



JAVA ADVOCATE

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Admiral Harris Assumes Pacific Fleet Command

Pacific Fleet to Continue Rebalance Focus

From U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawai'i - With the USS Arizona and Battleship Missouri Memorials as a backdrop, Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr. relieved Adm. Cecil D. Haney as commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet during a change of command ceremony on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on October 16, 2013.

"The only thing that makes my departure a little easier is knowing that my good friend and Naval Academy classmate Adm. Harry Harris is my replacement," said Haney. "He has had an exceptional career filled with challenging assignments that have more than prepared him to command the Pacific Fleet. He knows the Indo-Asia-Pacific region and fully understands its complexities." Haney spoke of those complexities, and

how the Navy's historic role in the region will continue to promote security, stability, prosperity and peace. "Our nation today looks to the future as we rebalance to the Indo-Asia-



With Adm. Samuel Locklear III, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, right, looking on, Adm. Cecil D. Haney passes through the side boys after being relieved by Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, right center, during a change of command ceremony on the Pearl Harbor waterfront. (photo from U.S. Navy by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Johans Chavarro)

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Spirit of '45 Day Honors WW II Service Senators



The Spirit of 45 Day kicked off this year at the National WW II Memorial in the Nation's Capital and ended at Punchbowl, Hawai'i, on August 11, 2013. This year's program honored the late Senators Daniel K. Inouye and Frank Lautenberg, the last WW II veterans to serve in the U.S. Congress and cosponsors of the Spirit of '45 Day Bill, which passed unanimously in 2010. With the Lincoln Memorial in the background, Ken Inouye, son of the late Senator, is pictured addressing the large audience. On his left are his wife Jessica and daughter Maggie. On his right are Terry Shima, JAVA representative and 442nd veteran; Avery Penn, holding a wartime photo of Senator Inouye; and Lauren Penn, who spoke on what the Spirit of '45 Day means to her. Mrs. Irene Hirano Inouye, widow of the late Senator, attended the Punchbowl ceremony. (Photo by Noriko Sanefuji)

President's Message



On September 16, 2013, we witnessed the senseless attack on Navy Yard employees resulting in 12 innocent persons being killed in Washington, DC. This attack on a US military installation on American soil caused an unimaginable loss of life. They died working to protect America. They are patriots.

On September 11th, we commemorated the 12th anniversary of the passing of the innocent victims of the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center, Pentagon and Shanksville, PA. Again, we experienced the senseless loss of innocent persons.

I ask that you observe a moment of silence to honor these brave Americans and to console their grieving families and friends.

The American people's reaction to both horrific events demonstrates that Ameri-

cans can come together to be strong and to strengthen our resolve that such tragic events will never happen again.

JAVA's mission as a veteran service organization is to help ensure that those who have died in war and those who have perished on American soil are honored and their sacrifices are not forgotten.

I invite you to JAVA's annual Veterans Day Program at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism on November 11th in Washington, DC and to join us in remembering and honoring all who are serving and have served. With your support, we will keep America strong and protected.

- Gerald Yamada, Esq.
JAVA President

Welcome New Members!

CDR Eric (Rick) Campbell, USN (Ret.)
COL Stacey K. Hirata, USA (Ret.)
Maj Wayne Kodama, USAFR
LTC Claude E. Larouche, USA (Ret.)
MAJ Setsy Sadamoto Larouche, USA (Ret.)
Lt Col Michael P. Nishimuta, USAF (Ret.)
COL Mark Nozaki, USA
LCDR Jorge M. Shimabukuro, USN
CW4 Gary T. Shimizu, USA (Ret.)
CAPT Marcus Baron Yonehiro, USN (Ret.)

Free Lifetime Memberships to Veterans

JAVA is now offering FREE Lifetime Memberships for Veterans of World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, current military personnel of 100th Battalion-442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Desert Shield, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

(Application form on page 19 or the JAVA website at www.javadc.org.)

Honorary Chairs

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

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LTC Kay Wakatake, USA, Editor Emeritus
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Round Robin (Weekly Electronic Bulletin)

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

Congressional Gold Medal Displayed in Portland

By MAJ Setsy Sadamoto Larouche, USA (Ret)

PORTLAND, Ore. - The Opening Ceremony for the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) exhibit was held at the Oregon History Museum on August 24, 2013. Portland was selected as one of the seven cities to host the traveling Smithsonian Exhibit for the CGM. 17 WWII veterans from the states of Oregon and Washington were in attendance. Senator Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) delivered brief remarks thanking everyone -- especially veterans from the 100th Bn, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service -- for their service to America while their families were being incarcerated in ten camps around the United States.



L-R: Tex Irinaga, 442nd Veteran; Lynn Longfellow, Executive Director of O.N.E. ; Kaz Oda (seated), 442nd Veteran; Richard Iwata, MIS Veteran; Christine Sato-Yamazaki, Chairperson, NVN; Setsy Larouche, Past Commander, Oregon Nisei Veterans; Japan Consul General Furusawa; Kerry Tymchuk, Executive Director, Oregon Historical Society; Mrs. Antoinette Hatfield, Widow of Senator Mark Hatfield; and Sho Dozono, Honorary Chair of the American Heroes Luncheon. (Photo by Curtis Suyematsu, Reflections Photography)

Following the opening ceremony, the veterans were shuttled to the Hilton Hotel for a luncheon held to honor them for their sacrifice and service to our nation. Over 300 people attended the luncheon and heard from The Honorable Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, who spoke about the courage and inspiration of the honored veterans with

touching comments on how they were his inspiration to do his best with every aspect of his military service. Secretary Shinseki also met with each veteran privately to thank them for their heroic role in American history and he presented each of them with his coin. Senator Wyden also spoke, stressing the importance of the CGM award to these units, and how their contribution to the victory of World War II was such a great American story. Lynn Longfellow introduced each of the veterans, followed by brief remarks from Christine Sato-Yamazaki, Chairperson, National Veterans Network.

The program day wrapped up at the Hilton Hotel that evening with the showing of the documentary *Searchlight Serenade* introduced by artist Amy Uyeki. Portland's own Minidoka Swing Band played after the screening and everyone had a wonderful time dancing to the music of the forties.

The Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center features "Our Humble Heroes" until Jan 5, 2014, which features stories from Pearl Harbor, the European and Pacific Campaigns, and the training camps here on the home front.

We are grateful for the sponsors for our events: The Oregon Nikkei Endowment; The Oregon History Museum; The Smithsonian; the National Veterans Network; Cole Chemical; AARP; Comcast/NBC Universal; JAVA; The Pritzker Military Library; Southwest Air Lines; and the Spirit Mountain Community Fund. Local support was provided by: The Freeman Foundation; The Confederate Tribe of Grand Ronde; the Japanese Ancestral Society of Portland; KGW News Channel 8; KINK FM; The Bill Naito Family; Samuel T. and Mary K. Naito Foundation; the *Oregonian*; Oregon Nisei Veterans; Portland Business Alliance; Portland JACL; Pat & Trudy Ritz; and the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee.



General Eric Shinseki, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, speaking in Portland, Oregon, to honor Nisei veterans. (Photo from Curtis Suyematsu, Reflections Photography)

JAVA Members Participate in VJ Day Program

WASHINGTON D.C. - JAVA members, including LTC Mark Nakagawa, USA (Ret.), were invited to participate in the presentation of wreaths at the VJ Day program at the National WW II Memorial on September 2, 2013. The WW II Memorial is located on the Mall, between the Abraham Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. The program included of speeches by U.S. military and National Park Service officials, singing by renowned Irish tenor Anthony Kearnes, and music by the US. Army Brass Quintet. Wreaths of the military branches were presented at the Heroes Wall, marked by stars representing over 400,000 American soldiers who were killed in combat. The audience consisted of men and women in military uniforms, veterans of all the wars, families of veterans, and students. Pictured (right) is one of the wreaths presentation teams. From L-R: LTC Nakagawa; COL Dennis Duggan, USA (Ret.); and WWII veteran LTG Julius W. Becton, USA (Ret.). (Photo by Holly Rotondi)



JSDF and 7th Division visit NVC

SEATTLE, Wash. - On September 22, 2013 the Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC) of Seattle, Washington, invited about 70 representatives from the 7th Infantry Division of Joint Base Lewis McChord and the Japan Self-Defense Force 4th Division for a goodwill visit to the Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC) Hall. Major General Stephen Lanza, Commanding General of the 7th Division, and Major General Takeyoshi Omori, Commanding General of the JSDF 4th Division, made remarks designed to strengthen the U.S.-Japan alliance.

