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## Capitol Hill Recognizes Nisei Linguists

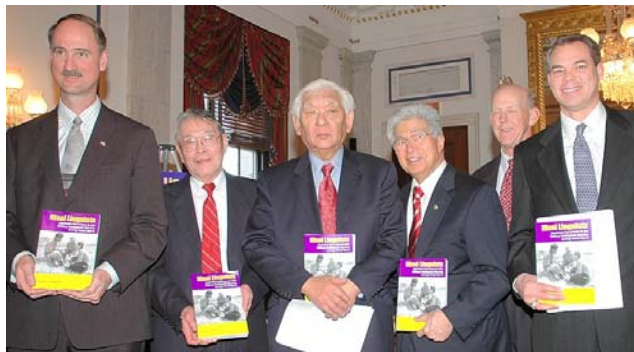
On March 20, 2007, Senator Daniel K. Akaka hosted the book launch of *Nisei Linguists: Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service During WW II*, a documentary of 3,000 Nisei who served in the Asia Pacific Theater under great secrecy.

Over 200 people, including members of Congress, officials from the Defense Department, White House, Veterans Affairs and other government agencies, diplomats from countries where Nisei served, veterans organizations, the press, officials of Nisei veterans organizations nation-

wide, Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veterans, and JAVA members thronged the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs conference room.

The MIS served in combat behind enemy lines, and as translators, interrogators, and communication interceptors. The author is Dr. James C. McNaughton, currently Command Historian for the European Command in Germany.

The book's roll out was a joint endeavor of Sen. Akaka's office, the US Army Center of Military History which published the book, the US Army Office of Public Affairs, and JAVA. The idea for the writing of the book occurred in 1994 when then-JAVA President Colonel Phil Ishio, USA, (Ret), convinced Senator Akaka of the need to document the history of the Nisei service in the Asia Pacific war. Akaka and seven other members of Congress petitioned the Secretary of the Army, who approved and assigned the US Army Center of Military History (CMH) (continued on page 4)



L-R: Dr. James C. McNaughton; Calvin Ninomiya; Bob Nakamoto; Senator Daniel K. Akaka; Dr. Jeffrey J. Clarke; Brigadier General Bert Mizusawa

## APA Tribute to Hon. Norman Mineta

On February 6, 2007, JAVA co-sponsored the Asian Pacific American Community Tribute to former US Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta at the Castle Building, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. BG Bert Mizusawa introduced Senator Daniel K. Inouye and Congressman Mike Honda, each representing their

(continued on page 6)



L-R: Floyd Mori, JACL National Executive Director; Congressman Mike Honda; Craig Uchida; Deni Mineta; Hon. Norman Mineta.

## President's Message

*[Editor's Note: In January 2007, Robert Nakamoto was sworn in as JAVA's new President. This is his first President's Message.]*

I am deeply appreciative of the confidence the members have expressed in me and fellow elected officers Cal Shintani (Vice President), Kim Luoma (Secretary), and Earl Takeguchi (Treasurer). My sincere appreciation to Bert Mizusawa, immediate past president who was instrumental in moving the organization ahead. Many others have donated their time and energy for JAVA.

As a veteran and long time member of the Japanese American Veterans Association, I have experienced the transformation of JAVA into a vibrant national veteran's service organization. In the most recent years, we have obtained membership in the prestigious Veterans Day National Committee and have been conspicuously recognized by President and Mrs. Bush on several of these occasions. In his formal re-

marks, President Bush was highly complimentary about Japanese American veterans, clearly raising JAVA to a high plateau among the myriad of veteran organizations.

JAVA's participation in the World War II Memorial activities, including panel discussions and the professional exhibit on the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service gave us priceless media coverage. Our annual Veterans Day ceremony in Washington, D.C. has truly grown to be a major event. Our website run by Dave Buto is now of world class caliber and serves as an international outreach to students, historians, press, relatives, and friends, as well as active and former military members. JAVA has truly distinguished itself across the United States, from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

More recently, on March 20, Senator Daniel K. Akaka publicly launched the publication of *Nisei Veterans: Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service During WW II*, a book document-

ing the 3,000 Nisei who fought in the Asia Pacific theater. James C. McNaughton, Ph.D., the author, is Command Historian for the U.S. Army European Command. 200 attendees, including members of Congress, officials of the White House, Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs, veterans service organizations, mili-

tary officers, and Japanese American veterans, participated in the Capitol Hill event. JAVA had the lead in organizing this event with other organizers.

It is my intention to continue and enhance this unprecedented momentum, capitalizing on the solid infrastructure and support from the dedicated and selfless service of the members of the Executive Council. Because of them, we will be able to focus our utmost efforts toward the furtherance of JAVA goals and objectives for all veterans and their families.

JAVA is a volunteer organization. I believe in open communication and solicit your ideas on how we may improve the organization on behalf of its members.

My family and I would like to extend our most sincere best wishes to all members, allies and friends of JAVA for the coming year.

