

## BUILDING 640 COMMUNIQUE

Information Source for the Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center

NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPECIAL ISSUE - SUMMER 2013

# BUILDING 640 COMPLETE!

SNEAK PEEK OF HISTORIC SITE IN SUMMER



There are opportunities for you to get a sneak peek at Building 640, home of the MIS Historic Learning Center all summer.

Come learn how you can become part of the exciting historic restoration of this building into a place that will celebrate the amazing work of the Japanese Americans who served in the Military Intelligence Service and the experiences of Japanese Americans during war and peace.

Exterior and interior walls are complete and the classroom space has been re-created. The second floor offices feature stunning views of the Golden Gate Bridge and Crissy Field.

The building housed the first class of the Military Intelligence Service language school

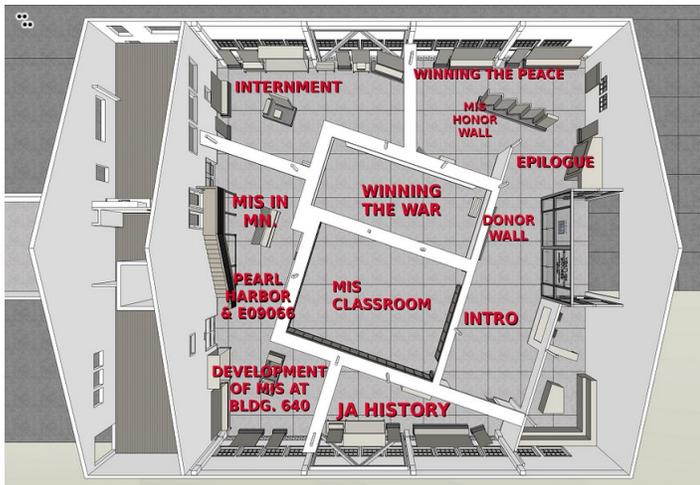


Photograph by Tim Uyeki

from Nov. 1941 to May 1942.

The building received its certificate of occupancy on June 28 2013 and the National Japanese American Historical Society is embarking on Phase III of the campaign to finish the learning center, scheduled to open **this November 11, 2013- Veterans Day.**

The first two phases provided for the restoration and renovation of the former hangar and language school into a 10,000 square foot learning center. Kudos to our team: The Presidio Trust, Oliver & Co., and Ohashi Design Studio.



## Join us to complete Phase III

With the completion of the base building of 640 and its interior walls, the National Japanese American Historical Society has embarked on Phase III, the final phase toward the opening of the MIS Historic Learning Center. This

phase will finish the interior of the building, furnish the rooms, and produce the permanent exhibits that will truly tell the story of the Japanese experience during times of war and peace. Donors will be recognized on the Inaugu-

ral Donor Wall, details of which are inside. So far, generous donors have contributed \$800,000, leaving only \$500,000 remaining for the exhibition phase. Located in the popular Crissy Field area in the Presidio of San Francis-

co, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, this "repurposed" historic building will keep this important history alive for generations to come and receive thousands of visitors every year.

**Inaugural Donor Wall Deadline 9-30-2013.**

The National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) received a most generous gift of **\$100,000** from Col. **Thomas T. Sakamoto (RET), MIS** first class graduate and instructor toward the MIS Historic Learning Center.

As president of NJAHS, Sakamoto's vision was for NJAHS to secure a stakehold in this historic site, so that stories of the MIS and the Japanese American experience at the Presidio could be told to the broadest audience for years to come. After a decade and a half, through the support of his MIS colleagues, the late Mas Yonemura, and Dr. Clifford Uyeda, his grand idea is about to blossom. With Building 640 now complete, and the final phase of exhibition build-out is underway.

"In the wake of the recent Congressional Gold Medal Award to the 100/442/MIS, Col. Sakamoto's gift secures the MIS story within the place-based history of the Presidio of San Francisco," according to Executive Director Rosalyn Tonai.

"His tireless support for the project, even in the most difficult times, is a commendable lesson for all of us" she noted. Sakamoto, 97, along with over 200 of his colleagues was able to join the award ceremonies in Washington DC in 2011, only months after losing his wife Sadie.

On another related story, Sakamoto through the aid of Brian Shiroyama, VP, Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans, and San Jose attorney George Hinoki introduced us to Richard Sakakida's biographer (*Spy in Their Midst, the Story of Richard Sakakida, 1995*) Wayne Kiyosaki, of DC. Last December, the Sakakida family gifted **Richard Sakakida's prized samurai sword** to NJAHS to be displayed at the MIS Historic Learning Center. The sword once belonged to Gen. Miyoshi of the Japan's post-war Self Defense force who in turn presented his family heirloom sword to Sakakida (1920-1996) in honor of their friendship upon his retirement from the US Army and his departure from Japan in 1975. Sakakida was humbled by this gesture. Sakakida, a Nisei from Hawaii served as a US undercover agent in the Philippines under Gen. Wainwright.

