



GO FOR BROKE

Bulletin

442ND VETERANS CLUB VOL. XLVI No. 3 JULY - SEPTEMBER, 1995

Camp Shelby Revisited

June 16 - 18, 1995





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by **HENRY KUNIYUKI**

As this July-September issue of the Go For Broke Bulletin was being prepared for publication, the VJ Day 50th Anniversary Committee, headed by EDWARD ICHIJAMA of 522C Chapter, was finalizing the coordination of the Memorial Service and Victory Parade. IWAO YOKOOJI of 171st Chapter chaired the National Cemetery of the Pacific event, and was scheduled to be its Master of Ceremonies. Executive Secretary JENNIFER BAKER, who coordinated the multitude details for this historic event, reported that over 525 participants registered through our office. 60 young volunteers from the Sons and Daughters Chapters of both Club 100 and 442nd made themselves available to assist ED ICHIJAMA's and IWAO YOKOOJI's committees. Our Legal Consul, ROBERT KATAYAMA of Fox Chapter, was invited by the White House to join President CLINTON's golf foursome. Due to a very serious car accident injuries sustained several years ago while residing on the West Coast, BOB had to regretfully decline. BOB has not played golf for the past 11 years.

MIS Veterans Club president, Col. HENRY FURUYA, was selected by the AJA Veterans Council to serve as the AJA Veterans' battalion commander. Among those serving on his parade staff were the respective presidents of Club 100, 1399 Engineers, and 442nd Vets Club. The 442nd Veterans Club's Board of Directors extend a most sincere mahalo to EDWARD ICHIJAMA, IWAO YOKOOJI and the many volunteers who assisted in the planning and conducting of the 50th Anniversary of VJ Day programs. Chairman ICHIJAMA will be preparing a final report to be published in the next issue of our Go For Broke Bulletin.

The 42nd Anniversary 442nd Hawaii-Japan High School Goodwill Baseball Series was suc-

cessfully concluded with a Sayonara Banquet on August 22nd. Judge KENNETH SARUWATARI, 2HQ Chapter, and members of his committee are to be congratulated for a job well done! Judge SARUWATARI, a past president of both 442nd VC and Club 100, and the only one to have held that distinction, strongly recommends the continuation of this international goodwill program. The late Gov. JOHN A. BURNS once said, "The international baseball games are the kind of 'grassroots diplomacy' that helps to increase understanding between East and West." In addition to thanking his hard-working committee, mahalos were extended to MR. & MRS. MASA YONAMINE and our own MR. & MRS. RICHARD HASHI at the banquet's formal program. MASA and LILY have assisted our baseball program for many years, even though they are not members of our Club. RICHARD, a member of Service Chapter residing on Maui, was the all-out host when the Nippon team played two games thereat. It was rather regretful that only a few members of our Club were present to observe the three exciting games played here on Oahu. Judge SARUWATARI has a final report in this issue.

We have received the good word from Mr. MICHAEL HARADA of the Office of the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army Pacific that LtG. ROBERT ORD, Commanding General, USARPAC, has approved JACKSON MORISAWA's preliminary design concept for the major memorial project which has been authorized to honor all four WWII AJA U.S. Army units: 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate); Military Intelligence Service; 1399th Construction Engineer Battalion; and 442nd Regimental Combat Team. WALLACE KAGAWA of Anti-Tank Chapter, who had volunteered to serve as the Project Architect, has resigned due to disagreement in the selection of JACKSON MORISAWA as the designer for the project. Similarly, CHILLY SASAKI, also of Anti-Tank Chapter, has also resigned as the Project Draftsman regretfully. After WALLY resigned as the "pro-bono" architect, he submitted a request to the Project Committee to consider his "revised design" for

the memorial to also include an "Honor Roll" of those killed in action, died of wounds, and missing in action. His letter content and design were discussed at a meeting of the AJA Veterans Council on August 22, 1995. The Council voted unanimously in the affirmative on the following issues:

1. The AJA Veterans Council confirmed its previous decision not to include an "Honor Roll" which WALLACE KAGAWA recommended to be a part of the Memorial;

2. The AJA Veterans Council declined to accept his design concept as JACKSON MORISAWA's preliminary design concept has already been approved for submission to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific;

3. The AJA Veterans Council will continue to have the 442nd Veterans Club be the lead organization to design and construct the proposed memorial.

JACKSON MORISAWA's "Notes on Memorial at Ft. DeRussy" is published in this issue for the information of the 442nd general membership. When I signed the contract with the City and County of Honolulu to obligate the initial funding for the project on December 31, 1994 as president of the Club, JACKSON MORISAWA was appointed to design the project. The authority to make such an appointment has been confirmed by our Legal Consul.

The 442nd Veterans Club's Board of Director's has been kept informed at its monthly board meetings as to the progress of this important memorial project. The general membership has also been made aware by progress reports in the Go For Broke bulletin. I appreciate the vote of confidence received from members of the AJA Veterans Council to complete this memorial to its fruition to honor the "Brothers in Valor."

On November 8, 1995, the Japanese American National Museum, in co-sponsorship with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, and Japanese American veteran organizations will present a "Salute to Japanese American Veterans" at the Los Angeles Convention Center. This program is part of the World War II 50th Anniversary Commemoration events

to especially honor the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd RCT, 1399th Engineers, and the MIS veterans. As of date, all presidents of these four AJA Veteran Council organizations will be present with their respective spouses. Also participating from the 442nd Veterans Club will be MR. & MRS. MATSUO TAKABUKI (Love Chapter), MR. & MRS. EDWARD ICHIYAMA (522C Chapter), Chaplain and Mrs. ERNEST UNO (3rd HQ Chapter) and ROBERT KATAYAMA (Fox Chapter), our Legal Counsel. MATSUO TAKABUKI has graciously purchased a table of ten for the gala banquet. Those interested are urged to contact JENNIFER BAKER as soon as possible.

The Executive Committee has approved the 442nd Veterans Club to be a sponsor of the Hawaii Coalition Against Nuclear Testing. The matter was brought before the Board of Directors meeting on August 28th for a final approval. The Executive Committee also recommended approval of a letter endorsing a display at the Japanese American National Museum at Los Angeles regarding BRUCE YAMASHITA's long and arduous fight against discrimination at the U.S. Marine Corps' Office Training School.

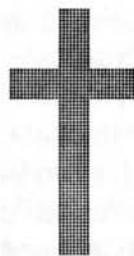
The 442nd Veterans Club was invited to participate at the colorful "Toro Nagashi" Floating Lantern ceremony down the Ala Wai Canal, honoring the souls of departed veterans and other loved ones. The invitation was received from former state Senator JOE KURODA of "H" Company Chapter who was responsible in involving local AJA veteran organizations. Our Legal Counsel ROBERT KATAYAMA officially represented our Club, a duty he has performed frequently at the request of the presidency with much dignity.

On the controversial CINDY KEIKO KOBAYASHI MACKEY's doctoral dissertation, which espouses views critical of many aspects of the American Japanese community, especially that of our own 442nd RCT and other AJA veterans, our good friend A.A. "BUD" SMYSER of the Honolulu Star Bulletin responded with an excellent editorial page article on July 4, 1995. His article entitled: "AJA war veterans are get-

ting a bad rap" was reproduced and distributed to each Board member. Other AJA veterans similarly responded by letters to the editors of local publications. I have been queried by some members of our organization as to whether I had planned to respond as president of our Club. "Conventional wisdoms" upon whom I rely time and time again have advised me to ignore MACKEY's dissertation. Public Relations experts say that it is best not to give her additional publicity. However, I have asked Historian TED TSUKIYAMA to obtain her complete thesis from the University Library to make a study in its entirety for a report to the Board of Directors.

At the recommendation of Historian TSUKIYAMA, the research group in Washington D.C., headed by RICHARD YAMAMOTO, has been forwarded \$2000.00 for their daily expenses. This group of volunteers gather valuable data regarding the 442nd at the National Archives. Their collected data is being sent to our Archives and Learning Center and is compiled into the computers in the Center. The Board of Directors is most grateful to RICHARD YAMAMOTO and his dedicated researchers, all of whom reside in the vicinity of Washington D.C.

In my final President's report to the general membership, which will be published in the October-December issue of the Go For Broke Bulletin, I plan to summarize the many varied programs accomplished during my 2 years as president of the 442nd Veterans Club with the kind and cooperative assistance of an efficient Executive Committee. To the members of the Executive Committee and all of our dedicated Club volunteers, may I conclude this President's report by quoting an appropriate remark made by House Speaker NEWT GINGRICH: "Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired doing the hard work you already did."



Chaplain's Message

by **CHAPLAIN ERNEST UNO**

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The "last hurrah" to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II is but a distant echo. We're told that we can now put away those memorabilia of the past and get on with our lives. But can we really do that? I think not.

As combat veterans, the past will continue to be with us. Whether its the need to wear a hearing aid as the result of a blast sustained in combat that now affects our hearing, or the refitting of a prosthesis, there is no getting away from those service-connected conditions that we have to live with today.

Recently, the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical & Regional Office, known by the acronym HI-VAMROC, invited me to participate in a 2-day workshop on strategic planning. This was the second part of a planning process for the local staff in developing a model of geriatric and extended care for the 21st century with the SPARK M. MATSUNAGA Center for Aging as its centerpiece.

My participation in this workshop was as the volunteer chaplain of the VA's Hospice Consultation Team. In the midst of these two dozen or more health care professionals, I found that I was the only one who, as a WWII veteran, represented the potential clientele for whom the Center for Aging is being built. And I can honestly say that I was impressed with the vision and mission statement, and the goal of HI-VAMROC.

Since I had never had cause to use the service of the VA for any medical services, I must admit

that I had a jaundiced view of the VA being only for the indigent and those veterans with service-connected ailments and disabilities. This may reflect the public perception of the VA. However, from the planning I experienced at this workshop, there is a new spin to what the VA should represent in its Geriatric and Extended Care unit which will be housed in the SPARK MATSUNAGA CFA up there on the hillside. Its goal is to provide "World Class" patient care for us, the aging veteran. The prevailing attitude of the participants of the workshop, from the medical director to the home-care nurse, to the psychiatric social worker, is that anything less than "World Class" is unacceptable. There is no doubt in my mind that the CFA will be a very real presence in the life of many of us 100/442 veterans. Look at it this way: the shortage of private nursing home beds will be prohibitive for many who haven't planned ahead. There is nothing that can guard us against such degenerative diseases as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, among other. Should any of these happen to us, who is there to take care of us?

I have to believe that we, as aging veterans and our families, hold the keys to the success of the new Center for Aging. As we show enthusiasm for the Center, and join other veterans in supporting it, the care of our fellow veterans will be a showcase for other VA hospitals across the country. The ground has been broken and the actual construction of the new facility will soon get underway. And I feel assured that the Hl-VAMROC staff is already off and running in planning the program and service to be housed in the SPARK MATSUNAGA Center for Aging.



by **ED GOTO**

Being editor gives me the privilege of being the first to comment on the events of the 50th

Anniversary of the end of the war in the Pacific after the fact. Just to make certain the record is straight, all the work involved in getting people parked, bused, and fed starting from 4:00 a.m. at Central Union Church was a joint effort of the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd, 100th, MIS, and 1399th, under the general direction of overall chair ED ICHIYAMA.

According to all accounts, things went relatively smoothly in spite of some tangles in getting people registered and loaded on the buses in the dark of the morning. The AJA veterans' contingent appeared to my partial eye to be the largest organized group in attendance at both the Saturday memorial services and the afternoon parade.

At the parade, I had the personal honor of being one of your guide-on bearers dressed in original WWII uniform with the insignia, stripes and ribbons of my dad, SHIGERU (3rd Battalion, HQ). As the only one of the five with past military service, besides RAY NOSAKA of course (who carried the 100th guide-on for his battalion and probably did the best job next to us rag-tag group of sons), I also had the privilege of calling out cadence for our little flag group through most the parade - in hopes we could try to look in step, and make you proud, in your uniforms.

Thanks go to ALVIN YOSHITOMI for his usual generous loan of those "fully loaded" uniforms to us and the color guard as well. Also to RAY, DAVID TSUBATA, BARRY YAMASHITA, and STEVEN HIGA, the rest of our guide-on corp., for putting up with my unpolished cadence calling.

