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Japanese American Rear Admiral Assumes Command of Elite Navy SEAL(s)

Drawn from press release written by Petty Officer Paul Coover, U.S. Navy

SAN DIEGO - Rear Admiral Brian L. Losey, a member of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), relieved Rear Admiral Sean A. Pybus as commander, Naval Special Warfare Command (CNSWC) during a change of command ceremony at Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, California on June 21, 2013.

Admiral William H. McRaven, commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, was the guest speaker for the ceremony. In his remarks, McRaven praised Pybus' leadership within Naval Special Warfare (NSW). Pybus will leave CNSWC to command NATO's special operations headquarters in Brussels. He will be promoted to vice admiral in his new assignment. Pybus, a career SEAL officer, has previously served at the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command and the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), among other assignments. Pybus' time at CNSWC was marked by an emphasis on a return to the community's maritime roots and a focus on caring for the NSW force and families.



L-R: Rear Adm. Sean A. Pybus, Adm. William H. McRaven, Rear Adm. Brian L. Losey

McRaven said he was impressed by Pybus' efforts to take care of those under his command. Pybus was relieved by Losey, another career SEAL officer.

Losey, whose mother is from Nagoya, Japan, most recently served as Commander of the Special Operations Command Africa. A 1983 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, Losey also served as Commander of the Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti and as a director on the National Security Council in the Executive Office of the President.

See "Losey" on Page 4

Japanese Heritage Night



L-R: Japan Consul General Hiroshi Inomata and Midori Inomata, Brian Shiroyama, Kiyo Sato, Asa Hanamoto, Lawson Sakai, Terry Nakanishi, Dr. Howard Kline.

According to the Nikkei West, May 10, 2013 issue "the San Francisco Giants, with community partnership with various Japanese-American groups in San Francisco and San Jose, hosted Japanese Heritage Night on May 6, 2013. During the pregame, a short video on the history of Japanese Americans and the 442nd RCT was shown on the large centerfield screen. The group standing at the home plate represented Japanese-American veterans in various wars. Howard Kline was recognized as the dedicated doctor for many Japanese-American veterans in the San Francisco Bay area. Lawson Sakai, a 442nd RCT veteran, threw out the first pitch.

President's Message



JAVA's Executive Council voted to create the Giving Back Program in which 100% of solicited donations will be given in JAVA's name to a selected military charity. This is intended to be an annual event, and Honor Flight Network was selected to receive this year's Giving Back gift. Honor Flight was selected, in part, because it assisted 150

World War II Nisei veterans with their travel costs to attend the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony in Washington, DC in November 2011.

In a period of distrust and prejudice after Pearl Harbor, I believe that persons of Japanese ancestry were faced with the dilemma whether America's promise of equality was a half full or half empty glass. Those who served to help defend America, especially those whose families and friends were imprisoned in America's confinement sites, saw the glass as half full. Their valor helped to fill the glass for future generations of

Japanese Americans. The Nisei soldiers extended a helping hand to the Japanese American community so that we have been able to stand on their shoulders and benefit from their heroic sacrifices.

The Giving Back Program is an extension of the legacy created by the Nisei soldiers. The Giving Back Program extends a helping hand from those who have benefited from the Nisei soldiers legacy to those in the military community who are in need. For example, military service men and women, who have made sacrifices in defending America against terrorism, are facing hardships when returning to civilian life. Through the Giving Back Program, JAVA is extending the Nisei soldiers legacy of faith in America to veterans in need.

I ask for your support of the Giving Back Program by making a donation. Please make your checks payable to "JAVA" and put "Honor Flight" on the memo line. Send your check to Mark Nakagawa, JAVA Treasurer, 9455 Park Hunt Court, Springfield, VA 22153. We will present a check to the Honor Flight Network at JAVA's 13th Annual Veterans Day Program at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington, DC.

Gerald Yamada, Esq.
JAVA President

Welcome New Members!

CDR Eric Campbell, U.S. Navy (Ret.), Germantown, MD
LTC Robert Gallo, U.S. Army, (Ret.), Abingdon, MD
COL Stacey Hirata, U.S. Army (Ret.), Alexandria, VA
Brig. Gen. Joseph Kim, Hawaii National Guard, Honolulu, HI
Mr. Bill Kimura, Roseville, CA
Mr. Wayne Kodama, U.S. Air Force veteran, Pleasanton, CA
LTC Chip Larouche, U.S. Army (Ret.), Happy Valley, OR
MAJ Setsy Larouche, U.S. Army (Ret.), Happy Valley, OR
LTC Carl Menyhert, U.S. Army (Ret.), Belton, TX
COL Renita Menyhert, U.S. Army (Ret.), Belton, TX
Mr. Allen Nakamoto, Renton, WA
Lt Col Michael Nishimuta, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), Aviano, Italy
COL Mark Nozaki, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.
Jorge Shimabukuro, Manassas, VA
CW4 Gary Shimizu, U.S. Army (Ret.), Fayetteville, NC
SMSgt Jeff Sugai, Army National Guard (Ret.), Boise, ID

Free Lifetime Membership

JAVA offers free Lifetime Membership for all veterans and current service members.

Honorary Chairs

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

Officers

Gerald Yamada, Esq., President
Wade Ishimoto, Vice President
Allen Goshi, Lt. Col., U.S. Army (Ret.), Secretary
Mark Nakagawa, Lt. Col., U.S. Army (Ret.), Treasurer
Robert Nakamoto, Immediate Past President & Chairperson of the Finance Committee

Executive Council

Above Officers plus:
Bruce Hollywood, Col., U.S. Air Force (Ret), Executive Director
William Houston, Esq., Deputy Executive Director
Grant Ichikawa
Janelle Kuroda, Lt., U.S. Navy Reserve
Calvin Ninomiya, Esq., General Counsel
Terry Shima
Kay Wakatake, Lt. Col., U.S. Army
Reuben Yoshikawa

JAVA Advocate

Akio Konoshima, Editor Emeritus
Kay Wakatake, Lt. Col., U.S. Army, Editor Emeritus
Janelle Kuroda, Lt., U.S. Navy Reserve, Editor
Kenny Kuniyuki, Maj., U.S. Army, Assistant Editor

Round Robin (Weekly Electronic Bulletin)

Brett Egusa, Lt. Col., U.S. Army Reserve

Ten Scholarships Awarded at JAVA Luncheon; California High School Grads Excel in Competition



Keone Carrigan
Fresno, CA



Luke Hatanaka
Arcadia, CA



Kayla Hershey
Milford, OH



Harrison Jung
San Marino, CA



Lindsay Kageyama
Fremont, CA



Cassidee Kido
Paradise Valley, AZ



Wes Okuhara
Sacramento, CA



David Satoda
Carlsbad, CA



Jonathan Uesato
Saratoga, CA



Madison Yamane
Worden, WA

By Calvin Ninomiya

FALLS CHURCH, Va. - Seven California high school scholars dominated the Awards announced at this year's java Memorial Scholarship luncheon held on June 15, 2013, at the Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, Virginia. The remaining three scholarship winners reside in Arizona, Ohio and Washington State.

The selection of the awardees, which was made by the JAVA Scholarship Committee chaired by Dr. Ray Murakami, was distinguished by the interesting fact that six of the awardees were all males and all from California. In recent years, female applicants have tended to garner most of the \$1,500 scholarships. Another significant difference this year was that no one from Hawaii was among the awardees.

The six male winners, identified alphabetically by name, residence, the school to which admitted, and the person in whose memory the prize was given, are: Keone Carrigan, Fresno, CA -- University of California, Davis [Douglas Ishio Scholarship]; Luke Hatanaka, Arcadia, CA -- Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA [Dr. Warren Tsuneishi Scholarship]; Harrison Jung, San Marino, CA -- University of Southern California, Los Angeles [Ranger Grant Hirabayashi Scholarship]; Wes Okuhara, Sacramento, CA -- University of California, San Diego [Betty Shima Scholarship]; David Satoda, Carlsbad, CA --

University of California, Berkeley [Mike and Etsu Masaoka Scholarship]; and Jonathan Uesato, Saratoga, CA -- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA [Victor and Teru Matsui Scholarship].

The four female winners are: Kayla Hensley, Milford, OH -- Wittenberg University, Springfield, OH [Phil Ishio Scholarship]; Lindsay Kageyama, Fremont, CA -- California Polytechnic Institute, San Luis Obispo, CA [Joseph Ichiju Scholarship]; Cassidee Kido, Paradise Valley, AZ -- Duke University, Durham, NC [Orville Shirey Scholarship]; and Madison Yamane, Worden, WA -- University of Washington, Seattle [Kiyoko Tsuboi Taubkin Scholarship].

The Scholarship Committee, which is chaired by Dr Ray Murakami, reviewed a total of 26 applications and reported that, while it was relatively easy to identify the most likely winners, it was more difficult to decide the last few choices. The applicants were all very close in merit. The contest officials also noted that this year's competition had entries from two students who were first in their respective class, and one applicant who had perfect scores in the Scholastic Assessment Test [SAT], i.e., 800 in critical reading, 800 in mathematics and 800 in writing.

Lost Battalion Survivor awarded French Legion of Honor

By Patricia Rumble, 36th Infantry Division Veterans



RIDGETOP, Tenn. - On July 9, 2013, World War II veteran Forde Callis of Ridgeway, Tennessee, was awarded the Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honor (Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur) medal by the French Consul General at the Lowe's Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel in Nashville. Callis received this prestigious award for participating in the Liberation of France while serving with the 141st (Alamo) Regiment of the 36th (Texas)

Infantry Division. Callis participated in the 36th Division's destruction of the German fortress situated in the Vosges forests of northeastern France, the last stronghold designed to protect the German homeland from allied invasion.

