



1942

1962

20th Anniversary Reunion

M I S
HAWAII

Veterans of Military Intelligence Service

Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2, 1962

Honolulu, Hawaii

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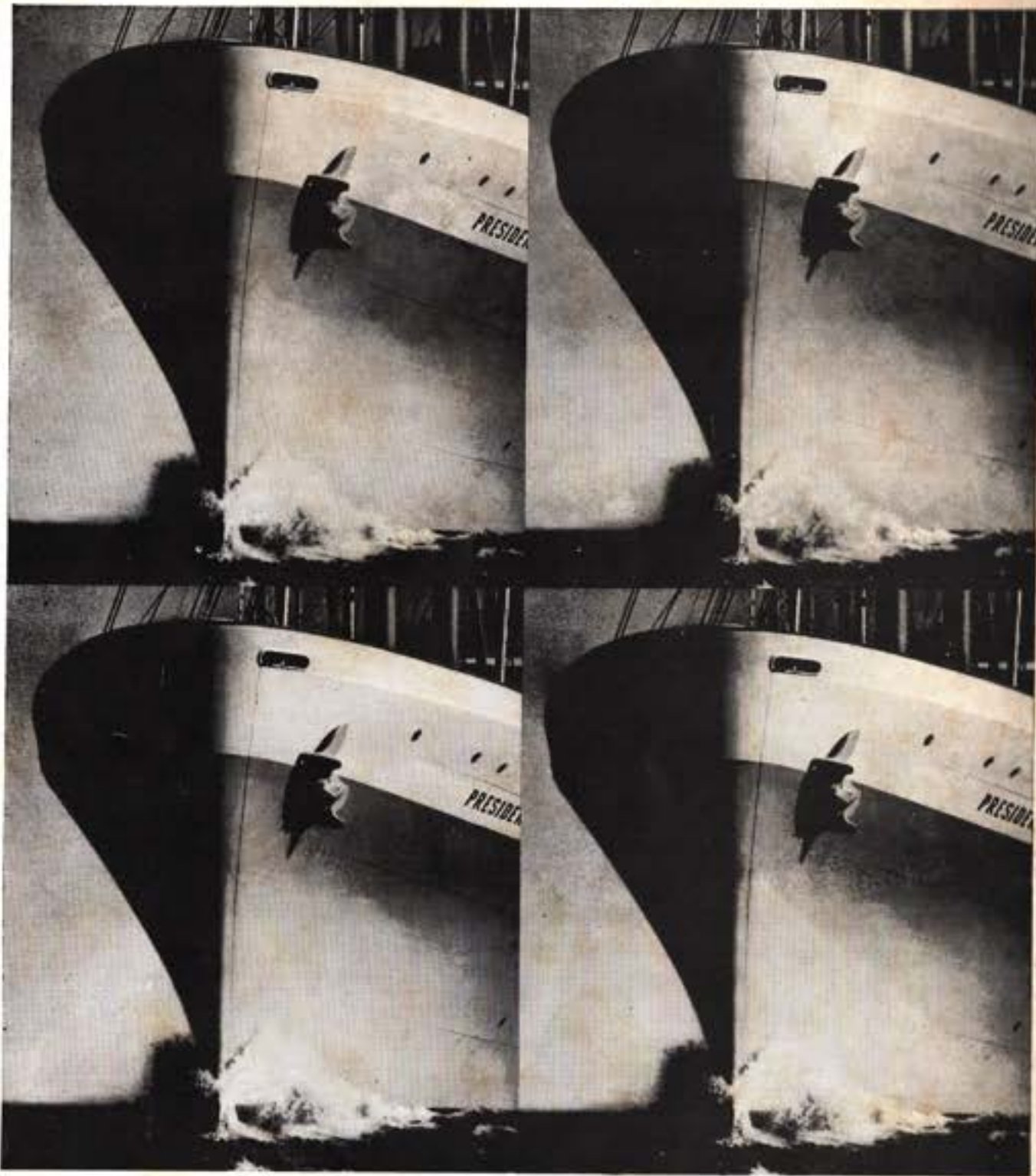
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Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2, 1962

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JOHN F. KENNEDY
 President of the
 United States of America

THE WHITE HOUSE
 WASHINGTON
 July 2, 1962

AIRMAIL

Dear Mr. Shigeta:

Thank you for your letter to the President concerning the 20th anniversary celebration of the Military Intelligence Service Veterans' organization of Hawaii which is scheduled for August 31 through September 2.

Although the President cannot personally send the message you request, may I convey his greetings to all those who will be gathering for this significant anniversary. Your organization is unique among veterans groups. The unheralded but vitally important service you rendered to our country during World War II demonstrates deep devotion to our cherished free concept of life. You have President Kennedy's best wishes for a most enjoyable and rewarding convention.

