

# Go For Broke BULLETIN 442<sup>nd</sup> VETERANS CLUB



VOL 66, No 1, OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2013

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

# 2014 - YEAR OF THE HORSE



#### EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor	Position Vacant
Editor Emeritus	Oscar Tsukayama
Production	Claire Mitani
Printing	Edward Enterprises

*Cover:* The year 2014 is symbolizd by the horse. Our cover artwork is by Jackson Morisawa, H Co.

# Go For Broke

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*Go For Broke* is the official bulletin of the 442nd Veterans Club. Contributors may submit reports to: Editor, Go For Broke Bulletin, 933 Wiliwili Street, Honolulu, HI 96826; e-mail: 442veterans@hawaiiantel.net. Please submit reports on CD (saved in MS Word in Windows format) or email to 442 office. For more information, contact (808) 949-7997. Deadlines for 2014 submissions: **April 7**, July 7, October. 6 and January 5, 2015.



The past year is one of mixed feelings. Most disheartening was the passing of our members, especially of those who have contributed so much to the Club. We lost Masato Doi, Oscar Tsukayama and, now, Jackson Morisawa. While we bemoan the loss of any one of our fellow 442<sup>nd</sup> veterans, the three mentioned here were staunch supporters of our Club and its goals and leaves a vacuum that will be hard to fill.

During the past year, we tried to clarify the relationship between the Club and our Sons and Daughters organization in view of the proposed Nisei Veterans Legacy Center. How this will work out will depend on the long range planning for our veterans Club and the goals of the leaders of both organizations. What is important is that the achievements of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team will not be forgotten and

continue to inspire the younger generations. Hawaii is considered the birthplace of the  $442^{nd}$  and as such we have a duty to those Nisei who served in WWII that what we fought for – Americanism and Patriotism – remains part of our American culture.

A handful of veterans in our Club are ninety years or younger. Most of the surviving veterans are well in their nineties. This makes it imperative that we determine what our legacy will be, a difficult task but one that should be rewarding before we pass from the scene.

Of particular importance is the continuation of our Go For Broke Bulletin. We need to keep this publication as a means whereby the Islanders and Mainlanders keep in touch. It will be a goldmine for future researchers seeking the personal touch of the veterans.



Les Ueoka (son of Harold Ueoka, 522B) swearing in the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club officers for 2014

Photos: Wayne Iha & Mae Isonaga



(front) "Bolo" Shirakata (Band), (back left) Ron Oba (F Co.), Eichi Oki (K Co.)



Jerry Ogawa (Medics) and son-in-law Richard Bauske

## IN MEMORIAM



Deepest sympathies to the families & friends of the following:

Arao, Masachika (442 HQ)	Sep. 20, 2013
Furuta, Minobu (I Co.)	Sep. 30, 2013
Hanano, Charles Yamano (3rd HQ)	Sep. 27, 2013
Ichino, Phillip N. (Service)	Oct. 7, 2013
Ideguchi, Keichi "Mackey" (3rd HQ)	Nov. 5, 2013
Kawahata, Minoru S. (E Co.)	Nov. 9, 2013
Kawamura, Bert Chikara (Service)	Aug. 31, 2013
Kise, Shinse (E Co.)	Oct. 2, 2013
Matsumoto, Clarence (K Co.)	Oct. 24, 2013
Matsumura, Katsutoshi (F Co.)	Sep. 9, 2013
Matsuo, Dick Daizo (H Co.)	Nov. 2, 2013
Mori, Jiro (F Co./MIS)	Oct. 7, 2013
Morisawa, Jackson (H Co.)	Oct. 27, 2013
Ninomiya, Paul M. (100th B/3HQ)	July 6, 2013
Otsuji, Mitsuru "Mits" (E Co.)	Nov. 20, 2013
Suzukawa, Gerald Akira (E Co.)	Sep. 23, 2013
Suzuki, Frank Futao (Medic)	Oct. 12, 2013
Takushi, Isamu (Service)	Sep. 6, 2013
Tanaka, Daniel (F Co.)	Oct. 27, 2013
Tanimoto, Ted Satomi (442 HQ)	July 25, 2013
Togioka, Noboru (2nd HQ)	Sep. 24, 2013
Tsuzuki, Francis Isami (522C)	Oct. 5, 2013
Ueda, Hajime "Haji" (K Co.)	Nov. 17, 2013
Yasukawa, George (L Co.)	Oct. 14, 2013



# Donations

Many thanks to the following for their generosity and support.

### 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Maruyama	\$50
Mr. Joseph Oshiro	\$50
Senator Daniel Inouye	\$8.38
(Residual - The Next Karate Kid)	
Ms. Gayle Fukunaga	\$50
Mrs. Suzanne Isonaga	\$50
Mr. Richard Oba	\$100
(Donation to 442 <sup>nd</sup> Archives)	

#### **Correction**

*Our apologies to the Zukeran family whose donation to the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club appeared in the April-June 2013 issue. Names should have read:* 

Patti, Buddy, Kathy, Joann, Sharon and \$1,000 Gregg Zukeran (In memory of Robert Zukeran)

#### Go For Broke Bulletin

Mr. Kaoru Muraoka	\$100
Mr. Joseph Oshiro	\$50
Mr. Charles Fujimoto	\$100
Mr. Bill Taketa	\$25
Mr. Hideo Takahashi	\$25

### Scholarship

William Thompson	\$100
(IMO Jackson Morisawa, H Co.)	

# Feature Story



Jackson Soji Morisawa

December 1, 1921 - Ocltober 27, 2013

#### A Tribute by Turk Tokita

I first met Jackson when he was assigned to Company H. Jackson was attending the University of Hawaii when the call came to form the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team. He was one of the volunteers, one of 2,600 or so, who was inducted and honored at the Iolani Palace Ceremony in March 1943.

In April 1943 at Camp Shelby, Jackson was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team. In December 1943 the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion, serving with the 34<sup>th</sup> Division in Italy, suffered huge losses. Request for replacements was made and 666 men, mostly from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, were sent overseas to join the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Jackson was part of the men of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion who were left back and later were re-assigned to either the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion. Jackson was sent to H Company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. His role was as an armorer artificer (someone who repairs guns).

Jackson was an accomplished artist. During training and overseas, he was called the "Bill Mauldin" of the 442<sup>nd</sup>. Mauldin was with the 45<sup>th</sup> Division whose drawings in the Army *Stars and Stripes* newspaper, especially of "Willie and Joe," delighted the GIs. Mauldin later became a cartoonist for the *Stars and Stripes*. Because Jackson was in Service and Supply, he was not on the frontlines. It was in the Vosges Mountains during the battles to free Bruyeres and capture Biffontaine that he became a rifleman. During combat he shot his first enemy. Afterwards he was stunned that he could do that. It was during this campaign that he was seriously wounded and sent back to the United States.

After the war, he attended and graduated from an art institute in Kansas. When he returned home to Honolulu, he was employed by Iolani Sportswear as an illustrator and designer of sportswear for many years. He loved to paint horses and tigers. He generously gave his paintings to friends. His legacy will live on in all the paintings he created and gave away to friends.

