



JAVA ADVOCATE

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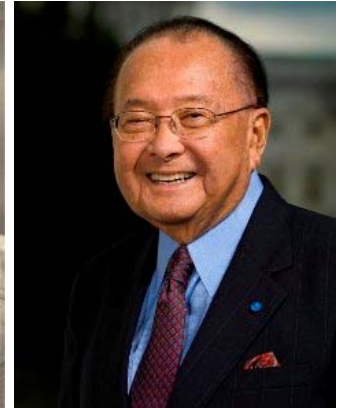
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Nation mourns passing of Senator Daniel K. Inouye

McLean, Virginia — JAVA joins the Japanese American community and our country in mourning the passing of Senator Daniel K. Inouye on Dec. 27, 2012. JAVA President Gerald Yamada issued the following statement on the passing of Senator Daniel K. Inouye:

“The Nation lost a great American leader in the passing of Senator Daniel K. Inouye. He represented the best of his generation and the best of the Japanese American community. His unsurpassed accomplishments will inspire future generations as to what is possible to achieve in America. He was a devoted supporter of JAVA and was one of its Charter Honorary Chairs. We will always be appreciative of his sponsorship of legislative initiatives that were important to veterans and the Japanese American community. We will miss him, and our prayers are with his wife and family at this difficult time.”

“He was a shining star of the greatest generation,” fellow Hawaii Democratic Senator Daniel Akaka said at the late Senator Inouye’s memorial service at



Honolulu’s National Memorial Cemetery according to an article from the *Washington Post*. Senator Daniel Akaka is also a noteworthy JAVA supporter.

Also cited in articles from the *Washington Post*, President Obama has said Senator Inouye was “perhaps my earliest political inspiration.” Recognizing Senator Inouye’s patriotism and fortitude to serve in his country’s military, even during a time when he and other Japanese Americans were considered enemy aliens, President Obama said this gave him “a powerful sense of hope.”

Senator Inouye was an exceptional role model for us all. His achievements as an American leader, longtime Statesman, decorated war hero, and beloved community member are unmatched. There is an abundance of stories commemorating these diverse and extensive achievements. The JAVA website offers a selection of articles for readers to remember, if not discover, the incredible positive influence he had on our community, the United States of America, and the world at large.



Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta shakes hands with Nisei Veterans after placing a wreath at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2012. (DoD photo by Erin A. Kirk-Cuomo)

President's Message



As our two-year term of office comes to a close, I am submitting this summary report of our activities. Over the past two years, we have undergone a transition which I am pleased to report that the JAVA Executive Committee has ably handled. The most noteworthy are:

Terry Shima stepped down as JAVA Executive Director and Bruce Hollywood stepped up to fill Terry's enormous shoes.

Terry agreed to remain on the EC as Chair of the JAVA Education and Outreach Committee and to mentor Bruce as he learns the ropes as ED.

Grant Ichikawa passed on his responsibilities for the bi-weekly Round-Robin email newsletter to Brett Egusa and the arrangements for JAVA lunches to Miyako Tanabe.

Safeguards have been created to ensure JAVA membership meets applicable government requirements.

JAVA's funds have been invested with restrictions ensuring that the revenues will be used only for operations allowing JAVA to provide membership to war veterans with no dues required.

We also started several initiatives during the past two years. These include:

Establishing a working relationship with the U.S. Army National Museum so that the legacy of the World War II Ni-

sei soldiers will be incorporated into the Museum's many venues.

Partnering with the National Park Service so that JAVA's education program for schools will become a resource made available to teachers across the country as a part of NPS' website.

Applying and receiving funding from NPS to help complete the NARA Digitization Project that will make available on the JAVA website the service histories of those who served in the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Military Intelligence Service during World War II.

Proposing to the U.S. Postal Service that a Commemorative Stamp Series be issued for WW II military units which received the Congressional Gold Medal that would include the Nisei Soldiers, Tuskegee Airmen, Women Airforce Service Pilots, and the Navajo Code Talkers.

Creating a leadership award and service pins to honor and recognize the dedicated service of volunteers who work tirelessly and unselfishly for JAVA.

In closing, I thank the Executive Committee and JAVA members who have tremendously supported JAVA and our programs.

—Gerald Yamada, Esq.
JAVA President

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Hershey H. Miyamura, Medal of Honor
George Joe Sakato, Medal of Honor*

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Korean War veteran Chosei Kuge (second from left) with students of Rocky Run Middle School in Chantilly, Va., for Veterans Oral History Day, June 7, 2012. 7th graders interview veterans, and selected interviews are sent to the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. This is an annual event to which JAVA veterans are repeatedly invited.

Veterans Day marked by White House Breakfast, Arlington Program, and Nisei Memorial to Patriotism event

by Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret)

Washington, D.C. — Sunday, November 11th, was not only a beautiful day in Washington D.C., it was also a very busy and rewarding day for members of JAVA. JAVA partnered with the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) and the Pan Pacific Leaders and Mentors (PPALM) for their 11th Annual Veterans Day event at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in World War II in Washington, D.C.



Veterans Day speakers at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. L-R: Lt Col Michael Yaguchi, USAF (Ret); Gerald Yamada; Honorable Norman Mineta; Michael Cardarelli, Daniel Matthews. (Bruce Hollywood)

JAVA President Gerald Yamada, NJAMF Board Chairman Daniel Matthews, and PPALM Executive Director Lieutenant Colonel Michael Yaguchi, USAF (Ret.),

each shared a few thoughts with the audience before the keynote address was delivered by Michael Cardarelli, Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). Mr. Cardarelli, who is a retired Army colonel, paid homage to the “giants” who served so heroically in previous conflicts, and honored the exceptional service of those serving today. He related what a privilege he has in being able to serve our veterans in his leadership role with DVA. “I am humbled to get to care for the legacy giants of our profession of arms ... and I am so honored to be in a position to make good on our obligation to repay what truly cannot be repaid for their service to our nation and our community.”

The ceremony was closed by JAVA Executive Director Colonel Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret), who remarked that “Mr. Cardarelli has an impressive resume, but what is even more impressive is his heart for veterans. We are fortunate to have leaders of passion and integrity caring for these members of our society who answered duties call.”

Earlier in the morning, JAVA helped prepare for and participated in Veterans Day events at the White House and Arlington National Cemetery as an Associate Member of the Veterans Day National Committee (VDNC).

JAVA was represented at the White House Veterans Day Breakfast, held in the East Room, by Executive Committee members Colonel Hollywood, and Lieutenant Colonel Kay Wakatake, U.S. Army, who joined other members of VDNC and invited guests. After breakfast, they met with President and Mrs. Barack Obama and with Vice President and Mrs. Joseph Biden. Lieutenant Colonel Wakatake commented on the experience, “It was incredible. What an honor to meet with the leaders of our great nation

on Veterans Day.”

The midday ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, sponsored by DVA, was a major event for the nation as well as JAVA. Commanders and members of Veterans Service Organizations (VSO), including JAVA President Gerald Yamada and Lieutenant Janelle Kuroda, U.S. Navy, witnessed President Obama lay the national wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown.

Following that, VSO commanders moved to the Amphitheater, where (1) each commander was recognized by name over the public address system, (2) they viewed the parade of colors, including Lieutenant Colonel Allen Goshi, U.S. Army (Ret), and Korean War Veteran Chosei Kuge carrying the flags of the United States and JAVA, respectively, and (3) President Obama addressed the nation and Americans abroad, saying, “That’s what we do in America. We take care of our own. We take care of our veterans. We take care of your families. Not just by saluting you on one day once a year, but by fighting for you and your families every day of every year.”

