

**Significant Milestones and Events
in the Life and Legacy of
Kosho Kokuba**
(AKA “Shogo” Kuniba)

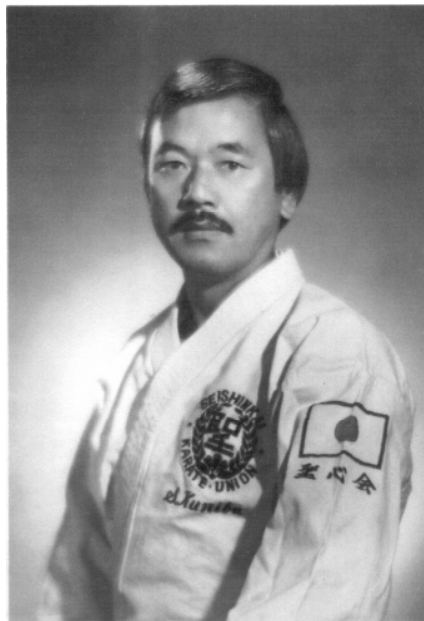


Chart Prepared and Maintained by:

Shihan James Herndon
Information Director
Kuniba Kai International

ShihanProfessor@aol.com

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Precursor Events of Significance

Year	Age	Significant Event
1901	0	Kosei Kokuba, son of Koyou Kokuba (1882-1935), born in Okinawa.
1915	14	Kosei Kokuba began training with Choki Motobu in Ryukyu Karate, as a junior student of Anko Itosu.
1924	23	Kosei Kokuba moved to Tokyo, Japan [Japanese name = Yukimori Kuniba].

During the Life of Kosho Kokuba

Year	Age	Significant Milestone or Event
1935 Showa 10	0	Kosho Kokuba born February 5 in Fuji-Yoshida City, Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan; raised by his uncle Kosei Kokuba and Tsuruko Furugen (Kosho's biological father was killed in World War II). [Note: Kosho Kokuba's name in Japanese is Yukitaka Kuniba].
1936	1	
1937	2	
1938	3	
1939	4	
1940	5	Private dojo opened in Osaka by father, Kosei Kokuba, who owned a small furniture company; he taught lessons in Ryukyu Karate-Do Motobu-Ha. Kosho Kokuba began study of Motobu-Ha Karate-Do under father's tutelage.
1941	6	
1942	7	
1943 Showa 18	8	Seishin-Kan officially named; Kosei Kokuba became Kancho [This was the birth of Seishin-Kai]. Kosho Kokuba began study of Judo with Asakichi Ito (an Osaka policeman) in a big dojo near home.
1944	9	
1945	10	Kosho Kuniba began training under Ryusei Tomoyori, who taught at the Seishin-Kan dojo, as did other noted Sensei of the era.
1946	11	
1947	12	Kosei Kokuba moved to new Dojo. Seishin-Kai officially recognized; Kosei Kokuba became Kaicho. Kosho Kokuba promoted to Shodan (1 Dan) by Kenwa Mabuni via Ryusei Tomoyori.
1948	13	
1949	14	Kosho Kokuba began direct training under Kenwa Mabuni.
1950	15	Kosho Kokuba promoted to Nidan (2 dan) by Ryusei Tomoyori (teacher)