Callis, a member of 36th Division Association and a life member of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), was an infantryman in the battalion of the 141st Regiment that became surrounded by German forces in the Vosges forests, located in northeastern France. After attempts by sister battalions to break free Callis' battalion failed in the face of stubborn German army resistance, his battalion was finally rescued by the heroic efforts of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the Japanese-American combat unit which had just arrived from fighting in Italy. On October 30, 1944, after sustaining tremendous casualties, the 442nd broke through the iron German ring and saved the remaining 211 men of the trapped battalion. The captured German commander said later that Hitler had personally ordered "take no prisoners, kill them all." These men of the 141st Regiment, without any rest or celebration following their rescue, were ordered to pursue the retreating Germans. Callis was wounded before his regiment reached the German Rhineland.

Over 67 years later, when the US Senate considered the bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) to the World War II Nisei units, Callis made repeated appeals to the two Tennessee senators to approve the Bill. On November 2, 2011, the US Congress awarded the CGM to the three Japanese American combat units: the 100th Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS).



French Consul General (on right) pins the Legion d'Honneur medal on Forde Callis

The Legion of Honor that was bestowed upon Callis was established in France in 1802 by Napoleon and was created to honor extraordinary contributions to France. The Legion of Honor is one of France's highest distinctions. The award is not made posthumously.

Criteria are strict for the award. Any living veteran of all the different branches of service must have fought in at least one of the four main campaigns of the Liberation of France: Normandy, Provence, Ardennes or Northern France. Actions having taken place in Belgium, Germany, Italy, or any other neighboring European country do not qualify a candidate for the award.

Callis said that while he was overseas fighting, his wife "was a Rosie the Riveter on B29's back in Tennessee. She actually earned enough money to buy a small cottage there in Ridgeway". So when he got home after the war, his wife "really had made me a home there in Tennessee."

Losey [cont'd from page 1]

Losey said he was honored to take command from Pybus. "The place produces warriors that are intensely focused and committed," he said at the ceremony. "The complex and dynamic security situations that are evolving around the world today will continue to call on the full extent of our commitment, our creativity and our adaptability," Losey said. "We will build on the course that Admiral Pybus has set for this community."

NSW is comprised of approximately 8,900 personnel, including more than 2,400 active-duty SEALs, 700 Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC), 700 reserve personnel, 4,100 support personnel and more than 1, 100 civilians. NSW groups command, train, equip and deploy components of NSW squadrons to meet the exercise, contingency and wartime requirements of the regional combatant commanders, theater special operations commands and numbered fleets located around the world.

Japan Bestows Special Honor Upon World War II Veteran Terry Shima

By Colonel Thomas Mukai, U.S. Army (Retired)

WASHINGTON - At a special reception attended by a standing room audience at the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Washington, D.C., on May 21, 2013, Terry Shima, Executive Director Emeritus of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), was presented with The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette by Ambassador of Japan Kenichiro Sasae. This honor was made in recognition of many years of significant contributions toward building strong relationships between Japan and the United States, and for his tireless work educating this generation on the Japanese American experience during WW II. The award, given in the name of the Emperor, is one of the highest honors bestowed upon a non-Japanese civilian.



Group photo following the award ceremony. L-R: Ambassador Sasae, Secretary Mineta, Congresswoman Hanabusa, Terry Shima, Congresswoman Matsui, and Congressman Meadows.

Shima remarked that he was accepting the award "on behalf of the volunteers of JAVA and the Nisei who fought in Europe and the Pacific." Well over two hundred of Shima's family members, relatives, friends, and associates were in attendance. The theme of the evening was his role as a "Citizen", both of the United States of America and as a citizen of the world. Shima received high praise for his achievements from Congresswoman Doris Matsui (D-CA), Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa (D-HI), Congressman Mark Meadows (R-NC), and former Secretary of Transportation and Commerce Norman Mineta. Letters from Senator Mazie Hirono and Secretary of Veterans Affairs were read. Other recipients of this award include actor George Takei and Floyd Mori, former National Executive Director of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL).

discharged from the Army in 1946, Shima attended Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and Graduate School, after which he served at the U.S. Forces Japan Headquarters and the U.S. Department of State, including the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo.

In February of this year, Shima was one of 18 selected from over 6,000 nominations to receive the Presidential Citizens Medal, personally awarded by President Obama in a White House ceremony. He was specifically recognized "For strengthening the sacred trust between America and its veterans" and for energizing a program of preserving the oral and video recorded interviews of Japanese American servicemen who served in Europe and the Pacific during World War II" even while many of their families were relocated to internment camps at home."

Shima was born and raised in Laupahoehoe, Hawaii, and is a veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.. After being



L-R: Maj. Khanh Diep, U.S. Army, and Petty Officer Second Class Ailyn Torres Smith, U.S. Navy Reserve, organizers of the event. Photo courtesy of Maj. Diep.

Dept. of Veterans Affairs' Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

JAVA speaker Terry Shima was invited by the Department of Veterans Affairs to kick-off its Asian Pacific American Heritage Month events on May 2, 2013 at VA's "Sonny" Montgomery auditorium. The event, which was broadcast simultaneously to all VA installations across America, was open to all VA employees. The 2013 national theme for the APA Heritage Month was "Building Leadership: Embracing Cultural Values and Inclusion." Following the one hour program the attendees enjoyed a delicious Asian Pacific luncheon. Dat Tran who is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Data Governance represented Secretary Eric K. Shinseki, who was on travel.

Vice Admiral Harris Nominated to be Commander of Pacific Fleet

By Greg K. Kakesako, The Honolulu Star Advertiser



HONOLULU — Vice Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., currently serving as assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon, has been nominated to be the new Pacific Fleet commander. The current Pacific Fleet commander — Adm. Cecil E. D. Haney — will lead the U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., Pentagon announcement said. The Pacific Fleet encompasses nearly 200 surface ships and submarines and nearly

1,100 aircraft from the U.S. West Coast to the Indian Ocean. It includes more than 140,000 sailors and civilians. VADM Harris will receive his fourth star -- full admiral -- when he assumes command of CNICPACFLT.

Harris was born in Japan and moved to Tennessee when he was two, later living in Florida. He is the son of a Navy petty officer and a Japanese postwar bride. Harris graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978. His postgraduate education includes Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Georgetown's School of Foreign Service and Oxford University.

Harris commanded VP-46, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 1; Joint Task Force-Guantanamo; the U.S. 6th Fleet; and, Striking and Support Forces NATO. Harris has logged 4,400 flight hours, including more than 400 combat hours. His personal decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star and the Air Medal.

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Placer County Unveils Japanese American WW II Memorial



Placer County Memorial

ROSEVILLE, Calif. — A memorial to honor Japanese Americans who fought in WW II and persons of Japanese ancestry who were confined in internment camps was unveiled officially

on June 2, 2013 at the Bill Santucci Justice Center before a large gathering of veterans, public and civic officials, supporters and friends.

The centerpiece of the Memorial is a six foot tall statue of a wounded Texan being assisted by a Nisei, a symbolic reference to the 442nd rescue of the trapped Texas battalion in the Vosges forests of northeastern France, where the Germans trapped a battalion of the 141st Regiment, 36th (Texas) Division. This rescue has become known as the "Rescue of the Lost Battalion", one phase of which was judged by a US Army painter as one of the 10 most fiercely fought battles of US Army history. The statue was designed by local artist France Borka and sculpted by Ronnie Frostad of Sacramento.

Ken Tokutomi, Placer JACL Memorial Project Chairman, provided a history of the four-year project. Robert Nakamoto, immediate past president of the Japanese American Veterans Association,

discussed the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, both segregated units which served in Europe, and the Military Intelligence Service, which consisted of Nisei who served in the Asia Pacific Theater as linguists. Christine Sato-Yamazaki, Chairperson of the National Veterans Network congratulated the Memorial committee "for building a beautiful memorial that will stand the test the time to ensure this story is shared in their local communities, schools and their families". Other items unveiled during this ceremony includes a plaque describing contributions by Placer County Nisei who served in the US Army and two polished granite benches, donated by Placer Buddhist Church, to honor the late Superior Court Judge Marcus Yonehiro, a 442 veteran, and donors.

This project began on December 16, 2009 when the Placer County Board of Supervisors built a 36 feet wide concrete compass, designed by Yamasaki Landscape Design of Auburn, California. Two plaques were mounted at that time, one which tells the story of 442nd and the other which said Placer County Board of Supervisors is "proud to dedicate this monument to the men of the 442nd RCT. May their supreme bravery, patriotism and dedication to our country never be forgotten." In addition the names of Placer County Nisei who served in the 3 combat units are inscribed on the granite boulder.

For more information about the memorial, or to purchase a commemorative brick that is still available, please visit www.placerjacl.org or contact Ken Tokutomi [530-888-1303 or kentokcar@sbcglobal.net].

Nitto Tire Selects JAVA as partner to Distribute Large Quantity of Valuable Films

CYPRESS, Calif. - Nitto Tire U.S.A. Inc., a large Japanese corporation with its US headquarters located in Cypress, California, has selected the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) to distribute three films pertaining to Japanese American experiences. These three films were produced by Japanese firms in America and have been broadcast in both Japan and America.