The luncheon served by the NVC Foundation included Japanese dishes, which were a hit especially with the Japanese visitors, and the Seattle Kokon Taiko group provided the entertainment. Seattle's Japanese-American leaders added dignity to the event and Seattle's Japanese Scholarship Princesses provided hospitality. The visitors were given a tour of the NVC facility, which includes priceless wartime memorabilia. Sam Mitsui, docent of Seattle Japanese American veterans, discussed the Japanese-American experience during WW II, labeling his remarks "Good things grow from horse manure." Soldiers received three DVDs -- *Senator Inouye's Journey to Washington*; *442nd: Live with Honor, Die with Dignity*; and *MIS: Human Secret Weapon*, re-

cently received from Nitto Tires, USA, Inc. as a public service. Japanese soldiers appreciated the Japanese subtitles on the DVDs and appeared surprised to learn that all three DVDs were produced by Japanese firms. The *Journey* was produced by Fuji Sankei Communications International; the other two were directed by Junichiro Suzuki. The 442nd film was shown in Japanese cinemas in 2011-2012 and the MIS film is presently being shown in Japanese cinemas nationwide.



JSDF and 7th Division representatives. NVC Commander Nakamoto is standing on the front row (white shirt). On his right is MG Omori. On Nakamoto's left are former NVC commanders Tosh Okamoto and Tom Kometani. Behind Kometani is MG Lanza. (Photo from NVC)

VA Transforming Paper Claims Process to Digital Environment

WASHINGTON - On September 10, 2013, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) 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.

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Only Two Nisei Surrendered to the Japanese Army, Became POWs

During WW II some 4, 200 Nisei served in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) in the Asia Pacific Theater and following the war another 3,000 trained linguists joined them to serve in the demobilization and subsequently in the occupation of Japan. Another 1,800 served elsewhere, in the U.S. at the Pentagon, the Manhattan Project in New York City, and at SHAEF headquarters in Europe. Many of them were attached to the U.S. Marines and infantry and served on front line duty with them. Fourteen Nisei volunteered for the Merrill's Marauders despite the Army's warning that "85% of you will not return" and another 14 volunteered for the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), to go behind the enemy lines to sabotage their operations.

The large number of combat-related awards reflects their front line duty. MG Charles A. Willoughby, Chief of Intelligence for General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the Pacific summed up the value of Nisei this way: "The information received through their skills proved invaluable

to our battle forces." Thousands of American lives were preserved and millions of dollars in material were saved as a result of the Nisei contribution to the war effort.

U.S. Army documents at the National Archives and Records Administration show repeatedly high level concern of the capture of Nisei linguists by Japanese forces and attempted to limit their duties to safe echelons. Operational urgency for the linguists to serve with the invading forces to interrogate Japanese POWs and translate documents to obtain tactical intelligence dictated their deployment to the front lines. As Willoughby said "spot interrogations of POWs taken in battle were at times of such importance that they caused a shift in Allied plans of attack".

Despite the risks taken by Nisei linguists, it is remarkable that only one MIS soldier, Richard Sakakida, became a POW of Ja-

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1945 Editorial on the 442nd Won Pulitzer

Editor's Note: The editorial, printed in full below, was written by William Hodding Carter II and published in the Delta Democrat-Times of Greenville, MS on August 27, 1945. According to a blog on the internet, "The title of the editorial comes from the motto of this regiment", seen in the photo [right]. "The editorial presents an outward challenge to white Americans



to treat these Japanese-American soldiers with the same respect and equality as the white soldiers. Carter was a proponent of racial tolerance for African Americans as well." "Go For Broke" won the 1946 Pulitzer Prize and is one of the most frequently-quoted Pulitzer Prize editorials in the award's history. It is one among a series that Carter wrote for the Delta Democrat-Times that focused on building respect between races.

Company D of the 168th Regiment which is stationed in Leghorn, Italy, is composed altogether of white troops, some from the East, some from the South, some from the Midwest and West Coast. Company D made an unusual promise earlier this month. The promise was in the form of a communication to their fellow Americans of the 442d Infantry Regiment and the 100th Infantry, whose motto is "Go For Broke," and it was subscribed to unanimously by the officers and men of Company D.

In brief, the communication pledged the help of Company D in

convincing "the folks back home that you are fully deserving of all the privileges with which we ourselves are bestowed."

The soldiers to whom that promise was made are Japanese-Americans. In all of the United States Army, no troops have chalked up a better combat record. Their record is so good that these Nisei were selected by General Francis H. Oxx, commander of the military area in which they are stationed, to lead the final victory parade. So they marched, 3,000 strong, at the head of thousands of other Americans, their battle flag with three Presidential unit citation streamers floating above them, their commander, a Wisconsin white colonel, leading them.

Some of those Nisei must have been thinking of the soul-shaking days of last October, when they spearheaded the attacks that opened the Vosges Mountain doorway to Strasbourg. Some of them were probably remembering how they, on another bloody day, had snatched the Thirty-Six Division's lost battalion of Texans from the encircling Germans. And many of them were bearing scars from those two engagements which alone had cost the Nisei boys from Hawaii and the West Coast 2,300 casualties.

Perhaps these yellow-skinned Americans, to whose Japanese kinsmen we have administered a terrific and long overdue defeat, were holding their heads a little higher because of the pledge of their white fellow-soldiers and fellow-Americans of Company D. Perhaps, when they gazed at their combat flag, the

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Letter "From Somewhere in Burma" Confirmed Nisei Contribution

Editor's Note: This is a story of a Nisei linguist, Edward Mitsukado, who served with the Merrill's Marauders in Burma during WW II. His letter to the Commander of MIS Language School was circulated to the high levels of the War Department. Mitsukado's remarks attest to Nisei dedication and loyalty to their nation and confirm the valuable intelligence contributions made by Nisei linguists to the war effort. The following are excerpts of an article written by Dr. Greg Bradsher, Senior Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) on August 16, 2012. JAVA (ttshima@comcast.net) will provide the full article on request. Mitsukado passed away in 2002 and his wife and two children are also deceased.

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - Technical Sergeant Edward Mitsukado of Honolulu, Hawai'i, a Nisei linguist with the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), more familiarly known as *Merrill's Marauders*, decided to write a letter in mid-June 1944 to Colonel Kai Rasmussen, Commandant of the Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) at Camp Savage, Minnesota, about what he had been doing and to suggest improvements for MISLS training.

Mitsukado began his "Somewhere in Burma" letter to Colonel Rasmussen by indicating "that the 14 boys who left Camp Sav-

age Sept. 13 of last year [1943] with Capt. [William A.] Laffin have done their job in magnificent style. They have conducted themselves as soldiers throughout the campaign, and officer[s] and men of this outfit have only the highest praise for them. They volunteered to come over with the volunteer outfit and have proved themselves beyond any doubt and question." Continuing, he wrote, "Fighting out here is heavy and goes on day and night. At nights the firing, the tracers, flares, and the fires make one think of a big New Year's celebration in Chinatown.



Edward Mitsukado. Taken at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, prior to his transfer from the 100th Infantry Battalion to the Military Intelligence Service. (Photo from

"Adding to our discomfort out here are the flies that stick to

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Letter "From Somewhere in Burma"

(Continued from page 5)

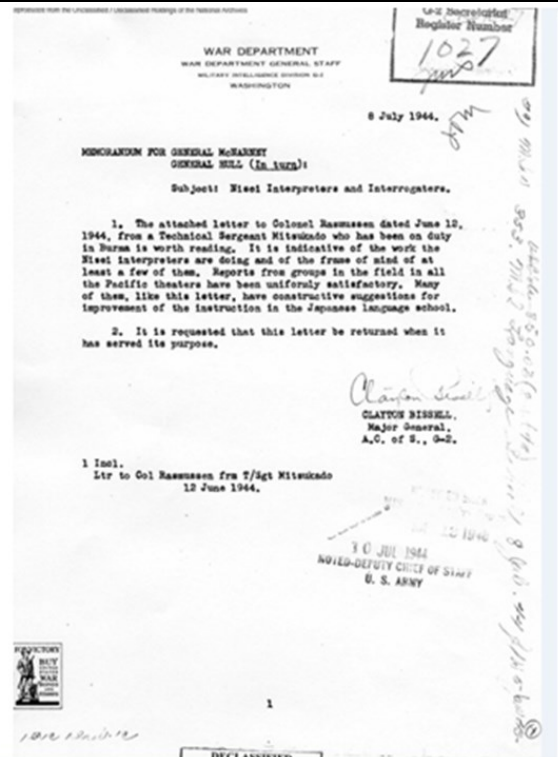
you during the day and mosquitoes that like to serenade to you all night. You can't eat a meal without a million flies joining you. Then also the dreaded monsoon has set upon us, and you have all the water and mud you'd ever wish to see and roam around in." The marching, close to a thousand miles, was tough and rugged, what with a full field pack, 3-5 days rations, ammunition, rifles, and other odds and ends on your back. Besides those some of us interpreters carried an extra bag of books and papers.