We are grateful to have been blessed by knowing him. Seeing a picture of his hanging on our living room wall reminds us daily of how much of his presence enriched our lives. The painting we have is of a beautiful, strong, graceful tree deeply rooted and yet reaching toward the heavens. For us, Jackson was and shall always remain a strong solitary presence surrounded by the beautiful Hawaiian landscape which we are blessed to call home. Jackson was a gentleman and a fascinating person - quiet and effective. He lived a complete life and accomplished much.

Our deepest sympathy to his widow, Allegra Morisawa.

There is a poem by Elizabeth Barrett Browning that starts out with these words: "Let me count the ways...." These are a fitting preface to report on the legacy of Jackson Morisawa....



Design of special colorful Aloha shirt and the formal  $442^{nd}$  veterans shirt worn at functions of the  $442^{nd}$  Veterans Club and at events where the  $442^{nd}$  veterans are invited guests.



Design of "Brothers in Valor" Monument at Fort DeRussy, Waikiki, which honors the four Nisei units of WWII -and personally picking out the artwork design of Bumpei Akaji's sculpture.



HE WANTS TO KNOW WHEN JAPAN CHANGED SIDES .

His cartoons of the 442<sup>nd</sup> GIs during combat in WWII





Design of the numerous program brochures of anniversaries and special events including chapter logos for our GFB Bulletin



His calligraphic design of our KANSHA award

His masterful painting of Senator Daniel Inouye as a gift from the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club



His motivation of constantly remiding us of those cultural values relating to ancestral roots.



#### The 442<sup>nd</sup> Torch Shoulder Patch

Recently we came across a news item in the JAVA Round Robin news bulletin about the passing of Mrs. Martha Miyamoto. What drew our attention to this article is the fact that she was the widow of Mitchie M. Miyamoto of Watsonville, California.

Mitchie was one of the mainlanders who were in service when Pearl Harbor was bombed. As we know, all Nisei in the military were herded and placed in isolation, so to speak, being of Japanese ancestry. When the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team was formed in early 1943, these Nisei in uniform were sent to Camp Shelby where they became the cadre for the newly arrived 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team volunteers.

The War Department designed a shoulder patch which had racial overtones with a yellow arm brandishing a bloody sword that was unpopular with



the Combat Team leaders. The delegate to Congress from Hawaii, Joseph R. Farrington, was called to remedy this.

It was then that S/Sgt. Mitchie Miyamoto of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Headquarters Company drew a design that was acceptable to the unit commanders and became the well-known Torch shoulder patch with its silver hand holding the Liberty Torch. This has become an icon of the Nisei who fought in Europe during WWII. It became familiar to both our fellow GIs as well as to our enemy Nazi units. The rescue of the trapped Lost Battalion of the 36<sup>th</sup> Division gained the Torch shoulder patch enduring fame.

Here in Hawaii, the local Judo Federation and the AJA baseball association had gained our approval to use the Torch shoulder patch as a means of not only honoring the Nisei of WWII but to inspire the young generation.



This image of Mitch Miyamoto appears in Chester Tanaka's book "Go For Broke." Miyamoto served as S-2 sergeant, 3rd Battalion when the 442 went into action.



Akemashite omedetoo gozaimasu! Kotoshi mo doozo yoroshiku onegaishimasu! Happy New Year!



Dick Numamoto

The Medics are glad to see the end of 2013. At year end, we also received notice from the widow of Dick Numamoto of Oregon, that he had passed away on Oct. 18, 2012. Our deepest condolences to the Numamoto Family.

Our chapter had our Shinnen Enkai party at Natsunoya Tea House on

Sunday, January 12, 2014, and enjoyed a yummy menu of O-Sechi Ryori, Japanese New Year Good Luck foods. 61 people attended, including grandchildren and great-grandchildren, up from 40 the year before! Kazu Tomasa led the entertainment with Hula, Ukulele and singing, with everyone singing along with him with songbooks. Kazu had back up musicians in Wade Wasano, son of Ramon Wasano on Ukulele, Travis Tsukayama, grandson of Albert Oscar Tsukayama on Guitar, and Brad Mossman, son-in-law of Ted and Dorothy Matsuo, on Guitar. We also were treated to lots of beautiful Hula by a relative of Jerry Ogawa's clan, a local girl who was visiting from the Mainland. We were thrilled to enjoy homemade Andagi made by Wilfred Taira's widow, Tsutoe, who is famous in the Okinawan community for her skill in making Andagi. We were also delighted to receive delicious fresh fruit-topped homemade cupcakes made by Wendy Bauske, granddaughterin-law of Jerry Ogawa, who works for the Royal Hawaiian Hotel, normally in the culinary department. Thank you to all the families for all of their wonderful contributions, including home-grown plants donated by Toshiaki Tanaka and Marian Yamashiro, and for the generous donations of Medics both on the Mainland and here.

Col. Jimmie Kanaya and wife Lynn attended the Shinnen Enkai, from Gig Harbor, Washington. They are looking younger than ever as are ALL the veterans and their wives and widows. Jimmie and Lynn brought a blown up version of an official photo of the Medics taken at camp in November 1943. It was fun seeing most of our Medics as young men. They also donated a copy of the photo as a door prize. A wonderful time was had by all, and the time went by far too swiftly!

Thank you all for your prayers and well-wishes for Kelly Kuwayama in Washington DC! He has recovered from his serious bout of Bronchitis! Now we are sending speedy full recovery wishes to Iris Fukui, widow of Rodney Fukui, who is recovering from pneumonia at home. Luckily, one of the Medics' physician progeny is Dr. Christine Fukui, Iris and Rodney's daughter, who is helping Iris with her recovery. We were so happy to receive a darling photo of Kimi Momoda, widow of Tak Momoda, of Mercer Island, WA, which shows her looking in vibrant health! Thank you Kimi, and please other Medics and families on the Mainland, send us photos too!

Perhaps given that we are the Medical Detachment, we had lots of docs in house at the Shinnen Enkai. Dr. Paki Tsukayama, son of Oscar Tsukayama, was visiting from Oakland to help his mother, Suzy, with her recovery from cataract surgery last week. Paki had delightful news that Suzy recovered quickly and is doing really well! Dr. James Nakamura, son of Tak and Eva Nakamura, attended with Tak, Jimmy's daughter, and his friend, an OB-GYN.

We are happy to report that our Chapter President, Toshiaki Tanaka, continues to recover well and was able to join in the festivities with his family. Corinne and Richard Bauske, daughter and son-in-law of Jerry Ogawa provided great support for our New Year's event and our Chapter generally, and are helping to organize the contact information for our Chapter members. Please send any Medics news to me at <u>michelematsuo@yahoo.com</u>. Thank you!

Best wishes for a wonderful Year of the Horse, which starts on January 31, 2014.



#### A Return to the Vosges

Seventy (70) years ago, our fathers, fought for this nation in eastern France as the 442nd RCT/100th Battalion, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Through the course of history, generations have sacrificed time after time to preserve their freedom and protect the possibility that all people may live in some form of equality. It was long after the bloody Civil War and WWI. Still the Nisei soldiers and other soldiers of color fought for a country that did not treat them as if they were created equal. Their story of courage is now our heritage.

