

Clippings

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(Kid 'em along)

RED McQUEEN

HAWAII SOLDIERS ROYALLY TREATED IN MADISON

The group of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry who left the islands a short time ago and are at present receiving further training at Camp McCoy, Sparta, Wisconsin, for possible duty overseas in the near future, are putting in some tough licks, but they are also having some swell times, according to Dr. K. Kometani, franchise owner of the Athletics and former president of the Hawaii Baseball League, who accompanied the boys. Komi, as he is known to his numerous friends in local sports circles, is now serving as a first lieutenant in the Dental Corps, USA.

Dr. Kometani was a first lieutenant in the Hawaii Territorial Guard and a member of the Emergency Service Committee and volunteered to accompany the local boys, leaving a wife and three children and a lucrative practice. He received his federal commission in the United States Army when he left.

A number of letters from the boys and their officers—Colonel Farrant Turner, Captains Jim Lovell and Jack Johnson and others—have been received here reporting on the excellent treatment accorded them every place they've been on the continent.

But the highlight of the trip thus far was a recent little holiday which we shall let Lt. Kometani tell you about. It should be highly interesting and excellent news for the families of the boys.

"Doc's" letter follows:

We just returned from an excursion to Madison, Wis., for about 250 men of our camp. Red, it was a trip that we shall never forget in our lives. What a welcome the city gave us!

The people of Wisconsin, especially the citizens of Madison, are Hawaii conscious. And mostly because of Buster McGuire. Everybody calls him "Mickey" here. The first question everyone asked us was: "Do you know Mickey McGuire?" Well, it became a bit tiresome after a while and we kidded them by saying that the only good team Wisconsin had in recent history was when a Hawaiian lad—"Mickey" McGuire—came to its rescue.

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To get back to the reception at Madison, we were the guests of the mayor of the city, American Legion, USO, and County Judge Fred Evans. As morale and recreation officer, I led the outfit into Madison. We were met nine miles outside the city by the chief of police and the Judge, and escorted by them into town. The boys had a short parade as prelude to the city's War Bond campaign which was to start the following week.

There was a big reception and dance at the Legion Hall where over 150 girls, University graduates, co-eds, and all the prominent women of Madison mingled freely and danced graciously with our boys. They certainly showed us what hospitality really is.

Later the officers were guests at Club Chantercleer, the best nightclub there and we had a most delightful evening.

We played the Madison baseball team and lost 3-1 in a game which took only 1 hour 25 minutes to complete. Goro Moriguchi went the whole route in the box and gave out eight hits. We could not hit Madison's left hander and had to be satisfied with five safeties.

Last week we traveled to Wisconsin Rapids and played the State league (Class D) team and lost 9-7 after leading up to the eighth when we allowed them to score five runs. We loaded the bases with none out in the ninth, but all we could do was to score only one run as the batters did not come through with the needed hits.

We will have a return game soon and expect to turn the tables on them.

Incidentally, we have lost only two games in six played. Yesterday we defeated Cashton, 7-3.

* * * *

Several weeks ago, I took about 200 boys to Chicago as guests of the mayor and United Service Center. This is another trip I shall never forget.

We were the guests of the Cubs. A record attendance of the season was there, over 44,000 although the paid admission was officially announced as a little over 40,000. It was a homecoming for Lon Warneke, but the New York Giants showed no mercy and the fact that it was Warneke's Day meant nothing. They knocked him out of the box in the first inning.

Lou Novikoff, the Mad Russian, smacked a homer in this game, hitting it cleanly over the left field barrier. Novikoff is very popular. He sure can hit, although his fielding and throwing arm are nothing to brag about. The outfielder to watch is Bill Nicholson of the Cubs. He is a sweet player and goes after everything like Joe Moore of the Cards. But the outstanding player of the day was Len Merullo who cavorted at shortstop. By the way, the teams played a doubleheader and Merullo got seven hits. And talk about fielding, nothing got past him.

It was a treat to see the big leaguers in action. The fans are very enthusiastic and make no bones about cheering their favorites.

During our stay in Chicago, our boys were given free meals at the Service Center. We were also the guests at a reception and dance at the International House of the University of Chicago.

As I write this letter in camp, there is a band entertaining the men, and it is playing Hawaiian numbers and indeed they take us back to Hawaii.

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Nisei Move Data Asked

UC Seeks Material On War Evacuation

Donald Coney, University of California librarian, sent out a request yesterday for gifts relating to the evacuation from the West Coast of Japanese-Americans in the period shortly after the Pearl Harbor attack brought the United States into World War II.

The materials are needed, he said, to complete the university's collection on the relocation of the evacuees.

Diaries, letters, newspapers and other personal documents, particularly newspapers published at assembly centers or materials distributed by the Army, are desired.

If donors wish to have their materials restricted to use only by qualified scholars, Coney said, the university will do so. Interested persons should write him at University of California, Berkeley 4.

Isle Soldier Ready To Do Best For U. S.

A letter from one of the local soldiers of Japanese ancestry now in training at Camp McCoy, Wis., was received Wednesday by a member of his family. The writer of it gives his impressions of leave-taking as well as of the region where his regiment is stationed.