Sincerely,

Ralph A. Dungan
 Ralph A. Dungan
 Special Assistant
 to the President

Mr. James Y. Shigeta
 President
 Military Intelligence Service Veterans
 1555 Wilhelmina Rise
 Honolulu 16, Hawaii

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 JOHN F. AISO, JUDGE
 (PERSONAL)

July 16, 1962

Dear M.I.S. Veterans of Hawaii:

My heart was warmed with your offer of hospitality at your 20th Reunion. I am very chagrined that circumstances prevent my personal attendance. May it be an occasion when old friendships are renewed, fond memories revived, and rededication to the ideals and dreams of our trying war days experienced anew!

Until the Nisei (both in uniform and in civilian governmental capacities) had demonstrated to the contrary during World War II, it was the unfortunate and erroneous consensus of opinion in both high and low American official circles that Americans of Japanese Ancestry even though native born and educated in American Schools were not assimilable and inherently treacherous.

"Pearl Harbor" put the issue squarely on the line. For the Nisei who had not considered open war between the United States and Japan a realistic possibility, the hour of decision had come. And yet the basic issue was simple: Is a freedom loving person of Japanese ancestry who seeks freedom and freedom's blessing for himself and his children in America basically different from those of European ancestry? Is his belief in and devotion to American ideals and institutions stronger than the accident of blood ties? Put in these simple terms, there was but one answer. We were part and parcel of a new test as to whether our nation "conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal can long endure."

The decision to volunteer for the Military Intelligence Service was one made only with pure intellectual honesty and strength of moral character. Surely there was no greater proof of loyalty than to take an active part in waging war directly against Japan. The American military intelligence was sadly lacking both in quality and quantity in that *sine qua non* of all intelligence activity, namely, knowledge of how the enemy's mind works and how that mind is recorded in the symbolism of language. Here then was the most critical and sensitive area, but here also was where the most valuable contribution to war effort could be made. Those best qualified were also those who felt most strongly the tugs of blood and sentimental ties with relatives and close friends in Japan. The decision was made without fanfare, but in quiet prayer that somehow Almighty God would guide us in making the proper choice.

Decision once reached, however, was not so easy to carry out...The work of the MIS boys took them to all theatres of operations, but our work especially in the Pacific Theatre was carried out in guarded secrecy. Our MIS buddies performed feats of gallantry equal to that of Sergeant York in World War I, but no public announcements were made; publicity renders ineffective intelligence operations. To this day no widespread public official recognition of the role of the Nisei in the Pacific War and in the post-war occupation of Japan has been made.

Ours is the satisfaction, however, of knowing at least in our own hearts that we too carried a major load in demonstrating the loyalty of Americans of Japanese ancestry for all time to come and removing the stigma of second class citizenship from our children and their posterity. Our contribution to national defense is the Army Language School (located at the Presidio of Monterey) which is just as vital as nuclear weapons in preserving the peace in these "cold war" days. We too with our tears, sweat, and blood helped lay the foundations of post-war American-Japanese amity with a new democratic Japan.

Finally, I would be remiss if I failed to add my words of sincere gratitude to you MIS Veterans from Hawaii. I am indebted to each of you for the full measure of devotion to duty and for your cooperation extended to me during my tenure as your Director of Academic Training. Many of you reported to Camp Savage or Fort Snelling as my seniors in age, highly educated and cultured, and better experienced from having held positions of greater responsibility in civilian life. Yet you so graciously and willingly played the role of loyal, diligent, and obedient subordinates, realizing no doubt in your maturity that the gravity of the calumny so viciously hurled against us left no room for the luxury of petty inter-necine squabbles as to the relative temporary ranks and ratings that prevailed only by the "accidents of war." I was impressed to learn that in at least two cases, father and son were reporting for duty together from Hawaii. In the more calm judgment of hindsight reflection, I realize now that my personal immaturity and the restrictions of the military framework forced upon me by my superiors left much to be desired in the area of your personal comfort and welfare.

Watching you develop in stature as you have assumed and discharged the responsibilities and trust of high office in our new State with honor, brings immeasurable vicarious pleasure and satisfaction. May the mellow-ness of your later years bring you added understanding of life and bring new joys and satisfactions as you continue translating high ideals into reality so that our children and their children may better secure the blessings of liberty for which our Nation stands.

Sincerely yours,

 - John F. Aiso

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COL. RASMUSSEN

HISTORY OF MISLS

The founding of the Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) was not an accident or of expediency. It was conceived with a purpose months prior to December 7, 1941.

Considering the strained relations between Japan and the United States, a small group of officers with a previous tour of duty in Japan, recognized the need for an intelligence unit to combat the difficulties which would occur if hostilities with Japan should come about. This group of officers was headed by Brigadier General John Weckerling and Colonel Kai E. Rasmussen. Japan's war strategy and orders would be in a foreign tongue; consequently someone had to do the work of intelligence who knew the Japanese language.

A nucleus for a school was established under the strictest military secrecy. It was then that the decision was made to use Nisei to solve the linguistic problems. It was admittedly a gamble for the United States, for many believed then that the Nisei could not be trusted to stand the acid test against their own race and blood. As a result, the mustering of "loyal Nisei qualified in the Japanese language" became extremely difficult. In the process of this careful screening, Mr. John F. Aiso who became the director of academic training at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling, was discovered. Then on November 1, 1941, the Fourth Army Intelligence School was opened with 60 students at the Presidio in California.

