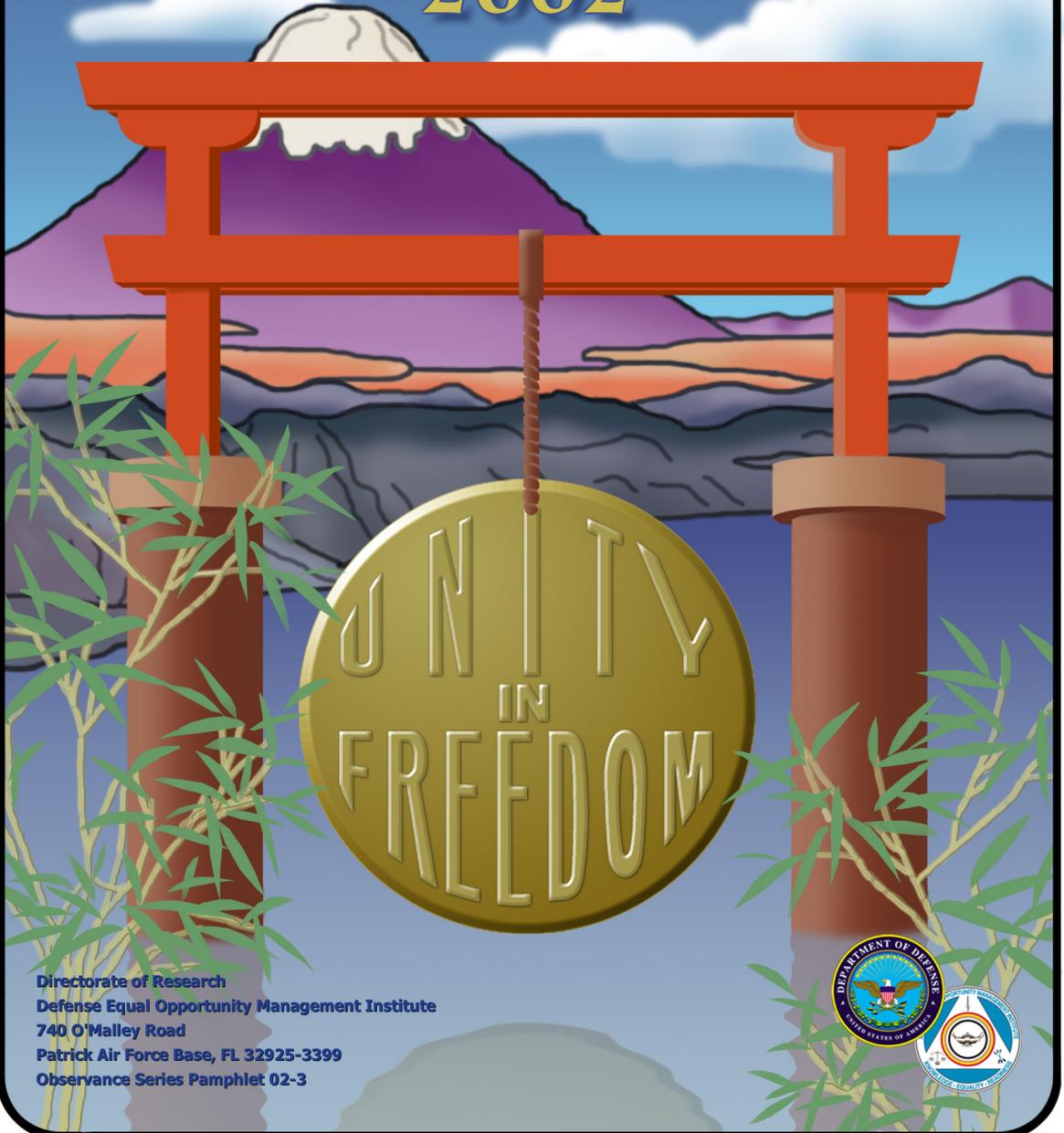


Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 2002



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740 O'Malley Road
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Observance Series Pamphlet 02-3



Preface

Mr. Gregory L. Villasenor, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, served as a participant in the Topical Research Intern Program at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) from February 22, to March 22, 2002. He conducted the necessary research to prepare this report. The Institute thanks Mr. Villasenor for his contributions to the research efforts of DEOMI.

Scope

The Topical Research Intern Program provides the opportunity for Service members and DoD civilian employees to work on diversity/equal opportunity projects while on a 30-day tour of duty at the Institute. During their tour, the interns use a variety of primary and secondary source materials to compile a review of data or research pertaining to an issue of importance to equal opportunity (EO) and equal employment opportunity (EEO) specialists, supervisors, and other leaders throughout the Services. The resulting publications (such as this one) are intended as resource and educational materials and do not represent official policy statements or endorsements by the DoD or any of its agencies. The publications are distributed to EO/EEO personnel and selected senior officials to aid them in their duties. Additionally, to reach the widest audience possible, the publications are posted on the Internet at:

<https://www.patrick.af.mil/deomi/deomi.htm>

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the author and should not be construed to represent the official position of DEOMI, the military Services, or the Department of Defense.

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Foreword

“The United States is composed almost entirely of descendents of immigrants. We call ourselves American, but at the same time, we’re proud of our roots—proud of where our parents, grandparents and great grandparents came from.”

Asian American Fred Pang
Former Assistant Secretary of Defense,
Force Management Policy (4)

2002 Asian Pacific Heritage Month National Theme Unity in Freedom

The Asian Pacific American Heritage Council Incorporated (APAHC) released this year’s national theme for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month on January 21, 2002. (11:1)

Unity Connecting Groups and Freedom in America

“Whether our ancestors endured hardship to escape from tyranny and poverty of a distant land or from the tyranny and poverty of slavery, they became American citizens to seek a better life for themselves and their families. This common goal ties us together in a relatively harmonious community that is unique in the world,” Pang said. (4:1)

In his speech to the Asian Pacific American Heritage Council, Pang related a story he overheard as a young child in Hawaii while working at a pineapple cannery. “During a break, I overheard a couple of regulars talking about their hopes and aspirations for their children. In the course of their conversation, they talked about how it would be if they never left the ‘old country’ to seek a better life. It was clear to me that their future and those of their children would have been much bleaker. As they concluded their conversation, I heard one of them say, ‘We lucky we come to America.’ ” (4:3)

The words written at the base of the Statue of Liberty reinforces the beliefs of the ‘regulars’ Pang was referring to. “Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door.” - Emma Lazarus

These thoughts support accepting a central reality of America, its diversity and, ultimately, the unity represented within groups and a collective unity as Americans. It is this unity, enjoying the freedoms all have so richly grasped, that Asian Americans have woven themselves into a country whose inhabitants are continually learning to comprehend, understand, value, and appreciate that “all individuals have dignity and worth.” (20)

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

It took 11 years for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM) to become a month-long national celebration. The history of the heritage month dates back to June of 1977, when Congressmen Frank Horton (R-NY) and Norman Y. Mineta (D-CA) introduced House Resolution 540 into the House of Representatives. It called for the President to proclaim the first week in May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Week. The following month, Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga introduced similar legislation with Senate Joint Resolution 72 into the U.S. Senate. In October 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed Joint Resolution 72 officially declaring the first week in May as Asian Pacific Heritage Week.

Twelve years later, in May of 1990, President George Bush signed a proclamation expanding the week-long celebration into an entire month. Two years later, on October 23, 1992, he signed House Resolution 5572, a public law, that permanently designated the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. (37:1-3)

This booklet begins by presenting numerous definitions of who is an Asian American, which may help to enlighten the reader's understanding of the complexity of this group. After receiving a glimpse into who is an Asian American, various legal proceedings are presented that affected all ethnic groups of Asian and Pacific Islanders immigrating to the United States.

Secondly, in order to better understand the struggles and accomplishments of the three largest ethnic groups of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States; Chinese, Japanese, and Filipinos, one aspect of each group is highlighted. The Chinese processing station called Angel Island in California, the forced internment of Japanese Americans during WWII, and personal interviews of Filipino soldiers, prior and current, in the U.S. Army give added perspectives to each of these determined ethnic groups.

This publication would not be complete without a discussion of Asian American participation in the military from the Spanish American War through the Vietnam War.

Finally, in the appendices and tables are current military and civilian demographics along with a listing of outstanding Asian Americans who have made significant contributions to the United States. Also included is information on two nonprofit organizations and two official agencies whose goals are to better serve today's Asian American community.

While this publication presents only a small insight into Asian Pacific Americans, it may help readers understand how this year's theme, Unity in Freedom, is indicative of this diverse group of Americans.

Introduction

Who are Asian Americans?

“In many respects, the many nationalities which are collectively called ‘Asian Americans’ are a microcosm segment of our greater national mix,” Pang explained during his remarks at the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Commemoration, Asian/Pacific American Council of Georgia, Atlanta, May 17, 1997. (4:1)

Defining the term Asian American is at best a difficult task. Dependent upon the reference used, it is with an understanding of the multifaceted ethnic groups within the larger group that a greater admiration of Asian Americans as a whole can be fully appreciated.

According to the Asia American Center, this group is highly multicultural including such groups as Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, Filipinos, Vietnamese, Cambodians, ethnic Lao, Hmong, Thai, Samoans, Tongans, Pakistanis, Asian Indians, and Pacific Islanders. (5:1)

The Department of Defense identifies Asian or Pacific Islander as a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa. (19)

The U.S. Census Bureau identifies over 30 groups from South Asia (India), Southeast Asia (Vietnam), Central Asia (Peoples Republic of China), the Pacific Rim (Korea), and the Pacific Basin (Philippines). (27:1) (44)

The *Asian American Almanac*, a reference work on Asians in the United States, identifies 14 different Asian groups who have immigrated to the United States:

Asian Indian Americans,	Cambodian Americans,
Chinese Americans,	Filipino Americans,
Hmong Americans,	Indonesian Americans,
Japanese Americans,	Korean Americans,
Laotian Americans,	Nepali Americans,
Pacific Islander Americans,	Pakistani Americans,
Thai Americans,	and Vietnamese Americans.

Although the Asian American communities are a diverse group of people with different languages, religions, national origins, immigration history, and many other features, they are bound together by a shared experience in the United States. Sucheng Chan in *Asian Americans: An Interpretive History* [1991, p. xiii]

writes: “[T]hough it is often thought that these various groups are lumped together as ‘Asian Americans’ because they or their ancestors have all come from Asia, there is a more important reason for treating them as a collective entity: for the most part, the host society has treated them all alike, regardless of what differences might have existed in their cultures, religions, and languages....”

(5:2)

Contrary to Chan, “It makes little sense to lump together Americans of Asian origin, much less those of Asian and Pacific origin. Peoples from the various societies of Melanesia, Polynesia, South Asia or Southeast Asia have no more in common than those of Africa, Northern Europe or Central American.” (12)

The term Asian American is used in this publication with the awareness that each ethnic group is unique, and it is the collection of traditions, culture, and heritage which serves to enrich the diversity of the United States, thus, making this a nation where “the principles of law and order and tolerance and freedom have won out in the end.” (4:1)

Case Law Affecting Asian Americans

The impact of the following legislation shaped the immigration policies of not only Asian Americans, it also had significant impact on all groups in the United States.

The second wave of case law affecting Asian Americans started with the challenge of the California Alien Land Act of 1913. The law restricted the sale of land to “aliens ineligible for citizenship.” In 1920, the Act was further refined to include the leasing of land. (41:4.7) Aliens, ineligible for citizenship, “includes[d] all Asians except for Filipinos, who are [were] ‘subjects’ of the U.S.” Similar laws were eventually adopted in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Minnesota. (42:2)

Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black concurred with the Court’s decision in *Oyama v. California* to overturn the 1913 California Alien Land Act. (41:4.07)

...[W]e have recently pledged ourselves to cooperate with the United Nations to “promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.” How can this nation be faithful to this international pledge if state laws

bar land ownership and occupancy by aliens on account of race are permitted to be enforced?

Significant cases in the following tables that affected Asian Americans are verbatim from *Asian American Facts on File*.