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New Japanese Ambassador visits Nat'l JA Memorial to Patriotism

Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C. — Despite the demanding schedule for newly arrived heads of diplomatic missions of a major country, His Excellency Kenichiro Sasae visited the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism on November 21, 2012, within one week of his arrival in Washington, D.C. He paid his respects to the Nisei who died in U.S. military service during World War II and to the 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry who were incarcerated in internment camps. The Memorial, maintained by the National Park Service and located just one block from the U.S. Capitol, is a legacy of the Japanese Americans who served their nation in combat and endured the hardships on the home front during World War II.

Washington observers perceive Ambassador Sasae's visit as an indication of his strong commitment to continue to build on the sound relationship between his government and people of Japan and the Japanese Americans. The Ambassador laid a floral wreath at the Heroes Wall on which the names of more than 800 Japanese Americans who died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II are inscribed. He also paused at the names of each of the ten internment camps and also read the description of the Memorial and quotations that are inscribed on the granite walls.

Dr. Ray Murakami, former Chairman of the Board of Directors of National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, and his wife, Mary, were invited to



brief the Ambassador on the background of the Memorial and life in the internment camps. They also briefed the Ambassador on Nisei who served in the 100th Battalion, 442nd RCT and the Military Intelligence Service, as well as on the roles of various Japanese American organizations, such as JAVA, that have been instrumental in publicizing the Japanese American story during World War II. During the discussion, the Ambassador asked a number of penetrating questions indicating his considerable knowledge of Japanese American history.

Amb. Sasae appeared to be visibly moved by his visit to the Memorial. He assured the Japanese American community that he will do his utmost to pursue the goals of his government and the U.S.-Japan Council, chaired by Ms. Irene Hirano Inouye, and to continue to strengthen and deepen the Japan-Nikkei relationship.

Amb. Sasae, 61, graduated from Tokyo University in March 1974, when he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA). His first diplomatic assignment was to Washington, D.C. and also served in the U.K. and Switzerland. He held key positions at MOFA, including Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which he served for the past two years.

Above, L-R: Minister Hideaki Mizukoshi, Head of Management and Coordination; Dr. Ray Murakami; Ambassador Sasae; Mrs. Mary Murakami; Minister Shigeo Yamada, Head of Political Section; First Secretary Kiyoyuki Sugahara, Chief of Staff. **Below:** Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae presents a floral wreath and pays his respects at the Wall of Heroes, which contains the names of over 800 Japanese Americans who died in line of duty during WW II. (Photos by John Tobe)

Welcome New Members!

CPT Brandon Iriye (Washington, DC)
LTC Mark Y. Kazunaga (Hawaii)
MAJ Kenny Kuniyuki (Virginia)
CPL Lawrence Nakagawa (Hawaii)
Kenneth Tashiro (Hawaii)

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 15 or the JAVA website at www.javadc.org.)

Four Tanamachi brothers served in U.S. Army during WW II; at 91, Willie is lone survivor

by Sandra Tanamachi, Lake Jackson, Texas

Houston, Texas. — “Never thought of myself as other than American. This was taught to me by my parents,” stated Willie R. Tanamachi, of Houston, Texas. Of six sons of Kumazo and Asao Hirayama Tanamachi, Willie and three brothers served in the United States Army during World War II. He was born on March 1, 1921, the day that his parents and family arrived in Texas. At the age of 19, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and was the first of his brothers to do so. After December 1941, he was involuntarily reassigned from the Army Air Corps to other units of the Army. In the summer of 1944, as a sergeant with almost 4 years of military service, Willie was sent to Camp Shelby where he joined the 171st Infantry Battalion which trained replacements for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. In June 1945, he was sent to France on board the Queen Mary for his assignment in Germany. During the Korean War, Willie was stationed in Germany, subsequently completed two tours of duty in Vietnam, and retired in 1971 after serving more than 30 years of military service.

Willie’s older brother, Saburo was born April 1, 1917 and was drafted in February 1944. When the 442nd RCT was activated he joined it as a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion. He was killed in action on October 29, 1944, during the rescue of the trapped Texas Battalion (“Lost Battalion”) in the vicinity of Biffontaine, located in northeastern France. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Silver Star. Saburo, squad leader, died in the arms of his best friend, George Joe Sakato. Assuming command of the squad, Sakato, armed with an enemy rifle and pistol, led the charge against the enemy to avenge the death of his buddy. His display of courage, over and beyond the call of duty, turned an impending defeat into victory. Sakato was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Saburo was one of the first two Japanese Americans to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. Honorary pallbearers included General Jacob Devers, Commanding General of Army Ground Forces who commanded the Sixth Army Group under which the 442nd fought in France; Major General John E. Dahlquist, Commanding General of the 36th Texas Division to which the 442nd was attached for the offensive in France; Colonel



Willie R. Tanamachi, San Benito Memorial, November 11, 2012. (Photo by Deborah Tanamachi Galvan)

Charles W. Pence, Commander of the 442nd; Colonel Virgil R. Miller, Commander of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team after Colonel Pence was wounded in the Vosges; Colonel Charles H. Owens, wartime commander of the 141st Infantry Regiment, parent unit of the "lost battalion;" Mr. Mike Masaoka, National Legislative Director of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and former 442nd member; Mr. Ira Shimasaki, president of the Washington, D.C., JACL chapter, and Mr. Jesse S. Shima, President of the Japanese Society of Washington, DC.

Another older brother, Goro, born May 27, 1919, enlisted in the Army Air Corp in 1940, was sent to aviation technical school, and graduated as an airplane mechanic. He was removed from duty after December 7, 1941. When the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was formed in February 1943, Goro was sent to Camp Shelby initially as a member of the training cadre and then

deployed to Italy with the 442nd. On October 29, 1944, he was called to Biffontaine, to identify the body of his brother, Saburo. Goro earned four Bronze Star Medals and was discharged on August 4, 1945.

The youngest brother, Walter, who was born May 30, 1925, was assigned to the Port of Bremerhaven, Germany, around 1945. He was selected for Officer Candidate School and received his commission as a Second Lieutenant. Following his discharge he attended Texas A&M on the G.I. Bill and graduated in 1952.

Willie, the lone surviving brother, turned 91 on March 1, 2011. He attended the Veterans Day ceremonies on November 15 at the newly built veterans memorial at San Benito, where he attended high school.

Commenting on the ceremony, Willie’s niece, Deborah Tanamachi Galvan, stated, “It was a very touching moment when keynote speaker Major General Joyce Stevens asked for veterans of World War II to stand.... Uncle Willie stood. Then she asked for veterans of the Korean War to stand...and Uncle Willie stood. Once again she asked for veterans of the Vietnam War to stand...and again Uncle Willie stood. It was definitely a privilege to honor the brave and be in their presence.”

LTG Bostick keynotes 2nd Annual LA Community Salute to Future Soldiers; meets with community leaders, educators by Eric Nishizawa, Esq.

Los Angeles—May 19, 2012, Lieutenant General Thomas Bostick, then the Army G1, led the Army's Los Angeles Recruiting Battalion and approximately 500 Future Soldiers in the Torrance Armed Forces Day Parade, keynoted the 2nd Annual Los Angeles Community Salute to Future Soldiers (the "Salute"), and met with Los Angeles community leaders and educators.

Approximately 40,000 people turned out to see the 2012 Torrance Armed Forces Day Parade (the "Parade"), the oldest Department of Defense officially recognized Armed Forces Day celebration, west of the Mississippi. Units from all 4 branches of the Armed Forces participated in the Parade, and the Parade annually includes a group of veterans from the 100th Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service. LTG Bostick was particularly happy to meet this year's participants. This year, the entire Los Angeles Recruiting Battalion and approximately 500 Future Soldiers marched in the Parade, led by LTG Bostick, who rode in an "ARMY STRONG" emblazoned yellow and black car.

