



Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
New Mexico honors MOH recipient Miyamura	3
JAVA members receive Japan Foreign Minister's Award JAVA participates in VJ Day ceremonies	4
French towns honor 442 RCT Photo: Kuwayama at NAUS luncheon	5
Sato-Yamazaki recognized by JAVA, Inouye, Japan Ambassador Shinseki at APA leadership conference	6
522nd veterans participate in Day of Remembrance Thank you Donors	7
Smithsonian Portrait Gallery recognizes Mineta News from other Vets Orgs	8
JAVA briefs Japan officials at Memorial to Patriotism Official JAVA coin	9
Highlights from DVA Photos: National Day of Honor; Speakers Bureau	10
Ichikawa at Roanoke College	11
Miyamura granddaughter Sakumoto & Lost Battalion	12
Cherry Blossom queens visit JA War Memorial Court	13
Taps	14
From the Editor Membership Application	15
JAVA member receives Spirit Award	16

Kuroki receives Audie Murphy Award from American Veterans Center

WASHINGTON – Ben Kuroki, a native of Nebraska, received the prestigious Audie Murphy Award at the American Veterans Center 13th Annual Conference and Awards Gala on November 6, 2010, in Washington, D.C. Murphy was the most highly decorated soldier during World War II. The Center is a nonprofit organization that works to promote and preserve the legacy of servicemen and women from WW II through Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Audie Murphy Award is presented to veterans who went above and beyond the call' during their service and became a positive role model for people throughout the rest of their lives.

During WW II, the U.S. Army Air Corps institutionally discriminated against Japanese Americans. Only five known Nisei who were able to serve as gunners in bombers throughout WW II. Kuroki is the only Nisei known to have served in air combat duty in the Pacific Theater.

Kuroki received the Audie Murphy award for his engagement in 58 air combat mis-

sions in Europe and Asia and for combating prejudice and discrimination on the home front during WW II. In his acceptance remarks, Kuroki said, "words are inadequate to thank my friends who went to bat for me and bestowed incredible honors decades later. Without their support, my war record would not have amounted to a hill of beans. I now feel fully vindicated in my fight against surreal odds and ugly discrimination."

The recipient of two Distinguished Flying Cross medals and the survivor of the Ploesti, Rumania, air raid in which 53 of the 178 bombers did not return, Kuroki has received the following high honors since 2005:

2005 – Recipient of the Distinguished Service Medal, the highest military award for leadership. Also, received the Nebraska Press Association's highest honor, the *President's Award* and University of Nebraska honorary *Doctorate of Human Letters*.

[continued on page 3 at "Kuroki"]



Above: James C. Roberts, President of American Veterans Center, presenting Audie Murphy award to Ben Kuroki. (Scott Stewart)

President's Message



JAVA joins the families of Ranger Grant Hirabayashi, Hideyuki Noguchi and Dr. Harry Abe, all strong JAVA supporters, on their untimely passing. Grant was a

member of the Speakers Bureau and endeared himself to the students.

JAVA representatives were invited to the White House on two occasions.

On October 5, 2010 Grant Ichikawa and Terry Shima were invited to the Oval Office to witness President Obama signing the Bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the 100, 442, and MIS. On Veterans Day Gerald Yamada, Grant Ichikawa and Robin Lea Nodland were invited to have breakfast with Vice President Biden [President was in Asia] at the White House.

I wish to thank Kay [Maj. Kay Wakatake, U.S. Army] for putting out the *Advocate* June issue while working 16/7 in Iraq and faced with frequent unpredictable power interruptions. Also, I appreciate Janelle [Lt. Janelle Kuroda, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy] volunteering to assist Kay with the September issue.

My warmest appreciation to Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki for his presentation of the Foreign Minister's Award

to Grant Ichikawa, Terry Shima and me at a formal presentation ceremony and impressive reception at the Ambassador's Residence. The Award will embolden JAVA to continue to promote the building of strong relationships between the government and people of Japan and the Japanese American community. Senator Inouye, an Honorary Chair of JAVA, and Irene Hirano Inouye, President of the U.S.-Japan Council, participation was a great honor to JAVA. We also welcome Congresswoman-elect Colleen Hanabusa to Washington, D.C.

Two JAVA Executive Council members reached significant milestones. Lt. Col. Mark Nakagawa, U.S. Army, held his retirement ceremony on November 23 at the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. We thank Mark for his service to our Great Nation. Earlier in the month the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation awarded Grant Ichikawa, on behalf of the Nisei who served in the Military Intelligence Service, the *Award for Patriotism*. Congratulations to both.

The speakers bureau continued to be in demand and, in addition to schools, government entities and civic organizations, Grant Ichikawa spent a day and evening with students of Roanoke College, Va. Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, U.S. Army G-2; Capt. Guy Lee, U.S. Navy chaplain; and retired Lt. Col. Mike Yaguchi, U.S. Air Force provided moving, inspirational remarks, and the U.S. Army bugler and the students of Spark Matsunaga Ele-

mentary School who sounded taps and sang patriotic music, respectively, made for a memorable Veterans Day at the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. I wish to thank Scott Monfiles, executor of the Kiyoko Tsuboi Taubkin estate, and his wife, Robin, strong supporters of JAVA from Portland, Ore., for participating in the Veterans Day events and for arranging the generous settlement from the Taubkin estate.

This is great progress. I keep reminding myself, we would not be where we are were it not for the dedicated and hard working volunteers. I learned that each volunteer has a deep and total motivation for giving their all to JAVA. It is incredible what they do individually and collectively. If any of you wish to join this legion, please contact any of us on the last page of this Newsletter.

— Robert Nakamoto

Honorary Chairs

Senator Daniel K. Akaka, U.S. Senate
 Senator Daniel K. Inouye, U.S. Senate
 The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta
 Barney Hajiro, Medal of Honor
 Hershey H. Miyamura, Medal of Honor
 George Joe Sakato, Medal of Honor

Officers

Robert Nakamoto, President
 Bruce Hollywood, Col, USAF (Ret),
 Vice President
 Secretary – Vacant
 Earl Takeguchi, LTC, USA (Ret),
 Treasurer

Board of Directors

Above Officers plus:
 William Houston,
 Deputy Executive Director
 Grant Ichikawa
 Bert Mizusawa, BG, USAR
 Mark Nakagawa, LTC, USA
 Calvin Ninomiya, Esq.
 Terry Shima, Executive Director
 Kay Wakatake, MAJ, USA
 Alan Ueoka, LTC, USA
 Gerald Yamada, General Counsel
 Reuben Yoshikawa

JAVA ADVOCATE

Akio Konoshima, Editor Emeritus
 Kay Wakatake, MAJ, USA, Editor
 Janelle Kuroda, LT, USN, Assistant Editor



The White House invited JAVA to participate in Veterans Day activities, including breakfast, at the White House on November 11, 2010.