		& Kenwa Mabuni (advisor) on December 28 [Menjo in archives].
1951	16	
1952	17	<p>Kosho Kokuba promoted to Sandan (3 Dan) by Ryusei Tomoyori under authority of Kenwa Mabuni.</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba began training in Mugai-Ryu Iaido with Soke Ishii Gogetsu in Sakai City (Osaka Prefecture).</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba was instructor at Fuse High School Karate Club.</p> <p>Kenwa Mabuni died May 23 at age 64.</p>
1953	18	<p>10th Anniversary of Seishin-Kai</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba was instructor at Osaka Prefecture City Hall; Osaka Prefecture University; regularly taught at most of the 57 Seishin-Kai dojo, from 1953-1983.</p>
1954	19	<p>Kosho Kokuba received High School diploma, Fuse Kogyo, Osaka Japan.</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba went to Keio University, Tokyo to research and study other styles of karate such as Shotokan and Goju-Ryu.</p>
1955	20	<p>Kosho Kokuba studied Shorin-Ryu in Naha City, Okinawa with Shoshin Nagamine, along with Kobudo under Shinken Taira and Kenko Nakaima (Ryuei-Ryu). Also studied Bo and Nunchaku under Shojin Kosha and Tonfa under Junko Yamaguchi.</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba promoted to Yondan (4 Dan) by Ryusei Tomoyori. Iaido Sandan, Kobudo Yondan (Seishin-Kai). Awarded Shihan title by Seishin-Kai.</p>
1956 Showa 31	21	<p>Kosho Kokuba completed two years of study at Doshisha University, Kyoto.</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba coined name “Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu” for his style of Karate that took kihon/kumite from Ryukyu Karate-Do Motobu-Ha and kata from Nihon-Ha Karate-Do Shito-Ryu (Mabuni-Ha).</p>
1957	22	<p>Kosho Kokuba published <i>Karate-Do Bin Ran</i>.</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba was player in film “Karate-Do.”</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba married Kayo Terada (b. 11/3/1935) in Osaka.</p>
1958	23	<p>Kosho Kokuba promoted to Godan (5 Dan) in Motobu-Ha Karate-Do by Seishin-Kai Shihan Board; Mugai-Ryu Iaido Yondan; Taira-Ha Kobudo Rokudan.</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba became First Office Manager (Shodai Jimu Kyoku-Cho) Nippon Karate-Do Rengo-Kai.</p>

		<p>Kosho Kokuba began teaching at Camp Zama Army Base, Fuchu Air Base, Yokota Air Base, and Johnson Air Base (until 1975), where he came in contact with many American servicemen.</p> <p>First son of Kosho Kokuba and Kayo Terada born August 9, named Kosuke Kuniba.</p>
1959 Showa 34	24	<p>Father (Kosei Kokuba) died of cancer on October 17; became Nidai Soke of Motobu-Ha Karate-Do/Shodai Soke of Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu.</p> <p>Kosho Kokuba assumed nickname “Shogo” (brave warrior), which had been previously used by his father; thus, carrying on father’s tradition; hereafter referred to as Shogo Kuniba.</p>
1960	25	<p>Shogo Kuniba certified as kobudo Shihan on September 1 [Menjo in archives].</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba instructed Japanese airmen at Kisarazu Air Force Base, along with Keishin Kayo.</p> <p>Second son of Shogo Kuniba born June 8, named Kozo Kuniba.</p>
1961	26	<p>Shogo Kuniba performed Iaido demonstration at Fourth Rengo-Kai Tournament.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba officiated and demonstrated at Sakai Itoku-Kai Dojo Tournament.</p> <p>Kunio Tatsuno founded Bushukai Dojo.</p>
1962	27	<p>Shogo Kuniba promoted to Rokudan (6 Dan) by Nippon Karate-Do Rengo-Kai. Mugai-Ryu Iaido Rokudan; Taira-Ha Kobudo Nanadan.</p> <p>USAF TSgt Richard Baillargeon trained under Keishin Kayo at air base dojo in Japan.</p>
1963	28	<p>General tournament held in Osaka to celebrate 20th anniversary of the beginning of Seishin-Kai [21 dojo in Kai].</p>
1964	29	<p>Shogo Kuniba featured in <i>Encyclopedia Japonica</i> in article on Karate-Do and Kobudo, as opponent to Teruo Hayashi.</p> <p>SKKU-USA Branch formed by Richard P. Baillargeon, who had studied directly under Keishin Kayo and indirectly under Shogo Kuniba. Branch headquarters were in Valdosta, GA.</p>
1965	30	
1966	31	<p>Shogo Kuniba promoted to Nanadan (7 Dan) by Nippon Karate-Do Rengo-Kai.</p>
1967	32	
1968	33	<p>Shogo Kuniba became Seishin-Kai Kaicho, relieving Teruo Hayashi.</p>