Battle experience proved that Intelligence Corps men were essential, and the War Department fully acknowledged the importance and the need of a Military Intelligence School. It was then that the War Department decided to place the school under its jurisdiction. The first official MISLS class began on June 1, 1942 with 200 men at Camp Savage, Minnesota.

The third class opened in the summer of 1943, when a large contingent of Hawaiian Nisei volunteers enrolled. This third class was also the first to contain a separate officer candidates class of 35 Caucasians with previous background in Japanese. Twenty-four members of the third class were sent to Fort Benning for paratroop training and later assigned to field units as airborne interpreters.

The fourth and last Savage class begun in January 1944 brought the school to peak size while in Savage: 52 academic sections, with 27 civilian and 65 enlisted instructors.

By the fall of 1944, the MISLS was an established service school which had turned out some 1,600 enlisted graduates, 142 officer candidates and 53 officers. The school found a new home in historic Fort Snelling, Minnesota. The first graduation at Fort Snelling, and the ninth of the school was held in November 1944 with 382 Nisei and 11 Americans of Chinese ancestry receiving diplomas. The Chinese Division was organized in February 1945 and placed under the Training School for administrative purposes. In June 1945, the WAC sections were activated. In October 1945, a Korean language school was initiated with Lt. Calvin Kim in charge.

In October 1945, MISLS had reached its peak enrollment of 1,836 students in 103 sections.

The closing chapter of Fort Snelling was highlighted with the graduation of 307 students at the 21st commencement in the School's history. The MISLS had by then graduated some 6,000 men.

Graduates of the school have been placed in approximately 130 different Army and Navy units, with the Marine Corps, and have been loaned to our Allies. They were attached to the Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific Ocean Area with headquarters in Hawaii. Teams of at least 10 linguists were selected for each of the headquarters of more than a score of infantry divisions in the Pacific.

Other language teams were assigned to the Joint Intelligence Collecting Agency which later combined with British Intelligence to form the South East Asia Translator and Interrogator Center with headquarters in New Delhi. Teams were assigned to Merrill's Marauders, Mac's Task Force, Far Eastern Air Forces and the China-Burma-India theater. During the Attu and Kiska

Continued on Page 5

HISTORY OF MISLS Continued from Page 4

campaigns in Alaska, nearly 50 M.I.S. graduates were working out of the Advance Alaskan Department which had its headquarters in Adak.

Graduates of the MISLS translated the entire Japanese battle plans for the naval battle of the Philippines. These language specialists, working selflessly and in complete anonymity, cared for little but to execute their duties to the maximum. They translated from Japanese to English the enemy information concerning tactical decisions and dispositions. Never before in history did one Army know so much concerning its enemy prior to actual engagement as did the American army during most of the Pacific campaign.

Guadalcanal, Buna, New Georgia, Myitkyina, Attu, Munda, Peleliu, Tarawa, Iwo Jima, Leyte, Okinawa, to mention just a few, are some of the places which the men will long remember. And they will long remember the combat intelligence men who lie where they fell—not in a confined cemetery—but in the steaming jungles and on the sandy beaches far from home.

The men worked at war crimes trials as translators and interrogators. They gathered vital statistics for the Atomic Bomb Survey conducted by the Morale Division of the U. S. Army. In the Civil Affairs Branch, their work was indispensable. Psychologically, their presence as an example of a product of a democracy, has contributed much to aid in the huge job of demoralizing Japan.

The indispensability of the linguists cannot be summarized in a few paragraphs. It can well be said that without the participation of these men, the U. S. forces would have battled against greater odds. Information and knowledge of the enemy obtained by these men cannot be measured in words but by the weight of victory itself.

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WILLIAM F. QUINN
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

July 16, 1962

MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR WILLIAM F. QUINN
TO THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE VETERANS

The defense of our country requires the service of men and women of courage. In addition it often requires the efforts of individuals who must work quietly and without official recognition for their patriotism.

Many of Hawaii's sons performed such a service for their country. As soldiers in the Military Intelligence Service, they worked under a cloak of security, performing duties which required the highest degree of integrity, adaptability, and discretion.

So, as the veterans of this service gather to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the organization of the first "Interpreters" group, I wish to extend on behalf of the people of Hawaii a very warm Aloha, and to add my own personal best wishes for a rewarding and enjoyable reunion.

WILLIAM F. QUINN
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



NEAL S. BLAISDELL
MAYOR



CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
HONOLULU 13, HAWAII

August 31, 1962

Military Intelligence Service Veterans
P. O. Box 3021
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Friends:

I want to convey my best wishes, on behalf of the City and County of Honolulu, for the success of the first convention of the Hawaii Military Intelligence Service Veterans organization.

Honolulu is proud to be host to the M.I.S. Veterans chapters on all the islands, whose members represent one of the most important contributions Hawaii made to victory in World War II.