Important Court Decisions in Asian American History

Year/Case	Background	Outcome
1948 <i>Oyama v. California</i>	<p>In 1935, the Superior Court of San Diego agreed to allow Kajiro Oyama, a Japanese-born <i>Issei</i>, [an <i>Issei</i> is a person born in Japan] to become guardian of his U.S.-born son Fred's estate. The elder Oyama had purchased six acres of farmland in the name of his young son and in 1937 purchased two more acres the same way. In 1942, the Oyamas were forced from their home and into an internment camp.</p> <p>Two years later, the California government declared an <i>escheat</i> on the property, a legal term referring to the reversion of property to the state in the absence of legal heirs, and in 1946 the California Supreme Court upheld the state's action.</p> <p>The state argued that the elder Oyama had purchased the land with the intent to violate the Alien Land Act.</p>	<p>The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the section of California's Alien Land Act that allowed for <i>escheat</i> actions was in violation of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution. The Court ruled that the law discriminated against minors whose parents happened to be ineligible for citizenship.</p>
1948 <i>Shelly v. Kraemer</i>	<p>This case centered around two instances in which African Americans had been denied occupancy of housing on the basis of race. One instance involved a 1911 agreement signed by property owners in a St. Louis, MO, neighborhood forbidding the occupancy of the property "by people of the Negro or Mongolian Race." A second, similar case involved the contested sale of a property in Detroit, MI, to African Americans.</p>	<p>Specifically citing its <i>Oyama</i> decision from earlier in the same year, the Court ruled that the enforcement by the government of restrictive housing agreements violated the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.</p>
1948 <i>Takahashi v. California Fish and Game Commission</i>	<p>In 1943, while Japanese Americans were being held in internment, the state of California passed a law that denied Japanese aliens the right to obtain fishing licenses. In response, Torao Takahashi, an <i>Issei</i> who had been in the commercial fishing</p>	<p>Finding that Takahashi had been denied his license solely because he was Japanese, the Supreme Court again</p>

	business for 21 years, sued. Although a Los Angeles court sided with him, the California Supreme Court reversed the decision.	used the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to overturn this discriminatory law.
1952 <i>Fujii Sei v. California</i>	When <i>Fujiisei</i> , [Fujii Sei] an <i>Issei</i> newspaper publisher purchased land in his own name in violation of California's Alien Land Act, the state attempted an <i>escheat</i> action, as it had in <i>Oyama</i> . With backing from a superior court, Fujii appealed to the California Supreme Court.	The California Supreme Court struck down the Alien Land Act on the basis of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
1954 <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i>	When Linda Brown, an African American, was turned away from an all-white school in Topeka, KS, her father challenged the action in court.	The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the doctrine of "separate but equal," used to justify racial segregation in public schools and other public facilities, was unconstitutional. The Court's reasoning was again based on the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
1967 <i>Loving v. Virginia</i>	When Mildred Jeter and Richard Loving, an interracial couple, were found guilty of violating Virginia laws forbidding miscegenation (or interracial marriage), their case was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Among those filing arguments in favor of overturning the Virginia statute were lawyers for the Japanese American Citizens League.	The Supreme Court ruled that laws against interracial marriage violated the Fourteenth Amendment's equal protection clause and its due process clause. The Court argued that because "the freedom to marry [is] one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by free men, to deny this ... freedom deprive(s) all the State's citizens of liberty without due process of law."

Major Legislation Affecting Asian Americans

Name of Law	Year	Description
<i>Japanese-American Evacuation Claims Act</i>	1948	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The U.S. Congress passed this bill to compensate Japanese Americans for losses incurred during forced internment during World War II. • Congress set the maximum award at \$2,400. • Forty percent of all Japanese-American claimants sought higher amounts and were asked to wait for special consideration from Congress. This placed an added burden on elderly <i>Issei</i>, many of whom had lost everything and were in dire need of assistance. • Congress ruled that all claimants needed to present documentation and testimony from a witness regarding losses. • Because the Army gave evacuees less than two weeks to prepare for internment camp before forcing them from their homes, many documents were lost or destroyed during the war. • In 1950 over 22,000 internees made claims. Of that number, the government processed only 211 claims and paid out awards to only 137 claimants. The average compensation was \$450. • The final claim under the Act was not paid until 1965.
<i>Displaced Person's Act</i>	1948	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Displaced Person's Act was the first law in U.S. history to admit those fleeing persecution (as defined by the International Refugee Commission). • Under the Act, up to 205,000 displaced persons were permitted entry into the U.S. during the two-year period beginning July 1948. Included in that number was a quota for 15,000 Chinese. • As many as 5,000 Chinese students studying in the U.S. at the time of the communist victory in China were granted immigrant status. • The Act expired in 1954.
<i>Immigration and Nationality Act (McCarran-Walter Act)</i>	1952	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The McCarran-Walter Act granted the right of naturalized citizenship to Asian aliens and other qualified aliens without respect to race or national origin. • Although the Act ended the outright ban on Asian immigration by permitting 105 immigrants annually from each Asian nation, by creating a national origins quota system it reaffirmed the legality of racial distinctions in immigration law. • The law also contained strict anti-subversion provisions, including the right of the Attorney General to revoke citizenship and deport any immigrant suspected of having communist affiliations.
<i>Refugee Relief Act</i>	1953	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President Dwight Eisenhower signed this bill to allow an additional 215,000 refugees to enter the U.S. Among them were 2,000 refugees from communist China.
<i>Refugee-Escapee Act</i>	1957	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Act continued the policy of admitting refugees fleeing communist countries. A total of 29,000 entered under the law, including both Chinese and North Korean refugees.

<i>Civil Rights Act of 1964</i>	1964	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This landmark victory in the African-American civil rights struggle forbade racial discrimination in public accommodations and employment. • It allowed the U.S. Attorney General to institute suits and deny federal funds to local agencies that practiced discrimination.
<i>Immigration and Naturalization Act (Hart-Celler Act)</i>	1965	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hart-Celler Act ended the use of quotas based on national origins. • The new system provided for the annual admission of 170,000 immigrants from the Eastern Hemisphere (or 20,000 per country) and 120,000 from the Western Hemisphere. • The Act based admission on a system of preferences, including the reuniting of families and the recruitment of needed workers. • Since the Act's passage, most immigrants to the U.S. have been from Asia and Latin America.
<i>The Bilingual Education Act, Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1968</i>	1968	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Act established federal policy for bilingual education for poor minority students and allocated funds for programs.

(41:4.07-4.08)

Significant Documents Affecting Asian Americans

Treaty Between the United States and China, 1880

This treaty gave the United States the right to limit the number of Chinese immigrants entering the United States.

Chinese Exclusion Act, 1882

This Act suspended the immigration of Chinese laborers to the United States for 10 years.

Geary Law

This law renewed the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, prohibiting immigration of Chinese laborers for another 10 years.

Joint Resolution to Provide for Annexing the Hawaiian Islands to the United States, July 7, 1898

The Hawaiian Islands and their dependencies were annexed as part of the territory of the United States.

Organic Act, 1900

This lengthy Act outlined a government for the new Territory of Hawaii.

Executive Order Known as the “Gentlemen’s Agreement” 1907

This Act regulated the immigration of aliens into the United States.

Immigration Act, 1917

In effect, this Act created “barred zones” from which immigrants were prohibited. “Barred zones” included parts of China, all of India, Burma, Siam, Asiatic Russia, Polynesian Islands, and part of Afghanistan.

Cable Act, 1922

After this Act was approved, female citizens of the United States who married men ineligible for citizenship lost her [their] own citizenship.

Immigration Act, 1924

This Act, with its specifications about “quota” and “non-quota” immigrants, denied immigration to virtually all Asians.

Tydings-McDuffies Act, 1934

This Act limited immigration from the Philippines to 50 persons per year.

Presidential Proclamation, April 28, 1938

On April 28, 1938, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of United States of America, made this proclamation establishing immigration quotas by country.

Executive Order 9066, 1942

President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s order led to the establishment of internment camps and the forced evacuation of people of Japanese ancestry.

Public Law 503, 1942

This law provided penal sanctions for those who disobeyed Executive Order 9066.

Repeal of Chinese Exclusion Acts, 1943

Besides repealing the Chinese Exclusion Law of 1882 and its amendments, this Act granted naturalization rights and a small immigration quota to the Chinese.

War Brides Act, 1945

This Act allowed United States Armed Forces personnel to bring alien spouses and minor children to the United States.

Presidential Proclamation December 23, 1947

Granted pardons to certain persons convicted of violating the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 as amended by the United States of America.

Immigration and Naturalization Act, 1952

This extensive Act regulated immigration and naturalization, granted the right of naturalization to all immigrants and established quotas by country of origin for immigrants.

Immigration and Nationality Act Amendments, 1965

Asian countries gained equal footing with other countries through this Act, which abolished “national origins” as a basis for allocation of immigration quotas.

Refugee Act, 1980

This Act systematized admission of refugees to the United States. An “Orderly Departure Program” was established to enable Vietnamese people to emigrate legally.

Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians Act, 1980

The commission established by this Act was to conduct hearings about civilians, most of them of Japanese decent, who were detained in internment campus during World War II.

Hate Crimes Statistics Act, 1990

An Act to provide for the acquisition and publication of data about crimes that manifest prejudice based on certain group characteristics.

Civil Rights Act, 1991

An Act to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to strengthen and improve Federal civil rights laws, to provide for damages in cases on intentional employment discrimination, to clarify provisions regarding disparate impact actions, and for other purposes.

Voting Rights Language Assistance Act, 1992

An Act to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 with respect to bilingual election requirements.

100th Anniversary of the Overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom, Public Law 103—150, November 23, 1993; 103rd Congress Joint Resolution

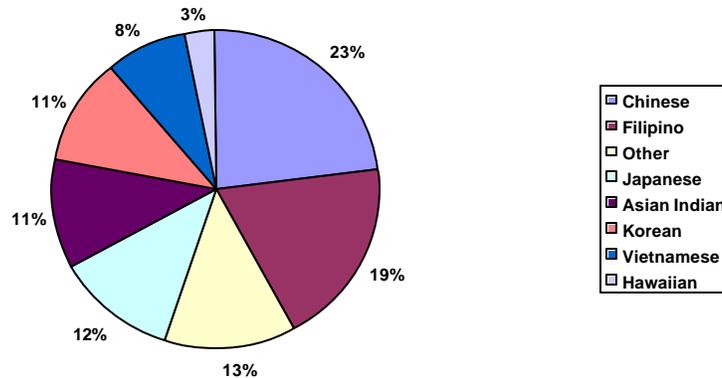
To acknowledge the 100th anniversary of the January 17, 1893, overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii, and to offer an apology to Native Hawaiians on behalf of the United States for the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii.

(27:205-262)

Asian Americans by Ethnicity With Focus on the Three Largest Ethnic Groups

The following pie chart delineates the 1990 Asian American population by major ethnic groups. The top three groups; Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino are discussed in detail following the chart.

1990 Population of Asian Americans by Ethnicity



(44)

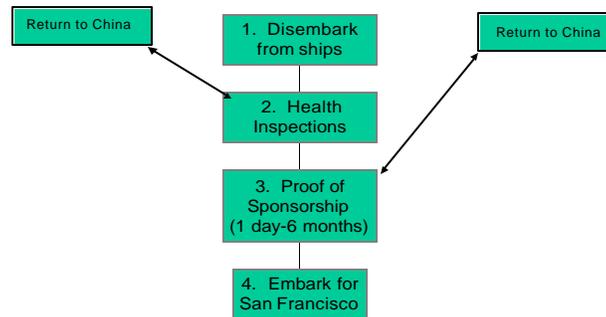
(The 2002 Census Data, which became available after this document was written, is at Table 5 of this report.)

Chinese Americans

As the largest ethnic group in the U.S., early Chinese arrivals to America were processed through an immigration station established on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. In 30 years, approximately 165,000 Asians went through the Island. The majority (97%) were Chinese. In comparison to Ellis Island in New York where European immigrants were assisted in meeting the requirements for entry into the U.S., officials on Angel Island searched for ways to return hopeful immigrants to China. (35:32-33) (41:3.13-3.27)

In addition to living in guarded, locked dormitories, the waiting period for hearings was a painful and exhausting ordeal for the immigrants. Each individual had to go through a lengthy interrogation process during which they were asked minute details about their family history. Not knowing whether they would be accepted or turned away, some Chinese resorted to carving poetry on barrack walls. The messages in the poetry conveyed suffering, humiliation, and homesickness. (30:85) In 1970, a park ranger discovered the writings, and now the station is a historical site administered by the National Park Service. (41:3.13)

Steps in Angel Island Processing



(41:3.13)

Japanese Americans

The surprise attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 propelled the United States into World War II. At the time, over 100,000 *Issei* and *Nisei* Japanese were living in the U.S. *Issei* are persons of Japanese birth and *Nisei* are American born Japanese. (30:409)

Two months later, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 that ultimately led to the internment of 90 percent of the Japanese living in the U.S. However, the large number of Japanese living in Hawaii were not considered a threat. Instead, they were considered essential to the island's defense. (33:103)

The Order 9066 did not explicitly provide for internment, nor did it mention Japanese Americans; it "authorize[d] the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate...to prescribe military areas...from which any or all persons may be excluded." It further authorized all government agencies to assist in the necessary relocation of persons from sensitive areas. (30:409)

Two individuals summarized their experience of evacuation and incarceration:

Pearl Harbor was not less stunning to Japanese Americans than to the American populace generally. But, in addition, they felt overwhelming uncertainty about their vulnerability to being identified with the enemy. The *Issei*, excluded from United States citizenship, were Japanese citizens by law. As enemy aliens they did not know what to expect for themselves. And, indeed, the

Department of Justice arrested in a immediate sweep more than a thousand who had been under surveillance as leaders or Japanese community activities. They were taken away with no notice, and their families did not know where they were taken nor for how long. News of these sudden arrests spread rapidly. With no communication from the interned *Issei*, rumors and apprehension spread; families packed a suitcase for father and waited.

