



# Japanese American Veterans Association

# JAVA ADVOCATE

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## Commonwealth of Virginia Commends Japanese American Veterans of World War II



Del. L. Scott Lingamfelter, R-Prince William, COL, USA, (Ret), 2nd from left presents a resolution honoring Japanese-Americans who have served in the US military to Col Dale Shirasago, USAF, (Ret), CPT Wade Y. Ishimoto, USA Special Forces, (Ret), Col Derek Hirohata, USAF, (Ret), LTC Mark Nakagawa, USA, (Ret). (Bob Brown, Times Dispatch)

Shirasago USAF (Ret), Colonel Derek Hirohata USAF (Ret), and Lt Colonel Mark Nakagawa USA (Ret). Delegate Lingamfelter introduced the JAVA attendees and paid honor to Messrs. Terry Shima and Grant Ichikawa, both World War II veterans that were unable to attend the ceremony. Delegate Lingamfelter read the resolution and invited fellow veterans from the House of Delegates and the Senate to join in the presentation. The resolution follows:

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 23, 2015  
Agreed to by the Senate, January 29, 2015

Whereas, in response to the attacks on Pearl harbor in 1941, all people of Japanese ancestry were initially viewed as disloyal to the United States, their draft classification was changed to 4-C (alien, unfit for military duty) and 118,000 ethnic Japanese - two thirds of them United States citizens - were forcibly placed in internment camps under military guard; and

Whereas, Americans of Japanese ancestry from the Hawaiian Provincial Infantry Battalion (the 100th infantry Battalion) were shipped from the Hawaiian islands to California, and through their demonstrated performance, helped convince the President and the War Department to reopen military service to 14,000 Nisei, many of whom were drafted into military service from internment camps where they and their families were incarcerated; and

Whereas, the 100th infantry Battalion was eventually made an integral part of the 442 Regimental Combat Team (RCT) collectively became known as the Go for Broke Regiment and fought with distinction in Italy and France despite suffering extremely heavy combat and noncombat casualties; and [Story Continued on Page 2].

## Commonwealth of Virginia Commends Japanese American Veterans of World War II (Continued from Page 1)

Whereas, the members of the Go for Broke Regiment earned 21 Congressional Medals of Honor, 29 Distinguished Service Crosses, and one Distinguished Service Medal, over 350 Silver Stars, 22 Legion of Merit Medals, 15 Soldier Medals and more than 5,300 Bronze Stars and over 4000 Purple Hearts; and

Whereas, the Nisei Military Intelligence Service (MIS) consisted of 4200 linguists who served in the Pacific Theater performing such duties as document translation and prisoner interrogation, and an additional 4000 linguists who served during the Occupation of Japan; and

Whereas, the MIS was awarded numerous combat awards such as one Presidential Unit Citation, one Distinguished Service Cross, five Silver Stars, over 50 Bronze Stars, 20 Combat Infantryman Badges, 25 Purple Hearts, and such non-combat awards as two Legion of Merit Medals and one Soldier's Medal; and

Whereas President Truman, following his review of the 442nd RCT in 1946, affirmed Japanese-American loyalty by declaring "you fought not only the enemy by you fought prejudice and you have won"; and

Whereas, in 2010 the United States Senate and House of Representatives unanimously approved a bill awarding the Congressional Gold medal to veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442 RCT, and the MIS, which was ultimately signed by President Obama on October 5, 2010; and

Whereas, the combat performance of these soldiers contribute to the climate for the post World War II reforms, beginning with the desegregation of the Armed Forces, and helped level the playing field for minorities to compete for any job and rank; and

Whereas competing with the best of the best Nisei have reached the highest ranks of the military, government, academia, and business, thereby confirming that the Japanese-American story speaks of the greatness of America; now, therefore, be it Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, that the General Assembly hereby commend the service and sacrifice of Japanese American veterans of World War II; and be it Resolved further that the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Japanese American Veterans Association on behalf of those patriotic soldiers as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for their service to the citizens of the Commonwealth, the Nation and the World.

House patrons; Lingamfelter, Bell, R. P., Bloxom, Cole, Cox, Greason, Head, Hodges, Hugo, LaRock, LeMunyon, Marshall, D. W., O'Bannon, Orrock, Ramadan, Wilt, and Wright

Senate patrons; Alexander, Barkerer, Black, Carrico, Chafin, Colgan, Cosgrove, Dance, Deeds, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Garrett, Hanger, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Martin, McDougle, McEachin, McWaters, Miller, Newman, Norman, Obenshain, Peterson, Puller, Reeves, Ruff, Saslaw, Smith, Stanley, Stosch, Stuart, Vogel, Wagner, Watkins, and Wexton



Del. L. Scott Lingamfelter, R-Prince William, COL, USA, (Ret), center, at microphone, presents a resolution honoring Japanese-Americans who have served in the US military during a ceremony in the House of Delegates chamber at the State Capitol in Richmond, VA Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015. Four of the honorees are Col Derek Hirohata, USAF, (Ret), left, CPT Wade Y. Ishimoto, USA Special Forces, (Ret), 3rd from left, LTC Mark Nakagawa, USA, (Ret), 4th from left, and Col. Dale Shirasago, USAF, (Ret), just behind Lingamfelter, left. (Bob Brown, Times Dispatch).

### Welcome New Members!

Harvey Motomura, Hilo, HI

Joy Billings, Newark, DE

David Sumida, Northridge, CA

RADM David Kriete, Bremerton, WA

Robert Chappell, Denver, CO

Ted Fujimoto, Fayetteville, NC

Midshipman Andy Estrella, Annapolis, MD

Maj Gen Arthur Ishimoto, Honolulu, HI

LTC Ben Dennis, Los Angeles, CA

John DePerro, Vint Hill, VA

Adam Muraoka, Thousand Oaks, CA

Steve Monteiro, Olney, MD

Friends of JAVA:

Jim Tani, Vienna, VA

Robert Moritsugu, Las Vegas, NV

## JAVA Luncheon Includes Award Presentations and Election of New Officers

Falls Church, VA. At the JAVA quarterly luncheon held on March 14, 2015, JAVA presented its highest award to Congressman Adam Schiff for his sponsorship of the legislation leading the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to members of the 442nd, 100th, and MIS (see Story on Page 4).

This luncheon also constituted JAVA's annual meeting. Outgoing President Wade Ishimoto and Executive Director Bruce Hollywood provided the President's Report and Executive Director's Report. During the remainder of the luncheon, the JAVA Nominating Committee Chair, Mike Yaguchi, presented the slate of candidates to become JAVA Officers. By acclamation, Mike Cardarelli was elected President; Mark Nakagawa as Vice President; Derek Hirohata as Secretary; and George Ishikata as Treasurer. They were sworn in by Al Goshi. Biographies of the newly elected officers will be included in the JAVA Advocate Summer 2015 edition.

Outgoing President Wade Ishimoto thanked his predecessor, Gerald Yamada, for his service. Ishimoto presented commemorative coins to Chris DeRosa, Metta Tanikawa, Steve Kinder, Royce Nakatani, Meghan Hollywood, and Carol Nakagawa for their many contributions behind the scenes on behalf of JAVA. A copy of the resolution honoring the 100th, 442nd, and MIS passed by the Commonwealth of Virginia were also presented to the four WW II members in attendance, Grant Ichikawa, Norman Ikari, Ray Murakami, and Terry Shima. The meeting was adjourned after comments from JAVA's new President, Mike Cardarelli.

### Dr. Raymond Murakami Will Receive High Japanese Government Award



Dr. Murakami

Washington, DC. On April 29, 2015, the Government of Japan announced that Dr. Raymond Shoji Murakami is one of the 85 foreign recipients of the 2015 Spring Imperial Decorations. Dr. Murakami, former Chairman of National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF), will receive The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays.

