



GO FOR BROKE" 442nd Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 20

January 1953

"I REMEMBER ARNIE" by Hideo Nakauchi

(Editor's note: This is reprinted from the Hilo Tribune Herald, in tribute to Arnold Onki of Livingstone, California. Hideo was a member of Co. K. 442nd RCT.)

I have often wondered why--- I never visited Arnie's Mom when I was so near to her that I could have hopped a bus and would have met her within an hour.

One reason was certain---I did not want to anguish her more than she had already suffered. I would only be a grim reminder.

Arnie was a swell boy---courteous, humorous in his own way, joyous and always smiling. I will always picture him that way.

I remember vividly the days he and I used to stroll the long ways to the camp theater he, telling me about the things in and around Livingstone, California, which I did not know and I relating the splendors of Hawaii to a ready listener.

I met Arnie when the first battalion of our outfit was "splitted-up" to overstrength the remaining battalions set to go overseas within a couple of weeks. We became fast friends when I accidentally slept in their barracks and helped them with the early morning chores.

He was a good barber. No denying that. He literally cut every guy's hair in the company including mine. At times he would miss swell shows on account of somebody wanting to pass inspection, and asking Arnie, would be obliged.

In all my days in training, I never saw the interior of a chapel. Maybe at times---yes, but probably only to bring a message to the chaplain. To me the church was something far away--- It meant only as a congregation house where people gathered to sing hymns, pray and be religious for that moment. When fellows used to ask me to go to church with them I declined by telling them that one didn't have to go to church to be religious.

I know now that this was not entirely true. Very early one Sunday morning, prior to our embarking for overseas duty, Arnie, who slept besides me shook me and asked me to go to church with him. I asked him if he was feeling alright since everybody else was sleeping cozily in their nice, warm bunks and the morning was bitingly cold.

I finally gave in after a few more shakes from him and shivering, followed him to the chapel---a few long blocks away. When I left the place of worship it was with a different view of churchgoing. I felt clean, rested and pleasant.

You see, Arnie made me go to church---That's the kind of a fellow he was---unshakeably on the right side.

It was a few days after the 4th of July, on the famous Hill 40, that he gave his life so valiantly for his country. His time came without notice---only a zip of the mortar shell, a deafening explosion and he had left us.

He died smiling and probably laughing and forgiving the lobbers of the fateful shell. I only wished that he had a fighting chance to survive. But that was denied him---.

That day my thoughts were all on the things he had told me---especially his relating of his beloved father's passing when he was just a tot---how his mother tried to hide the news from him, and how he finally understood.

Arnie tho you are far, far away from the world you loved and died trying to hold it in peace, I will always cherish your all too brief friendship and remembering these, we will remain as friends eternally. end.

Do You Have A Set of Khaki Uniform?

Members are urged to have a complete set of khaki uniform for special occasions or for military services.

It is your duty as veterans to attend the military services held for war dead or fellow veterans who have died locally.

Whether you are notified to attend or not, please show up if you are available as either escorts or pallbearers.

Shirt Detail Reports

Melvin Hamamoto, Chairman of the Shirt Detail, announced that he has received word from Honolulu that the material for our Club shirts will be printed very shortly. The material was specially designed by Ryo Shinoda.

Melvin will take orders very soon. It will cost 85¢ a yard and cash must accompany all orders.

ROMMEL "NAKAUCHI" RECENTLY GOT HIS DISCHARGED IN JAPAN AFTER A 3-YR. hitch. IS MARRIED & HAS 2 DAUGHTERS. ... final -

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
442nd VETERANS CLUB OF HAWAII

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THE 442nd SPORTS PROGRAM

Our Winter League has come to an exciting end. The Spearheads, captained by Hisashi Okamoto, came through like champions. In the seven weeks of play, everyone had a lot of fun. There were at least 50 members turning out early each Sunday morning. There were 70 members on hand when things got exciting. The fine spirit of fun and sportsmanship that prevailed on the field was certainly typical of the esprit de corps of our Club. The maturity of our Club is plainly evident in the fine way the boys played the game.

To pick the most exciting inning is difficult. The homerun kings, Rocky Higa, Rusty Tomi and old Tom Mizuno, were ready to break up the ball game whenever they came to bat. Who'll ever forget Johah's lusty homeruns over the leftfielder, especially when he stayed up until 4:00 a.m. celebrating the night before? Many aimed for the nearby fence and only a select few managed to poke the "old apple" over the fence. Chubby Paul Tokusato waddling around the bases always drew cheers. And Toshi Narimatsu's "accident" at second base was truly tragic-comedy at its best. The Sunday that rained cats and dogs found the loyal (if not crazy) baseball addicts sliding all over the outfield and skidding on their big "okoles" in the infield. It was a muddy bunch of people that went home that day. No one will forget soon catcher Dick Takemoto arguing with umpire Mizuno in the most agonized and pleading manner.

