



Military Intelligence Service Veterans Club of Hawaii

Newsletter Vol. 22, No. 4 December 2015

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MIS VETERANS



President's Message

First, let me again thank Sherman Takao and his crew for organizing our Bonenkai in October at Natsunoya Tea House. Both current and new members—some of whom signed up that day—attended this annual event at which our slate of officers and directors were nominated to serve during the 2016-2017 term. They will be elected and installed during our Shinnenkai on January 24.

Next, I'd like to thank George Arine, his wife Hiroko-san, and their supporters for organizing our Christmas Party, held this year for the first time in the new wing of the Oahu Veterans Center, with very delicious food from Hiro's Island Catering ... more than enough for last-minute sign-ups.

During the Hawaii International Film Festival in November, a unique experience of MIS club member, Herbert Yanamura, was told in a short film, "The Surrender Call" and documentary, "The Herbert Yanamura Story." Both were produced by Stacey Hayashi and Alex Bocchieri and shown three times during the festival. Herbert was present at the premier for interviews. My wife and I saw the first one and watched Herbert chatting with Consul General of Japan and Mrs. Misawa before that screening. A well-deserved recognition for an outstanding member of our club!

Among the projects listed in the August issue of this newsletter was the Go for Broke National Education Center in Los Angeles. After the GFB-NEC board of directors and their Hawaii regional advisory council met in Honolulu on December 5 at the 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse, they invited representatives from most Japanese American veterans clubs in Honolulu to brief them on individual club missions and activities. I presented our club's report. We then received an update on the status of the GFBNEC interpretive exhibit still under construction and scheduled to open next May 28. They invited us to attend the grand opening ceremony. They also told us that the GFBNEC office has relocated from Torrance, into the former Nishi Hongwanji Mission where the GFBNEC exhibit is being constructed. Gwen Fujie is the recently appointed GFBNEC Hawaii regional director.

I would again like to thank all club members and supporters whose combined efforts and financial contributions made our 2015 National

MIS Reunion in March such a successful event. Our executive board will review the evaluation of our strategic plan prepared by club members Edgar Hamasu and Calvin Sumida, and will propose any changes we need to make, including further by-law amendments for approval by our membership next year.

Finally, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays as we move forward into a new year!

Aloha,
Lawrence Enomoto



Shinnenkai
Sunday,
January 24
Pomaikai
Ballroom
(Dole
Cannery)
See page 3



Photo by Annie Inouye

Herbert Yanamura Featured in Two Films

MIS member and World War II veteran Herbert Yanamura celebrated the November 16 premier of the short movie, "The Surrender Call," and its companion documentary, "The Herbert Yanamura Story," with members of the cast and crew at the Dole Cannery Theaters.

From left are: Adam Bryson, who plays Sergeant Stevens; Alexander Bocchieri, writer, director, and executive producer; Herbert; Stacey Hayashi, executive producer, producer, and director; Mina Kohara, who plays Hatsuko; and Michael Higgins, who plays Major Teague.

While serving with the language detachment of the 96th Infantry Division on Okinawa, Herbert's public address pleas saved the lives of more than 1,500 Okinawan civilians. "The Surrender Call" is a dramatization of that incident. The second film features Herbert's own words and his reunion with one of the people he saved.

Both films premiered at the 35th annual Hawaii International Film Festival. For more information, see < www.surrendercall.com/>.



Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr. (left), commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, led the unveiling of the war memorial monument, along with officers representing the various branches of the armed forces.

Blaisdell Center Now a War Memorial

The City and County of Honolulu had rededicated the Neal S. Blaisdell Center as a war memorial, restoring a designation that had been forgotten during the past half-century.

The ceremony was held on November 10, when a monument and plaque were unveiled.

The NBC, originally named the Honolulu International Center, was opened on September 2, 1964, as the City and County of Honolulu's War Memorial. However, over the years, a plaque designating the site was lost, as was the center's designation as a memorial.

It wasn't until Tanya Harrison, a former Hawaii resident, discovered this missing piece of history. She and a small grassroots group of veterans and veterans groups successfully lobbied the City and County of Honolulu and the result was the rededication of the site as a war memorial. Information on the effort is available at <http://blaisdellmemorialproject.org>.



Tanya Harrison, leader of the effort to restore the NBC's war memorial designation, and Lawrence Enomoto, MIS Veterans Club president, stand in front of the memorial plaque at the November 10 ceremony. The plaque is located on the Ward Avenue side of the NBC Concert Hall.

MIS Officers Nominated for 2016-2017 Term

Nominations have been completed for the officers and directors of the Military Intelligence Service Veterans Club of Hawaii, for the 2016–2017 period.

The election will be held at the annual Shinnenkai to be held January 24, 2016, at the Pomaikai Ballroom.

They are:

Officers

President: Lawrence Enomoto
 1st Vice President: George Arine
 2nd Vice President: Glen S. Arakaki
 Secretary: Karen Aoyama Kikukawa
 Treasurer: Gale Kumasaki Wilson
 Auditor: Harry Kawaoka

Directors (2016)

Gregg Hirata, Kenzo Kanemoto, Mark Y. Matsunaga, James Moy, David H. Sakai.

Directors (2017)

Annie Inouye, Yoshinobu Oshiro. Sherman Takao, Ted T. Tsukiyama.



SHINNENKAI 2016

YES, (OUNT ME IN

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone number(s) _____

E-mail _____

JOIN US!

MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii

SHINNENKAI 2016

Sunday, January 24
11:00 a.m.

Pomaikai Ballroom
at Dole Cannery

Cost
\$40 per person plus parking

RSVP by
January 10

Inquiries:
Lawrence Enomoto: phone 255-8971
E-mail: misveteranshawaii@gmail.com

Number
Attending:

X \$40 per person =

Total
Enclosed:

\$ _____

Make checks payable to:

MIS Veterans Club

Submit by:

January 10, 2016

Return this form to:

MIS Veterans Club

P.O. Box 3021

Honolulu, HI 96802



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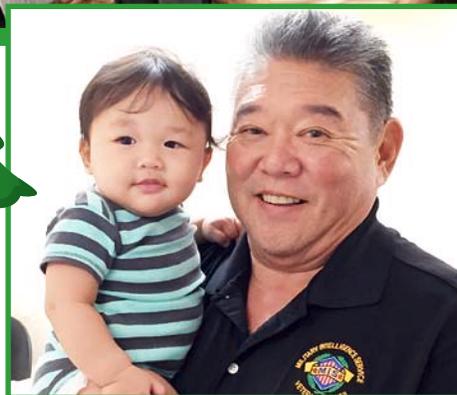


Some of the MIS veterans who attended gather for a photo.



Veterans and Families Celebrate the Holidays

Members of the MIS Veterans Club and their families celebrated Christmas at the annual club holiday party, held December 6 at the Oahu Veterans Center.



Neal Otani and his grandson were guests at the festivities. Neal is the owner of Y. Fukunaga Products and donated the apples and oranges for the Christmas party. His father, Harold, was an MIS veteran who began the tradition of donating fruit for the annual event.



George Arine (left) and Frank Takao lead the group in singing Christmas carols.