



Japanese American Veterans Association

JAVA ADVOCATE

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JAVA Members, Terry Shima and Grant Ichikawa, Receive Marshall Green Award from Japan America Society

The Japan America Society of WDC held its 28th Annual Dinner at the Park Hyatt Hotel in Washington, DC on December 4, 2014. Two JAVA members received the coveted Marshall Green Award. In his remarks prior to the presentation, The Honorable Norman Mineta said "Tonight we honor the veterans of the 442nd, including 100th, and the MIS not for what they did during the war but for what they did afterward in helping to build a new relationship between our two countries and bring the American and Japanese people closer together." Mineta requested Ichikawa and Shima to come to the stage where each was presented with the Award by Mineta and JASW Chairman Matthew Goodman. Marshall Green was a ranking American diplomat, who served as Ambassador to Indonesia, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs, and who accompanied President Nixon to China in 1972.



Photo: L-R: Matthew Goodman, Terry Shima, Grant Ichikawa, Secretary Mineta. Photo from JASW.

Go For Broke Float Honoring Japanese American Veterans Featured in 2015 Rose Parade

The Go For Broke float, a part of the City of Alhambra's entry in the 2015 Rose Parade, honored the Japanese American veterans of World War II. GoForBroke National Education Center's Torch for January 2015 said "There are so many wonderful memories – from the construction of the float, to the scores of volunteers who painstakingly glued seeds and flowers to the float, to the excitement of judging day, to the drive down Colorado Boulevard!"



The Go For Broke float was at the front of the line as it followed presenting sponsor American Honda Motor Company and sponsor Wells Fargo Bank. Photo courtesy of Shane Sato.

JAVA President's Annual Report: 2014



The Year of the Horse was a momentous year for JAVA ... at times the Horse was galloping, at other times rearing and bucking, but always moving!

My view of JAVA's activities is that they fall into three categories 1) Education and Community Outreach; 2) Recognition of others who have helped Veterans or to preserve the legacy by which JAVA was formed; and 3) Building leaders who maintain the high standards set by those who served in the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regiment, and the Military Intelligence Service during WW II. JAVA's commitment to these three categories remained steadfast during the past year.

JAVA supported and participated in its usual events like the Smithsonian Day, Freedom Walk, Memorial Day, and Sakura Matsuri in cooperation with organizations like the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and the Japanese American Citizens League. We continue to engage with other Veterans organizations around the country along with outreach efforts with the media and through speaking engagements to talk about the WW II legacy but also about other topics pertaining to diversity, leadership and citizenship. New activities for outreach included Tim Abe (Lt Col, USMC, Ret) speaking at Fort Eustis, VA; Terry Shima and Al Goshi speaking at the US Military Academy, and myself speaking to the Internal Revenue Service and the US Army Judge Advocate General School.

Our recognition efforts for others through the JAVA Courage, Honor and Patriotism Award continued and JAVA made a donation to the Fisher House Foundation for their efforts to assist hospitalized Veterans and their families. Similarly, our efforts to publish the weekly Round Robin, the quarterly Advocate, and to maintain our presence on Facebook and our web-site continue.

JAVA was pleased to establish the US Senator Daniel K. Inouye Scholarship during 2014. Another new initiative was to increase our interaction with the National Museum of the US Army that will be built just south of Washington, DC. Over a million visitors are expected annually and JAVA is working diligently to get a permanent display honoring the 100th/442nd and MIS soldiers from WW II in the Nation Overseas Gallery. JAVA was told that there will be permanent displays of the Japanese American Medal of Honor Winners in a special gallery and that the museum expects to have another permanent display in the Army and Society gallery that will document the internment experience.

This past year witnessed significant turnover in JAVA's leadership and Committees. We mourned the passing of Past President Bob Nakamoto and General Counsel Calvin Ninomiya. We lost Board member Lt Col Kay Wakatake due to her transfer to Fort Bragg, NC. In November, President Gerald Yamada resigned along with Board member Bill Houston. Finally, in December, Board member Janelle Kuroda resigned because of pending overseas assignment with the Department of State. Although some of the positions have been filled, I am holding in abeyance the appointment of additional Board members until our new officers for JAVA are installed. I have announced that I am not a candidate for office due to work and family reasons. Therefore, the new officers of JAVA will have the latitude to choose new Board members. Tom and Jill Phan have assumed responsibility for the Advocate. I sincerely thank our past officers and Board members along with our volunteers for their dedicated efforts!

Fortunately, we did not lose JAVA's heart and soul for a number of years ... Mr. Terry Shima. Terry spent over a month in the hospital and in rehabilitation during the latter part of 2014 and is still recovering. I know many of you are used to relying and leaning on Terry for many things. We need to respect his health and the fact that he is 92 years old and to take over many of his responsibilities that he can no longer keep up with.

The Year of the Sheep (most of 2015) will not be a meek one for JAVA. We have a number of challenges. We must elect and install new officers and fill out the Board positions. That should lead to a review of JAVA's vision and the formulation of a Strategic Plan to help accomplish that vision. We need to gain more participation on the part of JAVA's membership. Our quarterly luncheons have been poorly attended and we need more volunteers to assist with the efforts of our Committees. We must fill positions like a Deputy Executive Director; Chairs for the Education and Outreach Committee, Scholarship Committee, By-Laws Committee, Awards Committee, Oral History Project, and Membership Committee. We are looking at paying for some services such as web-site design and maintenance and accounting. Our Scholarships for 2015 will increase in number and the criteria for winning a scholarship may change.

Last but not least, we are in great shape financially. Despite the recent downturn in the stock market, JAVA continues to get a significant return on its investments that have allowed us to pay all of JAVA's operating costs.

In honor of our Veterans, I remain,

Wade Ishimoto
JAVA President

Welcome New Members!

1st Lt. Craig Shimazu, USA (Ret)

Executive Director's 2014 Annual Report (Summary)

JAVA's major advancements in 2014 included (1) the completion of the digitization the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) documents pertaining to the 100th Battalion, 442nd RCT, MIS and aspects of the internments; (2) the reach of our Speakers who were invited to speak on Nisei World War II experience and its legacy to such audiences as university history departments, the Board of Directors of the National Education Association, the Military Academy at West Point and the Japan America Society. JAVA speakers have also used skype to brief audiences in the US and overseas; and (3) the interest displayed by the domestic and foreign press, e.g. Japan, Great Britain, and Germany, in getting the Nisei story disseminated in their nations.

The NARA (National Archives and Records Administration) digitization project began 25 years ago, in 1989, by Ted Tsukiyama, a visionary historian of the Hawaii 442nd Veterans Club, who engaged Dr. Richard and Fumi Yamamoto and Maggie Ikeda to Xerox 100th and 442nd documents. 31,000 pages had been copied by 2005, when JAVA became a partner and the collection of documents went digital. The "Yamamoto hard copies" are now being integrated into the master data base on the JAVA website, www.javadc.org, maintained by Dave Buto. The most notable features of the database are: (1) researchers are now able to access the database electronically from anywhere in the world; and (2) researchers are able to access the documents using dates, places, NARA retrieval symbols, and key words. Gerald Yamada, former JAVA President, said "I cannot think of a more effective vehicle than this to ensure the perpetuation of the legacy of the World War II generation."

The Speakers Bureau spoke at 5 universities, 23 middle and high schools, 3 community organizations, and 8 government entities. The points covered in their talks, typically one hour in length, included the Nisei being viewed as disloyal when the war began, evacuation and internment, Questions 27 and 28, 100th, 442nd RCT, MIS, repudiation by President Truman of the disloyalty stigma, and Nisei contribution to the leveling of the playing field for future generations of minorities to compete for any job and rank. The speakers always include time for questions & answer sessions.

We held four quarterly lunches, each with a featured speaker, presented *Courage, Honor, Patriotism* Awards, JAVA's highest recognition, to the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Infantry and to Ambassador John Malott, former President and CEO of Japanese America Society, and gifted inscribed clocks to two Japanese diplomats who contributed to JAVA's mission.

JAVA participated in or sponsored the following programs:

April 12, 2014 – held on the day of the National Cherry Blossom Parade, Japan America Society (JASW) held its *Sakura Matsuri* program in downtown Washington drawing from the crowd that attends the Parade. JASW provided a tent to JAVA which uses the opportunity to greet thousands of people not normally reached through traditional ways. JAVA sold books and veterans discussed the Japanese American story.

May 8, 2014 – WW II Memorial. VE Day program sponsored by Friends of the National WW II Memorial. JAVA member was invited to participate in the wreath laying ceremony.

May 25, 2014 – Memorial Day. JAACL-WDC and JAVA held their joint program at the Arlington Cemetery Columbarium Pavilion. This was followed by the laying of flowers at Nikkei and other colleague's gravesites, followed by the laying of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown.

May 26, 2014 – National Memorial Day Parade down Constitution Avenue sponsored by American Veterans Center. The description of JAVA and the achievements of Nisei during WW II were announced over the PA system. JAVA parade contingent was loudly applauded by the spectators.

November 11, 2014 – JAVA held its 15th Veterans Day program at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. The featured speaker was Neal Katyal, who, as Acting Solicitor General publicly said that the Solicitor General failed in his duty to disclose vital official information to Supreme Court justices that affected internment and the convictions of Korematsu, *et al.* (see page 6 for story).

