

# Tell America

## 20 – HAWAII #1 [HI]

A call to Aiea High School in Aiea, on the island of O’ahu, in Hawaii, started things rolling for five members of our “Tell America” team. History teacher Lorrain Loui was really excited about having us come in to do our presentation, not on one day, ut four days in a row.

I thought, “Wow, from a slow response from other schools to an instant four-day presentation!”

A few days before we were to start, Lorrain called and rescheduled for three days, which was fine with us. Thankfully, all members agreed,

“Let’s do it!”

On our first day, February 26, only four members could do the three-day program: James “Ace” Kaleohano, Lucio Sanico, Micheal Inouye, and I. We had about 151 students divided into 3 groups. The second day, we had about 82 in 2 groups. The third day, our last group had about fifty. In those three days, we told some sad stories, but we also had some happy experiences about the war to share.

There were stories like Lucio “Sada” Sanico’s story of a guy falling into a fertilizer pit, hurrying out—and then having to

jump back into it to retrieve his rifle. The students laughed when we told them what kind of fertilizer it was!

My story was about C-rations.

“What’s a C-ration?” a student asked.

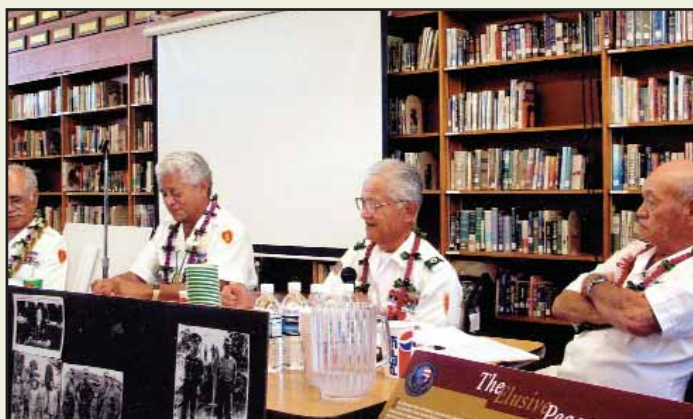
After explaining what it was, I told my story.

“In the beginning of the war, we were on the move a lot, so the kitchen couldn’t keep up to give us a hot meal. So us locals would pick up vegetables and rice along the way and cook it with whatever the main meal was in the C-ration package,” I told them.

On watching the video, “Bloody Korea,” we noticed one group in particular taking notes. So James “Ace” Kaleohano decided to test them using our test sheet. Sure enough, they raised their hands and gave the correct answers. Responses like that made us realize that students and teachers out there want to know and hear about that “Forgotten War.”

A question was asked about post traumatic stress. Reluctantly, two of our members gave their own experiences that still affect them today.

Finally, we thanked all the students and teachers for having us,



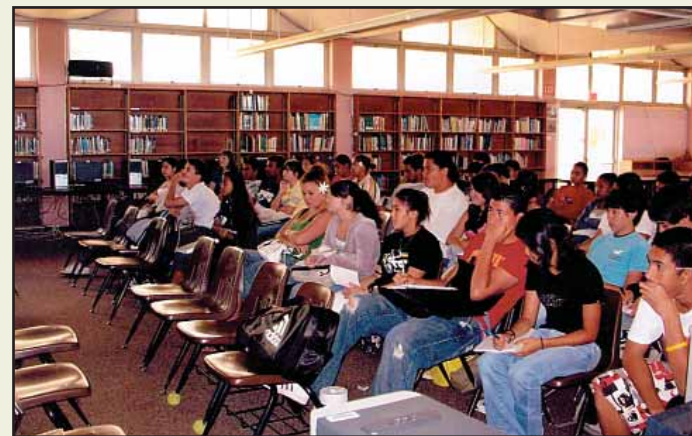
CID 20 members (L-R) Moses M. Pakaki, James Kaleohano, Lucio Senico, Michael Inouye lead Hawaii Tell America presentation



Hawaiian students listen intently to CID 20 members’ Tell America presentation



(L-R) Lorrain Loui, James (“Ace”) Kaleohano, Moses M. Pakaki, Randy Russ at Hawaii Tell America program



Different group of students, same high level of attention at CID 20’s Tell America presentation

for the delicious free lunch that was offered, and we asked them to call us back next year.

Moses M. Pakaki  
85-1301 Ko'olina Street  
Waianae, HI 96792

## 108 - WESTERN OHIO [OH]

The Western Ohio Chapter is one of the most active Chapters in the Tell America Program, as the nearby letters attest. These vets are doing a wonderful job

and making a real difference in the schools in their area.