Mitsukado then proceeded to write about the combat experiences of the interpreters and the relevance of the language training to field conditions. For their service with the *Marauders*, each Nisei linguist/infantryman received the Combat Infantryman's Badge and Bronze Star. One Nisei also received a Legion of Merit.

Rasmussen would make a copy of Mitsukado's letter available to Major General Clayton Bissell, the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, and Bissell, in turn, sent a copy of it on July 8, 1944, with a cover letter to Generals McNarney and Hull. Major General J. E. Hull, then Acting Assistant Chief of Staff of the Army's Operations Division, responded to Bissell on July 12, indicating that in the organization of the second "Galahad Force" arrangement there would be a Nisei detachment and that this was in accord with General Stilwell's desires, "who recognizes the great value of this personnel in assisting Galahad type operations." This new organization, the 5332nd Brigade (Provisional), was activated on July 26, 1944, and would include the 475th Infantry, as well as a team of Nisei translators and interpreters. A date stamp on the Bissell memo indicates that the Deputy Chief of Staff of the

US Army has seen that memorandum. Mitsukado a former court recorder in Honolulu, was serving in the 100th Infantry Battalion when he was transferred to the MIS because of his Japanese language abilities.

Memo, dated 8 July 1944, from MG Clayton Bissell, US Army, G-2 (Intelligence) to MG John E. Hull, US Army G-3 (operations) and MJ Joseph T. McNarney, US Army, a Ranking member of Army Chief of Staff's office.
(Document obtained from National Archives)



Editorial on the 442nd

(Continued from page 5)

motto "Go For Broke" emblazoned thereon took a different meaning. "Go for Broke" is the Hawaiian-Japanese slang expression for shooting the works in a dice game.

The loyal Nisei have shot the works. From the beginning of the war, they have been on trial, in and out of uniform, in army camps and relocation centers, as combat troops in Europe and as frontline interrogators, propagandists, and combat intelligence personnel in the Pacific where their capture meant prolonged and hideous torture. And even yet they have not satisfied their critics.

It is so easy for a dominant race to explain good or evil, patriotism or treachery, courage or cowardice in terms of skin color. So easy and so tragically wrong.

Too many have committed that wrong against the loyal Nisei, who by the thousands have proved themselves good Americans,

even while others of us, by our actions against them, have shown ourselves to be bad Americans. Nor is the end of this misconception in site. Those Japanese-American soldiers who paraded at Leghorn in commemoration of the defeat of the nation from which their fathers came, will meet other enemies, other obstacles as forbidding as those of war. A lot of people will begin saying, as soon as these boys take off their uniforms, that "a Jap is a Jap," and that the Nisei deserve no consideration. A majority won't say or believe this, but an active minority can have its way against an apathetic majority.

It seems to us that the Nisei slogan of "Go For Broke" could be adopted by all Americans of good will in the days ahead.

We've got to shoot the works in a fight for tolerance.

Those boys of Company D point the way. Japan's surrender will be signed aboard the Missouri and General MacArthur's part will be a symbolic "Show Me."

(From <http://cartergoforbroke.blogspot.com/>)

Japanese American History in Texas Education

By Abbie Grubb, Ph.D.

HOUSTON, Texas - In a state known for setting educational trends and standards based on textbook sales alone, the Texas State Board of Education recently faced the daunting task of deciding what was most important for school children to study. Their deliberations attracted a lot of attention from various interest groups including the Japanese American Citizens League and the Japanese American Veterans Association. At the height of the debate in 2010 five Houston-area residents, Donna Cole, Glen Gondo, Dr. Abbie Grubb, Sandra Tanamachi, and Linda Toyota traveled to Austin to speak before the SBOE regarding the inclusion of Japanese American history in the state standards.

It has now been a year since the revised standards went into effect in schools across Texas. The ultimate outcome of the debate was the inclusion of two new or revised standards in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, or TEKS. Students in fifth grade social studies classes are now required to study the "accomplishments of individuals and groups such as...the 442nd Regimental Combat Team," while high school U.S. history students will address "the internment of German, Italian, and Japanese Americans and Executive Order 9066."

The inclusion of these two TEKS is important and reflects the efforts of the delegates, but they are still more limited in scope than desired. The new TEKS added a specific mention of Executive Order 9066, but the confinement of the Japanese Ameri-

cans is still listed together with the German and Italian internment without differentiation. In addition, the reference to the 442nd RCT does not include the 100th Infantry or the Military Intelligence Service. Finally, there were two other TEKS suggested to reflect the role of the Japanese Americans in the liberation of the concentration camps and their service as minority units during WWII, but neither was included in the final cut.

Despite these limitations, the increased inclusion of the Japanese Americans within the TEKS is still a move in the right direction and is reflective of a growing recognition of the contributions of Japanese Americans by the state of Texas.

A special banquet sponsored by the JAACL Houston Chapter on February 19, 2012 honored five local recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal: George I. Nakamura of the MIS and George K. Fujimoto, Tommie Okabayashi, Kenneth Takehara, and Willie Tanamachi of the 442nd RCT, and commemorated the 70th anniversary of the Day of Remembrance. In addition, in December 2013 the official Congressional Gold Medal will be on display at the Holocaust Museum Houston as part of the Smithsonian Institution and National Veteran's Network seven-city tour.

With these increasing opportunities for public education and classroom education, the important story of WWII Japanese American confinement and military service is becoming a more recognized part of not only U.S. history but also Texas history.

Saul Conveys Keen Insights On Persons Of Japanese Ancestry in Honolulu Speech

HONOLULU, Hawai'i - In a major speech to Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Veterans Club of Hawaii and their families, Eric Saul, historian and curator, told his audience: "So after 70 years . . . you have earned your place in the Pantheon of American history for your contributions to democracy." Other attendees at the August 4, 2013, event at the Tree Tops Restaurant in Honolulu, Hawai'i, included representatives from the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, 1399th Engineer Battalion veterans, and their families and friends.

The following are excerpts from Dr. Saul's remarks. *Editor's Note: Full remarks may be obtained from JAVA, ttshima@comcast.net*

Like most people from Europe, your parents came to America to seek economic opportunities. By 1900 there were 60,000 Japanese immigrants in Hawaii and 24,000 on the mainland, mostly in California. Today there are over 700,000 Japanese Americans and they represent one half of one percent of the U.S. population. They were denied constitutional rights to become citizens and to own land. Many local, state and Federal laws were passed, excluding them from the opportunities enjoyed by other new immigrants. Your parents spoke Japanese.

They wanted you to speak Japanese and to retain your special heritage, and they sent you to Japanese language schools. Most of you didn't like it. You wanted to fit in, become Americans.

Yet, in Japanese language schools and at home, you were taught invaluable principles of hard work, honesty, loyalty, endurance and pride. You were taught the cardinal virtues and ethics. You took to heart the concepts of *giri*... sense of duty, *on*...debt of gratitude, *gamman*...quiet endurance, *gambari*...perseverance, *kansha*...gratitude, *chugi*...loyalty, *enryo*...humility, *sekinin*...responsibility, *haji*...shame, *hokori*...pride, *meiyo*...honor, *gisei*...sacrifice, *oyakoko*...love of the family, *kodomo no tame ni*...for the sake of the children, *shojiki*...honesty, *otagai*...reciprocity, *shinsetsu*...kindness, *shikataganai*...



Eric Saul at MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii luncheon (Photo by Gregg Hirata)

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Harris Assumes Pacific Fleet Command

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Pacific," said Haney, who assumed command in January 2012, near the beginning of the rebalance initiative. "The world watches to see how economically and politically this rebalance will work."

