



# PUKA .. PUKA Parade



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100 CLUBHOUSE

AAAGI-SHIN-NOBUE-ONODERA-ARCHITECTS

KENJIKO-ENGINEER

## Sergeant Yoshio Ikeda Laid to Rest

Interment services for the late Sergeant Yoshio Ikeda were held on January 15, 1952, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific with full military honors.

Sgt. Yoshio Ikeda, age 28, of Makawao, Maui, born January 14, 1922 at Kapaa, Kauai, died in combat in Korea on August 12, 1950. Beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. Denjiro Ikeda; brother of Dora Sake, Ruth Misao, Hinayo and Hanayo Ikeda. Sgt. Ikeda was twice wounded in action while serving as a member of Company "C" of the 100th Bn. in Italy and France during World War II. (Continued on Page 4)

## In Memoriam: Tokuji Shishido

Members of the 100th throughout the islands were shocked to learn of the passing of Tokuji Shishido on January 10 at Tripler Army Hospital. Age 32, born Paia, Maui, the decedent was an "old timer" of Charlie Company of the 100th.

Services were held on January 12th from the residence in Lahaina, Maui followed by burial in the Makawao Veterans' Cemetery. The late Tokuji is survived by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Kizo Shishido; brothers, Tokuchi, Minoru, Nobuo; and one sister, Mrs. Matsu Andow.

Club 100 extends deepest sympathy to the Shishido family on their recent bereavement.

## CLUBHOUSE BUILDING TO BE STARTED SOON May Be Completed In Time For 10th Anniversary

Our long-awaited clubhouse took a big stride forward toward completion on the evening of January 16, 1952, when architect Kenji Onodera presented the plans and specifications to the building committee.

After a careful review of the materials presented by the architect, the committee (1) prepared a list of contractors from whom bids will be requested for the job (2) established January 18 to February 4, 1952, as the period to accept all bids (3) worked on a list of alternates to follow should the bids far exceed our present means.

The time schedule calls for the building to be started in late February or early March with completion by the end of May in time for our 10th anniversary milestone in June.

However, at this point of the game approval from the National Production Authority in Washington, D. C., to commence building and our finances are two factors that need to be contended with before work can begin on the clubhouse.



## A Place to Shoot the Bull

**E**ven as the newly-formed 100th Infantry Battalion was into its first months of training at McCoy, its leaders were already looking ahead to the time when the war would end and the men surely would be needing a place where they could gather to reminisce and socialize. In the following piece, Naoji Yamagata who was our first executive secretary, from 1946 to 1953, recalls for us some of the events of those years in what eventually came to be the Club 100. He also tells about a "black book," the record of our dues collections started at McCoy, a small wooden box containing our service records, and some things about the few of our boys who were or are still missing in action. The "black book" and the wooden box are mysteriously unaccounted for.

**D**ay by day, more and more One Puka Puka paisans offer these "Sad Sack" comments: "Now days I no can remember nothing." Or, "Sometimes I even forget to remember what I was supposed to remember!" This being the case, the 50th Anniversary observance is a fitting time to recall, review, rehash and record our memories of the *good ol' days*. In the following paragraphs we will attempt to outline a bird's eye view of people, projects and happenings as they come to our mind and as they pass in review:

### Club One Puka Puka

The idea of forming a post-war social club was hatched in Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, as we repeated basic training again and again in hot and cold weather. Subsequently, there was no way to escape paying our monthly \$2 dues from our GI pay, as the company clerk was right there with his book. This novel method of collection created a nice kitty of about \$50,000. We are reminded of the existence

of a black, bulky, leather-bound, dues book which accounted for every penny collected. Each member's monthly contribution was neatly and accurately recorded on his individual, separate accounting form. Due credit should be acknowledged and extended to our battalion personnel section and to the company clerks for maintaining such accurate and legible records. If this ledger can be located, this one-of-a-kind item could occupy a prominent place in our museum memorabilia. We do not recall if ballots were printed and distributed or if we actually exercised our voting right on Italian soil, but the following officers were elected between rows of grape vines: president, Katsumi Kometani; vice-president, Sakae Takahashi; secretary, Andrew Okamura; and treasurer, Hideo Yamashita.