		Albert Church published <i>Karate as the Bushido Way</i> , a book about Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu and Seishin-Kai, with photos of Shogo Kuniba.
1969	34	Farewell party for Chuzo Kotaka, a Seishin-Kai member who was leaving Japan for Hawaii.
1970	35	Shogo Kuniba chosen by the Federation of All Japan Karate-Do Organizations (FAJKO) to do a Kobudo demonstration at the first World Karate-Do Tournament held at the Budokan in Tokyo. Shogo Kuniba featured in <i>Black Belt</i> , Black Belt Times, February, page 14 (“Kuniba passes reigns to Hayashi of U.S. Seishin Karate Union”).
1971	36	First visit by Shogo Kuniba to the United States to tour dojo and attend SKKU/DNKA Tournament in Mobile Alabama; arranged by Richard Baillargeon, USA Honbucho, with assistance of Hugh Kelley; Instructor at Special Clinic, Mobile, Alabama. Shogo Kuniba introduced to James Herndon and Bill Price in Mobile.
1972	37	Shogo Kuniba served as Chief Referee and FAJKO representative at second World Karate-Do Championship Tournament in Paris; gave demonstration.
1973	38	30 th Anniversary of Seishin-Kai, tournament held in Osaka. Shogo Kuniba promoted to Karate-Do Hachidan (8 Dan) – Nippon Karate-Do Rengo-Kai; Mugai-Ryu Iaido Hachidan; Taira-Ha Kobudo Hachidan; Goshin Budo Hachidan.
1974	39	Shogo Kuniba featured in <i>The Martial Arts and Ways of Japan, Volume III, Modern Bujutsu & Budo</i> , by Donn F. Draeger (Weatherhill Pub.), p. 152. Second USA tour; Shogo Kuniba visited Virginia, North Carolina, etc. SKKU-USA handed over to Darrel Craig; National Karate and Jiu-Jitsu Union (NKJU) formed by Richard Baillargeon. Shogo Kuniba served as chief instructor, Seishin-Kai Summer Camp, Keezletown, VA. Jay Joseph publishes “Siyogo Kuniba: Japan’s youngest karate master” in <i>Official Karate</i> , 6 (36), June [pages 14-17]. Shogo Kuniba spent one week with James Herndon, conducting clinics at Old Dominion University Karate Club; met Harold Hankins and Frank Hargrove.
1975	40	Shogo Kuniba taught at Osaka Prefecture University karate club.
1976	41	Shogo Kuniba was guest instructor, Houston (TX) SWAT Team; Texas trip sponsored by Darrel Craig, Houston Budokan.
1977	42	Shogo Kuniba bio in FAJKO <i>Karate-Do Directory</i> , p. 119.
1978	43	Shogo Kuniba appeared in documentary “Eien Naru Budo” (Eternal

		<p>Martial Arts).</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba visited southwest Virginia; Bill Price appointed USA Honbucho.</p>
1979	44	<p>Velez & Corbett publish “Karate: The rank and the style” in <i>Black Belt</i> 17 (2), February [pages 42-44].</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba’s fifth USA tour; inspired James Herndon to open The Dojo (renamed Kensei-Kan Dojo) in September in Chesapeake, VA.</p>
1980	45	<p>James Herndon appointed Technical Director (Gijitsu-Bucho) of Seishin-Kai USA, January 1.</p> <p>James Herndon visited Japan Hombu Dojo, received Godan/Shihan and became USA Honbucho, May 31; Kensei-Kan Dojo became USA Hombu Dojo.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba arrived in U.S. on June 29 and conducted clinics in Chesapeake in July and August. Following that, he conducted clinics in Gate City, Virginia (with Ron Baker) and Jacksonville, NC (with Butch Velez).</p> <p>Albert Church died, June 23; buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, James Island, SC.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba was chief instructor, Seishin-Kai Fall Camp, Chesapeake, VA.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba was Chief Official, Seishin-Kai Karate-Do Championship USA, Chesapeake, October 25.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba and James Herndon conducted clinic for Kamishin-Ryu students in Charleston, SC, November 21-25.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba departed for Japan, December 3.</p>
1981	46	<p>Shogo Kuniba was Chief Official, Seishin-Kai Karate-Do All Japan Championships, May 10, Osaka.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba and James Herndon conducted Summer Shugyo training at Chesapeake Hombu Dojo, June 26-28.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba conducted Summer Camp in Florence, SC, July 5-10; Shogo Kuniba and James Herndon met with Catherine Church, widow of Albert Church; examined controversial “scroll” that purportedly passed Kamishin-Ryu to Albert Church.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba featured in <i>Official Karate</i>, 13 (100), July; 13 (100).</p>