### Officers

Robert Nakamoto, President  
 CDR Calvin Shintani, USNR (Ret)  
 Vice President  
 Kim Luoma, Secretary  
 LTC Earl Takeguchi, USA (Ret) Treasurer

### Executive Council

Above Officers plus:  
 Grant Ichikawa  
 COL Sunao Phil Ishio, USA (Ret)  
 BG Bert Mizusawa, USAR  
 Calvin Ninomiya  
 Terry Shima, Executive Director  
 MAJ Kay Wakatake, USA  
 Lt Col Michael Yaguchi, USAF (Ret),  
 Deputy Executive Director  
 Gerald Yamada, General Counsel

### Honorary Chairs

Senator Daniel K. Akaka, U.S. Senate  
 Senator Daniel K. Inouye, U.S. Senate  
 COL Sunao Phil Ishio, USA (Ret)  
 Honorable Norman Y. Mineta

### JAVA ADVOCATE

Akio Konoshima, Editor Emeritus  
 MAJ Kay Wakatake, USA, Editor



At *Nisei Linguists* book launch: JAVA President Bob Nakamoto (left) presents JAVA Courage, Honor, Patriotism Award to Sen. Daniel Akaka. Inscription: In recognition of your steadfast support to veterans and military personnel and their families. Photo: Eric Lachica.



## JAKWV Hosts All Veterans Reunion

The Americans of Japanese Heritage All Veterans Reunion was held in the New Otani Hotel in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, on February 16-18, 2007. Over 300 veterans of WW II, Korean War, Vietnam War and Iraq War and families from nationwide attended. Medal of Honor (MOH) awardees Shizuya Hayashi (100<sup>th</sup> Inf Bn), George Sakato (Co. E, 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT), both WW II veterans, and Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura (Korean War) participated in this unprecedented event. Merrill's Marauders veterans Roy Matsumoto and Grant Hirabayashi also participated.

The keynote speaker at the banquet on February 17<sup>th</sup> was Major General Rodney Kobayashi, USA, Ret. He said "Each generation stands on the shoulders of those who came before them – those who confronted challenges and created an environment in which those who followed could succeed and excel. In no profession is this more true than in the profession of arms." Addressing the veterans in the room, Kobayashi added "Your sacrifices allowed subsequent generations, including mine, to have the opportunity to strive and to achieve. I am indebted to you and

all of the other Japanese American veterans for the opportunity to serve and to succeed in the Army. I am proud to be an American of Japanese descent. I am proud to be an American Soldier. Thank you for providing me, our Army and our entire country with such an extraordinary example to follow."

Lt Col Michael Yaguchi, USAF, Ret, JAVA's Deputy Executive Director, presented JAVA's greetings. Yaguchi commended the Japanese American Korean War Veterans (JAKWV) for organizing the Reunion. In a letter to JAKWV leaders, JAVA Past President BG Bert Mizusawa wrote that JAKWV's effort galvanizes Japanese American solidarity to support our nation while we are at war.

JAKWV Charter President Robert M. Wada was the principal speaker at the Memorial Service on February 18. He reminded everyone to remember their parents' sacrifices. He also described what drives young men like Sadao Munemori (442<sup>nd</sup> RCT, MOH), Hershey Miyamura, Terry Kawamoto (Vietnam, MOH) and Judge Vincent Okamoto (Vietnam War, Distinguished Service Cross) to, without hesitation,



Medal of Honor recipients Shizuya Hayashi (sitting), George Sakato (left), Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura (right).

risk their lives for others they never knew before joining the military. They were "young men bonded by loyalty and responsibility in a common struggle of survival by protecting each other."

The Reunion co-chairs were Sam Shimoguchi and Robert Wada. JAVA/AAVA (Asian American Veterans Assn) were two of ten sponsors. JAVA members from Washington, D.C. also attended: Grant Hirabayashi, Grant Ichikawa, Dr. Ray Murakami, Terry Shima, and Michael Yaguchi.

## JAVA Booth at Street Festival

Contributed by Warren Tsuneishi

On April 14, between 11am – 6pm, stop by the JAVA booth during the Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival organized by the Japan-America Society of Washington as part National Cherry Blossom Festival.

The street festival will be on blocked off parts of Pennsylvania Ave. and 12th St., NW. JAVA will share a tent with the Ekoji Buddhist Temple near the Ronald

Reagan International Trade Cen-

ter on Pennsylvania Ave., near the Federal Triangle Metro station.

Veterans of WW II, Korean, Vietnam, Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq will be at the booth. You can not only "talk story" with them, but also view the small exhibits of books and photos; pick up flyers on AJA participation in each of the wars; and buy a copy of *American Patriots: MIS in the War Against Japan* for \$10.00, originally pub-

lished by JAVA in 1995. Feel free to stay at the booth and greet the general public attracted to the street festival and Cherry Blossom parade.

The Sakura Matsuri will feature numerous arts and crafts exhibits, Japanese singers, martial arts and other performances. Of course, dozens of food tents will offer sushi, teriyaki and other Japanese delicacies. The show will go on rain or shine. Favorable weather will bring enormous crowds, so go by Metro. Have fun!

## Literary News

US Army Public Affairs Office said the May issue of Soldier's Magazine will carry a story on the Military Intelligence Service. The free magazine will be distributed between April 25-27, 2007.