This edition will be another "biggie" as expected because of the Camp Shelby visit (there's still even some leftovers from the European trip we didn't get to). I spotted one of our contributing reporters commenting on keeping things short because of orders from the "chief," referring to me I guess. Please don't shoot the messenger guys; I'm only following orders from the real chiefs, your president and board.

Continuing on that theme, I must note again that credit for what you see in the bulletin should go to JENNIFER BAKER, ARNOLD HIURA,

and JACKSON MORISAWA who are the ones who really put this thing together every issue. People come up and tell me to keep up the good work - well, the good work is really the product of these three people. As the saying goes, credit should go where credit is due.

If there is anything I can do, it's field your questions, comments, and recommendations about your bulletin. Please feel free to let me know what we can do to improve. If it's possible, we'll give it our best effort.

Hope you enjoy the issue. My guess is that the next one will also be just a tad on the huge side again, when your reporters come in with their angle on this latest "50th" celebration.

Archives Center Open House

The Sons and Daughters of the 442nd RCT invite all AJA veterans and their families and friends to the "grand opening" of the 442nd Archives and Learning Center on Saturday, November 11, 1995, at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the 442nd Clubhouse (First floor, back corner), 933 Wiliwili St., Room #102. A brief dedication ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. Come and see how far we've gotten in establishing a home base for the continuation of your legacy. Light refreshments will be served.

CONTRIBUTING *Editor*

by JACKSON MORISAWA

Information Update on the Proposed Memorial at Ft. DeRussy

The Armed Forces memorial designators have generously ceded an auspicious site, a large area for the proposed memorial at Ft. DeRussy.

The AJA memorial committee reiterate that in no way will it jeopardize this honor by going against the prerogatives set forth by the Armed Forces. Complying with their directives means

some restrictions are inevitable. We are not in the position to demand whatever we want, but must abide by their guidelines and work towards implementation of preferred suggestions made by them.

The first prerogative is that the memorial is designated to honor a unit or units of the Armed Forces which participated in WWII. The designated units are: 100th Infantry Battalion (separate - original 100th), 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service, and 1399th Engineers. Each unit will have equal representation and recognition.

The other prerogative concerns racial issues. The Armed Forces emphatically states the memorial must not specifically indicate having a specific race. Therefore, the proposed memorial is not intended to honor Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in WWII. The fact that the four units being honored were comprised of AJA majority does not alter their prerogative.

To honor a unit means relating the accomplishments which made it distinctive, its objective, battles, honors, etc.. It also means the involvement of every personnel associated with the unit.

We must be discreet addressing the racial issue. An outstanding display of race related subject should not be emphasized. A KIA honor roll which inevitably will list names which are predominantly AJA may connote racial preference.

Mr. MIKE HARADA, the primary intermediate for the Armed Forces command overseeing the memorial project informed our committee that the Commanding General has approved one of the three design proposal submitted. They have selected the design which closely resembles the basic concept of a quadrangle which was originated by the landscaping designers of Ft. DeRussy. It suggests a park atmosphere which is conducive to our original concept and rationale. The four quadrants representing the four units will surround a central display area with trees like a forest ground. This viable atmosphere will be a "living memorial," a concept which will conjure past accomplishments of the

units and perpetuate their legacy for the living and "now."

The central theme for the memorial is not finalized, but there are several design proposals on board. One suggestion which some factions have been pushing is a KIA Honor Roll. However, the memorial prerogatives suggest this idea is not feasible because it does not honor a unit and may bring up questions of racial preference by its content.

Honoring a unit means no particular segment of its personnel should be favored. Everyone is important to a unit.

A KIA Honor Roll will inevitably list names which are predominantly AJA which may implore questions of race preference. Also it will definitely discriminate against one of the units being honored, since unit will have equal representation.

The KIA issue should be left to the discretion of each unit and be decided by each as to how it should be handled.

The AJA Veterans Council, in their last meeting, rejected the idea of a KIA Honor Roll as a central theme.

There is also a proposal to erect a time capsule. The first prerogative should be the compiling of a list of all personnel who served in the units. There should be a time capsule memorial committee established.

Name for the Memorial

Since we definitely cannot call it "Memorial for the Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in World War II" a temporary name has been suggested "Brothers in Valor." It is true that we are in a sense brothers. There is a close bond among all the veterans in the four units. Valor means a state of mind which reflects on the ability to overcome adversities. As brothers, we have common inherent traits instilled in us by our parents which afforded us the aptitude to face the conditions of war as well as the adversity of racial discrimination. Together, we were able to overcome these adversities and reclaim our rights as Americans.

The 442nd RCT was unique in that the unit

was comprised of AJA majority. They came from all walks of life with diversified likes and dislikes. However, whenever an issue concerning the 442nd emerged, everyone left their personal differences aside and served the unit in the spirit of "Go for Broke." This oneness of effort made the 442nd outstanding. In time of peace and as we have aged, I wonder if this spirit still exists among the 442nd veterans. The work on the memorial is just started and there will be much work to be done. I hope that the veterans will again set aside their personal feelings and work for the good of the Club with the same spirit of "Go for Broke."

CAMP SHELBY REUNION AND HOMECOMING by BOB KATAYAMA

Our Camp Shelby reunion and homecoming was a big success because the Camp Shelby command went "go for broke" to welcome us and host our three-day event.

There were about 375 veterans, spouses, and families (also some grandchildren) in attendance. From Hawaii, there were about 75 persons and the remainder were from the Mainland. With us from Hawaii was the band from the 111th Army National Guard and a color guard from the 100/442 Army Reserve Unit. Also in attendance were PIERRE MOULIN and MONIQUE CARLESSO from Bruyeres.

On Friday night, the Mississippi State and local officials conveyed their welcome messages. The Mayor of Hattiesburg presented the Key to the City to Senator DAN INOUE, as the representative of the 100th and the 442nd. The key has been placed in the display case at the clubhouse. Thereafter, I responded on behalf of our club, but the MC forgot to introduce the L.A. 100/442 Vets Club president until later, who remarked that he felt left out. Dinner music was furnished by the Hawaii National Guard band.

Saturday started out with gathering at the Post Theater to hear Senators INOUE and COCHRAN and a Congressman from Mississippi paying tribute to Hattiesburg and us. There



Mr. Herbert Sasaki and Senator Daniel Inouye at the Monument Dedication

after, we gathered outside to begin the parade to the site of the "Go For Broke" monument. Most of the vets joined in this parade which was quite elaborate with men in Civil War and WWII uniforms and weapons forming part of the parade.

Following the parade, the Monument was formally unveiled by Senator DAN. After which during the lunch activities, RON OBA addressed us with his impressions of the kotonks and Camp Shelby. A kotonk representative was supposed to give his impressions of us, but unfortunately, time ran out so he was scrubbed.

After lunch we went to the parade ground and

were treated to a display of fly-overs by vintage and modern aircraft, a simulated attack by an American unit against a German patrol, helicopter maneuvers, and rappelling by special forces troops. We also had chance to visit the Army Museum and what was believed to be our regimental housing area. The only remains we saw of the regiment was a grease pit and a concrete slab of what appeared to be a former motor pool site, perhaps that of Service Company. But what was most noticeable were the trees, bushes, and weeds that had grown up since our departure. Camp Shelby covered about 300,000 acres

when we were there, but it is now slightly less than half that size.

That evening we enjoyed a southern dinner at the University of Southern Mississippi. Major speakers were again Senator DAN and Lt. General ALLEN ONO although Major General JAMES MUKOYAMA from Chicago also gave a speech. Dinner music was supplied by the Hawaii Army National Guard Band.

Sunday morning, we assembled at the Monument, which incidentally listed not only the 442nd RCT, but also the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate), S Company of the MIS, and the 171st Infantry Battalion (Separate). Floral wreaths were placed at the Monument by Hawaii and Mainland representatives of the listed organizations. Representing us was RON OBA. After memorial service addresses were made by Generals ONO and MUKOYAMA and Senator DAN, the reunion and the homecoming festivities were officially ended.

Thereafter the participants went their separate group or individual ways, saying how great it was to be able to meet in this way at Camp Shelby again.



TAPS

EDMUND YUKIMASA EZUKA, a 232nd Engineer/Band Chapter member, passed away July 5, 1995

SABURO FUJII, a 522 Able Chapter member, passed away on June 15, 1995 in San Diego.

JOE HATTORI, a 522 Able Chapter member, passed away on August 14, 1995 in Walnut, California.

FUMIO "SLIM" HAYASHIKAWA, a King Chapter member, passed away on June 16 in Hilo.

TED KAWAHARA, a 522-Baker Chapter member, passed away recently on Maui.

TETSUO KAWASAKI, a 442nd veteran, passed away on June 25 in Wailuku, Maui.

MASARU KOTAKE, a 232nd Engineers/Band Chapter member, passed away on July 15, 1995.

KOYA KURIHARA, a George Company member, passed away recently in Long Beach, California.

GEORGE MAEKAWA, a Mike Chapter member, passed away on June 26, 1995, in Metuchen, New Jersey.

CLARENCE MATSUMURA, a 522-HQ Company member, passed away recently in Los Angeles, California.

WILLIAM "BILL" MORITA, an Item Chapter member, passed away on June 19 in Los Angeles.

MASAHARU "OKI" OKUMURA, a Love Chapter member, passed away on July 26, 1995 in Milipitas, California.

BILL TERAGAWA, an Item Chapter member, passed away on August 8 in Los Angeles.



Kingsmen
by JOE SHIMAMURA

Hancho

It was a long, long winter and having done a superb job as the ICHIBAN for the Kingsmen, JAMES OURA was finally given his release papers to become an ordinary member. Our sincerest thanks to this 4th platoon for a job well done for services rendered beyond the call of duty. We all thank you, JIMMY, and also the better half CHARLOTTE who gave JIMMY all the time making it possible for him to give it his all. Taking over their new duties from this day forth will be President HERBERT YANAMURA and Vice-President GEORGE YOSHINO. Carrying on their lifetime positions will be KAZU KAJIWARA as the Ginkoman while HIROSHI SUYEOKA as the Secretary who always forgets to bring his pen. The initial meeting of this new regime indicates that we will be in for a most productive year.

Shelby

The Kingsmen combining with Fox Chapter journeyed to Camp Shelby 14 strong with the following making this a most memorable trip: STANLEY & THELMA HASHIMOTO, SEICHI & SALLY SAKAIDA, EICHI & NOBUKO OKI, FUJIO & HELEN MIYAMOTO, TSUNEO & HATSUYE KANEMORI, and the two soloists, KAZU KAJIWARA and NIZAE YASHIMA. Combined with the stateside delegation, the Kingsmen came thru as number 1 in personnel as they were joined by YORIO & MITSUKO AOKI, HARRY & BETTY HOSHIKO, ROBERT & LILLIAN KASHIWAGI, MARY KAWANO and son, SANJI KIMOTO and brother SAM and daughter DIANE, RICHARD & MARY NAITO, OLIVER & MICHIKO NISHIMURA, HARU & ALYS SAKAJI, TOM & SALLY TAKAHASHI, JIM TAZOI & son DOUGLAS, RUDY & JUDY TOKIWA, KIYO & MIDORI YOSHII, and that ace from Utah, SEICHI YEI. It actually turned out to be a mini-reunion and I'm sure that all who attended came home happy, happy with nothing but praises for a most well put-together dedication. Got the real taste of that so-called southern hospitality all the way from New Orleans to Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Police escort with

sirens wailing and lights flashing, saluted by a whole entourage of colonels and brasses, this was going first class all the way. Our sincerest thanks to that "Ginko Boss" KAZU KAJIWARA who treated the whole delegation dining on a sumptuous dinner on that one night stand in New Orleans. Thanks, KAZU. After all that gumbo and jambalaya, which was enjoyed by all, it was on to the city that never sleeps as we were accommodated at the Four Queens Hotel right in the heart of town. Here we met GEORGE FUJIWARA who resides in this city and MINO TAKASHIMA from the Garden Isle, so it was mini-reunion time once again as our "Hancho" HELEN MIYAMOTO took command and saw to it that we all got to dine together while donating our share of taxes in between these fun-filled dinners. The two waiters who took care of our crew were so happy with their tips, I think they are ready to open up their own lunch wagon in the nearest future. An excellent hustler in all respects, HELEN MIYAMOTO should always be included on the going list where ever your destination may be. HATSUE KANEMORI who really got her first taste of travel time should be hitting the road again in the nearest future so get that bankbook ready, TSUNE. Our arigato goes to the Ichiban spam-musubi maker, THELMA HASHIMOTO whose overwhelming generosity saw to it that no one went hungry on this trip. No one ended up hitting the big one but all this was made up by the fun that was generated by this most happy bunch of travelers. This bunch was just hard to beat except that we'll have to bring along some rope every time you travel with "AALA PARK" YASHIMA who tends to walk in his sleep, according to his roommate KAZU KAJIWARA. After hearing all these stories, if you feel that you missed the boat, I can honestly tell you, yes you did. Just be sure to air/put out that suitcase next time you hear that the Kingsmen will be hitting the road once again.