Sincerely,

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Mayor
City and County of Honolulu

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M. I. S. VETERANS

Veterans of Military Intelligence Service



P. O. Box 3021
Honolulu, Hawaii
August 31, 1962

Fellow Veterans and Friends:

Aloha and welcome to the 20th Anniversary Reunion of the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veterans.

The establishment of the U. S. MIS School in November 1941 in California marked the beginning of filling the need for personnel specially trained in the Japanese language. December 7, 1941 accelerated the language program.

It was not until 1943 when the first Hawaii group of interpreters left Hawaii for Camp Savage, Minnesota. We called the school Yaban Daigaku because of its location. This was the beginning of military life for many of us. This was where friendship and loyalty took root. From Camp Savage, we were sent to the far corners of the world. Others were trained in Fort Snelling and at the Presidio in California, while others went directly overseas.

After two decades we are gathering together to renew the bonds of friendship. At the same time we want to show gratitude to the U. S. government for recognizing the Nisei as an integral element of national defense. We are here to rededicate our faith in our country and to renew our determination to serve our country.

We want you to spend these days reliving some of your experiences, but we want you to have fun also, at the 20th Anniversary MIS Reunion.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Y. Shigeta".

James Y. Shigeta
President

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TO THE DELEGATES:

Welcome to the 20th Anniversary Reunion of the M.I.S. Veterans.

Twenty years ago, 1942 was the darkest year for us, the A.J.A. In my attempt to write this message, I have sat for hours before my desk re-living the grim year of '42. Personally, I was on the mainland, trying every possible avenue that might return me to Hawaii while enduring every insult caused by racial prejudice and suppressing burning anger and resentment. "Nothing", I thought "could atone for what I had gone through."

Though practically all Nisei were imbued with real sense of devotion to the United States, they were treated as 5th Column suspects because the Authorities had no way of making discriminating selections of the loyals from the disloyals.

As the 100th and the 442nd fought with unequalled bravery in arms to prove their loyalty, we fought with "knowledge". Instead of killing, our linguists helped to save unknown numbers of American lives and that of the enemys' by the application of the knowledge in making spot translations of captured documents, interrogations of the prisoners of war, and by psychological approach to the Japanese soldiers.

It goes without saying that our knowledge of the language was put into full use after VJ Day and throughout the occupation of Japan.

All these years, our activities have been unheralded and kept highly confidential. Now they could be told.

Today we are the best qualified to link the East and the West. That should be our Mission. Let us take this opportunity to organize ourselves into a stronger and greater group and carry on with the Mission.

Wish you the happiest Reunion.



Nancy Nakamura
General Chairman

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Front row: Left to right—Kiyoshi Yoshimura, Yoshimi Hayashi, James Shigeta, Mark Murakami, Satoru Ochi, Russell Kono, Christian Nakama. Back row: Yoshio Hanao, Sam Yuuki, Yasuto Ishima, William T. Takabayashi, Frank Mizuno, Harold Otani, Wilfred Mita, Herbert Masunaga, Robert Honke, Larry Igarashi.

M.I.S. Veterans 20th Anniversary Reunion Steering Committee

GENERAL CHAIRMAN	Mark Murakami	FINANCE	Satoru Ochi, Don Okubo
SOUVENIR BOOK	Kenji Goto, Yoshio Hanao, Herbert Masunaga, James Shigeta, Sam Yuuki	LEGAL AFFAIRS	Yoshimi Hayashi, Russell Kono
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Aloha & Best Wishes

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He came to be represented as a stubby statue clad in a loose coat covering him completely except for his face. "Okiagari-koboshi" or tumbling doll has a weighted base so that like the original priest he recovers from all the blows of sorrow and adversity and remains forever upright. The doll today is called Daruma in Japan and in Hawaii.

The eyes of Daruma have no iris. When good luck and success visit you and yours, an iris is painted in the blank eye. "Me" (eye in Japanese also means bud or sprout) "Megaderu" (to bud or have eyes) means to be lucky or prosperous. Our Daruma, as you see, has two very big black eyes.

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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE VETERANS OF OAHU

When World War II in the Pacific ended in August, 1945 with the surrender of Japan, the men of Japanese ancestry who served in the Army Intelligence Service as language specialists began to return. Upon their return to Hawaii, linguist veterans like Masaji Marumoto, Walter Mihata, Yoshio Hanao, Tadao Ito, Dan Nishimura, Warren Sakuma and Kiyoshi Yoshimura met at the Nuuanu YMCA to organize a veterans club. In June, 1946 the Military Intelligence Service Linguist Associates was formed. Masaji Marumoto was its first president. The name of the club was later changed to Military Intelligence Service Veterans.

The aims of the organization are (1) to maintain fellowship among the M.I.S. veterans and their families and provide mutual assistance and (2) to participate in community service. A stag "bonenkai" for members, and a summer picnic and a Christmas party for the families are held annually. A blood reserve is maintained for the members and their families.