His harrowing episode of surveillance, surrender, imprisonment, torture under the Japanese military, and the liberation of Philippine freedom fighters is illuminated in a book and a NJAHS film: ***Mission in Manila : The Story of Richard Sakakida*** (1992). The family thought it would be befitting to display the sword at the MISH-LCenter, at Bldg. 640, Presidio of San Francisco, to symbolize the enduring friendship between Japan and the United States, epitomized by Gen. Miyoshi and Col. Sakakida.



Sakakida gift sword, presented to NJAHS: Rosalyn Tonai, Col Tom Sakamoto, George Hinoki, Photo by Brian Shiroyama.

## CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL PROGRAMS—SAN FRANCISCO

**Japanese American Heroes of WWII film series at the deYoung Museum Golden Gate Park**  
50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, SF.  
415-750-3600

**Friday, July 5, 2013**

**Honor Bound: A Personal Journey .**

The story of one soldier's march through war and racial turmoil. Passed from Sgt. Howard Hanamura to his journalist daughter, this documentary captures the fears and motivations of a group of men who turned the tide of history.

**Running Time:** 58 minutes

**Time:** 7 PM

**Executive Producer and Writer:** Wendy Hanamura

**Saturday, July 6, 2013**

**Searchlight Serenade: Big Band Music in the WWII Japanese American Incarceration Camps**

**Description:** "Searchlight Serenade: Big Bands in the WWII Japanese American Incarceration Camps"

offers the stories of 9 Japanese American detainees – big band trumpet players, saxophonists, singers – who created a soulful escape for themselves and their fellow prisoners. Their accounts are accompanied by an evocative animation created from woodcuts and drawings. Q & A with Amy Uyeki after film screening.

**Running Time:** 58 minutes

**Time:** 2 PM

**Executive Producer:** Claire Renyolds

**Associate Producer:** Amy Uyeki

**Sunday, July 7, 2013**

**Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties**

**Description:** Thousands of MIS soldiers, primarily Japanese American, fought for the United States in the Pacific interrogating Japanese prisoners, translating documents, intercepting communications, and infiltrating enemy lines. Ironically, at the same time, many of their families back in America were locked behind barbed wire in isolated imprisonment camps, stripped of their civil rights.

**Running Time:** 86 minutes

**Time:** 2 PM

**Producer/Director/Writer:** gayle k. yamada

**Public Program**

**Saturday, July 13, 2013**

**Twice Heroes: America's Nisei Veterans of WWII and Korea**

**Description:** Writer and photographer Tom Graves will discuss the last decade of his life, meeting, photographing and interviewing nearly 300 veterans. Twice Heroes combines photographs of the veterans with their experiences in the U.S. military, and a different time in America when Japanese Americans were not regarded as "loyal citizens." Q & A with Tom Graves and veterans

**Time:** 2-3:30 PM

**July 13 & 21-10am to 5pm. Sneak Peek—Check out Building 640, MIS Historic Learning Center, Presidio of San Francisco. 640 Mason Street, SF. CA 94129.**

*More programs, cont'd on back page...*

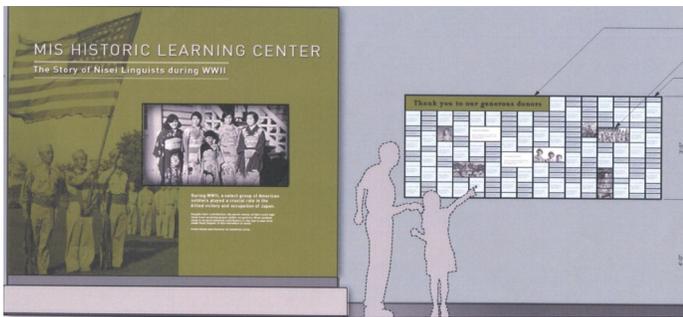
**What are the ways that I can donate to the MIS Historic Learning Center?**

You can make your donation with a check, or by credit card. You can pledge to donate a certain amount over several payments and we will automatically deduct from your credit card according to your payment plan. Another great way to support the project is through the donation of stock and real estate or naming NJAHS: MIS Historic Learning Center as a beneficiary in a will. If you wish to do this, please contact us!

**What does my donation support?**

- 1. NJAHS: MIS Historic Learning Center Capital Fund.** You can support the long-term maintenance of the building, its certification of public occupancy and build-out amenities.
- 2. NJAHS: MIS Legacy Fund.**

You can support the interpretive components — the design and fabrication of the permanent exhibit, the ongoing operations of the Center, and its long-term sustainability.



**3. NJAHS.**

Or you can let us choose which fund to place your donation toward the project.

If you would like to designate your gift to a particular purpose, please contact us to discuss what you would like to do.