For weeks after Pearl Harbor, fear and uncertainty prevailed. False rumors of Japanese American fifth column activity abounded. Then, just as Japanese Americans recovered some degree of normality in work and school activities, in late January 1942, a campaign was launched calling for the mass evacuation of Japanese Americans. (33:103-104)

The government agency created for the formation, control, and operation of the internment camps, the War Relocation Authority (WRA) existed for almost three years. Over 30 years later, *Sansei*, second generation U.S. born Japanese, lobbied the Federal government for redress and an apology. The government agreed that Japanese Americans had been victims and began \$20,000 payments to each survivor. The final payments were made in August 1998 to the heirs of those interned during the war. (41:3.27-5.04)

Filipino Americans

Filipinos, the second largest Asian group in the U.S., have a different story to tell. Spain ruled the Philippines for centuries. Often mistaken for Hispanic, many Filipinos have Spanish surnames and speak Spanish. (27:63) America, who had been given the Philippines in the Treaty of Paris, heeded the cry of manifest destiny when Spain departed and the Philippines declared itself an independent nation. The U.S. sent troops and, thus, began the Philippine American War, known in the U.S. as the Philippines Insurrection. From 1899 to 1902, an estimated 200,000 to 1 million Filipinos lost their lives. The Philippines became an American colony, thus began an American presence in the country. (33:135)

The Tydings-McDuffie Act of 1934 provided for the creation of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, and promised independence for the nation after 10 years. The term commonwealth indicated that the Philippines would maintain a local system of government but would become a part of the United States. The Act also provided that Filipinos would be treated as aliens, therefore immigration numbers were severely limited. (30:222) On July 4, 1946, the

United States granted the Philippines its independence, but maintained military bases in the Philippines, and a substantial interest in local politics, until the 1990s. (30:222)

Today, Filipino Americans are persons of Filipino ancestry who are citizens of the U.S. by either birth or naturalization. There are also Philippine nationals who have become permanent residents of the U.S. by virtue of being a registered alien or immigrant. (27:63)

Asian Pacific Americans in the Military

Interviews with Soldiers – Past and Present

The following segment highlights three Asian Pacific Americans who served or are currently serving with the U.S. Army. These individuals represent three historical eras of time for the military – WWII, Vietnam, and Desert Thunder. Their life experiences span over eight decades.

Captain Menandro B. Parazo, U.S. Army (retired)

Menandro Parazo, 84, was born in the Philippines. He retired as an Air Defense Artillery instructor in 1971 from Ft. Bliss, Texas. He and his wife live in El Paso, Texas. (46:2)

At the age of 23, Menandro Parazo left the University of the Philippines and entered the U.S. Army in February 1941. He was assigned to the 26th Cavalry Regiment, stationed at Fort Stotsenburg, Philippines, the only mounted U.S. horse cavalry in WWII. (1:4)

While Japanese troops were sweeping into Southeast Asia, seemingly invincible, a determined force of Americans and Filipinos, including the 26th Cavalry Regiment, held out on the island of Corregidor and the Bataan Peninsula. These brave soldiers fought in a malaria-infested region, surviving on half or quarter rations with little or no medical help. They fought with outdated equipment and virtually no air power. (13:2) For four months, their diligent efforts to tie down Japanese troops and equipment that Japan needed for its southward thrust toward Australia bought the time needed for the United States to rebuild itself. “The heroes of Bataan and Corregidor,” President Roosevelt wrote to Philippine President Quezon, “are effectively assisting the war effort by gaining invaluable time, and time is the vital factor in reinforcing our military strength.” (39:80) With little hope that reinforcements would arrive, the fighting went on.

Finally, on April 9, 1942, tens of thousands of American and Filipino soldiers surrendered to Japanese forces. Two days later, Parazo was among those taken prisoner by the Japanese Imperial Army and forced to join the infamous 65-mile “Death March” through the Philippine jungles from Mariveles (at the southern tip of the Bataan peninsula) to San Fernando in central Luzon. (46:2) (39:82)

A starved, diseased, and beaten Army, they were denied food and water, robbed of their personal possessions and equipment, were forced to march under the hot sun, and halt in areas where even the most primitive sanitary facilities were lacking. Stumbling along, they might be clubbed at any moment by a gun butt, beaten by a wrench or bamboo pole, or bayoneted by their Japanese conquerors. (34:467) Several hundred of them died each mile of the way, and by the end of the trek, more than 600 Americans and 10,000 Filipinos had died. (39:83)

There were reasons for the brutality of the Japanese guards. Used to harsh, often cruel treatment from their own superiors, and tired from long, hard months of fighting, the guards were eager to vent their own pent-up anger on the American and Filipino prisoners. Secondly, their Japanese code of compassion demanded indifference toward pain and suffering. Surrendering was considered dishonorable therefore, suicide was thought of as an option. (39:82)

Those who survived the “Death March” faced the hardships of a prisoner of war camp. Menandro Parazo escaped the camp and joined the Guerilla Resistance Organization. The guerillas conducted hit and run raids on the Japanese. Guerilla duties included constructing tank obstacles, trenches, and gun emplacements, stringing wire, and preparing demolitions. Preparations for sustaining guerilla warfare included large-scale movement of goods, supplies, and weapons in and around jungle areas. Secret caches were established in remote and inaccessible places. (34:502)

In March of 1943, Parazo was recaptured and brutally tortured at the Japanese Military Intelligence Unit in Manila. Miraculously, he later escaped, again, from the Japanese and rejoined his guerilla unit. (46:3) During the liberation of the Philippines, he rejoined the U.S. Army and participated in the Battle of Manila in 1945. After the liberation, he was sent to Japan with the U.S. occupation forces. (38:3)

His decorations include: the Prisoner of War Medal, two Bronze Stars, American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal, Philippine Defense Service Medal, Philippine Guerilla Resistance Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, three Presidential Unit Citations, Japan Occupation Medal, Korean Service Medal, WWII Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the WWII Victory Medal.

Perazo is an active member of many organizations, including the Philippine-American National Historical Society and the Philippine-American National Leaders Advisory Council. (46:3)

Captain Ambrosio (Sam) Sarmiento, Jr., U.S. Army (retired)

Ambrosio (Sam) Sarmiento, Jr., 59, was medically retired in 1971 from the United States Army for wounds suffered in the Vietnam conflict. In 1974, he received his bachelor of arts degree in Journalism and Marketing from the University of Texas at El Paso. The Honolulu, Hawaii, native is active in the El Paso community as a successful businessperson in the publishing, marketing, and public relations fields. He presently resides in Chaparral, New Mexico. (40:7)

His father, born in the Philippines, preached that America was the land of opportunity. Despite the prejudice that existed between Whites and the Hawaiians, Sarmiento was very patriotic and loved the American way of life. As a youngster, he remembers how much of an influence John Wayne had on his life. "I looked at John Wayne as an American hero," said Sarmiento. He added, "John F. Kennedy had values which I admired." The Civil Rights Act of 1964 made him feel he could really pursue his American dream. He was the only child in his family of nine to be accepted to the University of Hawaii.

Without completing his first year, he felt the call of John Wayne and joined the U.S. Army, much to the disappointment of his father. Being a Filipino, his father felt that a college education was a necessity for his children to participate successfully in the American dream. He himself was a retired senior chief petty officer in the U.S. Navy who had fought the Japanese from Ford Island during the attack on Pearl Harbor. The memory of his father's disappointment was what guided Sarmiento to achieve success throughout his adult life. At 17, his mother signed parental consent for him to join the U.S. Army in November 1960. He had always dreamed of becoming a combat soldier, and soon he would realize his dream. (40:1-14)

By December 31, 1960, the U.S. had approximately 900 military personnel in Vietnam. (42:30) In 1961, the growing number of U.S. troops in Vietnam was at 3,205. (45:31) By then, Sarmiento had completed his basic training at Ft. Ord, California, and his advanced training at the U.S. Army Information School, Fort Slocum, New York. (40:2) Following various assignments in the public information field, he decided to become an officer. He was selected to attend the Infantry Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. In 1965, the U.S. commitment in Vietnam had swelled to 184,300 soldiers. (45:36)

Because of his background in journalism, he was assigned to the Great Lakes Naval Training Center as a Department of Defense editorial officer. He got his chance for combat when he was reassigned to the 196th Light Infantry Brigade. (40:7-9)

The 196th Infantry Brigade was activated as the Army's first light brigade on September 15, 1965. It was formed at the wooded, lake-dotted Massachusetts post, Fort Devens. The colorful patch being issued to the raw trainees of the new brigade featured a twisted match on a blue shield enflamed at each end, symbolizing the old matchlock musket days when the match was lit at both ends to ensure readiness. (43:76-77)

On August 16, 1966, the brigade was airlifted to its Vietnam camp at Tay Ninh. It was an unexpected boost to the Army's strength and considered a godsend by General William C. Westmoreland. (43:77-78) It was decided by U.S. Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) to use the brigade to open up and secure Route 22 from Go Dau Ha to Tay Ninh Province, (War Zone C) in preparation for large-scale operations. (43:78) Sarmiento's assignment was as the brigade's public information officer. One of his duties included writing a synopsis of all the battles of the brigade, which were compiled in a book entitled "*History of the 196th: Our First Year in Vietnam.*" The 196th and other U.S. and Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) units initiated Operation Attleboro in War Zone C against a sizable Viet Cong base. (45:39)

During his time with the 196th, he suffered shrapnel wounds to the head from a nighttime mortar attack. "I was told it didn't constitute a Purple Heart because it was a result of indirect-indirect enemy fire," stated Sarmiento. [Author's note: Per Mr. Sarmiento, indirect-indirect enemy fire is correct.]

He returned to the U.S. and was assigned as a basic training company commander at Ft. Bliss, Texas, where he met, and married his wife Katsuko, a Japanese American. Shortly thereafter, he was on orders again to Vietnam. His new duty was to be an advisor to the Vietnamese infantry. Therefore, he attended the Special Warfare School at Fort Bragg, N.C., followed by the U.S. Jungle Operations School in Panama. (40:5) Upon his return to Vietnam, Sarmiento was assigned as assistant district senior advisor to Regional/Popular Vietnamese forces in the Hau Nghia Province. (45:289)

As an advisor, Sarmiento's tour of duty with the Vietnamese lasted 12 months. He said, "I was living my childhood dream of becoming an American combat soldier." His advisory team consisted of three officers and four NCO's. His policy required that every combat operation have one officer and one NCO. As the officer, Sarmiento participated in several daytime combat operations and nighttime ambushes. "I averaged about three hours of sleep per day throughout the tour," recalls Sarmiento.

With just under a month remaining on his 12-month tour of duty, Sarmiento was called to respond to an enemy target. The target area was heavily booby-trapped, so he called the U.S. engineers for assistance. The engineers, however, did not arrive at the rendezvous point, so Sarmiento took his Radio Telephone Operator (RTO) and one platoon of Vietnamese into the target area. Sarmiento's unit blasted the hedgerows with everything they had available (grenades and small arms). "Since there were no secondary explosions, I felt the area was clear. Four Vietnamese entered the village in front of me and the rest of the unit was behind me (including the RTO). As fate would have it, those in front of me missed a booby-trap, and I stepped on it. It was a toe-popper land mine. All I could say was 'aw sh_t!' as I lay on the ground wounded, with my right foot gone." The blast also wounded five others around Sarmiento, including his RTO. Thanks to the bravery of the remaining Vietnamese and his wounded RTO, they were quickly evacuated by helicopter to a mobile surgical unit. (40:2)

Sarmiento's decorations include: the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Vietnam Service Ribbon. He is an active member of the Rotary Club in El Paso, the Minority Business Council - El Paso Chamber of Commerce, the Society of Professional Journalists, Public Relations Society of America, Hawaiian Club of El Paso, and The Filipino Club of El Paso. (40:3-10)

Command Sergeant Major Gilbert L. Canuela, U.S. Army

Command Sergeant Major Gilbert L. Canuela assumed duties as the command sergeant major of the U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico on June 4, 2001. His military assignments have included: Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort

Drum, New York; Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and Warner Barracks, Bamberg, Germany. (14:1)

Upon completion of One Station Unit Training, (basic and advanced individual training) at Fort Sill, he earned the title of Honor Graduate/Master Blaster. Honor graduates from the Field Artillery School include the top 10 percent in the class, and the Master Blaster designation is for to the students who displayed excellence in all field artillery tasks. (14:1)

His first assignment was with the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, where he earned the title of 1st Cavalry Division Soldier of the Year. When he was reassigned to Fort Hood several years later, he was a sergeant first class and served as the Intelligence NCO with III Corps Artillery (Liaison) Headquarters. He was inducted into the Forces Command, Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, where membership is by nomination only, and based on the accomplishments and awards of the nominee. (26:1-6)

Before his current assignment as the command sergeant major at White Sands, he previously served as the command sergeant major with the 1st Armored Division Artillery in Baumholder, Germany. After completing the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy (Class Number 47), he served as the battalion command sergeant major, 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery, 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized). The battalion was recognized as the best in the division, and was deployed in 1999 to Kuwait in support of Operation Desert Thunder, the military response to enforcement of the U.N. inspection of weapons of mass destruction by Iraq. (14:1)

His military awards and decorations include: the Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal; Good Conduct Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; NCO Professional Development Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; NATO Medal; Drill Sergeant Identification Badge; Air Assault Badge; and the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. (14:1)

Canuela was born in Camiling, Tarlac, in the Philippines, and lived there for nine years. He recalls his family of two brothers and four sisters as loving and family-oriented, but disciplined. While going to school in the Philippines, near Fort Magsaysay, he was the kid who raised the American flag every morning. "My parents always knew I was going to be a soldier," recalls CSM Canuela. "I came from a long military family line," he added. His father was a captain in the Philippine army and his grandfather was a Filipino Scout in WWII. His youth was a very patriotic time for him, and that patriotism was tested when his parents moved to Ewa Beach, Hawaii in 1969. He recalls a great deal of prejudice and fighting in school, but mainly among Japanese, Filipino, Hawaiian, and Samoan students. Canuela explained, "Trying to be friends with everyone out of peer pressure didn't let me focus too much on school. It was a survival thing - it was either 'fight or flight.'" Shortly after graduation from James Campbell High School, he entered the U.S. Army on October 19, 1978.