### Incorporation of Club 100

Club One Puka Puka was dissolved and incorporated as Club 100 under the laws of the Territory of Hawaii on December 21, 1945. Mitsuyoshi Fukuda was elected to head the eleemosynary corporation. Other officers listed as incorporators: vice-presidents, Mitsuru Omori (at large), Stanley Masumoto (Maui), Kazuma Hisanaga (Hawaii), Katsumi Kometani (Oahu), Kazuto Yoshioka (Kauai); secretary, Edward Yoshimasu; assistant secretary, Warren Iwai; treasurer, Hideo Kajikawa and assistant treasurer, Tadashi Ohta.

Prior to incorporation, the "Indians" who pulled the details in organizing the club included James Akamine, Hideo Kajikawa, Hideo Sato, Kenichi Suehiro, Jiro Matsui, Tsuneo Morikawa, Toshio Kunimura, Wilfred Shobu, Tom Nosse and many others. We often wonder how, when, and where these volunteer paisans managed to corral and compile the rosters of names and addresses of





*Coming Home*  
*100th/442nd Chaplain Hiro Higuchi tosses a wreath into the ocean,*  
*as the mortuary ship Dalton Victory returns to Hawaii with the*  
*bodies of 79 island soldiers, September 1948*



*Chaplain Hiro Higuchi,*  
*2nd Battalion*



*Chaplain Masao Yamada,*  
*3rd Battalion*



members as we drifted home to Hawaii in large and small shiploads at different times.

### **Return of our deceased buddies from overseas cemeteries**

This was the most emotional, solemn and noteworthy happening. Senator Dan Inouye representing the 442nd Veterans Club, Percy Morioka and Naoji Yamagata and representatives of the Military Intelligence Service Club and Club 100, respectively, boarded a Coast Guard cutter to greet the incoming vessel. They tossed floral wreaths into the ocean as the incoming ship passed Diamond Head. When the ship made its way into Honolulu Harbor, all of the crafts sounded their salutes by blasting their horns and sirens and by spouting sprays of water high into the blue sky. Uniformed buddies and military bands waited their arrival at the pier. It was an impressive, memorable and most touching experience.

### **Interment of our deceased World War II comrades**

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific on Oahu, the county cemeteries situated on the other islands, similar burial sites in the United States, overseas cemeteries, and private plots are the designated final resting places of our fallen comrades. Some of those reposing in foreign soils are: Kiyoso Enomoto (B Co.), Niigata, Japan; Ross K. Fujitani (C Co.), Yamaguchi, Japan; Tomosu Hirahara (B Co.), Yoshio Tengwan (C Co.), Epinal, France; John Johnson (Hq Co.), Neill M. Ray (D Co.), Kurt E. Schmel (E Co.), Lewis A. Key (A Co.), Edward V. Moran (B Co.), Nettuno, Italy; Toshio Miura (A Co.), Hiroshima, Japan; Hideo Shimabukuro, Okinawa, Japan.

Club 100 participated in the burial rites by establishing direct liaison with the next-of-kin and by cooperating with the U.S. Graves Registration Service Section and personnel of the NMCP. Taro Suzuki of Baker Chapter was the superintendent of the National Cemetery. James Shintaku and Tokuji

Ono headed a committee to raise funds to purchase memorial plaques for presentation to the next-of-kin by Oahu Chapter.

A large scale, impressive *bon* dance was staged under the joint auspices of the 442nd Veterans Club and the 100th. The floating of colorful lighted lanterns down the Ala Wai Canal was a part of this memorable *bon* ritual.

### **Korean Campaign fatalities**

A silent prayer and tribute are offered to those who made the supreme sacrifice in the battle fields of the Korean peninsula. This honor roll lists Wataru Higashida (C), Yoshio Ikeda (Med), Minoru Kunieda (D), Hideo Nakama (C), Ko Nishida (Hq) and Masaya Saito (A).