Adm. Samuel Locklear III, commander of U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM), commended Haney on his leadership during challenging times. "Your strategic vision has set the stage for a new level of engagement, dialogue and consistence inside the PACOM area of responsibility," said Locklear.

After reading orders and assuming command, Adm. Harris thanked the men and women of the Pacific Fleet saying: "What you do on a daily basis is of fundamental importance to our nation's defense -- I'm proud to be your commander." As the former assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Harris said he would continue the Pacific Fleet's commitment to the rebalance "with our brothers and sisters" in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Special Operations and Coast Guard. "Our president and secretary of defense are clear," said Harris. "As a nation, we will rebalance to the Pacific and we will work closely with our allies and partners in the Indo-Asia-Pacific re-

gion." Harris is the 34th naval officer to command the Pacific Fleet since it was established in February 1941 with headquarters at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i. He graduated from the Naval Academy in 1978, is a MIT Seminar 21 fellow, and has attended Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Georgetown's School of Foreign Service, and Oxford University for East Asia security.

As commander of Pacific Fleet, Harris is responsible for 100 million square miles "from Hollywood to Bollywood, from Antarctica to the Arctic Circle." Covering more than half the Earth's surface, the Indo-Asia-Pacific region is vital to U.S. economic and security interests. Pacific Fleet maintains combat-ready and forward-deployed naval forces that consist of approximately 200 ships/submarines, 1,100 aircraft and 140,000 Sailors and civilians.

Adm. Harris was born in Japan, son of an American Chief Petty Officer and his wife from Kobe, Japan. Adm. Harris said the movie *Go For Broke* made him proud of his Japanese heritage and the courage and patriotism of Japanese Americans who served in the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service have inspired him in his professional career. *Editor's Note: Please see below for a related article.*

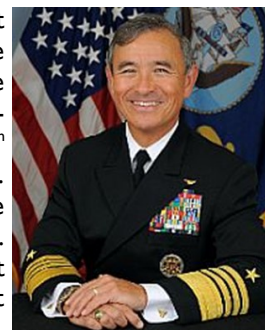
A Profile: Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr., Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet

On October 16, 2013, Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr., USN, assumed the position of Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, with headquarters in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He was also promoted to full Admiral, the first Japanese American to reach that rank. Only two other Japanese-Americans have attained the four star rank, the highest rank in the U.S. Armed Forces: General Eric K. Shinseki, 34th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army and now serving as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and General John F. Campbell, Deputy Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.

Admiral Harris was born at the Yokusuka Naval Base Hospital in Japan. His father was a Chief Petty Officer and his mother was from the Ashiya district of the city of Kobe, Japan. His mother's home was bombed during War II. In 1958, at the age of two, the family settled in the rural area of Tennessee, where there was no running water or electricity. While this rural living must have been a culture shock for his mother, she endured and raised her family without complaint. When he complained to his mother that he looked different from the other students, his mother taught him to be proud of his ethnic heritage and the importance of duty and obligation (*giri*). His three sisters married U.S. Navy men. His mother became a U.S. citizen in 1974 and died in 2008. Admiral Harris told the *Rafu Shimpo* that she often said that the proudest thing she did in life was to exercise the right to vote.

Admiral Harris graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978 as a naval flight officer. His career was interspersed with command and staff assignments domestic and overseas, including Hawai'i and Kami Seya, Japan. His most recent assignment was

Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he served as the Chairman's direct representative to the Secretary of State. His assignment before that was Commander of the 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy. Prior to that he was Commander of the Joint Task Force at Guantanamo, Cuba. Admiral Harris has logged 4,400 flight hours, including over 400 combat hours.



(Photo from U.S. Navy)

Admiral Harris' viewing of the movie *Go For Broke* in 1951 made him feel proud of his Japanese heritage and the lessons of courage and patriotism displayed by the Nisei have stayed with him to this day. He told the National Education Center Evening of Aloha banquet on August 30, 2012, "[t]ake all the things I've done in the military, it would never begin to compare with what those men went through. Just the fact that they and their families were booted out of their homes and then what they accomplished – that's huge." After discussing the importance of a commitment to your nation, Admiral Harris said, "You don't build strength of character with tabloids and steroids: you build it with grit, determination and unrelenting courage – qualities that the 442nd, the 100th, the MIS, the 522nd, the 232nd and the 1399th had in abundance, along with the 300 Nisei women who joined the Women's Army Corps and the Nurses Corps in World War II.

Meet the Generals and Admirals

Each quarter, JAVA features two Asian Pacific Americans who have attained the highest ranks in the armed forces: generals and admirals. During WW II, two Asian-Pacific Americans achieved flag rank, the Lyman brothers, both West Point graduates of Hawai'i. Since then, 117 Asian-Pacific Islander Americans have been promoted to generals and admirals. This includes three wearing four stars, namely General Eric Shinseki, who served as the US Army's 34th Chief of Staff; General John Campbell, Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Army; and Admiral Harry Harris, Jr., U.S. Navy, Commander in Chief of Pacific Fleet (CINCPACFLT). The 119 Asian-Pacific American flag officers are distributed in the armed forces as follows: 66 U.S. Army; 24 U.S. Navy, 23 U.S. Air Force, and two each in the U.S. Marines, U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S. Public Health Service.

Brigadier General (Dr.) John M. Cho, USA



Brigadier General (Dr.) John M. Cho is currently serving as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (G-3/5/7, U.S. Army Medical Command). BG Cho is Board Certified as a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He holds active membership in the Society of Thoracic Surgery, and is a Certified Physician Executive of the American College of Physician Executives.

BG Cho's 30 publications, grants, and abstracts include two of the world's largest series in cardiac surgery. From 2006 to 2010 he was the Consultant to the Army Surgeon General in Cardiothoracic Surgery.

He previously served as the Commander of the 30th Medical Command, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, Heidelberg, Germany; Commander of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, which included mission command over Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, six U.S. Army Health Clinics and one U.S. Army Health Center located in Germany, Italy, and Belgium. He has also served as Chief, Healthcare Business Operations, J3, Joint Task Force Capital Medical Region (JTF CapMed); Commander, Evans Army Community Hospital, Fort Carson, Colorado; Deputy Commander for Clinical Services, Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and Chief of Surgical Services, 212th MASH, while deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I.

BG Cho is a graduate of the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, and the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland. He completed residencies in General Surgery at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Aurora, Colorado, and Cardiothoracic Surgery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. BG Cho also completed subspecialty Fellowship training in Pediatric and complex Adult Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.

Asked why he selected the armed forces as his career choice, BG Cho said "I choose the Armed Forces as my career choice because my parents, who are of Korean descent, instilled in me a great sense of gratitude and appreciation for all that the United States did in support of the Republic of Korea- especially during the Korean War. It was an easy decision and honor for me- and also my younger brother- to serve in the military and provide service to a community that has done so much for my family."

(See related article on page 10)

Rear Admiral Joseph M. Vojvodich, USCG



Rear Admiral Joseph M. Vojvodich currently serves as the U.S. Coast Guard's Program Executive Officer (PEO) and Director of Acquisition Programs. His duties include management oversight of all Coast Guard acquisition programs and projects for the modernization and recapitalization of surface, air, command and control, and logistics assets in support of the Coast Guard's multiple maritime missions.

RADM Vajvodich's previously served as Commander of Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound, responsible for search and rescue, environmental response, port safety and security, inspections of domestic and foreign vessels, ice breaking missions, and fisheries enforcement operations for coastal Connecticut, Long Island Sound and offshore 200 nautical miles. His afloat assignments include a tour as Commanding Officer of the multi-national crewed Caribbean Support Tender, USCGC GENTIAN. He supervised the Coast Guard's research and development portfolio at the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate.

"It truly is an honor to be able to serve in one of our country's great Armed Services with so many dedicated, compassionate patriots", RADM Vojvodich said. "While my reason to join the Coast Guard was based on opportunity and the Service's noble mission, it has been the people in the Coast Guard who have kept me motivated and passionate about serving our communities and maritime public. My father met my mother in Korea while he served in the U.S. Army. After he finished his enlistment, we moved to the United States so my brother and I could enjoy a stable childhood. Our humble upbringing and my mother's fervor to raise her children with instilled values of hard work, personal responsibility, and perseverance in achieving one's potential probably pointed me towards military service. Our military services have congruent values; they were naturally attractive to me as an extension of my upbringing.

