, Artena, Lanuvio, Castellina, and Cerasuolo. These quiet men—small in stature—who performed the most unbelievable acts of bravery; they were tigers in battle.

“But it’s not just that they fought well. You see, our nation’s highest award for valor is reserved for only those acts of heroism that go so far beyond our knowledge about personal courage and stamina

and determination and one's devotion to one's fellow soldiers as to defy comprehension. The medal of honor is not awarded frequently; it is not awarded cavalierly. All of our Medal of Honor recipients and their families can be proud of the acts of heroism which resulted in these awards. The recognition they have been accorded is fully justified, and we stand in awe of such noble achievements. No one can train to do what they did. We could not expect them to, nor would we have ever asked them to make such sacrifices. And had any recipient chosen not to act, no one, and I do mean no one, would have criticized him for such a decision. But from somewhere deep within their breasts, on those distant and terrible battlefields, these men of courage and action lifted themselves to such heights of human endeavor that they have given themselves up to the ages. They are, today, less a part of us and more the stuff of history. And in so doing, whatever questions which may have lingered about soldierly virtue or about individual toughness or about loyalty amongst our communities, these questions were emphatically answered—beyond all doubt.

"We can all be proud of the accomplishments of these 22 recipients, and we should be humbled by their own humility—quiet yet tough, they performed their duties without fanfare—deflecting praise and avoiding recognition. I regret that it has taken 50 years for them to receive this proper acknowledgment of their heroism. And, as I've previously observed, while the causes for this are several, one of the reasons is understandable—and it had to do with their near-legendary modesty, their own refusal to talk about themselves and their exploits. You see, as I've previously noted, I grew up listening to stories about men just like these—fascinating stories. And when I encountered them in person, they never talked about themselves or their own acts of bravery—which is why sometimes even family members of those veterans had never heard their stories. They were unaware that someone they've known only as a father or a husband, an uncle or a brother is, to many others, a hero of magnificent proportions. This aspect is what gives today's celebration such special dignity.

"And in combat, it's out of such selflessness that emerges the unique bond that binds soldier to soldier. From the eloquence of the citations describing what these men did that set them apart from the rest of humanity, you know that these are men of action. Their actions took them beyond fear and beyond pain and beyond concerns about personal welfare. The bond I refer to here is trust. In the deadly chaos of battle, trust between soldiers takes on a value all its own. And when they fight, soldiers fight for each other because of the trust they have placed in one another. Trust is a shared value that goes beyond most human expression. ~~You can't quantify it, and you can't explain it. But the men we honor today are examples of its existence.~~

"I sense that this recognition has brought with it some deep and complex emotions. All those who survive war know that there are others—friends who fought and friends who died—friends who made it possible for us to be here today. I sense that it's not easy for our living honorees to accept these accolades when they know that there are other heroes who will never be recognized—some who lived, some who died, and some whose stories of valor are known only to God.

"I sense that, as they participate in these ceremonies, their thought turn periodically to those men and to the places where they shared with them what seemed like a lifetime. With them, they shared their letters from home, their coffee, their rations, their photographs of loved ones. With them, they celebrated births and anniversaries and holidays. With them, they faced danger, confronted fear, nurtured hopes and chanced to dream. With them, they shared that strange mixture of laughter and sorrow that soldiers in combat recognize and understand.

"To each of our honorees, the bonds of trust you forged with your fellow soldiers in battle are still intact. They cannot be broken. And so, as you accept our accolades for the heroism you displayed on days when your units, your Army, and your country needed you to provide that spark of inspiration, accept our recognition with that soldier's trust in mind. Those men—your friends—know that you represent them well. You and the recipients who are no longer with us served this nation so well all those many years ago; and you continue to serve it today. By accepting this public recognition you remind all of us about the sacrifices which were made so that the rest of us could live our lives as we have come to enjoy them over the last 55 years. And those men with whom you shared so much are certainly with us here today—in person and in spirit. They look on you with great pride, and with you, they share in this honor.

"Events like this one always remind me just how much all of us—and I do mean all of us—owe these remarkable Americans. In this country, a surprise attack had bred serious mistrust amongst portions of a diverse population, a mistrust that was overturned only by acts of such supreme sacrifice to prove a loyalty that needed no proving. And because of those demonstrations of loyalty, you have Americans of Asian-Pacific Islander heritage serving today at the very highest levels in our nation.