Dr. Murakami will receive the imperial award for his contributions "to the advancement of social status of Japanese Americans in the United States and promoting friendly relations and mutual understanding between Japan and the United States"

As former Chairman of Washington, DC Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League and former Chairman of NJAMF, Dr. Murakami actively contributed to the advancement of social status of Japanese Americans in the U.S. Dr. Murakami especially led the efforts to realize the establishment of the National Japanese American Memorial in Washington D.C. The National Japanese American Memorial is now a landmark that is indispensable to look back on the history of Japanese Americans.

Other Washington, DC area recipients of the 2015 awards are the Honorable William Warren Bradley, former member of the U.S. Senate, Dr. Elmer William Colglazier Jr., former Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State, Dr. Julian Raby, and the Dame Jillian Sackler, Director of the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery and the Freer Gallery of Art.

#### Honorary Chairs

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

#### Officers

COL Michael Cardarelli, USA (Ret.), President  
LTC Mark Nakagawa, USA (Ret.), Vice President  
Col Derek Hirohata, USAF (Ret.), Secretary  
Col George Ishikata, USANG, Treasurer

#### Executive Council

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

#### 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

## **Congressman Adam Schiff Received High JAVA Award; Introduced Bill to Award Congressional Gold Medal to Nisei Units**

**By Bruce Hollywood**

Washington, DC. California U.S. Representative Adam Schiff received the Japanese American Veterans Association's (JAVA) Courage, Honor, Patriotism Award at its Spring quarterly luncheon at Harvest Moon Restaurant in Falls Church, Virginia, on March 14, 2015. The award recognized Representative Schiff's initiative in introducing the legislation that ultimately resulted in the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT), and the Military Intelligence Service. This honor is the highest that Congress can bestow upon its citizens.

Representative Schiff, son of a World War II veteran, introduced his original Bill (H.R. 347) which passed in 2009 with nearly 300 co-sponsors. Following this, Senator Barbara Boxer introduced her bill, (S-1055) including an amendment to add the Military Intelligence Service, in the US Senate that passed on September 25, 2010. President Barak Obama signed the bill into law on October 5, 2010, witnessed by 6 Nisei veterans and other White House invitees.



US Congressman Adam Schiff

Over 300 Nisei veterans, most of them over 90 years of age, with about 2,500 widows, next of kin and relatives, visited the nation's capital for the award ceremony on November 2, 2011, at the Emancipation Hall of the US Congress. The Hall and two theaters accommodated 1,250 attendees. The overflow crowd saw the program over video at the Washington Hilton's Columbia Hall. National viewers saw the program broadcast over commercial television networks and the Pentagon channel.

After his participation in the CGM award ceremony, Representative Schiff said, "It was a thrill to stand next to the brave Japanese-American members of the 'Go For Broke' regiment and the veterans of the Military Intelligence Service today as they were awarded with the Congressional Gold Medal for their dedication to our country during World War II. These remarkable men left a segregated nation to fight and defend an America with no guarantee that their own freedom would be defended in return."

Only one Gold Medal was minted by Congressional mandate, however, the US Mint produced replicas of the CGM in bronze, a number of which were purchased by local veterans. Also, they were bought by civic organizations which, in turn, presented them in ceremonies to the qualified veterans who were not able to make the long journey to Washington.

The CGM honoring the Japanese American veterans has since completed a nationwide tour, arranged by the National Veterans Network, to seven locations including New Orleans, Honolulu, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Chicago and Houston. The CGM is now on display at the Price of Freedom exhibit at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

To the veterans of the 100th Battalion and 442nd RCT, the CGM, as the highest civilian award, stands out as true national recognition in addition to their military awards that included seven Presidential Unit Citations, 21 Medals of Honor, 29 Distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars, 22 Legion of Merit Medals, 15 Soldier's Medals, 4,000 Bronze Stars and over 4,000 Purple Hearts. The US Army has declared that the 442nd RCT, including the 100th Battalion, as the most highly decorated unit during World War II for its size and period of combat.

## JAVA Participates in Two Events During National Cherry Blossom Festival

For the past eight years, JAVA has participated in two events each year during the National Cherry Blossom Festival celebration. One is the Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk, held jointly with several organizations, at the front end of the Festival. The other is the Sakura Matsuri, which JAVA is invited to partner with the Japan America Society of Washington, DC (JASW), and which is held on the day of the National Cherry Blossom Parade.

### 2015 Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk, Washington, D.C.

LTC Marty Herbert, USA (Ret)

Capitol Hill. JAVA participated in the 17th annual Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk, held on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington, DC. This event was organized by the Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk Organizing Committee, chaired by Martha Watanabe, and was sponsored by The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF), DC Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, Ekoji Buddhist Temple, and JAVA.

Despite temperatures hovering around the freezing mark, one of the largest crowds in the past five years showed up for a standing room only event! Over the years, many distinguished speakers have shared their experiences and thoughts including former Secretary and Congressman Norman Mineta, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, and last year Jodie Bernstein, who chaired the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. The theme for this year was "Honoring the Past, Moving Forward." Our JAVA planning representative for the 8th year was Marty Herbert, assisted by Mark Nakagawa. These former Army Rangers led the Boy Scout Color Guard detail and the Pledge of Allegiance. The multi-generational program consisted of our distinguished speakers, local Boy Scout troop, Veterans and Civilians from WWII, Korean, Vietnam, and the Global War on Terror conflicts. The theme of the program was focused on how crucial it is for current and future generations to know and embrace their history, continuing to learn from it and moving forward. [Article Continued on Page 6]



Ribbon cutters: Mike Cardarelli, JAVA; John Tobe, JAACL; Cathy Mitrano, Keynote Speaker, Veterans Affairs; Minister Tamaki Tsukada, Head of Chancery, Embassy; Diana Mayhew, President/CEO, National Cherry Blossom Festival; Kris Rohr, Chair, National Cherry Blossom Festival; Cal Shintani, NJAMF; Jack Tobe, MC.

### 2015 Sakura Matsuri, Washington, D.C.

Reuben Yoshikawa

12th & Penn, WDC. The festival attendance was estimated to be over 40,000 people with 30% coming from outside of the greater Washington D.C. region and is the largest one day exhibition of Japanese culture in the United States. The Japan-America Society of Washington D.C. (JASW), who sponsored the festival, provided JAVA the booth, signage, set-up assistance and placement in the Arts and Culture section of their festival brochure. We are thankful to the society for their generosity and continued support of JAVA.

The JAVA booth activities at the 2015 Sakura Matsuri was a success again this year! JAVA has had a successful history of operating a booth at this festival to greet and educate the public on the contributions of Japanese American Veterans to this great country. We were extremely



fortunate to have at the booth, veterans from the famed Army 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion, the Military Intelligence Service (MIS), as well as veterans from the Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan Wars. JAVA provides a rare opportunity for the public to meet and talk with these veterans, including Terry Shima, an Army 442nd Regimental Combat Team veteran and Akio Konoshima, an Army Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veteran. Both Akio and Terry are over 90 years young. We dearly missed Robert Nakamoto (former JAVA President and Korean War veteran who was known for his leadership, generosity, quick wit and friendship) since he passed away in April of last year.

Those at the JAVA Booth experienced a continuous stream of visitors who were eager to learn about the significance and sacrifices of Japanese Veterans to building this country. The visitors were young and old, of various ethnic origins, as well as, teachers and students. We were pleased that Naval Academy's Midshipmen were able to visit our booth – the photographs below are the Midshipmen with Terry Shima.

The excellent booth location, perfect weather and attentive JAVA greeters made this a record year for attendance.