Returning to the Vosges for the second time in as many years made me reflect on the reason our friends in the Vosges feel as they do about the 442<sup>nd</sup>/ 100<sup>th</sup> Bn. In the United States, we did not suffer invasion by Nazis. Our towns were not overrun and occupied by the enemy. We, of course, had other challenges, but it was never like it was in the war theater. Bruyeres, Epinal, and Biffontaine were freed by Americans, by our fathers and grandfathers, and great-grandfathers fighting for equality and liberty. We share an amazing connection. For me, it was an honor again to pay my respects to all who gave their lives for freedom during WWII. I even got to meet a member of the French Resistance, it was such an honor to meet him. I think of our freedom, and am reminded of its cost.

The trip was planned through the diligent and hard work of Geralyn and Willard Holck (Hawai'i) and the extraordinary Claudie Deschaseux Fischer (France). Claudie taught French as a young woman, at UH Lab School from September 1968 until June 1969. She remains in touch with former students including Judge Colleen Hirai, daughter of Seichi Hirai. Colleen and her husband drove up from Paris and met up with the group at the American Cemetery in Epinal. Claudie was our translator and did an amazing job. She tirelessly translated speeches from French to English and English to French for dignitaries throughout the region in Nancy, Epinal, Bruyeres and Biffontaine and for all our tours.

Our tour bus was covered "Jumelage Bruyeres – Honolulu," announcing the Sister City relationship between our cities, causing people to turn their heads when we drove by. Our bus driver, Patrick, was wonderful. He got us in and out of some really tight spots! We visited "not to miss" sites and enjoyed fantastic regional fare and learned about cultural and traditional aspects of the region. And of course, we were there most importantly for the memorial ceremonies.

We received special treatment throughout our journey. There was so much kindness and goodwill wherever we went. There were grandchildren of veterans who were interested in learning more about their grandfathers. There were folks without 100<sup>th</sup>/442 RCT fathers or grandfathers who wanted to learn more about them. They knew this would be an exceptional trip.

The Peace and Freedom Trail members led by President Martial Hilaire greeted us when we arrived in Gerardmer. During the welcoming dinner at our hotel, Anais Casin (from the City of Bruyeres Office of Tourism) proposed a project to establish a permanent exhibit about the 100<sup>th</sup>/442 RCT in the town. The Bureau wants to share with visitors, particularly families, the story of the 100<sup>th</sup>/442RCT in the Vosges. They hoped that the group would support their plan. We did.





On the day of the Biffontaine ceremony, it was a perfectly beautiful day. It seemed that everyone in this small town was there, and we were invited to a wonderful lunch. A friend of Jean Bianchetti gave a heartfelt remembrance of this wonderful man. Thanks to Monsieur Bianchetti, the Borne 6 monument exists. And it was in this town where I saw my father on a combat newsreel playing at their WWII exhibit. The newsreel showed the 442 in the Vosges. In a segment showing sermon by Chaplain Higuchi, my dad was right in the center of the screen. Just before the trip, Bill Thompson told me of this newsreel. But I did not think I would get the chance to see it in its place of origin. I wept.

On the morning of our departure, members of the Peace and Freedom Trail Association rode with us four hours (in the early morning) to Frankfurt.



They sang "Aloha 'Oe" as we departed. It gave me chicken skin to hear them sing this Hawaiian farewell.

If you ever have a chance to travel to eastern France, visit the Vosges. You will never forget it or the people who showed such Aloha to soldiers from Hawai'i who freed them from their bondage 70 years ago. I look forward to my next trip there.

#### A Samurai in Kilts

In the 2013 December 1<sup>st</sup> issue of the Pacific Press is an interesting story of a would-be Scotsman. Moriso Teraoka, whose literary talent is well known, had an interesting article about Alan Miyamura whose middle name is MacMura. Yes, our famed bagpiper has earned the moniker MacMura due to his love for the bagpipe and the songs of Scotland. His fellow bagpipers of the Celtic Pipes and Drums of Hawai'i know Alan as MacMura. He is a familiar figure with drummer Primasita Seery at our annual Joint Memorial Service at Punchbowl cemetery officially called the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

According to Moriso, he remembers MacMura playing the nostalgic "Danny Boy" at Stanley Akita's funeral service. According to MacMura, this was a favorite song of the 442<sup>nd</sup> boys overseas and, hence, his playing this song with its haunting words: "And if you come, when all the flowers are dying, And I am dead and dead I well may be, You'll come and find the place where I am lying......" Of course we all know that this was Senator Dan Inouye's signature song for his one-handed piano playing.

MacMura nee Alan, first heard a bagpiper while offering flowers at the Punchbowl cemetery and was captivated by its shrill mournful sound. This led to his induction into the Celtic Pipes and Drums of Hawai'i which represents the Honolulu Fire Department and Honolulu Police Department. He yearns to visit Scotland and even wants his ashes spread over the braes and lochs of Scotland when he dies.

MacMura was chief licensing examiner for the City and County of Honolulu before retirement. He is also a member of our Sons and Daughters organization bringing even closer his association with the 442<sup>nd</sup> veterans.



As we get older We reminisce our good times Alas! Time flies by

The 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club Board of Directors met at 10:30 at Natsunoya Tea House for its annual year-end luncheon meeting. The installation of officers was presided by Mr. Les Ueoka, Esq. The 2014 officers are: President Bill Thompson; 1<sup>st</sup> VP Frank Takao, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Ralph Chinaka, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Wade Wasano, 4<sup>th</sup> VP Eichi Oki, Secretary Esther Umeda, Treasurer Takashi Shirakata.

71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary: Changed from Pacific Beach Hotel to the Dole Cannery. Details to follow.

The Citizens Patriot Award, the highest award conferred by the RFPB for exemplary service by individuals and Reserve units for the National Defense.

George Sakato, one of several Medal of Honor

recipients from WWII was honored by the unveiling of a new postage stamp dedicated to MOH recipients.

72<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration was held on Saturday, December 7, 2013.

Fox Chapter held its annual celebration at the Tree Tops Restaurant with the following attending: Richard/Dorothy Murashige, George/Myrtle Nakasato, Tommy/May Tamagawa, Tajiro/Ruth Uranaka, Janel and daughter, Madison Horiuchi and the Obas – Gary, Kelly, Cory, Kelsie, Traci, Gerald, Ann, Jon and Michi and Ron. As usual, the food was delectable as everyone was satiated before the lucky numbers were called out. Everyone was happy with their gifts, especially the envelopes with the moolas.

Our next event will be at the Natsunoya Tea House for our Shinnen En Kai on February 15, at 11 AM.

#### In Memoriam

Daniel Tanaka, 1<sup>st</sup> Squad, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon, F Company, died on October 27, 2013. He replaced Ron Oba as Sgt, 1<sup>st</sup> Squad and was wounded two times during the war in Italy and France.



by Lynnette Uyesato and Ann Kabasawa

#### Mitsuki Matsunaga

On December 21, 2013, funeral services were held for Mitsuki Matsunaga of Hilo who died on December 5. He was born on January 19, 1917, the 3<sup>rd</sup> eldest in a family of 9 siblings who operated a dairy in Kaumana. He was drafted and was stationed at Schofield Barracks when the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor occurred. When the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team was formed in March 1943, Mitsuki was one of the 230 AJAs from Schofield Barracks who volunteered for the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT.