\* \* \* \* \*

Roy H. Matsumoto, JAVA Life Member and veteran of Merrill's Marauders, which fought behind enemy lines in Burma and is predecessor of US Special Forces, donated four books to JAVA. relating to US efforts

to oust the Japanese Imperial forces from Burma. Books will be loaned to members for two weeks. Contact Terry Shima at [tshima@worldnet.att.net](mailto:tshima@worldnet.att.net) or 415 Russell Ave, #1005, Gaithersburg, MD 20877. The books are:

*Spearhead* by James E.T. Hopkins, Galahad Press, Baltimore, 1999, 772 pp. Dr Hopkins was medical officer of the 3<sup>rd</sup> BN, Merrill's Marauders.

*Vinegar Joe's War, Stilwell's Campaigns for Burma* by Nathan N. Prefer, Presidio Press, 2000. Prefer

is a military historian.

*The Burma Road: The Epic Story of the China-Burma-India Theater in WW II* by Donovan Webster, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2003. Webster is a writer for National Geographic, Smithsonian, and New York Times Magazine.

*The Jungle War: Mavericks, Marauders and Madmen in the China-Burma-India Theater in WW II* by Gerald Astor, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, 2004. Astor was a magazine editor and writer.

## Journalist Series on Japanese Americans Wins Award

COL Renita Menyherth, writer for Fort Monmouth Public Affairs, wrote a series of articles on Japanese Americans for the weekly *Monmouth Message*, which won the Keith L. Ware Award for 2006, in the Stories in a Series category. Major General Ware, former Army Chief of Public Affairs, received the Medal of Honor during WW II and was killed while commanding the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam in 1968.

Menyherth's articles will now compete against Navy, Air Force and Marines articles for the Department of Defense award. The Northeast Journal publication also published Menyherth's articles.

In the summer of 2006, COL Menyherth visited the U.S. Military Ceme-

tery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) where she met Drusilla Akamine, daughter of Bernard Akamine, a 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion veteran and a volunteer caretaker at Punchbowl. Discussions with Drusilla inspired Menyherth to publicize the Nisei story, particularly their requests from internment camps to serve in combat in Europe and Asia. Menyherth felt the Japanese American story was not publicized enough, and Americans would benefit from her writings.

Menyherth, in her attempt to locate veterans to interview, searched the internet and visited the JAVA website, [www.javadc.org](http://www.javadc.org). Webmaster Dave Buto sent Menyherth's message to all JAVA members, re-

sulting in interviews with ten WW II veterans: Ted Tsukiyama (MIS/442 RCT), Joe Ichiuji (522 FA Bn), COL Jimmie Kanaya (442 RCT/Korea & Vietnam Wars), George Sakato (442 RCT/ Medal of Honor), Grant Hirabayashi (Merrill's Marauders/ Ranger Hall of Fame), Tad Nagaki (Office of Strategic Services), Harry Fukuhara (MIS), Goro Sumida (100 Inf Bn), Robert Arakaki (100 Inf Bn, and Bernard Akamine (442 RCT).

Menyherth also published articles in early 2007 about Sandra Tanamachi's quest to remove "Jap" from Texas street signs; the Japanese code of ethics *Bushido*; and Mary Previte, former POW in China rescued by Tad Nagaki.

## Nisei Linguists (continued from page 1)

to undertake this project.

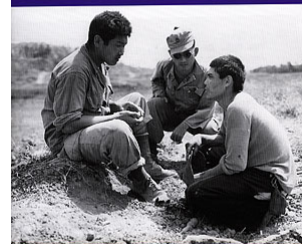
During the program, Akaka said the Niseis' ability to "infiltrate the psyche of our enemy through their knowledge of Japanese culture and language is credited with bringing the war in the Pacific to a quicker conclusion and later, helping turn bitter foes into strong allies." Akaka also said

that to the MIS soldiers and their brethren in the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team "it was an opportunity to prove themselves as loyal American citizens."

Originally listed for \$56, *Nisei Linguists* is available at the special price of \$29 through the U.S. Government Bookstore at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov> or (202) 512-1800 or toll-free 1-866-512-1800. The GPO stock number is 008-029-00432-1.

### Nisei Linguists

Japanese Americans in the  
Military Intelligence Service  
during World War II



James C. McNaughton

## Ted Tsukiyama Recognized for 47 Years as Arbitrator

On February 22, 2007, Ted T. Tsukiyama, a Hawaii arbitrator and mediator in labor contract disputes, received one of the five prestigious Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs (HIPA) *Ho'oulu* Award for 2007. Tsukiyama's award was for labor; the other awards were for the fields of business, government, community, and culture and arts.

*Ho'oulu* in Hawaiian means to grow, inspire and excite. *Ho'oulu* symbolizes leadership and the impact these citizens have made in their respective professions. HIPA is a nonpartisan research organization whose mission is to provide recommendations on Hawaii's key public policy issues.

Now 86 and almost fully retired, Tsukiyama has been a mediator and

arbitrator for 47 years. He noted that "labor-management arbitration has evolved to become a more balanced process since its early days when employers won the majority of cases." Since government employees were allowed to unionize in the early 1980's, Tsukiyama has handled 30-40 cases per year taking him throughout the United States and Japan. He said that "the fact that they keep asking me to hear cases means they think I'm a fair and neutral person, which is what an arbitrator should be."