Pictured L-R: Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki; Robin Nodland, wife of Scott Monfiles (Scott Monfiles is executor for the Taubkin estate, a supporter of JAVA); and Grant Ichikawa. (Gerald Yamada)

New Mexico honors MOH Recipient Miyamura

by Bacon Sakatani, Editor of Japanese American Korean War Veterans Newsletter

GALLUP, N.M. — On September 4, 2010, a day the State of New Mexico and the City of Gallup proclaimed as the Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura Day, a high school was named in his honor in a dignified ceremony attended by some 300 people including local dignitaries, fellow prisoners of war, Japanese American combat veterans of WWII, and a 46-person delegation from the Japanese American Korean War Veterans (JAKWV) from southern California. Miyamura, a Korean War Medal of Honor recipient, also served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The school is nicknamed the Patriots and the school colors are purple and silver, to match the color of Miyamura’s Purple Heart medal

After Principal Frank Chiapetti introduced the honoree, State Senator George Munoz and Gallup Mayor Harry Mendoza read their respective proclamations. Jim

Dumont, spokesman for U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman, read the Senator’s congratulatory letter. The school Dance Team provided entertainment and the Native American Dance Team provided the finale. A 6’ 5” bronze sculpture of Miyamura in uniform stands in the school’s main hallway

For those attending, it was a heart-warming ceremony to honor Hershey Miyamura on his very special day. Several attendees noted that it made all Japanese Americans proud that a school was named for this gracious and humble hero. Contributions to the Hershey Miyamura Scholarship Fund is an on-going endeavor. Those wishing to participate may make checks payable to the Hershey Miyamura Scholarship Fund: Gallup Chamber of Commerce, C/O Bill Lee, 103 West Highway 66, Gallup, New Mexico 87301.



Hiroshi Hershey Miyamura (bottom row wearing purple lei) with his JAKWV family from southern California. (Bacon Sakatani)

Kuroki (from page 1)

2006 – Invitee at the black tie White House state dinner for Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi.

2007 – Subject of the Public Broadcasting System documentary, the *Most Honorable Son*, Kuroki’s war story, which has been viewed nationally and internationally.

2008 – Special recognition by President George W. Bush at the White House Asia Pacific American Heritage Month ceremony. Also, a permanent display on Kuroki’s story was dedicated at the Smithsonian.

Despite the demands on his time during his visit, Kuroki visited Audie Murphy’s gravesite at Arlington National Cemetery and hosted a luncheon for members of JAVA at the Meiwah Restaurant in downtown Washington, D.C. Kuroki is a Life Member of JAVA.



Ben Kuroki lays wreath and salutes at Audie Murphy’s gravesite at Arlington Cemetery. (Scott Stewart)

3 JAVA members receive Japan Foreign Minister's award

WASHINGTON – Japanese American Veterans Association President Robert Nakamoto, Board member Grant Ichikawa, and Executive Director Terry Shima were awarded the prestigious Japan Minister of Foreign Affairs Award by Japan's Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki at his official residence in Washington, D.C., on November 17, 2010. Senator Daniel K. Inouye and his wife, Mrs. Irene Hirano Inouye, Congresswoman-elect Colleen Hanabusa, other dignitaries and a large number of JAVA members witnessed the dignified event.



Photo taken after the award presentation: Front, L-R: Ambassador Fujisaki, Mrs. Irene Hirano Inouye, Congresswoman-elect Colleen Hanabusa, US Senator Daniel Inouye, Mrs. Fujisaki. Back, L-R: Robert Nakamoto, Terry Shima, Grant Ichikawa. (Noriko Sanefuji)

the Japanese press and TV with Japanese Americans nationwide; (4) partner with the Japan America Society of Washington, D.C., to man a booth at the National Cherry Blossom Festival to discuss the Japanese American story; and (5) jointly with 442nd Hawaii, digitize and archive at both websites the National Archives records of 100th, 442nd and MIS. When completed, researchers would be able to access this database

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Seiji Maehara, Award recognized JAVA's "outstanding achievements" in promoting "exchange between Japan and the United States and contributing greatly to the strengthening of friendship between Japan and the Japanese American community."

Ambassador Fujisaki, following his reading of the Citation, congratulated JAVA on the Minister of Foreign Affairs Award and expressed his appreciation for "JAVA's endeavors to achieve our common goals." He also commended the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Nisei who served in the Military Intelligence

Service (MIS) on the award of the Congressional Gold Medal.

In accepting the award, Nakamoto said one of JAVA's missions is to support the Foreign Minister and the U.S.-Japan Council's goal "to strengthen the friendship between Japan and the Japanese American community". He said JAVA's activities include: (1) provide briefs to Japanese high school students and government officials on the Japanese American experience during World War II; (2) assist Japanese graduate students to conduct research in Washington, D.C., and arrange interviews with Washington officials, including Japanese Americans; (3) facilitate interviews by

electronically from anywhere in the world, including Japan.

Senator Inouye, Honorary Chair of JAVA, discussed the importance of U.S.-Japan relations and commended JAVA for contributing to that endeavor. Mrs. Inouye, President of the U.S.-Japan Council, described the mission of the Council and commended JAVA and other organizations for the role they play at the action level. Congresswoman-elect Hanabusa of Hawaii said she looked forward to serving as a lawmaker at the national level and to work with JAVA and other veterans' organizations.

JAVA invited to represent APA at VJ Day ceremonies

WW II MEMORIAL, WASHINGTON — JAVA was invited by the Friends of the World War II Memorial (FWWIIM), the organization responsible for programs at the Memorial, to represent the Asian Pacific Americans at the Victory Over Japan (VJ) Day ceremonies on September 2, 2010 at the WW II Memorial in Washington, D.C. JAVA representative joined LTG Claude "Mick" Kicklighter, USA (Ret), Chairman of the FWWIIM, in presenting a wreath at the Wall of Heroes, representing over 400,000 soldiers, who sacrificed their lives to preserve our way of life.

There are 4,048 gold stars on the Wall, each star representing 100 soldiers who were killed in combat in WW II. The keynote speaker was the Honorable John H. Dalton, former Secretary of the Navy.

Appropriately, flocks of 10-20 geese flew in V-shaped formations directly overhead at approximately 8-minute intervals from the Washington Memorial to Lincoln Memorial, reminiscent of military aircraft fly-bys to display their respect for the American heroes.



At WW II Memorial. L-R: Terry Shima, JAVA, The Hon. John H. Dalton, and LTG Claude "Mick" Kicklighter, USA (Ret). (Bonnie Williams)

French towns honor 442nd Regimental Combat Team

Memorial Day by Children of France 2010

EPINAL AMERICAN CEMETERY



PFC Hachiro Mukai



PFC Bob T. Kameoka (May 2009)

eric.vandroux@libertysurf.fr

In Memory of the Soldiers of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team

The citizens of Bruyères and of Biffontaine didn't forget these brave soldiers who delivered them after terrible battles... Each year French Children decorate the graves of some of them at Epinal American Cemetery...