The Club certainly appreciates the hard work put out by the hustling athletic co-chairmen, Gary Matsumoto and Norman Koshiyama. A successful bowling tournament followed by a rousing baseball league is quite an achievement. The next program to be handled by these two hustling young men is being eagerly awaited, as we know by now that we can expect the best. Gary and Norman deserve a pat on the back for a job well done.

SHERWOOD DIXON

(Editor's note: The following paragraphs were extracted from DIXON'S ANNUAL REPORT for 1952 to the 442nd RCT Veterans. During World War II, Dixon served with 129th, 13th, 395th and 442nd Infantry regiments, and on the War Department General Staff. He was awarded the Legion of Merit.)

I had my campaign literature printed and was just going along nicely last summer, taking my campaign for re-election as Lieutenant Governor easy, when the Democratic National Convention nominated Governor Stevenson for President. A little later I was nominated for Governor and had seventy five days to make the race, which allowed no time whatever for sleep and it felt a little like swimming upstream in the Mississippi River. Of course it was a kind of a bad year for a Democrat to run for anything --- even a street car: but I surprised every one, including myself, by amassing over a quarter of million more votes than Stevenson received in Illinois. I reminded myself of a friend of mine who flunked the Illinois Bar Examination some years ago, but told me, proudly, that he got the highest grade of all those who failed.

Just as a diversion during the campaign, a prison riot broke out while Governor Stevenson was speaking in the East. When I go to Menard the convicts had ten guards as hostages and told me they would kill them if we tried to enter. So we planned out our attack very carefully, and the Governor arrived in time to do his part. We burned our way through the bars with an acetylene torch while the men with riot guns gave us a barrage, and when I went through the hole I remembered a letter that Ralph Graham once wrote me about attacking single file up a mountain path in Italy. Resistance quickly subsided, however, and order was restored.

Hope to see you all at a big luau.

Makabe Represents 442nd

At the 8th anniversary observance of Liberation Day in Bruyeres, France, Wilson Makabe, former Co. I veteran, represented the 442nd Veterans Club.

He wrote to the 442nd Veterans Club in Honolulu as follows:

"It has been a real pleasure and privilege to represent the 442nd veterans at the special Memorial Services on Sunday, October 19, on the 8th anniversary observation of Bruyeres' Liberation Day.

"The city went all-out to make this the most elaborate and impressive ceremony ever held. The services in the forest, at the site of the monument, was simple in a way, yet very touching and inspiring."

CANDID BRIEFS

STANLEY AKITA: This former Honomu boy is forever traveling. This Club is sorry that Stanley must take another journey real soon. Another good man is leaving us. Stanley's current job belongs to a returning Schofield veteran. Stanley is a class of '41, Hilo High alumnus. When the war came, Stanley joined up and became a member of "K Company", which, as we all know, was the outfit to which the 442nd Combat Team was attached. However, Stanley's tenure with "K Company" was a temporary one as he became one of those "volunteers" who were sent to reinforce the depleted 100th Infantry during the early part of 1944. Stanley's address in Europe was "Charlie Company", and he was constantly absorbing the scenic European countryside that was so peaceful, at times. In fact he became a minor expert on European soils from doing so much excavation work. Tragedy struck during the battle around the town of Bruyeres in Northern France. On a patrol led by the famous Captain Kim, luck ran out and the Tedeschi's captured them. Stanley spent the next 6 months sweating out the war in a POW camp, German style. After the war and liberation, Stanley returned to Hilo and it wasn't long before he became a draftsman for the Territorial Highway Department. And it was during this period that Stanley got married, and with no MPs to curb his primitive instincts, two daughters soon appeared to grace the Akita household. In 1951, Stanley transferred to the Planning and Traffic Commission. And now, the former occupant of the job is returning from Schofield and Stanley must travel again to other pastures. This time Stanley goes to Maui with his family to work for the Territorial Department of Public Works. Stanley will miss his hunting and fishing. Still, he hopes the weather will improve the quality of his hormones and get him a son. All his friends are sorry to see him go and wish him luck and success in his new job.

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Our Congratulations, Matsuo!

Matsuo "Matsy" Takabuki, 1952 442nd VC of Honolulu prexy was seated on the City and County Board of Supervisors after polling 38,520 votes. He was only 2,087 votes away from the top man.