Tsukiyama was a junior in the University of Hawaii ROTC program in 1941. He volunteered for the Varsity



Victory Volunteers, volunteered for the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, and was one of the 250 selected from the 442<sup>nd</sup> to serve in the MIS. After Japanese language training, he was sent to India. Following the war he obtained his law degree from Yale Law School in 1950, the first Japanese American to do so.

Tsukiyama is the historian for both the 442<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Club Hawaii and the MIS Veterans Club Hawaii. He is a member of JAVA and is co-chair with Dave Buto of the National Archives records digitization project. He and his wife Fuku have three children.

## The Story Behind "Citizen Tanouye"

By Craig Yahata

On June 21, 2000, 22 Asian Americans received the Medal of Honor for their WW II heroics. Upon discovering that among these heroes was one of their own, the Torrance High School Alumni Association wanted to honor their valiant son, Ted Tanouye. With the formation of the nonprofit Ted Tanouye Memorial Foundation (TTMF) the community project raised funds for a memorial at Torrance High School. To educate people about the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT, Ron Yamada, president of TTMF, approached filmmaker Craig Yahata to produce "Citizen Tanouye," a short film about Ted. Craig brought Robert Horsting onboard, thus creating Hashi Pictures.

The filmmakers began filming on May 27, 2004, interviewing Ted's classmates Min Sueda and Milt Carlson, Torrance High Alumni President Gail Morgan, Ted's brother Isao "Easy" Tanouye, and fellow soldier Kent Kajiwara. To fill gaps of information and weave these interviews together, the filmmakers involved Torrance High School students because the film targeted students. The film crew followed the students as they gathered information on Ted and his family. The stu-



dents' journalistic findings and often-candid comments were intertwined with the interviews filmed during the previous month.

The students' honesty and insightfulness to the Nisei veteran history prompted one of the film's participating veterans to say how good he felt knowing that these students would be ambassadors for their story. The short film's screening on July 7, 2004, at the memorial dedication, marked the 60th anniversary of Ted's action that earned the Medal of Honor. Torrance Unified School District has included the film in the high school curriculum.

After the initial screening of the short film at the dedication, Craig and Robert continued to gather interviews, adding more pieces to this historical quilt of an American hero. The final version shown nationwide was shot and edited over 8 months. The award-winning "Citizen Tanouye" has captured the hearts and minds of many who have seen it at various film festivals and screenings nationwide. Craig and Robert are honored to have the Hawai'i premiere of Citizen Tanouye in conjunction with 442<sup>nd</sup> anniversary festivities.



## MG Kamiya Commands Joint Warfighting Center



Since July 25, 2006, Major General Jason K. Kamiya has served as Commander of the Joint Warfighting Center under the US Joint Forces Command at Norfolk, Virginia. Kamiya supervises major joint training programs to prepare troops to serve in places as Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Horn of Africa. He is also responsible for developing joint training programs to support the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Marines as well as the geographic commanders such as Pacific Command, Southern Command, and European Command.

Prior to this position, Kamiya was Commanding General of the Combined Joint Task Force-76 (CJTF-76) deployed to Afghanistan from March 2005 – February 2006. CJTF-76 consisted of approxi-

mately 18,000 men and women from the US and coalition partners. Kamiya also commanded US Army Europe's Southern European Task Force (Airborne) (SETAF) based

in Vicenza, Italy. SETAF is a combat-ready support force deployed as part of NATO Defense elements.

About his tour in Afghanistan, Kamiya said, "It was a great privilege for me to serve in Afghanistan alongside the approximately 18,000 superb servicemen and women from the US and coalition partners that comprised CJTF- 76." They conducted counter-insurgency operations, reconstruction and development activities, and trained Afghan



National Security Forces. They assisted the Afghan Government to bring parliamentary elections to the Afghan people in fall 2005 - a highpoint during their deployment. Finally, they partnered with NATO International Security and Assistance Force (ISAF) to set conditions for the transfer of the entire Afghanistan area of operations to NATO/ISAF."



Honolulu-born Kamiya is the son of Larry Kamiya (Company C, 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion), who participated in the Sant Angelo d'Alife liberation and was wounded shortly before the battle of Monte Cassino. During his Italy tour, MG Kamiya visited the battlegrounds in the Sant Angelo d'Alife area and participated in a memorial dedication for the American liberators. He was commissioned in the Infantry in 1976 and has since served in a variety of stateside and overseas assignments.

## Mineta Tribute (continued from page 1)

colleagues in their respective chambers. Over 450 attendees from various ethnic backgrounds were touched by Mineta and spoke of him with genuine fondness.

Mineta was the "first" of a num-

ber of accomplishments. He was the first Asian Pacific American Mayor of a major American city (San Jose, CA, 1971) in the continental US, something that would not happen again until 1999; the first Asian Pacific American to serve as a Presidential Cabinet official; the first person in history to move directly from a Democratic Cabinet post to a Republican Cabinet post.

The program handout read, "Most important, Secretary Mineta is a principled man, a man who stands up for his beliefs and speaks out for those who have no voice. His stance against racial profiling in the aftermath of September 11 was not only courageous in the face of anger and hatred, discrimination and prejudice, but it was the right thing to do."