Almost left out MAX & YURI KOGA from Troy, Michigan who joined this Hawaii crew, fitting right in to the picture, being the likable couple they are. At HELEN's suggestion, the whole crew got together in the Magnolia Room having

had so much fun, the rest of the patrons must have been thinking who these crazy Hawaiians were?!? Putting it all together, it just turned out to be one hell of an unforgettable trip. The Fox Chapter crew whom we combined with were just hard to beat in the way of Past Prexy RON & MICHIO OBA, KIYOSHI & YUKIE TAKEUCHI, and that Mayor from the Garden Isle, GEORGE & KAY KAWAKAMI. Talking about a good one, this was it. To HERBERT SASAKI who resides in Hattiesburg, and his MRS., goes our sincerest MAHALO for a job well done which is going to be hard to beat, no matter what the next get-together may be. A superb job in all respects, our coconut hats off to you for an unbeatable job. Thanks, HERB.

In bringing to a close this June issue, we would like to extend our sincerest condolences to the family of FUMIO "SLIM" HAYASHIKAWA who passed away on June 16, 1995. An avid bowler, SLIM was gone from the island for quite a spell, returning to Hawaii a year or so ago, residing in Hilo. An avid bowler, he spent most of his life doing what he loved best, managing a bowling alley here and up in the mainland. We bid farewell to another 1st platoon. Again wishing our very best for a most speedy recovery to MASAO OKASAKO who took over as the K's Prexy for a brief spell but having had to ask for a leave of absence due to an ailing leg that has kept him rather incapacitated. Hurry up and get well, MASA. Lastly, our sincerest thanks to MRS. TERADA, mother of MILLIE OKUDA of Maui who donated so many knitted booties for the members, who were there to get it, being just 97 years young, can't help but admire her boundless energy. Thank you "MAMA" TERADA, may you continue to live another 97 years.



by ED IMAMURA

Service Chapter Profile MITSUO TOKITA

Because of his vast knowledge of the postal system, MITSUO was known as the "Postmaster General of the Regiment."

He was born in Lihue, Kauai on April 26, 1912. He came from a family which included 10 children. He graduated from Kauai High School in 1932 and attended Galusha Business School in Honolulu and majored in Business Law. Jobs were very scarce in the early 30's but he was able to get a job as a clerk at the Lihue Post Office.

He volunteered for the 442nd Regt in March 1943 and initially was assigned as the Assistant Supply Sergeant of B Btry, 522nd Artillery Bn. The 442nd Personnel Officer later assigned him to organize and straighten the Regimental Postal Section. The Personnel Officer learned that MITSUO had previously worked for the largest Post Office on Kauai and also taught postal work to servicemen of two Army Post Offices (APO's) units that were stationed in Kauai. His request to return to the Artillery Bn were denied after he reorganized the Postal Section.

Upon his discharge from the Army in December, 1945, MITSUO worked for the Lihue Post Office and served as the Assistant Postmaster at the Lihue Post Office for over 20 years until his retirement in December, 1976. Ironically, he was offered the job as Postmaster at the Lihue Post Office after the war when the job was an appointed rather than a civil service position. He declined the Postmaster's job because of political reasons.

MITSUO was married to the late HISAKO OTA of Koloa, Kauai on June 21, 1951. HISAKO passed away on October 30, 1988. They are

blessed with a son, JETT and 2 grandchildren, PRESTIN and RHIANNON.

A very religious person, MITSUO has attended the Lihue United Church of Christ Nursery School from the age of 3. He taught Sunday School at the same church after the war and later held numerous positions at the church among them being a Moderator and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

MITSUO loves to travel. He enjoyed the 1984 trip that he took to Bruyeres and Biffontaine, France, the 442nd reunion at Los Angeles, the 1980 36th Division reunion at Dallas and the 1993 family trip to Nashville and Disneyworld. He is looking forward to bringing his family to the forthcoming 442nd Monument Dedications Ceremonies at Washington D.C.

His hobbies include fishing and planting and taking care of fruit trees. He enjoyed golfing until he was stricken with arthritis in 1993.

MITSUO, you did well with yourself. Take care and enjoy the good life.

Annual Camping and Picnic

The annual Service Chapter camping and picnic shindig will be held at the Kaiahulu Beach Park, Waialua, from Friday afternoon, September 15 to Monday afternoon, September 18, 1995.

As in previous years, MASAMI "SAGEBRUSH" TANABE was responsible to borrow the nice picnic and campground area for us from the Waialua Plantation. KIYOJI "SAM" YAMADA will again serve as the General Chairman and TAKAO "JUICY" ITO will be in charge of the games and prizes.

We are expecting close to 60 people to attend this 4-day function. Those are: RALPH & GRACE CHINAKA with family and guests, JUICY & JUNE ITO with family and guests, TOM & CHIEKOTANAKA with family and guests, ALAN & SARA MASUDA and family, JIMMY & MARTHA MIYAKE and family, MASAMI & MARGARET TANABE, NOBORU & MASAKO TANOUÉ, TOSHIO & CLARA NAKANISHI, SAM YAMADA, MASAJI KUROSUMI, and ED IMAMURA.

Camp Shelby Trip Hi-Lites

1. Service Chapter's contingent of 33 participants, led by our escorts RALPH & GRACE CHINAKA, was the largest group from Hawaii to attend the Shelby Homecoming and Monument Dedication Ceremonies from June 16-18, 1995. There were only 75 participants from Hawaii and 375 from the Mainland for a total of 400 people.

2. Those who attended the ceremonies enjoyed a "once in a lifetime" experience. The people from Camp Shelby and Hattiesburg welcomed us with open arms and gave us the royal treatment throughout the 3 days of activities.

3. A ton of Kudo's goes to HERBERT SASAKI of Service Chapter and Hattiesburg resident, who served as General Chairman of the ceremonies and who put together an outstanding 3-days program of activities.

4. The keynote speakers were all outstanding and made speeches befitting the occasion. Especially noteworthy were speeches made by Senator INOUE, LtG (R) ALLEN ONO, MG (R) JAMES MUKOYAMA, Chaplain GEORGE AKI, HERBERT SASAKI and ROBERT KATAYAMA, who represented the 442nd Veterans Club.

5. The most hilarious speech was made by RONALD OBA of Fox Chapter during the luncheon under the tent on Saturday, June 17, 1995. He talked about his impressions of the mainland "Kotonk" volunteers when he first met them at Camp Shelby and Hattiesburg. What made his speech so funny was the appropriate use of pidgin English in describing his experiences. A "Kotonk" was to give his impressions of the buddhaheads following OBA's speech, but it was canceled due to the start of the WWII Airplane show.

6. Congratulations to HIDEO NAKAMINE of B Btry, 522nd Artillery for bringing the best looking flowers to the Monument Dedication. The beautiful dendrobium orchids that he lovingly nurtured and hand-carried from Hawaii to Shelby was eye-catching and definitely the "hit" of the

dedication ceremony. According to HIDEO, the orchids were presented to the Monument committee from entire membership of the CHINAKA group. ROBERT KATAYAMA had the honors to officially place the flowers in front of the Monument on behalf of the Hawaii 442nd group.

7. This was a return trip for HIDEO NAKAMINE to Shelby. He and his 7 Honolulu friends and their wives visited Shelby on a one-day homecoming tour back on Tuesday, April 16, 1991. The group took a detour from the Texas 36th Division Lost battalion reunion which was held at San Antonio. HERBERT SASAKI served as the host for the Honolulu group and arranged a spectacular program. It included speeches from a two-star General, the Post Commander, and other dignitaries and visits to the Post Museum and other historical sites.

A pictures of NAKAMINE's group outside the Armed Forces Museum was published in the Hattiesburg American and the Jackson Chronicle daily papers on Wednesday, April 17, 1991.

8. The video presentation "Welcome Back to Camp Shelby" shown at Dolton Hall (Post Theater) on Saturday morning, June 17, 1995 was an outstanding film. It highlighted the various elements of the 442nd Regiment stationed at Shelby in 1943 and 1944.

9. Things and Places we will remember:

a. The large "Grand" gambling casino at Gulfport, Mississippi where we had lunch on Friday, June 16.

b. The large contingent of motorcycle police officers (I believe 6) and 3 or 4 police cars that escorted the nine 442nd buses from Gulfport to Hattiesburg (about a 2 hour ride.)

c. The growth of the population of Hattiesburg from about 8000 in 1943 to the current 50,000 (although we didn't get to see the new town.)

d. The modern facilities built in Shelby (our 1943/44 Regimental area is all gone and is now in the forest area.)

e. The outstanding programs presented

by the Homecoming and Monument Dedication committee. The programs were well planned and organized.

10. Finally, I feel all the members of the CHINAKA group enjoyed every moment of the trip, from the time we checked into the Monteleone Hotel in New Orleans on the first day (Thursday, June 15) until we left the Four Queens hotel in Las Vegas, broke but happy (except for some), on Friday, June 23, 1995.



by RON OBA

Revered like heroes,
Hattiesburg, Shelby
Miz MACKEY, who dat?

MACKEY is gaining notoriety at our expense.
'Nough of that shit.

Shelby Revisited

The Hattiesburg American headlined, "Japs Invade Mississippi." A southern congressman exclaimed, "They are being sent to the hellhole of the '48th" in 1943. In 1995 we didn't know if we were stepping into a nest of chiggers but all of us knew that the people of HATTIESBURG will be waiting with open arms, for surely this is a homecoming, fifty years past.

Three miles out of Camp Shelby, the convoy of buses stopped to put up our banners on the lead bus that read, "Go For Broke, 442nd RCT." Five highway patrol cars with red lights flashing, 5 motorcycles from the counties of Forrest, Perry and Hattiesburg and another 5 patrol cycles from the Mississippi highway patrol sent the flashing vehicles to every intersection of the freeway and stopped all traffic intervening into the freeway. The trucks and cars stopped and waiting along the ingress for our procession to



Ron Oba, Michi Oba, George Kawakami, Kay Kawakami, Kiyoshi Takeuchi at Shelby

pass were so long that we felt embarrassed but happy that at long last the nine buses in the convoy were heading for Camp Shelby. The M.P.s at Shelby took over and escorted the 400 veterans and wives to the visitor center. The bus drivers declared that they had never seen such hoopla and honor accorded to any other celebrity.

Everywhere we gathered, active duty soldiers and retired American veterans came to shake our hands. At the Hotel Monte Leone several haole veterans came just to shake our hands to say, "Welcome." A sister of one of the 36th Div. "Lost Battalion" veterans said that her brother cried when he couldn't come due to his disability. He sent her to greet us instead. Every speaker insisted that we were the most famous outfit to ever train at the camp where the 69th, 85th, 87th, 99th and 31st Dixie Division were some of the 11 divisions that trained there. Elsewhere, Robert Katayama will report on the Camp Shelby Homecoming.

