

Tuesday, July 16, 1946

Jap-American Unit in Italy Cited by Clark

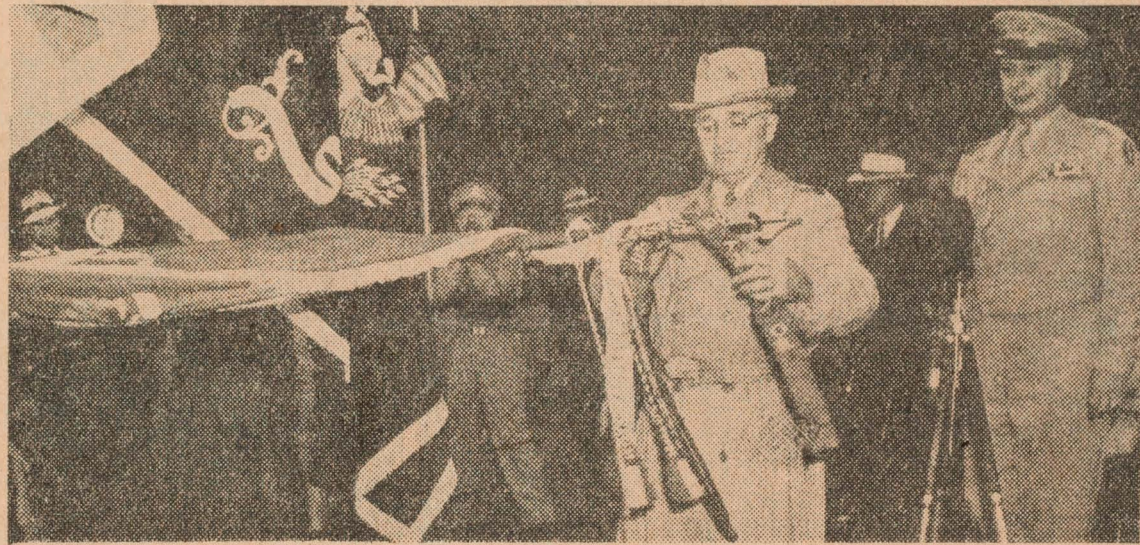
With the Fifth Army in Italy, July 13.—Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commander of the Fifth army, conferred the War Department's Distinguished Unit Citation this morning on the 100th Battalion—composed of Americans of Japanese ancestry—for its "outstanding performance of duty in action" in breaking up the enemy's defense of Belvedere and Sassetta in late June.

The 100th has been in every major action in Italy since Salerno, and was in the spearhead of the Allied advance from Cecina to Leghorn. Between them its members hold 11 Distinguished Service Crosses, 44 Silver Stars, 31 Bronze Stars, over 1000 Purple Hearts and three Legions of Merit, and have been awarded 15 battlefield commissions.

During the ceremony Clark tied long blue battle-streamers to the guidons of the battalion's companies and pinned Distinguished Unit badges on the color-bearers and guidon bearers.

"Your record in battle has been marked by one continuous achievement after another," Clark told the troops. "You are always thinking of your country before yourselves. You have never complained thru your long periods in the line. You have written a brilliant chapter in the history of the fighting men of America. You are always ready to close with the enemy, and you have always defeated him. The 34th Division is proud of you, the Fifth Army is proud of you, and the whole United States is proud of you."

Nisei Regiment Receives Banner of Honor



Post Staff Photos—Ellis

NISEI RECEIVE HONOR—Japanese Americans of the 442d Regimental Combat Team march in the rain down Constitution ave. At the Ellipse, President Truman pins the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation banner on the regimental colors. Reviewing the parade are Mr. Truman, Secretary of War Patterson and Representative May (D., Ky.), chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee

PARADE

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his Western-style hat, the President stopped a number of times to shake hands with various enlisted men and officers whose motto is, "Go for Broke," crap shooting equivalent of "All or Nothing."

Before affixing the President's Distinguished Unit Citation banner to the colors of the regiment whose members won more than 3600 Purple Hearts for wounds in action during the war, he said:

"It is a very great pleasure to me today to be able to put the Seventh Regimental Citation on your banners.

Recalls Roosevelt Credo

"You are to be congratulated on what you have done for this great country of ours. I think it was my predecessor who said that Americanism is not a matter of race or creed, it is a matter of the heart.

"You fought for the free nations of the world along with the rest of us. I congratulate you on that, and I can't tell you how very much I appreciate the privilege of being able to show you just how much the United States of America thinks of what you have done.

"You are now on your way home. You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice—and you have won. Keep up that fight, and we will continue to win—to make this great republic stand for just what the constitution says it stands for: the welfare of all the people all the time.

Patterson on Stand

Among those on the reviewing stand with the President were Secretary of War Patterson, Representative Andrew May (D., Ky.), chairman of the House Military Committee; Admiral William Leahy, Joseph R. Farrington, Hawaii's delegate to Congress; Gen. Thomas T. Handy, deputy chief of staff; Gen. Jacob L. Devers, commanding Army Ground Forces, and the military and naval aides to the Chief Executive.

Led by the combat team's commander, Lieut. Col. Alfred A. Pursall, Crystal City, Mo., the 19 officers and 481 enlisted men of the unit reached New York from Italy two weeks ago. About half are from Hawaii, where the 442d will soon be formally mustered out.

\$16.75

stitching at bottom yoke. It's the coat we've seen available in all sizes