442nd RCT



Monument at Biffontaine

TO THE MEN OF THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, U.S. ARMY, WHO REAFFIRMED AN HISTORIC TRUTH HERE ... THAT LOYALTY TO ONE'S COUNTRY IS NOT MODIFIED BY RACIAL ORIGIN.

THESE AMERICANS, WHOSE ANCESTORS WERE JAPANESE, ON OCT. 30, 1944 DURING THE BATTLE OF BRUYERES BROKE THE BACKBONE OF THE GERMAN DEFENSES AND RESCUED THE 141ST INFANTRY BATTALION WHICH HAD BEEN SURROUNDED BY THE ENEMY FOR FOUR DAYS.

Detail of the commemorative tablet at Bruyères

VOSGES REGION, France — The French towns of Bruyeres and Biffontaine in the Vosges region of northeastern France was occupied by the Germans and liberated by the American 36th Division to which the 442nd RCT was attached. The 442nd liberated the towns of Bruyeres, Belmont, Biffontaine and the Nisei soldiers endeared themselves to the residents because according to the residents, "they did not steal our food but gave us their rations and treated us, especially our women, with respect." The residents of Bruyeres named a street to honor the 442nd, built and meticulously cared for a monument, and decorated the Nisei gravesites. Importantly, their legacy is being successfully transferred to subsequent generations. This photo was sent to JAVA by Sandra Tanamachi, Lake Jackson, Texas, who received it from Eric Vandroux of the Vosges region, France.

Photo: Kuwayama at NAUS luncheon

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — Yeichi Kelly Kuwayama, 442nd combat medic, and Sergeant Major of the Army Jack Tilley at the NAUS (National Association of Uniform Services) luncheon at Fort Belvoir on November 6, 2010. Secretary Eric Shinseki was the keynote speaker.



Sato-Yamazaki recognized by JAVA, Inouye, Japan Ambassador

TYSON'S CORNER, Va. — Christine Sato-Yamazaki, outgoing President and Chief Executive Officer of the Go For Broke National Education Center of Torrance, California, received the Japanese American Veterans Association's prestigious *COURAGE, HONOR, PATRIOTISM* Award at a special ceremony and luncheon at the elegant Tower Club on May 26, 2010. President Robert Nakamoto praised Christine for her leadership to collect oral histories

through the *Hanashi* Program and her success in spreading the Nisei story through the Center's various education programs, including the teachers' training program with which JAVA and the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation partnered in the Washington, D.C., area. The citation was read by Dr. Norman Ikari, a wounded veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and friend of Christine.

The inscription on the Award states, "In recognition of your distinguished leadership, dedication and vision in preserving the legacy of the heroic contributions and sacrifices made by Japanese American soldiers during World War II" This inscription was collectively written by JAVA's 13- member Executive Council.

The ceremony was attended by Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki of the Embassy of Japan, who extolled Christine's 13 years of devoted service to promote the Japanese American veterans' cause. The Ambassador told Christine that her leadership to educate students at the national level on the role played by Japanese Americans to defend freedom is vital at this point in time. He commended Japanese Americans for their loyalty and willingness to fight for America while at the same time being proud of their racial heritage.

Ms. Sato-Yamazaki told the audience: "I am deeply touched and honored to receive this award, and especially to be here with all of you today. I did my job at the GFBNEC for the past 13 years because of the veterans. I firmly believed that your story needed to be told, and that the lessons that come from it would resonate with all Americans. It has been such an incredible journey to first start the *Hanashi* Oral History Program and then to work on the teacher training program. I will always remember the effect your story had on the teachers as I saw streams of tears fall from their faces as they learned of the hard-won details. Your loyalty and contribution to



L-R: Bob Nakamoto, Christine Sato-Yamazaki, Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki. Courage, Honor, Patriotism Award presented to Christine. (Gerald Yamada)

America will be an inspiration for many generations to come. I will cherish the work that we did with all of you for the National Veterans Network, *Hanashi* and Teacher Training. JAVA has been an incredible partner and I have the utmost respect for what you do here on the East Coast to keep the story alive at the highest level, including the White House. I feel blessed to have known all of you and please know that you will always remain in my heart as I move forward."

Though unable to attend the ceremony and luncheon, Honorary JAVA Chairs Senators Daniel Inouye and Daniel Akaka, former Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta, Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki, Lieutenant General Thomas Bostick, U.S. Army, and retired Major General Tony Taguba, U.S. Army, each expressed that his best wishes be conveyed to Christine. Senator Inouye said in a letter, "I commend Christine for her strong leadership and tireless dedication to preserve and share the Japanese American story during World War II. For 13 years she has played an integral role of promoting our story to future generations."

Shinseki at APA leadership conference

NATIONAL HARBOR, Md. — Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki with young Asian Pacific American military officers during the Opening Ceremony at the 2010 Federal Asian Pacific American Council's 25th Annual Leadership Training Conference, held at the Gaylord Convention Center, National Harbor, Md., on May 4, 2010. Secretary Shinseki, the 34th U.S. Army Chief of Staff wearing four stars, told JAVA one of his happiest moments is to have informal personal contact with young officers, cadets and JROTC. (Photo courtesy of Lt. j.g. Lorna Mae Devera, U.S. Navy.)



Four 522nd Veterans invited to participate in Holocaust Memorial Museum Day of Remembrance Program by Susumu Ito, Ph.D., 522nd Veteran

WASHINGTON — Four veterans of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT) were among the 121 veterans who participated in the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Day of Remembrance program on April 13 to 15, 2010. The Day of Remembrance memorialized approximately six million Jews who perished at the hands of the Nazis during World War II. Member of the 552nd liberated prisoners of several German concentration camps in April of 1945.

The 522nd veterans in attendance were Eddie Ichiyama, Esq., of Hercules, Calif.; Nelson Akagi of Salt Lake City; Virgil Westdale of Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Dr. Susumu Ito of Wellesley, Mass. Each was interviewed by national and local media, including nationally syndicated columnist George Will



Virgil Westdale, 522nd veteran, enjoys a private moment with GEN David Petraeus, Commander of US Central Command, at the Holocaust Museum. (Waitman Beorn, PhD candidate, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC.)

and national TV networks, including CNN, PBS and Fox News.

The featured guest at the Capitol Rotunda ceremony was General David Petraeus, Commander of the U.S. Central Command. In recognizing the liberators, Petraeus said, “We – and indeed all of humanity – owe the liberators an eternal debt of gratitude for accomplishing their mission in Europe and for giving Holocaust survivors the greatest gift of all – their

lives and their freedom.” He also told the liberators, “I know that some of you have arrived at a point in your lives when individuals inevitably begin to wonder what kind of footsteps they’ve left in the sands of time. Well, all of us here today and all those watching around the world want to assure you that you have written an extraordinary chapter in the history of mankind, that you have left huge footsteps.” General Petraeus then exchanged stories individually with the 522nd veterans.