The young men and women who comprised the approximately 500 Future Soldiers come from throughout Los Angeles County. These Future Soldiers represent the finest of the young people in Los Angeles County, because only approximately 25% of America's age-qualified young men and women can meet the basic intelligence, physical, and moral requirements to join today's Army. They were justifiably proud as they marched down Torrance Boulevard yelling cadences that the Battalion's NCOs taught them.

Later, against the backdrop of the Army Strong demonstration exhibit, LTG Bostick addressed the approximately 500 Future Soldiers and advised them to continue their education in the Army, to take advantage of the educational opportunities that the Army would give to them, and to always talk to their parents, so that their parents knew how they were doing.

LTG Bostick was particularly pleased to keynote the Salute because it was an opportunity to see first-hand the fruits of much of his labor while serving as the commanding general of United States Army Recruiting. In fact, it was under LTG Bostick's leadership that the Los Angeles Community Advisory Board (the "Board"), the organizer of the Salute, was formed.

Later, that evening, LTG Bostick addressed a group of some 50 Los Angeles community leaders and educators. There, LTG Bostick praised the Board for its work since



being established in November 2008. The Board has been a tireless advocate for the Army, helping to ensure that Los Angeles County's perceptions about the Army are accurate, that the accomplishments of Soldiers are widely known, and that as many as possible learn about the opportunities in the Army. LTG Bostick recognized Board member Dr. James Hwang, in particular, for his dedication. Dr. Hwang moved from the Los Angeles area to teach medical technology in the Fort Meade area, but flies at his own expense to Los Angeles to attend Board meetings. Dr. Hwang also maintains at his own expense and on his own time online resources for applicants in the MAVNI program. (The MAVNI program is a recruiting program directed at recruiting Soldiers with particular language skills.)

LTG Bostick stressed that America maintains an all volunteer Army, but with only 1% of Americans serving, it is important for the Army to maintain contact with local communities. Americans must aspire to serve in the Army, and the Army is looking for the best and brightest. Today's Army is not a last resort. Soldiers in today's Army are smart and knowledgeable and continue their education in the Army. In fiscal year 2011, 209,000 Active Duty Soldiers took 367,000 college classes.

LTG Bostick told several Soldiers' stories to illustrate how outstanding our Soldiers are. One is the story of Captain Victor Shen, the Long Beach Recruiting Company's commander. CPT Shen grew up in Cerritos and joined the Army Reserve. He later attended West Point, where he served as his Class Vice President and Chair of the Ring and Crest Committee. CPT Shen graduated from West Point in 2008 and has since served in deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. CPT Shen was also one of the organizers for a recent Pan Pacific Leaders and Mentors event in Los Angeles with Major General (retired) Antonio Taguba.

Another is the story of Tyki Nelworth, a cadet at West Point. Cadet Nelworth came from a family in South LA. His mother is in prison on drug related charges and his father is deceased. He jumped from home to home and for a time was homeless. Nevertheless, Cadet Nelworth focused on his studies at Washington Prep, using his past experiences as motivation to graduate with a 4.23 GPA, despite having taken difficult advanced placement courses in calculus, English, biology, chemistry, and physics. Cadet Nelworth was also the captain of the football team, played baseball, ran track, and was the Senior Class President. *[continued at Bostick on page 7]*



The astonishing history of persons of Japanese ancestry in Louisiana

by Dr. Greg Robinson, Associate Professor, University of Montreal

Rossllyn, Va. — During his November 13, 2012 visit to Washington, D.C., Dr. Greg Robinson, Associate Professor at the University of Montreal, met with JAVA members for lunch at the China Garden Restaurant. He discussed the results of his research on the history of persons of Japanese ancestry in Louisiana. Following is a summary of his findings:

Persons of Japanese ancestry have played a surprisingly long and central role in the history of Louisiana, both in and outside New Orleans. The celebrated scientist Jokichi Takamine, who had lived in New Orleans in the 1880s, first attracted Japanese cotton buyers to the city in 1895. The trade boomed and, by 1922, when the first Japanese consulate opened, the Crescent City did more business with Japan than with all of Central America. Meanwhile, planter Seaman Knapp turned to Japan to boost Louisiana's rice industry. Knapp and his associates imported Kyushu (AKA Kishu) rice, whose grains could stand up without breaking in the rolling mills that processed rice. As a result of the new rice, the rice fields and irrigation boomed in the Gulf Coast. However, local Caucasians opposed the migration of Issei (immigrants from Japan) rice farmers on racial grounds. Ironically, because of this, many Issei settlers instead moved to Texas and built profitable rice farms there. Still, some notable Japanese did migrate to New Orleans, including two Japanese nationals, who were veterans of the Spanish-American wars, Tomehitsu Hinata and Namyo Bessho. Hinata and his wife Katsue opened a Japanese curio store. Their daughters Yuki, Toshi, and Kyo, the first Louisiana Nisei, became teachers in the city's public schools.



Seated: L-R: Bob Nakamoto, Greg Robinson, Lida Konoshima, Mary Murakami. Standing: Gerald Yamada, Aki Konoshima, Dr. Ray Murakami, Dwight Gates, Miyako Tanabe, Terry Shima.

World War II brought ethnic Japanese from all over the Americas into Louisiana. First, a group of Issei men, largely from Hawaii, were interned during 1942-1943 at Camp Livingston, near Alexandria. Meanwhile, New Orleans served as the post of debarkation for over 2,000 ethnic Japanese from Peru and other Latin American countries. Then in Spring of 1943, Japanese American soldiers from the 100th Infantry Battalion were shipped to Camp Livingston to participate in the Louisiana maneuvers, the final test to determine their combat readiness. They were closely scrutinized by top generals who gave General George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff, favorable reviews. In June 1943, the 100th returned to Camp Shelby, where they enjoyed a brief reunion with the newly arrived Hawaiian soldiers assigned to the 442d Regimental Combat Team, before they (100th) were deployed to Italy for combat duty. In early 1944, the War Relocation Authority opened an area relocation office in New Orleans. An estimated 190 Japanese Americans resettled in Louisiana during 1945-1946, working in the shrimp industry, greenhouses, or as chick sexers, although many ultimately left. In response, some parishes adopted (largely symbolic) anti-Japanese ordinances barring anyone of the "Japanese race" from owning land within their borders. When the internment camps closed some families settled in Louisiana. Some, like Ted Yenari's family, have remained there while others have since moved to other states.

Trade with Japan revived after the war and, by the mid-1960s, Japan had become New Orleans's chief foreign trading partner—more than all of Europe. During the decade ending in 1976, an average of 200 Japanese ships a year called in New Orleans.

Still, not every aspect of the Japanese presence in Louisiana was so positive. In 1992, a 16-year old Japanese exchange student, Yoshihiro Hattori, was shot dead in Baton Rouge by a meat market manager, Rodney Peairs, after he and a white friend [continued at Louisiana on page 8]

Bostick (cont'd from page 6)

LTG Bostick also stressed the role that people can play in assisting Soldiers to transition from Army service to private sector employment. As of March 2012, 19% of post-9/11 Army veterans between the ages of 20 and 24 are unemployed. These young men and women have performed well in the Army, displaying values, character, and competence to make them perform well. These Soldiers bring Army ethos, are well trained, and adapt to every situation, which makes them uniquely qualified to work in our fast-paced, high-stress work environment. Not only does America owe them a debt of gratitude, but Soldiers will bring large benefits to their employers, such as possible tax credits, expanded paid apprenticeship programs, employees with education benefits, and improved productivity and reduced manpower costs.

There are several resources for employers looking to hire veterans. One is Hero 2 Hired (H2H) (www.h2h.jobs), which brings veterans looking for jobs together with employers looking to hire veterans. Another is Troops to Teachers (www.proudforservingagain.com).