Mitsuki was a buck sergeant with the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon of George Company. G Company was involved in several key battles of the 442<sup>nd</sup> beginning with the capture of Hill 140 in Italy. He participated in all the battles of the 442<sup>nd</sup> including driving the Germans out of Bruyeres and the rescue of the Lost Battalion of the 36<sup>th</sup> Texas Division.

After the war, Mitsuki returned to work at the dairy at first. Later he met and married Kimiyo Sato of Kona. They owned a farm that grew a variety of products. She preceded him in death having died in 2001. He worked for Jas W. Glover, Ltd. and retired after 30 years of service. During this period he also served with the Hawaii National Guard. A highlight of his career was his trip with his daughter, Lynnette, to Washington D.C. in 2011 to attend the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony.

He is survived by daughter Lynnette Uyesato and grandson Clifford Uyesato and family, and a granddaughter Stacee Uyesato Jankowski and family.

Photos of Mitsuki's awards and souvenirs were displayed at the funeral services at Hilo Hongwanji as shown below. We show this as an example for veterans and families to preserve the awards and wartime souvenirs. These, especially photos, should be identified with one or more descriptive terms - name or names, location, date or what campaign, and significance. We urge veterans and families not to discard these items as the 442<sup>nd</sup> archives will accept these from veterans or their families.

#### Kiyoshi "Bones" Fujimoto

Our deepest sympathy also goes out to the family of the late Kiyoshi "Bones" Fujimoto of the

California Chapter, who passed away on October 6, 2013. He was the company's treasurer and had always played a big role in the George Company on the mainland. He leaves behind his wife, Shiz and daughters Sandy and Janice and 3 granddaughters. Bones always wanted to be buried at Punchbowl and there will be a ceremony at Punchbowl on Friday, February 28, 2014 at 10:30am.

#### **George Company Reunion**

This year we are looking to have our reunion in Los Angeles either on April 21 to 23 or April 28 to 30. We will be able to go to the Japanese American National Museum and visit other monuments and other places of interest. Please call me if you are interested in getting together... Ann Kabasawa at (808) 781-8540 or e-mail me at <u>diverseinnov@gmail.com</u>.

We hope that all of you can attend!!! Others from the different companies and interested ones are invited to join us, too!!!





Happy New Year! May your New Year be safe and healthy.

On November 3, 2013, H Chapter held our last meeting for the year at Tree Top Restaurant. Turned out to be a very special day – Doc Yutaka Yoshida walked in with a big smile on his face. Everyone in our group clapped their hands in welcoming him. What a nice surprise since we hadn't seen him for awhile. You're looking great, Doc.

Meeting was called before lunch by H Co. president, Robert Kishinami. He made the announcement that Tree Top Restaurant was closing December 31, 2013. Manager Martin joined us to say "thank you" for patronizing his restaurant all these years and mentioned he may open a restaurant like Tree Top somewhere in Honolulu. Good luck and thank you for feeding us your delicious food. Members present were: Harold Afuso, Ronald and Yukie Sakai, Robert and Yoshi Kishinami, Harry Kiyabu, Betty Nojima, June Oganeku, Mildred Tahara, Dorothy Nakagawa, Priscilla Sadanaga, Annie Tamura, Doc Yutaka Yoshida and his caregiver. Beautiful red hibiscus flower leis made by Harold Afuso were given to Doc Yoshida who is 101 years old and to our younget member June Oganeku who is <u>?</u>. Harold Afuso also gave a lei to Doc Yoshida's caregiver for taking good care of him. Thank you, Harold, for the leis. Robert Kishinami, our president, also passed out to our group leaders a DVD on the late Senator Dan Inouye's "Journey to Washington," which was donated by Mr. Tomoshige Mizutani, who is president of Nitto Tire USA. Also, there's a booklet on the story of the 100<sup>th</sup> and 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT – "Journey of Heroes Manga," which can be bought for \$10.00. You can also make a donation of the booklet to your favorite school which is tax deductible. To view the DVD on Senator Inouye contact your group leader.

On October 27, 2013, we lost another of our H Co. member, Jackson Soji Morisawa. Before he retired, he worked at Iolani Sportswear and designed many shirts for the 442<sup>nd</sup> group. Jackson also taught martial arts at Daihonzan Chozen-ji / International Zen Dojo. He was also a perfectionist. His paintings were so real-looking. Our condolence to his wife Allegra and family.

Next year will be the 71<sup>st</sup> anniversary celebration for the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT. It will be held at the Dole Cannery, March 23, 2014. Also, H Company's first meeting for 2014 will be held on Sunday, February 16, 2014 at the 442<sup>nd</sup> clubhouse, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Be sure to contact your group leader if you plan to attend. De wa – Ogenki de.



Alan Miyamura & Primasita Seery. See story on page 9.



Deadline for the January - March 2014 issue of the GFB bulletin is April 7, 2014



#### A Long Silent Journey

Whenever I hear how quickly our troops are flown from Afghanistan to Hawaii now, it brings back memories of our long trip home from southern France to Hawaii – 79 days by trucks, trains, ships and a plane. We were secretly redeployed from the Maritime Alps to the USA and furloughed in Hawaii while wars raged in Europe and the Pacific.

This movement was accomplished with Demobilization Order AR 615-365. The Adjusted Service Rating (ASR) scores were based on overseas service, combat duty, decorations, citations and other factors.

The trip was classified as a restricted troop movement, therefore, we did not receive any written instructions, individual travel orders or the roster of this group until we arrived in Honolulu.

I did not discuss the accuracy of my statements of this article with anyone due to the time lapse since this event occurred 70 years ago. Without any written diaries or notes to compare with our group members, my recollections may vary with theirs.

The 442 RCT left the "Lost Battalion" battle zone around 15 Nov 44 and arrived in the Maritime Alps area near the Franco-Italian border around Thanksgiving Day.

Note that troop movements were done over several days so the dates indicated are generally for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, HQ Co. to which I was assigned.

Late in Feb. '45, while in the vicinity of a small village of L'Escarene, France, I was ordered by my squad leader to remain in the bivouac area and not to take any wire maintenance trips with my squad members. No further explanation was given even after pleading for a reason.

About a week later, I was directed to report to one of our officers. He informed me that I was selected by the ASR scoring system to be furloughed in Hawaii and to prepare for a quick departure. I was allowed to take a duffel bag of clothing and personal items but no rifle or other military items.

Finally, around 12 Mar 45, a jeep arrived in the morning to transport me to an unspecified location. Except for an officer and my squad leader, I have no recollection of others present to wave farewell. I was probably too stunned to notice anyway.

We drove about two hours toward Nice to an open field where several trucks were waiting. I was assigned to one with about six men in it and soon found out we were all part of the furlough group.

After the trucks received a few more comrades, the back flaps were secured and we began the first leg of our trip. No one in our truck really knew the destination except the group leader who probably rode in the front seat. About 200 miles of bumpy ride and we arrived at a staging area in the vicinity of Marseilles that afternoon.

After a well needed shower and dinner, our group was introduced to the leaders of this trip – two technical Sergeants. T/Sgt <u>A</u> was in full command and T/Sgt <u>B</u>, his replacement. No officers.