"It has indeed been very humbling and gratifying to have these men as our role models. They gave us examples of honor and sacrifice we could only hope to emulate. I am personally indebted to them for

the opportunity to serve in my chosen profession. And to the many families who endured the indignities of relocation and suspicion—with such grace, with such quiet dignity, and with such strength—we are indebted to you, as I've said before, for the example you gave us on how to live our lives. Again, from my generation to yours, we thank you.

“Tom Brokaw called the generation that fought and won World War II “The Greatest Generation”—well, he was talking about most of you who are here today. It's just that his interviews never got far enough to name your names or capture your photographs. But he talked about your exploits and your triumphs as a generation in his book. Your generation enabled America to close out the 20th century as the greatest nation in the history of mankind—the only remaining superpower, the world's leading economy, and the world's most respected and feared military force in the world—respected by our friends and allies, feared by our adversaries. But it was not just winning World War II that made you the greatest generation, in my opinion. It was also what you did following the war when you came home and put America on the road to greatness that made you the generation to be remembered by Tom Brokaw. It was the leadership you assumed and provided to us in government, in business, in education, and in the many other ways you made your marks. It was the sense of service that you brought back with you—of sacrifice and of having served something bigger than yourselves. It was your tolerance for views and politics different from your own—born of the intolerance you had personally witnessed—both at the hands of others in interment camps in this country and at other internment camps in other parts of the world where intolerance achieved the kind of brutality that have given Auschwitz, Buchenwald, and Dachau, which you liberated, and other places like them their own unique place in history. It was your personal understanding of the ultimate responsibilities of citizenship by your willingness to lay down your lives to preserve our freedoms. It was the enthusiasm and the confidence that you brought to living your lives—both at work and at play. It was the lessons of fair play and respect for the dignity of our flag and for all who pledged allegiance to it. You enabled us to achieve our greatness as a nation by the leadership in life you provided for us when you came home victorious from World War II—that is why you are the greatest generation. My question to you—and to all of us, today—is whether or not we can extend the influence of the greatest generation in our time without fighting another big war. Must we storm another Normandy or another San Pietro or another Leyte to create again a generation of Americans with the character, the talent, and the determination to keep our nation where it finished up the 20th Century? Or can we take your lessons and teach another generation of Americans to lead as you've led for most of the last 50 years? I don't know the answer to that question, but I do know that war is expensive. I think your children and mine and their children need to understand that the obligations of citizenship bring with it responsibilities for the privilege of living in this country. If called to arms again to preserve our way of life, our young must find a way to meet their obligations just as you did. Our best hope for never again having to ask them to pay those costs is to insure that we have done everything possible to keep America as strong as it is today—politically, economically, spiritually and militarily—committed to the principles of freedom, self-determination, and the equality of all men and women as an inalienable right. Continue to tell your stories so that the next generations can understand what it took to provide them with the opportunity, the comfort, and the privilege they enjoy today. But, with those privileges come responsibility.

“We came together today because of the valor of these 22 men—22 men who are important to America. It was an honor and a privilege for Patty and me to have participated in the Medal of Honor ceremonies in the nation's capital this past June. It was a special moment for all of us to witness these men and the families of the heroes no longer with us—people who look like most of us—receiving the accolades of a grateful and honoring nation. These men are important to America. They have gone beyond being role models for just their families or their hometowns to being role models for a much larger community. Their sacrifices and the sacrifices of their families stand as a reminder of the proud heritages they represent, of the indomitable will of the American soldier, and of the tremendous heights to which a few of the brave can ascend.

“I am proud to be an American soldier, and I am honored to have been here with you today. My thanks to Senator Akaka, Governor Cayetano, the Oahu AJA, the military leadership, and so many others who have made this celebration possible. This has been a wonderful opportunity for all of Hawaii to honor these men and their families. In doing so, we have also honored all who have served our nation in uniform. We, more than most, understand fully what it took to drink from the fountain of courage as these men did. We salute them for having risen above all of our measures of soldierly virtue.

“To the Medal of Honor recipients and their families: Thank you for giving us such dignified and honorable examples to follow and for being an inspiration to us all. God bless each and everyone of you, and God bless America. Thank you.”

(Note: Many thanks to Gregg Kakesako of the Star Bulletin for faxing this copy to us.)

BEYOND THE CALL
(a poem by Hiroshi Minami/HQ)

Grandpa, what is meant by Medal of Honor award?

Lad, it means service
Beyond the call of duty
With daring courage;

For fearsome it is
To charge against enemy
In hail of bullets;
It also implies
Honor through self-sacrifice
Others so to save;

Not many would dare
Throw themselves on live grenade
So buddies may live;

The dedication
To save wounded and dying
Takes deep compassion,
So with proud respect
The nation bestows honor,
Its highest medal
To all those who served
Freely giving of themselves
In call to duty;

Grant we forget not
Their loyalty to courage
In country's service.