Among the public service projects, the organization participated in the following activities: (1) donations to Kuakini Hospital Building Fund in 1952 and 1960; (2) donations to Kuakini Home for Aged Men; (3) participation in American Red Cross fund drive and Oahu AJA Veterans Council's War Orphan Scholarship Christmas card sale; and (4) sending Robert Kimura as M.I.S. representative to the statehood hearings held in Washington, D.C. in 1954.



JAMES SHIGETA
President



YOSHIMI HAYASHI
First Vice President



ROBERT TAKANE
Second Vice President



HERBERT MASUNAGA
Secretary



SATORU OUCHI
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KIYOSHI YOSHIMURA
Executive Secretary

PAST PRESIDENTS



Masaji Marumoto
1946-1947



Yoshio Hanao
1949



George Hironaka
1950



Mark Murakami
1951



Toma Tasaki
1952



Charles H. Kimura
1953



Kenji Goto
1954



Dan Nishimura
1955



Robert Kimura
1956



James Shigeta
1957 & 1961

A year's scholarship was granted to Richard Carlson, a Minneapolis student, at University of Hawaii in 1952-53 in appreciation for the kind treatment received by our men while stationed at M.I.S.L.S. from the people of Minnesota. It was called "Gift to Minnesota" project.

In 1954, the club sponsored a Bon Odori to raise funds for the Kiyosaki Educational Experiment Project (KEEP), a "grassroot" rural rehabilitation program in Japan spear-headed by Dr. Paul Rusch, a former officer at the M.I.S.L.S.

In June 1962, the wives of the members organized an auxiliary for the purpose of assisting their husbands in the reunion. The officers are as follows:

- PRESIDENT MRS. JAMES SHIGETA
- VICE PRESIDENT MRS. DAN NISHIMURA
- SECRETARY MRS. LARRY IGARASHI
- TREASURER MRS. SPARK MATSUNAGA
- ADVISER MRS. MASAJI MARUMOTO



Norman Kikuta
1958



Arthur Komori
1959



Christian Nakama
1960

Warren Gima
(no picture)
1947-1948



First Row: Left to Right—Mrs. James Shigeta, Mrs. Herbert Mesunaga, Mrs. Yoshio Hano, Mrs. Yasuto Ishima.
Second Row: Left to Right—Mrs. Robert Honke, Mrs. Mark Murakami (Reunion Chairman Auxiliary), Mrs. Dan Nishimura, Mrs. Frank Mizuno.
Third Row: Left to Right—Mrs. Lawrence Igarashi, Mrs. Spark Matsunaga, Mrs. Harold Ohtani.

Congratulations to M.I.S. Veterans

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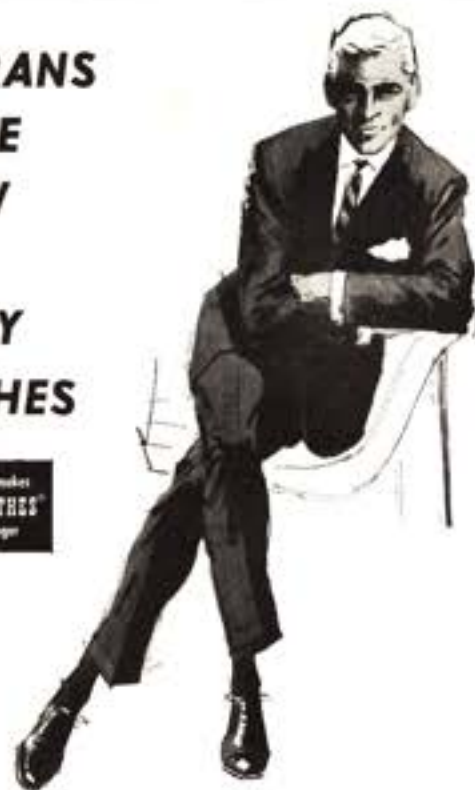
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HILO INTERPRETERS CLUB

History



The camaraderie and mutual interests developed in military intelligence service stirred desires among the returning linguists to perpetuate this wartime association. Thus, in 1947 the M.I.S. veterans in Hilo and neighboring towns sought each other out and made plans to organize. Among those who initiated this movement were Angel Hirano, Yukiwo Taniguchi, the late Charles Akiyama, Toma Tasaki, Akio Hoshide, Masao Koga, Earl Suyama, Shiro Sakaki, Yoshiaki Shimizu, Masanori Ban, Hisao Kotake, and Herbert Y. Miyasaki.

While waiting the return of more M.I.S. veterans, this group met periodically for socials.

In 1950 the club was formally organized with Yuki Ebesugawa elected as president. The club was incorporated in 1955.

The objects and purposes of the Hilo Interpreters Club are as follows: (a) To foster the fellowship and welfare of members, and perpetuate the spirit of devotion to the United States; (b) To work for the preservation of racial harmony and civic unity in the community; (c) To work for the application of the fundamental values of American Democracy; (d) To

carry on activities and educational program that will bring about better appreciation of American Democracy by citizens and non-citizens; (e) To cooperate and assist other groups and organizations in winning and keeping a durable and lasting peace for which our comrades died; (f) To provide general assistance to needy orphans and families of veterans; (g) To honor the deeds of our fallen comrades by the observance of special memorial days and by giving guidance and assistance to those nearest of kin remaining in the community.