### **Missing in action**

Best records available indicate that Taro Tonai (C) and Toshio Sasano (A) remain still listed as missing in action.

*Toshio Sasano.* On a dreary, dark and wet night in the heavily mined mud flats before Cassino, Toshio Sasano, this writer and another rifleman from Co. A occupied an empty crater which was probably created by an exploding shell. Word was passed down to move ahead but not to stray away from the white tape path laid down by the Pioneer Section headed by Calvin Shimogaki. After a dozen steps or so, a mortar shell whistled by our heads and exploded. Was Toshi Sasano still an occupant of the shell crater?

### **Missing in action to remains recovered status**

*Jiro Otsuka.* Word drifted to our club headquarters that Mrs. Otsuka on Kauai was concerned and disturbed that the remains of her son Jiro, had not been returned to Hawaii. Jiro was a member of 3rd Platoon, Co. A. Ralph (Toby) Uyeda and this writer prepared a diagram of the location past Anzio where Jiro was mortally wounded. The sketch indicating the prominent hill overlooking the road to Rome;





*A Nisei soldier is interred with full Military Honors  
at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at  
Punchbowl, July 1949*



the foot path that went around the hill like a belt; a stone wall that ran from head to foot of the hill; and a prominent olive tree at the intersection of the wall and the path were diagrammed and forwarded to the U.S. Graves Registration Section. In a few weeks Mrs. Otsuka was consoled and greatly relieved to have Jiro laid to rest on Kauai.

*Itsumu Sasaoka (A).* "Sasa" became a prisoner of war in the vicinity of Biffontaine, France. He was last seen by a member of the 100th in Poland, when they were liberated at the conclusion of the war. Word had it that the Russians mistook the band of liberated GIs to be a part of the enemy force and shelled them. Itsumu was listed as missing in action in our files until Kunio Fujimoto (Co. A) met a lady whose husband, while serving in the Armed Forces in Belgium, took a photo of a rare Nisei's grave marker. This "small world" photo was eventually presented to Sergeant Sasaoka's brother in Waipahu. He immediately visited Belgium to pay homage to his deceased brother. "Sasa" is a recipient of the Silver Star for gallantry in action.

#### **Acquisition of property at 1444 Nuuanu Avenue**

This former Japanese language school site was purchased by the club from the Hawaii Veterans War Memorial Association for \$43,500 in 1946. It was sold in 1949 to the Kuomintang Society for \$70,000. From the net proceeds of the sale, the sum of \$5,000 was donated to the Hawaii Veterans War Memorial Association.

The club office headquarters was located in the second floor of the two-story main concrete building. A separate cottage was utilized as a dormitory for our members. Tenants at one time or another in this dorm included Hideo Sato, Takayuki Yamane, Kenji Nikaido, Masaru Suehiro, "Paia" Uyehara, "Blackie" Nishimura, Mikio Kamei, "Cherry" Kunieda, Susumu Kunishige and "Blackie" Nishibayashi. If memory serves us right, their rent was around \$7.50 per month.

"Shangy" Tsukano, Richard Chinen, Henry Oshiro, Stanley Takahashi, "Oswald" Kawahara, Kenji Nobori and other members who had an active interest in boxing were frequent visitors, as there was a boxing gymnasium upstairs in the large wooden structure. Many young promising boxers including Bobo Olson frequented the training facilities which was rented to the Veterans Boxing Club.

A pool table was used almost daily by Andy Okamura and Carl Morioka. Other regular visitors were Harry Hirata, "Jesus" Matsudo, George Yasso, Paul Oshiro and Kisuke Arakaki.

The Omiya family with seven or eight children occupied the sprawling cottage which fronted Nuuanu Avenue. One of the Omiya sons who is a prominent financier in Honolulu today recently expressed his appreciation to the club for having availed the living quarters to his large family at a nominal rental.