[Article Continued on Page 6]

## Freedom Walk (Continued from Page 5)

The Freedom Walk is a key event in the annual Cherry Blossom celebration and designed to raise awareness about the Japanese American experience during World War II. The past was covered by remarks by WW II Veteran and Presidential Citizen's Medal recipient Terry Shima. JAVA's newly elected President, Mike Cardarelli also spoke on our organization's role and paid respects and honored the many brave and dedicated Japanese American veterans that sacrificed and continue to give so much in defense of our great nation. He assured all that JAVA would always be there to support our military, veterans, and the Asian American community. Minister Tamaki Tsukada, Head of Chancery, Embassy of Japan spoke on behalf of the Japanese Government and expressed appreciation for our great military and civilian relationships between these two nations. We were honored by our Keynote Speaker, and daughter of a Korean War Veteran, Deputy Assistant Secretary Cathy Mitrano, who oversees the Department of Veteran Affairs' Office of Resolution Management. She spoke of the lessons learned and support from the President and Congress to ensure civil rights and liberties are not violated again based on national origin alone! A superb event and JAVA was proud to have co-sponsored and looks forward to next year's Walk.

## Presentation by JAVA Speakers in Arlington, VA



Following JAVA speakers presentation at Washington Lee High School in Arlington, Virginia, Mrs. Mary Murakami holds an informal discussion with a few history students. Photo from Peter Vogel, history teacher.

## Sakura Matsuri (Continued from Page 5)

The highlight of the day was Akio Konoshima, who sold a record number of the books that he authored, "What Pearl Harbor Wrought" - all of which he signed and added a short note. He has generously donated the proceeds of the sale of his book to JAVA. A heartfelt thank you Akio! In addition, we sold a number of "The Nisei Veteran: An American Patriot," a book that was edited by JAVA members, Stanley L. Falk, Ph.D. and Warren Tsuneishi, Ph.D. (deceased). Again, we provided the public with the six different informational brochures: "The Nisei Intelligence War Against Japan" by Ted Tsukiyama, Esq., MIS historian for Hawaii, and his colleagues; "The Story of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team" from The 442nd Archives and Learning Center; "The Role of The MIS in the Korean War" notes from speech given by Robert Wada, President of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans; "The Vietnam War" by Judge Vincent Okamoto; "Go for Broke" from the Presidio Army Museum; and the "Nisei Soldiers in the War Against Japan" by Stanley L. Falk. We also sold a number of JAVA coins and patches.

In addition, this year, we offered the JAVA coffee mug (donated by Robert Nakamoto), a publication: "Ben Kuroki - WWII Gunner 4 Air Force" and the following free videos: Scott Fujita, *The Man Behind the Name*; *The Face Behind the File - Japanese American*; *Journey to Washington - On the Trail of Senator Inouye*; *Honor and Sacrifice - Nisei Patriots in the MIS*; *442 Live with Honor, Die with Dignity*; *Honorable Journey*; *Japanese Americans & WWII*; *War Stories by Oliver North - Japanese Americans During WWII*. These additional items drew much attention and were a valuable media to educate the public.



Many thanks to Noriko Sane-fuji of the Smithsonian Institution for supporting us and for sharing the incredible homemade Spam musubi (a Hawaiian islands delicacy)

JAVA Booth at Sakura Matsuri.

and tamago yaki. The food was especially appreciated when we saw how long the food lines at were at the various vendor booths.

Many thanks to this year's JAVA docents: Akio Konoshima, , Michael Cardarelli, Al Goshi, Marty Herbert and May Nakamoto, Dr. Cynthia Macri, Michael Yaguchi and Reuben Yoshikawa. Thanks also for the help of: George Konoshima, Jillian Konoshima (George's daughter), Taro Konoshima (Akio's sons), Quinn Goshi (Allen's son) and Angela Messer.



## 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion: Army Inspection Discloses Patriotism and Desire to Prove Themselves True Americans

By JAVA Research Team



Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. When the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion was stationed at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, the US Army Office of the Inspector General (IG) conducted, without the knowledge of the Nisei, an investigation of letters sent by the men of 100<sup>th</sup> to determine their level of patriotism. The following is Part VII of the IG report, dated October 2, 1943, classified CONFIDENTIAL and since declassified, entitled "100<sup>th</sup> Infantry's patriotism and Desire to Prove Themselves True Americans". [The IG Report was found by the JAVA Research Team at National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) on October 27, 2006. The entire IG report can be read on JAVA website, [www.javadc.org](http://www.javadc.org), NARA Digitization Project. As the Nisei soldiers are writing to their family and friends of Hawaii, the writers fall into Hawaiian pidgin.]

"The strongest emotion expressed by the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry throughout their letters is their sincere patriotism combined with an ardent desire to be of credit to Hawaii. The letters indicate a prevalent awareness of the "hades" of distrust of their group because of its ancestry. Their reaction, however, is not one of resentment, rather it prompts expressions of loyalty and pledges to prove themselves true Americans. Most of them seem anxious for overseas actions, and consider it their best way to prove their worth. One says earnestly "us soldiers are different from the others, we have one goal to look for and for this goal lots of us guys, in fact everybody of us must sacrifice our lives to the goal to show the rest of the Americans that we soldiers or rather I should say Americans of Japanese ancestries, are as loyal as any of them And this will be proven in reality."

Another tells his sisters "you will put your chin up and your best for old Uncle Sam. For my part I'm the same as usual putting my heart and soul for him and you folks at home."

"Let it be known that whatever we do we'll make Hawaii proud of it's own. The chief aim of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry is defined: "Wherever we go -- whatever we do, always uppermost in our minds are -- we must prove ourselves of credit to our friends and folks back home." In another letter the sender says: "Truthfully speaking -- our main thought is to do a good job on the battlefield -- but until that time comes -- our behavior on the training field and in these strange cities must do."

The views of the battalion are best expressed in the following intercept: "When you come down to cold facts, I think this eagerness to serve our country in time of need is the only way of showing the rest of the Americans that we too can be trusted and be depended upon to defend America from all enemies."

One boy, in a letter to his mother, recites the creed for which he is fighting: "As you have said long before this war ever started to me I know 'This is your country so when it needs your service do serve it well.' Now being this far away from home these words are always my only guiding words. This country I know do have its right and too its wrong but it has I know given me a lot of dear things and so too for these dear things I shall serve. As for the wrongs I know one day she will correct herself. For what is a country or man without a little wrong to correct someday. This is the way I think people learn to love and not to hate."

The patriotism of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry might be summed up in the words of one of its soldiers: "I certainly will give all I've got for my country and it is not for any emperor or a sun goddess, but for God and my country."

## Nisei Veterans Return to French Battlegrounds of WWII

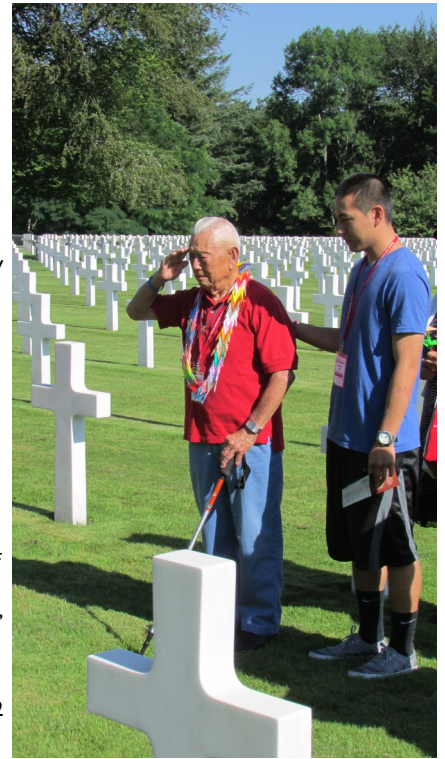
Dr. Brian Yamamoto, son of Ed Yamamoto who served in MIS, planned and coordinated the July 2014 tour of the French battlegrounds of WW II, which included the Vosges Mountains and Normandy, L'Escarene, Bruyeres, Biffontaine, Nice and Sospel, and the only concentration camp in France, Nazweiler, and Paris. The itinerary included wreath laying ceremonies at monuments and in American cemeteries at Normandy, Epinal and Lorraine.



L-R: Shig Doi, Mayor Yves Bonjean, and Kuwa Iwataki.