"A start in the military would provide immense opportunities for personal growth, vast responsibilities, and meaningful contributions to our nation. I found the Coast Guard appealing for its life saving and drug interdiction missions, but over time I have increasingly appreciated the diverse service for its military, first responder, law enforcement, and regulatory missions. I am forever grateful to my mother who had the unimaginable courage to leave her home country of Korea which of course has eventually led to this incredible opportunity for me to serve in the United States Coast Guard."

Cho Promoted June 21



L-R: BG John M. Cho, USA; LTG Patricia D. Horoho, Surgeon General, USA; Mrs. Kathy Cho (wife); Mrs. Kum Cho (mother). James Cho (son, West Point cadet); Mr Shin Cho (father); Sara Cho (daughter); MAJ Tim Cho (brother); Brad Cho (son). (Photo by Kathy Cho)



In a ceremony on June 21, 2013 at Fort Myer Officers Club, LTG Patricia D. Horoho, Surgeon General, USA (left) and Mrs. Kathy Cho (right) pin the stars on the shoulder boards of BG Cho (center). (Photo by Kathy Cho)

President Obama Names New Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs

WASHINGTON - On September 10, 2013, President Obama announced his nomination of Mr. Sloan D. Gibson to be the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Gibson is Chief Executive Officer and President of the United Service Organizations (USO).

Before joining USO in 2008, Mr. Gibson worked in banking for 20 years, including 11 years as an executive at AmSouth Bancorporation and nine years as a Senior Vice President at Bank South. In 2004, he retired as Vice Chairman and Chief Financial Officer of AmSouth Bancorporation, a position he held since 2000. In 2002, Mr. Gibson chaired the United Way campaign in Central Alabama. Mr. Gibson is a 1975 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. He earned both Airborne and Ranger qualifications and served as infantry officer in the U.S. Army. Mr. Gibson received a M.A. from the University of Missouri in Kansas City and a M.P.A. from Harvard University.

Only Two Nisei Surrendered

(Continued from page 4)

pan. He was an Army undercover agent who was deployed to Manila before the war began. Another Nisei soldier, Sgt Frank "Foo" Fujita, with no intelligence connection, was captured by the Japanese on the island of Java in Indonesia.

In a book on Sakakida entitled, *A Spy in Their Midst*, author Dr. Wayne Kiyosaki said Sakakida, as a Japanese-American prisoner of the Japanese forces "faced death as a "traitor" because of his Japanese face. Despite "unspeakable torture, Sakakida stubbornly refused to confess that he was an American spy; ironically, his Japanese cultural heritage is what enabled him to survive the beatings inflicted on him by his Japanese captors. Sakakida narrowly escaped a death sentence and was assigned to the office of a Japanese official, where he gained and passed to Filipino guerillas valuable military information for MacArthur and engineered a daring prison break that freed a Filipino guerilla leader and hundreds of his followers." Sakakida was assigned a seat on one of the last planes to leave Manila for Australia, however, he

gave his seat to a fellow Nisei who served in the Japanese consulate and reported valuable intelligence to Sakakida.

In his book, *FOO: A Japanese American Prisoner of the Rising Sun*, Fujita discussed his father's birth in Nagasaki, Japan and marriage to a Caucasian woman, his birth in Lawton, Oklahoma, the family move to Abilene, Texas, his enlistment in the Texas National Guard and assignment to the 131st Field Artillery, 36th Division, his convoy being on the high seas en route to the Philippines when Pearl Harbor was attacked, the by-pass of Manila and landing at Australia, the deployment two months later to Java island, Indonesia, the capture of his unit by the Japanese, his POW experience in Singapore, Nagasaki, and Tokyo, and his liberation on August 29, 1945 by the U.S. Navy. When the Japanese learned of his Japanese ethnicity they tortured, beat, and starved him to get him to serve in Japanese propaganda efforts. Fujita, however, steadfastly did not collaborate. Throughout this period, he was able to write a diary that he hid from his captors. Dr. Stanley L. Falk, JAVA member, wrote the foreword of this book.

Mizufuka and Other WW II Veterans Honored with Legion of Honor Medal

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. - Romain Serman, French Consul General, pinned the Legion of Honor medal on Frank I. Mizufuka and six other WW II veterans who served in the liberation of France during WW II. This award ceremony was the highlight of the Memorial Day Program sponsored by the City of San Francisco at the Park Presidio of San Francisco on May 27, 2013.



(Photo from Frank I. Mizufuka)

Serman told Mizufuka that French President François Gérard Georges Nicolas Hollande had approved the award on December 31, 2012, to recognize Mizufuka's "contribution to the United States' decisive role in the liberation of our country during WW II." Serman also said that the Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon in 1802 to acknowledge services rendered to France by persons of exceptional merit. "The French people will never forget your courage and your devotion to the great cause of freedom." Mizufuka, Dale City, California, Company F, 442nd, served in the liberation of Bruyeres. He has received the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. He also received the Presidential Unit Citation for his role in the O'Connor Task Force.

President of New Komeito Party Visits the Nation's Capital

WASHINGTON - Mr. Natsuo Yamaguchi, President of New Komeito Party and a member of the House of Councilors of Japan and his two party colleagues from the House of Representatives visited the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism, located near the United States Capitol in Washington, DC, on September 9, 2013.

The high-level visitor received a briefing on the internment, the presidential apology for the unconstitutional confinement of 115,000 persons of Japanese ancestry during WW II, and the combat record of the Japanese Americans in Europe and the Asia Pacific theater to prove their loyalty to America.

Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae held a lunch at his official residence to provide an opportunity for Mr. Yamaguchi and his delegation and eight Japanese American leaders of the Washington, DC area to exchange views on issues of mutual interest.

A graduate of the University of Tokyo, Mr. Yamsaguchi was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1990 and in 2001 was elected to the House of Councilors, where he has since served.

On September 8, 2009, he was elected as President the New Komeito Party and has since held that position.



L-R: Kiyohiko Toyama, PhD; Natsuo Yamaguchi; and Isamu Ueda, Chair of the International Committee. (Photo from

General Choi Visits Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

WALDORF, Md. - Major General Choi, Seung-Woo (Ret.) of the Republic of Korea visited Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Waldorf, Maryland, on July 13, 2013, to present medals and certificates to the 30 Charlotte Hall Veterans Home Korean War Era residents who attended the event.

The residents proudly displayed their medals and were grateful to be remembered for their service. The General established his own Foundation for the purpose of thanking Korean War Era Veterans. The general recognized the close to 60,000 Americans killed in action and over 100,000 wounded. Ed Chow, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, welcomed the General and presented him with a proclamation from Governor O'Malley. Chow is a life member of JAVA
(Photo from Charlotte Hall Veterans Home)



Koshio Keynotes Lakewood Heritage Luncheon

DENVER, Colo. - Tom Koshio, MIS veteran, member of Denver American Legion Chapter, and JAVA life member, was the keynote speaker at the Denver Lakewood Heritage Center's luncheon on August 13, 2013. Koshio's topic was the Japanese American Experience During WW II and the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM).

Koshio began his remarks by discussing his participation in the CGM program. He said, "[i]n the spring of 2011, I received word that the U.S. Congress had enacted legislation awarding the CGM, the highest civilian award in the United States, to Japanese American soldiers who had served during World War II in the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS). The awards ceremony was scheduled for November 2, 2011, in the Emancipation Hall of the U.S. Capitol Building at 11:00 AM with an awards dinner at the Washington Hilton Hotel later that day. The check-in and registration to the event started two days earlier as Japanese American veterans ad family, widows and families of killed-in-action and families of deceased veterans and others arrived. There were some 350 living veterans in attendance. Most were old in age from the mid-eighties and in their nineties, many with canes or walkers or in wheel-chairs and

with oxygen tanks by their side. I was probably among one of the youngest veterans in attendance. "

Koshio also discussed:

- The formation of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd RCT and their deployment to Italy, France and Germany;
- Orders to the 100th Bn not to enter Rome, although they were the first to reach the gates of the City;
- The merger of the 100th Bn with 442nd at Civitavecchia, Italy in June 1944;
- The deployment of the 442nd RCT to France to join 36th Division of the 7th Army;
- The liberation of Bruyeres and Biffontaine and rescue of the Lost Battalion;
- The Role of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, including liberation of a Jewish extermination sub camp at Dachau;



(Photo by Mark Dutell)

(Continued on page 13)

Saul

(Continued from page 7)

it can't be helped, resignation, *okagesama de...* all is owed to you, *kuni no tame...* give your all for the country, *kamei ni kizu tsukena...* never bring shame on the family, *shimbo shite seiko suru...* patient endurance brings success. These Japanese values served you well. They helped you endure the adversities of your wartime experience. They taught you to look on the bright side, remain optimistic, and keep your faith. They encouraged you to honor your country and its principles. Your parents saw education for you as the chief tool for your success in America.