## Upcoming NJAMF Activities

Contributed by Gerald Yamada

On April 7, 2007, the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) will sponsor its annual 4K Freedom Walk at the National Japanese American Memorial Site, located at Louisiana Avenue and D Street, Washington, D.C. The keynote speaker is Chaplain James Yee, Former U.S. Army Captain. Hon. Norman Y. Mineta and Japanese Ambassador Ryozo Kato will give remarks. Cultural entertainment includes Japanese Taiko drummers, folk dancing and music. Cost is \$15 per person; children under 12 are \$5. Advance payment required; send check payable to NJAMF – Freedom Walk, P.O. Box 3529, Washington, DC 20007; include name, address, phone, fax, and email.

On April 20, 2007, NJAMF will hold its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Dinner, honoring Sen. Daniel K. Akaka (HI), Sen. Lindsey Graham (SC), and the late Sen. Spark Matsunaga



At 2006 Dinner, L-R: Perci Abu, MG Delfin Lorenzana, AFP (Ret), Col. Mel Rosen, Jose Genito (Philippine-American Veterans Organization-New Jersey), Menandro Parazo (Philippine Scout Heritage Society-El Paso, TX), LTG Edward Soriano, Sen. Daniel Inouye, Philippine Ambassador Albert F. del Rosario. Photo by James Sherwood.

(HI). Last year, NJAMF honored Congressman John Lewis, former Sen. Alan Simpson, and the Philippine Scouts. [See photo above.]

A silent auction and reception will precede the Awards Dinner. Auction items include box seat tickets to a Redskins football game, golf equipment, a signed Brooks Robinson Orioles jersey, other baseball memorabilia, jewelry, woodblock prints,

Japanese plates, antique kimono, Asian textiles, original art, and autographed books.

The dinner and auction fund NJAMF's education and public awareness programs. Last December NJAMF hosted a lunch in Honolulu to honor the Japanese American WW II veterans from Hawaii. For the past 2 years, NJAMF co-sponsored with JAVA the Annual Veterans Day Program at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism.

The Awards Dinner will be at the JW Marriott, Washington, D.C. The cost per person is \$150; send payment to NJAMF, 1620 Eye Street NW, Suite 925, Washington, DC 20006. The silent auction and reception start at 5:30 pm; dinner starts at 7:00 pm. Dress is black tie optional. Table and ad sponsorships available; contact NJAMF at (202) 530-0015 or [njamf@starpower.net](mailto:njamf@starpower.net).

## Veterans Affairs News

Contributed by Kevin Secor, Veterans Service Organizations liaison, Veterans Affairs



Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson, head of the new inter-agency task force examining the processes for combat veterans seeking services and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs and other federal agencies, has established a website that allows active duty service members, veterans, family members and others to comment

directly to the task force on the ease of accessing federal services.

"As the task force moves forward in studying how we can enhance services and cut red tape, we believe it's important to provide veterans, their family members and others with the opportunity to share their ideas and experiences," said Nicholson. Send comments to the task force at [TFHeroes@va.gov](mailto:TFHeroes@va.gov) or fax 202-273-9599. The task force website is [www.va.gov/taskforce](http://www.va.gov/taskforce).

## News from Other Veterans Organizations

The 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans Club of Hawaii will hold its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on June 22-24, 2007. The highlight is the Banquet Luncheon at the Hilton Hawaiian Village and Resorts at Waikiki on June 24. This will be preceded by a memorial service at the St. Alban's Chapel on June 23 and lots of hospitality and aloha at the 100<sup>th</sup> Clubhouse at 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu. Rooms available with three hotels. For more information, contact Joyce Doi (808-677-9398; [jmdhawaii@yahoo.com](mailto:jmdhawaii@yahoo.com)) or Michael Harada (808-438-9333).

The 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association **Tri-State** Chapter will have a reunion at the Holiday Inn Green Tree in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, July 12-15, 2007. JAVA members are invited. Anyone planning to attend should contact Terry Shima for a Reunion Registration Form. For 34<sup>th</sup> ID Assn questions, call Pat Skelly at 508-524-3948 or Ray Rudolph at 412-486-6536. For hotel reservations call Cathy Matko at the Holiday Inn 412-922-8100, x267.



## Meet the Generals

For this issue of the *JAVA Advocate*, we are featuring Navy Vice Admiral Robert Kihune and LTG Joseph F. Peterson. Both are from Hawaii.

Thus far, JAVA research knows of 75 APA general and flag officers. The breakdown is as follows: Chinese American – 19; Filipino American – 6; Hawaii and Pacific Islands – 17; Japanese Americans – 33. Of the 75, there are 36 one-stars (BG); 34

two-stars (MG/RADM); 4 three-stars (LTG/VADM; and 1 four-star (General). The distribution among services is as follows: Army – 48; Navy – 9; Marine – 1; Air Force – 17.