"Experiencing and understanding prejudice has helped me in my career," Canuela said. "You have to treat people with dignity and respect, but you have to remain vigilant too," he stated. This philosophy was especially useful when he served as a drill sergeant at Fort Sill and

earned the respect of those he trained, producing eight straight Honor Platoons. His ability to work with raw recruits of all races contributed to his selection as Drill Sergeant of the Cycle three times, which ultimately resulted in selection as Fort Sill Drill Sergeant of the Year in 1988.

Canuela takes pride in all that he does. As a command sergeant major, he realizes the importance his position holds and the influence it has on other people's lives. He sits on a variety of councils and boards that make decisions affecting military members, DoD civilians, and their families. As the post command sergeant major, he serves as the commanding general's personal advisor on all installation matters, particularly in areas affecting the training and well being of all service members and their families.

Canuela is pursuing a bachelor of science degree in Human Relations, and has graduated, with honors, from numerous military academies, schools, and courses, stating, "As a leader, I have to set the example." Being in top physical condition is part of that pride. Canuela is a graduate of the Master Fitness Trainers Course, Drill Sergeant School, and the Air Assault Course, where top physical conditioning is a prerequisite for each course.

Canuela concluded, "America has allowed me to be successful," and at his present home on post, the 41-year-old still raises his American flag every morning. (14:1)

Asian Pacific American Participation During Wartime

Despite early laws that denied various Asian American groups the freedoms and privileges of other Americans, this group's desire for a better life for themselves and future generations propelled them to overcome extreme prejudice upon their arrival in the United States. They began to immerse themselves in all aspects of American life including fighting in America's wars since the Spanish American War of 1898. (27:371-383)

Spanish American War (1898)

Seven first-generation Japanese and one Chinese man were reported killed during the sinking of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor in 1898. Filipinos also fought with the U.S. against the Spanish in Manila. After the defeat of Spain, the U.S. formed the Philippine Scouts. As American nationals, it was acceptable for the Philippine Scout Division to be integrated into the U.S. Army. The Scouts remained active through World War II and played a major role in the U.S. Army in the Philippines.

Prior to World War II

General Douglas MacArthur was the division commander of the scouts in the Philippines in the 1920s. While the Filipinos could be officers, they were limited to the rank of major.

In 1903, the Navy began enlisting Filipinos, however they were restricted to the position of steward until the late 1970s. During World War II, native Filipinos could not enlist in the Navy, but immigrant Filipinos in the United States could enlist in the Navy and Army.

World War II

This war had both positive and negative impacts on Asian Americans. Japanese Americans were placed in internment camps, and the expanded war effort opened up the U.S. Forces to immigrants who previously were not allowed to serve. Japanese Americans saw this war as their opportunity to prove their loyalty to the U.S.

Koreans began training with the California National Guard; over 20 percent of Chinese males in the U.S. joined the war effort. The first Filipino Infantry Battalion was formed at Camp San Luis Obispo, California. Pacific Islanders joined both the Navy and Marines serving as infantrymen, guides, translators, coast-watchers (surveillance), and in other capacities. The most decorated unit of World War II was the all-*Nisei* 442nd Regimental Combat Team/100th Battalion. The “Go For Broke” unit received 18,143 decorations for their service in Italy and southern France.

Korean War (1950-1953)

The military Services had become fully integrated by the time war broke out in Korea. However, minority units still existed. It was this war that led to the formation of the Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army Program (KATUSA). Today, this organization is still in existence and is managed by the U.S. Eighth Army, U.S. Forces Korea.

Vietnam War (1965-1973)

Official segregation had ended in the Services with the onset of the Vietnam War. All eligible males were subject to the draft, regardless of their ethnic origin. Asian Americans along with other minority groups continued to distinguish themselves just as they had in previous wars.

Medal of Honor Recipients

At a national ceremony held in June 2000, President William Jefferson Clinton awarded 22 Asian Americans the nation’s highest honor. Nine other Asian Americans had previously received the Medal of Honor. The nine individuals are as follows.

World War I

Pvt. Jose B. Nisperos, 34th Company, Philippine Scouts
Fireman Second Class Teleforo Trinidad, U.S. Navy, USS San Diego

World War II

Pfc. Sadao S. Munemori, U.S. Army, Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion, 442 Regimental Combat Team

Sgt Lose Calugas, U.S. Army, Battery B, 88th Field Artillery, Philippine Scouts

Korea

Cpl. Hiroshi H. Miyamura, U.S. Army, Company H, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division

Pf. Herbert K. Pililaau, U.S. Army, Company C, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division

Sgt. Leroy A. Mendonca, U.S. Army, Company 'b, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division

Sgt. 1st Class Rodney J.T. Yano, U.S. Army Air Cavalry Troop, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment

Cpl. Terry T. Kawamura, U.S. Army, 173rd Engineers Company, 173rd Airborne Brigade

(4:2)

Below is an excerpt of President Clinton's remarks at the June 2000, national ceremony honoring Asian Pacific American Medal of Honor recipients, followed by a listing of the honorees and award citations.

They risked their lives, on their own initiative, sometimes even against orders, to take out machine guns, give aid to wounded soldiers, draw fire, pinpoint the enemy, protect their own. People who can agree on nothing else fall silent before that kind of courage.

But it is long past time to break the silence about their courage, to put faces and names with the courage, and to honor it by name. These American soldiers, with names we at long last recognize as American names, made an impact that soars beyond the force of any battle. They left a lasting imprint on the meaning of America. They didn't give up on our country, even when too many of their countrymen and women had given up on them. They deserve, at the least, the most we can give -- the Medal of Honor. (15)

SSgt Rudolph B. Davila (later 2nd Lt.), 7th Infantry, for actions on May 28, 1944, at Ardena, Italy.

Pvt Barney F. Hajiro, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for actions in October 1944, at Bruyeres and Biffontaine, France.

Pvt Mikio Hasemoto, 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), for actions on November 29, 1943, at Cerasuolo, Italy (Posthumous)

Pvt Joe Hayashi, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for actions in April 1945 at Tendola, Italy.

Pvt Shizuya Hayashi, 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), for actions on November 29, 1943, at Cerasuolo, Italy.

2d Lt. Daniel K. Inouye, (later 1st Lt.), 442d Infantry, for actions on April 21, 1945, at San Terenzo, Italy.

Tech Sgt Yeiki Kobashigawa, 100th Infantry Battalion, for actions on June 2, 1944, at Lanuvio, Italy.

SSgt Robert T. Kuroda, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for actions on October 20, 1944, at Bruyeres, France (Posthumous).

Pfc Kaoru Moto, 100th Infantry Battalion, for actions on July 7, 1944, at Castellina, Italy (Posthumous).

Pfc Kiyoshi K. Muranaga, 442d Infantry, for actions on June 26, 1944, at Suvereto, Italy (Posthumous).

Pvt Masato Nakae, 100th/442d Infantry, for actions on August 19, 1944, at Pisa, Italy (Posthumous).

Pvt Shinyei Nakamine, 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), for actions on June 2, 1944, at La Torreto, Italy (Posthumous).

Pfc William K. Nakamura, 442d Infantry, for actions on July 4, 1944, at Castellina, Italy (Posthumous)

PFC Joe M. Nishimoto, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for actions on November 7, 1944, at La Houssiere, France (Posthumous).

Sgt Allan M. Ohata, (later SSgt.), 100th Infantry Battalion, for actions in November 1943 at Cerasuolo, Italy.

Tech Fifth Grade James K. Okubo, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for actions on 28-29 October and November 4, 1944 near Biffontaine, France.

Tech Sgt. Yukio Okutsu, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for actions on April 7, 1945, at Mount Belvedere, Italy.

Pfc Frank H. Ono, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for actions on July 4, 1944, at Castellina, Italy (Posthumous).

SSgt Kazuo Otani, 442d Infantry, for actions on July 15, 1944, at Pieve di S. Luce, Italy (Posthumous).

Pvt George T. Sakato, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for actions on October 29, 1944, in Biffontaine, France.

Tech. Sgt. Ted T. Tanouye, 442d Infantry, for actions on July 7, 1944, at Molina A Ventoabbto, Italy (Posthumous).

Capt. Francis B. Wai, 34th Infantry, for actions on October 20, 1944, at Leyte, Philippine Islands (Posthumous).

(15)

The following citations are the original Medal of Honor write-ups as posted on the Military History, Medal of Honor web site. **AUTHOR'S NOTE: Grammatical errors are present.** (16)

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**STAFF SERGEANT RUDOLPH B. DAVILA
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Staff Sergeant Rudolph B. Davila distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action, on 28 May 1944, near Artena, Italy. During the offensive which broke through the German mountain strongholds surrounding the Anzio beachhead, Staff Sergeant Davila risked death to provide heavy weapons support for a beleaguered rifle company. Caught on an exposed hillside by heavy, grazing fire from a well-entrenched German force, his machine gunners were reluctant to risk putting their guns into action. Crawling fifty yards to the nearest machine gun, Staff Sergeant Davila set it up alone and opened fire on the enemy. In order to observe the effect of his fire, Sergeant Davila fired from the kneeling position, ignoring the enemy fire that struck the tripod and passed between his legs. Ordering a gunner to take over, he crawled forward to a vantage point and directed the firefight with hand and arm signals until both hostile machine guns were silenced. Bringing his three remaining machine guns into action, he drove the enemy to a reserve position two hundred yards to the rear. When he received a painful wound in the leg, he dashed to a burned tank and, despite the crash of bullets on the hull, engaged a second enemy force from the tank's turret. Dismounting, he advanced 130 yards in short rushes, crawled 20 yards and charged into an enemy-held house to eliminate the defending force of five with a hand grenade and rifle fire. Climbing to the attic, he straddled a large shell hole in the wall and opened fire on the enemy. Although the walls of the house were crumbling, he continued to fire until he had destroyed two more machine guns. His intrepid actions brought desperately needed heavy weapons support to a hard-pressed rifle company and silenced four machine gunners, which forced the enemy to abandon their prepared positions. Staff Sergeant Davila's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

PRIVATE BARNEY F. HAJIRO

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private Barney F. Hajiro distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 19, 22, and 29 October 1944, in the vicinity of Bruyeres and Biffontaine, eastern France. Private Hajiro, while acting as a sentry on top of an embankment on 19 October 1944, in the vicinity of Bruyeres, France, rendered assistance to allied troops attacking a house 200 yards away by exposing himself to enemy fire and directing fire at an enemy strong point. He assisted the unit on his right by firing his automatic rifle and killing or wounding two enemy snipers. On 22 October 1944, he and one comrade took up an outpost security position about 50 yards to the right front of their platoon, concealed themselves, and ambushed an 18-man, heavily armed, enemy patrol, killing two, wounding one, and taking the remainder as prisoners. On 29 October 1944, in a wooded area in the vicinity of Biffontaine, France, Private Hajiro initiated an attack up the slope of a hill referred to as "Suicide Hill" by running forward approximately 100 yards under fire. He then advanced ahead of his comrades about 10 yards, drawing fire and spotting camouflaged machine gun nests. He fearlessly met fire with fire and single-handedly destroyed two machine gun nests and killed two enemy snipers. As a result of Private Hajiro's heroic actions, the attack was successful. Private Hajiro's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**PRIVATE MIKIO HASEMOTO
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private Mikio Hasemoto distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 29 November 1943, in the vicinity of Cerasuolo, Italy. A force of approximately 40 enemy soldiers, armed with machine guns, machine pistols, rifles, and grenades, attacked the left flank of his platoon. Two enemy soldiers with machine guns advanced forward, firing their weapons. Private Hasemoto, an automatic rifleman, challenged these two machine gunners. After firing four magazines at the approaching enemy, his weapon was shot and damaged. Unhesitatingly, he ran 10 yards to the rear, secured another automatic rifle and continued to fire until his weapon jammed. At this point, Private Hasemoto and his squad leader had killed approximately 20 enemy soldiers. Again, Private Hasemoto ran through a barrage of enemy machine gun fire to pick up an M-1 rifle. Continuing their fire, Private Hasemoto and his squad leader killed 10 more enemy soldiers. With only three enemy soldiers left, he and his squad leader charged courageously forward, killing one, wounding one, and capturing another. The following day, Private Hasemoto continued to repel enemy attacks until he was killed by enemy fire. Private Hasemoto's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

