



Military
Intelligence
Service
Veterans Club
of Hawaii

Newsletter
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MIS VETERANS

Club Elects Officers

The members of the MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii have confirmed the officers and board members for 2017-2018. They are:

OFFICERS

President

George Arine

First Vice President

Sherman Takao

Second Vice President

Glen Arakaki

Secretary

Karen Kikukawa

Treasurer

Gale Wilson

Auditor

Harry Kawaoka

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James Moy (2017)

Gregg Hirata (2017)

Kenzo Kanemoto (2017)

Mark Matsunaga (2017)

Yoshinobu Oshiro (2018)

Annie Inouye (2018)

Robert Honke (2018)

President's Message

Two thousand seventeen is here, which makes it 10 years for me as a member of the MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii. In 2007, when I first joined, Glenn Masunaga was president. I became president in 2013, so this is the second time around for me.

A recap of 2016 MIS events and activities is as follows: Shinnenkai on January 24 at the Pomaikai Ballroom; placing floral bouquets on MIS gravesites and columbaria at Punchbowl and State Veterans Cemetery on May 28; Summer Pikunikku at the 100th Battalion Clubhouse on July 17 featuring Pam Rotner Sakamoto, author of *Midnight in Broad Daylight* about the life of MIS veteran Harry Fukuhara; Joint Memorial Service at Punchbowl on September 25; Bonenkai at Natsunoya on October 30 where the 2017 officers and directors were nominated; attendance at the Nisei Veterans Legacy exhibit at the airport's Interisland Terminal on October 21; and attendance at the opening of the MIS exhibit at the Maui Nisei Veterans Memorial Center on November 13.

The year culminated in many events to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack, with MIS veterans participating in the following: City Council ceremony on December 1 to recognize and thank Nisei veterans for their valor in World War II (Glen Arakaki attending); December 5 Convention Center luncheon for all Nisei World War II veterans; December 7 attendance at Pearl Harbor-Hickam Kilo Pier to commemorate the Pearl Harbor attack (George Arine and James Moy attending); December 8 Ford Island event co-sponsored by Navy Region Hawaii and Japanese Consulate to pay homage to the Japanese airmen and submariners who died in the Pearl Harbor attack in an effort to open a new chapter for reconciliation (George Arine attending); and December 8 historical event at the State Judiciary History Center to talk about MIS veteran Arthur Komori and his biography, *Reflections of Honor: The Untold Story of a Nisei Spy*, co-authored by Yoshinobu Oshiro.

As for 2017, what does the year hold for the MIS Veterans Club? We will continue with our traditional and planned events and activities. However, a major concern is to add new members in order to maintain the organization. More



Club President Arine with former President Lawrence Enomoto at the October Bonenkai. Enomoto was presented with a plaque acknowledging his exceptional service to the club.

sons and daughters need to step up to become members. I realize they still work, which makes it tough to attend our meetings held on the last Wednesday of the month at 12:30. Perhaps a Saturday afternoon meeting would be more suitable and accommodating, or even a change of venue to somewhere closer to town. Our sons and daughters, Mark, Karen, Gregg, Annie, Gale, and Sherman, have been the core of the club, but they need your assistance.

I thought about a garage sale for bonding purposes. I have a lot of stuff in my home that I would like to get rid of. As for memorabilia items, our club now has a storage locker so if you have MIS-related material in your home that you have no need for or wish to donate to the club, we would gladly accept them.

On another subject, our by-laws need to be amended and streamlined to keep up with current needs and priorities. One is to reduce the quorum from our current 10 to perhaps six or seven to conduct official business. Another is to have only one list of directors instead of being divided into one- or two-term directorships that appear confusing. Another is to eliminate the position of auditor and instead hire a CPA when a financial audit is necessary. There are other proposed amendments the board will deal with so we ask for your patience and support this year.

Last of all, have a Happy New Year!

George Arine

BELOW & ON PAGE 3, TEXTURE FROM THE SEA OFF SAITTA, SURUGA PROVINCE, BY UTAGAWA HIROSHIGE, CA. 1858.



Shinnenkai: Sunday, Feb. 26, Natsunoya Tea House
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Nisei Veterans Legacy exhibit at Honolulu International Airport.

Nisei Veterans Legacy Exhibit Opens at Honolulu International Airport



A Nisei Veterans Legacy exhibit was unveiled October 21 at the Honolulu International Airport's Inter-land Terminal.

The exhibit features historical photos and a timeline of Japanese in Hawaii from early immigration to the present, with an emphasis on the World War II period. MIS Veterans Club members participated

in the production of the exhibit, with the project headed by Wes Deguchi and Reid Omizu of the Nisei Veterans Legacy.

Attending the unveiling ceremony were MIS veterans of World War II, including former Governor George Ariyoshi and Herbert Yanamura. Club President George Arine and James Moy also participated, as did U.S. Senator Mazie Hirono, U.S. Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, Senate President Ron Kouchi, and Representative Gregg Takayama.

The Nisei Veterans Legacy was established to preserve and perpetuate the legacy of the four Japanese American military units of the Second World War: Military Intelligence Service, 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion. Information on the NVL is available at <nvlchawaii.org>.

Photo by Melanie Agrabante, Nisei Veterans Memorial Center



Maui MIS veterans (from left) Masao Motooka, Tom Yamada, and Harold Okumura with MIS Veterans Club President George Arine, who flew to Maui for the exhibit opening.

MIS Exhibit Opens on Maui

The Military Intelligence Service exhibit, now on display at the Army Museum of Hawaii, has opened at the Maui Nisei Veterans Memorial Center in Wailuku.