### VADM Robert Kihune



Vice Admiral Robert Kihune's distinguished naval career included several high profile commands involving large numbers of ships and navy personnel. He commanded three battle groups: USS Kitty Hawk, USS Nimitz, and USS New Jersey Battle Groups, and commanded naval forces in the Indian Ocean during the 1987 crisis with Iran. As commander of the Pacific Fleet Naval

Surface Forces, he commanded 200 surface ships, 10 naval stations, a combined military and civilian personnel force of 80,000, and a \$4 billion budget. Kihune's command provided half of the naval forces in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Robert Kihune was born in 1937 to Harold and Rose Kihune and raised in Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii. He graduated from Kamehameha High School in 1955 and from the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1959. At the U.S. Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California, he obtained a B.S. in electrical engineering, specializing in communications in 1965.

VADM Kihune's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two gold stars and Combat "V", Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and Combat Action Ribbon.

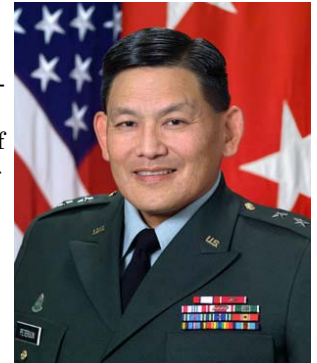
Kihune retired from the Navy in June 1994 after 39 years. He became active in a variety of economic development and educational initiatives. As CEO of Waimana Enterprises and Sandwich Isles Communications, he oversaw projects developing a power plant at Kawaihae and telecommunications for Hawaiian Homelands properties. He was also involved in developing a proposal for the clean up and restoration of the island of Kaho'olawe as chair of the Waimana Kaiser Enterprises management board.

On October 1, 1998, Kihune became president of the USS Missouri Memorial Association, a private Hawaii-based non-profit organization and the caretaker of the historic Battleship Missouri berthed in Pearl Harbor.

Kihune and his wife Hope have three children, Gordon, Tracy and Lisa. His uncle Kazuo Kihune was member of the engineering company assigned to the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT in WW II.

### LTG Joseph F. Peterson

Lieutenant General Joseph F. Peterson, U.S. Army, is currently assigned to Ft. McPherson, Georgia, as the Deputy Commanding General/Chief of Staff of US Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), the largest major command in the Army with 78% of the ground forces. LTG Peterson is Japanese, Chinese and Hawaiian. He is the first officer of Hawaiian ancestry to attain the rank of LTG in the US Army.



Peterson attended the University of Santa Clara, California, on a four-year ROTC scholarship. He received his commission in 1972 as an Armor Second Lieutenant; it would take him 34 eventful years to make LTG on December 11, 2006. Peterson served in many positions throughout the U.S., including Command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division at Fort Riley, Kansas, Assistant Division Command and Division Command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, and Command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. His overseas tours of duty included Korea, Germany, Belgium and Iraq. Peterson graduated from Saint Louis High School in 1968, Chaminade University Hawaii in 1980 with an MBA, and the Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in 1994.

He served in Iraq from October 2005 to October 2006 as Commanding General, Civilian Police Assistance Training Team (CPATT), Multi-National Security Transition Command, *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. Of this assignment, Peterson said, "The opportunity to serve as the advisor to the Iraqi Minister of Interior and to oversee the building of the ministry, while training and equipping over 200,000 Iraqi police/security forces, was both challenging and rewarding. The determination of Iraqi security forces to establish a democratic and self reliant nation, reinforced by their dedication and sacrifice, was inspirational. It was truly a privilege to serve with both Iraqi and Coalition Forces in Iraq."

Peterson and his wife Ann have a son Airman First Class Kevin Peterson assigned to Eielson Airbase, Alaska.



## JAVA Annual General meeting at Harvest Moon

### Event covered by CNN

Army SGT Leana Nishimura and her three children were JAVA's guests at its Annual General Meeting on January 20, 2007, at the Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, Virginia. TJ (9) and Dylan (8), in Cub Scout uniforms, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Cheyenne (5) sat at her mother's side.

Nishimura, a single mother living in Maryland, served in Iraq while her mother cared for her three children in Hawaii. Upon the completion of her deployment, she had no home or money. Community and church friends came to her assistance, and JAVA initiated a national fund drive raising over

\$6,400.

Nishimura expressed her gratitude to JAVA. With JAVA's donation Nishimura purchased beds for her children. She explained "Dylan's asthma is aggravated by the harsh combination of the winter cold of and the hard wood floors." In addition, Nishimura filled her bare freezer, which had not been turned on since her mother purchased it for her in early November. She spoke of her "blessing" arriving in a timely manner, before the harsh winter cold had a chance to affect her family.

Although grateful to be reunited with her three children, Nishimura is proud of the opportunity to serve

her country alongside "fellow veterans." Aware that another deployment may be just around the corner, Nishimura said, "It is important that we (my family) understand the importance of my position as a chaplain's assistant. My children understand that Mommy may have to go away again, but if I have to go, they must let me. They'll be helping the many soldiers who need to be ministered to."

Following Nishimura's remarks, President Bert Mizusawa and Grant Ichikawa, Special Projects Chair who inspired and led the national fund drive, presented Nishimura with a check of \$2,100. CNN taped part of the luncheon devoted to Nishimura.