One of the films selected by Nitto Tire U.S.A. Inc. (Nitto Tire) for circulation through Nikkei organizations is Journey to Washington, the life story of the late US Senator Daniel K. Inouye, approximately 60 minutes. On the same DVD as Inouye's is The Untold Story of Ralph Carr and the Japanese. Carr, the Governor of Colorado, courageously supported Japanese Americans but lost the election to the US Senate that he was predicted to win. These two films were produced by Fujisankei Communications International, with the support of Nitto Tire. The other two films were produced by United Broadcasting System, Inc. (UTB) in Hollywood California and will be distributed in collaboration with UTB and Nitto Tire. The first is the 98-minute, 442: Live with Honor, Die with Dignity and the second is the 100 minute, MIS Human Secret Weapon. Both of these films were directed by Junichi Suzuki who is a permanent resident of America where the two films were produced. Director Suzuki has a deep knowledge of Nikkei history, including the situation that was extant during WW II. All four of the films are bilingual.

The 442 DVD, the 2010 winner of the Maui Audience Award, narrated by George Takei and Lane Nishikawa, was shown in the US and played in some 30 theaters in Japan during 2012. It was enormously successful drawing large audiences. The MIS film won two awards in Japan, the Movie Critics award on May 2, 2013 and the coveted Yamaji Fumiko award in November 2012 for Best Director. The MIS film has played in movie theaters in Kanagawa, Okinawa, Hiroshima, Hyogo and Okayama prefectures and in Tokyo, Osaka and Hokkaido. In August the MIS film will play in a Kawasaki theater for two weeks. 10,000 copies of Journey to Washington, 1,000 copies of the 442 film, and 500 copies of the MIS film are being circulated through 25 Nikkei organizations as a major public service endeavor.

Gerald Yamada, President of JAVA, recently prepared a review of Journey to Washington that was issued by JAVA as a press release. Here is what he said, in part: "Journey to Washington is



Mr. Tomoshige Mizutani, President Nitto Tire U.S.A. Inc. (left) and Gerald Yamada, President of JAVA. Photo taken at the official residence of the Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Kenichiro Sasae.

a DVD that gives a comprehensive portrayal of the life of the late US Senator Daniel K. Inouye. The DVD details the Senator's life from US citizen through various stages of his life -- enemy alien, military hero, Japanese American pioneer in Hawaii politics, major national politician, and highest ranking Asian American in the United States. At the time of his death, Senator Inouye was President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, making him third in line to succeed the President of the United States."

Tomoshige Mizutani, President Nitto Tire, said that the distribution of these films pursues his firm's policy "to honor the history of the Japanese Americans of previous generations. Through their struggles and hardships in the face of harsh prejudice, they have paved the way. Nitto Tire has greatly benefited from their efforts, experiencing a rebirth of the brand though this thriving community."

[Editor's Note: Any JAVA member who wishes to receive a copy of "Journey to Washington, the life story of the late US Senator Daniel K. Inouye" please send your check made payable to JAVA in the amount of \$4.00 or \$5.00 to Mark Nakagawa, 9455 Park Hunt Court, Springfield, VA 22153. The DVD is compliments of Nitto Tires and your small payment is to help us with packing and shipping. On the check memo line write "DVD".]

Second Japanese American woman appointed to the rank of General

WASHINGTON - According to a Department of Defense press release dated May 8, 2013, Secretary of Defense Charles Hagel has announced that President Barack Obama has appointed Army Reserve Colonel Miyako N. Schanely, to the rank of Brigadier General to serve as Deputy Commanding General of the 412th Theater Engineer Command in Vicksburg, MS, a position she now holds.

Colonel Schanely is the second Japanese American woman in the armed forces to be appointed to flag rank, the first being Major General Susan Mashiko, U.S. Air Force, Deputy Director of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), Chantilly, Virginia.

Meet the Generals and Admirals

Each quarter JAVA features two Asian Pacific American who have attained the highest ranks in the U.S. armed forces. The present count is that 112 Asian Hawaiian Pacific Islander Americans have been promoted to generals and admirals, including General Eric Shinseki of Kauai, Hawaii, who wore four stars as the US Army's 34th Chief of Staff. Of the 112, 63 served in the US Army, 22 in the U.S. Air Force, 23 in the U.S. Navy, 2 in the U.S. Public Health Service and one each in the U.S. Marines and U.S. Coast Guard. Broken down in another way, 29 are Chinese American, 14 are Filipino American, 23 are Hawaiian Pacific Islanders, 5 are Korean Americans and 41 are Japanese Americans.

Brigadier General Stephen Curda



Brigadier General Stephen Curda currently serves as the Commander of the 351st Civil Affairs Command (CACOM), Moffett Federal Airfield, CA. His CACOM is responsible agent for all Civil Affairs support activities in the U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM). Since his graduation in 1985, he has commanded units at every echelon. His diverse overseas duty locations include 2nd Infantry Division,

Republic of Korea; Joint Task Force-Bravo, Soto Cano AB, Honduras; Baghdad, Iraq and Kabul, Afghanistan.

BG Curda holds a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology and has held faculty and administrative positions at a variety of universities. His numerous awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (OLC), and the parachutist badge. BG Curda is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College.

BG Curda shares, "I was born in Korea and adopted by an American family when I was twelve years old. I worked my way through college. I was on active duty in the Army for eight years then attended the University of Oklahoma, earning a Ph.D. I first served as faculty at Florida State University and several other universities following that. Meanwhile, I also continued my military service in the Army Reserves with several active duty tours including service in Iraq and in Afghanistan. In May of 2012 I completed 14 months of deployment to Afghanistan. On August 5th, I was promoted to Brigadier General in front of my family and friends. I believe there is no other nation, where a foreign-born man with no special connections could be awarded a top leadership role in their military services. The fact that it can happen in America is wonderful. But, America just gives a person the opportunity. With God's grace, hard work and focusing on service and education, anyone can achieve his or her goal. I am so blessed to have been given the opportunity and ability to continue to serve our country."

BG Curda is married to Dr. Leslie Curda, who is currently an associate professor of education and full time mother to their five intelligent and talented children.

Brigadier General Garrett Yee



Brigadier General Garrett Yee is the Deputy Commander for Mobilization for the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Yee grew up in Fremont, California, attending Kennedy High. He attended Santa Clara University where he received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Army upon graduation in 1987. His command assignments include

Company Command, Battalion Command, Group Command, and Brigade Command. He has deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses; the Command and General Staff Course, and the Army War College. A few of his awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal; the Iraq Campaign Medal; the Afghanistan Campaign Medal; the NATO Medal; and the Parachutist Badge.

Yee has a passion to serve and to improve for the future. He states, "I can think nothing more meaningful than serving our Nation in the military during this time of war. As an Asian American, I find it amazing how far we have come considering the extreme prejudice that my parents' generation lived through. My mother, Michiko Ino, and her family were ordered to an internment camp in Gila, Arizona during World War II. My father, Gilbert Yee, was told he couldn't become a school teacher because he was Chinese. Both would never imagine in their lifetime an Asian American becoming a flag officer, and yet, here I am, a newly promoted Brigadier General."

He continues, "At the same time, my family has always demonstrated patriotism and pride for our country. My father served in the Army during World War II, as did my great uncle Jimmy Ino, who served with the 442nd Combat Regiment Team. My great aunt Sue Kumagai served as an Army nurse in Vietnam and retired as a Colonel. Including my service, we now have family members that have served in World War II, the Vietnam War, the Iraq War, and the Afghanistan War."

As a member of the Army Reserve, Yee is a citizen Soldier who also serves as a publically elected Trustee on the Ohlone Community College Board in the San Francisco Bay Area. He was elected in 2002 and has been re-elected twice. He and his wife, Maria, have three children.

JAVA Participates in High Profile Activities During Memorial Day Weekend in Nation's Capital



Jim McCullum

Part of JAVA contingent in the 2013 National Memorial Day Parade down Constitution Avenue.

Marching behind President Gerald Yamada are *GO FOR BROKE* banner carriers Peter and Jack Wakatake; color bearers Maj Kenny Kuniyuki, U.S. Army, Lt. Jason Osuga, U.S. Navy, Lt. Janelle Kuroda, U.S. Navy Reserve; and behind them are Lt. Col. Mark Nakagawa, U.S. Army (Ret) and Lt. Col. Kay Wakatake, U.S. Army.

In the background is the Ellipse, the outer south lawn of the White House, where President Harry Truman reviewed the 442nd RCT on July 15, 1946.

WASHINGTON - The Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) and the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) WDC chapter held a joint Memorial Day Service on May 26, 2013, at the Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium Ceremonial Courtyard. JACL has held this service annually for the past 65 years and five years ago invited JAVA to co-sponsor it. Principal speakers were Lieutenant General James L. Huggins, Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7. Huggins, a native of Hawaii and whose mother is Japanese, paid his respects to Americans, including Japanese Americans, who sacrificed their lives to keep America free. He was followed by two 5th grade students from US Senator Spark Matsunaga Elementary School in Germantown, Maryland, Kendall Griffith and Lauren Penn. In her moving remarks, Lauren Penn said, "When the Matsunaga Elementary students sing at our annual Veteran's Day concert, one song we perform states: 'And I am proud to be an American where at least I know I am free, I won't forget the ones who died to give that right to me!' These are just song lyrics but when you really listen, the meaning of these words are so true. That is why we are here today -- to celebrate those people who have given their lives for our country!"