Larry Kinard  
2108 Westchester  
Mansfield TX 76063



Sergio Yanez (L), a student from Cucta, Colombia and Fred Shively of CID 108 at a Tell America presentation



CID 108 members (L-R) Eugene Hoening, Fred Shively, James Faller, and Ken Williamson at a Tell America presentation

Dear Sirs,

*I would like to apologize on behalf of my country for forgetting about all the tragedies you had to face. Regardless of the reasons you fought, you deserve thanks and gratefulness from those you protected. A soldier, no matter where he or she fights, is doing his/her duties to America. Having to fight in the horrible conditions you did, having to survive the elements and enemy fire, is incredible. Trench warfare is horrible enough, and then to add few supplies on top of that, it's very impressive that you made it through. I want to thank you for what you've done for me, my parents, and my grandparents. I can't imagine living with the fear of death every day. So, thank you, so much, for risking your life for me and all the other Americans alive today.*


*Sincerely,*

*Courtney Cotts*

Feb. 03, 2006  
Westerville North High School

Letters thanking CID 108 members for their Tell America presentations

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WESTERVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

Curt Jackowski, Principal  
Matt Lutz, Assistant Principal  
Carl Svagerko, Assistant Principal  
Amy Tankovich, Dean of Students  
Chad Williams, Dean of Students

I am writing this letter in behalf of the presentation of Fred Shively and Ken Williamson. These fine veterans come to Columbus twice a year to talk on the Korean War. Both, Fred and Ken, come fully prepared with maps, tapes, flags, overheads, and other artifacts. Their speech is full on insightful information about how the Korean War was instrumental in containing communism in the Far East.

During their presentation, both speakers alternate in their dialogue with the class. Fred and Ken often discuss their personal experiences from this event. In a typical class (50 minutes), Fred and Ken will keep the pace of the class moving by fielding 30 to 40 questions per class. In addition to addressing questions from students, both speakers will display various historical artifacts from this period (helmets, letters, canteen item, etc). Overall, I am pleased with their enthusiastic manner in teaching my class. It is an honor and privilege to have members of the Korean War Veterans Association (Western Association) speak in my U.S. History classes. Ultimately, their training and experience supply a powerful component for enhancing the education experience for Westerville North students.

Sincerely,  
*Scott J Gray*  
Scott Gray  
Social Studies Instructor

## 191 - TIDEWATER [VA]

Leo Ruffing, a member of CID 191, Tidewater [VA], gave a presentation on February 14th, 2007, at Western Branch Middle School. The topic was "Veterans and why they should be honored." He discussed the origin of Veterans Day and reviewed some of the decorations that are awarded to military personnel.

The focus was the Medal of Honor and the Purple Heart. Ruffing gave examples for each award. His presentation com-

ments included information about 1st Lt. Richard Shea. Lt. Shea, who was from Portsmouth, Virginia, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his service with the 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division in Korea.

Ruffing also reviewed the history of the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and discussed its position in our military tradition.

Reach Leo Ruffing at lruffing1@cox.net

## 137 – MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

Seven veterans from the Chapter #137 of the Mahoning Valley, Youngstown Ohio, participated in a Tell America presentation recently. There were a total of 166 students in the 5 classes. This was an all-day event; we even ate lunch with the students.

At the closing of the program, Joe Vrable and Bob Bakalik

showed the students how to fold the flag, then told them what happens to the flag at a military funeral by presenting the flag to Joann Onstott as an example. Ms. Onstott also explained the meaning and symbolism of the POW-MIA Table to the student and teachers.

Joann Onstott



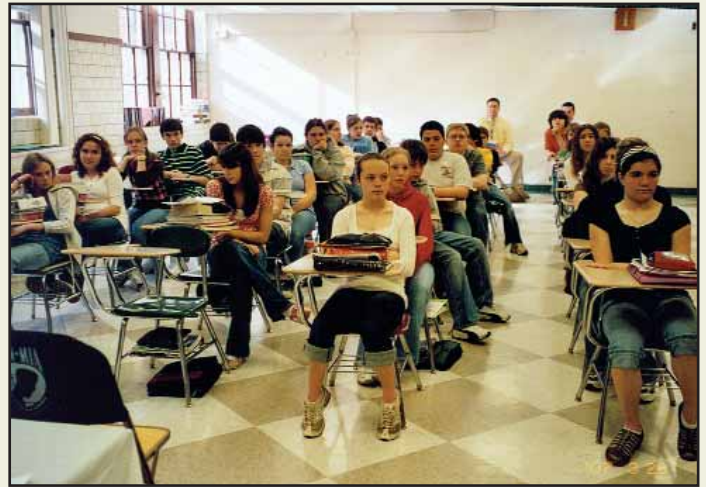
CID 137 members at Tell America presentation (L-R) Leo Taillon, Joe Vrable, John Pariza, who is Chairman of the program, Joann Onstott, Chapter Historian, Ken Murphy, Dominic Lentini, Bob Bakalik, 2nd Vice President



Bob Bakalik and Joann Onstott demonstrate the presentation of the flag at CID 137's presentation



CID 137 member Leo Taillon reads the history of the Korean War to students at the Chapter's Tell America program



The "future of America" listens to CID 137 members stories about the Korean War

## 256 – NORVILLE B. FINNEY [MI]

The Chapter has a flourishing Tell America program, which started in 2001. Of its 60 members, 15 participate. Chapter President Richard Charbonneau estimates that they have contact with about 5,000 students per

year at the 24 schools with which they work.

Charbonneau is a firm believer in the value of the program. In fact, he strongly advises other Chapters to start their own Tell America programs



CID 256 members gather at renaming ceremony for Chapter, which was formerly known as Oakland/Macomb/Wayne



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