JAVA Executive Director's 2012 Annual Report



McLean, Virginia—JAVA Executive Directors, Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret) (July to December) and Terry Shima (January to June) 2012 annual report showed significant accomplishments in the education field. Highlights of the annual report are as follows:

National Park Service (NPS) Education Department has agreed to circulate reports of Japanese experience during WW II to schools and NPS audience across the land. NPS also has the use of US Department of Education distribution facility. NPS is compiling a DVD based on interviews with JAVA veterans and camp internee for this purpose.

Scanners have completed scanning the 100th and 442nd documents at National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The NARA team has begun scanning MIS documents. Meanwhile, a team has been populating the scanned documents to enable researchers to access desired information using key words such as dates, names and places. JAVA is hopeful the NARA Digitalization project, a joint effort with 442nd Veterans Hawaii, will be completed in 2013.

JAVA Speakers Bureau has responded to 52 invitations to discuss the Japanese American Experience During WW II and its Legacy at Universities, elementary to high schools, civic organizations and government entities. Many of our non-ethnic Japanese audience tell us they were previously unaware of this story.

Ten high school graduates were awarded JAVA scholarships,

which are established and funded by families in whose names the scholarships are established. The feedback we receive from the recipients is that JAVA scholarships are coveted because the scholarships link them directly with the courage and patriotism of Nikkei who were members in the internment, 100th Battalion, 442nd Combat Team and MIS and who have given them a cherished legacy.

On Nov. 20, 2012, Fairfax County Virginia Legislative Council passed a Resolution endorsing the Congressional Gold Medal that was awarded to the members of the 100th Battalion, 442nd RCT and the Military Intelligence Service. Grant Ichikawa received the Resolution on behalf of JAVA and presented a message of appreciation. One week later the Montgomery Maryland County Legislative Council presented a proclamation to a 442nd veteran representative of JAVA. Photos, videos, awards, and a press release will be displayed on JAVA's website, www.javadc.org.

Wade Ishimoto has assumed chairmanship of the Oral History Project and interviews of veterans have resumed. JAVA oral histories are archived at the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. Mandated by the U.S. Congress, our oral histories are ensured of longevity *ad infinitum*.

Multiple activities held at each event, i.e. the National Cherry Blossom Festival, Memorial Day and Veterans Day, helped involve JAVA members in community activities. The quarterly luncheons, quarterly *JAVA Advocate*, newsletter, the Facebook, Website, and Round Robin help us connect with our members.

[The complete Executive Officers report will be placed on the JAVA website.]

Louisiana (cont'd from page 7)

knocked mistakenly on Peairs's door in search of a Halloween Party. At his trial, Peairs was acquitted of manslaughter, though the student's family later won a large award for civil damages.

Some of the old connections between Louisiana and Japan have dimmed. Trade declined sharply after the bursting of Japan's economic boom in the early 1990s. Conditions have been especially difficult in recent years. In 2007, New Orleans's Japanese consulate, due to changing priorities, closed its doors and relocated to Tennessee.

Still, financial and cultural exchanges remained numerous. One of the most unique examples is the Cafe du Monde, a New Orleans institution that has survived for 150 years. Thanks to an exclusive concession agreement, there are 20 branches of the iconic café in Japan serving its menu of chicory coffee and beignets—the only branches in the world outside Louisiana.

Like Father, Like Son

In the Fall 2012 edition of the *JAVA Advocate's* "Meet the Generals and Admirals" section, we profiled Rear Admiral Jonathan A. Yuen, Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Global Logistics Support headquartered in San Diego. We have since learned and are pleased to add that Admiral Yuen's son, Drew, is a junior (Second Class) at the U.S. Naval Academy pursuing his commission in the Naval Service. Just as Admiral Yuen was inspired by his father's service in the Army, so, too, was Drew inspired by his father. In his essay on the application to the Naval Academy, Drew wrote: "The Navy brought prosperity to my family, order to my universe and has designed my outlook. My father's lectures flooded my head: 'A midshipman does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do.'" Raised on a foundation of values encompassed in Admiral Yuen's personal philosophical tenets ("Beside Manner," "A Servant's Heart," and the "Socratic Mindset") Drew concluded, "To go somewhere other than the Academy would (have been), at best, second choice and, at worst, a betrayal of myself." Drew was accepted into the U.S. Naval Academy in 2010 and anticipates graduating in 2014. **(Pictured L-R: Midshipman Drew Yuen and Admiral Jonathan A. Yuen.)**



JAVA participates in 3 Veterans Day ceremonies in Hawaii

Oahu, Hawaii. — JAVA participated in three Veterans Day 2012 programs in Hawaii thanks to the arrangements made by 442nd Veterans Club, Hawaii. LTC Mark Nakagawa, USA (Ret), JAVA Treasurer, who returned home to visit his family in Honolulu, represented JAVA at these events. LTC Nakagawa provided the following report.

LTC Nakagawa, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Fusako Nakagawa, started the day at the Veterans Day Ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), followed by the Governor's Veterans Day Ceremony at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery (Kaneohe), and ended the day on the deck of the USS Missouri for the Veterans Day ceremony as the sun was setting over Pearl Harbor.

In the morning ceremony at Punchbowl, LTC Nakagawa presented JAVA's floral wreath along with other Veterans organizations and military entities. The keynote speaker was the Honorable Daniel K. Akaka, U.S. Senator from Hawaii who discussed his service to the nation beginning at World War II. The ceremonies ended with a flyover by F-22s from the 199th Fighter Squadron from the Hawaii Air National Guard.

At the midday Governor's Ceremony at Kaneohe, the Honorable Neil Abercrombie, Governor of Hawaii, was the keynote speaker. The event included military representatives of all branches of the services. JAVA presented a JAVA lei.

Veterans Day concluded with an early evening program on the deck of the USS Missouri where the keynote speaker

was BG Martha N. Wong, Hawaii Army National Guard. BG Wong discussed her service to the nation beginning as a medic in the Texas Army National Guard.

At the conclusion of a very eventful day, LTC Nakagawa remarked to JAVA's Veteran friends, "It was an honor and privilege to be able to represent JAVA at the various venues in Hawaii. I believe it was fitting for JAVA to participate in one of these annual Veterans Day events because Hawaii was the location where the United States entered World War II on December 7, 1941, and it was on deck of the USS Missouri that Japan signed the surrender document in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945, to mark the end of WW II.

JAVA's participation in the events further strengthened JAVA's relationships with its sister Japanese American veterans organizations in Hawaii--the 442nd Veterans Club, the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club, the M.I.S. Veterans Club, and the 1399th Engineers Battalion Veterans Club.



Rev. George Aki receives his Congressional Gold Medal

Claremont, Calif. (November, 23, 2012) – Susan Uyemura, CEO, President and Oral Historian of Japanese American Living Legacy (www.jalivinglegacy.org), attended a small intimate ceremony for Reverend George Aki to receive the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the nation's highest civilian medal and is awarded by Congress. In 2010, President Obama signed the bill awarding the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Nisei members of the Military Intelligence Service during World War II, honoring the men who served in these units to be awarded a replica of the Congressional Gold Medal.

Reverend George Aki

served with the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team. He is the last surviving chaplain. Presenting him with the award was Mits Kunihiro from E Company, Jim Yamashita I Company, along with Reverend Aki's son Jim Aki.