The French Quarters in New Orleans hasn't

changed much with the second story balconies overlooking the narrow Bourbon street below where the mademoiselles flipped their skirts - except that it is more dangerous now than before. There is an average of one stabbing a night on the side streets. The Gypsy fortune tellers who read your forehead, palms and cards are no longer there. However the ubiquitous prostitutes were in every bar and topless women dancing on stage in the darkened nightclubs. Curious tourists gathered at every doorway

eavesdropping. We felt like peeping toms. Our group took a city tour soon after arriving. In the evening we went to *Mulates*, a Cajun restaurant to eat raw oyster, crayfish, jambalaya, fried chicken, shrimp etouffe as well as shrimp Creole poured over rice, gumbo soup and home brewed Dixie tap beer. Everyone at the restaurant was supposed to dance the Cajun type folk dance but I couldn't get any of the ladies to get up and dance just to say we danced the Zydeco. Cajun

dancing is a two step folk dance called *Zydeco*, a blues influenced black Cajun folk dance using accordions and washboards for sounds. Cajun is a corruption of the word *Acadia* or *Acadie*, an Evangeline poem written by Longfellow. These people originally emigrated from Nova Scotia to Florida. The above was told to me by Dr. TED YENARI who lives in Metairie, New Orleans. For dessert we rode the tram and walked over to Cafe Du Mond for their famous Beignet doughnuts and *caffe latte*. Everyone who visits the French Quarters is supposed to try the Beignets. On our city tour we visited the cemetery where the tombs are erected above ground since the ground below was a former bayou. The Super Dome was so large it could cover the Ala Moana center. The Mississippi River was a few blocks away. Next day we were driven to a river boat casino in Gulfport. MICHI hit three 7s to make it a worthwhile stopover before busing to Shelby. The two hour caravan led by the highway patrols to Shelby will never be forgotten.

With the tremendous media coverage that headlined our activities everyday and the T.V. exposure nationwide, the 111th Hawaii National Guard Band and the 100/442nd Reserve honor guard performing at all our functions, everyone felt that those who did not attend missed out on a momentous homecoming.

We thank L/C HERBERT SASAKI, a lone Hattiesburger, who gave rise to this Homecoming and the prime mover for the celebration assisted by HANK YOSHITAKE and the Los Angeles 100/442 Veterans Association. Job well done!

Fox golfers at Kapolei

The sun shining brightly at 90+ degrees didn't faze BILL TANAKA from winning the tournament of 11 players. ROY KUBO was the no show. I went to his home to regrip his clubs so he could win the tournament but his Doc - a her - told him that he can golf only one day a week and that at a municipal course where he can drive up to the green. GEORGE KAWAKAMI came all the way from Kauai to play with his fox buddies - he just wanted a day off from KAY who's

developing a new *FLACKY CRUST MANJU* - it's good, KAY.

And the winners were: overall, BILL TANAKA; net 68, second, DOC ROY IRITANI net 72, 3rd, a tie, OSCAR TSUKAYAMA and TOMMY TAMAGAWA with net 74s. Front nine by DOC again with a 31 and 1/2, Back nine by GEORGE KAWAKAMI with a 36 net. Closest to the pins were: ROY IRITANI on #5 and RON OBA on #12

Many thanks to ROY IRITANI who donated 3 doz. balls while PHYLLIS MIYAJI donated 2 dozen of BARNEY'S NEW UNUSED BALLS and to BOB KATAYAMA who arranged the T-times at a very reasonable rate for the boys. Everyone enjoyed playing at an excellent layout..

The Barnacled Mariner

Where are you, MINEO? Where's your survival radio beeper like the one Captain SCOTT O'GRADY used to give his position in Bosnia? We can't locate you. Maybe Capt. SCOTT ZOBRIST can put you on the Internet so the whole world would know where you're at. The following is excerpted from MINEO's salt encrusted letter from somewhere in the Indian Ocean that was picked up in a corked bottle bobbing somewhere in Dubai.

May, 1995. My plan was to depart Darwin, Australia on 8 Nov. 1994. I had to leave my mooring to fuel up at a place called Fisherman's wharf - about 1/2 hr away in the main harbor of Darwin. When I arrived, the wharf was all filled up with all kinds of vessels, so I tied up at a small opening at the end of the wharf. Some people told me, I better move because when the tide goes out, I would be on the bottom. I untied my mooring and was on my way when all of a sudden my boat stopped. I was caught on a mud flat as the tide was going out. I was on a 35 degree angle with no water beneath me. I called the harbor control and they just laughed. Apparently, 2-3 boats get caught in the tide everyday. After about 6 hrs. the tide came back in and I was floating again. I tied up next to a fishing boat. The Captain of the fishing boat was very nice to me.

Offered me a shower, lobsters, fishes, anything I needed. I finally got fuel the next day and departed Darwin on the morning of 10 Nov. 1994.

About five miles out of Darwin, I observed a group of Vietnamese evacuees being towed by an Australian Naval vessel. Next I was unfortunate to get caught in the Indian Ocean doldrums (none or little wind). I used half of my fuel trying to get out of the doldrums, but no luck. It took me over a month and a half to get away from Australia. Thanksgiving day meal was turkey soup.

On 12 Dec. I got some strong winds and was real happy because I was traveling at a speed of over 5 mph. Then I heard this loud noise and looked up to see I had lost both the jib and staysail. Both sails were torn completely across. It took me all afternoon just to get the storm jib up until I could get out my spare sails installed.

On 15 Dec. I had double problems. The boat lurched all of a sudden and I hit my head against a steel beam. I saw stars and blood was coming out of my forehead. After stopping the bleeding, the auto pilot stopped working. It's really a challenge to sail a boat single handed without an auto pilot to assist you.

About this time 4 large long fishes began following me. Every morning I would feed them flying fishes that had hit the boat. The same four fishes followed me all the way to the south of Rodrigues Islands about 4,000 miles distance before they left me. They were just like pets and I didn't have the heart to catch them for food.

On Christmas day, I had canned ham, sweet potatoes, beans and carrots with biscuits. New Years day I drank a bottle of champagne that ALICE HUSTEAD gave me. Felt good all day. From west Australia to Rodrigues Island I either got wind or current from the wrong direction and was going off course when this happened. I didn't have enough sails left to make it around Cape Horn to Cape Town so I came to Durban instead with only 1 main, 1 jib and 1 storm sail that were all repaired. After an inspection I was directed to the Point Yacht Mooring next to the city of Durban, a real modern city where the

people are very friendly and kind. I have been invited out for dinner over 8 times with people that I just met on the docks or in stores. This would not happen in the States, Samoa, Australia, Japan or even in Hawaii. Maybe the newspaper story made some people feel sorry for me?

Most of my problems: 8 sails, auto pilot, electronics, electrical equipment have been repaired with just a few more things to accomplish. Been stocking up on food, supplies and repair equipment. Just have to get some more fuel and when the weather is right, I should be on my way. I hope to make it to the Panama Canal in one shot, but most of the people here think I will have to stop 3-6 times before I get around Cape Horn because of the continuous changing winds and strong current. When I get around the Cape, it should be downhill from then on. From here Panama is about 8,000 miles which should take me 5-7 months give or take a couple of months.

I appreciate all the thoughts and prayers that have been given for my safe journey. I am sure that is why I have made it this far and will be home by December? I hope. Always, MINEO.

Sick Call, Love Sick, In Memorium

ROY KUBO is still in Castle Hospital. He says, docs don't know whats wrong with him.

ITARU COWSHIME KAWASHIMA reports that he underwent a quadruple heart by-pass and by the strength of his voice he seemed to have recovered. He says that there are enemies like NIIYA and MACKEY behind every pine tree so keep slugging and rebut them at every opportunity since they may still be educable. Don't let the 442nd be kicked around, he ends. Talking about PINE TREES, he is hale and hearty at last sight and that FRANK SOTELO has a new LOVE - atta boy, FRANK!

FRANK MORIMOTO reports that YURI fell and broke both her right hip and arm - says they are adjusting in spite of the house being in a mess.

JOE TANAKA scared everyone by landing in the hospital in the wee hours of the morning. Almost gave us a cardiac but his was not, although the pain started in the chest area. The

other day he had a gall bladder surgery and was feeling fine when I visited him.

Our itinerant associate member, YOSHIO INUKAI, was treated for a spot in his lung and won't be making his semi-annual trip to his condo at the Ilikai. He'll be back next year.

ELSIE FUMIKO HOKAMA, wife of DANNY HOKAMA died July 30, 1995. A Christian service was held at the Hosoi Garden Mortuary

HIDEO OKANISHI of Rosemead, CA., a Fox veteran on the mainland, passed away recently, according to COWSHIME and FRANK MORIMOTO. JOE OKAZAKI'S mother, 100 yr. old and WARREN IWANAGA'S mother, 99 yr. old left us quietly without fuss or fanfare.

EDWARD "MANJIRO" WATASE's mother, YAYOI, 97 years old, died this past week.

SHINAKA's brother, TOSHIHARU HAMATAKE, 66 years old, passed away on August 24th.

"NANCY" TOSHIO ENDO gathered 6 of his friends to help out with the Japan-Hawaii Baseball Goodwill Tournament in spite of his son NEIL's terminal illness with cancer. He and his ganag with MR. HASHI helped 'til the day NEIL passed away. Thank you very much, NANCY.
Fox six to Fox one, over.



by BOB MATSUSHITA

Return to Camp Shelby. We spent 2 nights in New Orleans at the Hotel Montelione and spent an additional two nights at Hattiesburg at the Howard Johnson's. It was a good experience visiting the French Quarter and sampling the Cajun food prepared. We visited the waterfront which is the mouth of the Mississippi River and saw the riverboats which are used as entertainment vessels which have gambling areas. The weather was a very sunny afternoon with the

citizens of New Orleans treating us royally.

Bumped into F Chapter members MR. & MRS. WATARU KOHASHI of Hilo, MR. & MRS. GEORGE KAWAKAMI of Lihue, MR. & MRS. RON OBA and MR. & MRS. PAUL YAMASHITA of Oahu, and MR. JACK WAKAMATSU and MR. & MRS. HIRO TAKUSAGAWA of L.A.

HIRO questioned me about the poor showing of 442 members attending from Hawaii. He also noted that the mainland boys didn't show up. Also I told them event after event have taken place in Hawaii and emphasis on Camp Shelby was not stressed too heavily.

The two nights spent in Hattiesburg were well spent visiting Camp Shelby as well as adjacent areas. We were fed under a giant tent with music by our Hawaii Army Reserve Band. Made us feel at home. The Hattiesburg Army Band performed during the banquet night to the tunes of the '40s.

Interviews were made for only those who trained in Camp Shelby. Questions asked: What has changed? (Many responded it didn't have green lawn grass growing. They stated while they were in training the grounds were pure dirt.)

Dedication of monument: This monument will remain century after century as a reminder to all of the heroics and brave sacrifices made by the Nisei of the 442nd/100th. The selection of wording engraved were well stated.

It was nice to be there to observe the unveiling of Monuments and be present at the ceremony.

Neil Toshio Endo

Son of TOSHIO & GLADYS ENDO, NEIL died on August 17, 1995 at the Maui Memorial Hospital. He was a police lieutenant and commander of the Community Relations section of the Maui Police Department with 16 years of service. A service was held at 4:30 p.m. Thursday at Nakamura Mortuary. Burial was held at 9 a.m. Friday at Maui Memorial Park.

He is survived by his wife SHARON and his parents TOSHIO & GLADYS. We extend our deepest sympathies.



by **CHARLES WATANABE**

There is no report for the month of June, 1995. The reason is that although the long-planned mini-reunion in Las Vegas (LV) is over, we are still recovering from the full activities of the four days. Our memories linger over the wonderful and exciting time we had. Some of us may be wondering when and where will the next reunion be. Perhaps our tour leader the Reverend ERNEST UNO has given it a thought.

Unlike the reunions of the past, the Hq3rd hospitality room in LV was no place to look for social gatherings, except for opening day. The casinos were the crowd drawers.

One morning, a group of us decided to take a break and get away to Laughlin for fun and adventure. The tour included a 2-hour drive through the desert wilderness. Laughlin, Colorado Belle is located on the mighty Colorado River banks. It's popular Riverboat theme attracts many visitors from all over. The Arizona residents from across the river are regular patrons of this resort. Arriving at the boating site, we learned that the operations were closed for the day. Can you imagine how disappointed the ladies were? However, we enjoyed an excellent complimentary buffet luncheon and took in some casino action at the Golden Nugget. Included in the group were HARRY & HARRIET NAKAYAMA, GRACIE UNO, FUMI TADAKUMA, and CHARLES & CLARA WATANABE.