		<p>Shogo Kuniba was Chief Official, Seishin-Kai Karate Union USA Championship, Chesapeake, October 24.</p> <p>James Herndon published USA Honbucho clarification article in <i>Official Karate</i>, 13 (103), November.</p>
1982	47	<p>James Herndon and Jose Hernandez conducted clinic at Florence, SC dojo of Joe Stricklin, February 5-7.</p> <p>Second Annual Instructor Seminar conducted at USA Hombu Dojo, April 17.</p> <p>Japan tour with USA members, May 3-17; Osaka Hombu Dojo and Kyoto sightseeing. Shihan James Herndon had meeting with Shogo Kuniba, Soke Daiko Keiji Hashimoto, and Soke Teruo Hayashi.</p> <p>USA Team participated in Seishin-Kai Karate-Do All Japan Championships, May 5 and Seishin-Kai Karate-Do Union World Championship and 10th East Japan Championship, May 16.</p> <p>Kunio Tatsuno founded Koshinkan Dojo.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba arrived in the U.S., July 10.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba was instructor, Seishin-Kai Summer Camp, Florence, SC, July 26-30.</p> <p>Yuji Nonaka arrived from Japan for a three-week visit, August 6.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba was Chief Official at Regional Tournament, Southwest, VA, August 14, and instructed at Southwest Virginia Summer Camp, August 12-15.</p> <p>Summer Shugyo held at USA Hombu Dojo, August 27-29.</p> <p>Hilton Head Clinic, November 19-21.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba returned to Japan, December.</p>
1983	48	<p>40th Anniversary of Seishin-Kai.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba divorced first wife, Kayo, in Osaka.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba arrived in U.S., along with Shihan Goichi Kobayashi, and his son Kanji Kobayashi, June 20.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba took up residence in America; 3171 Reese Dr.,</p>

		<p>Portsmouth, VA.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba was chief instructor, Seishin-Kai Summer Camp, Florence, SC, July 25-29.</p> <p><i>Cinemax</i> aired “Great Masters of the Martial Arts” (known in Japan as Eien Naru Budo) during the summer.</p> <p>Seishin-Kai Martial Arts (SKMA), Inc. formed; Board Members included Dr. J.L. Nakanishi, Ron Baker, Rick McElroy, Gary Naigle, and Judy Kuniba (secretary).</p> <p>SKMA tournament held in Castlewood, VA, August 6; many Japanese students arrived to participate.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba opened dojo at 5913 Churchland Blvd, Portsmouth, VA that became USA Hombu Dojo; pre-opening clinic held September 24-25, grand opening October 1.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba instructed at Hilton Head Clinic, October 14-16.</p>
1984	49	<p>Shogo Kuniba attended 22nd Annual Seishin-Kai Tournament, Osaka; spent April 25-June 19 in Japan.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba married Judy (Fuller) Molinary in Virginia Beach, VA, June 23. Obtained U.S. Social Security No. 228-33-2917. Granted Resident Alien status. Obtained Driver License.</p> <p>Kensei-Kan Dojo hosted Goshin Budo clinic, with Shogo Kuniba as Chief Instructor, July 14.</p> <p>James Herndon appointed Public Relations Director (Kikaku-Bucho) of SKMA.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba was chief instructor, Seishin-Kai Summer Camp, Hilton Head, SC, July 23-27, sponsored by Sensei Rick McElroy.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba visited southwest Virginia dojo; clinic in Honaker, VA, August.</p> <p>Shihan Kunio Tatsuno appointed Soke Daiko; opened dojo in Sakai City.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba promoted to Karate-Do Kudan (9 Dan) by Rengo-Kai. Kuniba-Ha Goshin-Do Kudan; Seishin-Kai Iaido Kudan; Seishin-Kai Kobudo Kudan.</p> <p>Annual Seishin-Kai USA Tournament, Portsmouth, VA, October 20.</p>