PRIVATE JOE HAYASHI

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private Joe Hayashi distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 20 and 22 April 1945, near Tendola, Italy. On 20 April 1945, ordered to attack a strongly defended hill that commanded all approaches to the village of Tendola, Private Hayashi skillfully led his men to a point within 75 yards of enemy positions before they were detected and fired upon. After dragging his wounded comrades to safety, he returned alone and exposed himself to small arms fire in order to direct and adjust mortar fire against hostile emplacements. Boldly attacking the hill with the remaining men of his squad, he attained his objective and discovered that the mortars had neutralized three machine guns, killed 27 men, and wounded many others. On 22 April 1945, attacking the village of Tendola, Private Hayashi maneuvered his squad up a steep, terraced hill to within 100 yards of the enemy. Crawling under intense fire to a hostile machine gun position, he threw a grenade, killing one enemy soldier and forcing the other members of the gun crew to surrender. Seeing four enemy machine guns delivering deadly fire upon other elements of his platoon, he threw another grenade, destroying a machine gun nest. He then crawled to the right flank of another machine gun position where he killed four enemy soldiers and forced the others to flee. Attempting to pursue the enemy, he was mortally wounded by a burst of machine pistol fire. The dauntless courage and exemplary leadership of Private Hayashi enabled his company to attain its objective. Private Hayashi's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**PRIVATE SHIZUYA HAYASHI
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private Shizuya Hayashi distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 29 November 1943, near Cerasuolo, Italy. During a flank assault on high ground held by the enemy, Private Hayashi rose alone in the face of grenade, rifle, and machine gun fire. Firing his automatic rifle from the hip, he charged and overtook an enemy machine gun position, killing seven men in the nest and two more as they fled. After his platoon advanced 200 yards from this point, an enemy antiaircraft gun opened fire on the men. Private Hayashi returned fire at the hostile position, killing nine of the enemy, taking four prisoners, and forcing the remainder of the force to withdraw from the hill. Private Hayashi's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

SECOND LIEUTENANT DANIEL K. INOUE
UNITED STATES ARMY

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Second Lieutenant Daniel K. Inouye distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 21 April 1945, in the vicinity of San Terenzo, Italy. While attacking a defended ridge guarding an important road junction, Second Lieutenant Inouye skillfully directed his platoon through a hail of automatic weapon and small arms fire, in a swift enveloping movement that resulted in the capture of an artillery and mortar post and brought his men to within 40 yards of the hostile force. Emplaced in bunkers and rock formations, the enemy halted the advance with crossfire from three machine guns. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Second Lieutenant Inouye crawled up the treacherous slope to within five yards of the nearest machine gun and hurled two grenades, destroying the emplacement. Before the enemy could retaliate, he stood up and neutralized a second machine gun nest. Although wounded by a sniper's bullet, he continued to engage other hostile positions at close range until an exploding grenade shattered his right arm. Despite the intense pain, he refused evacuation and continued to direct his platoon until enemy resistance was broken and his men were again deployed in defensive positions. In the attack, 25 enemy soldiers were killed and eight others captured. By his gallant, aggressive tactics and by his indomitable leadership, Second Lieutenant Inouye enabled his platoon to advance through formidable resistance, and was instrumental in the capture of the ridge. Second Lieutenant Inouye's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**TECHNICAL SERGEANT YEIKI KOBASHIGAWA
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Technical Sergeant Yeiki Kobashigawa distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 2 June 1944, in the vicinity of Lanuvio, Italy. During an attack, Technical Sergeant Kobashigawa's platoon encountered strong enemy resistance from a series of machine guns providing supporting fire. Observing a machine gun nest 50 yards from his position, Technical Sergeant Kobashigawa crawled forward with one of his men, threw a grenade and then charged the enemy with his submachine gun while a fellow soldier provided covering fire. He killed one enemy soldier and captured two prisoners. Meanwhile, Technical Sergeant Kobashigawa and his comrade were fired upon by another machine gun 50 yards ahead. Directing a squad to advance to his first position, Technical Sergeant Kobashigawa again moved forward with a fellow soldier to subdue the second machine gun nest. After throwing grenades into the position, Technical Sergeant Kobashigawa provided close supporting fire while a fellow soldier charged, capturing four prisoners. On the alert for other machine gun nests, Technical Sergeant Kobashigawa discovered four more, and skillfully led a squad in neutralizing two of them. Technical Sergeant Kobashigawa's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**STAFF SERGEANT ROBERT T. KURODA
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Staff Sergeant Robert T. Kuroda distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action, on 20 October 1944, near Bruyeres, France. Leading his men in an advance to destroy snipers and machine gun nests, Staff Sergeant Kuroda encountered heavy fire from enemy soldiers occupying a heavily wooded slope. Unable to pinpoint the hostile machine gun, he boldly made his way through heavy fire to the crest of the ridge. Once he located the machine gun, Staff Sergeant Kuroda advanced to a point within ten yards of the nest and killed three enemy gunners with grenades. He then fired clip after clip of rifle ammunition, killing or wounding at least three of the enemy. As he expended the last of his ammunition, he observed that an American officer had been struck by a burst of fire from a hostile machine gun located on an adjacent hill. Rushing to the officer's assistance, he found that the officer had been killed. Picking up the officer's submachine gun, Staff Sergeant Kuroda advanced through continuous fire toward a second machine gun emplacement and destroyed the position. As he turned to fire upon additional enemy soldiers, he was killed by a sniper. Staff Sergeant Kuroda's courageous actions and indomitable fighting spirit ensured the destruction of enemy resistance in the sector. Staff Sergeant Kuroda's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**PRIVATE FIRST CLASS KAORU MOTO
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private First Class Kaoru Moto distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 7 July 1944, near Castellina, Italy. While serving as first scout, Private First Class Moto observed a machine gun nest that was hindering his platoon's progress. On his own initiative, he made his way to a point ten paces from the hostile position, and killed the enemy machine gunner. Immediately, the enemy assistant gunner opened fire in the direction of Private First Class Moto. Crawling to the rear of the position, Private First Class Moto surprised the enemy soldier, who quickly surrendered. Taking his prisoner with him, Private First Class Moto took a position a few yards from a house to prevent the enemy from using the building as an observation post. While guarding the house and his prisoner, he observed an enemy machine gun team moving into position. He engaged them, and with deadly fire forced the enemy to withdraw. An enemy sniper located in another house fired at Private First Class Moto, severely wounding him. Applying first aid to his wound, he changed position to elude the sniper fire and to advance. Finally relieved of his position, he made his way to the rear for treatment. Crossing a road, he spotted an enemy machine gun nest. Opening fire, he wounded two of the three soldiers occupying the position. Not satisfied with this accomplishment, he then crawled forward to a better position and ordered the enemy soldier to surrender. Receiving no answer, Private First Class Moto fired at the position, and the soldiers surrendered. Private First Class Moto's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**PRIVATE FIRST CLASS KIYOSHI K. MURANAGA
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private First Class Kiyoshi K. Muranaga distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 26 June 1944, near Suvereto, Italy. Private First Class Muranaga's company encountered a strong enemy force in commanding positions and with superior firepower. An enemy 88mm self-propelled gun opened direct fire on the company, causing the men to disperse and seek cover. Private First Class Muranaga's mortar squad was ordered to action, but the terrain made it impossible to set up their weapons. The squad leader, realizing the vulnerability of the mortar position, moved his men away from the gun to positions of relative safety. Because of the heavy casualties being inflicted on his company, Private First Class Muranaga, who served as a gunner, attempted to neutralize the 88mm weapon alone. Voluntarily remaining at his gun position, Private First Class Muranaga manned the mortar himself and opened fire on the enemy gun at a range of approximately 400 yards. With his third round, he was able to correct his fire so that the shell landed directly in front of the enemy gun. Meanwhile, the enemy crew, immediately aware of the source of mortar fire, turned their 88mm weapon directly on Private First Class Muranaga's position. Before Private First Class Muranaga could fire a fourth round, an 88mm shell scored a direct hit on his position, killing him instantly. Because of the accuracy of Private First Class Muranaga's previous fire, the enemy soldiers decided not to risk further exposure and immediately abandoned their position. Private First Class Muranaga's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**PRIVATE MASATO NAKAE
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private Masato Nakae distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 19 August 1944, near Pisa, Italy. When his submachine gun was damaged by a shell fragment during a fierce attack by a superior enemy force, Private Nakae quickly picked up his wounded comrade's M-1 rifle and fired rifle grenades at the steadily advancing enemy. As the hostile force continued to close in on his position, Private Nakae threw six grenades and forced them to withdraw. During a concentrated enemy mortar barrage that preceded the next assault by the enemy force, a mortar shell fragment seriously wounded Private Nakae. Despite his injury, he refused to surrender his position and continued firing at the advancing enemy. By inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy force, he finally succeeded in breaking up the attack and caused the enemy to withdraw. Private Nakae's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**PRIVATE SHINYEI NAKAMINE
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private Shinyei Nakamine distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 2 June 1944, near La Torreto, Italy. During an attack, Private Nakamine's platoon became pinned down by intense machine gun crossfire from a small knoll 200 yards to the front. On his own initiative, Private Nakamine crawled toward one of the hostile weapons. Reaching a point 25 yards from the enemy, he charged the machine gun nest, firing his submachine gun, and killed three enemy soldiers and captured two. Later that afternoon, Private Nakamine discovered an enemy soldier on the right flank of his platoon's position. Crawling 25 yards from his position, Private Nakamine opened fire and killed the soldier. Then, seeing a machine gun nest to his front approximately 75 yards away, he returned to his platoon and led an automatic rifle team toward the enemy. Under covering fire from his team, Private Nakamine crawled to a point 25 yards from the nest and threw hand grenades at the enemy soldiers, wounding one and capturing four. Spotting another machine gun nest 100 yards to his right flank, he led the automatic rifle team toward the hostile position but was killed by a burst of machine gun fire. Private Nakamine's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**PRIVATE FIRST CLASS WILLIAM K. NAKAMURA
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private First Class William K. Nakamura distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 4 July 1944, near Castellina, Italy. During a fierce firefight, Private First Class Nakamura's platoon became pinned down by enemy machine gun fire from a concealed position. On his own initiative, Private First Class Nakamura crawled 20 yards toward the hostile nest with fire from the enemy machine gun barely missing him. Reaching a point 15 yards from the position, he quickly raised himself to a kneeling position and threw four hand grenades, killing or wounding at least three of the enemy soldiers. The enemy weapon silenced, Private First Class Nakamura crawled back to his platoon, which was able to continue its advance as a result of his courageous action. Later, his company was ordered to withdraw from the crest of a hill so that a mortar barrage could be placed on the ridge. On his own initiative, Private First Class Nakamura remained in position to cover his comrades' withdrawal. While moving toward the safety of a wooded draw, his platoon became pinned down by deadly machine gun fire. Crawling to a point from which he could fire on the enemy position, Private First Class Nakamura quickly and accurately fired his weapon to pin down the enemy machine gunners. His platoon was then able to withdraw to safety without further casualties. Private First Class Nakamura was killed during this heroic stand. Private First Class Nakamura's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOE M. NISHIMOTO

