



Military Intelligence Service Veterans Club

Newsletter  
Vol. 20, No. 1  
Feb. 2013

# MIS VETERANS

## President's Message

### Happy New Year!

This is the Year of the Snake and according to the Japanese calendar it occurs every 12 years. Snake people are supposed to have a lot of business acumen and I'll leave it at that.

### Christmas Party

**Yoshinobu Oshiro** and **Tammy Kubo** were co-chairs and presented a cheerful holiday event on December 9 at Masa's Cafeteria. The turnout was great with over 120 people showing up.

**Andrew Sato** played Santa Claus and both young and old shared his merriment. The bingo games were exciting and **Lawrence Enomoto, Harry Kawaoka, Glen Arakaki,** and I took turns calling out the numbers.

**Frank "Sinatra" Takao** led everyone in singing Christmas carols. Special guests were Scoutmaster **Bob Calderwood** and his family

of seven Boy Scouts who were invited for the first time to the event. The Scouts assist the MIS each May in presenting floral bouquets to our fallen comrades at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

### Congressional Gold Medal

The Smithsonian Institution and the National Veterans Network will bring the Congressional Gold Medal exhibit to the Bishop Museum, March 9 to April 14.

This will be the genuine 24-karat medal and it will be displayed on the second floor in the Castle Memorial Building. The theme is, "American Heroes: Japanese-American WWII Nisei Soldiers and the CGM." *Continues on next page*



ABOVE MIS officers and board members, left to right: **Glen Arakaki, Yoshinobu Oshiro, Ted Tsukiyama, Gale Wilson, George Arine, Lawrence Enomoto, David Sakai, Herbert Yanamura, Mark Matsunaga, and Harry Kawaoka.** Not pictured: **Karen Kikukawa, Tammy Kubo, James Moy, and Gregg Hirata.**

### Bonenkai

Ben Kaito did a wonderful job as chairman of the Bonenkai, which was held at Natsunoya on November 4.

At previous Bonenkais, nominations of new officers were presented with the election held at the Shinnen Enkai in January. However, the MIS broke tradition by having the nomination, election, and swearing-in of new officers at the Bonenkai. Therefore, the new officers for 2013 are: **George M. Arine**, president; **Lawrence Enomoto**, first vice president; **Herbert Yanamura**, second vice president; **Karen Aoyama Kikukawa**, secretary; **Gale Kumasaki Wilson**, treasurer; and **Harry Kawaoka**, auditor. The board of directors for 2013 are: **Ted T. Tsukiyama, Yoshinobu Oshiro, and Tammy Kubo.** The board of directors for 2013-2014 are: **James Moy, Gregg Hirata, Glen Arakaki, Mark Matsunaga, and David Sakai.**

Congratulations to all the new officers and directors! Also, mahalo nui loa to all the 2012 outgoing officers: **Glen Arakaki, Edgar Hamasu, Harry Kawaoka, and James Tanabe.** However, we're still going to need your help!





## Senator Akaka Honored

Former U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka was honored at the MIS Veterans Club annual Shinnen Enkai, held January 27 at the Pagoda. Senator Akaka played an instrumental role over the years in securing national recognition for the contributions of AJA veterans. In appreciation for his efforts, the senator was made an honorary member of the MIS Veterans Club.

The presentation of a plaque was made by outgoing President Glen Arakaki (left). In accepting the honor and membership, Senator Akaka quipped, "With membership, will that include dues?" Also pictured are MIS President George Arine (second from right) and Consul General of Japan Toyoei Shigeeda.

Ted Tsukiyama, who recounted the senator's achievements, said, "The MIS is lucky to have had him as a friend, supporter and champion all these years. No amount of words can adequately acknowledge and honor this man. He is a class act all the way!"

The program featured a presentation by Herbert Yanamura on his war experience in the battle of Okinawa. Taishokoto Mele O Hawaii performed.

## President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

For the opening ceremony on March 9, MIS veterans, especially WWII vets, are encouraged to attend. **Jimmy Kuroiwa** of the Go For Broke Association has dedicated himself to be the Hawaii coordinator for the CGM and NVN and he's done an outstanding job!