Consonant with these objectives the club annually participates in numerous public celebrations and commemorative events. The most prominent of such activities has been the Independence Day program. In conjunction with the ceremony, the club has sponsored the O-Bon Service, and climaxed the event with elaborate displays of fireworks. The preparation and the execution for this display have been done so ingeniously and proficiently by the members that the Independence Day fireworks has been one of the primary attractions on the island of Hawaii. It is eagerly awaited for every year by the public.

Club members have been called upon to do special services that require the skill of bi-lingual understanding. For instance, the Club assisted willingly in the naturalization and registration proceeding that came about as a result of the passing of the Immigration and Naturalization Act. The club also recognized the problems of the war brides that came from



Left to right: Haruo Taketa, Treasurer; Seiji Aoyagi, President; Teruo Taketa, Secretary; Shigeyoshi Shindo, Director; Orion Yoshimura, Advisor; Masachi Soga, Director; and Tokuyoshi Yoshizawa, Auditor. Other officers not in picture are, Shizuo Murashige, Vice President; Terumi Furukawa and Roy Yoshioka, Directors; and Charles Koizumi, Auditor.

Japan. Consequently, they organized for them the Japanese War Brides Club (Sumire Kai) as an auxiliary of the club. Another was the service rendered for the Hilo community when the Japanese Training ship visited Hilo. Assisting the County Geriatrics Center (Olaa Old Folks Home) was another project.

Social activities round out the year's activities. The talk of the town, of course, is the annual Shinnen-Enkai (New Year's Party), when the membership abandons all cares in an all-out merriment.

The annual bowling tournament during Thanksgiving holidays for the turkey prizes, Christmas parties and picnics for the children, are other regularly scheduled events.

The Hilo Interpreters Club has experienced many fruitful and satisfying results through active community participation. However, a broader and more constructive participation is envisioned, particularly through and with the joint efforts of other veterans clubs in Hilo. Progress in this direction has been made with the formation of the AJA Veterans Council. It consists of the 442nd Club, the Club 100 and the Hilo Interpreters. Jointly they propose to undertake bigger and better projects. The Hilo Interpreters Club proposes to fulfill the objectives and purposes to this end.

ALOHA & BEST WISHES



**M.I.S. VETERANS CLUB
OF KAUAI**

M.I.S. VETERANS CLUB OF KAUAI

The Military Intelligence Service Veterans Club of Kauai was organized on February 23, 1959. Prior to that date the Veterans, as an informal group, held social dinner meetings in east and west Kauai mainly to keep alive the interest of eventual organization.

Spear-heading the group was Benjamin M. Tashiro, one of the volunteers who enlisted in the linguistics service from the island of Kauai in 1943. He served as a Japanese language instructor at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling, Minnesota, and presently a judge of the Fifth Circuit Court on Kauai.

On February 23, 1959 the club's constitution and bylaws were adopted. Officers elected were: Benjamin M. Tashiro, president; Kazuichi Hirano, vice president; Toshiharu Yama, secretary; Richard Suzui, treasurer; Terumi Akama, Takeo Yoneji, Robert Oda, Toshio Ishida, Hajime Takanishi and Chisei Oyasato, councilmen.

The club take part in numerous civic and community events, but perhaps the most outstanding contribution to the community is their wholehearted and active participation in the Memorial Day Services that are held annually at the Kauai Veterans Cemetery.

Membership of the club consists of veterans who have distinguished themselves during the war. Perhaps one of the best known is Arthur Komori, who as member of counter intelligence service, displayed remarkable skills in linguistics, and knowledge of human nature. When the war broke out he was one of the many stranded in Manila. Later under General Douglas MacArthur's command, he was evacuated from Corregidor.

Others in this club who, as General C. A. Willoughby praised as being the "eyes and ears of our Allied Pacific Forces," and serving prominently in Kauai are Robert Oda, with the Aloha Airlines; Terumi Akama, Theo. H. Davies Company; Chisei Oyasato, shift engineer for the Koloa Sugar Company; Ichiro Shimada, Waimea Garage; Takeo Yoneji, realtor; Kunio Fujimura, county auditor's office and Toshiharu Yama, State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Others are in business: Tooru Kawakami, Norman Hashisaka, Warren Tanaka, Masao Nonaka, Hajime Takanishi and Jiro Yukimura. Richard Suzui and Kazuichi Hirano are with the State Department of Education.

Ben Hiroshi Hirano is a dentist; Norito Kawakimi district court magistrate; James Marugame with the Kauai Publishing Company; while George Senda is photographer. Shiro Nishimura is a farmer and Toshio Ishida, supervisor for the McBryde Sugar Company.

Kazuyoshi Inouye was killed in action on Okinawa in 1945. He attended the language school at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling. Later he was attached to the Allied Translator and Interrogators Service in Manila. He is posthumous honorary member of the club.