Honorary Chairs

Senator Daniel Akaka (Ret.)
The Honorable Norman Mineta
Hershey H. Miyamura, Medal of Honor
George Joe Sakato, Medal of Honor

Officers

Wade Ishimoto, President
LTC Allen Goshi, USA (Ret.), Secretary
LTC Mark Nakagawa, USA (Ret.), Treasurer

Executive Council

Above Officers Plus:
Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret.), Executive Director
William Houston, Esq., Acting General Counsel
LCDR Janelle Kuroda, USNR
Terry Shima
Reuben Yoshikawa
CAPT Cynthia Macri, USN (Ret.)
LTC Rodney Azama, USA (Ret.)
LTC Brett T. Egusa, USAR
Col Derek Hirohata, USAF

JAVA Advocate

Aki Konoshima, Editor Emeritus
LTC Kay Wakatake, USA, Editor Emeritus
LCDR Janelle Kuroda, USNR, Editor Emeritus
Erika L. Moritsugu, Esq., Editor Emeritus
Thomas and Jill Phan, Editors

New POW/MIA Accounting Agency to Open in January: MG Kelly McKeague, JAVA Member, Named Next Deputy Commander



Defense Department officials announced that a new agency to replace the troubled POW/MIA accounting community in charge of recovering and repatriating the remains of troops killed in past conflicts will be activated on Jan. 1, 2015. The agency will consolidate the work of the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office and the Joint Personnel Accounting Command as ordered by the secretary of defense in February, said Michael Lumpkin, the assistant secretary of defense for special operations and low-intensity conflict.

Former Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel announced on January 9, 2015 that Maj

Gen Kelly McKeague, USAF, will serve as Deputy Commander. McKeague, a JAVA member, is currently the Commander of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Previous to that, Maj. Gen. McKeague was the Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for National Guard Matters, the Pentagon, Washington, DC.

The DOD efforts to recover 83,000 Americans still missing from past conflicts have so far fallen far below the goal set by Congress.

JAVA Volunteer appointed by President Obama as HUD Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs



The Honorable Erika Moritsugu joined the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as its Assistant Secretary for Congressional and intergovernmental Affairs in August 2014 after being confirmed by the U.S. Senate on July 30, 2014. Moritsugu most recently served as Deputy Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). She previously served as Deputy Legislative Director for U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka of Hawai'i; held several different roles at the Senate Democratic Policy Committee, including Acting Staff Director, Policy Director, and Counsel,

and Economic Policy Advisor; and practiced international trade, legislative, and immigration law. She has been an active volunteer in the community with organizations focused on community engagement, mentoring, civil right, veterans, organ donation, domestic violence counseling, and disaster relief. She is the most immediate past editor of the Advocate. She attended Brandeis University, the College of William and Mary, and George Washington Law School. Erika was born in California and raised in Hawai'i. She now lives on Capitol Hill with her husband, Brian Kernek, and two children, Vianne Leilani and Chester Richard.

MG Clarence K.K. Chinn, JAVA Member, Selected as Commanding General of U.S. Army South



The Army announced on January 9, 2015, that current deputy commanding general of U.S. Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, MG Chinn, will become commanding general of U.S. Army South at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. United States Army South is the Army's service component command of United States Southern Command whose area of responsibility includes 31 countries and 15 areas of special sovereignty in Central and South America and the

Caribbean. Chinn was deployed in Afghanistan in 2014. Before that, he was the deputy commander of Regional Command-East, International Security Assistance Force Joint Command in Afghanistan. Chinn is a 1981 graduate of West Point and a veteran of Grenada. He also deployed with the 75th Ranger Regiment to Iraq and Afghanistan. *Reprinted from Round Robin.*

JAVA Quarterly Luncheon

JAVA held its quarterly luncheon at the Harvest Moon Restaurant in Falls Church, VA, on January 17, 2015. Dr. James McNaughton, a noted author and currently a student at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, PA, was the guest speaker. Dr. McNaughton, a JAVA member, spoke of the legacy of the MIS as it applies to world affairs today and the importance of applying those lessons learned through the MIS to our national security strategy.

During the luncheon, JAVA's Courage, Honor, and Patriotism Award was presented to Ed Chow, Secretary of Maryland's Department of Veterans Affairs for his long standing support of veterans in many capacities that he has held along with his helping to preserve the legacy of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regiment, and the MIS. Ed will be leaving his position and all the attendees wished him the best in the future.

Special guests included Lucy Ostrander and Don Sellers, film producers from Washington State, who have produced a number of documentaries on the Japanese American experience. One of the noted productions was on Roy Matsumoto, an MIS member who served with Merrill's Marauders in Burma. They are currently working on another production featuring the life of Kazuo Yamane, another MIS veteran.

JAVA President Wade Ishimoto presented a special commemorative coin to the Honorable Norman Mineta (former Secretary of Transportation and Secretary of Commerce), Major General Joseph Carvalho (Deputy Surgeon General of the US Army), and Brigadier General Paul Nakasone (Deputy Commander, US Army Cyber Command) in recognition of their efforts to stem the tide of terrorism throughout the world. He also presented Sheila Katri, member of Maryland's Commission on South Asian Affairs, with a JAVA mug. Ms. Katri has been an outstanding supporter of JAVA and other veterans organizations in Maryland.

OSS Detachment 101, China, Burma, India Theater

By COL Ralph Yempuku, USAR, (Ret)

[Editor's note. Courtesy of "Secret Valor" by Hawaii MIS Veterans Club]

My World War II service happened to be so much more difficult to me than to others, because my whole family had returned to Japan before the War and I faced the possibility of confronting my three brothers in the Japanese armed forces. This predicament is dramatized in the book, *Our House Divided*, by Tomi Kaizawa Knaefler.

After the December 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, I served with the Hawaii Territorial Guard until all Nisei guardsmen were discharged on January 19, 1942. Then I became part of the 170 Nisei in the labor battalion known as the "Varsity Victory Volunteers." I volunteered for the 442nd and went to Camp Shelby as an officer because I held an army reserve commission.

Around November 1943 at Camp Shelby, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) solicited volunteers for a special mission in the Far East. I was selected along with Lieutenants Dick Betsui, Junichi Buto and Chiyoki Ikeda and 20 enlisted men. We proceeded to Camp McDowell, Illinois, to be trained in radio communications and then to Camp Savage MISLS to study military Japanese. By this time the 20 enlisted men had been reduced to Tom Baba, Dick Hamada, Fumio Kido, Wilbert Kishinami, Shoichi Kurahashi and Calvin Tottori from Hawaii and Susumu Kazahaya, George Kobayashi, Tad Nagaki and Takao Tanabe from the mainland. We shipped out of Savage in August 1944 and landed on Catalina Island for combat ranger training (demolition, beach landings, infiltration, jungle survival).



Nisei MIS attached to OSS Detachment 101 go through Guerrilla, Ranger, survival training on Catalina Island, Calif. Sep 1944. Front Row, L-R: Calvin Tottori, Sho Kurahashi, Fumio Kido, Wilbert Kishinami, Tad Nagaki (mainland), Takao Tanabe (Mainland), Dick Hamada and Tom Baba. Back row, L-R: Susumu Kazuhaya (mainland), LT Ralph Yempuku, LT Richard Betsui, MAJ Crowe, LT Junichi Buto, LT Chiyoki Ikeda, and George Kobayashi (mainland)

We flew out of Miami, Florida, in late October 1944 and reached OSS HQ in New Delhi, India, where we split up for service with various outfits in the China-Burma-India Theater. Lt. Buto, Baba, Hamada, Kido, Kurahashi, Tottori and I were assigned to Detachment 101 guerrilla operations in Burma. Det. 101 consisted of a few Americans, British and Burmese, as well as several thousand Kachin tribesmen. Our mission called for us to be dropped behind Japanese lines to supply and aid the guerrillas, to ambush, blow up bridges, cut communication lines and generally harass the Japanese 34th Division in Northern Burma while Gen. Stilwell's Chinese Divisions and Merrill's Marauders attacked frontally. We flew into Myitkyina in December 1944 after its capture and then deployed on various missions from the Myitkyina OSS Headquarters.

I was assigned to the 2nd Battalion of Det. 101 with seven Americans, a few Burmese and 200 Kachins, natives of the North Burma mountains and fierce warriors who hated the Japanese. Being the only Nisei, I was introduced by Capt. Joe Lazarsky on the first day in front of all the Kachin guerrillas as "an American soldier." He ordered them to study my face; so, they wouldn't shoot me as a Japanese! A Burmese named Namba served as my interpreter with the guerrillas because he knew Japanese and we communicated in "Japanese," not English. We flew in behind Japanese lines south of Myitkyina in the areas of Namhkam, Kutkai and Lashio on a mission, to bomb bridges and cut off the Burma Road from Japanese forces. We traveled over jungle trails, camped in the wilds and ambushed and harassed the Japanese. We received intelligence information from the native Shan and Palaung villagers using gold coins and opium as payment. By then the Japanese knew of our operations and I learned they had placed a price on my head, about \$20,000! Since we operated strictly by hit and run, we didn't have any captured documents to translate or Japanese POWs to interrogate, because they do not surrender. So, frankly, Nisei linguists had little to do in those OSS operations. I stayed in the field for three months until our forces captured Lashio.

Back in Bhamo OSS HQ, Col. Peers asked me to parachute into a valley where 500 Japanese were concentrated, and to persuade them to surrender. I told Col. Peers, "The Japanese will never surrender," and tried to kill the project. Fortunately, the reports proved false. We then sped south for the invasion of Rangoon, but the Japanese Army had retreated further southward. By then Gen. Stilwell's strategy of clearing North Burma of Japanese occupation had succeeded, and Detachment 101 disbanded on July 12, 1945. After Lt. Buto, Hamada, Kido and I received assignments to Detachment 202 in Kunming, we drove the Burma Road from Bhamo over the "Hump" (Himalayas) into Kunming.