Dr. Ito, emeritus professor of cell biology at Harvard Medical School, was one of the three-member panel to discuss their experiences at the Jewish death camps. Ito told his story of being the son of an immigrant share cropper in central California, drafted in 1940, had his rifle taken away from him when World War II began because Japanese Americans were not trusted, and learned of his family being uprooted and forcibly placed in an internment camp. Ito said, “I mentioned the similarity of this ethnic injustice to the rounding up of Jews into Nazi concentration camps. However, the living conditions were vastly different for the interned Japanese, over half of them being U.S. citizens.”

In addition, Westdale told the Grand Rapids press: “Two members of my unit shot the lock off a compound at the Dachau concentration sub-camp to free the prisoners. However, at first they didn't want to come out because they looked and saw oriental faces,” remembered Westdale, whose father was Japanese. Westdale later told Fox News, “I never thought that a human being could be treated that way, ever, not even an animal let alone a human being. We were instructed by the officers not to feed them anything for they may die the next morning, but you cannot keep food from a starving person.”

Thank You Donors!

JAVA is grateful for the generosity of our members and friends to the Joe Ichiuji Scholarship Fund (Jul-Sep 2010)

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Gordon A. Aoyagi | Robert and Beverly Picone |
| Shirley Bertoni | Yasue Redden |
| John K. Corbin | Delores L. Robertus |
| Lauren and Jordan Farkas | Ron Rosenblum |
| Hideki Hamamoto | Richard and Eileen Roulier |
| Glen and Jan Hirose | Daisy and Yone Satoda |
| Mr. and Mrs. David Hoshiwara | Kenneth and Roberta Seidemann |
| Grant Ichikawa | Terry and Betty Shima |
| Paul Igasaki | Bob Silverman |
| Norman S. Ikari | Etsuko Y. Smith |
| Barbara L. Ikejiri | Toyoko and Richard Sperry |
| Constance N. Ishio | Gladys Sumida |
| Katheryn King | Namiko Suzuki |
| Kenichi and Ikuko Kuwabara | Betty Taira |
| Chosei Kuge | Helen H. Takagi |
| Lawrence and Barbara Lew | Violet Takahashi |
| Jean M. Marumoto | Alice and Kenneth Takemoto |
| Katherine A. Matsuki | Miyako Tanabe |
| Cheryl A. Matsumoto | K. Harry Tokushige |
| Dr. Raymond S. Murakami | Warren Tsuneishi |
| Eiko and Yasu Narita | Martha M. Watanabe |
| Calvin Ninomiya | Gerald Y. Yamada |
| Yulie K. Nose | Kiyo Yamada |
| Mary Okamoto | Fumie Yamamoto |
| Sumiye Okubo | Akira Yoshida |
| Dr and Mrs Robert Omata | |
| Clyde T. Owan | |

Due to space limitations, donors to the following will be recognized in future Advocates: Maud Shirey Scholarship Fund, and Millie Ichikawa NARA Digitization Fund

Smithsonian Portrait Gallery recognizes Norman Mineta

[From NPG and the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American program]

WASHINGTON — Norman Mineta's portrait, a oil-on-canvas painting by Everett Raymond Kinstler, was entered into the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery's permanent collection of portraits on July 26, 2010, in a dignified celebration attended by over 200 people. This painting, a gift to the Portrait Gallery from the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Program, is a recognition of an important and respected Asian American figure in U.S. history.

"Secretary Mineta's service to this country and his leadership efforts are central to the story about Asian Americans in the U.S.," said Martin Sullivan, director of the museum.

Born in 1931 to immigrant Japanese parents in San Jose, CA, Mineta and his family were detained along with 120,000 Americans of Japanese descent at an internment camp during World War II. Mineta's career in



Honorable Norman Mineta with his portrait at the Smithsonian Portrait Gallery. (Smithsonian Portrait Gallery photo)

politics began with an appointment to a vacant seat on the San Jose City Council in 1967; two years later he

won the seat in his own right. In 1971, he was elected mayor of San Jose, becoming the first Asian American mayor of a major U.S. city. As a member of Congress from 1975 through 1995, Mineta co-founded the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus and engineered the passage of H.R. 442, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988—an official government apology for the internment of those of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

In 2000, President Bill Clinton appointed Mineta Secretary of Commerce, making him the first Asian Pacific American to hold a Cabinet post. In 2001, President George W. Bush appointed him Secretary of Transportation, making him the only Democrat in Bush's Cabinet and one of the few citizens ever to serve in the Cabinet of both a Democratic and Republican President.

News from other Veterans Organizations

HONOLULU – **100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club, Puka Puka Parade.** Mimi Nakano, former Director of the Learning Resource Center and now editor of the monthly *Puka Puka Parade* and daughter of Medal of Honor recipient Shizuya Hayashi, reported on the meaning of the 100th Clubhouse. It is a gathering place, a second home, a refuge for a hundred veterans, where they can meet and tell stories. It is a memorial to 100 KIAs, a place where leaders like Lt. Col. Farrant Turner and Maj. Jim Lovell, Commander and Executive Officer respectively, are honored. It is a place where Sansei and Yonsei can connect with their Nisei parents and perpetuate their legacy. It is a place where diverse social and educational activities can be held.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – **Nisei Post 8985 Newsletter.** Editor Leo Hosoda wrote about his experience in Korea with the JAKWV group: the warm

hospitality of the Korean hosts; the cleanliness of Seoul, a metropolis of 10 million people; the many high rise buildings; efficiency of the transportation system; and the friendliness of the people. Hosoda also published his letter to the Pacific Citizen commending the delegates to the JACL national convention in Chicago for defeating the "commemorative stamp resolution which would have detracted from recognizing and honoring the sacrifices made by the Nisei veterans of World War II".

CINCINNATI, Ohio – *Grains of Rice*, newsletter of the **JACL Cincinnati** chapter, reported that the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) operated three internment camps in Texas at Camp Kennedy, Seagoville, and Crystal City. INS operated about 20 similar facilities designed for families. Crystal City was the largest. It peaked at 3,326, two-thirds of whom were ethnic

Japanese, plus Germans and Italians from Latin American countries. While ethnic Japanese internees from America received an apology and token compensation, the Japanese, Germans and Italians from Latin America did not.

HONOLULU – **442nd Veterans Club Hawaii Go For Broke Bulletin** highlighted several items. First, President Barack Obama enacting PL 111-254 in an Oval Office ceremony on October 5, 2010. This law awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to the 100, 442 and Nisei who served in the MIS during WW II. Second, the township of Tendola, Italy, dedicated a monument to honor the 21 Medal of Honor recipients. Finally, the Bulletin described the 5th Annual Joint Memorial Service at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) to honor the fallen.