Thanks to Ben Tamashiro (D) who worked hard to meet the ultimate deadline for the PPP and submitted another thought-provoking article:

David, The Bible's Foremost Hero
A Medal of Honor Perspective
By Ben Tamashiro

~~“And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, and the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth . . . but there was no sword in the hand of David . . . therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.”~~

Sunday evening, August 27. At home, trying to think about what the weekend's Medal of Honor events might mean to me, I pull out my Bible to help my thoughts along. They turn to the familiar story of David the shepherd boy killing the giant Goliath with one fling from his slingshot; hence the few lines above from I Samuel (17:49-51).

Monday morning, August 28. Drusilla says she would like to have an article from me on the weekend's MOH program for the upcoming PPParade, but it has to be in her hands by tomorrow, Tuesday. The deadline is outrageous, the summons challenging. They lead me to think of Gen. Shinseki as he delivered his keynote address at Sunday's luncheon at the Hawaii Convention Center. It was as stirring an address as one would ever hear anywheres (it is reproduced elsewhere within this issue.) And what made Gen. Shinseki's speech all the more compelling was his countenance as projected on the two large screens in the cavernous dining room of the convention center. I remarked to Terry Takemoto (Brig. Gen. Francis Takemoto's daughter-in-law, sitting to my left at Table 150), that he had the looks of a young boy.

Like the biblical David, perhaps? To answer the question, I turn to the book, "Ambassadors In Arms" by Thomas D. Murphy, the history of the 100th Infantry Battalion, our own "bible." In Chapter Six titled, "The Heart of America," Murphy quotes Carl Sandburg (the biographer of Abraham Lincoln) who wrote in his column in the Chicago Sunday Times: "Anyone who bets on the future service of the 100th Infantry Battalion of the 2d Army, in training at Camp McCoy, will not go far wrong." It was a testament to the young and humble nisei from Hawaii who rose to become one of the great fighting machines of World War II, even as they retained their humility and humbleness. And in this aspect, in his speech Gen. Shinseki posed the question as to whether future generations of Americans would be able to perform and lead as ours did, earning the epithet "The greatest generation." At this point, I'd like to retell the pertinent parts in the story of Tamotsu Shimizu to illustrate the general's question.

Tamotsu was the #1 scout in the 3d Squad, 3d Platoon, Able Company; Capt. Mits Fukuda, CO. Following Pearl Harbor, when the nisei boys who had been marshalled at Schofield Barracks were told that they were to be shipped out soon, headed for parts unknown, Tamotsu had a chance to run home to

Ewa and tell his father about it. The father said to the son, "I don't care whether you come home in a coffin or not. But fight well for your country. And do not bring shame to the family."

With those parting words, Tamotsu was off to the wars. In Italy, he was twice wounded. On the third encounter he lost his left arm near Rome. Then followed a long period of rehabilitation in mainland hospitals and return to Hawaii in May 1945, then discharge from the army a month later.

Returning to his home in Ewa plantation, there he resumed a pleasure of his former life, the plantation furo. But now his father would follow him each evening and in the furo would scrub his back for him, an act reflecting the immense pride he felt in the fact that his son had fought well for country and had not brought any shame to self or family; just pride and honor.

That, in capsule form, could also be the story of the 22 Medal of Honor heroes who were honored in the 3-day weekend celebration. It is not the intent of this brief article to cover the singular accomplishments of the 22 heroes, their stories having been well-covered by the media over the last several weeks. We will only note here that of the 7 honorees who are still alive, two are from the 100th — Shizuya Hayashi, Co. A and Yeiki Kobashigawa, Co. B. And of the 15 deceased, five are from the 100th—Masato "Curly" Nakae, Co. A; Mikio Hasemoto, Shinyei Nakamine and Allan Ohata, Co. B; and Kaoru Moto, Co. C.

In sum, although the times and the weapons are different, these heroes are all in the mold of David, the biblical hero. Whereas David had come to do battle with Goliath "in the name of the Lord of hosts" (I Samuel 17:45), our modern day heroes were doing battle to preserve democracy against Naziism, a foe equally forbidding as the Philistine giant. But when it comes down to fighting with courage and honor and indomitable spirit, the challenges to the human endeavor remain unchanged.

Thus, we salute these Medal of Honor heroes, the greatest of the greatest generation ever.