In Kunming the OSS trained us for parachute jumps, as one of its ideas was to drop us, Nisei, into Japan for guerrilla operations. We said, "No way could it succeed or could we survive." But when peace followed the Hiroshima/Nagasaki A-bombing in August 1945, the OSS dropped its units into Japanese prison camps in China and Korea in mercy missions to rescue Allied POWs. Kurahashi and Kido dropped into Mukden Prison Camp while our six-man team parachuted onto Hainan Island, where we rescued mostly Australian and Dutch POWs and set up protective security, hospital facilities and evacuation procedures. For these "humanitarian missions," members of OSS jump teams were awarded the Soldier's Medal.

We sailed from Hainan on a destroyer to Hong Kong, just in time to witness the Japanese surrender ceremonies at the Peninsula Hotel on September 12, 1945. Back in Kunming, I met a Nisei named Uehara, who interrogated a large number of Japanese POWs and told me he saw a POW who looked exactly like me. On questioning, he discovered the POW was my brother, Donald Yempuku, who, in turn, told Uehara he had seen me at the surrender ceremonies in Hong Kong.

(As written in the book, *Our House Divided*, pages 85-86, Donald acted as interpreter for the surrendering Japanese officials and saw his brother Ralph in American uniform. He was happy to see Ralph alive, but as the defeated enemy, he felt too embarrassed to call out to Ralph in front of that assemblage; so, the brothers being on opposite sides in World War II, never got to greet each other at that historic surrender.)

Later I found out all three of my brothers--Toru, Goro and Donald--had been drafted into the Japanese Army and became POWs of the American Army.

“... in the footsteps of heroes”

Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret), JAVA Executive Director

Just before Thanksgiving I had the wonderful opportunity to visit France with my wife, Megan. For a small town boy from west Texas, it was the trip of a lifetime. My wife and I visited many of the sights in Paris that I had only seen in movies. The food, the culture, and especially the people were amazing.



L-R: Sabrina, Gerome and Hollywood. Photo by Tiffany Villan.

Several years ago, through my friend Terry Shima, I met a wonderful French family and gave them a tour of the Pentagon. Gerome Villan and his family live in the Vosges Mountains near the town of Bruyeres, where in the late fall of 1944, the famed 442d Regimental Combat Team fought some of its greatest battles. Gerome is an expert on the battles and volunteered to give me a tour if I ever made it over. I could not pass the opportunity up. It was an incredible, humbling experience of a lifetime. Gerome generously took a day off from work to give me the tour. We first went to Bruyères,

which remarkably looks much like it did in 1944. Gerome showed me some old photographs of 442 members walking through the town they had liberated, and the buildings were the same. The beautiful Cathedral still had the same stained glass windows and many marks where bullets had obviously struck.

We then went to the hills where the actual battles had taken place and it was humbling. The terrain was steep and densely forested and the Germans had fortified and dug in positions. Four major hills (that the Allies simply called hills A, B, C and D) offered the enemy seemingly impenetrable defensive positions and crossfire opportunities. *Hiking up the hills with Gerome, I had chills as I thought about what an effort it must have been to move forward.* In October of 1944, in 5 days of ferocious battles, the brave Nisei of the 442 liberated Bruyères. They continued battling and moved forward to help liberate the towns of Biffontaine, Belmont and others.

After nine days of almost continuous fighting, the Nisei were sent to a nearby small town for some much needed rest, but it was not to be. A battalion of the 141st Texas Regiment had been cut off behind enemy lines and was surrounded. Cut off from supplies and support, the “Lost Battalion” dug in and fought to repel the advancing enemy. Gerome and I visited the watering hole that allowed them to survive, but food and ammunitions were running low.

Hitler issued the order to “take no prisoners”, so it was truly a life and death situation for the Texas Battalion. As the 442d was fighting up steep hills against the well defended positions, there came a time when the defenses were too strong to advance and progress stalled. *As I looked up “Suicide Hill”, I could not imagine how terrifying the rain of bullets and grenades and artillery must have been.* Incredibly, the soldiers, led by Barney Hajiro, stood and charged the Germans – many yelling “Banzai!” and they went forward. One by one, they fell, but those able kept advancing until the German defenses broke and the 141st were rescued. *As Gerome finished telling me the story, both of us were crying.*



I was really impressed that 69 years later, the people of Bruyères and Biffontaine continue to have an annual celebration to commemorate the liberation of their homes by their American Brothers. The people of the Vosges will never forget the Nisei. They have several monuments erected in their honor and named a street for the 442nd. I am truly impressed that the French involve their children in the annual thanksgiving ceremonies. They know that involving the young will ensure the continuing the legacy of their Nisei liberators.

After our battlefield tour, Gerome took me to his home. His wife Sabrina made a delicious traditional French country meal and I had many laughs with his delightful daughter Tiffany. What an incredible day – I walked in the footsteps of heroes and, because of their bravery and sacrifice, 69 years later I got to enjoy time with new friends.

L-R: Sabrina, Tiffany and Hollywood. Photo by Gerome Villan.

Former Acting US Solicitor General Cites Misconduct in Hirabayashi and Korematsu Cases

Capitol Hill, Washington, DC. Neal Katyal, former Acting Solicitor General of the United States, was the keynote speaker at the 14th Veterans Day Program at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington, DC. Professor Katyal told the audience, many of them US citizens who were forcibly confined in internment camps for the duration of the war, that Solicitor General Charles Fahy, who had the responsibility to represent the government in the high court, “hid evidence and deceived the Supreme Court that upheld the detention of more than 110,000 Japanese Americans.”



Solicitor General Fahy had learned of a key intelligence report that undermined the rationale behind the internment before the cases of Gordon Hirabayashi and Fred Korematsu reached the Supreme Court. The evidence was the Ringle Report, produced by the Office of Naval Intelligence, which found that there was no evidence that the Japanese American community was acting as spies or sending signals to enemy submarines. Solicitor General Fahy did not inform the Court of the report, despite warnings from Department of Justice attorneys that failing to alert the Court “might approximate the suppression of evidence.” Instead, he argued that it was impossible to segregate loyal Japanese Americans from disloyal ones.

Nor did Fahy inform the Court that a key set of allegations used to justify the internment, that Japanese Americans were using radio transmitters to communicate with enemy submarines off the West Coast, had been discredited by the FBI and the Federal Communications Commission. Further making matters worse, he based his beliefs on groundless stereotyped generalizations about Japanese Americans, such as that they were all disloyal and motivated by “racial solidarity.”

“The solicitor general, the US government’s top courtroom attorney, is viewed as the most important and trusted lawyer to appear before the Supreme Court and he had the duty of absolute candor in our representations to the court. It is unlikely that the Supreme Court, in 1943, would have unanimously upheld the curfew imposed on Japanese Americans in the case of Gordon Hirabayashi versus United States on the grounds of military urgency had the Solicitor General exhibited complete candor,” Katyal said.

Katyal mentioned Hirabayashi, in particular, as a person of admirable character. A religious pacifist, Hirabayashi allowed himself to be arrested on July 16, 1942, for violating the curfew and for refusing to be relocated to a concentration camp. As a result, he was sentenced to 90 days in a Tucson, Arizona, prison. Government officials were willing to drop the charges. However, Hirabayashi declined as his goal was to take his case to the Supreme Court. When officials told Hirabayashi they did not have the funds to transport him to prison, he hitch hiked to Tucson. When he arrived at the prison, he was told they did not have his papers. He left and returned the following day and was finally admitted to prison, where he was confined for 90 days. His lawyer appealed his convictions that eventually lead to the famous Supreme Court case. On April 27, 2012, President Barack Obama announced Hirabayashi would receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his stand against Japanese American internment. Unfortunately, Hirabayashi died two days before the scheduled presentation.

Katyal, recognized as one of the top lawyers in America, is currently the Paul and Patricia Saunders Professor at the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, DC. He was Acting Solicitor General from 2010 – 2011 and was Principal Deputy Solicitor General before that. [Editor’s Note: See www.javadc.org for full article]

Dropping the Atomic Bombs: How Henry Stimson, Secretary of War, Influenced the Decision



Henry Lewis Stimson

Secretary Stimson said the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima (August 6, 1945) and on Nagasaki (August 9, 1945) remains the most controversial in modern history. Historians have actively debated whether the bombings were necessary, what effect they had in bringing the war in the Pacific to an expeditious end, and what other options were available to the US. Stimson authored an article, "The Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb" printed in Harpers Magazine in February 1947. Harpers gave permission to any newspaper to print without charge this article because of "its exceptional public importance."

In 1945 President Harry S. Truman decided to drop the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. As with any other administration, he had many top government officials who advised him on domestic and foreign issues. Henry Stimson was Truman's Secretary of War and after Truman took the presidential office, Stimson had the greatest influence on the crucial decision to use the atomic bomb, more than any other person who Truman trusted to counsel him. There is quite a bit of proof to suggest that Stimson had the most dramatic influence on the President's foreign policy in terms of both the Soviet Union and Japan all of which were considered when strategizing the atomic bomb's use.

On April 25, 1945, thirteen days after Franklin Delano Roosevelt died, Harry Truman was first informed of the development of the atomic bomb and how it would affect America's relations with other countries by Stimson. Stimson originally encouraged this topic of discussion with the President by saying that it had "such a bearing on our present foreign relations and ... such an important effect upon all my thinking in this field." During this conversation Stimson also told the President, in short, that the atomic bomb would be critical in our dealings with other countries and would be key in shortening the war. Later, Truman said the discussion specifically covered the effect the bomb would most likely have on our interactions with other countries and that "Stimson's view was a consistent judgment that the atomic bomb would add great

power to American diplomacy once it was developed." He considered that no major issue could be realistically discussed without an estimate of the bomb's role. In Stimson own words two years after the bombs were dropped, he described the memorandum with President Truman where he informed the President that in four months a "terrible weapon" that could "destroy a whole city" would probably be ready and the United States was the only country at the time that had the resources to construct said weapon, at least for the time being, but undoubtedly it was not a position to be held indefinitely. He also eluded to the idea that if the weapon was properly used that it could be an opportunity to bring peace.