Below left: Jim Aki (holding microphone) for Mits Kunihiro (E Company, 442nd RCT) presenting the CGM to Reverend George Aki (center). **Below right, L-R:** Jim Yamashita (I Co., 442nd RCT); Rev. Aki; Mits Kunihiro. (Photos by Susan Uyemura)

Meet the Generals and Admirals

Each quarter JAVA features two Asian Americans who have attained the highest ranks in the U.S. Armed Forces. The present count is that 103 Asian Hawaiian Pacific Islander Americans have been promoted to generals and admirals, including General Eric Shinseki of Kauai, Hawaii, who wore four stars as the U.S. Army's 34th Chief of Staff. Of the 103, 59 served in the U.S. Army, 23 in the U.S. Air Force, 17 in the U.S. Navy, 2 in the Public Health Service, and one each in the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Coast Guard. Broken down in another way, 43 are Japanese Americans, 26 Chinese Americans, 20 Hawaii Pacific Islanders, 10 Filipino Americans, and four Korean Americans.

MG David J. Elicerio



Major General David J. Elicerio, ARNG, has served as Commanding General, 34th Infantry "Red Bull" Division, Minnesota Army National Guard, Rosemount, Minnesota since October 2010.

Veterans of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd RCT would be pleased to know that an Asian Pacific American is the Commanding General of the 34th Infantry "Red Bull"

Division. When General Dwight Eisenhower's staff declined the assignment of the 100th Battalion, comprised of Japanese Americans, to the European Theater, LTG Mark Clark, commanding General of the 5th Army accepted and assigned them to the 34th "Red Bull" Division in September 1943 at Salerno, Italy, where they experienced their baptism of fire. When the 442nd arrived in Italy 9 months later, the 100th merged into the 442nd and the combined unit continued to serve in the 34th. In September 1944, the 442nd was separated from the 34th for deployment to France. The men of the 442nd, including the 100th, and the 34th developed an unshakable bond of friendship and respect that is enjoyed to today.

General Elicerio received his 2nd Lieutenant's commission, ARNG, in 1980 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program, as well as his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering, at the University of Minnesota. During the first 10 years of his military career with the Army National Guard (ARNG) he was assigned to infantry units with the 47th Infantry Division, including 2-135 Infantry Regiment. In 1991, the 34th Infantry Division was reactivated from units of the deactivated 47th Infantry Division. From May 1995 - June 1996, then-MAJ Elicerio served as Deputy G3 of the 34th Infantry Division, Rosemount, Minnesota.

Then-COL Elicerio served overseas for approximately 7 months with the 34th Infantry Division in 2003-2004 as the Chief of Joint Military Affairs at Eagle Base, in Tuzla, Bosnia (SFOR14). Subsequently, then-COL Elicerio commanded the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division (1/34 BCT) from July 2005 - September 2007. Then-COL Elicerio commanded the 1/34 BCT during its March 2006 to September 2007 deployment to Iraq. The 1/34 BCT earned the distinction of serving the longest combat tour [continued at Elicerio on page 11]

RDML Pete Gumataotao



Greetings to all, and as they say back on the beautiful island of Guam, *Hafa Adai!*

I'm Rear Admiral Pete Gumataotao, Commander of Carrier Strike Group 11, on board USS NIMITZ (CVN 68), homeported in Everett, Washington.

I am a proud native of Guam and a 1981 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. I've served onboard many ships in the Pacific during my career including Command-At-Sea tours on USS CURTIS WILBUR (DDG 54), USS DECATUR (DDG 73), and Destroyer Squadron 31. My first flag assignment was in Seoul, Republic of Korea, where I wore multiple hats as Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Korea for U.S. Pacific Fleet; U.S. Naval Regional Commander for Naval Installations Command; Commander, Task Force 78 for U.S. 7th Fleet; Naval Component Commander of United Nations Command; and, Deputy Naval Component Commander for Combined Forces Command, Korea.

I was asked by the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), to provide a few thoughts on why I chose the Navy as a career. I'd be kidding you if I said I always knew from day one that I would make the Navy a career. When I made the "big decision" back in 1976 to leave Guam, little did I realize then how much of a life-changing decision that was for me. In hindsight, it was a big decision for me to leave my beloved island. I was "comfortable" back then, living the good island life: fishing at night, being with family, having many friends, and many opportunities at home. But the lure of going to the mainland and the curiosity of where my road would lead me overcame any "fear" I had of trying something new and different.

The opportunity to join the Navy just didn't happen. I had many folks back home that encouraged me to take that step. I had the steadfast support of my family and the strong influence of my father who served honorably in the Navy during WWII and the Korean War. I had many great community role models who played influential roles in my decision to join the Navy. Two of these role models had a direct role in getting me to the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Newport Rhode Island and ultimately an appointment to the Naval Academy. These two people were CDR Chuck White (founder of the NJROTC unit at Father Duenas Memorial High School) and CDR Larry Schlang [continued at Gumataotao on page 12]

Idaho 442nd Veteran wins Idaho State and NW America DAR Awards for community service

Blackfoot, Idaho. — Hero Shiosaki, a 442nd RCT veteran and resident of Blackfoot, has received the Old Fort Hall Chapter Daughters of American Revolution (DAR), located in Idaho Falls, and the Northwest Division of DAR, Community Service Award in February 2012. The awards are given to recognize local citizens for outstanding achievements in cultural, educational, humanitarian, patriotic and citizenship work in their communities. The northwest division is made up of 6 states, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Montana, and Wyoming, and it is one of the 8 regional divisions of the DAR. As the winner of both state and regional competition, Shiosaki's records were entered in June 2012 in the DAR national level in Washington, DC to compete for the Outstanding Recipient Award. Shiosaki was informed he placed third in the national ranking.

Shiosaki's community services included his refurbishing of gravesites of 6 immigrant Japanese who were buried in the Aston Cemetery in Blackfoot. Shiosaki's research identified the names of the 6 Japanese who worked as laborers for the Union Pacific Railroad, arranged for a local funeral home to donate the stones, and obtained a JACL grant to pay for cutting and polishing the headstones and engraving them with the names of the occupants. Shiosaki's research also revealed the cause of their deaths. In 1906 these 6 railroad workers were dynamite fishing in the Warm River, located in Marysville. When the game warden suddenly arrived, they, knowing dynamite fishing was illegal, jumped in the river and drowned.

Another community service by Shiosaki was his donation to the Jason Lee Memorial Methodist Church at Blackfoot in July 2010 of a marble relief of Jesus. Shiosaki received the marble relief from an Italian family,

Frediana, in Carrara, Italy, the home of internationally recognized fine marble. During WW II Shiosaki befriended the Frediana family, and before he left Italy in June 1946 Shiosaki gave the family his surplus clothing and rations. The friendship continues to today.

Shiosaki has spoken to more than 200 government and history classes about the Japanese American experience during WW II. He has conducted for the past 40 years the Memorial Day services at the Pocatello Cemetery to honor Japanese Americans who were killed in action. He continues to speak on Veterans Day in the Blackfoot area.

Shiosaki is a member of VFW Post 9443, the American Legion Post 23, and in 1969 was appointed to the Governor's Human Rights Commission on which he served for 15 years.

Shiosaki was inducted into the Army in March 1942 and was sent to Camp Robinson, Arkansas for basic training. He joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team when it was formed in the Spring of 1943. He shipped out with the 442nd to Italy in June 1944 and participated in the Rome-Arno (Italy), Vosges Forests (France), Maritime Alps (France), and Po Valley (Italy) campaigns.



Hero Shiosaki holding the DAR Old Fort Hall Chapter coveted Community Service Award.

Elicerio (cont'd from page 10)

(16 months) of any BCT during the war; conducting security operations throughout the Iraq Theater of operations. Then-BG Elicerio's third overseas assignment was from January 2009 - February 2010 as Deputy Commander, 34th Infantry Division, Basra, Iraq. His domestic assignments since 1995 were with the 34th Division in the state of Minnesota.