442nd Club Gets Note from Mamie

The 442nd Veterans Club of Hawaii has received a personal note from Mrs. Eisenhower, the President's wife, thanking for a gift of anthuriums.

On White House stationery, the letter said:

"Dear friends,

"My husband and I were so thrilled to receive the two boxes of giant anthurium, not only because they are such unusually and attractive blossoms, but also as an expression of your friendship for us.

"It is especially gratifying for us to know that the men who served with the President in the greatest war of our history are again giving him their best support and encouragement.

"Together we send you our warmest regards."

It was signed, "Mamie Doud Eisenhower".

The flowers were sent for the inauguration after Club members at their January meeting unanimously voted to express aloha to the man who as supreme allied commander in Europe was their top commanding officer during World War II.

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War Orphans' Scholarship Fund Cards

The club has sold about 475 boxes of the War Orphans' Scholarship Fund Christmas cards, according to Lefty Kuniyoshi, chairman. This project is sponsored by the Honolulu 442nd VC.

James Hamasaki handled the communications with Walter Matsumoto, chairman of the scholarship fund committee in Honolulu.

Lefty mentioned that more cards could have been sold if we were assured of the supply.

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Toshio Nagami (Co. F)
Beer comes in only one flavor
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Know Your Constitution & By-Laws

Article III. Membership:

Any Nisei or American of Japanese Ancestry who resides in the Island of Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii, and who served in the Armed Forces of the United States of American and honorably discharged thereafter may become a member of this club upon paying the prescribed initiation fee and dues as provided in the By-Laws.

Note: Membership dues for 1953 is \$3.00 or 25¢ monthly. Be prompt and let's pay it to Isamu Kanekuni. Also \$1.00 for your 4th 2nd Newsletter subscription for one year.

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Stork Report

Mr. and Mrs. Masao Yamada, 172 Kilauea Ave. are parents of a son born at 5:15 on the 5th of January. Masao is with the Yamada Furniture Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Kazumi Taosaka, are parents of a son born at 1:57 p.m. Dec. 29th. Kazumi is employed by the Independent Iron Works.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward N. Sakai, Papaikou, are parents of a daughter born at 1:09 a.m. on the 29th of December. Edward teaches at Peepeekeo School.

Mr. and Mrs. George Aoki, 800-A Derby St., welcomed a son at 4:45 p.m. on January 8th. George is on the University of Hawaii Agricultural Extension staff.

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Easy Report

Officers of the Co. E Chapter in Honolulu are Herbert Kano, president; Chicken Yamada vice-pres.; Toshio Okamura, secretary; Tomo Uyeda, treasurer; and Raymond Shigekane, service officer.

Herbert Yoshimoto was seen visiting the Big Island from the big city. He is the younger brother of Hiroshi Yoshimoto.

Terry Ihara, adjutant of the Hawaii chapter DAV at the installation ceremonies Jan. 3rd at the Niunalu Hotel.

Tsuneo Takemoto was reappointed as director of bus control commission by Chairman James Kealooha.

Kazutoshi "Gabby" Fujino was elected treasurer of the Big Island Postmasters and Employes Association. Gabby is the postmaster of the Honokaa P.O.

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John Ushijima Returns

That scholarly-looking gent with the dark-rimmed glasses you see walking along Wai-nuenue Avenue dressed to kill is none other than Johnny Ushijima, home from the Mainland with a law degree. Johnny is a former Cannon Company man, if you ignore the shortwhile he spent in the 3rd Battalion back in Shelby.

John received his Bachelor of Arts in 1950 from the Grinnel College, Grinnel, Iowa. He is also a graduate of Hilo High School class of 1941. Johnny is clerking for our good friend Martin Pence. And let's hope it won't be long before Johnny passes his bar exams in the Territory. The last time he was in town, Johnny tried out for the movie part in "Go for Broke". Johnny won the trip but didn't appear in the picture. You ask him why. Well, it's good to have Johnny back, so welcome home Johnny!

AJA Veterans Softball League

The 442nd Veterans Club of Hawaii captured the Hilo A.J.A. Veterans Softball League by smashing the Interpreters 15-1, on Sun. January 11, at the Mooheau Park. It was a game between the 1st and 2nd round champs.

Tom Mizuno was the winning pitcher giving up only 4 hits in the entire game. Tom had a neat two hitter going into the last half of the 7th and last inning of the game. The first batter flied out to centerfield. The next batter, J. Martin, worked the count to 3-2 and konked the next pitch over the centerfield fence for a tremendous homer. Tom retired the side after the homer without further damage. H. Funada went the full route for the Interpreters and was nicked for 14 hits.