Epilogue. Ran into Ed Ichiyama, 442d, on Sunday at the Convention Center. He was one of the key planners/pushers for the MOH recognition project so the chance encounter gave me the opportunity to offer my congratulations for a most fascinating 3-day weekend celebration. From the sundown Memorial Service at Punchbowl to the parade of heroes through downtown and Waikiki and the luncheon at the Convention Center, the whole was a marvelous demonstration of what the AJA Veterans Clubs, the Army, the State, the City, and the Chamber of Commerce, along with Sons and Daughters of the veterans together can accomplish. We hope to see more of this kind of comraderie in future projects and programs.

Dedication of KIA Memorial Wall at 442nd Veterans Club clubhouse, August 5, 2000. Club 100 President Don Matsuda was asked to say a few words:

Thank you, Don (Shimazu). Thank you, honored guests. Thank you, veterans and families of the 442nd.

On behalf of the One Hundredth Infantry Battalion that fought with you in Italy and France, I congratulate you. This is a truly great memorial.

This mainland kotonk replacement to the 100th from the 442nd, standing here with you folks and looking at these names is overwhelmed by an indescribable feeling of reverence and gratitude. Their sacrifices unlocked the gates of the concentration camps and set us free to live a life of greater equality on the mainland. Their actions in combat eventually won for us a presidential apology and compensations.

On behalf of all my mainland 100th and 442nd buddies, friends and relatives, I thank all of Hawaii's people. You are special. No where else in this world is there a place like this. Most of these men came from this wonderful place.

Each of us has known these men personally in a special way. We can still see their young faces, or the way they walked on the trail on the reverse side of a ridge, or on a sidewalk in town back home, or barefooted on a dusty country road. We trained with them, went on passes with them, shared the same hole and heard the same shell screaming down on us.

Of course we replacements didn't train with the 100th; they trained us—taught us how to stay alive—taught us how to live. Taught this kotonk how to live—Hawaii style, *like dat*. This wonderful memorial put up by you is for men who knew how to live *like that*. For *that* they gave their lives.

Former Governor of Nevada, Mike O'Callaghan, was the guest speaker at the 58th Anniversary Celebration in Las Vegas. Currently the Executive Editor of the Las Vegas Sun newspaper, the following editorial appeared on Tuesday, June 20, 2000, and contains the gist of his keynote speech. It is re-printed here with permission.

One-Puka-Puka in town

Some of America's finest fighting men and patriots are gathering in Las Vegas to visit and recall past relationships and experiences. They are the men from three troop trains moving into Camp McCoy, Wis., 58 years ago. It had been a long trip for them from Hawaii aboard a crowded troop ship and then on equally crowded trains from Oakland, California, to the farmlands of Wisconsin.

The book "Remembrances" relates the feeling of one of the soldiers: "Arriving at McCoy, one of them stops at a siding. The men look out the window. Across the track stands what looks like an internment camp. There are watch towers, iron fences topped with barbed wire surrounding the camp. One of the men studies the camp very carefully. He knows that his parents are interned in a camp somewhere in Wisconsin. He feels apprehension and anxiety. He has a strong urge to get out of the train to search for his parents. The men harbor a 'funny kine feeling' and wonder if this indeed is their fate. ...

"As if playing out a macabre scene, the train slowly backs away from the siding and comes to a dead stop in the right area of the sprawling camp. Later, the soldier who wondered about his parents learns, that ye, indeed, his parents were in the very camp he saw through the train's windows."

This was the beginning of a saga that will live forever in the hearts and minds of Americans then facing the combined threat of Germany and Japan. The troops arriving from the territory of Hawaii were Japanese Americans who had already seen the devastation of Pearl Harbor by bombers from Japan. They were soldiers of the 100th Battalion.

Masayo Umezawa Duus, in her book, "Unlikely Liberators" about the men of the 100th and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, tells readers:

"But the 100th belonged neither to a regiment nor a division. It was a 'bastard battalion' without a legitimate parent.

"The unit's designation as the 100th showed that the army did not know quite what to do with it. The Japanese Americans did not hide their dissatisfaction and anxiety at the strange-sounding battalion designation. Being a bastard battalion really meant that no one wanted them. The army, many felt, was discriminating against them. Wryly the troops began calling themselves the 'One-Puka-Puka.' In Hawaiian *puka* means 'hole'—and also the zero in a telephone number."

This Wisconsin farm boy and hundreds of others living in and around Camp McCoy soon learned to respect the soldiers from those faraway islands. So did a division of soldiers from Texas who didn't want to give them room on the sidewalks of nearby towns. Almost three dozen went to the hospital one night when the smaller men had enough. My father, only five feet eight inches tall himself and a World War I veteran, became a cheerleader for the new troops. He followed their heroic exploits with great interest as they fought their way across Europe.