## Aki Konoshima Receives Award, Named Editor Emeritus

Aki Konoshima, who single-handedly published and circulated the JAVA Newsletter over a long period of time, received a Citation for his contribution to the development of JAVA from a social organization to a nationally recognized veterans service organization. President Bert Mizusawa presented the award at JAVA's Annual General Meeting on January 20, 2007.



JAVA President Bert Mizusawa presents Aki Konoshima with Certificate of Appreciation.

Konoshima brought to this job his professional skills as a writer and editor of United Press International (UPI) and his experience as a media official in the Senate and the Department of Labor. Mizusawa said he appreciated Konoshima's steadfast support and in meeting every publication deadline.

Konoshima served in the U.S. Army Allied Translator and Interpreter Section (ATIS) in Tokyo during the occupation of Japan, and in the 8th Army interrogation team in Seoul during the Korean War. He received his BA in journalism from the University of Wisconsin and a MA from the East Asian Institute, Columbia University.

In Spring 2006, JAVA upgraded its newsletter to color and changed its name to *JAVA ADVOCATE*. Konoshima decided he could not cope with the technology transition and retired into the po-

sition of Editor Emeritus. He turned over the editorial mantle to Kay Wakatake.

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## TAPS

Martin Joseph Higgins passed away on February 26, 2007. Marty was born in Jersey City, N.J. on January 29, 1916. He is survived by daughter Missy and her husband Dr. Thomas Abrunzo; son Michael and his wife Cynthia; three grandchildren: Hunter Higgins; Dr. Nicole Abrunzo and her husband Dr. Chris Merritt; Chris Abrunzo and his wife Meredith; and three great grandchildren: Mariebelle Abrunzo, Rory Merritt, and Benjamin Merritt.



Lt Marty Higgins after being trapped 7 days in Vosges Mts.

the 36<sup>th</sup> Division as a Platoon Leader. They invaded Southern France at San Raphael/Frejus on August 15, 1944. He assumed command of A Company on Sept. 22. When his Battalion was cutoff in the Vosges Mountains from Oct. 24 to Oct. 30th, his peers elected him to take command of the unit. He organized a perimeter defense and directed combat operations against superior numbers until relieved by Nisei elements of the 100/442RCT. 1LT Higgins was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry during this action. This began a life-long association with the Nisei. During December 1944 his unit was cutoff and surrounded by a superior force of SS Infantry directed by Reichsfurher SS, Heinrich Himmler. Lt Higgins received a battlefield promotion to Captain the week after his capture. He was sent to OFLAG 64 and survived the 375-mile Winter Death March to STALAG 3A between Jan 21, 1945 – March 14, 1945.

When the war ended, he began a career in sales with the United States Playing Card Company.

Marty successfully lobbied for the Immigration & Naturalization Act of 1952 which gave citizenship to the Nisei parents. After 33 years in sales, he retired as an executive in 1979. He and his beloved wife Marjorie moved to Lake Murray, SC, in 1980 for sailing and golfing. At age 66 he obtained a Master's Degree in Education from USC. He taught adult literacy and tutored children in the Dept of Youth Services.

Marjorie passed away on Oct. 1, 1997, and Marty moved to Anna Maria Island, Florida in October 1999. He joined the Widowed Person Service, the American Legion Post 24, and the YMCA.

In combat Marty earned the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, Combat Infantry Badge, Purple Heart, POW medal, Presidential Unit Ribbon, plus 5 campaign medals and the French Croix de Guerre with Bronze Star, France's medal for heroism awarded to foreigners. Martin J. Higgins will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery, with full military honors on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:45AM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Sarasota.

## New JAVA Officers

At JAVA's Annual Meeting on January 20, the new officers were sworn in by Mr. Kevin Secor, Veterans Service Organizations liaison for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

**President:** Robert Nakamoto, JAVA life member, is Chairman and principal owner of Base Technologies Inc., McLean, VA. Before that he was Director of Corporate System, MCI, and Deputy Commissioner for Planning in Texas, and Director for Planning of Medicare and Medicaid Programs. He served on the Presidential Task Force for both parties. Nakamoto graduated from California State University

and was a Staff Sergeant during the Korean War.

**Vice President:** Cal Shintani is senior Vice President and Operating Group General Manager at CACI, International. He served in executive level positions for firms such as Veridian, Unisys, and BTG. He is Vice-Chair of the Mentor-Protégé program of the Industry Advisory Council and served on boards of other business associations. He graduated with distinction from the US Naval Academy, retiring as Commander, USNR. His father, Munro Shintani, served in the 442 RCT. He has two children.

**Secretary:** Kim Luoma, JAVA life

member, is National Director for Media and Outreach for the Department of Veterans Affairs education system. Luoma is a Reservist with the Air Force's only active duty Combat Camera Squadron in Charleston, South Carolina. He graduated *summa cum laude* from Northern Michigan University and has a Masters from Georgetown University. Kim and wife Mary have 3 children.

**Treasurer:** Earl S. Takeguchi, JAVA life member, is a Hawaii native. He began his military career after graduation from the University of Hawaii and was commissioned in the Army Signal Corps; he retired as a lieutenant colonel. He is Systems Engineer at Scitor, a Department of Defense contractor.