Following this program, attendees placed flowers at each of the over 70 Japanese American gravesites and laid a wreath in a formal ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown. Key Kobayashi, a Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veteran, began this Service in 1948. When he passed away in 1992, his family has continued the tradition.

JAVA was invited to participate in the early morning program of the Spirit of '45 organization on May 27, 2013, at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. This California group, led by Warren Hegg, also marched in the National Memorial Day parade down Constitution Avenue that afternoon. They carried enlarged photos of Nisei Medal of Honor recipients who were killed in action.

In the late morning, a member of the JAVA Speakers Bureau, Terry Shima, presented the keynote address at the City of Falls Church, Virginia, Memorial Day program. At approximately the same time, JAVA President Gerald Yamada and other commanders of veterans organizations were at Arlington National Cemetery to view President Barack Obama lay the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown followed by his address to the nation at the amphitheater. The President paid tribute to the over 6,700 troops who died in US conflicts over the past decade as well as recognized the over 60,000 soldiers in Afghanistan.

A JAVA contingent which has participated in the American Veterans Center National Memorial Day Parade since its inception nine years ago, stepped off smartly at 2:45 p.m. on a sunny and cool late spring afternoon. The contingent was led by three color bearers, JAVA members in military uniform. There was enthusiastic recognition from about 300,000 spectators who lined both sides of Constitution Avenue.

JAVA Participates in Sakura Matsuri Festival

WASHINGTON - JAVA participated in the Japan America Society Washington (JASW) Sakura Matsuri, part of the National Cherry Blossom Parade, on April 13, 2013 for the eighth consecutive year. JAVA's booth was located at the closed-off 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue in downtown Washington, DC. A partner of JASW, JAVA was provided a booth free of charge for its exclusive use.

Many of the thousands of Americans of diverse ethnic backgrounds who attended the parade visited the JAVA booth to buy JAVA books, obtain written handouts on the 100th Battalion, 442nd RCT, MIS, WACS, and exchange greetings. The visitors also talked to docents, who served in the various wars, about their military service and the Japanese American experience during WWII. Docents explained to the visitors the experience of Japanese Americans during WW II such as the internment camps, the role of the Nisei to prove their loyalty, and their contributions in the development of this country. Especially heartwarming was the sincere interest that young men and women displayed in their questions and remarks. A number of visitors applied for membership in JAVA.



Part of the JAVA docent team at their booth at the Sakura Matsuri. Seated (L-R: Dr. Raymond Murakami and Aki Konoshima. Standing (L-R: Reuben Yoshikawa, Chair, LTC Mark Nakagawa, U.S. Army (Ret). Other docents were Terry Shima, Robert Nakamoto, LTC Kay Wakatake, U.S. Army, COL Bruce Hollywood, U.S. Air Force (Ret), Stan Falk, PhD, Noriko Sanefuji and Betty Taira.

National Japanese American Historical Society to open MIS Learning Center at Bldg. 640

PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. - National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) is planning to open the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Historic Learning Center at Building 640, the site of the first MIS Language School, on November 11, 2013, Veterans Day.

The first class met in Building 640 in November 1941, prior to the outbreak of WW II, with some 60 students. After the first class graduated in early 1942 and deployed to the Aleutian Islands and southwest Pacific such as Guadalcanal, MIS Language School moved to Camp Savage, MN in compliance with Executive Order 9066.



Building 640 of the Presidio of San Francisco, the original home of the Military Intelligence Service Language School, is being transformed into the MIS Historic Learning Center.

Set in the foreground of the Golden Gate

Bridge, the 10,000 square foot MIS Historic Learning Center will feature exhibits and ongoing public programs devoted to sharing the MIS story and exploring the lessons learned from this experience. The Learning Center is expected to be "the international center for the MIS legacy of patriotism, sacrifice, compassion and peace".

Two JAVA Members Receive AAGEN Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award

WASHINGTON - Grant Ichikawa and Terry Shima, both members of JAVA Executive Council and members of the Speakers Bureau, received the coveted Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN) Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Awards at its banquet on June 6, 2013 at the Doubletree Hotel at Crystal City, Virginia. The award recognized the outstanding careers of extraordinary public servants who have made historic contributions to our nation. The dinner was attended by over 100 super grade public officials, active and retired military, senior officials from the Administration, corporate sponsors, friends and family of AAGEN

Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth received the AAGEN Excellence in Public Service Award and Sharon Wong, Deputy Director for Coordination and Policy at the US Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) Office of Diversity and Inclusion received the Stanley Suyat Memorial Leadership Award.

Past recipients of the AAGEN Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award include: Secretary Steven Chu, Ambassador Gary Locke, US Senator Daniel Inouye, Congressman Michael Honda, US Senator Daniel Akaka, General Eric Shinseki and former Secretary Norman Mineta.

AAGEN was formed 20 years ago by a small group of senior business officials. It has grown into a non profit corporation of over 300 members. AAGEN's mission is to promote diversity at the highest levels of public service.



Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth (right) and Liqun Wong, AAGEN Member, during the pre-dinner reception. Photo courtesy of AAGEN.

Setting the Record Straight: In Memory of Bob Fletcher

By Gerald Yamada

VIENNA, Va. - Bob Fletcher died on May 23, 2013 at the age of 101 in Sacramento, CA. In 1942, he was a state agricultural inspector who did not agree with the government ordered evacuation and felt that Japanese farmers had nothing to do with Pearl Harbor. He quit his job and went to work saving farms owned by the Nitta, Okamoto and Tsukamoto families in Florin, CA. Driven by his principles, he gave up his career to care for these farms. He suffered harsh criticism within the white community for his views.

My mother was the oldest daughter of the Nitta family whose farm was one of three Florin farms that Mr. Fletcher saved during World War II. My parents and grandparents were imprisoned at the Jerome War Relocation Authority Camp in Arkansas, where I was born. After the war, Mr. Fletcher returned the farm to my grandparents, and they continued to farm it for the next 40 years.

My parents and grandparents never talked to me about their internment experience. Whenever the war was mentioned, my mother only mentioned how grateful she was for Mr. Fletcher's efforts in saving her parents' farm. I have very fond memories about my grandparents' farm and thank Mr. Fletcher for making a difference. He will be missed.



Photo courtesy of G. Yamada

There is a lesson for us here. As Japanese Americans, we tend to focus on the prejudice, hatred, distrust, and disloyalty aimed towards persons of Japanese ancestry resulting in the forced evacuation of 120,000 persons from the West Coast. We must also remember those who had the courage of their convictions to stand up against the government and who tried to help Japanese Americans at the expense of their careers and reputations. They, like Bob Fletcher, are heroes and must not be forgotten.

High Ranking Japanese American General Discusses Space Reconnaissance

FALLS CHURCH, Va. - Major General Susan Mashiko, USAF, Deputy Director, National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) in Chantilly, VA, told JAVA members of the role played by the NRO in the Washington intelligence community. General Mashiko, the only Japanese American woman of general rank, was the keynote speaker at the JAVA quarterly luncheon on June 15, 2013 at the Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, Virginia. She was nominated for the United States Air Force Academy by then Congressman Norman Mineta in 1976. She graduated from the Academy in 1980 and made history as she was in the first class of women to graduate from the U.S. Service Academies.

General Mashiko provided an overview of the history and mission of the NRO. She briefly stepped through the history of overhead reconnaissance from the use of aircraft, such as the B-47 bomber, to the first photo reconnaissance satellite program, Corona. She provided an insight into the original organizational structure of the NRO and how those different organizations competed against each other to come up with the best design and program to meet national security needs. The competition was seen as good for innovation.

As many of us do not understand the role of the NRO, General Mashiko highlighted how the organization not only acquires and launches the satellites, but operates the satellites. She compared the NRO to the Air Force Space Command. NRO also has one of the largest information technology networks in the government. This was an area that many Americans were unaware.

Unlike the Air Force Space Command, the NRO is comprised of members of the various Armed Services, the Central Intelligence Agency, and Department of Defense civilian personnel. General Mashiko described her position as a dual responsibility. Not only is she the Deputy Director, NRO, she is also the Commander of the Air Force Element where she manages all Air Force personnel and resources assigned to the NRO.

General Mashiko highlighted the upcoming challenges for the NRO. First and foremost are the nation's budget problems. Right now, the NRO is able to meet the challenges but further budget constraints will force the NRO leadership to make difficult choices and tradeoffs. On the current threats of

government furloughs, she talked of the time spent by the top NRO leadership to come up with a workable plan.

General Mashiko expressed her thanks to the families sponsoring the JAVA scholarships provided annually to promising students with ties to JAVA members. She truly believed that the youth are our future and these scholarships are a great investment. General Mashiko hoped that they might be used for STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics] related studies.



L-R: Secretary Mineta, Maj. Gen. Mashiko, Gerald Yamada

She recalled an event from early in her career as a Captain stationed at Los Angeles Air Force Base. Then Capt Mashiko picked up a phone call and the Colonel on the other end was in Washington DC. He proceeded to congratulate her on becoming a program manager. She assumed that was a practical joke as only majors and above were selected as program managers and hung up on the colonel.

After the second phone call and subsequent hang up, her colonel walked into the office. When the phone rang this time, the colonel picked up the phone and pushed it to her ear and ordered her to listen fully to the phone call. The colonel was serious.