A special bus carrying two Nisei veterans met the larger group in Epinal for four days of historic commemorations. This bus escorted 94 year old Kuwashi "Kuwa" Iwataki of C Company of Los Angeles, California, as well as 94 year old I Company veteran, Shigeyuki "Shig" Doi of Richmond California.

After many years, Shig returned with his grandson, Shawn, to meet with his dear friends, Mrs. Renee Bianchetti and daughter, Dominique. They embraced and talked about Shig's beloved friend, Jean Bianchetti, who designed and built the Lost Battalion monument, in Biffontaine. Dominique shared that as soon as they read a letter from Yo Doi notifying them of Shig's trip, they made plans to meet him at the monument. As soon as the bus arrived, they began looking for Shig. He saw them from the window of the bus and it was a heartfelt reunion. The monument that Jean Bianchetti designed commemorates the 442 breaking through the German lines to rescue the Texas Lost Battalion on Hill 345573. The hill represented the last threat



Shig Doi saluting Captain Byrne, I Company Commander. Grandson Shawn is on right.



Kuwa Iwataki and daughter Miya

to Bruyeres. In the Nisei 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, K Company was down to 17 riflemen and I Company was down to 8 riflemen (from Honor by Fire – Lyn Crost). Sergeants were running both companies, because there were no officers left. Shig was one of two remaining Sergeants in I Company.

Also historic, was Shig's return to the Epinal American cemetery to pay last respects to his Captain Joseph Byrne, who he had spoken to just hours prior to being killed by a Bouncing Betty mine the day before they went in to rescue the Lost Battalion. At the American Cemetery in Epinal, Shig spoke to the group about the battle and his Captain Joseph Byrne.

Kuwa, accompanied by his son and daughter, Joel and Miya, was able to make the trip and walk the battlefields of Epinal. He joined in ceremonies, laying wreaths at monuments and at the American cemetery there. Kuwa with his son and daughter walked the grounds of the cemetery visiting gravesites of fallen soldiers paying last respects at crosses of World War II heroes.

Shig was also able to meet with long time friend, Dr. Alain Gerard, who has assisted as a translator in past tours for 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup> veterans, when they visited France.

Although the veterans were unable to make the trip to L'Escarene, there is a photo hanging of Shig with a little French girl, from when he was there in 1944. The French continue to try and search for her whereabouts. The tour group that was able to make this trip met some of the locals who were actually at the Christmas party given to them by the Japanese American soldiers and said it was the happiest day of their childhood during the war. It brought tears to their eyes to know that Shig had made the trip to France.



Dominique Bianchetti, Renee Bianchetti, and Shig Doi

Throughout the tour, dignitaries and townspeople came out in droves to get a glimpse, to meet and to thank Shig Doi and Kuwa Iwataki. It was clearly a historic and grateful reunion for generations of people who continue to remember heroes who gave so bravely, so many years ago.



## JAVA Speakers Presentation at the US Naval Academy

JAVA speakers team made a presentation to the History and Leadership, Ethics and Law Departments midshipmen at the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, on April 6, 2014. The team discussed the ethnic Japanese experience during WW II and their legacy. Following the presentation, the JAVA team members spoke informally to the students. L-R: Terry Shima, Midshipmen Justin Park, Mark Servent, unidentified, Mary Murakami, Allen Goshi, Midshipmen Shaquille Townsend and Sangwon Ko.



## Change of Command on USS New Hampshire

On April 15, 2015, Commander Sean Fujimoto relinquished command of the USS New Hampshire (SSN 778) to Commander Jason Weed in a ceremony at Groton, Connecticut. The USS New Hampshire is one of the Navy's newer Virginia class fast attack submarines. Fujimoto became the third commanding officer of USS New Hampshire when he assumed command December 17, 2012. He enlisted in the Navy following graduation from Westover Senior High School in Fayetteville, N.C. in 1988. While successfully completing Nuclear Field "A" School as an electronics technician and Naval Nuclear Power School, he was selected to attend the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Newport, Rhode Island. Fujimoto then went on to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science in Systems Engineering. He also holds a Master of Science in Engineering Management from The George Washington University.

Commander Fujimoto is being assigned to the Washington, DC, area where he will be on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations. His father, is Ted Fujimoto, a JAVA member and retired Army Sergeant Major residing in Fayetteville, NC. One of the honored guests at the ceremony was RADM Michael E. Jabaley who commanded the USS Louisville when Sean Fujimoto was a young Combat Systems Officer on board the USS Louisville. Another honored guest was Sharon Yoshida, co-President of the JACL Chapter in Seabrook, NJ.

From Left to Right: RADM Michael E. Jabaley, CDR Sean Fujimoto, and Sean's father, Ted Fujimoto, SGM (USA Ret). Photo courtesy Sharon Yoshida

## JAVA Member LTC Kay Wakatake Graduates from Airborne School

FORT BENNING, Georgia (Nov. 26, 2014) – On November 26, 2014, over four-hundred new paratroopers earned their wings after completing the three week Army Basic Airborne Course and five jumps. One of the new paratroopers is JAVA Life Member and former editor of the JAVA Advocate, Lieutenant Colonel Kay Wakatake. She is currently assigned as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for the United States Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.



After completing 5 parachute jumps, LTC Kay Wakatake had her wings pinned on by Sergeant First Class Raymond Richardson, Senior Paralegal NCO, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, GA. (Photo by Captain Greg Peterson, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, GA.)

Military lawyers are assigned to all Army units. Some units, such as the 82nd Airborne Division, require Soldiers to be Airborne qualified before they can be assigned to the unit. Other units do not require airborne qualification, but when lawyers earn Airborne wings, they demonstrate that they are willing to go through the same training as the Soldiers they support.



LTC Kay Wakatake returns to the assembly area after completing her first airborne jump on Nov. 24, 2014. (Photo by 5jump)

As one of the most senior ranking officers in the course, LTC Wakatake was extremely proud of her accomplishment at this stage of her career. She said, "Although I am twice as old as most of the other students, I was confident that I could handle the physical fitness requirements. It was the exit from the plane and the landing that concerned me the most! Fortunately, I was scared enough to pay close attention during the fine training I received, and that paid off."

JAVA President Wade Ishimoto (a storied paratrooper himself) provided moral support to Kay: "Congratulations to LTC Kay Wakatake on becoming a qualified paratrooper! She joins several other JAVA members who are also paratroopers, including JAVA's outgoing Secretary, LTC AI Goshi USA (Ret), and outgoing Treasurer LTC Mark Nakagawa USA (Ret)."

## JAVA Members Speak to Students at NOVA's Alexandria, VA Campus



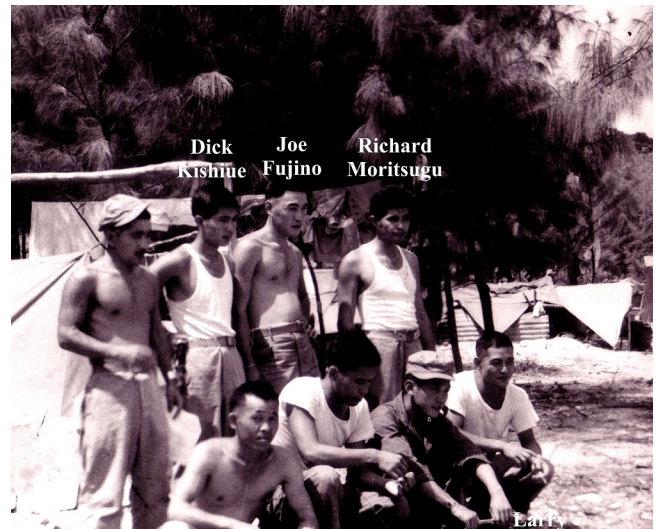
Mary Murakami and Dr. Ray Murakami with ESL students at NOVA's Alexandria Campus. Forty students and three teachers attended Mary Murakami's lecture and were very grateful to her for sharing her experiences and for providing them with copies of *Blossoms in the Desert*. The students were also appreciative of Dr. Murakami's words at the event.