It wasn't long before the men of the 100th were viewed like our own local men then serving in the military. Their ability in sports, especially baseball, was appreciated by the country people where every town had a team playing on Saturdays and Sundays. When the troops shipped out for advanced training in Mississippi they left behind many friends and fond memories. The men of the 100th had fought several battles for the opportunity to fight in mortal combat against the enemy and now they were on their way.

Heavy combat in Italy resulted in more than 900 casualties before the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team were joined together. Now the "Remember Pearl Harbor" battalion and the "Go For Broke" regimental combat team were together.

The combat record of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was unequalled. The cost was heavy and resulted in 9,486 Purple Hearts. Heroism was an accepted fact of life and death that the men faced during seven major campaigns in Europe.

Among them was Las Vegas Young Oak Kim, who will be one of the hosts during the reunion here in Las Vegas. Colonel Kim, then a lieutenant and later a captain, received one of the unit's 52 Distinguished Service Crosses, the Silver Star and the Purple Heart with three oak leaf clusters.

The accomplishments of the young Japanese Americans during World War II, both in Europe and as military intelligence people in the Pacific, have placed them high on the list of American patriots.

G. E. (Gene) Castagnetti, Director of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) sent this message:

"This letter is to inform you that the granite marker purchased by the Oahu AJA Veterans Council for the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific's (NMCP) "Adopt a Tree" Program has been emplaced.

"The markers were placed in alphabetical order based on the organization's name. Therefore, your marker is the ninth one as you enter the cemetery gate."

HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS

by Kenneth Saruwatari

On October 17, Tuesday, we will meet for our final lunch of the year.

Time: 11:30 a.m.
Place: Kengo's Seafood Express (in Restaurant Row)
Price: \$11.95 per person (bring i.d. for senior citizen's discount of 15%)
(not including drinks)
Parking validated
Date: Tuesday, October 17
Reservations: Call Vivian Saruwatari at 373-4050 or Dorothy Tamashiro at 734-5122 by October 10.

ABLE CHAPTER NEWS

by Tommy Nishioka

I know that I've said that I will no longer write articles in the PukaPuka Parade, however, I was asked to write a few words to let the chapter members, wives, widows and to the sons and daughters that our Christmas party will be held on December 9, 2000. The reservation forms should be printed in a future issue, so be aware of it, and when you see it, please fill out the form and turn it in as soon as possible. The head-count is very important to the committee, so please turn in your application right away. The committee is working very hard to make this year's Christmas party a very enjoyable one and once again we are depending on our sons and daughters for help.

The next article I'm going to write about should be of interest to some of you. During our month of May meeting, the members decided that we should have a get-together luncheon after our meeting and clean-up. Since it was Mr. Goro Sumida that actually brought this matter up, he was made the "Honcho," therefore he was asked to set the date and the restaurant. At the June meeting, Goro stated that he had made a reservation at the Wisteria Restaurant for the month of July. All the members agreed on that date however, in the meantime we heard that the Medal of Honor recipients were announced and our own Shizuya Hayashi and Curly Nakae were among them, so therefore, we all suggested that we should invite the Hayashi's and the Nakae's to our luncheon. We invited Shizuya and Mimi Nakano as well as Curly's daughter Ann and her husband Randy Kuroda. As we were waiting for the honorees to come, Mr. Roy Asato, the manager of the Wisteria, was there, so I told him that we had invited the Medal of Honor recipients to our luncheon. He was so excited that he told me to please give him the check for these honorees because he wants to show his gratitude to these heroes. I called Mr. Asato and introduced him to Shizuya and to the Nakae's and showed him the Medal. I thought that it was very considerate of Mr. Asato to think of paying the bill for our heroes.

Able Chapter wishes to extend our sincere congratulations to all the Medal of Honor recipients.

BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

by Bernard Akamine

This will be old news by the time the PukaPuka Parade is delivered, but here is something of interest and humor regarding the parade honoring the MOH recipients. I, and I guess many of our older generation, have prostate problems such as enlargement of that organ or bladder problems, so we cannot go long distances because we have to go shi-shi so often. So knowing this, I took a bag of 20 Depend under garments to the clubhouse and told Drusilla to give them to whomever needed them for the parade. There were a lot of thankful members. One asked Drusilla to put it on for him, but then as soon as he realized what he said, they both burst out laughing! The best comment came from Lefty Tanigawa who swore he didn't need one, but declared the new club uniform: "Club cap, club shirt and club diaper."