After the President had been briefed on the development of the bomb, Stimson suggested a specific group of people to be charged with the "function of advising the President on the various questions raised about the conduct of the war by the imminent readiness of an atomic weapon and also suggest plans for the longer-term development and control of atomic energy." After he had received the President's approval, he wasted no time bringing this committee into being. The group then became known as the Interim Committee and Stimson was its chairman. In Henry Stimson's 1947 article in *Harper's Magazine*, he explained that the committee's discussions "ranged over the whole field of atomic energy in its political, military, and scientific aspects."

Before the actual use of the atomic bombs, Stimson believed that the new weapon was "one that should be produced and used as a means of shortening the war and minimizing its destructiveness." He had successfully convinced the President and the Interim Committee of the political value of the atomic bomb's capacity to hasten the end of the war and save American lives. Stimson believed that the Japanese had been fighting with great tenacity in defense of their empire and would continue to fight fiercely to protect their homeland and millions of American soldiers would be saved by altogether avoiding a mainland invasion by American forces and thereafter informed Truman of this belief. Stimson was certain that to bring about Japan's surrender a colossal blow must be dealt to convincingly prove our power and argued this point to the President. He ensured President Truman that the quickest way to produce the desired effect on Japan was not to attempt it by diplomatic means of persuasion, but rather to increase U.S. military pressure until the Emperor and all of his military advisors realized the bleakness of their fight. The Scientific Panel, which consisted of a number of nuclear physicists involved in the development of the atomic bomb, opposed the use of the bomb, fearing that it would start a nuclear arms race and wanted to turn over the secrets of the bomb to an international agency to use for more peaceful quests, rather than for war, but Stimson rejected the panel's suggestions and recommended to the President that the bomb be used on Japan to ensure its surrender.

The United States government not only wanted to get Japan to surrender "unconditionally" but to also do so *without* Soviet Union interference or mediation and they recognized the opportunity the bomb presented to them. Stimson told Truman that he believed that the bomb would fortify America's position and end the war before the Soviet Union could enter it. He urged the President that "the thing to do was to get this surrender through before Russia...should get down in reach of the Japanese homeland... It was of great importance to get the homeland into our hands before the Russians could put any substantial claim to occupy and help rule it." By July of 1945, Japan had been significantly weakened by our evermore violent attacks and it had been known that its military leaders had been making offers to the Soviet government, trying to use the Russians to arbitrate a negotiated peace. Stimson even regarded the bomb as the "master card" of diplomacy and specifically described it to the President as such.

"Let our actions speak for words. The Russians will understand them better than anything else.... we have got to regain the lead and perhaps do it in a pretty rough and realistic way.... we have coming into action a weapon which will be unique. Now the thing is not ... to indicate any weakness by talking too much; let our actions speak for themselves."

After the Interim Committee decided that the bomb was definitely going to be used, a strategy to do so still needed to be developed. Stimson influenced President Truman to send a warning to Japan "of what is to come" and said that the warning should precede any actual forceful occupation of the homeland and include plenty of time for a response. The scientists on the Scientific Panel backed up Stimson's argument, suggesting a very detailed account of the bomb's devastating potential be given or that we demonstrate the atomic weapon on an unpopulated area. In the end it was Stimson with the sole responsibility of advising the President on matters involving the use of the bomb and he was free to adjust any proposals made by the Interim Committee as he wished.

When it came down to deciding which cities would be most strategic to bomb, Stimson agreed with the President that the best mark for the bombs would be a vital war plant with a large number of employees with workers' houses bordering it. Giovannitti and Freed quoted President Truman as having said that he "asked Secretary Stimson which cities in Japan were devoted exclusively to war production. He named Hiroshima and Nagasaki among others..." Stimson convinced the President that Hiroshima and Nagasaki were the best targets, stating that Hiroshima was an army center and that Nagasaki, an important seaport, contained major industrial plants. Truman was successfully persuaded by Stimson and he exercised his presidential power by giving the go-ahead to the American forces to drop the ruinous weapon on the two major Japanese cities that Stimson recommended.

As Truman's Secretary of War, Stimson was the most important man in the government with complete information on the highly secret nuclear development project and his influence on President Truman was remarkable and almost without limits due to his proximity to all matters of the bomb. In Alperovitz's book "Atomic Diplomacy: Hiroshima and Potsdam," he even confirms this directly by saying that "Truman often chose to follow Stimson's advice over most others." Afterward, Stimson was publicly known as the leading American official identified with the construction and use of the atomic bomb and emphasized his belief by becoming the main spokesperson for the decision. The President himself gave Stimson "great credit" for the atomic bomb's development.

MIS Exhibit Opens at Honolulu Army Museum

Honolulu, Hawaii. The U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii has opened a colorful new exhibit that tells the little-known story of the 6,000 Japanese Americans who served in the Military Intelligence Service in World War II. These Nisei used their knowledge of the enemy's language and culture to save countless lives and shorten the war against Japan. About half of them were from Hawaii. The exhibit, entitled "America's Secret Weapon," features such Hawaii-born MIS heroes at Hoichi Kubo, who earned the Distinguished Service Cross while serving with the 27th Infantry Division on Saipan, and Dick Hamada, who saved a battalion of Allied troops while serving in Burma with Detachment 101 of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The exhibit was produced on behalf of the Military Intelligence Service Veterans Club of Hawaii by Mark Matsunaga, Gregg Hirata, and Harlan Yuhara. It includes 80 photographs and dozens of artifacts from veterans as well as the Army Museum's collection. "It's a beautiful exhibit, and we plan to show it for at least two years," said Judith Bowman, director of the museum.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to tell this very American story," said Matsunaga. "While the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team were answering doubts about their loyalties in Europe, there were some skeptics who wondered whether Japanese Americans would fight 'their own kind.' Little did they know that, even before Pearl Harbor, there were Nisei who were doing just that."

The U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii is located in historic Battery Randolph, a former Coastal Artillery beachside fortification on the Diamond Head end of Fort DeRussy. The museum is open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays, except for federal holidays. Admission is free. Parking is available in the lot across Kalia Road. The museum will provide validation for a reduced parking fee.

Reprinted by permission from Hawaii MIS Veterans Newsletter, October 2014



MIS veterans George Matsunaga (left) and Major General Arthur Ishimoto were among the early visitors to the exhibit at the U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii. The exhibit will be on display for the next two years.

Italian City holds Reenactment to Honor Liberators, Including 442nd

By Davide del Giudice



Reenactors staging to participate in the event. Photo by del Giudice.

Ortonovo, North Italy. On January 10, 2015 the third Reenactment of the "Battle of Ortonovo" highlighted the combat skills of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which helped liberate the city of Ortonovo, located near Carrara. The event was well attended by city officials, the elderly and especially middle school students. The elders listened nostalgically and the younger generation listened and watched the reenactment attentively. The event was organized by lawyer Alessandro Silvestri and Alberto Simonelli of the "92nd Division Buffalo association Toscoligure", under the auspices of the City of Ortonovo.

The Mayor of Ortonovo opened the event with an official greeting, then lawyer Silvestri explained that the reason for the event was to honor and recognize the heroic roles of the Allied soldiers, especially the 442nd, and the local population to liberate Ortonovo in World War II.

The principal speaker was Davide Del Giudice, a WW II historian and a school teacher in Montignoso, located near Massa. He discussed the genesis of the 442nd RCT, the discrimination suffered at home, the heroic behavior of its soldiers and the victorious battles they fought. Del Giudice read several messages received from Nisei veterans in the USA. Del Giudice told JAVA that these events are important especially for the post WW II generation so they don't forget or ignore the huge sacrifices made by the Allied powers, especially the Nisei unit, and Italian nationalists to preserve a democratic Italy.

Attendees viewed the display of WW II memorabilia that the American soldiers used, such as personal items, mess kits, uniforms and clothing, explosive shells, weapons, trucks, jeeps, and other equipment. The public was also allowed to mount the vehicles. In the afternoon, the event continued in the immediate area with a parade of historic vehicles and reenactors.

Proposed Center in France Honors Actions in WWII by Nisei by Gregg K. Kakesako

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(Tribune News Service) — To preserve the firsthand accounts and memories of the villagers of Bruyeres liberated by Japanese-American soldiers more than 70 years ago, French tourism officials have taken the first step in what they hope will be a \$12 million visitor center. The center, which organizers hope will be funded with private and government funds, will pay tribute to the nisei, or second-generation Japanese-American, veterans by recreating everything from the World War II battlefield in the Vosges forests to life in the once German-occupied territory.

Anais Casin, spokeswoman from the Bruyeres tourism office, said "the project won't be a typical museum, but rather an interpretive center designed to be interactive" with sounds of the battlefield and recreations of the tiny village where the house-to-house fighting occurred in 1944. On Jan. 14, Casin briefed Gov. David Ige, whose father served in the 100th Infantry Battalion; representatives from the Japanese and French consulates in Hawaii; and veterans from the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. "The proposed visitor center would be a wonderful tribute to the men who went 'for broke,'" Ige said after the briefing. For 100th Battalion veteran Jack Nakamura, 91, the memorial "would be good for the children and grandchildren" since it would remind them of the sacrifices made by the nisei soldiers. In October, Nakamura made his first trip to Bruyeres since World War II and said he had a hard time recognizing landmarks in the village of 3,200 and in the surrounding forests where much of the fighting took place.