**Can I dedicate my donation in honor or memory of a family member or friend?**

**Yes, now with a minimum donation of \$2,500.**  
(Suggested 38 character limit)

| LEADERSHIP CIRCLE  |   |
|--------------------|---|
| \$1,000,000        | <i>Kansha</i> - Gratitude                     |
| \$500,000          | <i>On</i> - Indebted Obligation               |
| \$250,000          | <i>Toku</i> - Virtue                          |
| \$100,000          | <i>Shinbo</i> - Perseverance                  |
| STEWARDSHIP CIRCLE |   |
| \$50,000           | <i>Kyosei</i> – Mutual Rewarding Co-existence |
| \$25,000           | <i>Tamashii</i> – Spirit, Soul                |
| \$10,000           | <i>Wago</i> – Alignment of Purpose            |
| LEGACY CIRCLE      |   |
| \$5,000            | <i>Heiwa</i> - Peace                          |
| \$2,500            | <i>Yuuki</i> – Courage                        |

Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. NJAHS is a California non-profit corporation operating under IRS Federal Tax ID #94-2778424. All donations will be recognized in our ongoing capital campaign materials.

**The Inaugural Donor Wall and Naming Opportunities**

All gifts of \$2,500 and above will be acknowledged on a special Inaugural Donor Wall inside Building 640. There are also **naming opportunities for areas of Building 640 for Leadership Gifts.** Possible opportunities will be naming the Lobby, Permanent Exhibits Gallery, Multi-purpose Room for school children. Meditation Garden, MIS Classroom, Mission Map Room and others. Please contact us if you are interested in underwriting any of these.

**NJAHS National Japanese American Historical Society**  
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 San Francisco CA 94115-3604  
 Phone: 415-921-5007  
 E-mail: njahs@njahs.org,  
 www.njahs.org

**MIS HONOR WALL BY WEST OFFICE DESIGN**

**MIS HONOR WALL**  
 Over 7,000 names of the MIS, instructors, support staff, WACs, and persons who served along side the MIS will be listed on this HONOR WALL.. An interactive database based on lists of the MIS, 100/442 Nisei service men and women, compiled by the Japanese American Veterans Association and the JA Memorial Alliance will be accessible to visitors. To check or list qualified veterans contact NJAHS at 415-921-5007 or njahs@njahs.org.



We are on the web!  
www.njahs.org



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Japanese American  
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Phone: 415-921-5007

E-mail: njahs@njahs.org,  
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**July 13 & 21, Sneak Peek:**  
**10am to 5pm. Check out**  
**MIS Historic Learning**  
**Center- Building 640 at**  
**the Presidio of San Fran-**  
**cisco -exhibits in progress.**

**Programs @ the DeYoung (cont'd from page 2)**

**Double Feature Finale**  
**Sunday, July 21, 2013**

**Title: Honor and Sacrifice: The Roy Matsumoto Story**

**Description:** Honor and Sacrifice illuminates aspects of the experience of many mainland Japanese Americans who were incarcerated in concentration camps during WWII by the U.S. Government War Relocation Authority. Roy Matsumoto's experience, while personally unique and highly distinguished, shares qualities of sacrifice, courage, and patriotism that can be now seen as typical of the many young Japanese American soldiers who volunteered to fight for their country.

**Running Time:** 28 minutes

**Time:** 11 AM & 1 PM

**Filmmaker:** Lucy Ostrander a

**Cinematographer/Videographer:** Don Sellers

**Title: A Flicker in Eternity**

**Description:** A Flicker in Eternity is the coming-of-age tale of Stanley Hayami, a talented young teenager caught between his dream of becoming a writer/artist and his duty to his country. Based on Hayami's own diary, this documentary is the firsthand account of a 15 year old thrust into the turmoil of World War II and is a poignant reminder of the indignity of incarceration and the tragedy of war. This film chronicles his life behind barbed wire and as a soldier in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Q&A with filmmaker after 2 PM showing.

**Running Time:** 25 minutes

**Time:** 12 PM & 2 PM

**Co-Director/Producer/Writer:** Sharon Yamato

**DVD- BOOKS AVAILABLE!**



\_\_\_\_\_ Payment Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Class (pb) @\$26.95 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card: \_\_Visa \_\_MC \_\_AMEX \_\_Discover

\_\_\_\_\_ First Class (hb) @\$39.95 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Nisei Linguists (pb) @ \$29.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ ONLY THE BRAVE DVD @\$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Uncommon Courage DVD @ \$29.95= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ MIS: Human Secret Weapon DVD @ \$24.95= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ 442, Live with Honor, Die with Dignity, DVD @ \$24.95= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Honor & Sacrifice, The Roy Matsumoto Story DVD \$25= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Twice Heroes (hb only), by Tom Graves \$45 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Sales Taxes CA residences x (.0875)= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ S&H \$6 per book\*= \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to donate to NJAHS to help defray costs for programs: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_