## Richard Yutaka Moritsugu, Military Intelligence Service

By Robert M.J. Moritsugu

While growing up in post-WWII Hawaii of the 1950-1960's, I knew only two things about my father's wartime service: he was with the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) in the Pacific theater, and he had been on Saipan. To say my father was parsimonious regarding his WWII exploits would be a gross understatement—he usually responded to questions with a couple of “harumphs” or what seemed to be his favorite expression, “Let sleeping dogs lie.” If not for my mother's references to fairly regular visits from the FBI during the war, my siblings and I probably would not even have known of the MIS connection—she explained that my father was with military intelligence and the FBI wanted to know what he was writing in his letters home from overseas. I knew of his time on Saipan only because, when I was nine-years old, two journalists, Fred Goerner and Ross Game, came to our home during the fall of 1962 to question him about a Japanese prisoner of war (POW) captured on Saipan in July 1944. The POW allegedly had in his possession a picture showing Amelia Earhart standing near Japanese aircraft on an airfield. According to the journalists, the POW reported that the woman in the picture was taken prisoner along with a male companion, and the POW thought they both subsequently were executed. My father was one of three MIS interpreters, along with Roy Masami Higashi and William Y. Nuno, who might have interrogated the POW. As was his custom, my father deflected Goerner and Ross's questions concerning his military service citing lapses of memory and referred them to Higashi or Nuno. I learned later from reading Goerner's 1966 publication, *The Search for Amelia Earhart*, that Higashi and Nuno had done exactly the same when confronted by Goerner. Some 35 years after Goerner's interview, my father finally relented to my periodic revisiting of the subject, acknowledging that he had interrogated the POW with the photograph. He put it very plainly--there were more important, pressing matters to deal with at the time than an “archeological dig” so he forwarded the POW and the picture on for higher headquarters to sort out. That was all there was to his involvement, and that ended the matter.

Everything else I eventually learned about my father came from third parties, publications, or documents found after his passing. Since he said so little about the MIS, we knew more about other relatives' exploits in North Africa, Italy, and France with the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, Separate, (100<sup>th</sup> BN) and 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team (442<sup>nd</sup> RCT). To my surprise, while reading Joseph D. Harrington's 1979 tribute to the MIS, *Yankee Samurai: The Secret Role of Nisei in America's Pacific Victory*, I discovered that my father was already in uniform when Japanese Imperial forces attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941—he was loading a machine gun on the back of a truck at Schofield Barracks to help repel the air assault. According to his service records, he was drafted in June 1941 and served continuously until discharged in November 1945. While researching his own family's service history, a cousin found that my father initially served with the 298<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the Hawaii Territorial Guard until it was consolidated with other Nisei members of the 299<sup>th</sup> to form the 100<sup>th</sup> BN in June 1942. Assigned to B Company, he and the other members of the 100<sup>th</sup> BN shipped out for Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, for combat training. According to the writings of 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT/ MIS wartime historian, Ted T. Tsukiyama, while at Camp McCoy, my father and 58 other members of the 100<sup>th</sup> BN were drafted for intelligence specialist training and transferred to the Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) at Camp Savage, Minnesota, in December 1942, forming the “senpai gumi” of Hawaii Nisei to enter the MIS.<sup>1</sup> According to his MIS teammate, Nobuo Dick Kishue, after graduating from 26 weeks of schooling in the Japanese language, he, Tim Tokuyuki Ohta, Hoichi 'Bob' Kubo, Shigeo 'Jack' Tanimoto, Joe Yuzuru Fujino, Larry Yoshimi Saito, Higashi, Nuno, and my father were sent to Schofield Barracks in Hawaii and assigned to the 27th Infantry Division. Kishiue, Tanimoto, and Kubo were temporarily detached to support the invasion of Makin Island in November 1943. According to his records, while Kishue et al were at Makin, my father was deployed elsewhere in the Gilbert and Marshall Islands (Central Pacific Campaign, 1943-1944) before the entire team joined in the June-July 1944 invasion of Saipan (Western Pacific Campaign). His final deployment before separation from service was the invasion of Okinawa (Ryukus Campaign, March-July 1945).<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Tsukiyama explained that “senpai” translated into English means “elder,” “senior,” “predecessor” or “pioneer,” and the word “gumi” means “group,” “team,” or “class,” so “senpai gumi” as referred to herein means “pioneer group” or “pioneer class.” “Senpai Gumi” is also the title of an anthology edited by 100th BN/MIS veteran Richard S. Oguro, which tells the story of the initial group of 59 100<sup>th</sup> BN Nisei soldiers who were transferred from their Camp McCoy training to the Camp Savage MISLS.

<sup>2</sup> After four years, four months, and 19 days of military service, Richard Yutaka Moritsugu separated from the MIS as a Technician 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade (equivalent rating of a Staff Sergeant). He was awarded the American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Bronze Star Medal, and Unit Citation for Meritorious Service (27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division).

# 'America's Secret Weapon' Honored at Luncheon

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Brian M. Wilbur



Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veterans and distinguished guests pose for a group photo before a luncheon honoring the veterans at the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki as part of the MIS Veterans National Reunion. (U.S. Navy/MC2 Brian Wilbur)

because of trail blazers like the men and women of the MIS and other Nisei who advanced the cause for Japanese Americans to include the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion.”

The MIS veterans, primarily made up of Nisei, played a significant role in the victory over the Japanese in World War II. Roughly 6,000 Japanese Americans, using their understanding of the Japanese language and culture, helped to translate documents and intercepted communications as well as fight as infantrymen during the war in the Asia-Pacific. Their contributions helped to significantly shorten the duration of WWII and pave the way for a more diverse military. “I’ve heard it said that the three great levelers are discipline, time, and patience. Great nations have been made greater, often by the hands of men and women of diversity, who stood out as an example of an ideal, resolutely working to affect change,” said Harris. “The Japanese Americans of yours, the greatest generation, used all three of these levelers to affect great change in our nation, and the stellar wartime record of Japanese Americans helped trigger the desegregation of the military not long after the war.”

The MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii was established in June of 1946 and has since contributed representatives to countless WWII commemorations and military ceremonies, supported charities and provided support for the Battleship Missouri. They are currently looking to expand membership. “Our biggest project this year is trying to enlist more younger members for the MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii,” said MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii board member George Arine. “We would love more of the sons and daughters of veterans to join to carry on their family’s legacy. Some of them were here today to help.”

Harris was proud to be in a room with the men and women of significant military history. “I stand on the shoulder of giants. I’m humbled to be in your presence and thankful to play a small part in your reunion today.”

For more information on the MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii, please visit their website at [www.misveteranshawaii.com](http://www.misveteranshawaii.com)

**HONOLULU** - The Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Veterans Club of Hawaii hosted a luncheon banquet in honor of the MIS Veterans National Reunion at the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki, March 28. The theme of the reunion was “Keeping the MIS Legacy Alive” and was the backdrop for the grand opening of the “America’s Secret Weapon” exhibit at the U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii showcasing the contributions made by MIS and Nisei veterans.

Keynote speaker Adm. Harry Harris, Jr., commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet commended the veterans for their service and the path they forged for future generations.

“It’s no exaggeration when I say that the world we live in today was born of your achievements,” Harris said during his remarks. “And it’s no exaggeration when I say that for me to be where I am today, a Japanese-American four-star admiral, in command of the United States Pacific Fleet is



Adm. Harry Harris Jr., commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, delivers remarks during the luncheon for the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Veterans National Reunion. (U.S. Navy/MC2 Brian Wilbur)

## Meet the Generals and Admirals

Each quarter JAVA features 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. 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.

### Rear Admiral James E. Beebe, USN



RADM (ret) James E. Beebe is a native of Wahiawa, Hawaii and a graduate of Leilehua High School. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, class of 1975 receiving a bachelor's degree in ocean engineering.