		James Herndon prepared <i>A Primer of Kuniba-Ha Karate-Do</i> .
1985	50	<p>Shogo Kuniba visited Japan, returned to U.S. March 20. During his absence, James Herndon conducted two special classes for Kuniba's students at the SKMA Hombu Dojo.</p> <p>Waynesboro, VA clinic sponsored by Sensei Tony Cooper, March 30.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba visited Mercedes, TX and dojo of Raul Cantu, April; also visited Bill Price and Ron Baker in southwest Virginia.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba visited Doug Berman and conducted clinic and seminar in Dillon, SC, May.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba featured in VHS "Action Karate" produced by Kunio Tatsuno.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba featured in <i>Masters, Founders & Leaders of American Martial Arts</i>, pages 88-89.</p> <p>James William Holzer published "The limitless techniques of Goshin-Budo" in <i>Black Belt</i>, 23 (7), July [pages 60-64].</p> <p>USA delegation toured Japan. Shogo Kuniba visited Japan July 11-August 30. East Japan Championship in Gumma Prefecture on August 4; Seishin-Kai World Tournament in Osaka, August 11.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba visited Trinidad and Tobago, dojo of Darryl Williams, September 25-October 2.</p> <p>Shihan Ikuo Yamada and Daiko Kunio Tatsuno visited USA in October and attended Seishin-Kai USA Championship Tournament, October 20.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba attended First Annual SKMA tournament sponsored by Sensei Raul Cantu, in Mercedes, TX; first week of November.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba went to Stockholm, Sweden and Paris, France in November 11-25 to teach clinics (Sweden, Shihan Tamas Weber; France, Shihan Patrick Tambourini).</p> <p>Kosuke Kuniba visited USA for first time, November 29- December 16, and trained at Hombu Dojo.</p>
1986	51	Historic meeting held at SKMA Hombu Dojo between Shogo Kuniba and James Herndon, February; Kensei-Kan Dojo recognized as Hombu Bunkan.

		<p>J.P. Maillet published “L’Esprit de Famille” in French magazine <i>Karate</i>, Summer [pages 50-56]; Featured Shogo Kuniba & Tamas Weber.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba served as master instructor at Seishin-Kai National Camp, Staunton, VA, June 15-21.</p> <p>Instructor meeting at Hombu Dojo, June 28. James Herndon appointed chair of committee to establish rules for organization.</p> <p>Unsuccessful negotiations with SEDIREP to have book on Shito-Ryu Karate-Do published, June-July.</p> <p>Numerous Japanese black belts visited Portsmouth Hombu, August 18-28.</p> <p>Annual Seishin-Kai Martial Arts Tournament, Portsmouth, October 11.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba visited Patrick Tamburini in Paris, October 26-28.</p> <p>First Seishin-Kai tournament held in Trinidad, November 21.</p>
1987	52	<p>Instructor Clinic, Hombu Dojo, January 10-11 (canceled due to Soke’s emergency appendectomy).</p> <p>U.S. karate delegation toured Japan and attended Seishin-Kai tournament, May 18- June 1; Judy Kuniba and Shogo Kuniba visited Kokuba and Furugen relatives in Okinawa.</p> <p>Joint NKJU/SKMA Summer Camp, Elizabeth City, NC, July 19-25.</p> <p>Kozo Kuniba arrived in U.S. for extended training at Hombu Dojo.</p> <p>Annual Seishin-Kai USA Tournament, Oct. 10, Portsmouth, VA.</p> <p>Kensei-Kai officially formed by Shihan James Herndon and recognized by Soke Shogo Kuniba, December 5.</p>
1988	53	<p>Shogo Kuniba taught a Shito-Ryu clinic and refereed at the 8th Annual Traditional Karate Tournament sponsored by Sensei Osamu Ozawa, Las Vegas, NV.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba gave a demonstration at SKMA Tournament, Gate City, VA, April 9.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba was Grand Master, Seishin-Kai International Tournament, Paris, June.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba moved to new home at 4648 Helensburg Dr., Chesapeake,</p>