JAVA briefs senior Japanese Officials at National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism

WASHINGTON — A thirteen-member delegation of the Japan National Institute of Defense Studies (JNIDS), an entity of the Japan Ministry of Defense, was briefed on the Japanese American experience during WWII at the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism on May 23, 2010. Focusing on national issues, the JNIDS course is designed to prepare promising senior officials in government and the media to assume ranking executive level positions that require policy-level contact with other ministries and nations. The American equivalent of JNIDS is the National Defense University, with which the JNIDS has a fraternal relationship.



Briefers and NIDS delegation at National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. L-R: LTC Hiroyuki Kawaguchi, Embassy of Japan (Host); Shuji Yuge, Ministry of Defense; CAPT Masahiro Kosugi, Japan Maritime Self Defense Force; COL Shinichi Nagata, Japan Ground Self Defense Force; Yasuaki Chijiwa, Ministry of Defense; CDR Joachim Gustow, Germany; COL Kenichi Kunishima, JSDF (Assistant Head of Delegation); Toru Fujii, Ministry of Defense; Yoshitsugu Katsuyama, Ministry of Defense; Robert Nakamoto; COL Robert Marut, Indonesia; Dr. Ray Murakami; COL Dewan Rajinder, India; Tadashi Kagatani, (Head of Delegation); Ministry of Defense; Grant Ichikawa; COL Shiyong Chen, China; Tsuneo Koura, Ministry of Defense. (Grant Ichikawa)

While this group visited the U.S. for briefings by Department of Defense, other government agencies, private sector think-tanks, and museums, other groups visited India and Korea for the same purpose. As a complement to JNIDS, the Ministry of Defense also publishes the Japan Defense Focus, a quarterly journal that provides analysis of issues

pertaining to the Ministry and the Japanese Self Defense Forces.

The briefing team consisted of Robert Nakamoto, President of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA); Grant Ichikawa, Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veteran; Dr. Ray Murakami, Chairman Emeritus of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation; and Terry Shima, 442nd Regimental Combat Team WW II veteran. Ichikawa spoke of his confinement in the stables of a race track in Los Angeles, internment at Gila River camp in Arizona, and his service in the MIS. Shima discussed the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team: why they volunteered to prove their loyalty to the government that had disowned them, and how their GO FOR BROKE spirit was instilled in them by their parents' Bushido code of life. Nakamoto described JAVA as a nationwide veterans service organization and discussed JAVA's commitment to participate in Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki's mission to build a strong relationship between the Japanese Americans and the government and peoples of Japan. Murakami discussed the history of the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism and what it stands for - a reminder that what happened to an ethnic group must never occur again.

Major General Mitsuru Nodomi, Defense Attache at the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C., said "it is important for Japanese officials visiting the United States to be exposed to the Nikkei and to learn directly from them how they view their racial heritage, their loyalty to the land of their birth, and why they fought with such ferocity they did. I want the visitors to hear for themselves what the Nisei learned from their Issei parents about the Bushido spirit and how they used this in combat."

THE OFFICIAL JAVA COIN

\$10 each, plus \$1 shipping. Order one for yourself or as a gift!

Send checks payable to "JAVA" to:

JAVA Books
P.O. Box 59

Dunn Loring, VA 22027



Highlights from the Department of the VA

[Drawn from DVA announcements]

Electronic Health Record (EHR).

On August 25, 2010, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced a new pilot in the Indianapolis region that will improve the delivery of Veterans health information. The Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis will partner with the Indiana Health Information Exchange (IHIE), the largest health information exchange organization in the United States, to securely exchange electronic health record (EHR) information using the Nationwide Health Information Network. "This pilot is one more step taken to deliver a Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record for our Nation's Veterans and Service members," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. More detailed information about the pilot program is available by calling 1-877-771-VLER (8537).

VA Creates Blog. VA is launching its first official blog, opening a new line of communication between the Department and its stakeholders. Called Vantage Point and edited by VA's Director of New Media Brandon Friedman, the blog will launch with two primary features: a main column of articles written

each day by VA staff and a section comprised of guest pieces submitted by other employees, stakeholders, and the general public. The VA blog expands VA's social media reach, adding to its presence on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and YouTube. Currently, 51 of 153 VA medical centers maintain a presence on Facebook and 27 are operating Twitter feeds. To view the blog, visit <http://www.blogs.va.gov>.

Result of 2006 Laptop Compromise.

The theft of a VA laptop containing the personal data of more than 26 million veterans in 2006 was a major breach of data security and VA took it seriously. So seriously in fact, that VA now briefs Congress monthly and posts all data breaches on www.va.gov. From a missing computer, to the loss of a common Blackberry, or even a misdirected e-mail, VA treats each incident with a high-level of scrutiny and transparency.

Arlington National Cemetery. [Gov. ernment Executive](#) (10/21, Swanson) reports, "Secretary of the Army John McHugh announced on October 21 that 'employees at Arlington National Cemetery for the first time will be able to enroll in a training program the

Veteran Affairs Department operates.' McHugh also said Patrick Hallinan, former director of field operations at the National Cemetery Administration, has been appointed as Arlington's new superintendent. 'The National Cemetery Administration Training Center, created in 2004 to provide job instruction to workers at the 131 national cemeteries VA runs, will teach technical skills and leadership development to Arlington employees at all levels, from groundskeepers to supervisors.'"

Healthcare insurance for veterans dependents.

The "Sgt. Shaft" column for the [Washington Times](#) (9/29) praises "Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Daniel K. Akaka for introducing a bill to extend the age limit for coverage of veterans' dependents through the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to the level set by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act." Because of that act, "families with private health insurance coverage can keep their children on their plans until age 26."

JAVA represented at National Day of Honor for Minority Veterans of WWII

PHILADELPHIA — Akira Yoshida, Korean War veteran and member of JAVA, attended the National Day of Honor for Minority Veterans of WW II in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on May 22, 2010. Yoshida was awarded a medallion on behalf of Japanese American veterans of WW II, who were recognized for their heroism. Below: Yoshida and other Asian American veterans wearing their medallions.



Speakers Bureau visits South Lakes High School

RESTON, Va. — Grant Ichikawa, member of JAVA's Board of Directors and Speakers Bureau, met with students from Mr. Bob Smith's history class at South Lakes High School in Reston, Virginia, on November 9, 2010.



WW II and Korean War Veteran speaks to new Roanoke students

[Roanoke College Public Relations]

SALEM, Va. – World War II and Korean War veteran Grant Ichikawa spoke to new Roanoke College students during their on-campus orientation in late August. Born and raised in California, Ichikawa is a Japanese American who, with his family, was interned in a detention camp after the attack on Pearl Harbor. In spite of this, Ichikawa volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Service.

Ichikawa, who now lives in Vienna, Virginia, brought to life the freshman summer reading assignment, *When the Emperor was Divine*. This novel by Julie Otsuka tells the story of a Japanese American family sent to a Utah detention camp for enemy aliens during World War II.