MG Elicerio's awards include the Legion of Merit (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster) Bronze Star Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster) Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters) Army Commendation medal (with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters) and numerous other individual awards.

Thank You Donors! JAVA is grateful for the generosity of our members and friends

(Donations received from October 28 to December 10, 2012)

General Fund

Ranger Roy H. Matsumoto (IHO Terry Shima)
Teruo (Ted) Miyagishima
Dr. N. Timothy Ray (IHO Nakagawa)
Brian Y. Shirayama
Homer & Miyuki Yasui

Victor and Teru Matsui Scholarship

Frederick P. Hitz

News from the Department of Veterans Affairs and other Veterans Organizations

U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs—Women's History

Month: In honor of Women's History Month, the Dept. of Veterans Affairs needs help putting together a tribute. Send photos and a story (200-500 words) about your time, or someone you know, in the military. The selected stories will appear on the Department's web page, "Vantage Point." Send all information by Thursday, February 28, 2013 to newmedia@va.gov.

Honolulu, Hawaii—Sons and Daughters of the 442nd

RCT: Celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the 442nd RCT on March 22-25, 2013. A schedule of events and registration form can be obtained from the 442nd Veterans Club at (808) 949-7997, or on the web site: www.442sd.org.

Reno, Nevada—Nisei VFW Reunion: California Nisei VFW Posts will gather. Hershey Miyamura, Judge Vince Okamoto, Joseph Anello, and the VFW National Commander-in-Chief will attend. A Congressional Gold Medal ceremony is scheduled. Sands Regency, 345 N. Arlington, Reno, Nevada 89501.

Minneapolis, Minnesota—Attorney Gen. investigates for-profit colleges: Because of the aggressive recruiting by some for-profit colleges, the Minnesota Attorney General is

reviewing their practices. The AG contends that students, many of them veterans, can find themselves unable to repay federal loans.

Japanese American Citizens League—

scholarships: Totaling over \$70,000 in scholarships, the National JACL offers over 30 awards to deserving members for undergraduate and graduate students. Applications must be mailed by March 1, 2013. Each JACL Chapter will forward the applications by April 1, 2013 to the Scholarship Program Office in Chicago. More information can be found at www.jacl.org/edu/scholar.htm.

Sasebo Naval Base, Japan—Samurai teach aboard

USS Denver: On February 8, 2013, eleven Samurai descendants from northern Kyushu taught sailors aboard the USS Denver about the bushido code of honor and respect. Their visit included a demonstration of fighting techniques with authentic swords, hundreds of years old and considered national treasures. Full article available at: http://www.stripes.com/news/pacific/uss-denver-crew-gets-lesson-in-honor-from-samurai-1.207035?utm_source=Stars+and+Stripes+Emails&utm_campaign=Daily+Headlines&utm_medium=email#.

Gumataotao (cont'd from page 10)

(Blue & Gold Officer for Hawaii and Guam). Interestingly enough, both these men were present at my promotion ceremony to Flag rank. It was a fitting tribute to both of them who believed I was capable of so much more. My grades were good, my SAT scores weren't bad, and I was involved in many school and community activities. In retrospect, all these factors also contributed to affording me the opportunity to attend the U.S. Naval Academy and ultimately serve our country.

Truly, "I didn't know what I didn't know" back then when I chose to join the Navy. The bigger question is why I stayed in the Navy. First off, anyone raised in Guam can tell you up front the value of being free. We celebrate every year with gusto our "Liberation Day" when fellow Americans returned to our shores to give us back our freedom during WWII. Many of us saw serving our country in uniform as a privilege. I see it as an honor to serve. I also have this sense that serving our country allowed me to "give back" to my country which afforded me and my family so many opportunities. Secondly, I stayed in the Navy because I admired those who emulated the ethos we were measured by daily: Guardians of Peace, professionals...exemplifying the highest standards of service to our nation; integrity; teamwork; disciplined and well-prepared; accountable to our shipmates and our families; patriots forged by core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. It may sound idealis-

tic to some, but to those of us who went to sea and/or who wear the cloth of our country, it is imperative that we adhere to these standards. Our fellow Americans expect no less when we represent them abroad.

Lastly, my journey in the Navy could not have been possible without the support and encouragement of family, shipmates, and friends alike. As anyone in uniform can attest, there are many sacrifices made by our loved ones to ensure we do what we effectively do out at sea. They support us unconditionally and give us the energy and motivation to be the best we could be. The decision to stay in the Navy was influenced by many of the factors I mentioned earlier but none so more influential than the encouragement and steadfast support of my family.

In closing, thank you JAVA for giving me this opportunity to share with you what it means for me to serve this great country. Your invitation to write an article also brought me to your web-page. I was inspired to read your Mission Statement in that your core principles resonate well with the many reasons why I chose to join and continue to serve in the Navy. It is truly a privilege to serve alongside great Americans both in uniform and those who support our men and women who stand the watch. We cannot expect to achieve the required level of readiness without the continued support and commitment of all those around us.

Feliz Pasqua, Mele Kalikimaka, and Happy Holidays to all of you. — RDML Pete Gumataotao

LTC Keith K. Horikawa, Cdr, 100th BN, 442nd Infantry Regiment

Hawaii—A native of Wahiawa, Hawaii, Lieutenant Colonel Keith K. Horikawa is a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery, through the Hawaii Army National Guard's Officer Candidate School in 1994. He holds a Bachelor's degree in International Business from the University of Hawaii and a Master's of Science degree in Administration from Central Michigan University.

Lieutenant Colonel Horikawa's military education includes the Field Artillery Basic Officer Course, Military Police Advanced Officer Course, Combined Arms Exercise, and Intermediate Level Education.

He served with the 1st BN, 487th Field Artillery, Hawaii Army National Guard, and held assignments including Fire Support Officer for the 100th BN, 442nd Infantry; Fire Direction Officer, Battery C; Executive Officer and Commander, Battery A; and Battalion S-2, Headquarters and Headquarters Service Battery, while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lieutenant Colonel Horikawa joined the U.S. Army Reserve in 2003 with the 9th Regional Support Command, serving as Deputy Provost Marshal until 2007 and then as Battalion



Executive Officer of the 100th BN, 442nd Infantry from 2007 – 2011; he deployed with the battalion in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2008 – 2009. Lieutenant Colonel Horikawa assumed command of the battalion on 27 June 2011.

His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; Army Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters; Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; National Defense Service Medal with bronze service star; Global War on Terrorism Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Bronze Hourglass, "M" device, and numeral 2; Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon; and Army Service Ribbon.

Lieutenant Colonel Horikawa is a Metropolitan Police Lieutenant with the Honolulu Police Department in civilian life. He and his wife Leslie Ann have three children—Angelica, Ethan, and Chloe.

[Editor's note: The Color Guard of the 442nd RCT will join JAVA during the 2013 Memorial Day parade on May 27, 2013. We encourage all who can make it to Washington, DC, to join JAVA as we march in the National Memorial Day Parade down Constitution Avenue.]

JAVA to award ten \$1,500 scholarships in 2013 by Calvin Ninomiya, Esq.

Bethesda, Maryland. — The highly successful JAVA Memorial Scholarship Program, now in its sixth year, will provide a total of ten \$1,500 awards to winning applicants to this year's competition. The deadline for the receipt of completed applications is May 1, 2013. Full rules and details available on the JAVA website www.javadc.org.