The Vosges towns of Bruyeres and Biffontaine are less than 45 miles west of the Rhine River. Bruyeres was strategically vital as a "crossroads" town — one of the reasons why the 100th/442nd was ordered to capture it. In the past, Casin said, Bruyeres was a major trading hub and had paper and textile factories. These days, industry is limited and Bruyeres is trying to attract new sources of revenue, including tourism.

"In the Vosges, as in the U.S., we understand that the eyewitnesses of the World War II era won't be able to share and teach us about their extraordinary story for much longer," Casin said. "Future generations have the right to learn from those who experienced these events. Therefore, it is imperative that we preserve these firsthand accounts and memories so that they may be shared in a space dedicated to the remembrance. "In Bruyeres, we cherish these memories as they brought the people of the Vosges and the nisei together. Because the history we would like to preserve is specific to the Vosges and especially Bruyeres, we feel that it is most appropriate to build the interpretive center in the city itself." She said Hill A, the first hill taken by the soldiers during the Battle of Bruyeres, is being considered as the site of the center. The name of the proposed center is "Camp'US," which has similar meanings in French and English, Casin said.

There are two monuments dedicated to the 100th/442nd in the Vosges, one in Bruyeres for the liberation of the town and one in Biffontaine for the rescue of the Lost Battalion. In addition, there are three locations in Bruyeres named in honor of the nisei Army unit — 100th/442nd Road, Hono-lulu Street and Tomosu Hirahara Square, named after the first nisei killed during the liberation of Bruyeres. Of the seven campaigns in France and Italy in which the 100/442nd RCT participated, the most noteworthy was the Rhineland Campaign in France, the deadliest, most demanding month was October 1944 for the units in the Vosges Mountains. The campaign for Bruyeres was part of Operation Dogface and took place over 34 days, with the actual fighting to retake the city occurring in four days.

The proposed 140,000-square-foot visitor center site is at the edge of the forest near the entrance to the town on the highway that connects Epinal and Saint-Die des Vosges to Bruyeres. The visitor center will house an interpretation center on the first floor, a permanent exhibition on the second floor, tourism offices, auditorium and a restaurant.

The story of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, some of whose members volunteered while their parents were held in mainland internment camps, and the liberation of the Vosges Valley will be the centerpiece of the tour, according to a 40-page prospective of the proposal. The efforts of the nisei soldiers in liberating the Vosges region will be placed in context with the European war, highlighting the accomplishments of the U.S. 7th Army to present a comprehensive picture. The nisei exhibit will include the bombing of the Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor by the Japanese in 1941, the formation of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the Italian and French campaigns, and will end with the soldiers returning to the islands and the creation of the sister-city relationship in October 1961.

Within the exhibit, there will be areas created to give visitors the feel of living in the Vosges region during the German occupation, when villagers hid in cellars. The five-day struggle to rescue the 1st Battalion of the 141st "Alamo" Regiment, 36th Infantry Division, from Texas in the forest near Biffontaine will be depicted in another "experimental space." The 100th Battalion and the 442nd suffered 800 casualties to rescue 200 Texas soldiers of the "Lost Battalion." Planners envision recreating the forest environment with silhouettes and the smell of fir trees, the dampness of the fall cold and the bitter rain with a soundtrack of artillery. The Honolulu-Bruyeres sister-city relationship was spearheaded by former City Councilman and 442nd Sgt. Wilbert "Sandy" Holck, who died in 1999.

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Two color guards and color bearers of the Japanese-American 442d Combat Team, stand at attention, on Nov. 12, 1944, while their citations are read. They are standing on ground in the Bruyeres area, France, where many of their comrades fell. U.S. ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY PHOTO.

BG Yee Visits Afghanistan to Assess Drawn Down Efforts

BG Garrett Yee, USA, Commanding General of the 335th Signal Command located in Kuwait, is responsible for military communications throughout southwest Asia. He travels frequently to the war zones of Afghanistan and Iraq. BG Yee visited Kandahar, Afghanistan in November 2014 to assess the progress of their drawn down efforts. He had made two earlier visits there, the first in November 2006 and then in 2011-2012. BG Yee later visited Bagram, Afghanistan, where he had served in November 2006, when the US military presence was small. The US presence in Bagram has since grown "and we are now tearing down the temporary wood structures that once housed our soldiers." BG Yee also visited Kabul, Afghanistan before returning to Kuwait.



Empty boardwalk at Kandahar, November 2014

The Government of France Presents the Legion of Honor Award to WWII Veterans

The Government of France has held ceremonies throughout the US to honor Americans who fought for the liberation of France during WW II. In dignified ceremonies, each qualified combat veteran was presented with the Legion of Honor, a highly coveted award. This award ceremony was held in San Francisco. Following each awardee's name below is his age when he served and where he served.



Front row, L-R: Jake Larson (17, Normandy), Royal Manaka (21, Vosges), George Yasukawa (22, Vosges, represented by wife Mrs. Yasukawa), Masao Kadota (20, Vosges), William Allen (20, Air Force), John Hockenberry (18, northern France). Back row, L-R: Lawson Sakai (19, Vosges), Consul General of France Mrs. Pauline Carmona, Mas Tsuda (19, Vosges), Hadley Jenson (23, Ardennes, represented by daughter Kathy Varney), David Aguilar (20, Ardennes). Photo and background data from Dr. Ellen Sawamura.

Sam Ishida Takes Honor Flight to Visit WWII Memorial

Sam Ishida, G Company, 442nd RCT (left) of Columbus, Ohio, being interviewed at the Korean War Memorial by a radio journalist. Ishida was on a one day Honor Flight visit on October 11, 2014 to the WW II Memorial and other sites in the nation's capital. Noriko Sanefuji, a member of JAVA, met and provided "courtesies of the port." Photo from Sanefuji.



JAVA Members Attend Annual PPALM Meeting



ADM Michelle Howard, Vice Chief of Naval Operations (right) and LCDR Janelle Kuroda, JAGC, USNR (left) share Sea Stories during the 7th Annual PPALM General Membership Meeting and Reception, October 12, 2014 in Washington, D.C. Photo courtesy of PPALM and Millennium Enterprise Corp).



US Military Academy cadets and Wade Ishimoto (center) attended the 7th Annual PPALM meeting at the Walter Washington Convention Center. Photo from Wade Ishimoto.

JAVA members had lunch with Judge and Dorie Kobayashi, JAVA members from Sacramento, California on November 14, 2014 at the China Garden at Rosslyn. During their visit the Kobayashi's attended the JAVA Veterans Day program at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism, visited the US Judge Advocate General's graduate school at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, which has a special floor display of Dorie's father, COL Walter Tsukamoto, USA (deceased). They also had a private tour of the Pentagon and also met with officials at the Smithsonian. Front Row, L-R: Mary Murakami, Fay Froh, Miyako Tanabe, Dorie Kobayashi, The Honorable Norman Mineta; back row, L-R: Judge Kobayashi, Dr. Ray Murakami, Michelle Amano, Terry Shima. Photo by Bruce Hollywood.



Meet the Generals and Admirals

Each quarter JAVA features two Asian Pacific Americans who have attained the highest ranks in the US armed forces. The present count is that 124 Asian Hawaiian Pacific Islander Americans have been promoted to generals and admirals, including General Eric Shinseki of Kauai, Hawaii, former Chief of Staff of the US Army, General John Campbell, Vice Chief, US Army, and Admiral Harry Harris, Commander, US Pacific Fleet. Of the 124, 71 served in the US Army, 22 in the US Air Force, 25 in the US Navy, and 2 each in the US Marine Corps, US Coast Guard, and Public Health Service. Broken down in another way, 33 are Chinese American, 13 are Filipino American, 24 are Hawaiian Pacific Islanders, 8 are Korean Americans, one is Vietnamese American, and 45 are Japanese Americans.

BG Viet Xuan Luong, USA



BG Viet Luong, USA, was promoted to Brigadier General on August 6, 2014 at Fort Hood, Texas. He is the first Vietnam-born immigrant to reach flag rank. He is currently assigned to Afghanistan as Commanding General of Train, Advise, Assist Command - South (TAAC), formerly known as Regional Command - South (R.C. South), located in Kandahar. TAAC-South and the other TAAC task is to train, assist and advise their Afghan counterparts. [General

Campbell, Commanding General of Resolute Support, describes in his Newsletter the new command structure in Afghanistan. See page 13]. Luong's immediate previous assignment was Deputy Commander for maneuver of the 1st Cavalry Division.

BG Luong was 9 years old in 1975, when his parents and 8 siblings fled Vietnam. "My family made the escape the day before the fall of Saigon. We barely escaped." They were taken to the USS Hancock and eventually to Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, which was set up to house refugees from Vietnam. After a couple of months his father's friend helped the family settle in Los Angeles. "The family started with nothing, worked hard, and over time, we were able to send all the kids to college," Luong said. The family's experience has made him and his sisters very patriotic, Luong said.

BG Luong graduated from the University of Southern California following which he served in the US Army. His 27 year career has been highlighted by commanding troops. He served in Bosnia and Kosovo. He was battalion commander of the 82nd Airborne Division paratroops in Iraq and the 101st Airborne 3rd Brigade Combat Team in Afghanistan. "Those were the most challenging times for me" he said. "I lost many soldiers and that has always been part of my experience, in trying to get people to understand that freedom comes at a pretty high price."

Asked why he has selected the armed forces as his career choice, BG Luong said "I have chosen to follow the footsteps of my father, but more importantly, to give back to a country that has given so much to me and my family." Luong's father served in the Republic of Vietnam Marine Corps.

Independence Medal and several other notable medals. He also received the Congressional Gold Medal in November 2011.