HAJIME MATSUURA had a personal chauffeur who got him up at 4 a.m. to drive to the Grand Canyon. HAJIME, wasn't the Grand Canyon's magnificent view worth sacrificing a few hours of sleep? Let us hear your experience sometime soon.

Despite all the brochures available in LV publicizing their beautiful woman and the sexy shows, TOMMY TAMASHIRO, attired in his tennis shorts, couldn't pass the golf course authorities.

My, my, I never gave it a thought, but TOMMY must have looked too sexy, so it cost him a bit of moola to get into something more conventional to get on the course.

Having visited Las Vegas; a fabulous city with all its glitter, block after block of neon lights, the spectacular shows and grand entertainment, one can easily understand the lure to return again and again. For those of you who missed our LV mini-reunion, you may find interesting the following Post Reunion Communiqué by ERNI UNO.

ERNI's Communiqué

By all accounts everyone had a good time during our 4-days stay in Las Vegas. Unbelievably, there were those among us who we hadn't seen since we left Italy, but renewing old acquaintances is what reunions are all about.

Highlights

We doff off our *papales** to KAREN at Travel Adventures for her detailed planning to make our trip go smoothly, even to setting aside tips for the bus drives every time we used them.

A Hospitality Room provided by HORSE and FUMI TADAKUMA - can't thank them enough for being such a wonderful host and hostess. And of course, those of you who brought tasty food items - kippered and smoked salmon from the northwest, cherries and strawberries from the fertile orchards in California, favored bakery goodies from Philadelphia, and the always-favorite macadamia nuts from Hawaii just to name a few.

The Mystere show of superduper acrobatics, trapeze, and high-wire acts that were breathtaking.

The fellowship among the guys, as mentioned above, many who hadn't seen each other for half a century, provided some poignant moments of recall and reflection.

Yes, the doilies for each family, crocheted by EDNA will be lasting mementos of this gathering of 3rd HQ-ers.

And perhaps, the *creme de la creme* of the reunion was SAM's reflections based on his trip

last fall to revisit old battlefields culminating in the memorial commemoration at Bruyeres and Biffontaine. You bet, those were real tears we shed along with SAM.

It may seem redundant, but I think a listing of those who attended the mini-reunion will help us to remember who 'n who were there to whom we might want to say "hello!" AL & IDAKARIYA from Tacoma, WA; SHIGE & RITSUKO MATSUFUJI from Leemore, CA; KEN & TAKAKO MIYAMOTO, of Winton, CA; SHIG & KO MIYAMOTO from San Francisco, CA; VICTOR MORIYASU of Sumner, WA; HARRY & HARRIET NAKAYAMA from San Jose, CA; MICKEY OGATA from Livingston, M; TED & SUNKIE OYE from Vineland, NJ; BUNNY & DORIS PERLSWEIG of Havertown, PA; TED & TOY SHIMIZU from Salt Lake City, UT; NOB & BLANCHE SHIMOTSUKA from Los Angeles, CA; ORVILLE & MAUD SHIREY from Thurmont, MD; SAM & SHIZ SUGIMOTO from Columbia Heights, MN; JOE & MIYO TABATA of Santa Barbara, CA; and not the least HORSE & FUMI TADAKUMA of Gardena, CA.

The local guys making up the Hawaii contingent were: ISAMU & HARUMI FURUYA, FRANK & GRACE ISHIKAWA, DAVID KAIURA, ROBERT & EDNA KUNIYUKI along with their daughter VALERIE and son-in-law JOHN HOWE, BILL & YAEKO KUWATA, HAJIME & LANI MATSUURA, TAKESHI & IRENE NAKAMURA, SAM & MICHU SASAI, TOMMY & POLLY TAMASHIRO, ERNI & GRACE UNO, and CHARLIE & CLARA WATANABE. Oh yes, "JUNIOR" OGAI dropped in at our hospitality room to chat with a few of the guys.

As the glow wears off in the coming months, our yearnings may turn to one more reunion - who knows? One last word from me to each of you: Thanks for all your help and cooperation. Without you guys, it would've never happened. With that, ciao.

(*Papale: Hawaiian for hat.)

Meeting for July 1995 was held at the club-

house with the wives in attendance and busy circulating pictures of the mini-reunion. SAM FURUYA briefly reported on the following:

- The memorial to be built on the grounds of Ft. DeRussy is back on the drawing board.

- The 1996 Anniversary will be held at the Pacific Beach Hotel.

- The Japan-Hawaii Goodwill Baseball Tournament will be taking place in August. Officials are seeking families with spare rooms to accommodate visiting players.

- The trip to LV ended with a surplus of funds, and consensus of those present was to donate the money to the 442nd RCT Foundation.

- The Sons and Daughters had a picnic at the Keehi Lagoon. Chapter members participating with their families were the NAKAMURAS and the UNOS.

The rest of the evening was spent listening to EDDIE ICHIIYAMA of 522C report on and offer pep talk regarding the upcoming 50th anniversary commemorating the end of WWII. EDDIE asked the men of the Hq3rd for their full participation on September 2. A flyer will be mailed for members to complete and return. See you all on September 2?

Attending the July meeting were ERNI & GRACE UNO, SAM & HARUMI FURUYA, HAJIME & HINAYO MATSUURA, DAVID KAIURA, TAKESHI & IRENE NAKAMURA, JANET MATSUDA, and CHARLES & CLARA WATANABE.

Clubhouse was again the place for the August 18 meeting, but there were only a handful in attendance, like SHIGERU GOTO, SAM FURUYA, DAVID KAIURA, ERNI UNO, and CHARLES WATANABE. With barely a quorum present, it was agreed that a donation be made to the baseball team here from Japan. Having concluded one item of business, the rest of the evening was just talk, talk, yak, yak.

All pau...



By Mary Sakai, Carol Sakai-Feiteira, Patti Laba

Chapter Meeting

On May 10, 1995, Anti-Tankers and their spouses met at the 442 V.C. Hall. Present were: JERRY and ALICE AYABE, MASATODOI, MIKE FUJIKI, SACHI FUKUNAGA, KO and JANET HATA, LIZO and YVONNE HONMA, WALLY and YORI KAGAWA, JACK and MARGARET KAGUNI, TSUNETO and THELMA MIZUSAWA, SALLY NAKAMURA, "OSCAR" OMINE, CHILLY SASAKI, MASA SUZUKI, MINORU TATEISHI and SHIROKU YAMAMOTO. Information on the A.T. Co. Mini-Reunion scheduled for Oct. 9-13 at Las Vegas was given by WALLY KAGAWA. Costs include \$15 per person for registration, \$62 per person for 4 nights at 4 Queen's Hotel including 2 meals per day, double occupancy; and golf at \$40 per day. A tally showed 13 persons intending to go. A discussion on future programs for A.T. Chapter took place, including types of meeting, locations, and possibility of different areas sponsoring a meeting. Also the possibility of forming a Visitor's Committee was brought up. Bento lunches of Korean delicacies were enjoyed by all. Soft drinks were donated by MASATO DOI. THELMA MIZUSAWA kindly brought delicious desserts. MINORU TATEISHI brought a bagful of large red chili peppers which were eagerly received...to take home - not to eat! After the lunch, the group enjoyed the video "Honor Bound" which is about HOWARD HANAMURA of "L" Company and their actions in Bruyeres, Biffontaine and the smashing of the Gothic Line in Italy. Documentary films about the Japanese evacuations and combat films made the video one of the best ever made.

TOM NAKATA: These reporters will be quoting from The Record, a newspaper serving Stock-

ton and San Joaquin County. Manteca correspondent TOM NAKATA sent a follow-up to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team Highway sign. Last year, Governor PETE WILSON signed a resolution by the State Legislature dedicating sections of state highways to be 442nd, the Military Intelligence Service and the 100th Infantry Battalion. A 10-mile stretch of Highway 99 between Manteca and Salida was dedicated to the men of the 442nd who fought in "one of the most courageous American fighting units in the history of our country" said DEAN ANDAL, one of the sponsors of the resolution and a former Assemblyman. RICHARD HAYASHI said "This is a memorial to the friends who died in the war." EDDIE MURAKAMI felt he had to demonstrate his loyalty and TOM NAKATA felt it was his duty to help defend the country. "We didn't expect anything like this" said TOM NAKATA. To celebrate a 442nd Highway dedication is a banquet "...to honor the Nisei—who fought during World War II" said BARRY SAIKI, coordinator of the successful event.

HENRY and MILDRED IKEMOTO: HENRY shared that AT secretary, TAK HATTORI, is taking another short vacation with wife SUMI to Europe a couple of weeks ago. "...being President of the Association in addition to our AT Chapter keeps me a little busy, but it has been a great experience. I have lots of support from everyone who I have asked. When we decide on a project, I ask a person or two to work on it, and it's just as good as done." He also shared a part of his busy, past schedule with "4/28-30, the 522nd Bn had their reunion here. It was a big event and the Jewish community participated in the ceremonies. That is a story in itself. On 5/13, we had a great time at the Association Memorial Hall with the annual Reverse Raffle. Our DAVE KAWAGOE made the raffleboard that keeps track of each number that is drawn. It shows the winner and how much was won. I don't have the exact figure, but our net is near the \$6,000 mark. F Company was in charge of the event this year. On 5/20, the Association participated in the 37th Annual Armed Forces



*Shiro Yamamoto, Chappie Kishaba, & "Stud" Oshiro
at Lt. Ben Roger's grave in Epinal, France.*



*Banquet tent in Biffontaine - Richard Takahashi,
Kazuo Kiyonaga, Stud Oshiro, Henry Ikemoto,
Dave Kawagoe, and Chappie Kishaba*

Day Parade and events in Torrance, California. Our Association was one of the first units in the parade of 87 units. As always, we received a very good reception by the crowd. We had a WWII jeep and a large 'GO FOR BROKE' banner tied to the side of the truck. Ten or so fellas participated. Our Associate Chapter boys, clad in khaki uniforms, carried the Colors. They looked like the way they did 50 years ago. They looked great. On 5/29, Memorial Day, the Association was in charge of the ceremony at the Evergreen Cemetery. JIMMY SAKIMOTO is interned there as are several of the other 442nd men. The ceremony was held at SADAO MUNEMORI's monument. On 6/10, the HWY 23 in Simi Valley, near the Ventura County line on the Northern end of LA County is being dedicated to the MIS which we participated in. On 6/15-18, we went to Shelby for the Memorial's dedication. On 7/29, the Association is participating in a portion of HWY 99's dedication near Fresno for the 100th Bn. which AT is joining in on this event. On 8/4, we participated in the Dedication ceremony of a HWY 99 portion near Stockton, California. A stretch of hwy. is dedicated to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. I'm not much of a Las Vegas type, but I love to meet people and talk story. I'm looking forward to the mini-reunion on October 9-13. FRANK SETO and CHAPPIE

KISHABA are working on the hospitality project." Also, "KUNE HISATOMI had surgery and is recovering. He is faithful in coming to the AT meetings and we have missed him for the last couple of them. KIMI says he's walking around and doing well."

LIZO and YVONNE HONMA: The HONMA's continue to have French guests despite YVONNE's illness. YVONNE left the hospital bed to greet more of her French guests who slept in the HONMA's master bedroom while LIZO and YVONNE slept on the reclining beds in the living room. YVONNE has a difficult time breathing. She also uses crutches at her home and a wheelchair to get around outside. Right now, she's troubled with gout attacks. LIZO is a good cook now and he is enjoying this new job of caring for YVONNE. LIZO is planning to attend the function on Sept. 2 at the National Cemetery.