## Upcoming Event on May 25

Please join MIS members in presenting floral bouquets to our brothers in eternal rest at Punchbowl and the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe. This is an annual MIS project, which was started many years ago by **Kenzo Kanemoto** and has been continued in appreciation of the great sacrifices of our veterans. The event is from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and all members are welcome.



## Visions

As the new president, I want to have the MIS play a more active role such as in the following proposed projects: garage sale to be held at the Veterans Center; Christmas caroling at a retirement facility, senior citizen home, hospital, etc.; bingo games at similar facilities; and more articles by members in the newsletter on war stories, unit histories, etc.

I recall at the 2012 Shinnen Enkai where **George Shiroma** brought his Arisaka rifle and Japanese sword. He also brought a photo of himself standing next to Japanese Army General Masaharu Homma during Homma's war crimes trial in Manila in post-war 1945. That's powerful and interesting stuff!

Aloha,  
George M. Arine

## Congressional Gold Medal on Exhibit in Honolulu

The Congressional Gold Medal will be on display at Bishop Museum's Castle Memorial Building this March 9 to April 14.

The opening ceremony will be held March 9 on the museum grounds. MIS Veterans Club members, particularly World War II veterans, are encouraged to attend. The event begins at 10:00 a.m., but veterans are being encouraged to arrive as early as 8:30 a.m. to ensure seating.

Following the hour-long program, the medal may be viewed on the second floor of the Castle Memorial Building. The bottom floor will feature displays of

the four Nisei organizations: 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, Military Intelligence Service, and 1399<sup>th</sup> Engineer Construction Battalion.

On March 30, the MIS will host an hour-long panel discussion at Bishop Museum, beginning at 11:00 a.m. The panel will consist of about five members. If you plan to attend or are interested in being a panelist, contact George Arine at 456-2615 or [george\\_arine@yahoo.com](mailto:george_arine@yahoo.com).

We urge your attendance on March 9 to show our support and appreciation for the Congressional Gold Medal.

Fans of the KIKU TV taiga drama, "Taira No Kiyomori," will recall the dramatic ending scene on the episode that aired last November 27.

Taira No Shigemori, son of Taira No Kiyomori, chief of the Taira clan, prostrates himself as he tearfully rejects his

father Kiyomori's stern order to attack Emperor Go Shirakawa's forces and denies his father's request to support the Taira clan's dream of building an empire.

Shigemori's impossible predicament of remaining loyal to his Emperor and still obeying his father's order to support the Taira clan can only be resolved by his pleading for his father to behead him, screaming out the anguished cry which became Japan's classic historic palindrome, *Chu naran to hosseba ko naran; ko naran to hosseba chu naran!* (If I am loyal, I cannot be filial; if I am filial, I cannot be loyal. If I am loyal [chu] to my sovereign, I cannot be filial [ko] to my father and my clan; if I am filial to my clan, I cannot be loyal to my sovereign.) All Japanese understood that when faced with conflicting loyalties, a man's loyalty must go to the higher authority. Here, Shigemori must serve the Emperor and deny his own father.

This historic quotation was resur-

rected in World War II when uttered by Sgt. Hoichi Kubo, a McKinley High and Japanese school graduate and original 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion soldier, who was one of the famed 58 *Sempai Gumi* recruited and trained by the Camp Savage MIS Language School to become a skilled military intelligence linguist.

Sgt. Kubo was assigned to the 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and participated in the invasion and conquest of Makin, Eniwetok, Saipan, and Okinawa. At the end of the Saipan campaign, he learned that 120 or so civilians were being held captive by Japanese soldiers in a cave at the base of the cliffs at Marpi Point. Kubo volunteered to go alone to persuade the civilians to be released, so he slid down a rope to the cave below, carrying only a pistol and a box of K rations. As he approached the cave, he was met by eight Japanese soldiers pointing their rifles at him, who were so shocked to see an American soldier with a Japanese face that they held their fire.