The meeting was conducted under "Restricted" rules thus the verbal instructions were not distributed in writing. Similarly, the names of our group of 16 were read but not printed. (However, we did receive a list "Furlough of Rotated Enlisted Men" after our arrival in Honolulu.)

Some of the important instructions were:

1. T/Sgt  $\underline{A}$  or  $\underline{B}$  will always be in possession of our Travel Orders, therefore, we should always be in close proximity to them. If we became separated without the Travel Order, the Military Police (MP) may arrest us for being "Absent Without Leave" (AWOL). Wearing the Dog Tag only may not be sufficient.

2. Keep our contacts with other military personnel and civilians at a minimum. When speaking, keep our voices down because it may attract unwanted attention.

3. Future destinations and time schedules are not to be discussed openly.

We remained at this staging area until around 16 Mar 45, then boarded the trucks to a train station. [Concurrently, the 100/442 RCT were also leaving the L'Escarene area for another assignment.]

As we boarded the train, I immediately noticed it was totally different from the freight cars that earlier transported us north to the battle of Bruyeres. Those were designed to carry 8 horses (chevaux) or 40 men (hommes) with no seats or plumbing fixtures. This current train was definitely first class in every respect.

We were assigned to sit together as a group in a car with few other passengers. The window blinds must have been secured to remain closed because the outside sceneries were not visible. However, one item was definitely noticed, the usual annoying clacking sound of the wheels of moving trains were barely audible. It felt as though the train was moving slowly and stopping frequently. The reason may have been to protect itself from German warplanes. The battlefront was near the Rhine River to the east.

We safely arrived at a train depot in Paris 18 Mar 45 and taken to a staging area. After taking care of our daily needs and laundry, our group decided to celebrate with an early afternoon Chinese dinner. We were recommended the Restaurant Chinois and Bar located on 5 rue du colisee so the 12 of us who attended went by taxi cabs.

The large dining room with white tablecloths and beautiful wall decorations were unbelievable in the midst of war. Of course, Paris was partly spared from Allied bombing. How did I remember the details? Because I have a souvenir card showing the dining room.

The bowl of hot rice with a cup of oolong tea may have been the first since leaving Camp Shelby. Understandably, the dinner selections were limited and portions meager but it was the best dinner I ever had to this day.

On the back of the card mentioned earlier, is a scribbled writing of mine which reads "\$114.00 Dinner for 12." The total cost of the dinner, or \$9.50 per person average, sounds very reasonable today, however, it happened in 1945 when I was a PFC (Private First Class) and my overseas duty monthly paycheck was approximately \$50.00. Therefore, the \$9.50 dinner for me amounted to about 20% of my month's pay! Not complaining, just a comparison.

The following day, as a group we visited the L'Arc de Triomphe, a museum nearby, saw La Tour Effel from a lookout and other attractions.

On 21 Mar 45, we left Paris by train. Though we were not formally told, it was obvious that we were heading west towards the Normandy Invasion coast.

We arrived near the city of La Harve and were transported to a staging area for two days of relaxation.

After sunset of 23 Mar 45, we were driven to a pier and boarded a landing craft. It headed out towards deep water but due to darkness, we were not able to determine its heading. About an hour of bumpy ride, we arrived at a pier with a huge ship alongside. We boarded the ship and were taken to our cabin area.

This ship was very large with many decks so it certainly wasn't one of those Liberty ships that transported the 442<sup>nd</sup> from Newport News, Virginia to Italy.

Exhausted from the day's traveling, we must have fallen asleep as soon as allowed. [Concurrently, the 100/442 RCT had also boarded the LSTs at Marseilles around this date and headed back to Italy.]

Next morning, 24 Mar 45, we woke up to find this ship docked at a Southampton, England harbor. After a delicious breakfast (in comparison to the staging areas), we were allowed on the top deck for fresh air and observation. One item was of particular interest – a large group of men being boarded onto this ship.

Later in the afternoon, our group leader informed us the men we observed were German Prisoners of War (POW) and we will be guarding them during the trip ahead. We were to be armed and duty schedule split with other units.

Around 27 Mar 45, the ship quietly left Southampton and for all practical purposes, our group left the European Theatre. (Note: My discharge document indicates "departure from E.T. <u>not</u> <u>available</u>.")

Guarding the prisoners was not difficult except for staying awake during night shifts.

The most memorable event about this trip was the food served at mealtime. Breakfast and lunch were delicious and servings were generous but dinner was sumptuous with fresh vegetables for salad, tender meats and veggies followed by ice cream and cake for dessert. Usually, this grade of meals were not served to enlisted men. Allowing that this ship had excellent refrigerators to store fresh and frozen products, we asked a cook why serve such scarce items? In a hush voice he said this ship will be dry-docked at the end of this trip so they must consume as much of the stored items. He also said if you need "seconds" just ask.

It was here in the mid-Atlantic that I learned to enjoy the crispy white celery stalks!

We also learned that this vessel was originally an Italian cruise ship, Andrea Doria.

Early morning on 12 Apr 45, we heard the ship's horn blowing. We received permission to go to the deck. There in the distance stood the Statue of Liberty! Some of us must have had teary eyes. We were now in USA, about 16 days ago we were in Europe.

The ship inched up the Hudson River and finally docked somewhere near 50<sup>th</sup> Street. It must have been late morning when we walked down the gangplank and finally stepped on the ground. There were a few of us who bent down and kissed old USA!

[Concurrently, the 100/442 RCT were battling the German troops in the vicinity of Carrara, Italy and forcing them to retreat.]

Upon arriving at the staging area, we heard the shocking news that President Franklin D. Roosevelt had died and Harry S. Truman was sworn in as the new president.

We stayed about two days at a staging area to rest and be resupplied. The only noticeable item about this camp was almost everyone spoke English instead of European language we heard overseas.

On 14 Apr 45, we were driven to a train depot, boarded and assigned to occupy about a third of a Pullman sleeper car. The entire train consisted of sleeper, parlor, dining and freight cars and hauled by one or two diesel locomotives. The length of the train varied between stations.

Some of the details I recall of this trip were shades on windows to deter in and out viewing, reserved time and seats for our group meals in the dining car, limit our conversations with all passengers and workers.

For recreation, many played five or ten-cents poker games in their private rooms while others played various friendly games or read whatever was available. I don't recall any vendors selling goods in our car.

The train made many stops along the route such as city stations and rail yards but we weren't allowed to leave our car singularly or as a group.

After about 5 days and 3,500 miles of a rather monotonous trip, we arrived at Marysville, California on 13 Apr 45 and driven to nearby Camp Beale. We were very well received by the camp personnel and few days later were issued individual passes so we could visit nearby Marysville or Sacramento 40 miles away.

We met a few Japanese locals on our first visit to Marysville and were invited to a picnic the following Saturday. About eight of us attended the delicious and unforgettable event which made us forget that the war was still in progress.

On 30 Apr 45, we left wonderful Camp Beale, boarded a train and headed north. [Concurrently, on this day, Hitler and Eva Braun committed suicide.]

Three days later, 2 May, we arrived in the vicinity of Portland, Oregon and were trucked to a huge staging area.