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private First Class Joe M. Nishimoto distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 7 November 1944, near La Houssiere, France. After three days of unsuccessful attempts by his company to dislodge the enemy from a strongly defended ridge, Private First Class Nishimoto, as acting squad leader, boldly crawled forward through a heavily mined and booby-trapped area. Spotting a machine gun nest, he hurled a grenade and destroyed the emplacement. Then, circling to the rear of another machine gun position, he fired his submachine gun at point-blank range, killing one gunner and wounding another. Pursuing two enemy riflemen, Private First Class Nishimoto killed one, while the other hastily retreated. Continuing his determined assault, he drove another machine gun crew from its position. The enemy, with their key strong points taken, were forced to withdraw from this sector. Private First Class Nishimoto's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**STAFF SERGEANT ALLAN M. OHATA
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Sergeant Allan M. Ohata distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 29 and 30 November 1943, near Cerasuolo, Italy. Sergeant Ohata, his squad leader, and three men were ordered to protect his platoon's left flank against an attacking enemy force of 40 men, armed with machine guns, machine pistols, and rifles. He posted one of his men, an automatic rifleman, on the extreme left, 15 yards from his own position. Taking his position, Sergeant Ohata delivered effective fire against the advancing enemy. The man to his left called for assistance when his automatic rifle was shot and damaged. With utter disregard for his personal safety, Sergeant Ohata left his position and advanced 15 yards through heavy machine gun fire. Reaching his comrade's position, he immediately fired upon the enemy, killing 10 enemy soldiers and successfully covering his comrade's withdrawal to replace his damaged weapon. Sergeant Ohata and the automatic rifleman held their position and killed 37 enemy soldiers. Both men then charged the three remaining soldiers and captured them. Later, Sergeant Ohata and the automatic rifleman stopped another attacking force of 14, killing four and wounding three while the others fled. The following day he and the automatic rifleman held their flank with grim determination and staved off all attacks. Staff Sergeant Ohata's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863,
has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE JAMES K. OKUBO
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Technician Fifth Grade James K. Okubo distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 28 and 29 October and 4 November 1944, in the Foret Domaniale de Champ, near Biffontaine, eastern France. On 28 October, under strong enemy fire coming from behind mine fields and roadblocks, Technician Fifth Grade Okubo, a medic, crawled 150 yards to within 40 yards of the enemy lines. Two grenades were thrown at him while he left his last covered position to carry back wounded comrades. Under constant barrages of enemy small arms and machine gun fire, he treated 17 men on 28 October and 8 more men on 29 October. On 4 November, Technician Fifth Grade Okubo ran 75 yards under grazing machine gun fire and, while exposed to hostile fire directed at him, evacuated and treated a seriously wounded crewman from a burning tank, who otherwise would have died. Technician Fifth Grade James K. Okubo's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**TECHNICAL SERGEANT YUKIO OKUTSU
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Technical Sergeant Yukio Okutsu distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 7 April 1945, on Mount Belvedere, Italy. While his platoon was halted by the crossfire of three machine guns, Technical Sergeant Okutsu boldly crawled to within 30 yards of the nearest enemy emplacement through heavy fire. He destroyed the position with two accurately placed hand grenades, killing three machine gunners. Crawling and dashing from cover to cover, he threw another grenade, silencing a second machine gun, wounding two enemy soldiers, and forcing two others to surrender. Seeing a third machine gun, which obstructed his platoon's advance, he moved forward through heavy small arms fire and was stunned momentarily by rifle fire, which glanced off his helmet. Recovering, he bravely charged several enemy riflemen with his submachine gun, forcing them to withdraw from their positions. Then, rushing the machine gun nest, he captured the weapon and its entire crew of four. By these single-handed actions he enabled his platoon to resume its assault on a vital objective. The courageous performance of Technical Sergeant Okutsu against formidable odds was an inspiration to all. Technical Sergeant Okutsu's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS FRANK H. ONO

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private First Class Frank H. Ono distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 4 July 1944, near Castellina, Italy. In attacking a heavily defended hill, Private First Class Ono's squad was caught in a hail of formidable fire from the well-entrenched enemy. Private First Class Ono opened fire with his automatic rifle and silenced one machine gun 300 hundred yards to the right front. Advancing through incessant fire, he killed a sniper with another burst of fire, and while his squad leader reorganized the rest of the platoon in the rear, he alone defended the critical position. His weapon was then wrenched from his grasp by a burst of enemy machine pistol fire as enemy troops attempted to close in on him. Hurling hand grenades, Private First Class Ono forced the enemy to abandon the attempt, resolutely defending the newly won ground until the rest of the platoon moved forward. Taking a wounded comrade's rifle, Private First Class Ono again joined in the assault. After killing two more enemy soldiers, he boldly ran through withering automatic, small arms, and mortar fire to render first aid to his platoon leader and a seriously wounded rifleman. In danger of being encircled, the platoon was ordered to withdraw. Volunteering to cover the platoon, Private First Class Ono occupied virtually unprotected positions near the crest of the hill, engaging an enemy machine gun emplaced on an adjoining ridge and exchanging fire with snipers armed with machine pistols. Completely disregarding his own safety, he made himself the constant target of concentrated enemy fire until the platoon reached the comparative safety of a draw. He then descended the hill in stages, firing his rifle, until he rejoined the platoon. Private First Class Ono's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

STAFF SERGEANT KAZUO OTANI
UNITED STATES ARMY

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Staff Sergeant Kazuo Otani distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 15 July 1944, near Pieve Di S. Luce, Italy. Advancing to attack a hill objective, Staff Sergeant Otani's platoon became pinned down in a wheat field by concentrated fire from enemy machine gun and sniper positions. Realizing the danger confronting his platoon, Staff Sergeant Otani left his cover and shot and killed a sniper who was firing with deadly effect upon the platoon. Followed by a steady stream of machine gun bullets, Staff Sergeant Otani then dashed across the open wheat field toward the foot of a cliff, and directed his men to crawl to the cover of the cliff. When the movement of the platoon drew heavy enemy fire, he dashed along the cliff toward the left flank, exposing himself to enemy fire. By attracting the attention of the enemy, he enabled the men closest to the cliff to reach cover. Organizing these men to guard against possible enemy counterattack, Staff Sergeant Otani again made his way across the open field, shouting instructions to the stranded men while continuing to draw enemy fire. Reaching the rear of the platoon position, he took partial cover in a shallow ditch and directed covering fire for the men who had begun to move forward. At this point, one of his men became seriously wounded. Ordering his men to remain under cover, Staff Sergeant Otani crawled to the wounded soldier who was lying on open ground in full view of the enemy. Dragging the wounded soldier to a shallow ditch, Staff Sergeant Otani proceeded to render first aid treatment, but was mortally wounded by machine gun fire. Staff Sergeant Otani's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**PRIVATE GEORGE T. SAKATO
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Private George T. Sakato distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 29 October 1944, on hill 617 in the vicinity of Biffontaine, France. After his platoon had virtually destroyed two enemy defense lines, during which he personally killed five enemy soldiers and captured four, his unit was pinned down by heavy enemy fire. Disregarding the enemy fire, Private Sakato made a one-man rush that encouraged his platoon to charge and destroy the enemy strongpoint. While his platoon was reorganizing, he proved to be the inspiration of his squad in halting a counter-attack on the left flank during which his squad leader was killed. Taking charge of the squad, he continued his relentless tactics, using an enemy rifle and P-38 pistol to stop an organized enemy attack. During this entire action, he killed 12 and wounded two, personally captured four and assisted his platoon in taking 34 prisoners. By continuously ignoring enemy fire, and by his gallant courage and fighting spirit, he turned impending defeat into victory and helped his platoon complete its mission. Private Sakato's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

TECHNICAL SERGEANT TED T. TANOUYE
UNITED STATES ARMY

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Technical Sergeant Ted T. Tanouye distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 7 July 1944, near Molino A Ventoabbto, Italy. Technical Sergeant Tanouye led his platoon in an attack to capture the crest of a strategically important hill that afforded little cover. Observing an enemy machine gun crew placing its gun in position to his left front, Technical Sergeant Tanouye crept forward a few yards and opened fire on the position, killing or wounding three and causing two others to disperse. Immediately, an enemy machine pistol opened fire on him. He returned the fire and killed or wounded three more enemy soldiers. While advancing forward, Technical Sergeant Tanouye was subjected to grenade bursts, which severely wounded his left arm. Sighting an enemy-held trench, he raked the position with fire from his submachine gun and wounded several of the enemy. Running out of ammunition, he crawled 20 yards to obtain several clips from a comrade on his left flank. Next, sighting an enemy machine pistol that had pinned down his men, Technical Sergeant Tanouye crawled forward a few yards and threw a hand grenade into the position, silencing the pistol. He then located another enemy machine gun firing down the slope of the hill, opened fire on it, and silenced that position. Drawing fire from a machine pistol nest located above him, he opened fire on it and wounded three of its occupants. Finally taking his objective, Technical Sergeant Tanouye organized a defensive position on the reverse slope of the hill before accepting first aid treatment and evacuation. Technical Sergeant Tanouye's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

**CAPTAIN FRANCIS B. WAI
UNITED STATES ARMY**

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Captain Francis B. Wai distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action, on 20 October 1944, in Leyte, Philippine Islands. Captain Wai landed at Red Beach, Leyte, in the face of accurate, concentrated enemy fire from gun positions advantageously located in a palm grove bounded by submerged rice paddies. Finding the first four waves of American soldiers leaderless, disorganized, and pinned down on the open beach, he immediately assumed command. Issuing clear and concise orders, and disregarding heavy enemy machine gun and rifle fire, he began to move inland through the rice paddies without cover. The men, inspired by his cool demeanor and heroic example, rose from their positions and followed him. During the advance, Captain Wai repeatedly determined the locations of enemy strong points by deliberately exposing himself to draw their fire. In leading an assault upon the last remaining Japanese pillbox in the area, he was killed by its occupants. Captain Wai's courageous, aggressive leadership inspired the men, even after his death, to advance and destroy the enemy. His intrepid and determined efforts were largely responsible for the rapidity with which the initial beachhead was secured. Captain Wai's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

Conclusion

The theme of this year's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month sums up the contributions and great sacrifices that Asian Americans have endured, "Unity in Freedom." Throughout history, Asian Pacific Americans have helped unite this country and preserve freedom for all, even during the times when their own freedom was not guaranteed by the laws of this country.

This paper presented the reader with a brief glimpse into Asian Pacific Americans. Through an understanding of their contributions and struggles, which are a composite of America's history, it may be easier to understand the past, present, and future. During this difficult time, where freedom is being challenged, Asian American history provides a good lesson, for only through unity, will freedom be maintained.

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Appendix A

Asian Pacific American Heritage Council

In 1979, with the encouragement of many friends and constituencies, the Asian Pacific American Heritage Council (APAHC) Inc., was founded under the leadership of Mary and Mark Au. (6) (7:1) The APAHC is a nonprofit, IRS approved, 501 (c) 3 organization. (6:1) Two main goals of the council are to assist in educating the general public and informing their own ethnic communities about cultural and civil rights issues. The council encourages Asian Pacific Americans to speak with “One Vision, One Mission, One Voice” in America’s democratic process. (30:1-2) This motto is enacted through programs such as scholarships to pursue degrees in the fields of business, education, finance, law, public service, public administration, science, or engineering. (9) (10:1-2)

The council’s process for determining the national theme each year is a result of adding votes received on the Internet and from emails submitted by Asian Pacific American (APA) organizations across the nation. These groups comprise volunteer-led coalitions of more than 20 nonprofit organizations, and represent over 9 million people. (11:1) (9:3-4) The theme identified by the APAHC is normally adopted by the Federal government.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Annual Themes – 1981 to 2001

- Bridging the Gap
- United Are We
- Working Together
- Strength Through Unity
- Fulfilling America’s Promises
- Ascending Force of the 80’s
- Striving for Equity
- Asians Achieve
- Participation, Partnership, Progress
- Commitment, Contribution, Community
- Dedication, Dignity, Distinction
- Effectiveness, Empowerment, Enhancement
- Harmony in Diversity
- Dedication, Dignity, Distinction (used previously)
- Equality, Empowerment, Excellence
- One Vision, One Mission, One Voice *
- One Vision, One Mission, One Voice
- Pursuing Progress
- Celebrating Our Legacy
- Voices for the Millennium
- Emerging Together

* The APAHC and its coalitions so overwhelmingly liked this theme, it is their motto and was used for two consecutive years as the national theme. (8:1)

In 1999, the Asian community achieved presidential focus with a signed Executive order. This order thrust attention upon the APA community and created various programs to better serve this population in America.

Executive Order 13125

President William Jefferson Clinton signed Executive Order 13125 on June 7, 1999. It is designed to improve the quality of life for Asian Pacific Americans through increased participation in Federal programs where they may be underserved. The executive order consists of three branches: (a) The President's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific Islanders; (b) The Federal Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Asian Pacific Islanders; and (c) The Office of the White House Initiative on Asian Pacific Americans. (32:5) Each branch has independent responsibilities.

President's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific Americans

The President's Advisory Commission is composed of 15 individuals with a history of involvement and leadership in Asian Pacific American communities from fields such as health, education, economic and community development, civil rights, and business. (17:1) Secretary Norman Y. Mineta served as the Commission's first chair. The current chair, Martha Choe, succeeded Mineta in August 2000. Ms. Choe is the director of the Office of Trade and Economic Development for the state of Washington. The Commission provides recommendations to the President on the following mandates of the executive order:

1. Develop, monitor, and coordinate Federal efforts to improve Asian Pacific American participation in government programs.
2. Foster research and data collection on Asian Pacific American populations and subpopulations.
3. Increase public and private sector and community involvement towards improving the health and well being of Asian Pacific Americans. (31:5)

In January 2001, the Commission released its interim report to the President and the nation: *Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, a People Looking Forward*. The report details the preliminary findings and recommendations of the Commission based on major town hall meetings, community roundtables, literature reviews, and information provided by Federal agencies.