#### **1710 Fort Street**

This became the return mail address of Club 100 after the sale of the Nuuanu property. It was a one room office space rented from the Young Buddhist Association. A desk, a work table, a filing cabinet, addressograph and mimeograph machines and a typewriter taxed the capacity of the office to the limit. In spite of this cramped layout, Carl Shinoda, Goro Sumida, Masato Nake, Koichi Fukuda, Etsuro Sekiya, Masaru Nambara, James Oki, Allan Ohata and Richard Oki somehow managed to unfold a card table for their amusement or just to kill time. A tiny species of red mites who made house in our office brought back nostalgic memories of itching and scratching from chigger bites in Louisiana.

In passing, we must make special note and pay our recognition to the addressograph machine. It came into our possession from the War Surplus Agency at a bargain price of \$75. Its foot pedal must have been stomped a million times or more to get all the meeting notices and Puka Puka Parade into the





*Paying respects to a fallen comrade  
Readily identifiable is Henry Morimisato, right*



hands of our membership. It really was deserving of a Legion of Merit.

### **520 Kamoku Street**

This phase of the 100th's activities was the most gratifying. Three lots totalling 21,600 square feet were purchased @ \$1.05 a square foot, all improvements included. Contractor D.K. Nagata was the successful bidder to build the clubhouse. His bid was \$58,350; the building was designed by Akagi-Hara-Nishida-Onodera, Architects, with the Kunimoto firm as the engineers. James Lovell, Tadashi Ohta, George Izuta and Bill Oya were some of the members of the building committee. At the time the clubhouse was being planned, metal steel was rationed so the committee had to secure a special allocation from Washington, D.C. This restriction for steel prevailing at that time probably precluded the addition of a second story to our existing clubhouse building. The Club 100 Memorial Building was dedicated in July 1952 during our 10th Anniversary observance. Keichi Kimura (HQ) designed a special souvenir shirt for the occasion. Members contributed funds toward purchase of metal folding chairs. Donations of monies and labor were also made by members to secure concrete blocks for building a tile wall on three sides of the property. Contributions from the next-of-kin included refrigerators of commercial capacity and generous cash offerings.

A single, large slab of marble was imported from Carrara, Italy, for our Memorial Plaque. The inscription work was done locally.

### **Apartment building**

Robert Sakoki headed a far-sighted committee which studied the feasibility of building a 23-unit apartment building on vacant land adjacent to our clubhouse. Sakae Takahashi, Tad Ohta, George Izuta and Bill Komoda were some of the committee members. The mortgage document has long been burned and rental income provides the primary source of

revenue for our operations. Contractor for the building was S and M Sakamoto, Inc., Mr. Kenji Onodera did the architectural design. Financing was by Central Pacific Bank.

### **Community activities**

Club 100 participated in fund drives for the Honolulu Community Chest, Honolulu Advertiser Christmas Fund, Kuakini Hospital Building Fund and the American Red Cross. Gift parcels were packed and sent by club members to GIs from Hawaii who were engaged in combat in the Korean campaign. Perpetual Best Company plaques to the ROTC department at the University of Hawaii and local high schools were donated by the club. In appreciation of the warm hospitality accorded to the 100th by the citizens of La Crosse, Wisconsin, monetary gifts were sent to the La Crosse Zoo and as flood relief after the city suffered a devastating damage due to rising waters. "Omoide," a stage play about conditions in postwar Japan, was held at the University of Hawaii under the sponsorship of the club. Most of the participants were recruited from the community.

The active role of our various chapters' engagement in civic affairs in their respective neighborhoods has been on an ever increasing and broader scale. The energy expended by the membership of our Southern California Chapter in Los Angeles in these affairs is very commendable. The sponsorship of the 100th Battalion Memorial Baseball League by our Hawaii Chapter was well appreciated by the Big Island community.

Formulation of plans and actual operation for the decoration of all the graves in Punchbowl with flags and leis by the Boy Scouts of America on Memorial Day gained the full support of our organization. Our representatives worked closely with Mr. James O'Brien, Director of the Veterans Council Office, who is considered to be the originator and father of this colorful, sacred, annual Memorial Day ritual.