[Concurrently, remaining German troops in Italy surrendered and the war in Italy ended 7 May 45.]

The stay at this area was not a rest camp and we were issued tropical clothing, trained in tropical warfare tactics and other duties.

Around 18 May, we were trucked north to Tacoma, Washington area and boarded a troopship (not a converted luxury liner). We probably left port that day because I distinctly remember sailing up beautiful Puget Sound and finally out into the Pacific Ocean, the Asiatic Pacific Theatre. Except for some nautical training, I do not recall much about the trip itself.

The sight of Aloha Tower on 27 May 45 was indescribable, however, when we debarked, there was no one waving aloha to us and we were driven directly to Schofield Barracks. In retrospect, it indicates the success of our secret operation. Thanks to our two Tech Sgt. group leaders who brought us home safely.

On the evening of arrival, we were finally allowed to call our families and friends. Many of them thought we were calling from France or Italy. I made arrangements to meet them in person the following day.

The following day, 28 May 45, we finally received a Restricted document:

Subject: Furlough of Rotated Enlisted Men

1. In accordance w/AR 615-275, Sep 44, the fol named EM (Rotational Personnel) now atchd unasgd this sta are hereby granted a furlough for thirty (30) days eff 29 May 45. EM will report to CO, 13<sup>th</sup> Repl Depot, APO 969, on or before midnight 27 June 45: EM were last rationed at this sta to incl the noon meal 28 May 45.

Distribution to: 10 EM from 100 BATT; 3 from 442 RCT; 2 from 522 FA; 1 from unidentified unit.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit/Co.</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Takemoto, George T.	442/L	T Sgt
Takemoto, Tsuneo	442/E	T Sgt
Hirayama, Chikami	100/A	S Sgt
Oba, Jesse L.	100/C	S Sgt
Shugiyama, Harold S.	100/B	S Sgt
Tokunaga, Michael M.	100/C	S Sgt
Kamikawa, Harry H.	100/A	Sgt
Ishii, Shigeru	522/Batt. B	Cpl
Fujimoto, Robert S.	522/Batt. HQ	Tech 5
Kim, Robert Y.Y.	?	Tech 5
Himura, Norito	100/D	Pfc
Miyashiro, Nasaichi	100/B	Pfc
Shikasho, Satoru	442/HQ3	Pfc
Tanouye, Shigeo	100/A	Pfc

Next morning, 29 May, we left for our respective furlough addresses. Outer island men were allowed to travel on available military aircraft.

Kapaau, North Kohala was my destination so I flew to Hilo and caught a taxi for the final 80 miles. Thus ended the Long Journey Home, a total of 79 days, 12 Mar to 29 May 45.

Everyone I knew wanted to know why and how I managed to return home while other volunteers were still in Europe. Mindful that wars were still raging, my stay at Kapaau was low-keyed especially after being made aware that one volunteer was killed in action and others were injured. Nonetheless, the furlough and the long trip home were an invaluable gift by Uncle Sam.

[Concurrently, a group from 442 RCT in Italy received ASR furloughs to Hawaii abut 5 May 45.]

We returned to Schofield Barracks on 27 June 45 as ordered. Fourteen of us were assigned to Company C of the 3190<sup>th</sup> Engineer Service Battalion which officially ended our service with the 442 RCT. We were disappointed but the European war had ended.

Duty assignments ranged from office work to boiler room attendant depending on individual's ranking. We also were assigned to a few honor duties for celebrations. We used our 442<sup>nd</sup> uniforms on those occasions.

I began as a boiler room attendant and after about two months had an opportunity to attend an on-the-job training class to repair "reefers" (portable military field refrigerator/freezers). Little did I realize during the period that refrigeration, air conditioning and heat transfer field would become my major in college and thereafter.

With the signing of surrender by Japan on 2 Sept 45, the discharging of military personnel began in earnest.

On 7 Oct 45, I had a scheduled assignment for boiler room duty but it was in conflict with my sister's party so I exchanged my shift with a replacement. I then obtained a pass to Honolulu.

Just before noon, two MPs in a jeep came to my sister's location and told me to return to Schofield immediately with them. Questioning them for the reason was futile.

Upon arrival at C Company's office, I was questioned why I had left my assigned duty. As soon as I tried to explain, they began to smile and said, "You are being processed to be discharged this afternoon" and was handed a list of instructions with a warm handshake. About three hours later, I was discharged, no longer a PFC and was happily driven back to my sister's home by two MPs in jeep, thus ending an unforgettable military service.

I received \$100 mustering out cash (plus \$200 to be mailed) and a free pass on a military plane to Hilo. My taxi fare to Kapaau was not included but the driver refused to accept it.

#### References

My service with the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT began in 1943, 70 years ago. It would have been impossible for me to recall many of the specific dates from training to discharge and of the many happenings such as battle sequences, names of minor towns, etc., without referring to the following publications:

- "Americans, Story of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Combat Team" by Orville Shirey, 1946 (Capt. Shirey was a staff officer of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Combat Team).

- "Unlikely Liberators, the Men of the 100<sup>th</sup> and 442<sup>nd</sup>" by Masayo Umezawa Duus, 1987. Translated by Peter Duus.

- "Go For Broke, a Pictorial History of the 100/ 442d Regimental Combat Team" by Chester Tanaka, 1982

- Various news publications and others.



The Furlough Group



by Genro & Muriel Kashiwa

The Company "L" monthly meeting for December 2013 was held at the Tree Tops Restaurant in Manoa Valley on December 15th rather than the usual location at Gyotaku Restaurant on King Street. Being that it was the annual Christmas party, the wives and widows were invited. Present were: Don Seki, Hideo Higa, Kazuma Ogata, Isao Takiyama, Joe and Nancy Oshiro and son Thomas and his wife Lynn; Genro and Muriel Kashiwa, Hideo and son Rodney Nakayama, Edna (Sueo) Kuramoto and son Kenneth, Terry (Jake) Jichaku, Toyo (Tom) Mizuno, Mabel (Wally) Kawamura, Genny (Paul) Matsumoto, Hideo Higa and son Lester, and Stanley Matsuura.

The usual greeting of "How are you" between the veterans has changed. They now greet each other by "Eh – You still alive?" We have reached the age where we ask each other "How are your children?" and even "How are your grandchildren?" Everyone had a wonderful time! We had some photos taken of the group at the Xmas party and are sending them in together with this article, hoping that the photos will also be printed in the "Go For Broke" Bulletin. We were surprised to

hear from the operator of the Tree Top Restaurant that he will be closing the "Tree Top Restaurant."

To continue what I had started in the last bulletin: I hope everyone will write about those incidents in the war, at the front, or in training at Camp Shelby, that they cannot forget. The veterans call them "PTSD" (post traumatic stress disabilities). For me one of those incidents happened in the battle to take Mount Folgorito. I was watching the Third platoon advance in the battle to take the fortified trench on the hill next to the real Mount Folgorito on April 5th, 1945. The attack was led by its Sergeant across from my position. All of a sudden, this crouching sergeant stood straight up and fell forward on his face. An enemy sniper shot him and he died right there! I've seen many soldiers wounded or dead on the ground, but never at the moment when such soldier was hit by a bullet or shrapnel. That's the PTSD that I cannot forget till today 70 years after the incident. Today, I would forget what I had for dinner last night, but I cannot erase that image from my mind of what happened 70 years ago... PTSD!!