Unbeknownst to her, she was appointed to a program that another organization had said could not be done. After determining the resources needed and putting the program together, she proceeded to actually solve the problem. The moral of the story was that motivation, education, and the challenge helped solve a difficult, if not impossible, problem. She hoped that one of the scholarship winners might be in a similar situation.

She concluded her presentation by thanking former Secretary of Transportation and former Congressman Norman Mineta. Secretary Mineta, then a freshman Congressman from San Jose, had the opportunity to nominate General Mashiko to the first class with women to the Air Force Academy. She thanked him for the opportunity and the support he provided while at the Academy and during her career. In conclusion, she also thanked the Nisei veterans of JAVA. She acknowledged their sacrifices and trailblazing which paved the way for her generation.

Secretary Mineta, who also attended the luncheon, discussed General Mashiko's appointment to the Air Force Academy and, with obvious pride, traced her outstanding military career.

JAVA Research Team Discovers Truth to Number of Nisei Linguists During WW II

The JAVA research team at NARA (National Archives and Records Administration) has resolved the question of number of MISers who served overseas during WW II. Up to this point in time one school said some 6,00 Nisei served overseas during

WW II. Another school said the number is 3,000. And still another said it was 4,200.

An Allied Translation and Interrogation Service (ATIS) document entitled "Disposition of MISLS graduates", dated 4 April 1946 reads:

Disposition of MISLS Graduates

NARA Reference:
RG - 319
Entry (UD-UP 237)
Box 37

Theaters of Operations	Officers	Enlisted Men
Central Pacific area (13 Mar 46)	292	1,617
CBI (5 Jun 45)	41	220
South Pacific Area (1 Aug 45)	8	142
Southwest Pacific Area (10 Sep 45)	113	1,457
Bobcat Task Force	0	1
Alaska Department	0	2
Subtotal	454	3,399
Other assignments (CONUS)	226	1,142
Total linguists	680	4,541
19 Jun 1944	48	568

Retired Sansei General Selected as Illinois Veteran of the Month



MG Mukoyama (L) and Rodrigo Garcia, Assistant Director, Illinois Dept. of Veterans Affairs (photo by Mukoyama)

CHICAGO - Major General James H. Mukoyama, Jr, U.S. Army (Retired), a resident of Glenview, was named Illinois Veteran of the Month in an impressive ceremony held at the Pritzker Military Library on May 30, 2013 that was attended by over one hundred state and civic officials, veterans and friends. The Proclamation, signed by Governor Pat Quinn and presented by Rodrigo Garcia, Assistant

Director, Illinois

Department of Veterans Affairs, noted Mukoyama is being recognized for his "continued dedication and steadfast commitment to the Illinois veterans community". Kenneth Clark, President of Pritzker Military Library, nominated Mukoyama for this award.

Mukoyama's military career began in 1965, when he graduated from the University of Illinois ROTC program and received his commission as an army 2nd Lieutenant. He served 5 years on active duty that included combat in the South Korea DMZ and later in the Vietnam War. Following his discharge from active duty, he served 25 years in the Army reserves in company, battalion, brigade and division levels. In 1989 he became the first Asian American to command an Army division and led the 70th Training Division during the invasion of Iraq (Desert Storm).

After 38 years in the financial service industry, Mukoyama retired in January of this year, to devote full-time to Military Outreach Greater Chicago (MOGC), a church-based tax exempt organization which he founded and serves the interests of active duty military, veterans and their families in the greater Chicago area (See www.mogc.org for details)

In 2012 Mukoyama had a heart attack that resulted in 3 surgeries in 24 hours related to his heart. Three months later he had a kidney transplant from his adopted daughter. Since his combat days in the Vietnam War, when he did not know if he would be alive the next minute or get up the following morning, his standard greeting is "Every day is a great day. I have my faith, my family, and live in the finest country in the world."

VA Converts over 30 Percent of Disability Claims into Digital Files

165 Million Pages Have Been Scanned and Uploaded to Help Transform Paper-Based Claims Process to Digital Environment



Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Eric Shinseki

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has reached another milestone in its disability claims transformation process – over 30 percent of the current disability claims inventory is now digital and accessible to claim raters in VA's electronic claims processing system, which has now been fielded ahead of schedule at all 56 Regional Offices across the country. This effort is a key part of transforming outdated paper

processing into an electronic system that is delivering disability claims decisions for Veterans more quickly. In addition, all incoming paper claims are transformed into digital records for electronic processing using VA's new claims processing software and electronic repository.

"A key element that slows our process is the thousands of tons of paper documents we handle each year related to Veterans' claims," said Undersecretary for Benefits Allison A. Hickey. "While we continue to expand our ability to process claims electronically, we still have to handle those we receive in paper form—the Veterans Claims Intake Program (VCIP) is our answer to this and helps us move into a fully digital environment."

On Sep. 28, 2012, VA established the VCIP program to maximize the use of electronic intake for all claims, creating digital, searchable files. The document conversion service, part of VCIP, has now been implemented at all 56 VA regional claims

processing offices across the country. VCIP is a capability that enables high-speed document scanning to help VA end its reliance on paper-based claims. With VCIP, a new paper claim that is received at a regional office is recorded in VA's electronic claims processing system—called the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS)—and shipped to one of three document conversion locations to be scanned and converted into digital images. The document images, which are made keyword searchable in the conversion, are placed into a VBMS electronic folder for use by the VA employees who work the Veteran's claim.

VA is continuing to implement several initiatives to meet Secretary Shinseki's goal to eliminate the claims backlog in 2015. In May, VA announced that it was mandating overtime for claims processors in its 56 regional benefits offices to increase production of compensations claims decisions, which will continue through the end of FY 2013. In June, VA announced that under an initiative launched in April to expedite disability compensation claims decisions for Veterans who have waited a year or longer, more than 65,000 claims nationwide – or 97 percent of all claims over two years old in the inventory – had been eliminated from the backlog.

Today, VA's total claims inventory remains at lower levels not seen since August 2011 and the number of claims in the VA backlog – claims pending over 125 days – has been reduced by nearly 12 percent since the "oldest claims first" initiative began. Veterans can learn more about disability benefits, and register and/or upgrade to a free Premium account on the joint Department of Defense/VA web portal eBenefits at www.ebenefits.va.gov.



Brunswick Middle School Students Visit the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism

On May 9, 2013 over 50 students from the Brunswick Middle School from Frederick County, Md., visited the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism, located near the US Capitol Building, as part of their WW II history program. Teacher Scott Strait arranged the visit. A JAVA-NJAMF docent was asked what is the message they are to take away from the visit. Docent's reply: This Memorial is a reminder to the nation that what happened to a minority ethnic group during WW II must never happen again.

The Story Behind the 442nd Shoulder Patch

Mas Hashimoto, Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Newsletter

WATSONVILLE, Calif. - Mitchie M. Miyamoto was a proud graduate of Watsonville High School, Class of 1938. In October of 1941, he was drafted into the US Army, and he took his basic training at Ft. Riley, Kansas. After the Pearl Harbor attack, Miyamoto was transferred to Camp Hale, Colorado. In the spring of 1943, he was sent to assist in the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

The original 442nd patch was designed by War Department artists, and it depicted a yellow arm brandishing a blood dripping sword. The racial overtones of the design were obvious and obnoxious. Everyone in the unit hated it.

Sergeant Miyamoto designed a patch of a silver hand holding the torch of liberty against a sky of blue, surrounded by a border of silver and red. It was a positive symbol of freedom and liberty—goals the men could fight and die for. Some criticized the shape of the patch. They thought it was coffin shaped. Still others believed the shape was appropriate. Many were to die while proudly wearing their famous shoulder patch. German troops quickly learned to fear the men who wore the red, white, and blue patch.



Shoulder Insignia for the
442nd RCT

Miyamoto received the Bronze Star from Major General E. M. Almond for his meritorious service rendered while in combat. He was frequently exposed to enemy fire while making trips to the forward areas to attest the accuracy of the maps in use. His knowledge of maps and his ability to accurately locate difficult spots on the terrain quickly won him gratitude of the men and commanding officer he served.

After the war, Miyamoto married Martha and raised a daughter, Teri, and two sons, Roger and Martin.

In 1955, he returned to Watsonville and was employed by Charles Ford Department Store for over 32 years. He was the recipient of many national awards and honors for his outstanding window displays and advertising skills.

Miyamoto passed away on June 5, 1987 at the age of 67. All members of the 442nd are grateful to Mitch Miyamoto.

Notes from General John Campbell, Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Army



General Campbell meeting with soldiers. Photo from General Campbell's July 3, 2013 newsletter.

General John Campbell, 34th Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army publishes a personal newsletter periodically for his "Friends of the Army"

to give them a glimpse of his portfolio of duties. He said while his "turbulent" schedule in the Pentagon gives him less opportunity to spend with soldiers in the field, it is an important place to be to serve as their advocate. He cherishes the rare opportunities he now has to meet the soldiers at their work place, domestic and overseas, to get their views and to explain Pentagon's programs and respond to questions. Campbell gives his readers a clear view of issues on the table of the Army staff such as the reduction in force and sequestration. His meetings with professional executives, members of congress, press are also discussed candidly. His remarks convey that the security of the nation is safe, the political and military leaders know their mission and how to execute it, and support of soldiers in the field is assured.