Your worst nightmare was realized when the country of your ancestry, your parents' homeland, attacked the United States and the ultimate insult for you Nisei was to have your loyalty questioned and being classified by local draft boards as 4C – alien, ineligible for the draft. On the west coast of the United States, 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were forcibly removed from their homes, businesses and land and were placed in internment camps for the duration of the war

Yet, despite this unwarranted treatment, your resolve and faith in the United States never wavered. From the internment camps and other areas, thousands of you Nisei volunteered for wartime service in order to prove your loyalty. 16,000 of you served in the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which were segregated units and fought in eight campaigns in Italy, France and Germany. Over 800 Nisei men died in line of duty. At the end of the War the Army announced that the 442nd was one of the most highly decorated

units during WW II for size and period of combat.

In the Asia Pacific Theater, you in the Military Intelligence Service were translators of captured enemy documents, interrogators of enemy POWs and persuaders of enemy surrender; you were superbly effective. Nisei participated in the translation of the enemy's Z-Plan, the Imperial Navy's strategy for defending the Marianas Islands against the U.S. Navy. The enemy air and naval capability was destroyed in this campaign and gave American bombers the land base to bomb Japan.

When the war ended in August of 1945, your work was not over, for now you were needed to bridge the language gap in the Allied Occupation of Japan. While you fought tirelessly to defeat Japan during the war you now worked equally tirelessly to rebuild Japan as an industrial power. 3,000 additional linguists would join you serving from the lowest administrative level to the national level. So here we are, more than 70 years since you Nisei soldiers entered World War II. Can we now assess the success, not only on the battlefields, but also in your communities? You have proved your loyalty on the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific. Nine American presidents have attested to your loyalty. They were Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Robert F. Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama. In 1988, Congress passed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which officially apologized for the internment. In 2000 the US Army conducted, as the result of US Senator Daniel Akaka's legislative intervention, a review of Distinguished Service Cross awarded to Asian Americans and 22 DSCs were upgraded to Medals of Honor.

Citizens Patriot Award Presented to 442nd Infantry

WASHINGTON - The Reserve Forces Policy Board (RFPB) presented the Citizens Patriot Award, the highest award conferred by the RFPB, for exemplary service by individuals and reserve units for the national defense. The 2013 awardees were



100th BN, 442nd Infantry delegation. L-R: Sgt Chris Arakawa, holding citation; LTC Daniel J Austin, Commanding Officer, holding the bust of President Harry Truman (Citizen Patriot Award); and Sgt Major Beau Tatsumura.

General George A Joulwan, USA (Ret.), former Commander of Southcom, and the 100th Battalion, 442nd infantry. The awards were presented at the RFPB Annual Dinner on September 4, 2013, at the Army-Navy Club in Arlington, Virginia.



L-R. Admiral Sandy Winnefeld, USN; Kelly Kuwayama, and MG Bert Mizusawa, USA. (Photo by MAJ Meritt Phillips, USA)

The RFPB was created by an Act of U.S. Congress and consists of 20 members who advise the Secretary of Defense on reserve matters.

In their remarks, Admiral James A. "Sandy" Winnefeld, Jr., Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Joulwan, and other speakers had high praise for the combat performance record of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team of WW II as well as the present-day reserve unit.

Seattle NVC Dedicates Flagpole and Plaque to Honor Senator Inouye



At the dedication ceremony. L-R; Tosh Okamoto (Co K), Irene Hirano Inouye, George Iwasaki (Co E) and Allen Nakamoto.

SEATTLE, Wash. - At 5:30PM on July 5th at the east end of the NVC Memorial Wall, a dedication ceremony was performed in honor of NVC's ally and the nation's great statesman, Senator Daniel Inouye. The flagpole was erected and dedicated to him for his outstanding service to community and country. The dedication ceremony was well attended by Dan's friends and supporters from Seattle as well as visitors from LA. Irene Hira-

no Inouye was on hand to accept the honor in Dan's place. Irene said that Dan would have been proud to have the honor, as he was fond of the flags.

Irene unveiled the honorary plaque. The plaque states, "Aloha, in honor of Senator Daniel Inouye, A Patriot, Statesman, and a Friend, You did okay." Senator Daniel Inouye's last words were "Aloha" and the plaque begins with aloha. In Senator Daniel Inouye's speech about his political accomplishments, the Senator reflected on his service to his state of Hawaii and the United States people. He felt that "I think I did okay." The plaque is acknowledging Dan's accomplishments with "you did okay" for his leadership in the Japanese American Experience and the country's Civil Rights movements under his guardianship in the Nation's Capital.

NVC and the NIVC Foundation thank all the donors and supporters of the flag pole project; Jay Deguchi for his vision and advice on the design of the pole; and Takisaki Construction for building the solid structure within the tight schedule. And we appreciate all those who came to the ceremony and honored Senator Daniel Inouye's legacy. (NVC Newsletter, August 2013, Vol 63, Issue 7. Reprint approved by NVC)

Koshio Keynote (continued from page 12)

- Return of 442nd to New York and Washington and the military review by President Harry Truman;
- Awards earned by 100th and 442nd;
- The MIS language training and deployment ;
- Discord between Hawaii and mainland USA Nisei and the Hawaii soldiers' visit to the Jerome, Arkansas internment camp;
- The prejudice and discrimination against Nikkei;

- Colorado Governor Ralph Carrs's support;
- The conditions of internment camps;
- Questions 27 and 28 on the loyalty questionnaire;
- The accomplishments of Japanese-Americans after WWII; and
- The Japanese American Creed, written by Mike Masaoka.

Full speech may be obtained from Tom Koshio (koshtom@aol.com).

Son of JAVA Member Obtaining Degree from Waseda University

By Richmond Frankeberger

Editor's Note: This is a report of Richmond Frankeberger, son of Eliot Frankeberger, a retired history teacher and formerly a Fulbright Scholar who studied in Japan. Richmond has previously served as intern on several JAVA projects, including the Freedom Walk and Sakura Matsuri. The Advocate invited Richmond to write about studying in Japan for a degree.

TOKYO, Japan - As one of the close to 1,000 American students studying full-time at a Japanese university, life is a lot different and full of many challenges that I would not have experienced if I chose the normal route and decided to study in the United States. Spending four years of my life in Japan has meant experiencing life here as a Japanese student.

One of the overarching challenges about Japanese university life is that most "studying" is done outside of the classroom. There are many courses and credit requirements to fulfill as in any university, but the rules and grading are generally relaxed. It's not uncommon to see a Japanese professor explaining to students about the importance of having an active college life, and advising students about how much they should, or rather shouldn't, be studying. Foreign students are often shocked by this concept, deny it, and continue to rigorously focus all of their time on academics. The challenge is accepting this reality of Japanese society.

Many students attending a Japanese university want to stay in Japan and continue working in the country, or internationally at a Japanese corporation. Consistent with the attitude toward studying, there are virtually no companies in Japan that take grades into consideration in their evaluations of students during the recruitment process. Instead, companies look for students who may seem to be a match with the "personality" of the company, or look for people who have had a wide range of experiences during college life. For example, a student who was

on a sports team, who did volunteer work as part of a NPO, and who studied abroad is much more likely to draw the interest of a recruiter than someone who only studied and did academic work during college life.

Regardless of where one goes, leaving the United States will mean experiencing a new and different culture. When going abroad as a student, however, one must remember that, unlike a tourist, being a student means being an active participant of that society, and that succeeding in such a new environment requires accepting the reality there.

In 2013, there are 1,456 American students studying in Japan, 877 of which were on some type of exchange program.



Richmond Frankeberger (far right) waiting for class to begin on September 28, 2013, the first day of his senior year at Waseda University, Tokyo. The course is Topics in American Advertising. (Photo by Richmond Frankeberger)

VA Transforming to Digital Environment

(Continued from page 4)

"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 September 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 capabil-

ity that enables high-speed document scanning to help VA end its reliance on paper-based claims

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 Fiscal Year 2013.