		<p>VA, June 12; referred to as “Seishin-Kai House.”</p> <p>SKMA Summer Camp, Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, July 21-23.</p> <p>Regis Rapidel published article about Shogo Kuniba in <i>Pinky</i>, UNAAK [Union Nationale des Association et Amicales de Karate].</p> <p>Kozo Kuniba returned to USA Hombu Dojo for training, September.</p> <p>Goichi Kobayashi arrived in U.S. for an indefinite stay.</p> <p>SKMA Tournament, Portsmouth, VA, October 15.</p> <p><i>Martial Arts</i> magazine featured article titled “Sogo Kuniba: He makes it look so easy.”</p>
1989	54	<p>Shogo Kuniba taught a clinic and refereed at the 9th Traditional Karate Tournament sponsored by Sensei Osamu Ozawa, January 27-29.</p> <p>Jerry Beasley & James Herndon published “Shogo Kuniba: The Soke of Seishin-Kai” in <i>Karate International</i>, May/June [pages 18-20].</p> <p>Second International Seishin-Kai Tournament, Isle of Man, September.</p> <p>James Herndon published “The birth of a new martial art: The traditional path toward starting a new style” in <i>Inside Karate</i>, December [pages 24-29].</p> <p>Richard Baillargeon died due to complications from intestinal cancer; he was cremated and his ashes were spread in Atlantic Ocean off the coast of New Jersey by family members. He insisted on no memorial.</p>
1990	55	<p>Shogo Kuniba was chief instructor, Summer Camp, Virginia Wesleyan College, August 9-11 [Last camp attended].</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba’s last trip to Japan in August.</p>
1991	56	<p>Shogo Kuniba diagnosed with stomach cancer in February.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba made appearance at Summer Camp, Virginia Wesleyan College.</p>
1992	57	<p>Last gathering at Portsmouth Hombu Dojo to celebrate Shogo Kuniba’s birthday in February.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba signed a notarized Declaration dated March 16 that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Appointed Shihan Bill Price as Soke of Kuniba-Ha Shito-Ryu and Kuniba-Ryu Goshin-Do. -Appointed Kozo Kuniba as Soke of Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu and Kosuke Kuniba as Kaicho (of Seishin-Kai).

		<p>With the assistance of Bill Price, Shogo Kuniba conducted his last clinic in Waynesboro, VA in April.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba died on July 14 in Portsmouth, VA after a long battle with stomach cancer; he was cremated – his ashes were buried in Olive Branch Cemetery, Portsmouth, VA. His last words were: “Soon better coming” spoken to wife, Judy.</p>
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Posthumous Milestones & Organizational Issues