He chose the military as a career because he felt the military was his calling. His nephews are Lt. General Joseph Peterson (Ret), Deputy Commanding General of US Ground Forces when he retired, and Capt. Wade Ishimoto (Ret), President of JAVA. Wade Ishimoto was inducted into the Special Forces Hall of Fame. The Air Force provided educational opportunities in electronics he could not obtain elsewhere. Computers were beginning to be used by the military then. He wanted to be schooled and trained in it. He also attended the Air Force Electronic Engineering School. He influenced young men just out of high school to join the Air National Guard. He told them to go to technical schools and be paid while learning, return home and attend the University of Hawaii in electrical engineering. By doing so, during their junior year, they would be more knowledgeable than the others. They indeed were far more advanced than the others. Some of them, worked at well-known defense contractors as engineers. One of them helped design the fire control system of the F-18 Hornet Fighter Aircraft. The word spread of opportunities in the HIANG and recruiting increased greatly.

Maj Gen Arthur Ishimoto, USAF (Ret)



Maj. Gen. Arthur Ishimoto, USAF (Ret) was a member of the Military Intelligence Service in WWII and fought in the Northern Luzon Campaign. He joined the 442nd Infantry Reserve in 1948 and was assigned to Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion. He transferred to the Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG) in late 1949. In 1956, he commanded the first full-time ANG aircraft control and warning detachment under the operational control of Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) and provided 24 hours a day, 7 days per week air defense coverage. At the request of the PACAF Inspector General, he was the first

air national guard officer to be assigned as a member of the PACAF Inspector General team to inspect regular air force units.

In 1957, USAF planned to establish and install a permanent air defense system in Hawaii consisting of a three-site complex. However, they could not fund the estimated cost of \$5 million. It was turned over to the National Guard Bureau. He was assigned as project manager and redesigned and engineered a three-site air defense complex, including a joint-use facility with the Federal Aviation Administration. He saved the USAF \$4.2 million.

He became the Chief of Staff of the HIANG in 1975. A year later, he was assigned as commander HIANG and Assistant Adjutant General (Air). He implemented a self-inspection system for the entire HIANG. A year later, as a result, his units received an overall rating of excellent in management and operational readiness by PACAF Inspector General. No other ANG units received an excellent rating.

On May 5, 1981, he received a Department Of Defense award at a ceremony in the Pentagon for "Outstanding contribution to our national defense". He initiated a 5-year defense plan (FYDP), which included an upgrade of fighter aircraft and adding two new units, a troop carrier squadron and an air refueling squadron. It laid the foundation for today's HIANG. Today, they possess the F-22 Raptor fighter aircraft, a refueling squadron with C-135 tanker aircraft and a troop carrier squadron flying the latest C-17 Globemaster aircraft

He was appointed Adjutant General in February 1983 and received federal recognition as major general in May that year. He was the first Japanese American to attain that rank. His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal (DSM), Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, National Guard of the United States DSM, Presidential Unit Citation, Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Philippine Liberation Medal, Philippine

News from UN's Top Commander in Afghanistan



General John F. Campbell, USA, (left) assumed command of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan on August 26, 2014 with the mission of transferring all security responsibilities to the Afghan security forces by the end of 2014. On Veterans Day, November 11, 2014, GEN Campbell tells us in his periodic newsletter, how the winding down is going. [Editor's note: In his January 31, 2015 newsletter, General Campbell noted that on December 28 a ceremony was held to formally change ISAF to Resolute Support. He also noted that NATO RS mission coalition force is at 12,800 and US force is down to 10,600.]

One day after the transition ceremony, the new National Unity Government of President Ghani and CEO Abdullah witnessed the signing of the bilateral security agreement that would allow NATO forces to remain in Afghanistan after 2014. NATO forces are not engaged in combat anymore the focus now being the three on-going transitions: 1). supporting the political transition; 2). transition from ISAF to Resolute Support; and 3). the mental transition from combat operations to train-advise-assist.

- Political transition: the focus is maintaining relationships with the Afghan leadership and ministries. Ghani and Abdullah have reached out to the National Security Forces and the international community to embrace their support. This has had a favorable impact on the Afghan troops.
- ISAF to Resolute Support transition: all combat missions have been completed in October and the various command areas are being transformed to main command-and-control centers where "we will train-advise-assist our Afghan partners at the Corps HQ level". "In Fall 2011, ISAF had more than 800 bases (includes FOBs/COPs/outposts). Today we are at 25. We are currently sitting at just under 20,000 in ISAF, with more than half of those U.S. troops. We are on track to meet the goal to have a force of roughly 13,000 combined troops for the NATO-led Resolute Support mission by the end of the year.
- The mental transition from combat operations to train-advise-assist. "This involves not only discussing what this means with our Afghan counterparts, but also what this means to many of our own influential leaders and NATO countries. It requires dialogue with foreign and American officials, the media, and others.
- ISAF to Resolute Support transition: all combat missions have completed in October and the various command areas are being transformed to main command-and-control centers where "we will train-advise-assist our Afghan partners at the Corps HQ level". "In Fall 2011, ISAF had more than 800 bases (includes FOBs/COPs/outposts). Today we are at 25. We are currently sitting at just under 20,000 in ISAF, with more than half of those U.S. troops. We are on track to meet the goal to have a force of roughly 13,000 combined troops for the NATO-led Resolute Support mission by the end of the year. "



Weekly Memorial Service at Resolute Support (RS) Headquarters

November 11, which marks the end of WW I, is recognized in the United Kingdom, Europe, and America. Give thanks to the veterans and to the men and women on active duty to protect our freedom.

Wade Ishimoto Speaks at Hungarian Defense Ministry

Colonel Mark Karas, Senior Defense Official and Defense Attache, US Embassy Budapest, introduces Wade Ishimoto at the Hungarian Joint Defense Headquarters, Szekesfehervar, Hungary, on January 26, 2015. Ishimoto's mission, on behalf of the Department of Defense, is to assist the Hungarian military in determining the future of their Special Operations forces.

Photo: Colonel Mark Karas, Senior Defense Official and Defense Attache, US Embassy Budapest, introduces Wade Ishimoto, seated on COL Kara's right, at the Hungarian Joint Defense Headquarters, Szekesfehervar, Hungary, on January 26, 2015. Photo from Ishimoto.



MIS Official History to Be Published in Japan; Translation by Japanese Former Fulbright Scholar

Washington, DC. *Nisei Linguists: Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service during World War II*, considered by many to be the “bible” of the legendary Nisei who served in the Asia-Pacific Theater fighting soldiers of their parents’ homeland, is planned to be published in Japanese and circulated in Japan next summer. *Nisei Linguists*, the U.S. Army’s official history of the Nisei who served in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS), was written by Dr. James C. McNaughton, a senior historian with the U.S. Army. The book was first published by the U.S. Army Center of Military History in 2007. He is currently attending the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

The translator is Yukio Morita, a former professor at Kanazawa University, and presently a resident of Toyama Prefecture. In 2007 Morita published a 638-page book, *American Nikkei Nisei Draft Resistance*. The resisters were young Japanese Americans in internment camps who resisted the draft, claiming they would fight for America if their families were released from internment and their constitutional rights were restored. Morita spent five years to conduct research and interview a large number of draft resisters. Morita’s goal is to “shed some light on the hidden issues we should know.” He is the first Japanese scholar to write an exhaustive book on the Nisei WW II resisters. Morita viewed the Nisei resisters as having “courage and guts.” Likewise, by translating *Nisei Linguists*, he will bring to the Japanese public in unprecedented detail the story of Nisei who fought for their country during the war with Japan and to serve in the occupation to help rebuild Japan.

Morita graduated from Kyoto University and came to the United States in 1965 on a Fulbright fellowship to earn a master’s degree in American history from Ohio State University. He previously taught in the Literature and Journalism Departments at Kanazawa Gakuin University and prior to that taught American History at Aichi Prefecture University in Nagoya. He has previously published Japanese translations of other works on American history, such as the memoirs of the late former Chief Justice of the United States Earl Warren and U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye.

The U.S. edition of *Nisei Linguists* is available for purchase in paperback and ebook format from the Government Printing Office at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>, or from online booksellers. [JAVA is grateful to Mr Kenji Taguma, publisher of *Nichibei Weekly*, for assisting in the compilation of this article.]



Professor Yukio Morita

The Story of the Normandale Japanese Garden with Dedication from MIS Veterans

You may not be aware of this hidden jewel, a beautiful Japanese Garden, built in Bloomington, Minnesota. And you may not be aware of the important connection this garden has with the Japanese MIS Vets.

The Normandale Japanese Garden is a 2-acre authentic Japanese Garden built over 40 years ago on the grounds of Normandale Community College. It wasn’t until my father passed away 14 years ago, that I became aware of how involved he had been in connecting the MIS vets with the Normandale Japanese Garden Committee and I know that there are other children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren who are unaware of this important landmark.

The whole story is told in this book, but it was 1969, when the Bloomington Affiliated Garden Clubs connected with the MIS Veterans of Minnesota in an effort to raise funds to build a Japanese Garden. Enthusiastic support spread to all the MIS Vets all over the country, including Hawaii and Japan. They voted to contribute to the MIS fund for the Japanese Garden, and to build a lasting expression of appreciation to the people of Minnesota for the kindness shown them while they were studying the Japanese language at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling, MN.

With the funds raised, the MIS was able to donate the Bentendo and Taiko-Bashi (curved bridge). The plaque placed at the base of the bridge holds great meaning for all who read it, for in these troubling times of war and terror, it provides an important message of inspiration about kindness and gratitude. The plaque reads:

“We, the Japanese American Veterans of the US Army Military Intelligence Service Language School dedicate this Bentendo and Bridge to the people of the Twin Cities and all of Minnesota for the kind treatment we received while we were stationed here during WWII, 1942-1946.”