I heard that when Stanley Akita mentioned this at one of the Salute Committee meetings, someone asked if the "unit insignia" would be on the diaper. Quick-witted Stanley answered, "No, it's gonna say, 'Go For Broke.'"

Baker Chapter Christmas Party will be December 10, Sunday. We are going to ask the Sons and Daughters to take charge of this event. Robert Aoki is already scanning the ads for bargains and he promises a very bountiful dinner.

Isa Nadamoto came to the clubhouse recently and he really looks good. He is taking a supplement of fermented soy liquid and other herbs. He said he was down to below 100 pounds, but now he has recovered wonderfully. We have been told that we must eat natto regularly for good health. The early Japanese must have known this long ago. But for you who cannot eat natto because of the aroma, I saw on Japanese TV a dish that everyone can enjoy. Cook ground meat of chicken or turkey, add chives that have been chopped. Prepare the natto with the mustard packet. Mix it well and stir fry all ingredients. No seasoning is needed, try it, you will like it.

A reminder about the Memorial Service—the Memorial Service Committee will hold a dry run on the 22nd at 9 a.m. and on the 23rd starting at 8:30 a.m., the Sons and Daughters will decorate the graves. Members who can offer moral support are urged to come. Report to the Refreshment Canopy which will be our CP for the flowers this year. If you are planning to attend the Replacements' Reunion, we should be pau in time for you to wash your hands and go to the reunion.

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS (via the internet)

by Warren Iwai

Meeting: Sixteen strong turned out for the meeting on August 21st. They were: Stan Akita, Saburo Ishitani, W. Iwai, Larry Kamiya, Oscar Miyashiro, Chick Miyashiro, Jack Mizushima, Rusty Nakagawa, Roy Nakamura, Takeichi Onishi, Kazuto Shimizu, Toshimi Sodehara, Hiromi Suehiro, Tad Umamoto, Kiyoshi Uyeno and Kaoru Yonezawa. The discussions were principally on the Medal of Honor celebration planned for that week. We received the final low down from Stan Akita, Kazuto Shimizu and Drusilla Tanaka, our Exec.

Flyers for the Fun Nite scheduled for September 15th at Nuuanu Onsen were passed out to those present. Others will receive them through the mail. We will have a Christmas party but the date has not been selected. We are counting on our sons and daughters on this gathering.

VA Benefits: On August 12 the VA, carrying out its out-reach program to the veterans, put on a seminar on VA benefits at the Club 100 clubhouse. I encourage all our members to enroll with the VA and file an application for health benefits. Even if you were not wounded in the war, do not have a Purple Heart award, and do not receive disability compensation, there could be health benefits available to you which could be worth a lot of money. VA wants to help you - they are our friends - do yourself a favor, check with VA or someone at the Club 100.

We received a couple of sad news items from Maui. Daisy Takayesu, wife of Ben Takayesu, died on July 26 and service was held on August 15th at Iao Congregational Church. We extend our sincere condolences to Ben and his sons, James and Edward.

Johnny Miyagawa died on August 17. Service was held on August 22 at Kahului Union Church. Our sincere condolences to his wife, Lillian; daughters, Janice and Sandra and sons, Lionel and Don. Johnny was platoon sergeant of the 2nd platoon in Casino and Anzio, Italy. He was awarded the Silver Star for his action in Casino. Johnny was a good friend. I miss him. Arvederci, paesan.

Kaoru Yonezawa, who missed the last couple of meetings because of his eye problem is okay now. He had surgery for his cataract and everything is fine now.

NEXT MEETING IS ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 (the second Monday) and LUNCH will be served!

LADIES CORNER: Reminder - Luncheon at Waioli Tea Room, September 30, 11:00 AM, cost \$19.80. Call Beatrice Niimi at 732-0925, by September 10.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: The much-awaited reunion of the Replacements who joined the 100th Battalion will be held on Saturday, September 23, at the Clubhouse from 10 a.m. to 3,4,5 p.m. \$10 per head will be assessed. This will be a husband and wife event, so please make every effort to attend. Those who are decorating the graves at Punchbowl, you should have enough time to place your flowers and then come to the clubhouse for this event. Mail in your payments to attention of either Stan Akita or Hiromi Suehiro. Ala Wai School parking lot is available for parking. Lunch and beverages will be provided.