Their leader shouted, "You're a spy!" to which Kubo shouted back, "I am an American but my grandfathers fought with the famed Kumamoto 6<sup>th</sup> Division," and announced he was here only to get the civilians released. The soldiers then allowed Kubo to enter the cave where he contributed his K rations to the meal they had been preparing and entered into conversation.

The soldiers demanded to know

how he, a person of Japanese blood, could be fighting Japan. Kubo replied, "You were born in Japan so you fight for your country, Japan. I am Japanese but I was born in the United States, which is my country, so I fight for the United States."

Then to illustrate his point, Kubo recited, "*Chu naran to hosseba ko naran; ko naran to hosseba chu naran.*" All Japanese students learned the history of the Heike in their schooling so these soldiers immediately understood. The United States was a higher authority to Kubo than was Japan or his Japanese heritage. Kubo pleaded with the soldiers to release the civilians before leaving the cave. An hour later, 122 men, women, and children climbed up the rope to their freedom, followed by eight unarmed Japanese soldiers in surrender!

For this valorous feat, TSgt. Kubo was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the highest military honor earned by any Nisei MIS soldier during WW II.

Every MIS veteran should familiarize himself with those famous words of Taira no Shigemori and repeated in the cliffside cave of Saipan by our own MIS hero, Hoichi Kubo, because this dramatic declaration expressed the exact same reason why we Nisei volunteered, served, and fought for America in World War II.

Reference: *Honor By Fire*, Lyn Crost, pages 165-167.



## MIS Invited to 442nd RCT 70th Anniversary Celebration

The Sons & Daughters of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team have planned a number of activities this year in observance of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization.

All Nisei veterans and widows of deceased veterans have been invited to join in the activities, free of charge. The tentative schedule includes:

**Wednesday, March 20:** Honolulu City Council recognition at City Hall, 9:00 a.m.

**Friday, March 22:** Honouliuli Internment Camp optional tour, 8:00–11:30 a.m.; Hawaii Legislature recognition at the State Capitol, 12:00 p.m.; 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion Veterans Memorial Building (Club 100) "At Ease" Hawaiian-

style get-together, 2:00–5:00 p.m.; Sons and daughters organizations meeting to share ideas and plans for the future, 6:00–9:00 p.m.

**Saturday, March 23:** Remembrance service at Fort DeRussy, 9:00–10:00 a.m.; U.S. Army Museum tour, 10:00–11:30 a.m.; "Just Like the Old Days" 442 family picnic, 11:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

**Sunday, March 24:** 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon and program, 11:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m., Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom (includes hospitality room open at 9:30 a.m.).

Event co-chairs are Clayton and Gwen Fujie.

Registration forms and updated information are available at [www.442sd.org](http://www.442sd.org). The organizers will arrange transportation for veterans needing rides. Questions: 949-7997 or [sons-daughters@442sd.org](mailto:sons-daughters@442sd.org).



## IN MEMORIAM

JAMES ALVIAR  
 FRED HANZAWA  
 ROBERT KIMOTO  
 ARTHUR KUBOTA  
 MASAYUKI MIYAKE  
 HAROLD OTANI  
 JAMES SAITO  
 SHINOBU YAMAMOTO  
 NOBORU YOSHIMOTO  
 SAM YUUKI

## Mahalo, Jimmy!

James Tanabe, who served as editor of the MIS Veterans Club newsletter, has retired after 10 years at the helm of this publication.

He has been a conscientious and devoted writer, editor, and manager for the newsletter, enabling the club to keep its members well-informed.

Mahalo nui loa, Jimmy!

## Do You Have E-Mail?

We want to improve communication with MIS Veterans Club members and newsletter subscribers.

E-mail presents a terrific means of notifying you of upcoming events and sending last-minute reminders about our Bonenkai, the Christmas party, and many other activities. It will save some of the expense of alerting you of MIS activities because our primary means of communication is our mailed newsletter, which we only publish every two months. E-mail would also enable you to share our activities with your family and friends.

We have e-mail addresses for a few of you, but we'd like more of you to help the MIS Veterans Club by sharing your e-mail address with us.

Please send it to: [misveteranshawaii@gmail.com](mailto:misveteranshawaii@gmail.com)

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