His naval career began with assignment to USS *Robert E. Lee* (SSBN 601) gold crew as First Lieutenant. This was followed by completion of the naval nuclear propulsion training program at Mare Island, CA, and Idaho Falls, ID, in 1977. Upon completion of the Submarine Officer's Basic Course (SOBC) in Groton, Conn., he reported to USS *George Washington* (SSBN 598) Blue crew as Reactor Controls Officer. He subsequently served as the ship's Damage Control Assistant and Assistant Navigator/Communications Officer.

RADM Beebe affiliated with the Naval Reserves in 1981 and served tours as Department Head for the Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Naval Forces Central Command, and Logistic Task Force Pacific staff reserve units. He served as reserve unit Executive Officer for Commander, Submarine Squadron 7 (CSS-7) and Commander Submarine Forces Pacific reserve units. His first command was Competent (AFDM 6) floating drydock reserve support unit in Pearl Harbor which earned the Battle Efficiency 'E'. His command assignments also include the CSS-7 staff reserve unit, United States Pacific Command Naval Reserve Detachment 120 recipient of the Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation and U.S. Naval Forces Japan, Naval Reserve Detachment 219 recipient of the FY 1998 Leo V. Bilger award.

Beebe also served as the Reserve Manpower Director for Commander Submarine Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commanding Officer of Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet Detachment 420 Management Assessment Team (MAT) unit. This unit provided professional management consulting services and support to the Pacific Fleet Commander's staff. Detachment 420 was recently honored as recipient of the FY 2000 Leo V. Bilger award. RADM Beebe's final assignment was as Director, Submarine Reserve and Deputy Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. As Director, Submarine Reserves he was responsible for more than 3,000 Reservists across 98 reserve units supporting the Submarine Force. As Deputy Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet he was responsible for approximately 1,500 Naval Reservists assigned to 48 reserve units spread across 11 states supporting the Pacific Submarine Force. He was also assigned as Deputy Commander, Navy Region Hawaii.

RADM Beebe is a graduate of the Naval War College Joint operations, Strategy and Policy and National Security/Decision Making courses. RADM Beebe's personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Navy Commendation Medal (2 awards), Navy Achievement Medal and various service ribbons.

### Rear Admiral Kriete, Supporter of JAVA, Becomes Member

RDML Dave Kriete, commander, Submarine Group 9, Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Silverdale, WA, a supporter of JAVA, has become a member. He is responsible for the readiness, training, logistical, administrative and personnel support of all U.S. ballistic missile (SSBN) and guided missile (SSGN) submarines in the Pacific Northwest. Born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., RADM Kriete is a 1984 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy where he majored in General Engineering. Following commissioning he completed Naval Nuclear Power training in Orlando, FL and Ballston Spa, NY. He holds a Masters in Engineering Management from Old Dominion University.

In his previous flag assignment he served as the Deputy Director of Plans and Policy, U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), Offutt Air Force Base, NE, where he was responsible for development of the nation's strategic war plan, strategic support plans for theater combatant commanders and contingency planning for the global strike mission. He also served as Deputy Director Force Employment at U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFF).

At sea he served as a Division Officer aboard USS *Finback* (SSN 670); Engineer, Navigator/Operations, and Weapons Officer aboard USS *Flying Fish* (SSN 673); Executive Officer of USS *Kentucky* (SSBN 737)(Gold); Commanding Officer of USS *Rhode Island* (SSBN 740)(Blue); and Commander, Submarine Squadron Six. During his tour as Commanding Officer, USS *Rhode Island* (Blue) received the Commander, Submarine Squadron Sixteen Battle Efficiency Award for 2003, 2004, and 2005, and the Trident Outstanding Performance Award for 2003 and 2004.

His shore and staff assignments include: Assistant Force Special Operations Officer on the staff of Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet; Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board Member on the Staff of Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; Nuclear Operations Divisions staff officer on the Joint Staff; senior member of the Submarine Force Atlantic Tactical Readiness Evaluation team; and Prospective Commanding Officer (PCO) instructor on the staff of Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic. While assigned to the Navy Staff from 2008 to 2010, he started the *Ohio* (SSBN) Replacement program and served as representative to the Nuclear Posture Review and the New START Treaty. He later served as the Chief of Staff to Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic and Commander Task Force 144 and Deputy Commander, Allied Submarine Command.

RDML Kriete's decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal (two awards), Legion of Merit (five awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (six awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), Navy Unit Commendation (two awards), Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation (two awards) and Battle Efficiency "E" (five awards).



### News from UN's Top Commander in Afghanistan



General John F. Campbell, USA, sent his periodic newsletter from Kabul, Afghanistan, where he is Commander of the International Security Assistance Force/US Forces - Afghanistan, or otherwise called the Resolute Support Command, dated April 3, 2015. These newsletters provide unique insights of developments and issues affecting his command at the highest level.



Talking with troops at RS Headquarters about events which transpired in Washington, DC.

During March 2015 the Commander was engaged in preparing for and supporting Afghanistan's President Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah's visit to Washington, DC where Ghani addressed the joint session of Congress, met with Washington officials at Camp David, held meetings at the White House, Defense and State Departments. The Afghan leaders are grateful for American support to defeat the terrorists and to bring stability and self-reliance to their nation.

There were several key decisions made during the Washington, DC trip, to include economic, governance, and security agreements which demonstrates the United States intent to remain an enduring partner to Afghanistan. Most notably in the security area, the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) will remain at 352K in 2017. The "big" news was President Obama's announcement in how the US now has the flexibility to maintain up to roughly 10K troops in Afghanistan through the end of 2015 and into 2016. This allows the U.S. forces to focus on the Train-Advise-Assist mission throughout the upcoming fighting season, without simultaneously conducting retrograde operations. It is hoped that coalition nations will subscribe to the US example and it will be the Commander's job to help realize this goal.



Congressional delegations and American and allied officials were received and briefed by the Commander and staff of the Resolute Support Command. In addition, the Commander visited Pakistan to ensure that his command receives defensive support from Afghanistan's neighbor.

Photo on left: U.S. and Afghan executive-level discussions at the White House.

### Greetings from 335th Signal Command in Kuwait

Brigadier General Garrett Yee, USA, Commanding General of the 335th Signal Command located in Kuwait is responsible for military communications throughout southwest Asia. BG Yee oversaw many transitions during the month of March, 2015. He reported welcoming about 60 new Soldiers as they started their 12-month deployment, and saying thank you to about 60 Soldiers they replaced along with several changes in the Command Group. He was also very happy to report, on a personal note, that he was able to visit with his nephew, Private Gera Vera, who recently deployed to Kuwait.



BG Yee and nephew Private Gera Vera in Kuwait.

## Hamada to be inducted in Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame

Press release provided by the Military Intelligence Service Veterans Club of Hawaii



Dick S. Hamada.

Photo courtesy of the Hamada family.

The late Dick S. Hamada of Honolulu has been accepted for induction into the Army's Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Hamada, who died in May 2014 at the age of 92, will be inducted in ceremonies in June, according to a letter from Maj. Gen. Robert P. Ashley, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center of Excellence.

Hamada was one of about 6,000 Japanese Americans – Nisei – who served in the Military Intelligence Service in World War II against their ancestral homeland. Hamada was among a handful of MIS Nisei assigned to Detachment 101 of the Office of Strategic Services, forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency. They spent months deep behind enemy lines in Northern Burma conducting clandestine operations, leading native and Allied troops in guerilla raids, gathering intelligence and rescuing downed Allied aviators. Deep in Burma's jungles, their only supply line consisted of air drops. Hamada was hospitalized twice with malaria and dysentery, encountered tigers, learned how to deal with leeches.

In early 1945, Hamada singlehandedly saved his battalion from being wiped out at the village of Ke Hsi Mansam. Made up primarily of native Kachin troops, the battalion was in the third day of fighting, and Hamada was leading a platoon of Nationalist Chinese troops protecting its left flank. Under intense, concentrated Japanese attack, Hamada's troops began faltering. He went from foxhole to foxhole, exposed to direct enemy fire, exhorting and rallying his men and manning a machine gun himself. The platoon held and the enemy attack was repulsed. Hamada's

commanding officer, an American, commended his leadership and credited Hamada with saving the entire battalion from "total defeat."

