

Navy's First Nisei Nurse



Five years ago Yoshiko Tanigawa was in the Tule Lake war relocation center for Japanese American evacuees in California.

Today, because she was determined even then to be a nurse, she is Ensign Tanigawa, United States Navy. She is the only such officer of Japanese extraction.

She is stationed at the Long Beach Navy Hospital and is "very capable," according to Lieut. Comdr. Sue English, chief nurse.

"Everyone has been wonderful to me," said Ensign Tanigawa, a former resident of Roseville, Calif. "I hope to prove myself worthy in my profession."

Ensign Tanigawa was released from the Tule Lake center in 1943 and went to Minneapolis. After several unsuccessful attempts, she was admitted to St. Barnabas Hospital for training in March, 1944. She was graduated three years later and worked first at the Minneapolis Veterans hospital. She entered the Navy when she reached her 21st birthday three months ago.

—International News photo from U. S. Navy.

First to Get Job



A NATIVE of Rossville, Cal., Ensign Yoshiko Tanigawa is the first and only nurse of Japanese ancestry to be commissioned as a member of the U. S. Navy Nurse Corps. She is shown here at work in the Naval Hospital at Long Beach, Cal. Official Navy photo. (International)