T. Mizuno, R. Tomi, and H. Okamoto collected 2 hits in 3 attempts; and T. Takemoto had 2 for four including a homer for the 442nd. No player got more than one hit for the Interpreters.

Our congratulations to all the members of the team for the excellent showing. the co-captains, Richard Takemoto and G. Aoki deserve much credit for piloting the team to the championship.

Team Roster

Pitchers: T. Mizuno, T. Udo, K. Hamakawa.
Catchers: T. Takemoto, G. Kishi. Infield: R. Tomi, R. Nakamura, G. Matsumoto, Rusty Kamimura, M. Ogamori, K. Kimata, S. Nakagawa, M. Tsue and G. Aoki. Outfield: R. Takemoto, C. Uyeno, H. Okamoto, H. Uyeno-yama, S. Hatada, H. Yoshimoto, I. Muramoto, and M. Hamamoto.

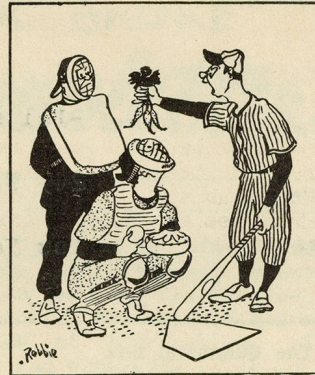
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Basketball Season To Begin

Gary Matsumoto announced that the 442nd basketball home league is scheduled to start in February. All the games this year will be played at the Hilo High School Gym. Members who have been complaining about difficulty in lacing their shoes are most strongly urged to turn out for the teams. Running back and forth a few times in the gym will definitely rid you of excess beer too. Call Gary Matsumoto (45142) or Norman Koshiyama (55112). Don't wait to be called.



"Have a carrot, it might improve your eyesight."

Softball Home League

The Shiigi Drug Spearheads captured the 442 Softball Home League championship by defeating the 1st round champs, Purity Bread Jokers, 13-0, Sunday morning on January 4, at the Mooheau Park.

In the preliminary game the Hilo Camera Shop Bunters ecked out a narrow victory over the Henry Kelii Jets.

H. Okamoto, besides pitching a good game collected 2 hits in 4 times at bat. Midori Ogamori also had 2 for 4. For the Jokers, H. Uyeno-yama had 4 for 5, T. Takemoto 3 for 5, and T. Kunimura 2 for 4.

The big guns for the Bunters were T. Higa with 3 for 3 including 2 homers, H. Sugihara I. Muramoto and S. Asato with 2 for 3, and T. Mizuno with 2 for 4. For the Jets, G. Aoki had 2 for 2 and S. Taguchi had 2 for 4.

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"Stateside Chat"

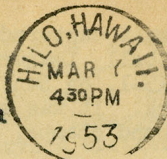
"I am a former member of Company M - 442nd, and plan to take the trip to Hawaii next summer on the package tour. My present plans include taking my wife and parents-in-law. I am a member of the local Nisei Amvet Chapter.

... We are working hard on trying to get another party to leave from Detroit with us and will notify you if we are successful--it would seem quite certain he will go."

By Frank T. Doi

433 West Lantz St., Detroit 3, Michigan.

P. O. Box 982
Hilo, Hawaii



Bill Kochiyama

249 West 62nd Street

New York City 23, N. Y.



The Question Box
by James Maeda
Territorial Veterans Council

Question: Is the Veterans Administration paying another dividend on our NSLI policy during the year 1953?

Answer: Yes. The VA recently announced that 5 million veterans holding NSLI policies will receive dividend from February.

Question: What will be the amount of individual dividends?

Answer: For most policy holders the amount will be the same as that of 1952, with the majority of men getting a flat 60 dollars.

Question: When will the dividends be paid by the Veterans Administration?

Answer: Payments will be made from 30 to 40 days after the anniversary date of the policy. That's the date the policy first went into effect.

Question: What will be the method of payment of dividends by the VA?

Answer: The method of payment will be the same as 1952, unless the policy holder informs the VA he wants to be paid differently, by writing to the VA office to which he pays premiums.

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Masaokas Back in D. C.

Mike and Etsu Masaoka returned to Washington, D. C. after a five months' goodwill and study tour to Japan, Korea, Okinawa and Hawaii.

Mike was formerly with the 442nd RCT and is presently with the Japanese American Citizens' League.

320 Kam KUNIYOSHI JEWELERS Ph 2010
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Auto Mishap in Texas

Mrs. Stella S. Akins and her daughter, Valerie were victims in an auto collision in Centerville, Texas, on December 30.

She was the wife of Lt. Col. Thomas W. Akins who is serving in Korea. Col. Akins was the commanding officer of Co. E, 442nd RCT.

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