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.

Tabata Retires from the Special Warfare Center

On August 1, 2013, JAVA Life member Ernest Tabata retired as a civilian instructor from the Engineer Committee, U.S. Army Special Warfare Center and School. Over 300 attended the ceremony held at the John F. Kennedy Auditorium on Fort Bragg, NC. Tabata's retirement marked 58 years of service to our Nation. Ernie served during the Korean War and also saw combat in Vietnam after enlisting in Hawai'i. He retired as a Command Sergeant Major in 1984, after 30 years, and began his second career as the Chief Instructor responsible for training Special Forces personnel on demolitions and engineering.

Ernie is revered by his former students who will miss his mentorship and advice. He is the Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the Special Forces Regiment and a Distinguished Member of the Regiment. He is a past winner of the prestigious Arthur "Bull" Simons award presented by the United States Special Operations Command. He, his wife Anna, and three sons will remain in the Fayetteville, North Carolina area.

JAVA was represented at Tabata's retirement by Vice President Wade Ishimoto, a long-time friend and Special Forces colleague

of Tabata.



Ernest Tabata (center, red neck tie) with Special Forces retired soldiers who served with Tabata. Wade Ishimoto (white shirt) is third from right. (Photo from Wade Ishimoto)

Merrill's Marauders Proud Descendants Reunion Held in Bloomington, MN



From L-R: COL Edwin "Bud" Nakasone, Roy Matsumoto, and Albert Yamamoto. (Photo by Cheryl Hirata Dulas)

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. - Ranger Roy Matumoto, 100, attended the Merrill's Marauders Proud Descendants (MMPD) Reunion, which was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Bloomington, MN, on August 29 – September 2, 2013. The Twin Cities Education Committee (TCEC) hosted a welcome get-together with Matsumoto, who was accompanied by his daughter, Karen Matumoto deChadenedes. Steve and Metta Tanikawa Kinder of Warrenton, VA, also attended the MMPD event because Steve's father was a member of the Merrill's Marauders.

"Honorable Journey" featured on Voice of America

On September 6, the Voice of America (VOA) broadcast included a six-minute description of *Honorable Journey*, Stephen Menick's 17-minute film on the Japanese-American experience during WW II that was produced and widely distributed by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). It included remarks by Stephen Menick, who directed the production.

The VOA anchor was Ray Kouguell, who described *Honorable Journey* as an "absorbing, tightly knit film" and a "history lesson." Menick said that the Nisei did not face a case of "divided loyalty;" they went to combat for one purpose: "to prove their loyalty" that was questioned by the American public and the government. In response to the question of what lessons were learned from the Nisei WW II experience, Menick cautioned that we should "not react too quickly" without knowledge of the facts.

Menick also said the film points out that "America has a way of correcting its errors, although, as Senator Inouye said in the film, the correction time may take long." The opening lines of the VOA program were similar to *Honorable Journey*, with the voice of JAVA member LT Janelle Kuroda, USAR, repeating her mother's report of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. JAVA served as a consultant to Director Menick.

Marylanders: Honorable Journey will air on Maryland Public Television December 19th at 8:00 p.m. and will be repeated on Monday, December 30th at 11:30 p.m. It can be viewed at this URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8ZvhUcHrQU>

FFNV Completes 70th Anniversary Tour of Italy

Nisei veteran and son discuss 1945 Mount Folgorito climb

By Dr. Brian Yamamoto

ROME, Italy - Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans (FFNV) sponsored a 43-person tour from May 20 to June 2, 2013 to the battle fields in Italy where the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, both segregated Japanese American units, fought during World War II.

The 100th Battalion, comprised of 1,432 pre WW II draftees from Hawai'i, landed in Salerno, south of Naples and worked northwards liberating one Italian town after another. The casualty rate was high and the press dubbed them the "Purple Heart" Battalion. Replacements were drawn from the 1st Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, then in training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

The 442nd arrived in Civitavecchia, located north of Rome, minus the 1st Battalion. The two units merged, the 100th becoming, in effect, the 1st Battalion of the 442nd.

The 100th was allowed to keep its unit designation in recognition of its outstanding combat record. Following the merger, the combined unit serving as 442nd RCT proceeded to fight on in Italy, France, and back to the Italian front during 1944-1945.

One member of the tour group was a 442nd veteran, Roy Fujiwara, 95, Company L. A native of Seattle, Washington who now lives in Hawai'i, Fujiwara joined the 442nd at Sospel, France, and participated in the Rhineland, Apennine, and Po Valley campaigns.



Following the climb to the top of Mt. Folgorito (background). From L-R: Dale Ikeda, Shari Tamashiro, Stacey Hayashi (red jacket), Isami Yoshihara, Matthew Dickerson (Italian Guide in Cal cap), Dennis Uyeda, Davide del Giudice, Tod Fujiwara, Maureen Sakaguchi, (Italian guide behind her), Cathy Uchida, Sachi Uchida, Peggy Mizumoto. (Photo by Mike Mizumoto)

After the all night climb of Mount Folgorito, located in Italy's Tuscany region, on April 4, 1945, Fujiwara was severely wounded in the battle to breach the German Gothic line which resisted allied invasions for the previous five months. Returning to the scene of battle 68 year later, Fujiwara said, "I have sad memories. I lost a lot of buddies here." Local historian Davide Del Giudice was the principal escort. Del Giudice said he enjoys briefing Americans and escorting them on Italian battlefield tours "because of the role Americans played to protect our democratic way of life and the brotherhood displayed by them."

The tour group also visited Nettuno, Anzio, Lanuvio, Civitavecchia, Suvereto, Belvedere, Leghorn, Tendola, Pisa, Lucca, Massa, Carrara, Pietrasanta, and Florence. The highlights of the tour included visits to: **Sicily-Rome Cemetery** located



Roy Fujiwara, second from left, with carabinieri officers (Italian National Military Police) in formal uniform to participate in the ceremony at the American cemetery, in Florencetaly.

at Nettuno, south of Rome, and the Florence American Cemetery, where a formal memorial program was held; **Suvereto**, where a luncheon was held attended by city officials, Italian and US military officers, and Belvedere, where a plaque, dedicated to the 100th and 442nd was on display; **Tendola**, where there are two monuments, one for the 21 Nisei Medal of Honor recipients and the other for Tadao "Beanie" Hayashi, who was killed there. The towns of Tendola, Fossdinovo, Posterla and Pulica hosted a 10-course meal; **U.S. Army Garrison Camp Darby**, where a wreath was placed at the Masato "Curly" Nakae monument. Nakae was a Medal of Honor recipient. Travelers also visited Pisa, Lucca, Massa and Carrara; **Pietrasanta**, to pay respects to the Sadao Munemori Monument, the first 442nd Medal of Honor recipient; and **Florence**, which included a visit to the cemetery. Some visited Monte Cassino and others visited the Rapido River Crossing Monuments, the latter of which commemorates the huge casualties sustained by the 34th and 36th Divisions.

The tour was led by Dr. Brian Yamamoto, who is already planning the 442nd/100th 70th Anniversary Tour to France July 7-20, 2014. Any questions concerning the Italian tour or the upcoming tour to France should be directed to Dr. Yamamoto (brianyamamotodds@yahoo.com; 907-590-9442) or Debra Stern at Peak Travel (800-999-2608). Any questions about Fujiwara and Mount Folgorito should be directed to Ms. Peggy Mizumoto (pmizum@earthlink.net).

News from Veterans Organizations and Friends

HONOLULU, Hawai'i - MIS Veterans Club Hawai'i announced that James Tanabe has stepped down as editor of the *Club Newsletter* after ten years of dedicated service. His partner in this endeavor was his wife, Yoshie. James and Yoshie were instrumental in getting the USS Arizona Memorial to remove from its movie that was shown to visitors the reference that persons of Japanese ancestry assisted Japan to attack Pearl Harbor. Tanabe served in the MIS in Japan after the Korean War. Tanabe's successor is Gregg Hirata, former staff officer of Honolulu Mayor's office and son of MISer who served with the British forces in CBI.

The *Club Newsletter* also reported that the Oahu AJA Veterans Council's annual Joint Memorial Service will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 29, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard will deliver the memorial address.