The memorial fund in the name of **Orville Shirey**, former intelligence officer with the 442nd RCT, continues to head the list of continuing scholarships. Two scholarships, for father and son, in the names of **Sunao Phil Ishio** and **Douglas Ishio**, are again available. Colonel Ishio was the founder and first president of JAVA. A new name among the funds established is that in memory of **Betty Shima**. Her husband, Terry, was Executive Director of JAVA for a number of years and still serves on its Executive Council. Another individual in whose name a scholarship will be awarded is **Kiyoko Tsuboi Taubkin**, of Portland, Oregon; JAVA was a principal beneficiary of her estate. Separate scholarships honor **Ranger Grant Hirabayashi** and **Joseph Ichijui**. Both served during World War II and were distinguished JAVA members. An iconic name in the Japanese American community will be remembered with the **Mike and Etsu Mineta Masaoka** scholarship. The family and friends of **Victor** and **Teru (Kamikawa) Matsui** have generously established a scholarship in their joint names. Mr. Matsui, a JAVA member, had an illustri-

ous career in the foreign service. A particularly fitting scholarship is in the name of the late **Dr. Warren Tsuneshi**, another distinguished JAVA member. He served with the MIS and was for a number of years responsible for the Japanese collection at the Library of Congress.

To be eligible for a scholarship, (1) the entrant must be a graduating high school student in 2013, and (2) he or she must be directly related to a person (e.g., as son, grandchild, etc.) who served in one of the famed Nisei battalions or teams during the second World War, and their associated units, the MIS, or a Japanese American who has or is serving in our nation's armed services. Eligibility extends to graduates who are lineally related to a member of JAVA (e.g., children or direct descendants).

The panel reviewing the entries are: **Sue Okubo**, a Ph.D. economist, formerly with the Department of Commerce; **Ed Wakayama**, Ph.D., who is an Assistant Secretary in the Department of Health & Human Services, and **Calvin Ninomiya**, formerly a Chief Counsel in the Department of the Treasury.

Individual inquiries may be sent to Dr. Raymond Murakami, JAVA Scholarship Program Chair, 6921 Pyle Road, Bethesda, MD 20817 or email at Mary2mur@aol.com.

US Navy attracts JAs, including women, as career choice; Sen. Hirono commends US Navy for diversity by Lt Janelle Kuroda, USN

Washington, DC. — The Armed Forces offers many dynamic leadership opportunities for those who want to make a positive impact in our country and abroad. The backgrounds, career paths, and individual motivations of William Koyama, Dora Umeyo Lockwood, Cynthia Izuno Macri, Ann Minami, and Edward Takesuye, all captains in the U.S. Navy, showcase the great variety of naval service. Their successes also demonstrate just how far the Japanese American community has come since World War II, when Japanese Americans were forbidden from serving in the Navy.



Capt. William Koyama, born in St. Cloud, Minn., and raised in Oregon, was a NASA spacecraft engineer who wanted to be a naval officer. Koyama said he changed careers to “push the envelope, even if failure was possible, rather than remain in a safe zone.” A graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, he commissioned in the Navy through the Aviation Officers’ Candidate School. Koyama flew the FA-18 C and E variant jet aircrafts in

combat in both Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, commanded two Squadrons, and volunteered to serve in Iraq. Koyama currently serves as the Deputy Air Wing Commander for Carrier Air Wing Five in Atsugi, Japan.

“My most memorable experience was making a difference in the lives of junior personnel. My mantra is people, professionalism, mission,” said Koyama.

Capt. Dora Lockwood, born in Corydon, Ind., was inspired to join the Navy by her father, a Navy veteran and merchant mariner. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, she served as the public affairs officer for Navy Region Southwest, U.S. Third Fleet, and Fleet Forces Command. Her most rewarding assignment was when she served as the public affairs officer for the USS Nimitz Carrier Strike Group during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. She currently serves as the director for public affairs at the Navy’s Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Falls Church, Va.



“Serving along with people from diverse cultures and backgrounds has been one of the most fulfilling aspects of my career,” said Lockwood.

Capt. Cynthia Macri was born in Minnesota and grew up in Hilo, Hawaii, Cairo (Egypt), Lahore and Islamabad (Pakistan) and Mexico City. She was commissioned as a naval officer and enrolled in medical school at Temple University on the Navy’s Health Professions Scholarship. Macri is a trailblazer, entering general surgery in obstetrics and gy-

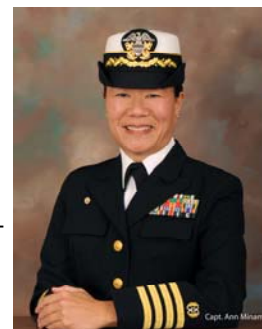


necology and gynecologic oncology when there were few women in this field. She currently serves as the special assistant for diversity to the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington, D.C., where she directs innovative change in diversity initiatives and inspires high school students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Her greatest inspiration comes from her daughter. Through

her daughter’s eyes, Macri realized that a parent’s legacy is to be someone your child can be proud of.

“If it were not for the Navy, I would never have been able to go to medical school,” said Macri. “I owe everything to the Navy and I can never repay the opportunities I was afforded and the success I’ve achieved.”

Capt. Ann Minami, a Nisei attorney from Seattle, Wash., was drawn to the Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps because of its unique opportunities and out of a sense of service to the country that welcomed her immigrant parents. A graduate of Northeastern University School of Law, Minami’s career highlights include two tours at sea on aircraft carriers and a tour in Iraq, where she routinely consulted with the Chief Justice of Iraq on a myriad of legal issues, including constitutional challenges during the historic 2010 national elections. She currently serves as the Commanding Officer of Region Legal Service Office, Northwest in Bremerton, Wash.



“As a lawyer in the Navy, I have served as defense counsel, instructor, detailer, and as staff judge advocate to commands both ashore and at sea. These opportunities were filled with life adventures I never would have imagined would be part of an already exciting naval career,” said Minami.



Capt. Edward Takesuye, a Sansei from Scottsdale, Ariz., was inspired to join the Navy by his uncle’s service in the Air Force. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Takesuye served on multiple submarines and operational staffs during his career. He commanded Submarine Squadron Three, managing six submarines, and served on the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group. Takesuye currently serves [continued at Career on page 16]

Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) Membership Application

Date: _____

Title or Rank: _____ Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Mobile Telephone: _____

E-mail 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 e-mail 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.

Retired Sen. Akaka remarks on why he supported Nisei Soldiers

Capitol Hill. — On September 27, 2012, a small JAVA delegation visited Senator Daniel K. Akaka at his office in the Hart Senate Building. Following the presentation of JAVA's Lifetime Achievement Award, Akaka invited the JAVA members to sit. Sitting relaxed and comfortably, the Senator thanked JAVA for the recognition and spoke for about 20 minutes on his motivations to support the men in the 100th BN, 442nd RCT and the MIS. The Senator's full remarks, based on notes taken by an attendee, can be found on JAVA's website, www.javadc.org, home page entitled "Tribute to U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka" and click on "Remarks by Senator Akaka." Excerpts from the Senator's remarks are as follows:

The detention of persons of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii — many of them loyal to America — and the mass internment in America, affected me deeply. When I became a U.S. senator I was determined to correct the injustice done to persons of Japanese ancestry, particularly those who served in the uniform of our country. I wanted to tell the American people that three thousand Nisei loyally served in the Asia Pacific Theater fighting against people of their same racial heritage. The Nisei saved the lives of thousands of American soldiers and contributed to the ultimate defeat of Japan. I asked the Secretary of the Army to commission the writing of *Nisei Linguists: Japanese American in the Military Intelligence Service During World War II*. This book, published in 2007, covered the story of the Nisei who served in the MIS during WW II, the demobilization of the Imperial Japanese armed forces, and the early post war period. The Nisei contributed to the success of the Occupation and Japan's recovery to become a leading economic power and America's



L-R: Senator Daniel K. Akaka and Mr. Terry Shima, 442nd RCT, in Senator Akaka's Capitol Hill office for the presentation of JAVA's Lifetime Achievement Award on September 27, 2012. (Bruce Hollywood)

partner. The U.S. Army has agreed to write a book to cover this period.