MAUI CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nagata

We extend our deepest sympathy to Maui Chapter member Ben Takayesu and his family. His wife, Daisy Shigemi Takayesu, 79, died July 26, 2000. Funeral service over ashes was held on Tuesday, August 15, at the Iao Congregational Church. Private family burial will be at a later date. Daisy was a retired registered nurse at Castle Memorial Hospital. She was honored by Hawaii Loa College with the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters on May 11, 1986, for her long and distinguished career as a nurse and a nurse educator. During WWII she was interned in Arizona and started a hospital for internees there. Ben and Daisy were married on June 27, 1946 and had three sons. They lived at Manoa, Aiea Heights, Kailua, Honolulu and finally moved to Maui.

There will be a general meeting at Tasty Crust Restaurant on Tuesday, September 5, at 11 a.m.

On Sunday, September 24, Maui Chapter will hold the KIA Memorial Service at 2 p.m. at the Makawao Veterans Cemetery. Rev. Gen Hashimoto of the Kahului Union Issei Church will conduct the service. Goichi Shimanuki will be the MC of the program and general chairman of the service. Bring plumeria leis to decorate the graves of our fallen comrades.

Takeshi "Johnny" Miyagawa, 84, died August 17, 2000. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Lillian, and family. He served in C Company and was decorated with the Silver Star Medal for bravery during our first night attack against Cassino by clearing a path through the mine field. He was Maui Chapter president for four terms and chairman of various committees through the years. Service at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, at the Kahului Union Church, on August 22, 2000. He is survived by wife Lillian, two daughters, two sons, 8 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was a retired supervisor of irrigation for HC&S Company.

DOG CHAPTER NEWS

by Helen Nikaido

REMINDER: ONE PUKA PUKA tour escorted by "Opu" Hiranaka will meet on September 20, 2000 (Wednesday) at 10:30 a.m. at the clubhouse. Please have your payment ready or bring your check book. The next meeting will be October 1, at 11:00, with lunch at the clubhouse. Bring your passport because Opu will pass out the baggage tags, overnight bags, etc.

Recently, I talked to Robert Yoshioka's daughter, Lynne, to see how her parents were doing. Robert takes herbs and he is a very religious person. With tender, loving care from his family, he is doing fine. Kay is doing okay. Keep it up, Robert.

In early August, I was surprised to receive a call from Ruth Watanabe from Kuakini Medical Center. She said her appetite wasn't too good and that her legs were swollen. She went down with pneumonia and that was causing the problem. I talked with her and she is back home now. Get well, soon, and take care, Ruth.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE : Hawaii Chapter 55th annual memorial service will be held on Sunday, Sept. 24, 2000, at the Hawaii County Veterans Cemetery # 1, from 10:00 a.m. This memorial service honors the first soldier of the 100th Inf. Bn who was killed in action, Sgt. Joe Takata of Waialua, Oahu. The annual ceremonies also pay tribute to other courageous young men of the 100th and the 442nd Infantry Regiment who were killed in action on the battlefields of Italy and France during World War II. Please mark your calendar and encourage your friends, sons & daughters of AJA Veterans and friends to attend the service. The details of the service will be announced later.

TAKESHI "JOHNNY" MIYAGAWA, Maui (Co.C) of Kahului, Maui died on August 17, 2000. He was 84 years at time of death. Our prayer of sympathy to wife, Lillian Miyagawa and other relatives. Many of the 4th draft from the Big Island, who went from Schofield Barracks to Maui, soon after Dec. 7, 1941 as their first army assignment remembers Johnny. Later they served together in Co.C, 100th Inf. Bn. Others remember Johnny as an amateur boxer from Maui before World War II. He was a good athlete.

SUMMER MONTHS YR 2000, now about to become history. The windward side of the Island had plenty of sunshine and now have entered into the rainy season. Some of the district had their annual drought. We are thankful that the recent typhoon passed the island chain. Due to the coming of the rain, business at the farmers market on Wednesdays and Saturdays has become prosperous. There are lots and lots of beautiful flowers, plenty of vegetables, plenty of fruits, and etc. The market has become the meeting place on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Our Grandsons, Kyle 12 and Kelton 10, after their annual vacation of one week on Lanai, came to Hilo for their second vacation. They enjoyed their two nights stay at the Kilauea Military Camp, Volcano. Too bad the big renovation of the facilities at the camp is not complete as yet, however, boys are boys, they enjoyed their stay.



IN MEMORIAM

**Johnny Miyagawa (C/Maui)
August 17, 2000**

**Tamotsu Shimizu (A/Rural)
August 23, 2000**



May they rest in peace.