There were thousands of Japanese American Vets who passed through Camp Savage and Ft Snelling, sadly their numbers dwindling every month. But here in Bloomington Minnesota is the lasting legacy that these Vets left behind. I hope you will be able to visit the Garden and find peace and tranquility in their words of inspiration.

If you can’t visit, this book provides you a glimpse of each of the elements of this breathtaking garden.

Sincerely,

Gail (Yanari) Wong
Daughter of Frank Yanari

[Editor’s Note: if you wish to buy the book or have any questions pertaining to the project, including donations, please contact Bonnie Aaze, bcgaaze@comcast.net.]

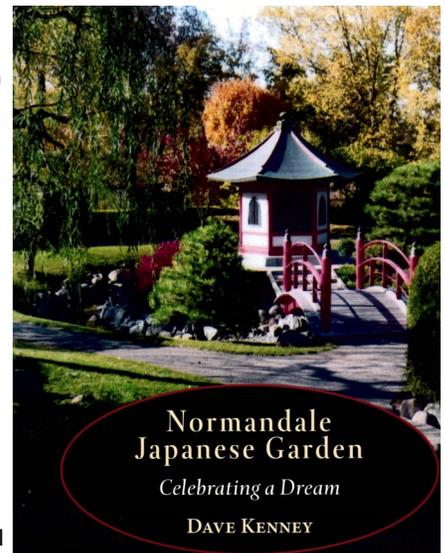


Photo of Book Cover

Hisashi “Shy” Morita: A Nisei Korean War Hero by Col Frank Nekoba, USAF (Ret) and Hiroshi Shima

Many of us are very familiar with the experiences of the Nisei soldiers in WW II as their exploits have been well documented. This is a story about a Nisei soldier who fought in the Korean War – the “Forgotten War” as it is sometimes referred to. Many who served in that war were never recognized for their actions. This is a story about one of them.

Hisashi “Shy” Morita was born and raised on the island of Hawaii and was drafted into the US Army at the outbreak of the Korean War. After a fierce battle against heavy odds, he was captured on 18 May, 1951. He spent the next 27 months incarcerated in a Chinese Prisoner of War (POW) camp and was released on 16 August 1953 after the signing of the Armistice. His story is one of heroic bravery under fire and perseverance in captivity. He was a very quiet and humble man who almost never talked about himself (thus, his nickname “Shy”). His valor came to light recently when his friend of many years, Hiroshi Shima provided a tribute at his funeral service revealing Shy’s wartime experiences. Typically, he had requested that Hiroshi not share the information which he provided shortly before his passing on 3 January 2015 in Hilo, Hawaii. He provided it at the prodding of both Hiroshi and Robert Montague of Hilo, a retired veteran and tireless advocate for veterans seeking VA benefits. Even Shy’s immediate family was not aware of his exploits until they heard Hiroshi’s tribute.



Hisashi “Shy” Morita

Hiroshi used Shy’s story in his presentation at the funeral services. Quoted here is part of Hiroshi’s email that forwarded the presentation (edited for brevity):

“Hisashi told me about his experiences in captivity and told me it was not to be shared and I respected that. His story is more than the two pages (of the attached tribute). On one of our Korean War Ceremonies, he said he was going to tell the whole story, but he never did. On two occasions, I arranged a special Prisoner of War ceremony for him at our monthly Korean War Veterans meetings. The medal display (at the end of the tribute) was presented to him by our chapter on one of those ceremonies. I asked him many times to be interviewed so his story could be in the National Archives, but he always refused.”

Here is Hiroshi’s presentation:

Hisashi rarely talked about his experiences in captivity. He refused many offers to be interviewed for the oral history program to be stored in the National Archives. He finally revealed some of his experiences. Here is part of his story:

“On May 18, 1951, I Company, 2nd Platoon, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division was ordered to move back from our position. We packed our equipment and started moving to the rear. Our squad leader ordered seven of us to go back up the hill and wait on the ridge line with no instructions except to stay at the top.

When I reached the top of the line, I saw several Chinese enemy soldiers coming up the side of the hill toward us. I yelled to the squad and we all started firing at them – about 40 or more enemy. When they got close, we started throwing hand grenades. The six other soldiers didn’t come to my position. They dropped off their grenades for me and stayed behind me on the ridge. I stayed at my position and fired all my M1 rifle ammunition and then started throwing the hand grenades into the enemy, killing or wounding at least 20 or more, not sure of the actual count. After I had killed about half of the advancing enemy soldiers, I was hit and wounded in the right arm. Later something like shrapnel hit me in the back. I had one more grenade left and couldn’t throw it. I tried to throw it with my left arm, but a Chinese soldier attacked me, stuck his rifle in my face and forced me to drop the grenade. After looking around he seemed very surprised that I was the only American soldier on the ridge line. He took me prisoner and ordered me to go. As I looked around, there were Chinese dead and wounded soldiers all around me.

My buddies in the squad had pulled back and left the ridge. I was alone as a rear guard and was captured. I didn’t know it then, but I was left as a sacrifice to allow my platoon and company to move back to safety.

After my capture, the Chinese soldiers made me walk back to their command post in the rear. I was losing a lot blood. I don’t know how far I walked, it seemed like several miles. Many times I fell down and the guard jabbed me with his rifle barrel or bayonet to get me back up. After hours of walking, I joined some other prisoners in a truck. We were taken to a POW camp. Things became very bad there because it had several North Korean guards. They would kill anyone who disobeyed them. They killed some soldiers just for the fun of killing. Later the Chinese took us further north to a Chinese camp and that started my 27 months as a POW.

I escaped two times and was caught and beaten by the guards who put me in a hole without food or water as punishment. The first time I escaped, I made a fire to keep warm, but a US aircraft saw the fire and dropped napalm. It burned everything around me. I was lucky to survive the blast and then I was recaptured. I can credit a Chinese lieutenant for saving my life. He would sneak food to me and gave me some medicine for my wounds in my right arm. My wound was full of maggots from the flies. The first winter in the POW camp was very cold – way below freezing. Many of us got frost bite on our hands and feet. We suffered very badly from the severe cold with little or no protection. No warm clothing or shoes. It was terrible how many soldiers suffered and died from the cold winter.



While in the POW camp, I became the cook and made bread from a mud oven that I made. I made manapua (a Hawaiian bun similar to Chinese char siu bao) from a pig we had in the camp. The prisoners really liked the steamed bread; even the Chinese guards liked my bread and manapua.

I also would find Lau’kahi (Plantain) leaves and grind it up to a pulp and use it for medicine for open wounds to help stop infections and healing wounds and sores. Sometimes I would make a tea from the Lau’kahi leaves for headaches and upset stomachs. The extra food and bread saved many soldiers from starvation.”

I know that Shy suffered constant pain in his later years. He had many surgeries and yet he always had a smile and maintained his humor. I went with him and Stella (his wife) on a Korea revisit program in 2009. Everyone in the group offered to carry his back pack, but he refused. He was strong and independent.

Mrs. Terry Miyamura Dies at 89

By Bill Donovan

Independent Correspondent

[Editor's Note: Permission to print obtained from Mr. Donovan]

Gallup. December 11, 2014. Tsuruko T. Miyamura, wife of Medal of Honor recipient Hershey Miyamura, died Wednesday after a long illness. She was 89.

Known by her friends and associates as Terry, Miyamura lived in Gallup with her husband and family for most of her adult life. "She was a wonderful and fantastic person," said Joe Zecca, one of numerous Gallup residents who have known the Miyamura family for decades. Known for having a "bubbly" personality and a good sense of humor, much of her life here in Gallup centered around her husband. "She supported Hershey when he had his service station here in Gallup," said Patty Herrera, who was related to her through her husband, Gerald Herrera. Terry also worked at Jefferson Elementary School for many years.

Born in Los Angeles on August 13, 1925, she grew up in Southern California until her late teens when she was relocated with other family members to Poston Japanese Internment Camp during World War II. Local historian Martin Link said Poston was located in southwestern Arizona near the border with California. Poston was located on the Colorado River Indian Reservation and families lived in one of three camps that were surrounded by fences.

After the war she decided to stay in Arizona and Link said deciding to stay in the Southwest led to her meeting her husband. Friends said she never talked much about her years in camp. "She was an accomplished artist" said Herrera, "doing sketches and water color". She was an active member of the Gallup community up until the last couple years of her life when she started having health issues because of diabetes and was forced to use the wheel chair.



Terry and Hershey Miyamura are photographed inside the New York Stock Exchange during a ceremony in which 30 Medal of Honor recipients rang the closing bell in New York March 22, 2011 (Independent File Photo).

Veterans Affairs. Round-up of Issues

Excerpts taken from Round Robin

VA Expands Eligibility for VA Health Care Related to Military Sexual Trauma. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), under authority from the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 ("VACAA"), announced expanded eligibility for Veterans in need of mental health care due to sexual assault or sexual harassment that occurred during their military service. This trauma is commonly known as military sexual trauma (MST). This expansion, which primarily pertains to Reservists and National Guard members participating in weekend drill, gives the authority to offer Veterans the appropriate care and services needed to treat conditions resulting from MST that occurred during a period of inactive duty training.

VA Health Care System Director Removed. On November 24, 2014, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) formally removed Sharon Helman, the director of the Phoenix VA Healthcare System, from federal service. This decision followed an investigation by the VA Office of Inspector General in which allegations of lack of oversight and other misconduct were substantiated. This removal action underscores VA's commitment to hold leaders accountable and ensure that Veterans have access to quality and timely care.