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- FRIDAY, AUGUST 31 4:00 p.m. Registration—Hilton Hawaiian Village
Evening—Informal Get-Together
- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 8:00 a.m. Registration Continues—Hilton Hawaiian Village
10:00 a.m. Caucus of all island representatives—Carousel Room—Hilton Hawaiian Village
11:00 a.m. Opening Assembly-Luncheon—Tapa Room
Mark Murakami, Chairman, Reunion Committee, presiding
Invocation—The Reverend Hiro Higuchi
Welcome Remarks:
James Y. Shigeta, Oahu M.I.S. Representative
The Honorable William F. Quinn, Governor
The Honorable Neal S. Blaisdell, Mayor
Yoshito Tanaka, Hawaii M.I.S. Representative
Arthur Komori, Kauai M.I.S. Representative
2:00 p.m. Shopping for women—M.I.S. Auxiliary in charge
Bowling—William T. Takabayashi in charge
6:00 p.m. Relaxer at Kanraku—Russell Kono in charge
Kenji Goto, Master of Ceremonies
Speaker: George Chaplin, Editor, The Honolulu Advertiser
- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 9:30 a.m. Pickup for Memorial Service
10:00 a.m. Memorial Service at the National Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl—Toma Tasaki in charge
Benjamin M. Tashiro, Master of Ceremonies
Invocation: The Reverend Hiro Higuchi
Address: The Reverend Kenneth O. Rewick, Chaplain, Punahou School
Benediction: The Reverend Yoshiaki Fujitani
12:00 noon Family Picnic—Kapiolani Park, Waikiki
Kenneth Kihara and Larry Igarashi in charge
Luncheon and the Hui Manaolana Japanese Fashion Revue at the Royal Hawaiian
6:00 p.m. Banquet—Chinese Dinner at the Hilton Hawaiian Dome
Harold Otani in charge
Masaji Marumoto, Master of Ceremonies
Speaker: Col. Kai E. Rasmussen, former Commandant of the Military Intelligence Service Language School, U. S. Army

ALOHA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The various island organizations that represent the M.I.S. veterans of the World War II appreciate the moral and financial support given to us on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary Reunion. We trust that the public support these firms and individuals who continually come to the aid of groups such as ours.

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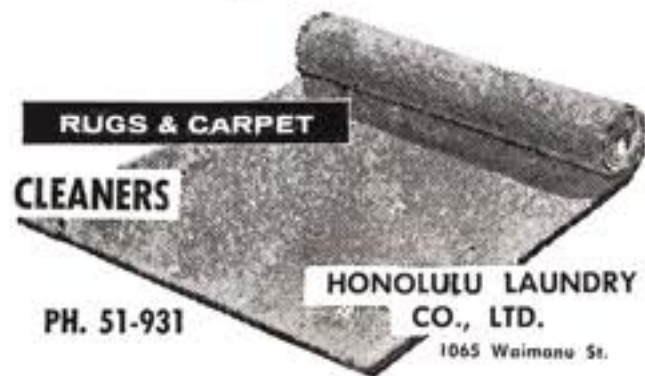
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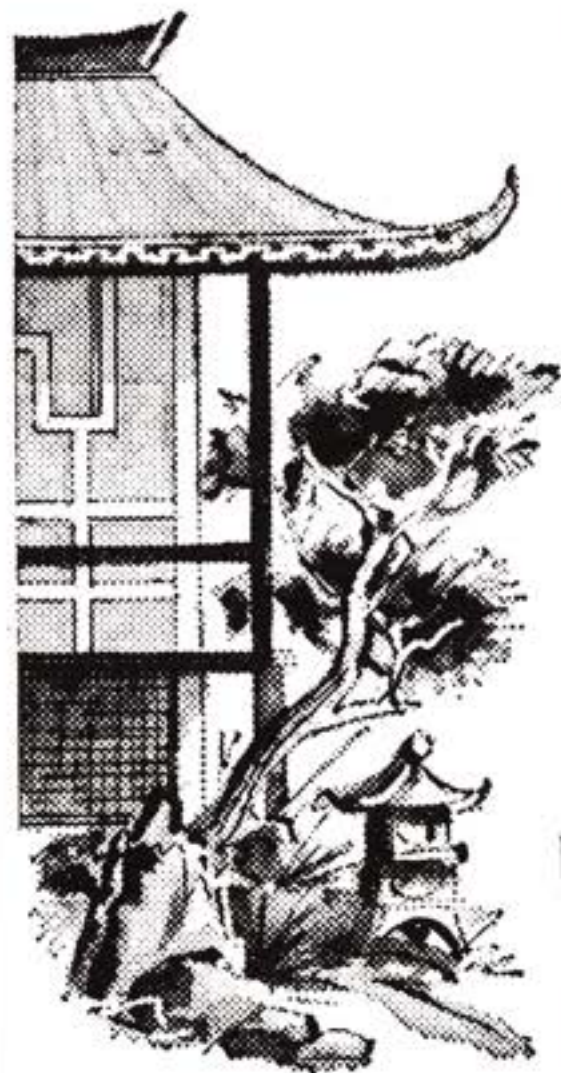
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Thou hast been the refuge and strength, in all generations, of those who put their trust in Thee. May it please Thee this day to draw to Thyself the hearts of those who struggle and endure to the uttermost. Have mercy on them and suffer not their faith in Thee to fail. Guide and protect them by Thy light and strength that they may be kept from evil.