General Campbell is the second Japanese American to be promoted to full general, wearing four stars, the first being General Eric Shinseki, the 34th Chief of Staff of the US Army and currently Secretary of Veterans Affairs

On the issues of reduction in force and sequestration Campbell wrote in his July 3, 2013 newsletter "these reductions and force structure changes predate sequestration. If sequestration continues there will be additional cuts across all components of the Army – an outcome we hope to avoid at all costs. Unfortunately, some impacts of sequestration are already taking a toll; beginning July 8th Department of the Army Civilians will be furloughed one day per week until the end of the fiscal year for a total of eleven days. We continue to explore options to minimize this impact on our team members."

On the Afghanistan issue the General said in the same newsletter, "the tasks that face our forces in Afghanistan are daunting and the current fiscal uncertainty at home has created concern abroad. However, the number one fiscal priority for our Army is to support the mission in Afghanistan and ensure our Soldiers have what they need to perform this mission. I'm confident in the Army's role in support of equipment retrograde in Afghanistan while concurrently conducting security force assistance and combat operations. I believe in our leaders and it only takes a short time talking to our Soldiers to realize we have our best serving where it counts."

Promotions

HONOLULU - In a ceremony on July 1, 2013, JAVA member and former Secretary Alan Kiyoshi Ueoka, U.S. Army, was promoted to the rank of Colonel by Brig. Gen. Dennis

Doyle, Commanding General, Pacific Regional Medical Command and Chief of the Army Medical Service Corps. Ueoka was promoted at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

Retirements



NORFOLK, Va. (April 12, 2013) Rear Adm. David M. Boone (front, right) receives permission to go ashore from Rear Adm. Kevin Slates (front, left) as guest speaker retired Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta (back left) and Capt. Raymound Houck, Chaplain Corps (back right) observe. The retirement ceremony took place at Naval Station Norfolk, Va. Boone retires after 30 years of service in the U.S. Navy. U.S. Navy photo by John Land, NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic visual information specialist.



SAN DIEGO (June 25, 2013) Captain Cynthia Izuno Macri, Medical Corps, U.S. Navy (second from left) retires on board the USS MAKIN ISLAND (LHD 8). L-R: Lt. Cmdr. Andy Baldwin, Capt. Macri, Laruen Hartzell, Capt. David Hartzell. During her 34 years of service in the U.S. Navy, Macri served as a general surgeon and special assistant for diversity to the Chief of Naval Operations. Photo by Capt. Hartzell.

Congressional Gold Medal mounted on NOAA Research Ship

NEWPORT, Ore. - A copy of the Congressional Gold Medal was mounted on a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research vessel named after MIS veteran Bell M. Shimada.

The Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) and the law, PL 111-254, that authorized it, is mounted on the port side of the crew's mess and galley of the NOAA Ship Bell M. Shimada (R 227). Shimada, a native of Seattle, Washington, and NOAA fisheries research scientist, was killed in a plane crash near Guadalajara, Mexico, on June 2, 1968 on his way to join the NOAA research team. Arrangements for this display was made by Allen Shimada, son of Bell, who is also a fisheries research scientist at NOAA. The card on the left of the CGM reads:

The 147th Congressional Gold Medal

Awarded Collectively to the Nisei Veterans of the
100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team,
Military Intelligence Service
United States Army

November 2, 2011

Emancipation Hall
U.S. Capitol Visitor Center
Washington, DC

The NOAA Ship Bell M. Shimada was commissioned on August 25, 2010. The ship was named by students at Marina High School in Monterey, Calif., who won NOAA's vessel-naming



NOAA Ship Bell M. Shimada (R-227) next to NOAA sister ship Pisces in the Gulf of Mexico. Photos courtesy of Allen Shimada.



Bell M. Shimada



Mounted CGM and law in crew's mess

contest. The ship is used to study fish, marine mammals, and marine bird populations. The vessel's homeport is Newport, Oregon.



Ben Kuroki records his story to the U.S. Air Force "Portraits in Blue" historians. Photo by Master Sgt. Sam Ameen, U.S. Air Force, provided by Col. Derek Hirohata, U.S. Air Force.

Nisei Ben Kuroki interviewed for U.S. Air Force documentary, "Portraits in Blue"

WASHINGTON - World War II Army Air Corps veteran Ben Kuroki was recently interviewed for the U.S. Air Force's "Portraits in Blue" documentary. JAVA member Col. Derek Hirohata, U.S. Air Force, helped coordinate the interview. The documentary is currently in production. Kuroki was one of the five Nisei aerial gunners to serve in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Initially only allowed to do kitchen patrol, or "KP" duties, Kuroki persisted, and his squadron adjutant, Lt. Charles Brennan, allowed him to serve with the rest of the unit and to deploy to the European theater. Kuroki logged 58 combat missions, 30 on B-24s over Europe, and 28 more on B-29s over the Pacific. After completing these missions, Kuroki still faced discrimination and was nearly murdered by a fellow American, a drunken G.I. who called Kuroki a "dirty Jap" and stabbed a knife to his head. Kuroki healed. His valor earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross three times. To read more about Kuroki, please see the PBS documentary on Kuroki, "Most Honorable Son" at: <http://www.pbs.org/mosthonorableson/fightingtofight.html>

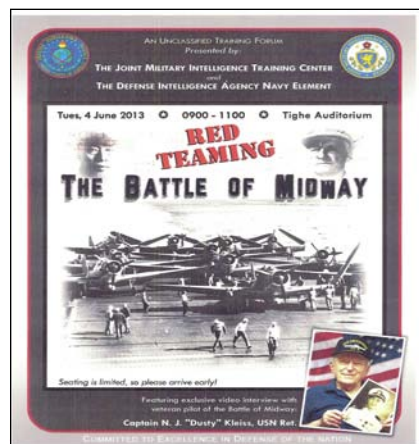
Battle of Midway Commemoration

By Lieutenant Jason Osuga, U.S. Navy

WASHINGTON - On June 4th, 2013, the Joint Military Intelligence Training Center (JMITC) and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Navy Element presented a Battle of Midway Red Teaming event, commemorating the 71st anniversary of the battle. In the days leading up to the Midway event, DIA Navy Element displayed waterline ship and aircraft models in two big glass cases for exhibition in the lobby outside Tighe Auditorium; the ships and planes were the same types as those that took part in the Battle of Midway. The models were graciously provided by Mr. Dana Wegner, curator of David Taylor Ship Models, Carderock Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center as well as from private collections of DIA employees.

Originally, DIA Navy Element planned to host retired Capt. N.J. "Dusty" Kleiss, U.S. Navy, a storied ace dive bomber from VT-6 / CV-6 Enterprise, as guest speaker for the event. The long air travel precluded his physical attendance in Washington DC. So DIA Navy Element Commanding Officer, Capt. Steven "Shep" Shepard flew to San Antonio, Texas, to record an interview with Capt. Kleiss. Mass Communications Specialist Chief Keith Jones edited the interview into a 20-minute video clip. The audience was able to see and hear Dusty recounting the moments when he scored direct hits on the Imperial Japanese Navy fleet on the Kaga in the morning and Akagi in the afternoon, placing the bomb in the bow at the center of the rising sun.

In a late addition to our program, Mr. Willard "Bill" Norberg graced us with a guest appearance from North Carolina with his son, Jack from Lynchburg, VA. Lt. Jason Y. Osuga of DIA Navy Element contacted the CV-6 Enterprise Association who provided him with Mr. Norberg's contact information. Throughout their correspondence, they were able to make a lasting connection. As speaker, Mr. Norberg told vivid and heart-wrenching stories which added a human element that could not have been told from mere academic overviews of the Battle. Mr. Norberg recounted how he felt that day when the USS Enterprise pulled back into port two days after the attack on Pearl Harbor and saw



Battle of Midway Program presented by the Joint Military Intelligence Training Center and the Defense Intelligence Agency Navy Element. Provided by Lt. Osuga.

the carnage, putrid smell, and oil slicks as he manned the signal bridge. He recounted how he manned general quarter's battle station for 14 hours at a time often in desperate heat, and saw over 22 sea battles throughout the Pacific War from Pearl Harbor to Guadalcanal to Okinawa. His stories of shipmates he lost to enemy action were sad beyond imagination. As a flag yeoman, he told stories of encounters with Admiral Halsey and other ship Captains and Task Force Admirals as if he lived through them, and he did!

Capt. and Mrs. Shepard invited the Norbergs over for dinner on the previous night of the commemoration, and JMITC instructors set the scene with analysis of what led to the battle, strategies of U.S. Navy and Imperial Japanese Navy, and what each side anticipated from its outcome.

One thing is for certain— the stories told by Chief Norberg and Capt. Kleiss left an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of all the sailors present that day for Battle of Midway commemoration.

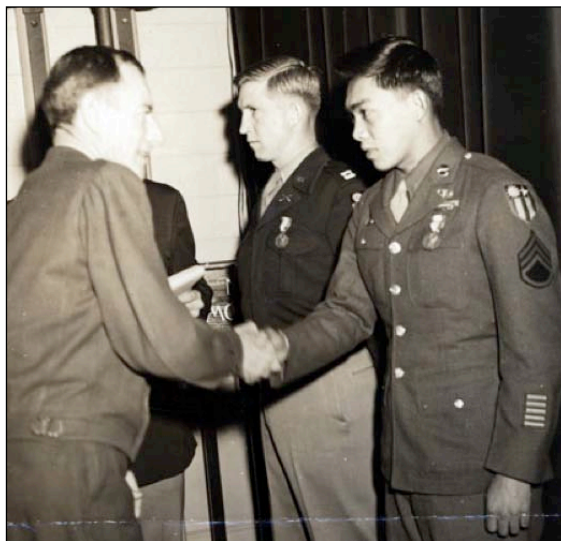
Honolulu OSS soldier Served in Team that Rescued Doolittle Raiders

HONOLULU - Dick Hamada, one of the '10 Nisei who served with distinction in the OSS (Office of Strategic Services). He was born in a plantation home of the Honokaa Sugar Company on the Big Island of Hawaii. In 1936 his family moved to Honolulu, where he attended McKinley High School. When Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7, 1941 Hamada was working at Pearl Harbor building barracks.