Interagency Working Group on Asian Pacific Americans

The Executive order calls on all Federal agencies to mobilize their resources to address the unmet needs of Asian Pacific Islanders. The Interagency Working Group (IWG) is

composed of Deputy Secretaries and senior officials from various Federal departments and designated independent agencies. The IWG's mission is to advise the President through the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services on its activities. In its first year (1999), the IWG developed a tailored inventory of existing programs and funding levels targeted at Asian Pacific Americans. Additionally, each agency is responsible for developing an annual implementation plan that documents its activities toward meeting the mandates of the Executive order. A Coordinating Committee composed of senior-level designees from across Federal executive departments and designated independent agencies supports the work of the IWG. The Committee is the implementation arm of the Interagency Working Group. (31:5)

The Office of the White House Initiative on Asian Pacific Americans

The Office of the White House Initiative on Asian Pacific Americans coordinates the activities of both the President's Advisory Commission and the Interagency Working Group. This office is housed in the Health Resources and Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The DHHS is the lead Federal department responsible for the implementation of the Executive order. (31:5)

Last year, presidential focus on the Asian community came in the form of an extension to Order 13125.

Executive Order 13216

On June 6, 2001, President George Walker Bush signed Executive Order 13216. This order is an amended version of Executive Order 13125. The amendment gives the Executive order a new title and a 2-year extension of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific Americans. The new title is: *"Increasing Opportunity and Improving Quality of Life of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders"* from *"Improving the Quality of Life of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders."* It increases opportunities and improves the quality of life of Asian Americans through greater participation in Federal programs where they may be underserved (e.g., health, human services, education, housing, labor, transportation, and economic and community development). (19:1)

In addition to the formation of APAHC and the original Executive Order, there was another council formed in the mid 80s to represent Asian Pacific Americans in government employment.

Federal Asian Pacific American Council

The Federal Asian Pacific American Council (FAPAC) was established in 1985. Located in Washington, D.C., it is an interagency organization of Asian Pacific American employees representing over 100 Federal agencies and the District of Columbia government. It is nationally

recognized as the organization that pursues Asian Pacific American employee interests and representation in the Federal and the District of Columbia governments. (24:1)

The Office of Personnel Management declared its support of FAPAC this year by sending a memorandum to all directors of Human Resources and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) offices encouraging their participation in FAPAC's 17th Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The U.S. Department of Energy Secretary, Spencer Abraham, issued a statement January 14, 2002, which stated "I welcome and encourage the full participation of Asian Pacific Americans and other all other employees in the spirit of the DOE's corporate culture of dignity and respect." (25:1)

The FAPAC's main mission is to promote equal opportunity and cultural diversity for Asian Pacific Americans within the Federal government. The council offers scholarships for Asian Pacific Americans and provides internship opportunities with Federal agencies. (24:2) The gala event of the FAPAC, however, is to host its conference every May. The conference provides the opportunity for officers and members of all FAPAC chapters to meet and discuss issues of mutual interest. (23:5)

Appendix B

Significant Contributions by Asian Pacific Americans

Asian Pacific Americans in Politics

Many of the Asian Pacific Americans listed in this section are members of The President's Advisory Commission appointed by President George W. Bush on June 6, 2001. These individuals are active in the Asian Pacific American community, providing expertise in their specific fields. Their biographies and other Asian Pacific Americans who have made significant contributions to America are as follows. (17.1)

Elaine L. Chao

Elaine L. Chao is the first Asian Pacific American woman appointed to a President's cabinet in U.S. history. Her experiences and skills as an executive leader in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors uniquely qualify her to head the U.S. Department of Labor. Before joining the Labor Department, Secretary Chao was a Distinguished Fellow at the Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy research and educational institute. Previously she served as President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way of America (UWA), where she restored public trust and confidence to the nation's largest institution of private charitable giving after the organization was tarnished by mismanagement and financial abuse.

Before joining UWA, she was Director of the Peace Corps, the world's largest international volunteer organization. As Director, she established the first Peace Corps program in the Baltic nations of Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union. Secretary Chao's previous government career includes serving as the Deputy Secretary at the U.S. Department of Transportation. She also served as Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission and Deputy Maritime Administrator in the U. S. Department of Transportation.

She brings a wealth of private sector experience to the post, having worked as Vice President of Syndications at Bank America Capital Markets Group in San Francisco. She was selected as a White House Fellow in 1983 and, before that, was a transportation banker with Citicorp in New York. Secretary Chao received her master of business administration from the Harvard Business School and her undergraduate degree in Economics from Mount Holyoke College. She also studied at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dartmouth College, and Columbia University.

Secretary Chao has received numerous awards for her professional accomplishments and community service. She is the recipient of 12 honorary doctorate degrees from colleges and universities across the country. Secretary Chao is married to United States Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. (21:1-2)

Daniel Kahikina Akaka

U.S. Senator Daniel Kahikina Akaka of Hawaii is the only Chinese American member of the Senate. He has served in the United States Senate as a Democrat since May 16, 1990. Senator Akaka handily won a spirited special election in November 1990 to complete the four-year term of the late Senator Spark M. Matsunaga. Elected to a six-year term in 1994, he was reelected in November 2000 with over 70 percent of the popular vote.

As Chairman of the Governmental Advisory Committee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services Subcommittee, Akaka has taken a leading role in a number of critical national security areas. In addition, he is a champion for the interests of Federal employees and retirees. He has worked to ensure deployment of an effective and financially efficient national missile defense program, guarding against potential missile attacks by rogue states, and promoted efforts to improve controls of sensitive dual-use exports and safeguard critical information at our most sensitive nuclear weapons laboratories. He has promoted ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and worked to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons technology.

Akaka has directed the General Accounting Office to investigate immigration procedures in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and worked with the U.S. Department of State to discourage global human trafficking for sexual purposes.

In his assignment on the Armed Services Committee, and as Chairman of the Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee, Senator Akaka aims to continue the State of Hawaii's excellent relationship with the military.

He works with the Defense Department to meet our nation's security interests in the Pacific and around the world. Dan Akaka is an advocate for veterans, working to improve services and increase employment and housing opportunities for the men and women who have served in our nation's Armed Services. Senator Akaka seeks an efficient and responsive Federal government for American taxpayers, and is a recognized leader in providing parity and equity to Federal employees, postal workers, and annuitants. (2:1-3)

Robert T. Matsui

Representative Robert T. Matsui, having first campaigned in 1978 for the congressional seat serving Sacramento, California, is now a 23-year veteran of the House of Representatives. He is currently engaged as a Democratic leader in the effort to save Social Security, condemning proposals to carve private accounts from the existing system, publicly exposing the fact that all such proposals would cut benefits, raise the retirement age, or reduce retirees' standard of living while further exacerbating Social Security's financing challenges.

In the 107th Congress, Matsui is the only current Social Security Subcommittee member who also served on the Subcommittee in 1983; the last time the program faced major changes. He currently serves as ranking minority member of the Social Security Subcommittee, and has

previously held posts as ranking minority member of the Oversight Subcommittee, Acting Chair of the Trade Subcommittee, Acting Chair of the Human Resources Subcommittee, and member of the Select Revenue Measures Subcommittee.

Matsui has played crucial roles in developing and passing legislation that has become the foundation for some of the Ways and Means Committee's most successful programs over the past two decades.

A third-generation Japanese American, Matsui was six months old when he and his family were taken from Sacramento and interned by the U.S. government at the Tule Lake camp in 1942, after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. In 1988, Representative Matsui helped shepherd the Japanese American Redress Act through Congress, in which the government formally apologized for the World War II internment program and offered token compensation to victims. He was also instrumental in the designation of Manzanar, a wartime relocation center 200 miles northeast of Los Angeles, as a national historic site. Matsui also helped obtain land on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., for the memorial to Japanese American patriotism in World War II. (32:1-3)

Barbara Marumoto

Representative Barbara Marumoto, of Honolulu, Hawaii, is a member of the Hawaii House of Representatives. She represents the 17th House District, a residential neighborhood near Diamond Head. Marumoto was first elected to state office in 1978, after she served as a delegate to the Hawaii Constitutional Convention. She has served in the legislature for over two decades and was House Minority Leader from 1984 to 1986 and from 1998 to 2001.

Her legislative efforts focus primarily on pocket-book issues, such as: taxation, improving business climate, promoting economic development, and advocating for better public schools and higher education. Marumoto has previously served on several Federal advisory boards including the Small Business Administration's Honolulu Advisory Council, the Department of Education's Intergovernmental Advisory Council on Education, and the Department of Defense's Advisory Committee on Women in Services. She is currently President of the Women's Legislative Network of the National Conference of State Legislatures. Representative Marumoto holds a bachelor of arts degree in Sociology from the University of Hawaii. (47:2)

Amata Coleman Radewagen

Amata Coleman Radewagen, a Samoan American, and Native Hawaiian of Pago Pago, American Samoa, is a member of the U.S. House Leadership Staff under Congressman J.C. Watts (R-OK), Chairman of the House Republican Conference. She previously served on the staff of the Dean of the Conference, Congressman Philip M. Crane (R-IL), where her responsibilities included advising him on issues affecting the Pacific islands. Earlier in her

career, she was on the staff of Frank C. Carlucci, U.S. Under Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare.

A breast cancer survivor, Radewagen has dedicated herself to educating island women on the importance of prevention and early detection of the disease. She is the founder of the Samoan Women's Health Fund and a member of the National Breast Cancer Coalition.

Radewagen has served as a democracy trainer for the International Foundation for Electoral Systems and the International Republican Institute, as an advisory council member of the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council. She was an advisor to the American Samoa Power Authority. Raised in Pago Pago, she has also resided in Honolulu, Saipan, and Guam, where she received a bachelor of arts degree in Psychology from the University of Guam. (47:3)

Asian Pacific Americans in Athletics

Jeanette Lee

Jeanette Lee is one of the most recognizable figures in professional billiards. Her ability to devour opponents and tendency to wear all black during tournaments earned Lee the nickname, Black Widow. The Women's Professional Billiards Association awarded Lee with the Sportsperson of the Year Award in 1998. In 1994, Billiard Digest and Pool and Billiard Magazine named her Player of the Year. She founded the Jeanette Lee Foundation, a charitable organization whose purpose is to demonstrate that any goal can be achieved despite one's disability. (28:1) Despite being diagnosed with Scoliosis at the age of 13, she continues to maintain great poise and beauty, which have earned her groundbreaking deals including an exclusive line of Jeanette Lee pool cues. (28:1-2) (48:2)

Dat Nguyen

Dat Nguyen, the son of Vietnamese immigrants, has battled the perception that he was too small to play football for as long as he has been involved in the game. He is a starting middle linebacker for the Dallas Cowboys of the National Football League. Following his senior season at Texas A&M, he was one of the nation's most decorated collegiate players, earning All-America honors from: Walter Camp; The Sports Network; The Sporting News; Burger King/AFCA; Football News and College Football News. (36:1-4)

Jhoon Rhee

Master Jhoon Rhee, of McLean, Virginia, is a world-renowned martial arts instructor with over 60 affiliated Tae Kwon Do studios in the United States and 65 in the former Soviet Union. A 10th degree Black Belt, Rhee has been inducted into the Black Belt Hall of Fame and is regarded as the "Father of Tae Kwon Do" in both the U.S. and the former Soviet Union.

He is the author of five books and received the Bicentennial Sports Award as the “Martial Arts Man of the Century.” Rhee was a special advisor to the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports from 1985 to 1988, and he served on the National Council on Vocational Education from 1988 to 1991.

In March 1992, President George Herbert Walker Bush selected him to be the 721st “Daily Point of Light.” He has appeared in two films and is a popular motivational speaker at seminars throughout the world. He has trained numerous celebrities including Muhammad Ali, Tony Robinson, Jack Valenti, and over 250 members of the U.S. Congress.

Rhee, who emigrated from Korea to the U.S. in 1957, was honored by the National Immigrant Forum and the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service as one of 200 most famous immigrants in American history, alongside such individuals as Albert Einstein and Alexander Graham Bell. (47:3)

Asian Pacific Americans in Education

John P. Tsu

Dr. Tsu, of Milbrae, California, is a life-long educator who is currently a Regent for John F. Kennedy University in Orinda, California. He has been a professor of Political Science, Asian Studies, and Multicultural Education at Seton Hall University, the University of San Francisco, and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, where he was a visiting scholar.

In 1988, he joined the John F. Kennedy University, where he established and directed the school's Asian Pacific Institute. In the 1950s, he was a leading advocate for the teaching of Asian languages in public schools, and he has been a pioneer of increasing Asian participation in mainstream American politics at the national, state, and local levels. In 1989, President George Herbert Walker Bush appointed Tsu as Co-chair of his Presidential Personnel Advisory Committee. In this capacity, Tsu recommended more than 150 Asian Americans for positions in the Bush-Quayle administration.