Concerning the Medal of Honor (MOH), it bothered me that the 100th and 442nd were awarded only one MOH, and that only because of congressional intervention. I asked the Army to review all Asian Pacific American Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) awards to determine if they were unfairly evaluated for the MOH. Legislation was passed, and the Army researchers went to work. They produced the names of more than 100 Asian Pacific Americans who were awarded the DSC and recommended that 22 of them be

upgraded to the MOH, including 20 Nisei. This included a Nisei medic, who was recommended for the MOH but was downgraded to DSC because Army tradition and eligibility precluded consideration of anyone who "didn't carry a gun." I felt this was terribly unfair and introduced legislation to have this anomaly corrected. Congress approved my bill in record time, the Army reviewed the case favorably, and I was given the honor of calling James Okubo's family to give them the news that Okubo would be posthumously awarded the MOH. On June 21, 2000, President Bill Clinton awarded 22 MOHs to Asian Pacific Americans in a moving White House ceremony.

I am pleased and privileged to have done what I did for the Japanese American soldiers of the great conflict. They would not have pursued such recognition for themselves — they were far too modest and unassuming. I believe that justice has at last been done. I wish also to commend the Japanese Americans who have fought with the same dedication in the Korean War, Vietnam War, the Gulf Wars, and of course Iraq and Afghanistan.

Career (cont'd from page 14)

as the Chief of Staff for the USS George Washington Strike Group, based in Yokosuka, Japan. His most memorable experience was when he commanded USS San Juan (SSN 751) as his crew launched Tomahawk missiles from his submarine while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Throughout my thirty years in the Navy, it has truly been a privilege and honor to stand alongside the many patriot Americans who have chosen to dedicate their lives to the service of our country", said Takesuye.

Senator Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), a member of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the first Asian American woman to serve in the U.S. Senate remarked, "As the headquarters of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and home to over 30,000 Navy Department personnel, Hawaii understands

the importance of a strong Navy. We also know that the power of our forces is not based solely on the superiority of our ships and weapons, but the competence and bravery of the men and women serving our country. I commend the Navy for its efforts to attract, recruit and retain personnel who bring diverse backgrounds and experiences to the table. I am confident leaders like Captains Koyama, Lockwood, Macri, Minami and Takesuye will strengthen our national security and make the Japanese American community and our broader nation proud."

These Japanese American naval officers and hundreds of others have had an enormous impact on the Navy. Following World War II, the ban on Japanese American enlistments in the U.S. Navy was lifted. Today, Japanese Americans serve in all ranks in the U.S. Navy and include an Assistant Secretary of the Navy and three admirals.

From the Editor



For the past seven years, it has been an absolute privilege to serve as the Editor of the *JAVA Advocate*. Although this edition of the *JAVA Advocate* will be my last as editor, my involvement with JAVA will continue. I will stay active in JAVA activities and continue to support its fine work.

I have been honored to play a part in preserving the legacy of the WW II and Korean War Nisei Veterans, and I enjoy putting together the *JAVA Advocate* to publicize the great things Asian American Veterans are doing today. Thank you JAVA members and friends for your kind support; it kept me going on long nights of editing!

Mahalo nui loa,

- Kay Wakatake



During the Veterans Day 2012 breakfast at the White House, LTC Kay Wakatake, USA, and Col Bruce Hollywood, USAF (Ret), met President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, Vice President Joseph Biden, and Dr. Jill Biden. (White House photo)

Honorable Journey: The Untold Story of Japanese Americans During WW II (Narrated by George Takei)

"Honorable Journey" charts the 70-year struggle of Japanese-Americans who came of age during World War II. Narrated by George Takei, the film features conflicts of loyalty to tradition, family and country, played out against the backdrop of world war. Eyewitnesses and descendants recount a lifelong journey from barbed wire, battlefields and jail cells to vindication and the highest honors in the land. As the late World War II veteran Sen. Daniel Inouye says in the film, "That's one thing about democracy. You must be patient."

The URL <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8ZvhUcHrQU> is a 17-minute video on the Japanese American experience during World War II. It was produced for AARP by Stephen Menick, writer and producer. When asked what motivated him to do the video and what were his goals, he replied:

"In 2011, as construction was under way for the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial, AARP asked me to write and direct a short documentary on King's legacy. That eight-minute doc was honored with a screening at the Memorial dedication on the National Mall in October. One month later, on the occasion of the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony for Japanese American Veterans, I was asked by AARP to write and direct a piece on another essential question of civil rights in the 20th century—the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

"My original assignment was to focus on the camps and the justly famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team. But the

deeper I looked into the story, the more I felt that those who resisted their government—people like Gordon Hirabayashi and Fred Korematsu—were just as principled and just as patriotic as those who served, at such great personal cost, in the 442nd RCT, the MIS, the 100th IB or the 1399th ECB. And it seemed to me that the Nisei were a generation with a divided American heart—divided between native Japanese values and the Bill of Rights. That was the story I wanted to tell in my small way.

"Writing and producing HONORABLE JOURNEY taught me a great deal about the Nisei. It also gave me a fresh perspective on what America can be. America can be a country where citizens can be put behind barbed wire just because of their ethnic background. It can be a country where citizens can be jailed simply for their beliefs. But these same citizens can go on to receive some of the highest honors in the land. It can take a long time.

"Speaking of the seven decades since Pearl Harbor, Senator Daniel Inouye said in HONORABLE JOURNEY, 'That's one thing about democracy. You must be patient.' Thinking of those belated honors—the Congressional Gold Medals, the Presidential Medals of Freedom—I've come to believe that America isn't the snapshot. America isn't the single frame. America is the movie."



JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION

c/o Amour LLC
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd. #104
McLean, Virginia 22101

Visit our website: www.javadc.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar. 9:** JAVA Executive Council Meeting.
- Mar. 23, 11:30A.M.:** JAVA Quarterly luncheon at Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, Virginia.
- Apr. 2:** JAVA Speaker's Bureau at Army Navy Club, Washington, DC.
- Apr. 6:** Freedom Walk, Washington, DC.
- Apr. 13:** Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom Festival), Washington, DC.
- May 26, 2013:** JAVA-JACL Memorial Day Program at Arlington Cemetery, Virginia.
- May 27:** National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC.
- Jun. 8:** JAVA Executive Council Meeting.
- Jun. 15, 11:30A.M.:** JAVA Scholarship Awards & Quarterly luncheon, Falls Church, Virginia.
- Sep. 14:** JAVA Executive Council Meeting.
- Oct. 12:** JAVA Quarterly luncheon., Falls Church, Virginia.
- Nov. 11:** Veterans Day Program, Washington, DC.
- Dec. 14:** JAVA Executive Council Meeting.

Please send correspondence to:

General: Bruce Hollywood, hollywood@comcast.net
703-229-3198

William Houston, houstonnavy@aol.com, 703-380-8175

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

Facebook: Janelle Kuroda, janellekuroda@gmail.com

Freedom Walk: Martin Herbert, Martyherb@aol.com,
703-509-6473

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

Memorial Day Arlington Cemetery: Bruce Hollywood (See above)

Memorial Day Parade: Martin Herbert (See above)

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

Newsletter: Kay Wakatake, javaadvocate@gmail.com

Oral History: Wade Ishimoto (See above)

Policy: Gerald Yamada, President, 703-938-3074,

gyamada@goingforwardstrategies.com

Quarterly Lunch: Miyako Tanabe, miyako2468@gmail.com,
301-843-6211

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

Sakura Matsuri: Reuben Yoshikawa, reubeny@cox.net,
703-795-2512

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
James Tani, jamestani@aol.com