The other PTSD which I cannot forget happened in France in early November, 1944. It was immediately after "I" and "K" Companies attacked the Germans on the "Banzai" charge to rescue the "Lost Battalion" of

the 36<sup>th</sup> Division on October 28, 1944. The "L" Company continued the pursuit of the retreating enemy in the Vosges Mountains. We pursued the retreating enemy to the end of the mountain for several days. On or about November 4th, an intensive fire fight with the enemy located in the forest about 20 yards in front of our boys was waged for a long time. I was about 10 yards behind the platoon overseeing the fire fight. All of a sudden, Paul K. Matsumoto came rolling up to where I was in his jeep and trailer. He had marmite cans full of hot food. He insisted that my men eat hot food. I objected because my men were in a fire fight with the enemy 10 yards ahead of me. Paul would not listen and kept on insisting that my men eat hot food. I had to give in and had two men stop their firing and come back to have hot food. After eating their hot food, go back on line and the next two men come back for hot food. The Army provides "K" ration or "C" rations to men on the front lines for their food. But not for the 442<sup>nd</sup> men; they insisted on serving hot food to these special men on the firing line. PTSD!!

So you see, I have PTSD. PTSD for which I have to be compensated! I do not wake up in the middle of the night screaming (like the VA likes to think), but I do have PTSD!!!



Seated (l-r): Don Seki, Hideo Higa, Kazuma Ogata Standing (l-r): Isao Takiyama, Joseph Oshiro, Genro Kashiwa, Hideo Nakayama

Photo: Rodney Nakayama



by Ted & Fuku Tsukiyama

Since the popular Manoa Treetops restaurant closed and is no longer available for lunch meetings, our 522 Baker chapter will return to the 442<sup>nd</sup> clubhouse for its meetings. And in the absence of any other 522 news, we will continue our series of recognizing and getting acquainted with our next generation members, our last issue having featured Les Ueoka and Dunn Muramaru, and this time we will proudly introduce 522 daughters Mariko Miho and Gwen Fujie:

**Mariko Miho.** Mariko, often known as "Mari," is the daughter of the late Katsugo and Laura Miho, the other Miho siblings being two sisters and a brother. Mari was born and raised in Honolulu, attended local schools and graduated from UH Manoa with a BA in psychology and has since worked in leadership and development positions supporting public higher education for the past 19 years.

In August, 2013, Mari was appointed as and moved to Hilo as Executive Director of Development of UH Hilo. Mari has previously served as associate Vice President of Development at the University of Hawaii Foundation, Director of Development at UH West Oahu, Community Affairs and Special Programs Coordinator at UH community colleges, Vice President of Donor Services and Marketing at Hawaii Community Foundation and Director of Development at UH West Oahu.

Earlier in her career Mari worked in Tokyo, California and Hawaii as a language trainer, businessto-business marketing communications specialist for Hewlett Packard, and nonprofit executive for performing arts and cultural organizations, including a term as Director of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. Mari's many interests include hula, taiko, zen meditation, Hawaiian culture and values, flower arranging, community and ethnic history, animal lover and a lifelong supporter and devotee in preserving the legacy of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT and the Nisei soldier in general.

Mari's work responsibilities at UH Hilo include supporting development of a Research Strategic Plan UH Hilo Community and developing collaborative relationships with the community for the benefit of the UH Hilo students. Her new office is located in the Kilauea Financial Plaza and she would welcome any visiting 522 friends to drop in to say hello.

**Gwen Fujie.** Gwen is the daughter of the late Toshio "Bulldog" Nishizawa and Beatrice Nishizawa and the wife of Clayton Fujie, former Deputy Superintendent of the Hawaii state DOE and the Japan District Superintendent of Department of Defense Schools. She has a daughter, Jennifer Clarke Caruso, and two step-children, Janelle Fujie-Ling and Tyler Fujie, and twin grandsons, Keely and Nixon Ling.

Gwen's professional experience and career spanning four decades includes Director of Guest Relations/Patient Advocate for St. Francis Healthcare Systems, Executive Director of the Hawaii Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and Director of Volunteer Services at the Queen's Medical Center. In 2000 she began her own professional speaking business, Gwen Fujie Keynotes & Seminars, and has presented to thousands of individuals, businesses and organizations in Hawaii, the US mainland, and recently in Japan. Some of her diverse clientele include the State of Hawaii, the Association of California School Administrators, and Hawaii Pacific Health. She returns to Japan in April to speak at the International Conference of the Overseas School Health Nurses Association. Her most popular presentation is called "Tongue Fu!® Martial Arts for the Mind and Mouth." Visit www.gwenfujie.com.

Her honors include: 2005 UH Wo Distinguished Lecturer, 2010 Commencement Speaker at Zama American High School, Tokyo, Japan, 2011 Keynote Speaker for the 68<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT, Co-Chair of the 65<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion of the 422<sup>nd</sup> RCT, and is best remembered as one of the most popular and charming to win the Cherry Blossom Festival Queen title. As a State of Hawaii representative at the 1970 World Exposition in Osaka, Japan, Gwen was honored to meet and escort the then Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko through the Hawaii Pavilion.

Gwen is one of the most active and high profiled of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Sons & Daughters and is devoted to the recognition and legacy of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT and Nisei veterans in general.



Akemashite Omedetoo! Hauoli Makahiki Hou! HAPPY NEW YEAR! Hard to believe that it's almost 71 years since we volunteered to join the then new all-Nisei 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team. Looking back to 1943, I can't believe how young and naïve we all were. I have a grandson Sam who is a freshman in college, just the age I was when I answered Uncle Sam's call. Charlie Ijima was even younger, just barely over 18.

Your 232<sup>nd</sup>/Band Chapter still meets, or tries to, every month. Bolo Shirakata, (Band) our chapter president, does double duty by representing the chapter at the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club meeting. Mits Honda continues as the First VP of the Club. We had our annual year-end party at the Natsunoya Tea House again. Last year we were assigned a small room in the back which was nice in that we enjoyed the privacy of a Japanese garden setting, but the pathway to the room was a bit precarious for those of us who required wheel chairs. This time Margie asked for and got the large front room, newly refurbished. The attendance by members and spouses was down, but more than the usual number of Sons and Daughters, and grandkids made up for the oldsters who were unable to join us. Those in attendance were, Charlie and Marge Ijima and son Glenn & wife, Doc and Mary Kawamoto with sonin-law Ron Albu, Hichi's wife Janet plus granddaughter and friend, Yvonne Yamasaki, Ed and Betty Kanaya and daughter, Jon Kurio and sister Linda Lee, Eleanor Ando, Florence Miyasato and daughter Carrie, Bessie Ono and 2 granddaughters, Ethel Ezuka, Fred Arashiro and daughter, my wife Amy and me. Mits and Millie Honda were on a trip. Our chapter president Bolo Shirakata came to distribute some presents, but couldn't stay, because he was still recuperating from a serious bout with pneumonia he contracted on a trip to Las Vegas. Poor Charlie was drinking his beer alone, because his usual drinking buddy Doc Kawamoto was under doctor's order to quit drinking beer to control his diabetes.