Born in the Jilin Province of China, Dr. Tsu was educated in Japan and received his LL.B. degree from Tokyo University. He came to the United States in 1950 to pursue graduate studies and received a master of arts degree from Georgetown University and a Ph.D. from Fordham University. (47:1)

Asian Pacific Americans in Science

Lupo T. Carlota

Dr. Lupo T. Carlota, from Lakeland, Tennessee, is the president and founder of the Medical Acupuncture Research Institute of America, an institution of higher learning dedicated

to the study, research, and development of modern scientific acupuncture. Dr. Carlota has been widely recognized for simplifying the study of acupuncture by western medical practitioners. He has received numerous accolades for his scientific research and publications on the subject.

In 1993, Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos awarded Dr. Carlota the “Pamana Ng Bayan” (Legacy of the Nation) award, the country's highest honor in recognition of exemplary service performed by Filipinos living overseas. Active in the Filipino American community, he has served as president of several organizations including the Association of Philippine Physicians in America, a nationwide organization of the 25,000 Filipino American doctors serving in the grassroots communities across the United States. Other past presidencies he has held include: the Philippine Medical Association of Tennessee; the National Filipino American Council, a hub organization for Filipino Americans; and the Filipino American Empowerment Movement.

In 1993, he was elected vice mayor of the City of Lakeland and served on the city's Board of Commissioners. Dr. Carlota earned his doctorate of Medicine in 1960 from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila. After immigrating to the U.S. in 1965, he completed an internship and a psychiatric residency in Cleveland, Ohio, and Warren, Pennsylvania, respectively. (47:1-2)

Asian Pacific Americans in Business

Mary M. Ling

Mary M. Ling, of Toluca Lake, California, came to the United States in 1968. She has worked in a variety of fields including public affairs and international business. She was the founder of Fu-Kang International, a firm based in Taipei, Taiwan, which aids foreign investors, primarily from Hong Kong and Taiwan, to invest in small businesses in the United States. She served as the firm's president from 1995 to 1999. Before that, she served as director of public relations for the law offices of Hogg and Benson in Los Angeles.

Ling is a member of several community groups including: the Republican Women's Federation; the Chinese Lion's Club of Los Angeles; Chinese Americans for Self-Empowerment; and the Taiwanese Women's Association. She is the proud mother of two daughters: Lisa, co-host of ABC Television's talk show *The View*, and Laura, a producer of documentary films. Ling received her BA degree from Christ College. (47:2)

Garry K. Ong

Garry K. Ong, of Phoenix, Arizona, is the president of G.O. Enterprises, which operates pan-Asian restaurants in Phoenix. He is also president and C.E.O. of Great Wall Enterprises, Ltd., a corporation that includes the Phoenix International Trading Company and Travelink International and Consulting Services. He serves in several advisory roles for the State of Arizona. He is a member of: the Asian Advisory Council for Secretary of State, Betsey Bayless;

the Business Round Table for Attorney General Janet Napolitano; and the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging.

From 1993 to 1998, he served as a board member of the Arizona State Chamber of Commerce and Co-chair of its Economic Development Committee. Ong also served as Chairman of the Small Business Administration's Region IX Advisory Council and has been an active member of the Asian communities in Arizona for over 15 years. He is a past president of the Chinese United Association of Greater Phoenix and one of the founding members of the Chinese Restaurant Association of Arizona.

In 1987, Ong was honored with the Outstanding Citizen award from the Asian American Association of Arizona. He emigrated from Hong Kong in 1962. He received his bachelor of science degree in Marketing from Arizona State University. (47:2)

Sunny K. Park

Sunny K. Park, of Atlanta, Georgia, is the C.E.O. of General Building Maintenance, Inc., a commercial facility maintenance service. He is also president of Global Sun Investments, Inc., a real estate investment firm, and the C.E.O. of Hepatech Clean Room Services, Inc., a micro-contamination service provider for semi-conductor manufacturers.

Park was the founder of the Good Neighboring Campaign, a movement to improve the image of Asian Americans. From 1990 to 1991, he led the Federation of Korean Associations of the United States, and he currently serves as president of the Korea America Friendship Society. Mr. Park serves on the board of directors for several organizations, including: the International Vaccine Institute's Supporting Committee; the Atlanta College of Art; the National Museum of Patriotism; the Georgia Public Policy Foundation; and is a member of the Business Executives for National Security.

He is also a deacon at the Community Presbyterian Church in Tucker, Georgia, and contributes columns to the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*. In 1990, the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and the Atlanta Business Chronicle presented him with their Small Business Person of the Year award, and the State of Georgia has twice recognized him as Outstanding Citizen. Park has completed independent studies and attended the Kellogg Business School at Northwestern University. (47:3)

Joseph Ting

Joseph Ting, of Houston, Texas, is the C.E.O. of West Plaza Management, an investment, and management company. In addition, he is the vice chairman of Metro Bank, a community bank that serves the Greater Houston and Dallas areas. In 1985, he founded Unitex Bags, Inc., a manufacturing plant based in Houston.

He is a member of the Houston Convention Center Hotel Corporation's Board of Directors, the Asia Society of Texas Advisory Board, and the Houston Taipei Sister City Board of Directors. In 1996, he joined with city officials to promote business relationships among the cities of Houston, Beijing, Hong Kong, and Taipei. He also traveled to Panama to promote international trade for the city of Houston.

He has previously served as executive director of the Texas Asian Republican Caucus and as vice president of the Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Ting came to the U.S. in 1977 after receiving a bachelor of arts degree in Economics from Fu Jen Catholic University in Taiwan. He also earned a bachelor of arts and a master of arts degree from the Florida Institute of Technology. (47:3)

Asian Pacific Americans in Philanthropy

Michelle Eunjoo Park Steel

Michelle Eunjoo Park Steel, of Palos Verdes, California, came to the U.S. in 1975 and has been an active leader in her local community. In the last decade alone, she has served as a member of the California World Trade Commission, the Los Angeles County Children and Family Services Commission, and the Los Angeles Airport and Fire Commissions. Park Steel is presently the treasurer of the Korean American Coalition and a board member of Brothers and Sisters Unlimited, an after-school program for African American youth.

In addition, she is the president of the Korean American Republican Association. An avid skier, she has won numerous competition awards and is a board member of the Korean Ski Association.

She was born in Seoul, Korea, and attended Nippon Joshi Dai (Japan Women's University). She received a B.S. degree in Business Administration and Management from Pepperdine University. (47:3)

Bao Ky N. Vu

Bao Ky N. Vu, of Atlanta, Georgia, is an analyst and portfolio manager with A. Montag and Associates, a private investment firm based in Atlanta. He is currently the secretary of the Vietnamese American Public Affairs Committee, a member of the Northlake Regional Hospital's Minority Advisory Board, and a member of the Vietnamese Professionals Society.

He previously served as the vice president of the Vietnamese Confederation of Georgia, helping to raise funds for the organization, promote cultural heritage, and provide citizenship classes for new immigrants. Vu helped found the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals and serves as co-chair of its Professional Development and Community Service Committees.

His family left Saigon before the collapse of South Vietnam in 1975, and two years later, they resettled in the United States. He received a bachelor of science degree from Georgia Tech and a master of business administration degree from Georgetown University. (47:1-4)

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER EMPLOYMENT

Asian/Pacific Islander men exceed their representation
in the civilian labor force

(September 2001)

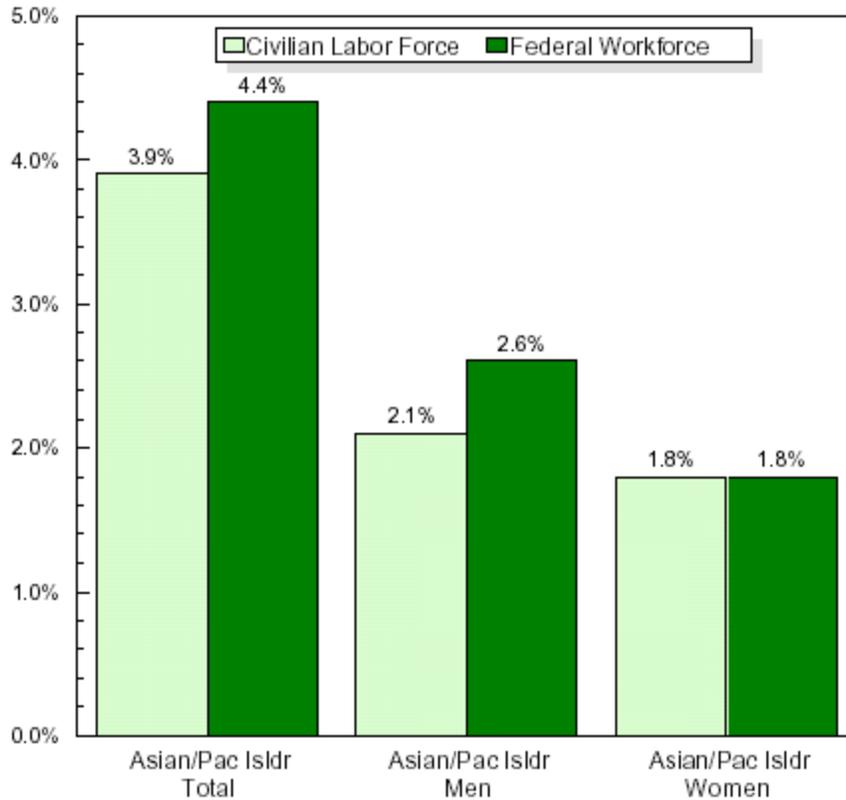


Table 1

The information in Tables 1-3 are from the Annual Report To Congress, Federal Equal Opportunity Program. (3)

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDERS - EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY

Asian/Pacific Islanders as a Percent of All Employees
in each Occupational Category

(September 2001)

	<u>Asian / P.I. Employment</u>	<u>Percent of FW</u>
Professional	23,204	7.1
Administrative	15,696	3.1
Technical	10,781	3.6
Clerical	5,322	4.0
Other	1,457	2.9
White-Collar	56,460	4.3
Blue-Collar	10,014	5.0
Total	66,474	4.4

Table 2

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDERS - EMPLOYMENT BY GENERAL SCHEDULE AND RELATED GRADE GROUPS AND SENIOR PAY

Asian/Pacific Islanders as a Percent of All Employees
in General Schedule and Related Grade Groups and Senior Pay

(September 2001)

	<u>Asian/P.I. Employment</u>	<u>Percent of FW</u>
GSR 1-4	3,029	5.1
GSR 5-8	14,187	3.8
GSR 9-12	23,239	4.3
GSR 13-15	15,679	4.7
Senior Pay	326	2.2

Table 3

Active Duty Asian Americans by Service as of February 2002

Service	Chinese	Japanese	Korean	Vietnamese	Filipino	Other Asians	Total Asians
Army	545	505	2,122	591	3,891	7,612	15,266
Navy	687	639	1,001	851	14,716	5,729	23,623
Marines	247	156	395	259	1,204	2,143	4,404
Air Force	269	416	744	39	4,603	3,586	9,657

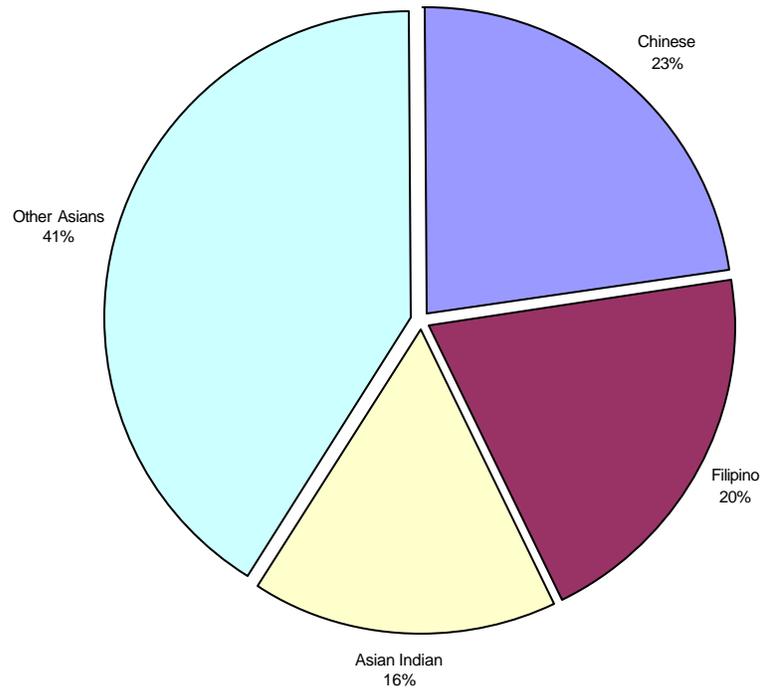
*The Coast Guard does not maintain a breakdown by ethnicity.

This information is from the Defense Manpower Data Center. (18)

Table 4

2002 Census

Three Largest Ethnic Groups of Asian Americans



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Press Release, March 4, 2002.

Table 5