The Joint Memorial Service is organized by the Oahu AJA Veterans Council.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - Commander Loren Ishii reported in the **Nisei VFW Post 8985** that planning has begun for the 64th Annual Nisei VFW Reunion for May 18-20, 2014 at the Sands Regency Hotel-Casino in Reno, Nev. He said the Hanford Nisei VFW Post has expressed an interest in joining the Northern California Coalition of Sacramento, San Francisco, Monterey and San Jose posts.

HONOLULU, Hawai'i - The **100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club** *Puka Puka Parade* August 2013 edition reported that retired U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka was honored at the 71st Anniversary Banquet on June 22, 2013. Brothers Sonsei and Jack Nakamura, who both served in the 100th, described their experience during the December 7, 1941 Japanese attack. They were strafed by a Japanese plane, which was flying so low they could see the pilot's face.

HONOLULU, Hawai'i - The **442nd Veterans Club's** June 2013 issue of its *Go For Broke Bulletin* announced that a joint reunion of Hawai'i veterans with Lawson Sakai's Friends and Families at Las Vegas on October 20-25, 2013 at the California Hotel. More information can be obtained from Ann Kabasawa (808-781-8540 or at diverseinnov@email.com).

WASHINGTON - The July 2013 issue of the **Japanese**

American Korean War Veterans Newsletter announced the details of the Nisei Week held in Little Tokyo in Los Angeles on August 10-11, 2013. A principal feature was the parade. The *Newsletter* also discussed the Memorial Service held at the Japanese American Community Cultural Center Memorial Court on May 25, 2013. The Memorial Court has memorialized the names of all Nikkei who were killed in action from the Spanish American War of 1898 to the present.



Gathered at the front of the newly built Nisei Veterans Memorial Center are Nisei veterans. L-R: Edward Watanabe, Kunio Kikuta, Jotoku Asato, Kiyoki Koki, Takeo Ikeda, Jiro Koga, Tom Hiranaga, Hideo Takahashi, James Itamura, Hiroshi Arisumi, Stanley Izumigawa, Shigeru Nakamura, Edward Nishihara, Francis Ohta, Fred Yamashige, Tom Yamada, and Mitsuo Arisumi. (Photo by Melanie Agrabante)

HONOLULU, Hawai'i - The July 2013 issue of the **Nisei Veterans Memorial Center of Maui's** Newsletter, *Okage Sama De*, reported that its Education Center was blessed and opened on April 13, 2013 (see photo). The Center has on display photos, uniforms, medals and other war memorabilia.

NATIONWIDE - **National Veterans Network's** Congressional Gold Medal touring exhibit has completed the National WW II Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana; Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Hawai'i; Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, California; and Oregon Historical Society in Portland, Oregon. There are two more exhibits: Chicago History Museum, October 19-December 8, 2013 and Houston Holocaust Museum, December 21, 2013-January 26, 2014.



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News and Views from Army's Topside . . .



GEN John F. Campbell,
Army Vice Chief of Staff

Editor's Note: General John F. Campbell, U.S. Army Vice Chief of Staff, sends a private Newsletter to subscribers in his command, their families and friends. He provides updates of developments in his command, issues facing the Army, and his role. JAVA is privileged to be one of his subscribers. We print below excerpts from his August 31, 2013, Newsletter to tell you what the modern Army looks like. For those who don't know, General Campbell's mother is Japanese.

Friends of the Army—

We still have over 50,000 troops in Afghanistan . . . The next year may be the most complex of the war as we transition and put our faith in the Afghan forces we have trained.

I participated in SSG Ty Carter's Medal of Honor ceremony at the White House and spoke during his induction into the Pentagon Hall of Heroes. SSG Ty Carter joined former SSG Clint Romesha as the second Medal of Honor recipient from the October 3, 2009 battle in Afghanistan. This marks the first time two Medals of Honor have been presented to surviving military members since the Vietnam War. Eight Soldier's paid the ultimate sacrifice that day in Afghanistan, and a ninth died a year later after a difficult struggle with post traumatic stress. I was honored to have SSG Carter and his wife Shannon over to my quarters for dinner along with his parents and in-laws prior to the White House ceremony.

In July we celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War with an honor ceremony at Fort Meyer. Nearly 1,000 people

including more than 500 Korean War Veterans and their families were in attendance to commemorate this anniversary. I was also able to engage Vietnam War Veterans here in the Pentagon when I spoke at one of the initial events in the nationwide Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration Campaign. Over 250 people attended a ceremony that honored the nine Vietnam veterans who serve in the Army G4 (Logistics).



Cpl. Jared Jenkins and 1st.Sgt. Arthur Abiera,
Apache Troop, 1st Squadron, 33rd Cavalry Regiment,
rd brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne
Division, search a home during a routine pres-
ence patrol on the outskirts of Sadr City, Iraq.
(Photo by Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Klika)

French Battlefield tour is being planned for July 2014

After his successful tour to Italian battlefields where the 100th Battalion and 442nd RCT fought, Dr. Brian Yamamoto has announced that he is arranging a French Battlefields and Military History Tour in July 2014.

The package price, based on double occupancy is \$2,683.00 per person. There are a limited number of single occupancy spaces available with an additional cost of \$1,364.00.

The itinerary will include trips to Paris; Normandy; American cemeteries and D-Day Landing beaches in Normandy; Omaha Beach; the American cemetery at Colleville-Sur-Mer; the Omaha Beach Museum; the Utah Beach Museum; the Pointe du Hoc; Le Mémorial de Caen; Caen; Mont-Saint-Michel; Oradour-sur-Glane, the scene of the horrific Nazi attack in Vichy

France during WWII; Limoges; Epinal; the American cemetery at Lorraine and Epinal (wreath laying); the Bruyeres Monument; Bruyeres; eastern France sites TBD; the French Riviera; Nice; Sospel; and the French Resistance Museum, Paris.

Hotels stays will be at the Mercure Eiffel Suffren (Paris); Holiday Inn Caen City Centre (Caen); Limoges Le Lac (Limoges); BW Lafayette Hotel (Epinal); and the Massena Hotel (Nice)

Dr. Yamamoto is planning a shortened tour for veterans and family/chaperone to the American Cemetery at Lorraine and the Epinal-Bruyeres-Biffontaine region only. Additional information may be obtained from Dr. Brian Yamamoto, (brianeyamamotodds@gmail.com; 425-877-0057)

Japanese American Veterans Association 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 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 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.

Obituary

TOSHIKO NISHIDA, Nov. 17, 1915 to July 22, 2013



Toshiko Nishida passed away at her home in Potomac, Maryland, on July 22, 2013, after suffering a major stroke seven years ago. She was the widow of Malcolm Nishida, a WWII veteran who served in the Military Intelligence Service and Office of Strategic Services from 1944 to 1949. Malcolm Nishida passed away in 1990.

Toshiko Nishida was born in Brawley, California on November 17, 1915, to Hiyojiro Katsurayama and Suma Uriu. Prior to WWII, the Katsurayama family went to Japan after Suma Katsurayama died suddenly. During WWII Toshiko was stranded in Manchuria, China, where she met Malcolm Nishida, who was assigned to the Pacific Theater of Operations. After the war ended, Malcolm arranged for her safe passage on a boat from Shanghai to Los Angeles. When Malcolm returned to the U.S., he invited Toshiko to Washington, D.C. where they were married and had three children.

Toshiko Nishida has long remained a supporter of JAVA and contributed to the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and other community causes. She will be remembered for her kind spirit, her creative talents, and her generous heart.

(Photo from Jane Nishida)

Thank you, Donors!

JAVA is grateful for the generosity of our members and friends

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UPCOMING EVENTS

January 4, 2014 -- JAVA EC Meeting

January 11 – 11:30 AM – JAVA Quarterly lunch at Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, VA

February – Day of Remembrance Program at Smithsonian Institution

April 5 – 10 AM – Freedom Walk at National Japanese American Memorial, Washington, DC

April 12 -- Sakura Matsuri at National Cherry Festival, Washington, DC

May 25 – Memorial Day Program at Columbarium, Arlington National Cemetery

May 26 – Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC

November 11 – 2 PM – JAVA Veterans Day Program at National Japanese American Memorial, Washington, DC

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

Speakers Bureau: Terry Shima (see above)

Veterans Day: Bruce Hollywood (see above)

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

Memorial Day - Marty Herbert (martyherb@aol.com; 703-509-6473)

Freedom Walk - Marty Herbert (see above)

Sakura Matsuri - Reuben Yoshikawa (ryoshika@verizon.net)



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