*Ayumi No Hako benefit show sponsored by 100th Veterans*

## Finances

The club sponsored a series of benefits on all islands featuring legendary Misora Hibari. With the 442nd Veterans Club, we also co-sponsored the Kinoshita Circus from Japan. These two projects undertaken in 1949 generated sufficient funds for the cash purchase of the three lots where our clubhouse and apartment buildings are now situated.

A loan from the Capital Fund contributions from members residing outside of Oahu was negotiated to equip and furnish the clubhouse. Repayment of this loan in full was made from proceeds of a highly successful bazaar-carnival held on the Iolani School grounds.

The club also sponsored other benefits featuring Murata Hideo, Mihashi Michiya, Kitajima Saburo, and Johnny Ray. In all of these projects a chairman and a whole crew of skilled tradesmen, financiers, chauffeurs, etc. were required. Some of the many hard core individuals who served in one capacity or another included Mike Tokunaga, Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, Bob Takashige, Noboru Furuya, Bill Komoda, Calvin Shimogaki, Yoroku Ito, Kunimitsu Hiramoto, Chikami Hirayama, Donald Nagasaki, Bill Oya, Herbert Yamamoto, Rikio Nakagawa, David Suzuki, Howard Miyake, Richard Nakahara, Bob Sato, Richard Ishimoto, Hideshi Niimi, Don Kuwaye, Kaoru Yonezawa, Moichi Okazaki, Stanley Nakamoto, Tom Nosse, Masao Yoshioka, Martin Tohara, Walter Moriguchi, Richard Yamamoto, Eugene Kawakami, Shinko Nohara and Masaru Nambara.

The Ladies Auxilliary constantly played a major, prominent role in the success of all of these projects. We acknowledge their full support.

For most of these money-raising undertakings, the advance sales of tickets by members insured a net profit even before the opening curtain calls. Ronald Higashi (C) was the perennial champion ticket seller. The *esprit de corps* of the 100th was manifested and prevailed in increasing its bank account.

## Mutual assistance

A mutual loan fund of \$1,000 provided temporary financial assistance of \$100, interest free, to members in case of hardship or an emergency. A member utilized this loan fund on seven different occasions for his sustenance and medical needs. The club's Blood Bank was established in 1947 by the Oahu Chapter. At one point in 1952, eligible recipients used a total of 274 pints of blood. When a member's place of business was devastated by fire, voluntary work crews from our membership pitched in with debris removal. A member who operated a movie theater lost his son through an illness. Personnel from the club adopted the "show must go on" slogan and operated the show house for the appreciative member.

Landscaping, building stone walls, painting and carpentry were some of the work details exchanged among members on weekends and on holidays. "Having a few" and bull sessions were always a part of these fun-filled chores. Active participation at funeral services for deceased members is a chapter function deeply appreciated by the surviving family members.

## Club 100 memorial services

These services conducted on the last Sunday of September on Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, Kauai and in Los Angeles by the Southern California chapter have been a special day of remembrance and rededication. The impressive program and the challenges offered by the participants make our steps lighter as we head for home. At Punchbowl where the Oahu services are held annually, the Medics Chapter always provides the refreshments.

## Ambassadors in Arms

We can all point with pride to this history of the 100th written by Dr. Thomas Murphy. A beat-up wooden box measuring about 12" by 18" was crammed tight, filled with service record cards compiled and maintained throughout the war by







## \$2,909 Raised By Club 100 In Welfare Drive

As an expression of their interest in the wellbeing of the community, Club 100 has conducted a pre-campaign drive among their members and collected \$2,909.80 for the Honolulu Community Chest campaign.

A total of 368 members contributed to the fund, which is the first large donation to be received by the Chest for its 1948 campaign which opens officially next Monday.

\* \* \*

**THIS IS THE SECOND** time which Club 100, composed of former members of the 100th Infantry, has conducted a collection on behalf of the Honolulu Community Chest. The other time was in 1944, while in combat in Italy. At that time, as many of the group as combat conditions permitted were contacted, and they gave a total of \$277.10.