VA Seeking Nominations for Appointment to the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses. VA is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment to serve as a member of the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (RAC). The RAC was established to provide advice to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) on proposed research studies, research plans, or research strategies relating to the health consequences of military service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War.

VA Announces New Grants to Help End Veteran Homelessness - Initiative Targets 70,000 Homeless and At-Risk Vets and Families in High Need Communities. In addition to the \$300 million in Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program grant awards announced on August 11, 2014 serving 115,000 Veterans and their family members, today Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald announced the award of \$207 million in SSVF grants that will help an additional 70,000 homeless and at-risk Veterans and their families. The grants will be distributed to 82 non-profit agencies and include "surge" funding for 56 high need communities.

VA Caregiver Support - Free Online Workshop Provides Information and Support. It's called Building Better Caregivers™ and it's a free six-week online workshop for family caregivers of Veterans. If you are taking care of a Veteran, this workshop will help you learn a variety of skills like time and stress management, healthy eating, exercise and dealing with difficult emotions. Participants log on two to three times each week to review lessons, exchange ideas with other caregivers and access tools to make caregiving easier. This comprehensive online workshop addresses all serious injury or illness.

The Battle at Monte Cassino. Willie Goo's (Guardian Angel) Fog by David Fukuda

David Fukuda, 100th Battalion historian, is the son of the late Major Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, the highest ranking Nisei in the 100th BN and the 442nd RCT and one of four Nisei Majors in the US Army during WWII. David was a businessman for most of his adult life. He is retired; his last career job was as a history teacher at King Kekaulike High School in Maui. In May 2014, David and his wife, Judy, visited the Cassino region of Italy with other 100th Infantry Battalion sons and daughters from Hawaii.

The 100th Infantry Battalion sons and daughters were still 10 minutes away from Cassino when we caught our first sight of the imposing, famous abbey of Monte Cassino. The abbey, with its distinctive rectangular shape and sitting atop the mountain, would flash in and out through the trees bordering the railroad track. We were traveling from Rome through the famous Liri Valley, the very route that the Germans had protected so stubbornly during the winter of 1944. Upon arrival at the Cassino train station, we could see the abbey directly above as it dominated the town, even in a pouring rain. It remained the focus of attention as we drove north again to our hotel in the little village of Castrocielo about 7 miles away.

The following morning, when we were scheduled to visit the Benedictine abbey, a thick fog blanketed the entire region. My immediate thought: This was fog that Willie Goo talked about! Goo, who is part Japanese and part Chinese American and a Purple Heart recipient, was a member of Company C. [In addition to Goo, the 100th consisted of two Korean Americans, 3 part Hawaiians and one full Hawaiian.] It was known as the "Maui company" of the 100th Infantry Battalion because most of the Maui boys had been assigned to it at Schofield Barracks two years earlier. From October through January of 1944, C Company would sustain many losses, including the battalion's first commissioned officer casualty, Lieutenant Kurt Schemel (November 3, 1943). By December 12, 1943, Company C would be down from the 175 men they had on Thanksgiving Day to 50. Men from the deactivated companies E and F would join C Company.

January of 1944, the 100th Battalion was attached to the 133rd Regiment, 34th Division, which was assigned the task of making a frontal attack on the most heavily defended point of the entire Gustav Line: the area surrounding the abbey of Monte Cassino. Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, the man Adolph Hitler had personally chosen over the more experienced General Erwin Rommel to lead the defense of Italy, had prepared the hardened German fortifications. The Rapido River had been dammed upstream of where the 100th Battalion was positioned to attack, and the water was used to flood the flatlands, making vehicular and tank support impossible. All of the olive trees had been cut down to provide the German artillery and machine guns with an unobstructed view.

Only the 8- to 12-foot-high walls of both sides of the now-dry riverbed offered the 100th Battalion soldiers protection from enemy fire, but those areas were heavily mined. To traverse the walls, the men would have to cut through barbed wire fencing mounted on top of the walls on both sides of the river before climbing the mountain to engage machine gun nests located about 200 yards up the slope. At about 11 p.m. on January 24, the Allied forces began a spectacular artillery barrage. The whole hill was bursting with flames, and it appeared that no one could live through all the bombardment. Goo remembers thinking how fortunate he was to be on the American side of the war because even the Germans would never put up a barrage like the one he had witnessed. Goo's Company C and Company A were ordered to move out toward the river walls behind a "rolling barrage," in which the shells would advance 50 yards every 15 minutes, allowing the troops to advance. When the troops got to the minefields, the tripwires had to be located and the mines deactivated by hand. Sergeant Johnny Miyagawa cleared the trail for Goo's platoon. "Crawling through the mud, I felt like we were climbing uphill the entire time," Goo remembered. Only when he and the troops reached the protection of the river wall and looked back on the open field did he realize it was all flat land. As soon they reached the walls, German machine guns opened fire from all directions. Men were still crawling through the muddy fields and were being killed or wounded by the fire. Those at the wall were pinned down because any movement seen by the Germans attracted machine gun fire. Goo recalls a heated discussion among the officers as to whether to try launching an attack. C Company commander Captain Jack Mizuha decided to launch an attack when a heavy fog bank made its way down the river, completely obliterating the view of the mountain. Goo recalls Miyagawa, with wire cutters in his hand, ready to cut down the barbed wire above the wall. The men were in position to follow in the attack. Then just as suddenly, the fog dissipated. The attack was called off. Goo reflects, "The fog saved my life" when it went away. The suicidal mission was aborted.

Following a disastrous daylight charge by B Company the following day, all three companies would be called back to the rear lines. The 100th would be committed to another futile attack — on February 8, this time on Castle Hill where the men were caught in an exposed position for four days. It was the 100th's toughest battle of the war. By the time the fighting around Cassino was suspended, the 100th — which numbered 1,300 men when they landed at Salerno seven months earlier — was down to 521 effectives. The unit had earned its unofficial nickname, "The Purple Heart Battalion."

News from Veterans Organizations & Friends

Gilroy, California. Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans (FFNV) held its annual reunion at the California Hotel in Las Vegas on October 19-23, 2014 with over 200 attending, including the Hawaii 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club.

Honolulu, Hawaii. Hawaii 442nd Veterans Club News Bulletin for September, 2014 reported on President Bill Thompson's plans for the 442 Legacy Center. Thompson said that his plan will include the 100th, MIS and 1399th Engineers.

Sacramento, California. Nisei VFW Post 8985 prints a monthly 4-page newsletter which has been printing excerpts from Dr. James McNaughton's Nisei Linguists: Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service During WW II. This is valuable educational endeavor, which JAVA applauds.

Torrance, California. Go For Broke National Education Center (GFB NEC) will move their office to the Nishi Hongwanji Building in the Little Tokyo Historic District of Los Angeles, owned by the Japanese American National Museum. Located close to the Go For Broke monument, there will be an exhibition gallery on the ground floor and office space on the second floor. This building was the original home of JANM until the Museum opened its current structure in 1999.

Kahului, Maui. The Nisei Veterans Memorial Center newsletter, Okage Sama De..., reported that legendary 100th veteran activist, Stan Izumigawa, has passed away at the age of 89. Izumigawa worked diligently to educate the public on the story of the Nisei soldiers who served during WW II. The Newsletter also reported that Vincent Okamoto, the most highly decorated Japanese American in the Vietnam War, was the keynote speaker at the Center's fund raising dinner on November 8th.

MIS Veterans, Honolulu, Hawaii. The October Newsletter reported the opening of the MIS exhibit at the Army Museum at Fort DeRussy (see article on page 8) and the Joint 100th, 442nd, MIS and 1399th Memorial Service held on September 28 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

Chicago Nisei Post 1183 Bulletin, dated December 14, 2014, noted that MG James Mukoyama, USA (Ret) was guest speaker at the Jewish War Veterans on November 10th and also made three speeches to community groups on Veterans Day, November 11. General Mukoyama is a Vietnam War veteran.

Seattle, Washington. The Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee Newsletter, December 14, 2014, noted that NVC Foundation President Bruce Inaba discussed "The Legacy o Heart Mountain" that included photos of the camp taken by George Hirahara, who snuck a camera into camp and built a dark room under his barracks. Hirahara's granddaughter presented the photos to David Ono, who works for ABC in California. Ono turned the photos into compelling news stories.

The 34th Infantry Division held its 67th Annual Reunion, attended by 51 veterans and guests, in Johnston, Iowa. The date for the 2015 reunion is October 3-4, 2015 in Minneapolis, MN.

Thank you, Donors! JAVA is grateful for the generosity of our members and friends (October 1 – December 31, 2014)

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The JAVA Honor Roll recognizes supporters who have made significant financial contributions towards JAVA's general operations. Nominations for the Honor Roll are identified by the JAVA Awards Committee. To be nominated, the supporter must have contributed at least \$5,000 towards JAVA.



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 7, 2015 – JAVA EC Meeting

March 14, 2015 – JAVA Quarterly Lunch. Courage, Honor, Patriotism Award to Congressman Schiff. Election of Officers.
Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, VA.

March 28, 2015 – NJAMF – JAVA Annual Freedom Walk, National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism

April 11, 2015 – Sakura Matsuri

May 24, 2015 – JACL-WDC and JAVA Memorial Day Program at Arlington Cemetery

May 25, 2015– Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC

June 20, 2015 – JAVA EC Meeting

July 11, 2015 – JAVA Quarterly Lunch. Venue same as above.

October 3, 2015 – JAVA EC Meeting

October 24, 2015 – JAVA Quarterly Lunch. Venue same as above.

December 12, 2015 – JAVA EC Meeting

January 16, 2016 – JAVA Annual Lunch



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