MARY SAKAI: The Sakai clan was at the airport a lot this past 6 months. MARY flew in July to celebrate her brother TOSHI HIRABAYASHI and wife DORA's 50th wedding anniversary. Children GLEN, DEAN, JOAN and MARK and grandchildren hosted and entertained the guests. She also had the opportunity to meet her cousin MASUKO HIRABAYASHI and her cousin's son

EARL. She visited all her other relatives and enjoyed her visit. Grandson EDDY and dad GLENN FEITEIRA flew to the Big Island with EDDY's 4th grade class from Heeia Elementary. Daughter CAROL and grand-daughter MARI flew to Maui where the males joined them. They visited GLENN's mother, CAROLINE and his sisters GWEN LOPES and SUSIE and families. The FEITEIRA's hosted a couple of children from Japan who played a soccer Goodwill Tournament against EDDY's team. EDDY and Grandma MARY will be traveling to Japan next year when EDDY plays baseball against the Japanese teams. Second daughter PATTI was a co-presenter at the National Asian and Pacific Educators (NAAPAE) Conference for a breakout session titled "Discrimination in the Work Place and Classroom" in Toronto with Dr. AIKO ODA from UH. Flying here and there!

JERRY and ALICE AYABE: JERRY and ALICE are planning to take DANIEL KAWAKAMI and wife MARIAN as their guests for the October 9-13 get-together with the Vegas group.

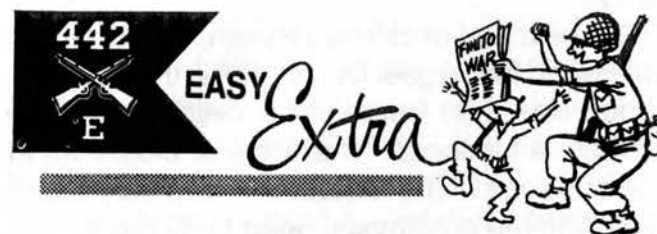
A.T. Co. Mini-Reunion

WALLY KAGAWA reported that the following persons will be attending the Mini-Reunion at Las Vegas on Oct. 9-13: JERRY and ALICE AYABE, DONALD and MARION KAWAKAMI (AYABE's in-laws), GORO and YAYOKO INABA, WALLY and YORI KAGAWA, JACK and MARGARET KAGUNI, SHIROKU and AMY YAMAMOTO and MASATO DOI. Four from Seattle and two from Washington D.C. have signed up.

Chapter Meeting

The A. T. Chapter met on August 2 at Pearl Country Club for a luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. The following attended: JERRY and ALICE AYABE, MASATO DOI, SACHI FUKUNAGA, KO and JANET HATA, LIZO HONMA, HALO and KIYOMI HIROSE, WALLY and YORI KAGAWA, JACK KAGUNI, "OSCAR" OMINE, CHILLY and IRENE SASAKI and their grandson from California, HARRY and JANET TOKASHIKI, MINORU TATEISHI, MASA

SUZUKI, and SHIROKU and AMY YAMAMOTO. Most of the meeting was devoted to the disseminating of information about the "50th Anniversary Celebration of the End of World War 2." The veterans and their families are invited to participate in 2 events on Sept. 2 especially — the 7 a.m. Memorial Service at Punchbowl and the 2 p.m. parade at Waikiki. PRESIDENT CLINTON will be the keynote speaker at the Memorial Service and will also review the parade. Information on the gathering place, bussing to and from Punchbowl, lunch and bussing to the parade starting place and reservation forms were passed out. WALLY KAGAWA urged all vets and wives to participate. Also a vote was taken to determine consensus of opinion whether a KIA Honor Roll should or should not be included at the AJA WW2 Memorial at Fort DeRussy presently being designed. The majority voted in favor of the KIA Honor Roll, with a few abstentions. The group enjoyed a Japanese lunch of their choice, topped off with a gift of chocolate candies from SACHI FUKUNAGA. After informed chit-chat and visiting, the party disbanded about 1:30.



by **TERUO IHARA**

My invitation last March for contributions from fellow EASY Company members towards the Chapter's 442nd NEWSLETTER received a very early reply. As such YAE TAKEMOTO, TSUNE better half's contribution titled "EASY COMPANY NEWS FROM THE BIG ISLAND" will introduce the Chapter's Newsletter for the September/December quarter. Thank you YAE.

"On April 29, 1995 Easy Company members LAWSON & MINEKO SAKAI of Gilroy, CA and TSUNE & YAE TAKEMOTO of Hilo joined by nine others from California, Seattle and Hilo in

Beijing, China. They spent three days at the beautiful *Swissotel* (courtesy of the Royal Cruise Line) and went sightseeing visiting places such as the Great Wall, Tinneman Square, Forbidden City, the Emperor's Palace and the Zoo where they were surprised at the size of the Pandas. The group also enjoyed the opera and had a Peking Duck dinner although they thought the Honolulu version of the Peking Duck tasted better.

The groups (18 busses) were then bussed to Xingang where they boarded the *Royal Odyssey* which was to be their home for the next 11 days cruising the Yellow Sea, China Sea and the Sea of Japan. The first port of call was Yantai, China where a home visitation was arranged by the cruise line in addition to sightseeing. We were treated to afternoon refreshments and show by young Chinese students. They performed a beautiful Chinese play and sang several songs in English. Peony and Peach blossoms in the church yard added much to the scenery. At the pier the student band in their red and white uniforms bade us farewell as we returned to our ship. The Chinese people were very gracious and we enjoyed their hospitality.

Our next port of call was Pusan, Korea where we visited the largest fish market in the city. The group was then treated to a delicious Korean barbecue luncheon. The wisteria blossoms at the entrance of the restaurant were very beautiful. And the amethysts, need I say more.

The next port was Vladivostok, Siberia. Ours was only the third cruise ship ever to enter the port. Immigration clearance was very strict so everything was delayed. Another visitation was arranged by the cruise line and although we had to walk up five flights of stairs we enjoyed the hospitality of the retired Colonel, his wife and granddaughter. We had an excellent guide, a young university student of Russian and Korean ancestry who spoke fluent English. We were entertained with dance and singing performances at the Russian Dance Academy by some very talented young men and women. Although the dollar was very strong, the State

Department Store had little to offer for sale.

After a day and half at sea we sailed into the port of Nagasaki, Japan. We received a royal welcome as Miss Nagasaki and the Mayor and other dignitaries came aboard the ship with children's dance and taiko groups to entertain us. After sightseeing and some shopping we reboarded the cruise ship and headed for Osaka, Japan, our next port of call. The trip to Osaka required sailing out in the Pacific Ocean and we caught the tail end of a storm. Most of the passengers did well except myself. The storm lasted only a few hours so it wasn't that bad. Stayed overnight in Osaka and toured to city during the day. Saw the gold tea room of *Toyotomi Hideyoshi* at the Osaka Castle which was very impressive.

Sailed into Tokyo's *Harumi Minato*. The Tokyo welcome group included two magicians who put on a great show. We disembarked and went to the *Ginza* and back to the ship where we spent the night and we disembarked the next day. The whole trip was fabulous with excellent food and services. The weather was great except for the one day in Osaka. This was the same ship that LAWSON SAKAI took 53 EASY Company members to Europe in July, 1994. We had a new Ship Captain, refurbished rooms and an upgrade so we thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

GUESS WHO WAS THE BLACKJACK CHAMPION?? None other than LAWSON SAKAI and he has a certificate to prove it. Watch out Las Vegas!!! and EASY COMPANY reunion in late October.

CABBY FUJINO, a fellow EASY COMPANY member from Honokaa met us at the Akasaka Tokyu Hotel and we wish to thank him for making our hotel accommodations at a terrific savings. Thank you, Cabby.

LAWSON & MINEKO flew to Kumamoto to visit relatives and returned to Tokyo to spend some time with her cousins. TSUNE & YAE spent a few days in Tokyo visiting with friends and relatives and flew to Hiroshima to visit several cousins and go "*Ohaka Mairi*." Returned to Tokyo and both couples left after a week extra in Japan. CABBY visited his friend in Kyoto and

returned at the end of May. A good time was had by everyone. Having made nine trips to Japan, the TAKEMOTOS always enjoy Japan.

Before including BOB ICHIKAWA's contribution, mention will be made here of several news items this writer failed to include in the last newsletter. It is something that can be considered as "better late than never" variety. The first had to do with the passing of PAKALA TAKAHASHI'S mother early this year. EASY CHAPTER members expressed deep sympathy to PAKALA'S family as the Chapter, through GLENN NAKASONE, made the normal contributions to her Funeral Services on Maui. No information of the birthright of PAKALA'S father was available but PAKALA is at least half sansei since the obituary listed his mother's birth on Maui. On the mainland we learned of the passing of GEORGE KANDA of the Seattle area and MAY KATAOKA, spouse of TOM KATAOKA of northern California near Fresno. EASY CHAPTER wishes to extend its belated sympathies to the bereaved families.

The one very happy event which took place in late June which failed to make the last Newsletter had to do with the 50th wedding anniversary of LEFTY & KAY SUGIHARA. All EASY was there including a couple from the Island of Hawaii-TSUNE & YAE TAKEMOTO. Both of these men came home early before the end of hostilities in Europe because LEFTY was wounded so bad that he was considered pau for combat, and TSUNE had sufficient combat points so he received a furlough home from Southern France. Fortunately for TSUNE cessation of hostilities made it unnecessary for him to go back to rejoin the unit which was doing guard duty in the Leghorn/Pisa area. If TSUNE came back from his furlough he probably would have earned a field promotion to Lieutenant. As an aside, when word came down that TSUNE earned a furlough to go home to Hawaii, Captain TOM AKINS was not happy. Any Company CO. will be unhappy losing such an outstanding platoon sergeant. My advice to TSUNE was never mind the Captain, just go. My advice was based on my

experience with S/Sgt. FRANCIS OYAKAWA who was killed on Hill 140. FRANCIS had bloody eyes that needed an operation. He told me he'll get the operation after this next battle. He didn't make it as I let him stay on to fight because the 1st platoon was short of NCOs.

LEFTY & TSUNE were probably two of the earliest 442nd veterans to return to Hawaii and start a family. Fortunately for the two, they left for War in March, 1943 with two very beautiful girl friends. Thus there was no need for them to go shopping for girls.

The following is an account of the battles around the "PINK HOUSE", a remembrance of 51 years ago, by BOB ICHIKAWA based on an article in the last 442nd Newsletter by RON OBA, of Fox Company. The account is in a letter to RON. RON called me to tell me he had this letter and that he thought it would look better in EASY'S columns than in theirs so here goes the letter in its entirety.

"Mr. OBA:

I read with interest, your article in the April-June Issue of the Bulletin. I don't mean to be nosy but IKE MASAOKA, F. Co Medic, was hit by shrapnel on July 11, 1944, after Hill 140, past the "PINK HOUSE", where Lt. Col. HANLEY had the 2nd Bn HQ. near a place called SCAPETO (was on my tag but not on the map). I remember being at the 2nd Bn Aid Station located in the draw behind the "PINK HOUSE". IKE was brought in on a stretcher and had so many wounds he could only lie down on his left side. He was loaded on a jeep and sent to the collecting Station. Its a wonder how he survived. That day E Co was in reserve and F & G were several hundred yards ahead of us. The terrain was a lot of low lying hills and not much cover. 3rd Squad, 2nd Platoon, that's us, were sent out to fix the phone lines to F & G. No sooner we hopped over the hill we were pinned down by machine gun fire and then came the 88's, two at a time, Boom! Boom! Sgt. DON MASUDA (Shrapnel through the elbow and arm), SEISHI ISODA (in the knee), SEIJI "Brooklyn" KANETA, (in the knee) and myself (in the lower right leg).

AKIO NISHIKAWA, (Medic) came down to help and was with "Brooklyn" when more 88's dropped in hitting AKIO in the gut. (He died there). The only cover we had was a bunch of hay stacks on the forward slope. MASUDA hopped over the hill. Later I took ISODA out with me promising "Brooklyn" that I would get the stretcher guys out for him and NISHIKAWA. When I got to the Aid Station, that's when I saw IKE. I told the medics where the other two were and they immediately went out with a large Red Cross flag and stretchers and as they waved the flag all the firing stopped.....can you imagine? How come they didn't do that when we were out there? As we learned that the phone lines were OK, we returned to E Co area while F and G Companies were ducking shells. That's the way it was 51 years ago.

BOB ICHIKAWA.