Addressed to his "Dear folks," the letter continues:

"We're here at last, as I guess you all know by now. First of all, thanks a lot for the swell farewell dinner.

"We got a cold reception in California, but as we got to the Midwest the people's attitude changed. They were friendly and nice. The attitude here isn't at all what I had contemplated. On the contrary, folks are nicer to us. They're wishing us good luck and Godspeed. In one Middle Western town some girls met the train and brought us candies, cookies, cigarettes, and magazines.

"The country here is beautiful at this time of year. The farms are large and appear to be well managed. I guess Hiroshi would be quite homesick for this place if I told him all about the rivers, wooded hillsides, and rows of corn, so I won't say very much.

"All I'll say is that the country is really lovely compared to the desert states and that the people appear friendly. How long we'll be here is a question; but we're a combat unit, as the order stated, so it's encouraging. I only hope we get sent to the Eastern front, but if it's the Western front—we'll still do our best. We won't let you folks down.

"Leaving Hawaii was sad, but I think we've gotten over that by now. If the boys haven't, they sure drowned it in beer. Boy, the PX was so busy they had to close the place. One thing—we won't drink this place dry—for we're right in the beer-making centers of the States.

"Well, now that we're gone, let's hope the war there subsides. I hope Japan gets licked so bad she can't even think of moving her ships in the Pacific—so that you'll all be safe. If she's not beaten by the time we get through with Europe we'll just march straight across the Asiatic continent on our own and clean up the Japanese empire. We might get a chance to yet!

"Well, I won't say much more, as I've got a lot more letters to write, but let's keep up the old chin and fight.

"Best wishes always,

"George."

U. C.'s Highest Honor Goes To Japanese

"The winner of the university medal cannot be here today because his country has called him elsewhere."

Thus did President Robert Gordon Sproul announce the name of the graduating student who had achieved the highest scholastic standing—Harvey Akio Itano, 21-year-old pre-medical student.

Itano, a Japanese born in Sacramento, was evacuated April 22 to a resettlement center. He came to the University of California from Sacramento Junior College and had a straight "A" average.

Before leaving school last month, he told friends, "It's tough to be an American imbued with the ideals of democracy and to be looked upon as a potential enemy."

Popular with his classmates, Itano was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, national science honor fraternity, and the YMCA cabinet. He is the son of Masao Itano, former secretary of the Japanese Association in Sacramento, who is now in North Dakota.

Evacuees Thank Berkeley Group

"Our hearts are full of thanks and gratitude for the Christian manner in which you helped us during the trying days of our evacuation. Your aid and words of encouragement made it easier to leave our homes—in most cases, the only homes we have known." Thus did a letter read which was just received by Galen M. Fisher, chairman of the Council of Social Agencies Committee, from the Tanforan Assembly Center.

It was signed by Prof. Chiura Obata, University art department; Dr. Henry M. Hakahaski, U. C. alumnus and prominent optometrist, and five clergymen, the Revs. Fujii, Mishimura, Marsuoka, Matsumoto and Kyogoku. The letter is evidently intended to be a general "thank-you" to the hundreds of Berkeleyans who gave a helpful hand, Chairman Fisher said.

Among them were the Red Cross women who lent their automobiles to convey whole families of evacuees to the control station and the groups of church women who acted as hostesses at the control station and served tea and sandwiches there every day for a week.

"We are busily getting settled, with every assurance that our democratic form of government will give us a square deal," the letter continued. "It may be some time before we see the green, rolling hills of Berkeley and hear the peals of the Campanile bells, but we shall never forget your many kindnesses and friendships. 'May God be with you till we meet again.'"

The work of the Council of So-

cial Agencies was carried on under Chairman Fisher, assisted by a committee which included Mrs. Harry Kingman and Mrs. Stanley Freeborn. Fisher suggests that letters sent to Japanese from Berkeley would be appreciated. They should be addressed "Tanforan Assembly Center, San Bruno."

Order San Joaquin County Jap Move

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13 (U.P.)

—The Army today issued Civilian Exclusion Order No. 70 affecting approximately 2550 Japanese living in a portion of San Joaquin County.

The order brings to 77,321 the number of Japanese actually in assembly or reception centers or under evacuation orders.

U. C. Scholastic Laurels Go to Japan Evacuee

Somewhere at a Japanese evacuation center, Harvey Ako Itano, 21, will be notified that he was awarded the University Gold Medal, highest scholastic honor to go to a member of the graduating class, at ceremonies this afternoon in the Greek Theater. Itano was evacuated on April 22 and was therefore unable to receive the honor in person. He was also awarded the degree of bachelor of science in chemistry, which with the medal, will be forwarded to him as soon as university authorities learn his exact location.

Itano, who was a pre-medical student during the past semester, had a straight "A" average during his four-year college course, topping all other members of his class in scholastic excellence.

He was a member of Sigma Xi, national scientific honor society; Phi Beta Kappa, national scholastic honor society, the Honor Students Club, the student health committee and the Y.M.C.A. cabinet.

He registered from Sacramento where he was born. His parents were born in Japan.