O righteous and omnipotent God, who in their tragedies and conflicts, judges the hearts of men and the purposes of nations, enter into this struggle with Thy transforming power, that out of its anguish there may come a victory of righteousness. May there arise a new order which shall endure because in it Thy will shall be done in earth as it is in heaven.

Forgive us and cleanse us, as well as those who strive against us, That we may be fit instruments of Thy purposes.

Unto Thy most gracious keeping we commend our loved ones and ourselves, ascribing unto Thee all praise and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



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Secret Contribution to U.S. War Effort

The role of Hawaii's Nisei in World War II is chiefly a record of heroic infantrymen who fought and died in Italy and France. But secret work of immense value to the war effort was carried out by Americans of Japanese ancestry in the Pacific . . . Honolulu Star Bulletin, June 15, 1961.

Arthur S. Komori of Lihue, Kauai, now an attorney on Kauai, is only one of the six agents out of an original group of 30 who lived through the Philippines campaign. The other is Richard M. Sakakida, Office of Strategic Investigation, U.S. Air Force, Tokyo.

On April 7, 1941, these two Nisei GI's from Hawaii, dressed in civilian clothes, boarded an Army transport in Honolulu, bound for the Philippines. These two had volunteered without the faintest knowledge of the mission, destination or Army duties, but the lure of adventure and travel were incentive enough, Komori reflects.

Within a month, the two were bound for Manila, signed as crewmen on the ship for security reasons. When they met Captain Raymond who gave them cash in pesos and told them to find lodging at the Toyo Hotel, only then did they realize the immensity of their task, that of investigating the Japanese community of Manila.

Komori got into the good graces of the Japanese Consul General, the Chiefs of the Japan Tourist Bureau, the Domei News and of the Japan Cultural Hall. He secured a job as English instructor for Japanese civilians and also as interpreter for the consulate and the news. Komori was so entrusted by the Japanese that on one occasion he was caught by the Filipino Constabulary drinking a toast to the Emperor. Within a week, of course, he was rescued from prison by an American agent.

When Manila was declared an open city by Douglas MacArthur on December 26, 1941, Komori sailed for Corregidor on a tiny transport, then that night left for Bataan where he translated captured enemy documents at the front lines for General Jonathan Wainwright's unit.

This is where he met General MacArthur. Komori recalls that the General said hello, warmly shook his hands and walked on.

When Bataan fell on April 8, 1942, General Wainwright sent word for Colonel Irwin, his aide, and Komori to return to Corregidor. The bombardment was heavy, but they made it safely to Corregidor.

Evacuation of Corregidor was already in progress. Komori stayed with the few remaining defenders in the Malinda Tunnel in Corregidor until April 13, 1942 when he was ordered to escape to Australia on a patched-up Army trainer. The plane had crash-landed there bringing in medical supplies. The temporary repairs on the plane enabled four of them to reach Iloilo on Panay Island. Komori having had flying lessons in Honolulu in 1940, was co-pilot on the battered craft. After a harrowing take-off and flight, they finally landed in a rice paddy in Iloilo.

Their rescue by an American B 25 and escape to Australia is now history. Komori recalls the helplessness of those who were left behind, the frantic efforts to get the plane off the runway before the day-break bombardment by the enemy, and precarious flight to escape detection.

In September 1942, Komori helped organize the Allied interpreter and translator section with headquarters in Brisbane, Australia; returned to the Philippines in April 1945; and on September 3, 1945, in Tokyo as one of the first Nisei Counter Intelligence agent.

Komori was awarded the Bronze Star for his military service. He was also recommended for the Silver Star "in recognition of his services on Bataan, as a member of the small group of Japanese interpreters who handled identification of enemy units successfully during the entire Philippines campaign."

Certainly, until the story was released in 1944, Komori was the basis of many rumors. "When I left Hawaii for the Philippines no one, including my own parents knew what had become of me," he said.

Komori later was a civilian instructor at the C.I.C. school in Holabird, Maryland, for about six years. While instructing he attended the University of Maryland and obtained his law degree. Mr. Komori was Deputy Attorney General in 1959, until he resigned to enter private practice with office in Lihue, Kauai.



With full packs and guns ready, these U.S. invasion forces ford a muddy stream near Aitape in pursuit of fleeing Japs. They carry out "mopping up" operations in this New Guinea sector, an important patrol duty as the Japs have a habit of leaving snipers behind to prey upon the invasion forces.



South Pacific—Fassari was one of the pleasant assignments.



Okinawa Invasion—Underground Clean-up

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Surrender signing



Surrender signing

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