The first and second platoons have something here of their combat days. How about the third, fourth and HDQ platoons next time. Its a time of remembrances of things that happened 51 years ago. Just jot some of the things you remember about the war and the column is yours. We are not getting younger.

The last three months was a busy one for this writer. First, he traveled to Spain and Portugal, spending 23 days on the Iberian Peninsula. He spent an awful three days in Barcelona where a thief ran by taking my bag as he ran. The American Embassy staff was very helpful and helped me get my U.S. Passport as well as cancel my credit cards. The Visa credit card people in New York, besides issuing a new card advanced a \$1000 loan which made it possible to spend the time in Europe. All along this writer was actively involved in Dr. HUBERT EVERLEY's campaign to become the first Retiree Trustee on the Hawaii State Employment Retirement Systems Board of Trustees. Pau for now. T.I.



by SHIRO AOKI

Our Summer Cookout

Although our long-time benefactor JOHN GOGIAN can no longer be our "angel" as he sold his meat business last year, we continued our annual summertime tradition with a cookout at the TOMMY KAKESAKO DAV Hall on Sunday, July 9, 1995. As MICHAEL IDE said, "Hey, it's nice that we have these cookouts in the middle of summer instead of waiting until Christmas!" If MIKE had put that into a motion, I would have been the first guy to say, "I second the motion." As I explained at the cookout, this was the idea of FRANK NOMURA and as long as FRANK is our social chairman, these cookouts will continue. And you know that FRANK is forever - our social chairman, that is.

It was a day filled with good fellowship; it was a day filled with good tidings and the unexpected.

First, through the good graces of RICHARD NARIYASU & MICHAEL IDE, we were fortunate to have as special guests the REVEREND & MRS. SUZUKI (friends of the NARIYASUS) and the Reverend gave a unique but beautiful blessing to the gathering and the food that we were about to partake but he did it in Japanese explaining how this blessing came about and ending with "Ita daki masu" which we all understood and responded in kind. That was a very good beginning to this gathering of old friends.

Second, old time former residents of Hawaii, HIROSHI & GRACE YAMASHIRO took their vacation at the right time to be able to make it to the cookout. And GRACE brought us tidings from BILL OKAZAKI & SUMI & DICK TOCHIHARA along with the unexpected news that the "GOGIAN Legacy" is not necessarily over; that SUMI (I don't know how she does it but she always seems to come up with these things) is making arrangements to send us more meat

and stuff before the summer is over. That is good news and FRANK NOMURA already was making plans for our second cookout and to time it so that we can have it before the YAMASHIROS leave town in appreciation for GRACIE bringing us this good news. But now it looks like we have to wait a little while longer. When TOMMY KIKUCHI saw HIROSHI, he said, "I was just thinking about you." "Why?" asked HIROSHI. and JASPER said, "Because we have a guy just as accident prone as you used to be. JIMMY KANEMORI fell backwards from his chair and could not make one of our meetings and now he fell down while taking out the garbage and fractured his left ankle." But HIROSHI does not get hurt anymore since he moved to California ... "Because," he said, "I don't work anymore." Hey, JIMMY, that's the solution, move to California and just take it easy.

Third, ALICE BEPPU made a donation of \$200.00 to the Mike Co. treasury in memory of the late TADAO BEPPU on the second anniversary of his passing. "BEP" has done so much for M Co. and this generous donation from ALICE continues to add to our appreciation of the father of M Co. Thank you so very much, ALICE!

And fourth, talk about the unexpected. MRS. EVELYN AOKI, who happens to be my beautiful wife, won the first prize in our lucky number drawing, a "namahage" donated by the REV. & MRS. SUZUKI. It is a scary-looking Japanese warrior that is supposed to chase away the evil spirits and I sure hope it does that for me before I take my next Vegas trip. NORIO AKUTAGAWA won the second prize, a mini camera and RALPH SHISHIDO won the third prize, a carton of Japanese sake all donated by the REV. & MRS. SUZUKI. ALICE BEPPU was the recipient of a beautiful potted plant that was donated by RICHARD NARIYASU.

Thomas Sakamoto

THOMAS SAKAMOTO (3rd platoon) donated a whole lot of apple bananas for everyone to take home. He grows these bananas on six acres of land nestled between the Pali Golf Course and the new Japanese-owned golf

course. Well, stupid old me asked him if these bananas grew wild on his land and all that he had to do was harvest them. He gave me a stink look and said, "I plant them, I fertilize them, I irrigate them, and then I harvest them." He owns the lease rights to the land and pays a reasonable lease rent to the State. Thank you, SAKAMOTO san for your continuing generosity to us Mikers.

Michael Ide

One of the guys that I have gotten to know a lot better over the past few years is a third platoon guy by the name of MICHAEL IDE. Of course, I knew MIKE back in Shelby but he was in the last row of hutments and I was in the first row of hutments; he was mortar and I was machine gun and that kind of put us in two different worlds. Also, I had Lt. YOUNG and he had Lt. POTTER. That was two different worlds too!

MICHAEL IDE was born in Kaneohe and went to McKinley High School where he graduated from in 1939. After graduation he went on to the old Vocational school taking classes in machine shop and he laughs when he says, "and then I went to work for the Board of Water Supply." He left the Water Supply to volunteer for the 442 and after the war was over he went back to work there until his retirement in 1982. In 1961 he did one of the smartest things he ever did - he met and married a pretty little girl from Olaa of the Big Island (it is called Keau now, but to me Olaa will always be Olaa) by the name of KIMIYO ASATO. That union produced four daughters and one granddaughter.

When the 442 went back to Biffontaine and Bruyeres for the 50th anniversary ceremonies last year, MIKE & KIMIYO were among those who made that memorable trip. If you remember, MIKE wrote a short touching tribute to Lt. POTTER. There are many stories that are told about Lt. POTTER and MIKE remembers one incident in particular. It was back in Shelby and MIKE was getting ready to go to bed when POTTER coming back from the officer's club came charging into the hut and said, "I hear you are a rough and tough guy!" MIKE did not want to get physically involved with an officer so he

put his hands up and gave POTTER a small shove. POTTER went flying back and either got knocked out or passed out, but right then and there the reputation of tough MIKE IDE was born.

Today, in his retirement years, MIKE has volunteered to help the DAV maintain its grounds at Keehi Lagoon and spends every Thursday helping to keep the grounds looking the way it does today.

Phone Volunteers

When plans were being finalized for the end of WWII celebrations, a call went out for volunteers to man the phones. Mike Co. responded with PAUL TAKIGUCHI being one of the moving forces and WALLY & PRISCILLA NAGAO as regular volunteers up until the last week.

Condolences

RALPH TOMEI received a short note from Metuchen, New Jersey from the family of GEORGE MAEKAWA (2nd platoon) announcing his death on July 26, 1995 saying, "Please remember us in your prayers." Our deepest sympathies to MRS. MAEKAWA and her family.

SHIRO TAKEI sent us this additional information on GEORGE MAEKAWA.

"GEORGE was in 2nd platoon and served with us from Shelby to the end of the war. We saw GEORGE at the Reno NVR and at the 50th in Honolulu. He married an Italian woman and had 2 girls. He worked for American Express in Security. He visited Honolulu when I was still on the UH faculty and also saw him in Paris in 1970 when I retired from the UH."



by **HERBERT AKAMINE**

TED MATSUO presided at the Medics meeting

held at the 442nd clubhouse on August 16. He gave details of the coming V-J Day anniversary celebration for the chapter's participating members. Others present at the meeting were CARL MIYABARA, JACK YAMASHIRO, LIONEL IKEBE, ROY SAKATA, TOSHIKI TANAKA, WILFRED TAIRA, ALBERT TSUKAYAMA, SUEO FUJII, JERRY OGAWA, and HOWARD KOZUMA. Contrary to the 50th anniversary 442 parade, most of the Medics chapter marchers of that event plan to be trolley riders in the VJ Day parade. ALBERT TSUKAYAMA brought a copy of the video "Honor Bound" which honors HOWE HANAMURA who joined the 442 from Alameda, California. He obtained the video from his MD son who is associated with Kaiser in Oakland.

JACK YAMASHIRO saw FRANK YANO recently and reported that FRANK is managing quite well in spite of some limitations. They had lunch together in San Francisco where JACK told FRANK about the latest goings on of the Hawaii Medics. FRANK is the only 442 Medic from San Francisco although there are many others from the state of California. Since JACK does not drive in San Francisco anymore, his daughter drove him there from her home in San Carlos. The daughter, a former airline employee, is now a Realtor. JACK says there is a significant Asian population in that area near San Francisco bay and some were former Hawaii residents. His daughter's three children spent part of this summer in Kailua with JACK and his wife.

CHRISTOPHER ONAKA, grandson of JANET and ED ONAKA was a member of the Honolulu Boys Choir that performed in the 50th anniversary rites of the Hiroshima atom bomb attack. Like other members of the choir, CHRISTOPHER was accommodated by a host Japanese family. Young CHRISTOPHER has been on the go quite often this year. Earlier he performed at New York's Carnegie Hall with the Iolani School orchestra.

VIC IZUI gave a vivid description of the Camp Shelby celebration that honored the 442 this year. He wrote:

"WOW! Did we get the VIP treatment, or did we get the VIP treatment?!? I know many were kind

of skeptical of returning to Hattiesburg and Shelby. Remembering 1943. I even kicked myself for signing up, but I am really glad that I did and that goes with the rest of some 300 to 400 who showed up - 9 full busloads, escorted by some 7 - 10 Miss. State Police on motorcycles, non-stop from Gulfport to Hattiesburg, then city police escorts throughout our stay in town and Shelby MP escorts within Camp and Guardsmen giving you the Highball all thru the 2 days. Can't say much for the catered meals, but the special events and ceremonies were great, even the parade and beaucoup TV and news coverage. Wife MICHl got a big bang out of being helped off the bus and escorted to her seat at an event by a bird Colonel! What a difference from 52 years ago.

Couldn't recognize a damn thing. All the wooden buildings and hutments are gone; replaced by more permanent structures. But the pine forest and the red dirt are the same; bringing back a flood of memories. Hey, remember the D-series maneuver with the 69th Division in the cold, wet winter in swampy southern Mississippi? The 69th was commanded by Gen. CHARLES BOLTE. Toward the final phase of the series, 442 was the "red" force and Ltc. SHERWOOD DIXON led 3rd Bn. on an all-night, sleepless, forced march thru streams, snakes, chiggers, etc. to get behind the "blue" force. At dawn he led the noisy "Banzai" charge down the hill to capture "blue" regimental CP with motor pool and embarrassed commander and his staff intact and that commander was none other than Ltc. ALFRED PURSALL! At 34th Div. reunions, Gen. BOLTE often told stories of the 442 running circles around his division. That all-night climb of the 3,000 ft. mountain (Folgorito) to get behind the enemy at the Gothic Line in Italy for a dawn pincer attack sure reminded me of DIXON and his all-night forced march and "banzai" charge.

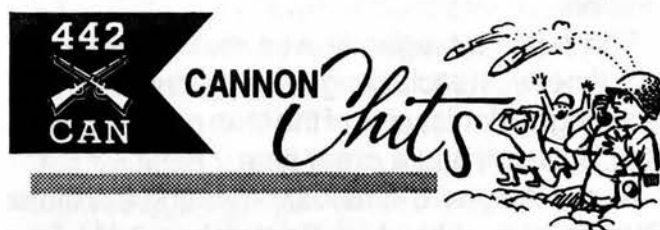
We never go to downtown Hattiesburg, but had the big banquet at greatly enlarged University of Southern Mississippi. When SQUEAKY and I roamed around the then tiny campus, it was a small college with enrollment of only a few

hundred. The coed we talked to were more curious about us, the first Japanese they had laid eyes on, surprised that SQUEAKY was a fisheries grad and I was almost a grad.

Medics who attend and had a good time were JIMMIE KANAYA, TAK & KIMI MOMODA, KELLY & FUMI KUWAYAMA, and us. Wished more Hawaii Medics could have come. You would have really enjoyed it!