Ichikawa described his own first night in a detention camp as "perhaps the lowest night of my life." As an American citizen himself and a college graduate, he wasn't worried he would be picked up by the authorities. "There were a series of orders: turn in radios, weapons, etc." he said. "Eventually, we boarded a train with only what we could carry." He was taken to a former fairground, which was now a stockade. His family of five was assigned to a former horse stall, along with another family of three. "With the smell of horse manure," he said, "I lay there thinking of what could happen to a citizen of this country."

He was later inducted into the U.S. Army and eventually got a field placement as a linguist. His first duty as a linguist officer was to accompany a Strategic Bombing Survey Unit to Hiroshima and Nagasaki to survey the devastation of the atomic bomb attacks.

Ichikawa served two tours of active duty and was later a diplomat to the U.S. Consulate in Surabaya and the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia. He also served in Saigon and, on April 30, 1975, just before the city fell to the North Vietnamese, Ichikawa was among the last to leave Vietnam in the helicopter evacuation from the Embassy rooftop.

Roanoke College, a classic liberal arts college in Salem, Virginia, combines firsthand learning with valuable personal connections in a stunning undergraduate setting. *The Princeton Review* names Roanoke as one of the "best in the Southeast" and *U.S. News & World Report* includes Roanoke on its "Up-and-coming National Liberal Arts Colleges" list.

Grant Ichikawa's Trip Report to Roanoke College

[EDITORS' NOTE. We thought readers might wish to know how JAVA speakers interact with their hosts. The hospitality of each host is different but the bottom line is we use these opportunities to solidify our relationships and build goodwill with the community.]

I drove for hour hours and, upon arrival at Roanoke College (Lutheran Church college) around 11 a.m., I telephoned Lindsay Van Leir, my point of contact. I checked in at the college guest quarters and was treated to lunch at the student cafeteria. I then went back to the guest quarters and took a nap. I met Lindsay at 2:30 p.m. and was taken to a nicely furnished auditorium. Because of seat limitation, I presented the same speech twice to about 300 students at each session. Lindsay introduced me to the students and I spoke for 40 minutes, leaving 20 minutes for questions. Students asked all kinds of questions, which had to be cut off after 20 minutes.

That night, the students had a night out at about five pubs, which served complimentary non-alcoholic beverages and snacks. The music was loud. The college president mingled with the students. The president, faculty members and students remarked favorably to my presentation.

Lindsay offered me an honorarium. I said we don't ask for payment but she could write the check (\$2,000), payable to JAVA. I told her the money will be used to pay for project expenses.



Grant Ichikawa at Roanoke College. L-R: Ichikawa and Lindsay Van Leir, coordinator.

Miyamura, as viewed by his USAF granddaughter

by Karen Petitt, 375th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs [edited for length by JAVA]

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — As a little girl, Marisa Miyamura visited her grandparents regularly in the small town of Gallup, N.M., and enjoyed the carefree days of childhood where her grandfather taught her that it's not what you have in life that matters but what you do with it. For a child, the gold star surrounded by a wreath, topped with an eagle and the word "VALOR" which hung on a blue silk ribbon was perhaps just a pretty necklace her grandfather, Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura, would wear occasionally as he spoke at various events.

Now, as an Air Force Academy graduate and second lieutenant stationed at Scott Air Force Base with the 375th Communications Squadron, Marisa deeply understands the significance of the Medal of Honor. "It's very emotional listening to him tell his story," she said. "He's the reason why I'm serving in the military today. He has lived his whole life with honor and that is a great legacy for me."

Hiroshi Miyamura grew up during World War II when the government

sent most Japanese families to internment camps for fear of not knowing where their loyalties lied. He was determined to show his loyalty to his country and said the 442nd Infantry Regiment paved the way for him. Because of the valor displayed by that unit, the U.S. government began to draft more service members from the internment camps, including 18-year-old Hiroshi, who trained to become a machine gunner. He was sent to Europe as part of the 442nd but the war ended as he arrived in Italy.

He volunteered for the Korean War and found himself "in the coldest place on earth." In command of a machine gun squad in Company H of the 7th Infantry Regiment, he was part of the American defenses at the Chosin Reservoir. The Chinese had surprised Gen. Douglas MacArthur by crossing over the Yalu River in North Korea and he evacuated back to the frontlines to guard Seoul against a Chinese assault.

He and his men were ordered to set up defenses near the Imjin River and hold

it as long as possible. As the Chinese attacked, he rose from his machine gun and charged them. He continued firing his rifle until it jammed, then he bayoneted his way to a second rifle and resumed firing, covering the retreat of his men. He killed more than 50 enemy soldiers before his ammunition was depleted. Even though he was severely wounded, he maintained his stand until his position was overrun. He tried to make his way back to the U.S. fallback position but lost consciousness. He awoke to a gun to his head and his captors forced him on a week-long march with no food, gathering another 30 prisoners along the way. He was held as a Prisoner of War for 28 months and suffered from dysentery and starvation. His family had no idea if he was alive or dead.

Miyamura and many others were released Aug. 21, 1953. As they crossed into the American Sector of Korea, he said he couldn't believe he was free. "When I saw the American flag fluttering in the breeze, I knew I was back home."

Hawaii Soldiers who helped rescue "Lost Battalion" named

[Editor's Note: San Francisco Retired Judge Bryan Yagi received this article from Mutt Sakumoto. The name of the newspaper or date were not stated but judged by the headline it appears to be a Hawaii newspaper possibly dated November 1944. The rescue occurred on October 30, 1944. We are reprinting it because of the considerable details provided by the US War Department.]

(From the U.S. War Department)

WITH THE 7TH ARMY IN FRANCE — First Americans to reach the now famous Lost Battalion of WW II were 10 American soldiers of Japanese ancestry. Their names can now be given. They comprised a contact patrol from a company of the infantry regiment from which the 442nd Japanese American combat team receives its designation (sic).

After four days and nights of slugging it out with the Germans in close, some-

times hand to hand fighting, through some of the heaviest timbered hills in this part of northeastern France, Lt Col Alfred A. Pursall, Crystal City, MO, found some communication wire which he thought might lead to the Lost Battalion.

That was the morning of the eventual rescue date for the trapped soldiers. Col Pursall ordered Staff Sergeant Tak Senzaki, Rowher Relocation, McGhee, Ark, formerly of Los Angeles, Cal, and nine men to follow that wire and see whether it led to the encircled men.

The other nine men in the patrol were Private First Class Henry Nakada, Gila River Relocation Center, Rivers, Ariz., formerly of San Fernando Valley, Cal; Matsuji Sakumoto, Wailua, Oahu, Hawaii; Fred W. Ugai, Palace hotel, North Platte, Neb.; Makoto Fujioka, Naalehu, Ka'u, Hawaii; Kohei Ikeda, Minidoka Relocation center, Hunt, Ida,

formerly of Seattle, Wash; Cooper Tahara, formerly of Los Angeles, Cal.; Masao Furugen, Halaula, Hawaii; Hideo Takahashi, Central Utah Relocation Center, Topaz, Utah, formerly of Portland, Ore; and Technical Sergeant Kameo Toyota, formerly of Modesto, Cal., a replacement serving as a rifleman.