In March 1943 Hamada volunteered for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and was assigned to the Headquarters Company of the 3rd Battalion. He said that on his first visit to Hattiesburg, Mississippi, he was surprised to see racism and discrimination for the first time.

When the call came for volunteers for the OSS he and 19 other Nisei left for language training at the Military Intelligence School at Camp Savage, Minnessottta. Following a 5 month intensive Japanese language training, Hamada was assigned to Detachment 101 of OSS and assigned to Burma. By this time only 10 Nisei, including Hamada, survived the rigorous training. They are, Hamada, Tom Baba, Fumio Kido, Wilbert Kishinami, Shoichi

Kurahashi and Calvin Tottori and Susumi Kazahaya of Hawaii, George Kobayashi, Tad Nagaki and Takao Tanabe from the Mainland.



Dick Hamada, Honolulu, OSS, Detachment 101

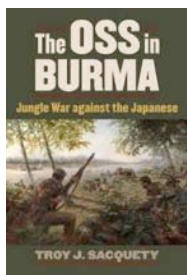
In Burma Hamada, working with Kachin rangers, ambushed and disrupted enemy movements. The primary task of the Nisei was to translate captured enemy documents and interrogate prisoners of war. In addition to the enemy, the Americans had to contend with malaria carrying mosquitoes, leeches and tigers. Food, weapons and supplies had to be airdropped.

When peace was secured in Burma, Hamada was sent to China where he had parachute training for and OSS mission to Indochina. When that mission was cancelled due to Japan's surrender Hamada was selected to join Operation Magpie, the OSS team that parachuted into Peiping (now Beijing) on August 17, 1945 to

ensure the safety of over 50 POWs including 5 Doolittle raiders.

Hamada has received many US and foreign awards, including the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Soldiers Medal, Bronze Star Medal and the Distinguished Unit Citation.

Book Review: The OSS in Burma by Troy J. Sacquety



One could not choose a worse place for fighting the Japanese," said Winston Churchill of North Burma, deeming it "the most forbidding fighting country imaginable." But it was here that the fledgling Office of Strategic Services conducted its most successful combat operations of World War II. Troy Sacquety takes readers into Burma's steaming jungles in the first book to fully cover the exploits and contributions of the OSS's

Detachment 101 against the Japanese Imperial Army.

Functioning independently of both the U.S. Army and OSS headquarters—and with no operational or organizational model to follow—Detachment 101 was given enormous latitude in terms of developing its mission and methods. It grew from an inexperienced and poorly supported group of 21 agents training on the job in a lethal environment to a powerful force encompassing 10,000 guerrillas (spread across as many as 8 battalions), 60 long-range agents, and 400 short-range agents. By April 1945, it remained the only American ground force in North Burma while simultaneously conducting daring amphibious operations that contributed to the liberation of Rangoon.

With unrivalled access to OSS archives, Sacquety vividly recounts the 101's story with a depth of detail that makes the

disease-plagued and monsoon-drenched Burmese theater come unnervingly alive. He describes the organizational evolution of Detachment 101 and shows how the unit's flexibility allowed it to evolve to meet the changing battlefield environment. He depicts the Detachment's two sharply contrasting field commanders: headstrong Colonel Carl Eifler, who pushed the unit beyond its capabilities, and the more measured Colonel William Peers, who molded it into a model special operations force. He also highlights the heroic Kachin tribesmen, fierce fighters defending their tribal homeland and instrumental in acclimating the Americans to terrain, weather, and cultures in ways that were vital to the success of the Detachment's operations.

While veterans' memoirs have discussed OSS activities in Burma, this is the first book to describe in detail how it achieved its success—portraying an operational unit that can be seen as a prototype for today's Special Forces. The OSS in Burma rescues from oblivion the daring exploits of a key intelligence and military unit in Japan's defeat in World War II and tells a gripping story that will satisfy scholars and buffs alike.

Troy J. Sacquety is a historian with the United States Army Special Operations Command. He previously worked for the CIA and has been the historian for the OSS Detachment 101 Association for many years.

JAVA Participates in Gettysburg Sesquicentennial Event

Eric Saul sponsors the reading of names of over 10,000 Americans killed in 3-day battle

GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK, Pa. - On July 3, 2013, well-known military historian Eric Saul, former curator of the Military Museum at the Presidio of San Francisco, and his wife, Dr. Amy Fiske, Associate Professor of Psychology at West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, arranged the reading of the names of 10,211 soldiers who were killed in the three-day Battle of Gettysburg at the Gettysburg National Military Park (GNMP).



Abigail Bingham Endicott and Eric Saul at Gettysburg Military Park

This event was part of the sesquicentennial commemoration that culminated in the reenactment of the Pickett's charge that afternoon. The program began at 9:00 a.m., attended by a large audience, with opening remarks by Saul, the presentation of Union and Confederate colors, and followed by, for the first time ever, the reading of names of both the Union and Confederate soldiers. This reading was interspersed by the Gettysburg Address, the singing of civil war songs, and speakers who discussed the battle.

The Program was held at the base of the New York State Monument at Gettysburg, located in the Soldiers National Cemetery just steps away from the spot President Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous three-minute address. "Terry Shima, veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team of World War II and JAVA representative, noted that it was a privilege and honor to link Asian Pacific Americans, including Japanese Americans, to this historical event.

Vocalist Abigail Bingham Endicott of Bethesda, Maryland, sang a medley of Civil War songs,

including one she composed for this occasion entitled "Friend to Friend," the title of which was taken from a Free Mason's monument. The monument featured Confederate Brigadier General Lewis Addison Armistead and Union Captain Henry Harrison Bingham, staff assistant to Major General Winfield Scott Hancock. The statue shows Confederate Armistead passing his pocket book, watch chain, seal and spurs to Bingham to entrust them with his Union General friend, Hancock. Endicott visited the Mason's monument, where she again sang "Friend to Friend," which was written for and dedicated to her first cousin three times removed, Captain Bingham and the two generals, who fought on opposing sides but were close personal friends to the very end. Captain Bingham, a Medal of Honor recipient, would rise to the rank of general and, following his military service, would spend 30 years as a member of the US House of Representatives, where he was referred to as "Father of the House." [Anyone who wishes to receive free of charge the lyrics to Friend to Friend should contact Terry Shima (ttshima@comcast.net or 301-987-6746).

Editor's note: Although the Civil War would continue until it was effectively over with General Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox, Virginia, on April 9, 1865, the Battle of Gettysburg two years earlier was a major turning point of the war. After that, all battles would be fought on Confederate soil. Approximately 164,000 (Union- 94,000; Confederate – 70,000) soldiers were involved in the three day battle in which 10,211 were known to have been killed or died of wounds. Many more soldiers were unaccounted for and were listed as missing.



Dr. Amy Fiske and banner honoring Union and Confederate soldiers killed at Gettysburg

JAVA members honor Glen S. Fukushima at a lunch on May 14, 2013

At a lunch at the China Garden Restaurant in Rosslyn, Virginia, JAVA members gathered to honor Glen S. Fukushima. Fukushima is Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress in Washington, DC, where he focuses on US-Japan relations, U.S. foreign policy in East Asia and international trade. His previous position was Senior Vice President of Airbus SAS and Chairman and Director of Airbus Japan K.K. He is a published author in both English and Japanese on Japan's political economy to international law. He is a graduate of Stanford University and Harvard Law School. Fukushima is a long time JAVA member.

Fukushima updated JAVA members on his career progression and provided his insights on US-Japan relations and Japan's position in Asia.



Pictured above are, front row, L-R: Grant Ichikawa, Lida Konoshima, Aki Konoshima, Major Kurt Chew-Een Lee, US Marines (Ret); Betty Taira; Diann Puzon; CAPT Ike Puzon, USN (Ret); Back row, L-R: Dr. Franklin Odo, Reuben Yoshikawa; Dr. Shirley Tabata Ponomareff; Robert Nakamoto; Fukushima; Gerald Yamada; Dr. Ray Murakami; Terry Shima; LTC Mark Nakagawa, USA Ret). Not in photo: Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret) who took the photo.

Thank you, Donors!

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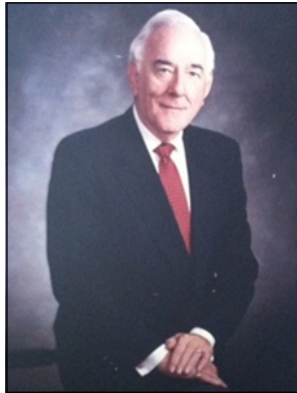
Joan Feldman



JAVA members welcome Honolulu residents and JAVA member, Colonel Charles and Helen Moriyama

On May 17, 2013 JAVA members welcomed Honolulu residents and JAVA member, COL Charles and Helen Moriyama at a luncheon at China Garden, Rosslyn, Virginia. Seated, L-R: Grant Ichikawa; Helen Moriyama; COL Moriyama; Terry Shima. Standing, L-R: Metta Tanikawa, Marcia Mau, Noriko Sanefuji, Barbara Watanabe, Don Hurlbert, and LTC Kay Wakatake, USA. Photo by Noriko Sanefuji.