Following the Burma campaign, Hamada and other Japanese Americans were assigned to OSS Detachment 202 in China. Emperor Hirohito's August 15, 1945, announcement of Japan's capitulation immediately raised concerns about the fate of thousands of U.S. and Allied prisoners – military and civilians – still held by the Japanese. Seven OSS teams, each including a Nisei interpreter, were dispatched to parachute into Japanese prison camps in China, Korea and French Indochina. Hamada was assigned to Operation Magpie, parachuting into Fengtai Prison in Peiping (today's Beijing) on August 17. After a hostile reception and two days of negotiation, the Magpie team secured the liberation of several hundred prisoners, including four of the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders and the commander and other survivors of the Wake Island garrison.

Following the war, Hamada returned to Hawaii and worked at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, retiring as a planner and estimator supervisor. He was also widely known around the Islands as a baseball and softball umpire.

He was nominated for the Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame by retired Maj. Gen. Arthur Ishimoto, an MIS veteran of World War II who went on to become adjutant general of Hawaii. "Dick Hamada was a true American hero whose exploits were largely unnoticed during his lifetime. His induction into the Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame is long overdue and well-deserved," said Ishimoto, who served in combat in the Philippines and in the occupation of Japan after the war. "The Nisei were recruited to use our knowledge of Japanese language and culture against the enemy," said Ishimoto. "But we were soldiers first, as Dick Hamada and many others demonstrated."

Ishimoto has also initiated a review of Hamada's role in the battle at Ke Hsi Mansam for a possible upgrade to the Bronze Star that Hamada was awarded. The two men only met a year before Hamada's demise, when they spoke on a panel discussion about the MIS. It is no wonder that many MIS Nisei didn't know each other. Many of them were deployed in 10-man teams attached to fighting units. Many others drew special, temporary assignments in small groups or as individuals. And military intelligence, both during and after the war, was cloaked in secrecy until some records were declassified many years later.



Brig Gen John Magruder, left, deputy director of the Office of Strategic Services, presents Dick Hamada the Soldier's Medal on Jan. 3, 1946, in Washington, D.C., for Hamada's role in Operation Magpie. Photo courtesy of the Hamada family.

## Harry Fukuhara, Military Intelligence Hall of Fame Member, Passes at 95



Military Intelligence Hall of Fame member COL Harry K. Fukuhara passed away on 8 April 2015. COL Fukuhara was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1988 and served as a Distinguished Member of the MI Corps since 1993.

COL Fukuhara, a second-generation Japanese-American from Seattle, enlisted in the US Army in 1942. He studied the Japanese language at the Military Intelligence Service Language School and was assigned, in May 1943, as an interpreter/interrogator/translator with the Allied Translator and Interpreter Service (ATIS) in the South-west Pacific. He led a 10-man ATIS team throughout World War II and received a battlefield commission to Second Lieutenant in 1945. He continued to serve as an interpreter/translator for the US Army during the occupation of Japan and then became a counterintelligence agent, with service in Osaka and Tokyo, Japan, San Francisco, and at Fort Meade. He retired from the Army in 1971 but remained active in the MI Excepted Career Program through 1991.

He was also very active in ensuring that the Japanese-Americans who served in the Military Intelligence Service during World War II received the recognition they so rightly deserved.

COL Fukuhara's Hall of Fame biography can be accessed at <https://www.ikn.army.mil/apps/MIHOF/Home>. COL Fukuhara was highlighted in the film "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties."



## News from Veterans Organizations & Friends

Torance, California. Go For Broke National Education Center e-Torch of February 27, 2015 said that the interpretive exhibit of the Learning Center will open in Little Tokyo historical district in Spring 2016. The exhibit will allow visitors to actively create their own experience while learning about the combat experiences of the Nisei soldiers.

San Francisco, California. The National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) Education program provides students with the tools to prepare themselves as informed citizens. The study of the internment is one that all students should reflect upon and to protect the individual at all times.

Seattle, Washington. Densho e-News. March 16, 2015. During WW II Japanese Americans living in Bainbridge Island, Washington were some of the first to be evacuated. On March 30, 1942 they had to take a special ferry to Seattle and from there traveled by train to Manzanar internment camp. At that time Walt Woodward was editor of the island newspaper, *Bainbridge Review*. Densho has a clip in which Woodward shares his memories of the day the Japanese Americans were removed. Woodward's full interview is available in Densho's digital archives.

Seattle, Washington. Nisei Veterans Committee, March 2015, newsletter said a seven story, 96 unit, affordable housing project is being built at 4<sup>th</sup> and Main. The building will be named "Hirabayashi Place" in honor of Gordon Hirabayashi, who challenged Executive Order 9066. . . . Commander Allen Nakamoto announced that Yuzo Tokita, decorated Vietnam War fighter pilot, will be the next NVC Commander. JAVA offers its congratulations to Yuzo.

Honolulu, Hawaii. MIS Hawaii Newsletter said the late Dick S. Hamada was accepted for induction in June 2015 in the MIS Hall of Fame at Huachuca, Arizona. During WW II Hamada served in Det 101, Office of Strategic Services (OSS) deep behind enemy lines in Burma to disrupt enemy operations. JAVA appreciates Maj Gen Arthur Ishimoto, USAF (Ret), for his role in obtaining the well-deserved recognition for an American patriot, Dick Hamada.

San Francisco, California. JACL Digest of April 7, 2015 said Mike M. Masaoka, JACL National Secretary during the early phases of WW II, will be honored at the 2015 JACL National Convention Sayonara banquet at Las Vegas on July 15, 2015. Masaoka worked tirelessly to advance the cause of Japanese Americans during WW II and helped to form the 442<sup>nd</sup> and to abolish many discriminatory laws that affected Asian Americans. He died in 1991.

San Francisco, California. JACL Digest, March 31, 2015. The Honouliuli National Monument was dedicated on March 31 by Secretary of Interior Sally Newell, Hawaii Governor David Ige and Hawaii Senator Mazie Hirono. The internment center opened in March 1943 and held 400 civilian internees and 4,000 POWs. It is administered by the National Park Service.



## JAVA to Join APAICS & PPALM at the 2nd Annual Military Leadership Luncheon

JAVA is very pleased to join The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) and the Pan Pacific American Leaders and Mentors Organization (PPALM) at the 2nd Annual Military Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 in Washington, DC, to promote leadership diversity and Asian American Pacific Islander representation in our military troops and celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The event is sponsored by Toyota.

The goal of this luncheon is to promote leadership diversity and Asian American and Pacific Islander representation in the Armed Forces. During the luncheon, which includes veterans and Active members of the Armed Forces, participants will learn how to use their skills and experiences for professional development. The first Military Leadership Luncheon held in 2014 featured honoree Admiral Harry B. Harris, then U.S. Commander of the United States Pacific Fleet, now Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo and retired Lieutenant Colonel, Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth.

Lieutenant General James L. Huggins, Jr., US Army, will be the keynote speaker at the 2015 Luncheon. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant through Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1980. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms Staff Service School, United States Army Command and Staff College, Armed Forces Staff College, and the United States Army War College. He holds a Masters Degree from Central Michigan University.

Lieutenant General Huggins has commanded airborne infantry units at the company, battalion, brigade, and division levels. His service as a staff officer includes tours as an S3/G3 Operations officer at battalion, brigade, and division levels. Following brigade command in Operation Enduring Freedom, he served as the Chief of Staff, 82nd Airborne Division in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Chief of Staff, XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg and the Multi-National Corps- Iraq, and Deputy Commanding General (Maneuver) 3rd Infantry Division during the Operation Iraqi Freedom surge, LTG Huggins then served as Director, Operations, Readiness and Mobilization, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7, Washington, DC. In August 2010 he assumed command of the 82nd Airborne Division and led CJTF 82 & Regional Command-South in Operation Enduring Freedom until September 2012. LTG Huggins has been afforded many unique professional experiences and opportunities to include tours with the 3rd and 25th Infantry Divisions, PACOM, 82nd Airborne Division, XVIII Airborne Corps, as well as two operational deployments and seven combat tours in **Operations Just Cause, Desert Shield/Storm, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom** tours. On 8 March 2013, LTG Huggins assumed duties as the HQDA G-3/5/7.