The nine men took turns in following the wire, while the others kept watch for possible German units and snipers. The patrol moved up in single file, Indian fashion or squad column as the army calls it. It was rough going; the men had to smash their way through underbrush and bushes alongside the path, always being careful that no hidden trap wires would set off German booby-traps and anti personnel mines.

[continued at "Hawaii Soldiers" on page 13]

Cherry Blossom queens visit JA National War Memorial Court

LOS ANGELES — Cherry Blossom Queens and their courts from Seattle, Hawaii and San Francisco when they visited the Japanese American National War Memorial Court on August 15, 2010, during Nisei Week in the Little Tokyo district of Los Angeles.

Ken Hayashi, President of the National Japanese American Vietnam War Memorial Committee described the significance of the War Memorial Court to the ladies: "When you stand at the center of the Japanese American National War Memorial Court you are surrounded by the names and spirit of over 1200 Americans of Japanese Ancestry who gave their lives in service to America. The Japanese American National War Memorial Court is a tangible reminder to current and future generations of the enormity of the sacrifice these soldiers made so that you and I could live in free

dom. Most of them were your age or even younger when their lives were cut short in a foreign land, far from family and friends. They gave us the precious gifts of dignity and freedom. They paid the ultimate price. Please keep them in your heart, remember and appreciate their great sacrifice. You can no longer thank these heroes in person but you can honor them by making sure that their sacrifice is never forgotten. No man can give more than his life."



Standing L-R: Min Tonai, Korean War Veteran (KWV); Chris Segawa, Vietnam War Veteran (VV); Andrea Higura, Hawaii Miss Congeniality; Allison-Jae Hyun, Hawaii 1st Princess; Marissa Machida, Hawaii Cherry Blossom Queen; Kisa Nishimoto, Seattle JA Community Scholarship Program Queen; Rachel Fujimoto, Seattle 1st Princess & Miss Tomodachi; Sarah Johnston, Seattle Princess; Alicia Watanabe, Seattle Princess; Mits Asakura (KWV); David Miyoshi (VV); Judge Vincent Okamoto (VV); Ken Hayashi (VV). Kneeling L-R: Kimberly Fujinaka, Hawaii Princess; Ayae Yamamoto; SF Princess; Ashley Nakatani, SF 1st Princess; Arisa Hiroi, SF Cherry Blossom Queen; Corey Fujioka, SF Miss Tomodachi; Kiyomi Tanaka, SF Princess; Scott Takahashi (VV); Tohoru Isobe (KWV). (Photo credit: Ken Hayashi)

Hawaii Soldiers (from page 12)

About 1,000 yards from the starting point, they reached the roadblock, which had prevented the entrapped battalion from withdrawing to the rear. At the moment, however, no Germans were manning it so the patrol moved ahead cautiously. Private Henry Nakada, who was following the wire, and Private Sakumoto, who was right behind him, were the first to see the Lost Battalion.

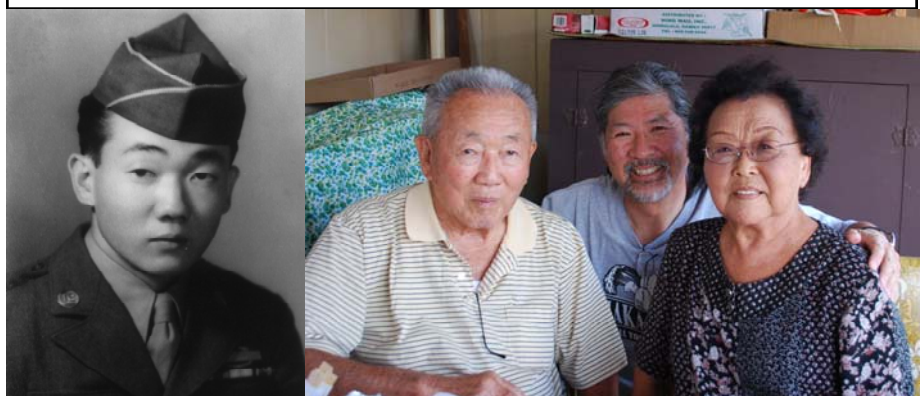
"They were well dug-in in a circular defensive circle, well-camouflaged, so that I didn't notice them until some GIs crawled out of the dugouts and slit trenches to welcome us. Boy, that was a welcome sight," Private Nakada stated emphatically. "I guess we were just as happy to rescue them as they were to be rescued," observed Private Sakumoto.

The Japanese American patrol, having established contact, called the rest of the 3rd Battalion in to effect the actual relief. In the meantime, the 10 men

passed out all the cigarettes, K-rations and water that they were carrying on their persons.

Private Furugen announced that he had never seen soldiers so emotionally wrought up as some of the rescued men. "They had tears in their eyes when they came up to thank us for breaking through. They could hardly speak, they were so happy. Man, we didn't do anything unusual. We just did our jobs as soldiers, that's all."

Below left: PFC Mutt Sakumoto. Below right: Mutt Sakumoto, Judge Bryan Yagi (Ret), Ayako Sakumoto.



TAPS GRANT HIRABAYASHI, MERRILL'S MARAUDER VETERAN

By Norman Ikari, Ph.D.



Grant Hirabayashi at a news conference at the Department of Veterans Affairs Headquarters on October 18, 2006. (Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images)

SILVER SPRING, Md. – Ranger Grant Hirabayashi passed away peacefully on November 24, 2010, at his home. He was 91 years old. Hirabayashi, a Life Member of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), was born in Kent, Washington on Nov. 9, 1919. In 1932, he went to Japan to continue his education. Upon graduation, from high school in Japan, he returned to the U.S. and graduated from Kent High School in 1941. He enlisted in the Army prior to Pearl Harbor.

In Oct. 1942, Hirabayashi volunteered and entered the Military Intelligence

Service (MIS) Language School at Camp Savage, Minn. Following graduation, he volunteered for hazardous duty with the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly known as Merrill's Marauders, whose mission was to capture the town of Myitkina and open the Burma Road - the pathway of supplies from India/Burma to the Chinese Nationalist Forces. To accomplish their mission the Marauders walked 700 miles and were engaged in 5 major combat situations with the enemy and 32 minor engagements. Hirabayashi's duties continued with several significant functions e.g., interpreter into several important Allied units - interpreter for the British Royal Air Force, interrogator in the China Theater, interpreter in the Japanese Surrender Ceremony in Nanking, China.

After his discharge from the Army at war's end, Hirabayashi continued as instructor with the MIS Language School, then as interpreter/interrogator at the War Crimes Trials in Yokohama, Japan. Later, he resumed his studies at the University of Southern California, receiving BA and MA degrees in international relations. There followed service with the Department of State, Library of Congress, and the National Security Agency.