The younger generation gave life and energy to the party. They manned the "choba" (Registration desk) and helped the vets get settled, and in general looked after them. They were the "runners" distributing the lucky-number prizes. Without them, our chapter would "pio" (lights out, for our mainland buddies.)

The passing of Dan Inouye, (E Company) last year was symbolically, the changing of the guards; from the WW II vets to their Sons and Daughters. Senator Inouye symbolizes the accomplishments of the 442<sup>nd</sup> vets, not only on the battle fields of Europe, but also in changing the role of minorities in America after their return to civilian life, and America itself. There has been a surge of interest in the history of Japanese immigrants in preserving and building American democracy. Our era, the era of the vets, has given way to the era of the Sons & Daughters; I'll abbreviate it to S&D-1. They are at the peaks of their careers. Their stories are being written, but many are still developing and unfolding. We are now deep into the era of S&D-2 (Grandsons and granddaughters). The S&D-3 generation (Greatgrandsons and Great-granddaughters) is preparing to take their places in society, most just starting their journey in life. Unlike the S&D-1 generation, many of the S&D-2 and most of the S&D-3 generation are of multi-ethnic and multi-cultural heritage. Many don't live in Hawaii. All of their lives have been changed by the legacy of their 442<sup>nd</sup> ancestors. They are not just living that legacy, they are adding to and helping to write the sequel to that history, and creating

their own legacy that is spreading far beyond the Nikkei community.

Before closing this report, I would like to add a few words about the proposed Nisei Veterans Legacy Center (NVLC), which is supported in principle by all four Nisei Veterans' groups, the 100<sup>th</sup>, 442<sup>nd</sup>, Military Intelligence Service (MIS), and the 1399<sup>th</sup> Engineers. This effort is led by the Sons & Daughters, with its president Wes Deguchi, taking the lead. The 442<sup>nd</sup> Foundation has provided some initial financial support, as has the Hawaii Legislature.



Charlie Ijima and Fred Arashiro

A plan was proposed, but has run into difficulty due to site and cost problems. It is too important a project to try to cover it in this newsletter. I hope to have more to report to you in the April Go For Broke Bulletin.

With that, I wish all of you a very happy new year and a 2014 filled with good health, joy, and contentment. Aloha Nui Loa, Fuj Matsuda

I have attached a few photos from the chapter party at Natsunoya. We all have our aches and pains, but are hanging in there.



Doc Kawamoto and son-in-law Ron Albu



L-R: Alice Nagano (Fred Arashiro's daugher), Carrie Miyasato, two of Bessie Ono's granddaughters and Ed Kanaya's daughter



by Gail Nishimura

Happy Year of the Horse! 2014!

I have now been retired for 2 full years! How quickly the time has passed. Last time I wrote about many of our activities, well most of them have happened, upcoming is the 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary on March 23, 2014. It will be held at Dole Cannery. (Luncheon will not be in Waikiki as originally planned)

Jennifer, Lenora and Clayton are working on the details for the 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary but they will need our help in setting up of helping on their committees. Please contact Jennifer at jen.okubo@gmail.com if you can help with anything.

If you missed our Annual Membership Meeting and Christmas Party in December, you missed a lot! This will be our last year at TreeTops Restaurant as they closed at the end of 2013. It has been a great place for our Christmas parties and the food is so good. Thanks to the great staff for always treating us so well.

At our meeting it was also decided that yearly dues would be from January to December of every year. A mailout included the membership application. If you didn't receive an application, contact Ann Kabasawa at <u>diverseinnov@gmail.com</u>.

We had a fantastic trip to Germany & France! Most of the people on our trip were Sansei and Yonsei. (See insert from our farewell banquet.) In the picture is also one of daughters of Marciel (?). It was a real downer at first when 10 of our people were rebooked at a later flight that got them to Munich a day late! They missed the first night in Munich and half of our tour of Munich. They ended up joining us at lunch on the second day!

When we got to France we stayed the entire time in Gerardmer and took day trips to Bruyeres, Biffontaine and many other towns in the area. It was great to stay at one place for the entire trip. We had an eclectic group on this tour but we seemed to all get along and everyone was always on time!

Many mahalos to Geralyn & Willard Holck for making the contacts and planning the entire trip with the Peace and Freedom Trail Association. They really went out of their way to make sure we had a wonderful trip. Here's a link to the booklet/pamphlet that the Peace and Freedom Trail Association put together with the Office of Tourism to pay tribute to our 100th/442nd http://www.calameo.com/read/ Veterans: 00043087dbf10ec3ca90 It tells the history of the 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup>, traces their footsteps and shares the Honolulu/Bruyeres relationship. It will be given to all visitors that go to the Office of Tourism in Vosges. The tours were great and the food unbelievable! Thank goodness we had several young men to help us finish several of the courses of food! This was an unforgettable trip.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting. Check out the Sons & Daughters website for additional information on meetings and events (www.442sd.org).

Hope you had a great holiday season! Have a safe 2014! See you at the 71st Anniversary!



Veterans Day Sunset Ceremony, USS Missouri November 11, 2013 Photos: Wayne Iha, Clyde Sugimoto, Pat Thomson



Vice Admiral Robert Kihune (USN, Ret.)



Guest Speaker Ted Tsukiyama



Adm. Harry B.Harris, Jr. (Cdr., US Pacific Fleet) makes keynote address



L-R: F Co. veterans Ron Oba, Richard Murashige, George Nakasato, and L Co. veteran Isao Takiyama



*L-R:* Rocky Tanna and Harold Ueoka (522B)



L-R: Mayor Kirk Caldwell, Vice Adm. Robert Kihune, Adm. Harry B. Harris, Consul General of Japan Toyoei Shigeeda



Celtic Pipes and Drums

The 442nd Veterans Club 933 Wiliwili Street Honolulu, HI 96826

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# 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Banquet "We Will Never Forget"

Date:	March 23, 2014 (Sunday)
Time:	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Place:	Pomaika'i Ballrooms at Dole Cannery – Iwilei
Cost:	\$48 per person
Parking:	\$6 self-parking with validation

**Veterans and Family Members**: Please join us in celebrating the 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the 422<sup>nd</sup> RCT. The theme for this year's banquet is "We Will Never Forget." The program includes entertainment by Karen Keawehawaii, The Hanayagi Dance Academy, and Dennis Oshiro Singers. The emcees are Steve Uyehara and Liz Chun of KGMB. Military historian Eric Saul will deliver the keynote speech. Please contact your Chapter President or Representative to RSVP for the event.

## Deadline to submit guest list and payment: Monday, March 3, 2014

**Hotel Reservations**: The Pagoda Hotel is offering a special rate for local, neighbor island and mainland members attending the banquet.

Room occupancy for 1 to 2 persons \$99 + tax for Room only Offer is valid from March 21, 2014 to March 25, 2014

For room reservations, contact Ann Kabasawa at (808) 781-8540 or email at <u>diverseinnov@gmail.com</u>.

## 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Banquet RSVP

Any questions, please call the 442nd Veterans Club at (808) 949-7997 or email at 442veterans@hawaiiantel.net