### Ishimoto Speaks at Army Antiterrorism Conference

Wade Ishimoto, outgoing JAVA President and Adjunct Faculty Member at the Joint Special Operations University, spoke at the US Army's Annual Antiterrorism Conference on February 4, 2015. Mr. Ishimoto, leveraging his more than 35 years of Combating Terrorism experience and expertise, provided personal thoughts on the relationship of Combating Terrorism to the instruments of national power (diplomacy, information, military, economics, financial, intelligence and law enforcement). He also posed the idea that geography and people play an increasingly important role in influencing and shaping U.S efforts in Combating Terrorism. The audience was about 350 select invitees from world-wide Army installations and was held at the Shades of Green Resort, Orlando, FL.

## Thank you, Donors! JAVA is grateful for the generosity of our members and friends (January 1, 2015 – March 31, 2015 )

### General Fund

Mrs. Joan Feldman  
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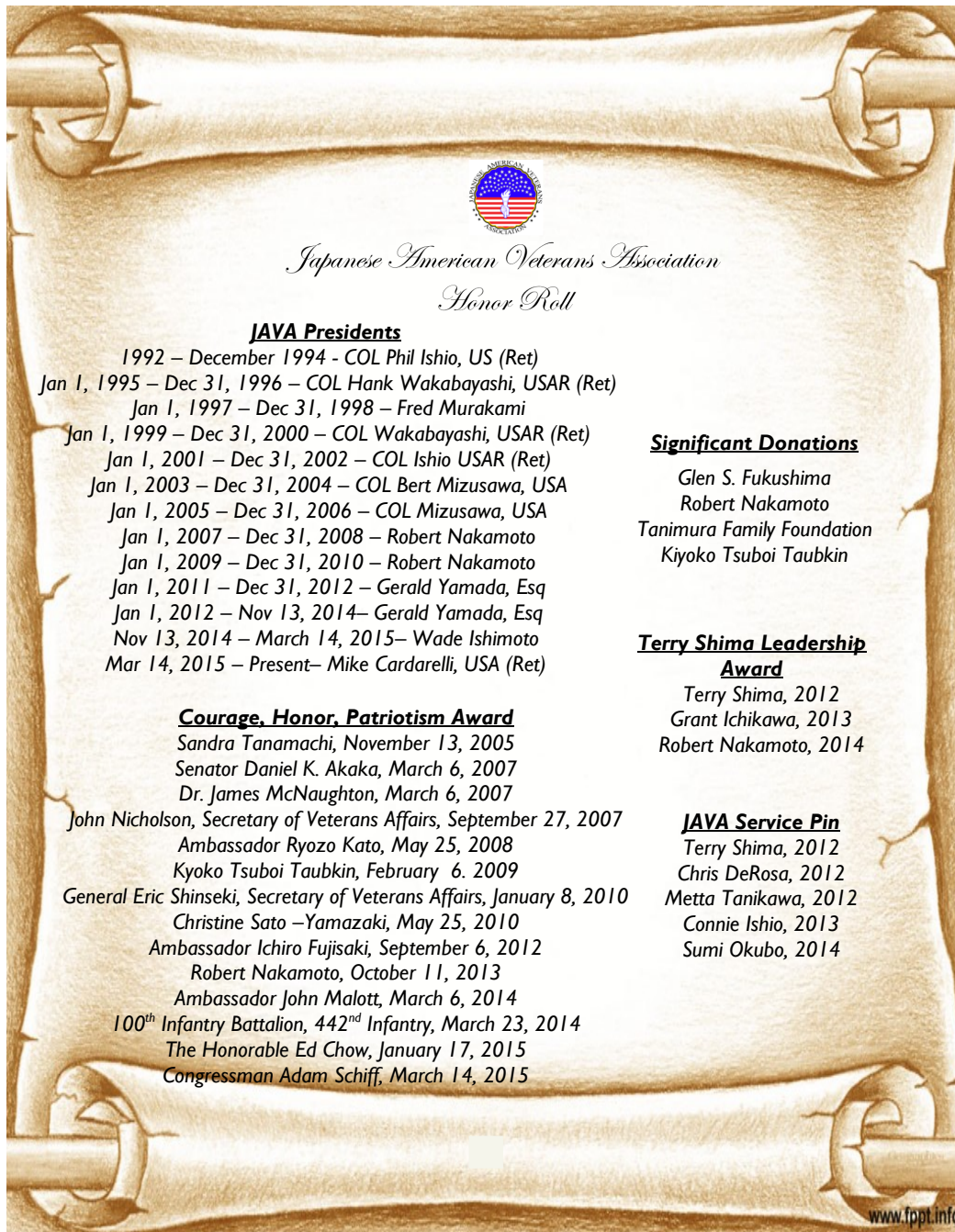
Kay Hirabayashi  
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## JAVA Honor Roll

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.



## 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 or cadet/midshipman? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dates that relative served: \_\_\_\_\_ Which Service? \_\_\_\_\_

Mail application to: Wade Ishimoto or email application to: Pohaku59@aol.com  
5703 Barbmor Court  
Alexandria, VA 22310

Application Explanations: JAVA is a registered 501(c) (19) War Veterans Organization and must comply with Internal Revenue Code provisions 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 United States Armed Forces 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 United States Armed Forces during any period other than those specified above. In addition, cadets/midshipmen and spouses, widows, or widowers of war veterans, veterans, or cadets/midshipmen 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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**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. Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, VA.

**October 3, 2015** – JAVA EC Meeting

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

**November 11, 2015** – White House breakfast (8 am); Arlington Cemetery Amphitheater (11 am); Veterans Day Program, National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism (2 pm)

**December 12, 2015** – JAVA EC Meeting

**January 16, 2016** – JAVA Annual Lunch



### JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION

c/o JAVA President  
5703 Barbmor Court  
Alexandria, VA 22310

#### Please send correspondence to:

**General:** Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret), brucehollywood@gmail.com; 703-229-3198

**Education & Outreach:** Terry Shima, ttshima@comcast.net; 301-987-6746

**Facebook:** LCDR Janella Kuroda, USNR, janellekuroda@gmail.com

**Membership:** Col Derek Hirohata, USAF, ninjaderek@aol.com; 873-391-7116

**Finance:** Vacant

**Freedom Walk:** LTC Marty Herbert, USA (Ret), Martyherb@aol.com. 703-509-6473

**National Memorial Day Parade:** LTC Marty Herbert, USA (Ret) (see above)

**Arlington Cemetery:** Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret) (see above)

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

**Newsletter (Advocate):** Thomas Phan & Jill Phan, Editors, aava.phan@yahoo.com; Chirs DeRosa, Circulation, chris@vabutterfly.net

**Press Release:** Terry Shima (see above)

**Oral History:** Wade Ishimoto, pohaku59@aol.com; 703-989-0983

**Policy:** COL Michael Cardarelli, USA (Ret.), President, 703-472-2152, mikecardarelli@aol.com

**Quarterly Lunch:** Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret) (see above), Metta Tanikawa, laertesVA@yahoo.com

**Round Robin:** LTC Brett Egusa, USAR

**Sakura Matsuri:** Reuben Yoshikawa, ryoshika@verizon.net

**Scholarship:** Wade Ishimoto (see above)

**JAVA Awards:** Terry Shima (see above)

**Speakers Bureau:** Terry Shima (see above)

**Veterans Day:** Col Bruce Hollywood (Ret) (see above)

**Webmaster:** Dave Buto, admin@javadc.org; 703-425-1444 and James Tani, jamestani@aol.com

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