# From the Editor



With each issue, I find ways to improve the *JAVA ADVOCATE* from the previous one. I sincerely appreciate everyone who submitted articles for this issue. Due to the numerous activities and events, I was unable to include all of your arti-

cles. However, I will keep them in the queue for the next issue. Coming in the next issue, for instance, will be Lona Ichikawa's article about the USO packing party at Fort Belvoir, where volunteers pack care packages to send to troops deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Starting with this issue, we will acknowledge new JAVA members. As you can see from the

list below, JAVA has members worldwide! In fact, at the end of May I will be moving to Germany to become the Officer in Charge of the Mannheim Law Center. I will still continue as editor of the *JAVA ADVOCATE*.

*As always, you may send comments to Kay Wakatake, 2567 Aspenwood Road, Charlottesville, VA 22911, or kwakatake@gmail.com. Thank you!*

## Welcome New Members!

- Joseph "Joe" Annello (Castle Rock, CO)
- Amerigo Bugliani (Pietrasanta, Italy)
- Harry B. Harris (Overseas)
- John D. Hix (Fresno, CA)
- Wade Y. Ishimoto (Alexandria, VA) (Life Member)
- Bobby Lum Ho (Springfield, VA)
- Sidney Kan (Honolulu, HI)
- Ard K. Kozono (Sacramento, CA)
- Susumu Musashi (Milwaukee, WI)

- Leana Nishimura (Havre de Grace, MD)
- Ron M. Oba (Aiea, HI)
- Marian J. Okada (Japan)
- Vincent H. Okamoto (Torrance, CA) (Life Member)
- Fidel R. Pico (Havre de Grace, MD)
- Gisela Shimabukuro (Gardena, CA)
- Antonio Taguba (Fort Belvoir, VA)
- Celeste Tedore (Las Vegas, NV)
- Craig Uchida (Silver Spring, MD)
- Rick Yamamoto (Alhambra, CA) (Life Member)
- David S. Yuen (Charlottesville, VA)



## Membership Application FY2007

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership:  New  Renewal  Transfer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

(Office) \_\_\_\_\_

(Cellular) \_\_\_\_\_

Facsimile: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

(Office) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Dues:

- Veterans, Active Duty, Reservists, National Guard: \$30
- Associate Member (non-veterans, spouses, widows of veterans): \$20
- Cadets, Midshipmen: \$15
- Life Membership: \$300

Military Experience (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Military Campaigns: \_\_\_\_\_

Awards/Decorations: \_\_\_\_\_

### Permission to publish the following on the JAVA website:

	Yes	No
Name	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rank	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dates of Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Military Campaigns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Awards/Decorations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please make checks payable to JAVA and mail to:

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Michael Yaguchi, [yaguchim@u.washington.edu](mailto:yaguchim@u.washington.edu);  
703-729-1243

**Membership:** Cal Shintani, [cshintani@verizon.net](mailto:cshintani@verizon.net)  
**Round Robin:** Grant Ichikawa, [g.ichikawa@cox.net](mailto:g.ichikawa@cox.net)

**Newsletter:** Kay Wakatake, [kwakatake@gmail.com](mailto:kwakatake@gmail.com);  
253-468-4238

**Speakers Bureau:** Norman Ikari, [normankyo@aol.com](mailto:normankyo@aol.com);  
301-869-5543

**National Archives Research:** Joe Ichiuji,  
[joe.ichiuji@verizon.net](mailto:joe.ichiuji@verizon.net); 301-530-0336

Fumie Yamamoto, [yamamotoff@yahoo.com](mailto:yamamotoff@yahoo.com);  
301-942-3985

**Quarterly Lunch:** Grant Ichikawa, [g.ichikawa@cox.net](mailto:g.ichikawa@cox.net)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 7, 9:30 am:** Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk, Washington, D.C.

**April 14, 12-6 pm:** JAVA booth at Sakura Matsuri Festival, Washington, D.C.

**April 20, 5:30 pm:** NJAMF Annual Awards Banquet, JW Marriott, Washington, D.C.

**April 28, 11:30 am:** JAVA quarterly luncheon, Harvest Moon, Falls Church, VA.

**May 10:** Veterans Day National Committee Meeting, Veterans Affairs Office

**May 15, 10:45 am:** Marty Higgins burial, Arlington National Cemetery, VA

**May 28, 11am:** DoD Arlington Cemetery Program; **2pm:** National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, D.C.

**July 21, 11:30 am:** JAVA Quarterly luncheon, Harvest Moon, Falls Church, VA.

**July 27:** 54th Anniversary Korean War Armistice, Korean War Memorial, D.C.

## JAVA Scrapbook



Above: Sen. Daniel Akaka speaks at *Nisei Linguists* book launch on Capitol Hill. Photo by Jesse Broder Van Dyke.



Above: First Lady Laura Bush, President George Bush, and Glenn Kikuchi at the White House Holiday Reception in December 2006.



Above: Go For Broke National Education Center and JAVA officials met on Mar. 22, 2007 for periodic liaison. Seated L-R: Teri Kuwahara, Christine Sato-Yamazaki. Standing L-R: Michael Yaguchi, Grant Ichikawa, BG Bert Mizusawa, Terry Shima, General Eric Shinseki, Calvin Ninomiya.