

*The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Affairs Dinner  
of the Japan-America Society of Washington DC*

*Monday, January 22, 2007*

*Honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye*



Over 260 members of the Society and their guests gathered at the JW Marriott Hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue on January 22, as the Japan-America Society honored Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii at its 19th Annual Public Affairs Dinner.

Senator Inouye is the third most senior member of the United States Senate. The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, he is known for his distinguished record as a legislative leader and as a World War II combat veteran who earned the nation's highest award for military valor, the Medal of Honor.

The Honorary Chairman for this year's dinner, which launched the Society's 50th anniversary year celebrations, was Senator Bob Dole. The Dinner Co-Chairs were Mr. Tetsuo Kadoya of Toshiba America, Inc. and Nao Matsukata of Alston + Bird, LLP.

The dinner was preceded by the Society's Silent Auction.

The Society expresses its great appreciation to the Dinner's Patrons: Alston + Bird LLP; AMGEN; Boeing; Canon; Lockheed Martin; Mitsubishi International Corporation; Mitsui USA; Toshiba; and Toyota.

The Society also thanks the Dinner's table sponsors: The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd; Bill and Peggy Breer; The Embassy of Japan; The Federation of Electric Power; Hitachi, Ltd.; ITOCHU International Inc.; Keidanren USA; Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc.; and Tokyo Electric Power Company.

The Annual Public Affairs Dinner is a major source of support for the many educational, cultural, and public affairs programs that the Society presents throughout the year.

## *About Senator Inouye*

**D**aniel K. Inouye, the third most senior member of the U.S. Senate, is known for his distinguished record as a legislative leader and as a World War II combat veteran who earned the nation's highest award for military valor, the Medal of Honor.

Although he was thrust into the limelight in the 1970s as a member of the Watergate Committee and in 1987 as Chairman of the Iran-Contra Committee, Senator Inouye has also quietly made his mark as a respected legislator able to work in a bipartisan fashion to enact meaningful legislation.

As Chairman of the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator Inouye has focused on defense matters that strengthen national security and enhance the quality of life for military personnel and their families. As Chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, Senator Inouye is able to address important issues, such as telecommunications, aviation and maritime transportation, that are crucial for both his native Hawaii and our nation.

Senator Inouye was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1962 and is now serving his eighth consecutive term. When Hawaii became a state in 1959, he was elected the first Congressman from the new state, and was re-elected to a full term in 1960.

The son of Japanese immigrants, Senator Inouye was born and raised in Honolulu. Exactly three months after he had celebrated his 17th birthday, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Young Dan Inouye, who had medical aid training, rushed into service as the head of a first-aid team. In March 1943, 18-year-old Dan Inouye, then a freshman in pre-medical studies at the University of Hawaii, enlisted in the U.S. Army's 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the famed "Go for Broke" regiment of soldiers of Japanese ancestry. When he was discharged, Dan Inouye held the rank of Captain.