The Maui exhibit is a slightly scaled-down version of the original, entitled "MIS: America's Secret Weapon." The opening was held on November 13, with MIS Veterans Club President George Arine representing the organization. Also participating were Maui NVMC President Brian Moto, Executive Director Deidre Tegarden, and MIS veterans Tom Yamada, Harold Okumura, and Masao Motooka. Moto thanked the exhibit's creators—Mark Matsunaga, Gregg Hirata, and Harlan Yuhara—for their efforts in creating and reproducing the exhibit for Maui.

More than 200 Mauians served in the MIS during World War II and Maui NVMC staffers Kyle Watanabe and Melanie Agrabante were instrumental in researching their names and some of their life histories.

The exhibit will be displayed weekdays, from noon to 4:00 p.m., until January 31.



Incoming Officers of the MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii

Front row (from left): Sherman Takao, Annie Inouye, Kenzo Kanemoto, and Robert Honke. Back row: Yoshinobu Oshiro, Glen Arakaki, James Moy, George Arine, Karen Kikukawa, and Mark Matsunaga.



Veterans from the four Nisei units of World War II posed for a souvenir photograph at the December 5 luncheon in their honor.

Photo courtesy Terry Takaki.

AJA Veterans Saluted at Pearl Harbor Commemoration

Hawaii's Nisei veterans of the Military Intelligence Service, 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion were honored at a December 5 luncheon held to commemorate the Japanese attack that began World War II.

It was one of many events scheduled by the 75th Commemoration of Pearl Harbor committee. The luncheon, entitled "Fighting Two Wars: Japanese American Veterans Tribute," was held at the Convention Center.

Sixty World War II veterans attended, many of them representing the MIS.

Keynote speaker was Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr., commander of U.S. military forces in the Pacific, who said, "The Nisei warriors literally shaped our military and our nation.

They're all heroes in my book. They're heroes in any book. So I'm honored to participate in this tribute to Japanese American World War II veterans.

"Everything my father and uncles went through, the Nisei warriors went through, and more—they also had to deal with discrimination, distrust, and outright hostility from the same country they were defending with their lives. From our country—yours and mine.

"So it's no exaggeration to say that I stand on the shoulders of giants. For me to be a Japanese-American four-star admiral in command of all joint forces across the Indo-Asia-Pacific, well, it's because of these Nisei trailblazers."

Admiral Harris recounted the heroism of several Nisei veterans and then saluted an MIS veteran in attendance:

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Shinnenkai 2017
 Sunday, February 26
 11:00 a.m.
 Natsunoya Tea House
 RSVP by February 10

Inquiries: George Arine, (808) 456-2615
 E-mail: misveteranshawaii@gmail.com

Make checks payable to: MIS Veterans Club

Submit by: February 10, 2017

Return this form & payment to:

MIS Veterans Club
 P.O. Box 3021
 Honolulu, HI 96802

Donations and gift cards welcome

Door prizes to be awarded to active MIS Club members only

YES, COUNT ME IN! Shinnenkai 2017

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone number(s) _____

E-mail _____

PLEASE COMPLETE:

Age	Cost Per Person		Number Attending	=	Total Cost
5 years & under:	No Charge	x		=	\$ 00.00
6-12 years:	\$15.00	x		=	\$
All others:	\$25.00	x		=	\$
TOTAL AMT. DUE					\$



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Your MIS Membership Status

We are providing your MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii membership status in the box above.

Your membership dues help the club publish this newsletter, maintain our website, and organize our various activities, including the Shinnenkai, Bonenkai, and other events.

If you haven't paid your annual dues, please send a check for \$20.00, made payable to "MIS Veterans Club" to us at:

MIS Veterans Club
 P.O. Box 3021
 Honolulu, HI 96802

Questions:
 misveteranshawaii@gmail.com

AJA Veterans Saluted at Pearl Harbor Commemoration

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"And then there's Norman Kikuta from Maui who was declared physically unfit for ROTC at the University of Hawaii. The 442nd also rejected him, so he volunteered and was accepted into the MIS. It turns out that Norman was fit enough to complete parachute training and then deploy to the Philippines with the 11th Airborne. He was fit enough to make the division's combat jump at Tagaytay Ridge. He was fit enough to participate in the liberation of Manila. In fact, he was so fit, he's here with us today. Please raise your hand, Norman—folks, how about a round of applause for this American hero."

"I'm certain there are more stories in this audience of American heroes today that deserve our applause, stories of patriotism and courage in the face of adversity. And there was a lot of adversity. So let me be candid here. Our country hasn't always dealt minorities and immigrants a fair shake, even those who are American citizens. That said, the many cultures resident in the American experience share a common underpinning of honor, pride, and perseverance that has added immeasurably to our strength as a nation," he said.

"The Nisei warriors—before they were veterans, when they were still young men and women—volunteered to fight for their country, to wear the cloth of our nation, despite our nation's bigotry and

prejudice. They were tested at home and in combat on battlefields from Europe to the Pacific. At home, through their deeds and examples, the Nisei veterans continued the fight, this time against the injustice of discrimination. Thanks in part to their efforts, today, our nation and our military embrace diversity—and we are stronger for it."

He concluded, "The banner of freedom advances in our world only when brave souls take it up. That's what the Nisei did. For those of us who stand the watch today, we'll continue to follow in your wake. We won't let you down."

Nisei Veterans Legacy Annual Fundraiser

Thursday, March 2, 5:30 p.m.
 Pomaikai Ballrooms at Dole Cannery
 \$75.00 per person

Nisei veterans free

Heavy pupu; silent auction

For details: nvlchawaii.org

Questions/RSVP:
jokubo@nvlchawaii.org

Payments to:
 Nisei Veterans Legacy Center
 P.O. Box 2476, Honolulu, HI 96804