Erwin H. Blonder, Lost Battalion Member, dies



Erwin H. Blonder, formerly of Palm Beach and Palm Beach Gardens, Florida and Cleveland, Ohio, a civic and community leader and decorated World War II veteran, died on May 9, 2013 at the age of 92.

Mr. Blonder, son of Harry and Anne Blonder, was born on March 12, 1921 in Cleveland, Ohio. After attending the University of Arizona and Ohio State

University, Mr. Blonder served in World War II as First Lieutenant in the 1st Battalion, 141st Regiment, of the 36th Infantry. He was awarded the Silver Star Medal and French and Italian Campaign Medals for gallantry in action. In 1997, a letter Mr. Blonder wrote to his family during the war was included in Letters of a Nation, an anthology of letters spanning 350 years of American history; he shared segments of this letter in a Veteran's Day special on NBC Nightly News. In 2009, he received the French Legion of Honor, France's highest decoration. He is memorialized in the Texas Military Forces Museum in Austin, Texas and in the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In October 1944 a portion of Blonder's battalion was trapped by the Germans in the Vosges forests of northeastern France.

When elements of the 36th Division failed to free them, the 442nd, which had just liberated towns like Bruyeres and Biffontaine and was pulled back for rest and refurbishing, was ordered to free the trapped men. After 5 days of the most bitter fighting, under conditions of rain, sleet and snow, Blonder and 210 other Texans walked out. A fast bond of relationship was forged from this experience between the rescued and the rescuers.

With declining supplies and ammunition and uncertainty whether they will be rescued or resupplied before they are annihilated by the Germans, the trapped men fought back fiercely. Blonder was the radioman of the trapped battalion, the only link with his regimental headquarters. When his battery gave signs of expiration, and no spare on hand, Blonder used a trick he learned when he was a Boy Scout: he spit on the battery that prolonged the life of the battery.

Blonder began his post-war career alongside brothers Jerome and Bernard at the H. Blonder Company, the paint and wallpaper company founded by their father, of which Erwin later became president. He also served as president of the Wallpaper Association. Blonder participated intensively in community work, including president of Menorah Park Center for Senior Living in Beachwood, Ohio and past president of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, Florida. Throughout his lifetime he pursued his passions for travel, cooking, bridge, photography, and technology.

Long time JAVA volunteer, Maggie Ikeda, passes



HONOLULU - Mildred "Maggie" Ikeda, 90, formerly of Montgomery County, Maryland and a long time JAVA volunteer, passed away on June 16, 2013 at Kahala Nui, a retirement community in Honolulu, Hawaii. Maggie, a retired registered nurse, was born in Waihee, Maui and attended Baldwin High School and the University of Hawaii.

Maggie lived in Maryland for 39 years and returned to Honolulu, where she spent her final retirement years. A memorial service was held for her at the Hosoi Garden Mortuary, Honolulu, on July 13, 2013. MIS veterans and close friends such as Ted Tsukiyama, Harry Fukuhara, Sadae Tagami, Stu Tsubota and Richard Hamasaki attended the service.

Maggie was married to Chiyoki "Chick" Ikeda, who was killed in a plane crash in 1960 while on an assignment with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). During WW II Ikeda served with the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), predecessor of the CIA. Chick served with distinction in the OSS and CIA.

For 10 years, Maggie, along with the late Susumu and Fumie Yamamoto, visited the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to copy documents relating to the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service. They copied enough documents to fill a 10x5x8 foot storage vault. Their research was instrumental in helping to justify the upgrading to Medal of Honor of twenty Distinguished Service Crosses awarded to members of the 100th and 442nd. Ted Tsukiyama, founder and who, with Dave Buto of JAVA, is cochairmen of the NARA Digitization Project, said "not enough plaudits can ever be offered to Dick, Fumi and Maggie for their dedicated work to collect all that NARA records on the 100/442 over a decade of time and all without a nickel of compensation. Maggie's contribution will not be forgotten."

Maggie is survived by her brother Ralph, sons George and John, daughter in law Nina, and grandchildren Janis and James.

Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) Membership Application

Date: _____
Title or Rank: _____ Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Home Telephone: _____ Mobile Telephone: _____
Email Address: _____

Branch of Service: _____ Rank: _____
Status: Active Duty: _____ Retired: _____ Honorably Discharged: Yes _____ No _____
Reservist/National Guard: _____ Cadet/Midshipman: _____
Current or Last Military Unit: _____
Dates of Service: _____

Application Category (Please see explanation below):

War Veteran Member: _____ General Member: _____ Friend of JAVA: _____

Are you a spouse, widow, or widower of a veteran? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, name of war veteran, veteran or cadet/midshipman: _____

Dates that relative served: _____ Which Service? _____

Mail application to: Wade Ishimoto
5703 Barbmor Court
Alexandria, VA 22310

or email application to: Pohaku59@aol.com

Application explanations: JAVA is a registered 501 (c) (19) War Veterans Organization and must comply with Internal Revenue Code provision that require 90% of its membership to be comprised of war veterans. To qualify as a **War Veteran Member**, the applicant must have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of these periods, but need not have served in a war zone:

- December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946
- June 27, 1950 through January 31, 1955
- August 5, 1964 through May 7 1975
- August 2, 1990 to present

To qualify as a **General Member**, the applicant must have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States during any period other than those specified above. In addition, cadets/midshipmen and spouses, widows, or widowers of war veterans, or veterans who do not meet the criteria above qualify for General Membership.

Friends of JAVA are those who support the purpose of JAVA, but who do not qualify for membership. Friends of Java memberships have no voting rights.

JAVA does not currently assess membership dues. However, donations are accepted.

From the Editor



As I put the finishing touches on this newsletter, I am reminded of how I became associated with JAVA and the brave Nisei veterans who came before us, who led ordinary lives, and rose to extraordinary heights through their courage and valor.

They include men like Jack Tanaka, a 27 year-old house painter from Pahala, Hawaii, who was one of the thousands who volunteered to serve in the 100th, 442nd, and MIS. Jack was killed during the battle of Monte Cassino in central Italy in 1944 but he lived on in my grandmother's stories. My grandmother often spoke her brother's sacrifice, and the sacrifices of his fellow soldiers - the sacrifices that silenced the voices of the critics who questioned their loyalty based solely on ancestry.

These brave men imparted their legacy to us – honor, loyalty, and humility, in the face of adversity. Their legacy was carried on by those who served in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan.



Pvt. Jack Tanaka, U.S. Army
100th Battalion, Bravo
Company

As a member of the current generation serving in the military, I am proud of the Nisei who blazed the trail before us. Their example allowed each successive generation to serve in ever expanding roles, with opportunities to rise to higher ranks. I remain eternally grateful for their sacrifice.

It's been an absolute honor to serve as Editor and Assistant Editor of the JAVA Advocate over the past three years. Although this issue will be my last as Editor, I will continue to actively participate in JAVA, preserving the legacy of those who came before us.

Mahalo nui loa and a hui hou,
Janelle Kuroda



JACL Washington, D.C. and JAVA Representatives join Honor Guards in presenting a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at the Arlington National Cemetery as part of the Memorial Service on May 26, 2013. L-R: Janice Fadden, Terry Shima, Gordon Aoyagi, and Lt. Janelle Kuroda, U.S. Navy Reserve. Photo by E. Roulier.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 2, at 6 p.m.: National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Awards Gala Dinner, Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, D.C.

Nov. 11:

San Francisco, Calif.: Grand Opening of the MIS Learning Center, National Japanese American Historical Society

Washington, D.C.: White House Veterans Day Breakfast; Arlington Cemetery Amphitheater; President Obama's address to the nation; JAVA Veterans Day Program, National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism, Washington, D.C. at 2:00 p.m.

Nov 13: Spark M. Matsunaga Elementary School Veterans Day Program, Germantown, Md.

Dec. 21: JAVA Executive Council Meeting

Jan. 11, 2014, at 11:30 a.m.: JAVA Annual Meeting, Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, Va.

CORRESPONDENCE:

General: Bruce Hollywood, brucehollywood@gmail.com, 703-229-3198
William Houston, houstonsnavy@aol.com, 703-380-8175

Education: Terry Shima, ttshima@comcast.net, 301-987-6746

Facebook: Janelle Kuroda, janellekuroda@gmail.com

Membership: Wade Ishimoto, pohaku59@aol.com, 703-989-0983

Finance: Robert Nakamoto, bnakamoto@amourllc.com, 703-472-1000

National Archives Research: Fumie Yamamoto, 301-942-3985
yamamotoff@yahoo.com;

Newsletter: Janelle Kuroda or Kenny Kuniyuki
javaadvocate@gmail.com

Oral History: Wade Ishimoto (see above)

Policy: Gerald Yamada, President, 703-938-3074,
gyamada@goingforwardstrategies.com

Quarterly Lunch: Bruce Hollywood (see above)

Round Robin: Brett Egusa, java.rrobin@gmail.com

Scholarship: Ray Murakami, mary2mur@aol.com, 301-320-5511

Speakers Bureau: Terry Shima (see above)

Veterans Day: Bruce Hollywood (see above)

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James Tani, jamestani@aol.com



JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS' ASSOCIATION
c/o Amour LLC
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd. #104
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