He was invited to speak on his experiences to a wide variety of audiences locally and out of state. All have been entertained and educated by his life history, his incomparable duties, his patriotism and courage. His military decorations include the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, Presidential Unit Citation with oak leaf cluster. On July 8, 2004 Hirabayashi was inducted into the U.S. Army Rangers Hall of Fame in Fort Benning, Ga., for gallantry while serving as a linguist.

Grant's is survived by his two daughters, Lynn and Kei, and his grandson, Derek. Memorial service will be held at Ft. Myer Old Post Chapel on Friday, February 18, 2011, at 11 a.m., followed by committal service at the Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium (outdoors). A reception will follow at Ft. Myer Officer's Club.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Ranger Grant Hirabayashi Scholarship Fund. Please write your tax-exempt checks payable to JAVA, "Ranger Grant Hirabayashi Scholarship Fund" on memo line, and mail to Mark Nakagawa, 9455 Park Hunt Ct, Springfield, VA 22153.

DR. HARRY ABE, 442nd RCT MEDIC

Harry F. Abe, M.D., age 94, passed away at home in Long Island, N.Y., on November 19, 2010. Born in Seattle and raised in Portland, Ore., as the second of six children, to Chozo and Toshiko Abe, Dr. Abe was a combat medic in the 442nd RCT in Italy and France during World War II. After attending Marquette Medical School in Wisconsin, his internship and residency were at St. Mary's Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y. He practiced family medicine for forty-five years on Long Island and received a citation for his dedicated services from Nassau County Executive, N.Y.

Dr. Abe was Director Emeritus, Department of Family Practice, St. Joseph's Hospital, Bethpage, NY. He was a lifetime member of Nassau County Medical Society, N.Y. State Medical Society, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Medical Association and served as county Delegate to N.Y. State Medical Society.

He was a life member of "Go For Broke" National Veterans Association; Governor Emeritus of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles and Charter Board Member; Senior Advisor to National Japanese American Memorial Foundation in Washington, D. C., and a member of JAVA.

He is survived by his wife, Lynne. Memorial gifts may be made to National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, 1620 I St. NW #925, Washington, D.C. 20006. By phone: (202) 530-0015.

HIDEYUKI NOGUCHI, 442nd RCT VETERAN

Hideyuki Noguchi, 442nd RCT veteran, died at age 93 on July 26, 2010. He was buried on August 24, 2010, at Arlington National Cemetery, joining his wife Lily who died in 1993. During World War II, Noguchi was a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army Signal Corps with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, 3rd Battalion, in the European Theater of Operations. He saw action in Italy, France and Germany. Among his numerous awards and ribbons, Noguchi was the recipient of the Bronze Star.

Noguchi was born near Sacramento and graduated from University of California with a degree in electronic engineering before being drafted into the Army. After the war he settled in the Washington, D.C., area, where he married, raised a family and followed a career as an engineering analyst with the Radio Review Board of the Federal Communications Commission. He is survived by daughter Mary, son Alfred and two grandchildren.

From the Editor



After a five-hour flight from Kuwait to Germany, then another nine-hour flight to Dallas, the chartered flight full of troops going home for their R&R (rest and recuperation) finally touched down at Dallas International Airport. Troops making this trip numerous times before looked out the window as a buzz circulated in the cabin. "Where's the rainbow?" "Watch for it!" So, I looked out my window, and there it was: two fire trucks spraying water, forming an arch over our plane. As the mist and water came down around us, the sunlight glistened and created not one but two beautiful rainbows to welcome us back to the United States!

While walking through the airport on the second floor toward the customs section, we passed through the passenger terminal along the elevated "skyway" of glass windows. We couldn't hear the passengers and airline employees below us, but we could see them warmly cheering our return and waving. Some of us waved back, others smiled shyly, but all were grateful for the spontaneous reception. Dallas wasn't the end of the line for many, though. My seatmate still had 30 hours of

travel to his home in Micronesia. I had five hours until I finally made it home to the embrace of my family. Although my deployment ended, my thoughts continue to be with my brigade in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq. I had seen stories on television about troops who wanted only to return to their units, and now I understand their feelings. I wish continued safety for my friends and all U.S. troops during the remainder of their deployments, until each and every one sees the rainbow of home. —Kay Wakatake

Please email comments to javaadvocate@gmail.com.



Reuniting with family at the Savannah/Hilton Head International airport after deployment to Iraq.



JAVA Membership Application

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

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:

Mark Nakagawa
 9455 Park Hunt Ct
 Springfield, VA 22153

JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION

c/o Base Technologies
5th Floor, 1749 Old Meadow Road
McLean, Virginia 22102



Please send correspondence to:

General: Terry Shima, ttshima@comcast.net, 301-987-6746
William E. Houston, houstonsnavy@aol.com,
703-380-8175

Education: Terry Shima (temporary) (see above)

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

Membership: Bruce Hollywood,
hollywoodweb@comcast.net

Memorial Day Arlington Cemetery: Terry Shima (temp)

Memorial Day Parade: Martin Herbert (See above)

National Archives Research:

Joe Ichiuji, Emeritus
Fumie Yamamoto, yamamotoff@yahoo.com;
301-942-3985

Newsletter: Kay Wakatake, javaadvocate@gmail.com

Oral History: Terry Shima (temporary) (see above)

Quarterly Lunch: Grant Ichikawa, g.ichikawa@cox.net

Round Robin: Grant Ichikawa, g.ichikawa@cox.net

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

Speakers Bureau: Terry Shima (temporary) (see above)

Veterans Day: Terry Shima (temporary) (see above)

Webmaster: Dave Buto, admin@javadc.org

Mark Nakagawa, nakamark2@yahoo.com
Mae Nakamoto, mae_nakamoto@yahoo.com

Visit our website: www.javadc.org

Japanese Heritage Festival Spirit Award presented at Citi Field in Queens, New York

August 27, 2010 — JAVA member Lt. Janelle Kuroda of OJAG Code 16, Washington Navy Yard, received the Spirit Award by the Japanese Heritage Festival Committee on Citi Field with fellow Spirit Award recipients Ambassador Shinichi Nishimiya, the Consulate-General of Japan in New York, and World War II Army Military Intelligence Service veteran Kazuo Yamaguchi during the New York Mets vs. the Houston Astros pre-game show. Kuroda was selected for the Spirit Award by upon recommendation by JAVA, and accepted the award on behalf of all U.S. service members of Japanese descent. **Bottom left L-R:** Satoru Tsufura, Suki Terada Ports, Amb. and Consul General Shinichi Nishimiya, and Kuroda. **Bottom right L-R:** Kuroda, Nishimiya, and Yamaguchi. (U.S. Navy Photo by Lt. Cdr. Suzanna Brugler/Released).