Year	Ann.	Significant Milestone or Event
1992	0	<p>Japan Seishin-Kai organization did not agree with Kuniba-Soke’s declaration. Some disintegration of Japan Seishin-Kai and many older Shihan disaffiliated.</p> <p>An entourage of ten USA representatives traveled to Japan to honor Shogo Kuniba at his memorial tournament. Meetings were held with Kunio Tatsuno, acting Seishin-Kai president. He proclaimed that he would act as Soke for five years to reorganize the kai. At the end of five years, Kozo Kuniba would become the Soke.</p> <p>Shogo Kuniba promoted posthumously to Judan (10 Dan) by Japan Karate-Do Federation (JKF) [FAJKO renamed JKF in 1987].</p> <p>Chris Thomas published “Shogo Kuniba: Training in the good old days” <i>Karate/Kung-Fu Illustrated</i>, August [pages 2024].</p>
1993	1	<p>James Herndon published “Kururun-Fa saved my life” in <i>Seishin-Kai News</i>, 11 (1).</p> <p>50th Anniversary of Seishin-Kai.</p> <p>Lewis Estes visited dojo of Wilhelm Guldbrand in northern Sweden, May.</p> <p>Kozo Kuniba married Midori Asai, June 5 in Osaka.</p> <p>Kozo Kuniba took 27 Japanese students to compete in Seishin-Kai International Tournament, Paris, November.</p> <p>Kosuke Kuniba visited his father’s “sleeping place” on his return trip to Venezuela, December.</p>
1994	2	<p>Bill Price conducted clinic in San Luis Potosi, Mexico for Sensei Antonio Balderas, March 9-13.</p>

		<p>Son of Kozo Kuniba (grandson of Kosho/Shogo) and Midori Asai born April 18, named Toshio Kuniba.</p> <p>Summer Camp held in Virginia, July 28 – August 1 (Daiko Price, Shihan Kobayashi, Shihan Herndon and other members of Shihan Board of SKMA attended).</p> <p>SKMA authorized letters to be sent on September 8 by law firm (attorney Craig L. Mytelka) to Hugh Kelley, Ron Baker, and Harold Hankins ordering them to cease and desist using Seishin-Kai logo and Shogo Kuniba reference.</p> <p>3rd Annual Shogo Kuniba Memorial Tournament, Portsmouth, VA, October 15.</p>
1995	3	<p>Bill Price resigned from SKMA by letter dated March 24.</p> <p>Chikubu-Kai (Bamboo Warrior Organization) formed by Bill Price & Goichi Kobayashi to further the teachings of Shogo Kuniba in the U.S. See http://chikubukai.gengo.net/main.php</p> <p>Lewis Estes and Darren Myers became leaders of Seishin-Kai USA Branch.</p> <p>SKMA Summer Camp, July 27-31, Virginia Wesleyan College.</p> <p>Annual Seishin-Kai Karate Tournament, Osaka, Japan, August 27. Judy Kuniba and Darren Myers attended.</p>
1996	4	<p>James Herndon wrote “Concerns of a martial arts organization” which was published in <i>Seishin-Kai News</i>.</p> <p>Second grandchild of Shogo Kuniba, Setsuki Kuniba, born May 26 to Kozo & Midori.</p> <p>SKMA Summer Camp, July 25-28, Virginia Wesleyan College.</p> <p>Kunio Tatsuno founded the World Karate Promotion Foundation (WKPF), with its aim of “karate to the Olympics.”</p> <p>USA delegation visited Osaka in August as guest of Kunio Tatsuno; Delegation included J. Kuniba, J. Herndon, D. Myers, and L. Estes. Meeting with Soke Teruo Hayashi.</p> <p>Masuaki Minamide made Technical Director (Gijitsu-Bucho) of Seishin-Kai; appointed by Kunio Tatsuno.</p> <p>SKMA dissolved as a corporation.</p>