\* \* \*

**IN THE FOLLOWING** two years, it was impractical to attempt a unit contribution, but leaders of the organization this year, wishing to show the group's desire to assist in worthwhile community projects, organized the pre-drive among its members.

The project was under the direction of Richard Mizuta, chairman of the mutual assistance committee.

\* \* \*

**OTHERS WHO** took part in the solicitation were:

Naoji Yamagata, Fred Kane-mura, Tad T. Kanda, Dick M. Sasaki, Ralph N. Uyeda, Masanobu Kamiya, Dick N. Hirano, George Izuta, Robert S. Taira, Conrad Tsukayama, Etsuo Katanoto, Richard K. Oki, George Yamamoto, Warren Iwai, Harry Oka, Hakaru Taoka, Hajime Yamane, Jutoku Kiyabu, Norito Himura, S. Kawaoka, Thomas Higa and H. Kaya.

our battalion personnel section and our company clerks. These cards, containing detailed information such as the date of a sick call to the dispensary and any hospital confinements, were the source of the rosters and tables published in the Appendix to the book. Regrettably, no one can shed any light as to the whereabouts of this wooden box with its invaluable contents, a one-of-a-kind collection of historical proportions.

### **For Continuing Service**

A luncheon was held in 1952 at what was known as the Waikiki Wagon Wheel restaurant. Purpose of the special meeting: adopt a club motto. Besides the big-wigs from our club, in attendance were Mr. Leslie Deacon, Dr. Thomas Murphy, Mr. Hung Wai Ching and other prominent residents of our city. After some discussions and suggested slogans, Dr. Murphy leaned forward and very calmly offered "For Continuing Service" as his contribution. His suggestion put a quick halt to the proceedings and it was adopted unanimously by those in attendance.

### **Politics**

Club 100 is a qualified veterans organization. However, we are proud of the fact that a relatively large number of our members have etched their marks and made a name in the political world. Congressman Spark M. Matsunaga's rapid climb up the political ladder and his indelible accomplishments are legendary. Others who served as elected officials are Sakae Takahashi, Howard Miyake, Yasutaka Fukushima, Robert Taira, Jack Mizuha, Joe Yamauchi, Toshio Kabutan, Hayato Tanaka and Honorary Member Wilfred C. Tsukiyama.

### **Sports**

As in politics, club members have had their names appearing in the pages of our local newspapers. For instance, Doc Kometani was honored by the Olympic Committee of Japan for his efforts in

promoting goodwill through athletics, a deserving recognition. Richard (Pablo) Chinen was recognized for his involvement and guidance in various youth programs. Hideo Yamashita gained the accolades and respect of the baseball community for his long, long years of fair and competent service as an umpire.

Club 100 softball and bowling leagues found a large colony of "has beens" who were top-notch athletes in their prime. The population of golfers has increased by leaps and bounds as other fields of athletics became too strenuous and retirement afforded more leisure time and money.

### **You remember (????)**

The battalion picnics? Christmas parties? Anniversary luaus at Fort Ruger? That Sam Sakamoto was the first editor of the Puka Puka Parade? That Oahu Chapter was abolished in 1947? That operating dues were reduced from \$24 to \$8 per year in 1947? That Chaplain Yost conducted memorial services on Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai in 1947? That Club 100 sponsored two football games at the old Honolulu Stadium in which we awarded an auto at each of the games, and All-American Johnny Lujack of Notre Dame who was slated to be the star attraction in these games couldn't make it?

### **And what if (????)**

We bought five lots instead of only three at 520 Kamoku Street as pushed by some of our finance minded members? We continued to sponsor the collegiate football games, as in the two noted above - games which have turned out to be forerunners of today's Hula Bowl games? We pursued a more vigorous program earlier to entice our sons and daughters and grandchildren to take over the club? Finally, what if there was no World War II? There would not be a Club 100 today!

*Naoji Yamagata*