STAN SERIKAKU of Chicago also attended the Shelby affair and he gave a glowing account of the reception which helped to ease the effects of the negative statements of the Mississippi senator who did not want the 442 to train in his state during World War II. It seems ironic that the 442 because of its glorious military triumphs has gained for the state of Mississippi a great measure of fame.

SAM YAMADA was one of the few local veterans that attended the Shelby function. He too was overwhelmed by the welcome. He brought us brochures of the Camp Shelby museum and schedule of events for the reception. A welcome he did not appreciate was the one at the Gulfport motel which was the kind that the gals on Hotel Street in Honolulu greet the Pearl Harbor sailors.



by KAORU WATANABE

(Ed. Note: Cannon Co. photos appear at the back of this issue.)

President DOC KOIKE called a breakfast meeting on June 7 at the Nimitz Zippy's Restaurant attended by HENRY CHAGAMI, LINCOLN MAEDA, MAMO MORITA, "CURLY" MURAOKA, CHARLIE ODA, "RAWFISH" OHARA, TOM OKINO, KAZU SAIKI, NORMAN SATO, KIYOSHI TABA, AKIRA TAKAHASHI, and KAORU WATANABE. The business agenda

included and resulted in: Return to JOHN KASHIKI the \$500.00 check from GERALD GUSTAFSON because we shipped flowers for HONEY's funeral. JOHN will be asked to use the money to defray expenses at our next Las Vegas reunion; prefer to avoid having to take the "Red Eye" flight out of Honolulu and yet not lose the better part of a day in Vegas. This means leaving Honolulu a day earlier with an extra night in Vegas. A consensus that Hawaii participants will augment the staffing of the hospitality room - Golfers NOT excepted. A discussion of the possibility that Mainlanders may want to visit Hawaii in '96. The week of November 9, 1996 will be suggested. Election of new officers will be held in 1996.

KAZU SAIKI invited all members and spouses to his home for dinner meeting July 12. Steaks, sashimi, shrimps and all that good stuff made up the kind of feast you don't forget. After dinner, KAZU's friends, experts in "Craps," gave us eye-opening tips on how to play craps. KAZU had built a professional crap table just for this purpose. This night's events were KAZU's way of thanking the members and spouses for the support he received during JUDY's long illness and deceasement. We were delighted that JIMMY and DORA KAMO, rarely seen, were present.

The business agenda was minimal, most of the time was socializing, eating, drinking, and learning the intricacies of the crap game. Thanks KAZU, we all had a great time.

At our August 8 breakfast meeting at Nimitz Zippy's, the subject of September 2 VJ Day celebration was presented by DOC KOIKE. The 442nd will participate in the Punchbowl Memorial Service as well as the Veterans Parade thru Waikiki. These and other events will highlight PRESIDENT and MRS. CLINTON. Watch for the Cannoneers in the parade. This meeting was attended by HENRY CHAGAMI, LINCOLN MAEDA, JOHN MIKASA, "BOLO" MIZUKAMI, MAMO MORITA, CHARLIE ODA, DOC KOIKE, "CURLY" MURAOKA, HAROLD NAKASONE, "RAWFISH" OHARA, KAZU SAIKI, NORMAN SATO, KIYOSHI TABA, and KAORU

WATANABE.

On a very sad note, we report the death of JAMIE SHINTANI on August 8, 1995. Graveside services including military honors were held at the Morris Hill Cemetery of Boise, Idaho on August 15, 1995. TAKESHI HANAMI was one of the Casket Bearers.

JAMIE was born on April 7, 1921. You will recall he was the sergeant in the 4th section gun crew of the Second Platoon. While he did not attend any of the Hawaii reunions, he was active in the VFW, American Legion, and the Idaho Veterans Council in the years after the war.

His diabetic condition resulted in the amputation of his foot and many small strokes and heart attacks. He finally succumbed to heart failure. For those who need the address of his widow, HAZEL, it is: 7120 Sunny Brook Dr., Boise, ID 83709, Phone (208) 376-6884. Our sincere condolences to HAZEL and family.

One of the busiest members of our Chapter is WALLY NUNOTANI, former Lanai boy, and his wife, KATHERINE. They are both known as "Activists" in our common desire to end all discriminatory practices in our country. We all talk about it - WALLY and KATHERINE plunge headlong into the fray whenever, wherever discrimination rears its ugly head. That takes enormous dedication, time, effort, sacrifice, and money.

True to their natures, they didn't remain idle after leaving the Vegas Reunion. The day after the reunion ended, WALLY spoke to a history class at George Washington High School in conjunction with the showing of WENDY HANAMURA's "Honor Bound." Then they were both off to the Camp Shelby Homecoming and Monument Dedication - June 16-18 with a post tour of 50 to Jerome, Rohwer, Branson, and St. Louis June 18-22. See fotos of that trip provided by WALLY NUNOTANI.

Other Cannoneers at the Camp Shelby Monument Dedication were NAOKI & YURI MISAWA, SAM & ALICE YOSHINARI, ARTHUR & OSAME DOI and daughter SUSAN. About 400 people total were at the Dedications.

Can you imagine the feelings and emotions of the Cannoneers and other 442nd veterans as

they entered Camp Shelby - it awakened hundreds of memories stored for 52 long years! Memories of the heat, the humidity, the cold, the chiggers, the hutments, the forced marches, the bivouacs, the PX, the Service Club, coal fired pot bellied heaters, and more. Each had their own memories suddenly awakened in a wave and then they were cleansed.

WALLY wrote that Camp Shelby today remains the nation's largest National Guard and Reserve Training Camp. Throughout the year over 100,000 troops from all branches of the military train there. The Why and How the Camp Shelby Monuments became a reality due to the efforts of Col. HERBERT SASAKI is another interesting story.

Then on July 12, WALLY was the speaker for 40 adults of the United Way headquarters in San Francisco.

On August 4, both attended the 442nd R.C.T. Memorial Highway Dedication at the Stockton Hilton. The highway named "442nd Regimental Combat Team Highway runs 10 miles of Highway 99 between Monteca and Salida. Concurrently, 20 miles of Highway 99 between Fresno and Madera is named "100th Infantry Battalion Highway," and 10 miles of Highway 23 between Highway 101 and 118 is named "Military Intelligence Service Highway."

On August 12-14, WALLY and KATHERINE helped to entertain MONIQUE CARLESSO and grandson LAURENT. Cannoneers will recall that MONIQUE is the widow of SERGE CARLESSO from Bruyeres. Both attended the 50th 442nd Anniversary Celebration in Honolulu and Cannon Chapter hosted them in Honolulu as well as on our post-reunion tour to Kauai.

As an aside from the Camp Shelby tour, WALLY and KATHERINE's group visited Branson, the nation's Country Music Capital. WALLY wrote that this little Missouri town of 3,700 is nestled in the rolling Ozark hills. This little town drew over 5 million visitors in 1994 to their 40 plus theaters - all geared for country music and comedy shows. And these theaters are not small - one of the larger one seats 2000!

WALLY and his group saw 4 shows - continues

WALLY: "...and at the intermission of each of those shows, an announcement was made from the stage that 'Tonight in our audience we have a very distinguished group, the veterans of the famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the most decorated unit in military history' and when asked to stand, we were greeted with thunderous ovations - and at the Baldknobbers Jambo-ree, where 1600 patrons filled the theater, we were given a STANDING OVATION.." WALLY continues that "it was one of the proudest moments of my life."

Thank you WALLY and KATHERINE, for sharing those moments with us who could not be there. We, too, "Chicken Skin!" With this, I put my pen away, I cannot top what WALLY wrote.

Sentimental Journey - A post-reunion California Coastal Tour by JUNE OHARA

MASAMI and I enjoyed a terrific send-off and bon voyage luncheon and dinner in Torrance. The KITAGAWAS, the MAYEDAS, LINDA FUJIOKA, and MITSU MIYA are always excellent hosts and fun to visit. Our youngest daughter IRIS lives in Torrance so her apartment conveniently served as a R and R station while we finalized our plans for the motor tour to San Francisco to see my two sisters and to visit the NUNOTANIS and YAE FURUSHO in Sebastopol.

We traveled the same coastal tour after the 982 Los Angeles Reunion via the Gray Line Bus. This 1995 tour was wonderful because IRIS was the driver and tour conductor. We stopped at the lovely jacaranda tree-lined town of Santa Barbara, the Mission, historic La Purisma, beautiful Monterey, the fabulous aquarium. But a most interesting thing happened in Carmel Valley. IRIS wanted to treat us to a special onsen at the Zen Monastery Retreat called Tassajara. While I'm more adventuresome and find it exciting, MASAMI became rather restless towards the end of the 14 miles drive to the retreat through the deep forests, valley and hills, and a few creeks. He was very relieved when we finally

reached a beautiful quiet setting of cottages.

The remote and rustic environment would be just the place for Zazen meditation. MASAMI was most anxious to get to the onsen after the two hour drive. There were two hot tubs and a cold plunge in the flowing stream. It was very relaxing - a true luxury to enjoy it with IRIS. Unlike many Nihon Onsen, there were only three other ladies and you would be communing with nature in the great outdoors.

We decided to have an early lunch because IRIS thought we might be conspicuous with our cold-cut sandwiches, while the guests and students ate their vegetarian lunches. The large patio filled up with young and old people in no time - they all prayed with clasped hands before meals. I saw a variety of salads with different kinds of dressing which mostly smelled like sesame and curries. The people seemed very friendly. Two gentlemen sat beside us. After a few bites, one of them asked if we were from Hawaii since he had been to Hawaii. He said he visited the Zen retreat in Waiomao Valley. That's in Palolo Valley, our valley and just prior to leaving for the Las Vegas Reunion we celebrated Palolo Pride, a first ohana, or fellowship for the residents of Palolo Valley. At the opening ceremony, the blessings were offered by various church representatives located in Palolo and the Waiamao Zen Retreat was one of the participants. Isn't it unbelievable that there is a connection among total strangers in such an unexpected place?

We thoroughly enjoyed Monterey, a charming Spanish town. The tour of the Aquarium is a must. Our tour of Hearst Castle was even better than the first tour in 1982. Tour two takes you to RANDAL HEARST's bedroom, library with a store of paintings and urns and the kitchen. The kitchen is an interesting place as you can imagine. As we drove down the beautiful hilltop castle, I was impressed with the power and energy of RANDAL HEARST's drive to overcome what he thought was a "minor" heart condition to amass such tremendous wealth.

It was so good to be in San Francisco after the brief review of coastal history, geographic, and

scenic beauty. This was our final stop before heading home. It was great to visit with KATHY and WALLY. Their home is like a museum with many impressive citations and recognition for their community services. WALLY carefully wrapped the Proclamation of the 34th Infantry Division dedicated to the 442nd Infantry Battalion to honor their heroes at the 47th Annual Reunion. Thank you, WALLY and KATHY for sharing with us so many treasures, among them the video by WENDY HANAMURA, "Honor Bound" which is being circulated among the Cannon Chapter members and families.

The NUNOTANIS treated MASAMI, MAMO and me to a very busy Chinese restaurant. Here we observed how important the NUNOTANIS are in San Francisco, we were seated after a very short wait from a long line at a very comfortable table beside a crowded room.

WALLY drove us over to Sebastopol. A visit with YAE is worth the long drive through rural apple orchard. While WALLY, KATHY, and MAMO checked on MARK FURUSHO's hot house enterprise of potted vegetables, we chatted with YAE in her comfortable kitchen and dining room. Dinner was most exotic with YAE's specialty, abalone sashimi. The abalone dinner alone could very well be the highlight of our reunion tour. Thank you YAE... you've always been so generous to my family. It's no wonder that FURUSHO's apple ranch is one of IRIS and BRYAN's favorite places in California.

LINDA FUJIOKA came to vacation in Waikiki after her recent retirement about a month after we arrived home. LINDA was very busy as a tour escort and a good one too for her friend who was here for the first time. LINDA sends her best wishes to all of you and is always glad to see so much more of Hawaii each time she comes. MASAMI and I spent a quiet breakfast hour with LINDA and her friend at Pagoda. I couldn't believe when she told me she was surprised that we could drink water from the tap. Imagine that! LINDA has to have a special gadget to take care of her water to make it drinkable.

Happy Holidays to all of you!!