		Patrick Tambourini died in France of cancer.
1997	5	Sadatomu Harada became Technical Advisor (Komon Shihan) of Seishin-Kai Karate-Do Union in Japan. Five years since Kunio Tatsuno announced he would act as Soke, with no signs of leadership being passed to Kozo Kuniba. Seishin-Kai Hombu Dojo in Portsmouth, VA closed.
1998	6	International Seishin-Kai Karate Union (ISKU) formed in Japan by Kunio Tatsuno; broadened Seishin-Kai beyond Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu.
1999	7	Masuaki Minamide made Soke Daiko of Seishin-Kai; appointed by Kunio Tatsuno. Kunio Tatsuno assassinated in Osaka, Japan, May 1. Sadatomu Harada assumed Kaicho of Seishin-Kai, and then claimed "Soke" title. Kozo Kuniba and Kosuke Kuniba set up "arrangement committee" in November in order to start a new organization – Kuniba-Kai. Kozo Kuniba was named Kaicho; Kosuke Kuniba was named third Soke of Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu.
2000	8	Japan Karate-Do Federation (JKF) recognized Kuniba-Kai as sole organizational sponsor of Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu Karate-Do. Representatives from The USA traveled to Japan to give a demonstration for the first anniversary of the formation of Kuniba Kai International. Lewis Estes appointed USA Honbucho for Kuniba-Kai and Darren Myers appointed USA Fukukaicho. Michael Doyle and Mark Boyette appointed to U.S. Board of Directors. [Note: Estes, Doyle, and Boyette began their training under James Herndon before training directly under Shogo Kuniba]. Kuniba-Kai web site developed. http://www.kunibakai.org
2001	9	Michael Doyle published "Kuniba Kai Karate Do; The fundamentals of tradition" in <i>Masters of Karate</i> , June [pages 33-37]. Lewis Estes produced DVD of Bassai kata of Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu Karate-Do. Available from http://www.kunibakai.org/Three%20Kata%20Video.htm
2002	10	Memorial at Norfolk USAKF Tournament. James Herndon published "Soke Shogo Kuniba – Gone Ten Years but not Forgotten." Teruo Hayashi visited Portsmouth grave site of Shogo Kuniba.

2003	11	60 th Anniversary of Seishin-Kai. Sadatomu Harada made Honorary President of ISKU. Robert Burgermeister became President (Kaicho) and CEO; he is now living in Arizona. See http://www.seishinkai.org
2004	12	Teruo Hayashi died September 24. Masuaki Minamide founded Japan Karate-Do Rensei-Kai, took titles Kaicho and Soke. Upside down Fuji no Mon (Kuniba crest) used as logo; character “Sei” inside. See http://karatedo-reiseikai.or.tv/
2005	13	Shogo Kuniba featured in Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shogo_Kuniba
2006	14	Seishin-Kai International Shito-Ryu Karate Union (SISKU) formed in Japan by Sadatomu Harada. Harada dropped use of title “Soke” and let go of claims to Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu. Lenny Jordan (student of James Herndon, then Shogo Kuniba) appointed USA Honbucho for ISKU. See http://www.seishinkai.com/country/countries.html
2007	15	Kozo Kuniba at USA Summer Camp, Chesapeake, VA, July 5-7. Kozo Kuniba and James Herndon have meetings with visiting Honbucho and several phone conversations with Bill Price to discuss re-unification of Kuniba organizations in the U.S. James Herndon, Darren Myers and Lewis Estes promoted to Nanadan and awarded title Kyoshi by Soke Kozo Kuniba. Reorganization of Kuniba Kai International. Bill Price appointed Daiko; Executive Board created; James Herndon appointed International Information Director (Kokusai Joho Kyoku-Cho), position of USA Fukukaicho eliminated and Darren Myers appointed USA Honbucho.

Future Milestone & Events

2008	16	James Herndon will publish <i>The karate style of Shogo Kuniba</i> .
2009	17	10 th Anniversary of Kuniba-Kai. Celebration.
2010	18	
2011	19	40 th Anniversary of Shogo Kuniba’s first visit to USA. Commemoration.
2012	20	20 th Anniversary of the death of Shogo Kuniba. Ceremony.

Sources:

Notes from and several interviews with Soke Shogo Kuniba, from 1979-1987.

Interview with Shihan Goichi Kobayashi, May 20, 1980, Osaka, Japan.

Interview with Shihan Shuho Yamanaka, May 25, 1980, Osaka, Japan.

Interview with Soke Kunio Tatsuno, Osaka, Japan, August 19, 1996.

Interviews with Soke Kozo Kuniba, Virginia, July 5-7, 2007.

Emails from and interviews with Judy Kuniba, 1990-2007.

Published articles, biographical sketches, and books as cited above.

Newsletters of Seishin-Kai USA and SKMA, Inc.

Web sites, as noted above, and Internet searches.