The Club 100 Ohana extends deepest sympathy to their families.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS NEWS (via the internet)

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2000
2:00PM
CLUB 100**

Please try to attend our ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. We'll have a special video for you to see, learn more about our organization, see some new souvenir items and learn about upcoming events. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please call Ann Kabasawa at 734-0841 or e-mail me at annkaba@aloha.net

**SPECIAL SEMINAR
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2000
9:00 A.M.
CLUB 100**

Mr. Gary Hosaka, a representative of mortuaries in Honolulu, will be sharing with us the many issues that one faces when someone close passes on. The session is open to everyone, veterans, sons and daughters alike.

PLACING FLOWERS ON THE GRAVES FOR MEMORIAL SERVICE...

Help is needed in placing flowers on the graves at Punchbowl on Saturday, September 23, 2000 beginning at 8:00am. It's a good time for your families to come out and help our fathers. Meet at the refreshment canopy near the site of the Memorial Service. If you can make it or if you have any questions, please call Ann Kabasawa at 734-0841 or e-mail me at annkaba@aloha.net. Hope all of you can make it.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

Volunteers are sought, once again, for the Annual Memorial Service on September 24, 2000, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Ushers, parking attendants, VIP greeters and escorts, assistance for the refreshment crew are needed. Please call Ann Kabasawa at 734-0841 or e-mail at annkaba@aloha.net to offer your help.

Hawaii's Medal of Honor Salute Banquet was held on Sunday, August 27, at the Hawaii Convention Center Kalakaua Ballroom. Rev. David B. Turner, grandson of the late LTC Farrant L. Turner, first commanding officer of the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate), offered this prayer at the recognition ceremony for the honorees:

Loving God: How glad we are to be able to finally as a people say thank you. Though family and friends may well have known of the accomplishments of these men whom we honor this morning, it has taken a long journey of too many years to truly recognize what a gift their lives have truly been. Thank you for their courage, their valor, their spirit, their commitment to one another and to a nation whose ideals are sometimes larger than its actions. Thank you for the sacrifices that not only they made, but their families as well—too many of whom had dreams dashed on battlefields in lands too far from home. Thank you God that the battles of that war are long behind us. The residue of hatred and lust for power, that fueled the start of that conflict, the racism that drove it, have all given way to opportunities for cooperation and compassion and opened new doors and vistas never before dreamed of. Thank you for the legacy created by the generation these men were a part of, the light of new opportunity they lit for generations to follow, the dreams they helped to create. Thank you for the many around this nation who have been so inspired that the work these men undertook in battle, but in their communities when all the fire had stopped, to this day continues unabated.

Thank you, God. May we who gather here be blessed by your presence. We of grateful hearts seek you and your gifts. For it is your compassion we know that should rule our days, it is your aloha that should define our moments, it is your creative abundance that should guide our dreams. As we gather to say thank you, let us look beyond the accomplishments, beyond the honors, to the gift that is these men with or without the marvels of their citations. At the root of that gift is You with whom the gift of life, the possibility of love and the promise of peace resides. Bless us this day, bless the words spoken, the testimonies given, the meal shared, and the memories created as we gather together. *Mahalo ke akua.* Thank you, God. Amen.

CLUB 100 CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2000

ABLE..... Saturday, September 16(change).. 8 a.m. Lounge
 BAKER..... Saturday, September 16 1 p.m. Lounge
 CHARLIE Monday, September 11 10 a.m. Board Room
 DOG..... Saturday, September 16 9 a.m. Board Room
 RURAL
 MAUI..... Tuesday, September 5 11 a.m. Tasty Crust Restaurant
 HAWAII
 BOARD Friday, September 8 10 a.m. Board
 MEMORIAL EDUCATION SEMINAR..... Saturday, September 9.....9 a.m.
 S&D ANNUAL MEETING.... Sunday, September 10.....2 p.m.
 S&D BOARD..... Friday, September 15.....7 p.m. Board Room
 GREEN THUMB..... Monday, September 4 10 a.m. Lounge
 KARAOKE FUN NITE..... Friday, September 8 6 p.m. Turner Hall
 GRAVE SITE DECORATING AT PUNCHBOWL..... Saturday, September 23.....8:30 a.m.
 REPLACEMENTS' REUNION..... Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m. ... Clubhouse
 ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE..... Sunday, September 24 9 a.m. Punchbowl

Deadline for articles for the October 2000 issue is Tuesday, September 19, 2000. Reporters, your cooperation in heeding this deadline will be very much appreciated. E-mail articles to sillanstan@aol.com or fax to (808) 946-0273.

The PukaPuka Parade collating will be on Thursday, September 28, at 8:30 a.m. Baker and Rural Chapters are responsible for providing the manpower and refreshments, but everyone else is welcome to help.

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SEPTEMBER 2000 ISSUE

