

THE COLOR OF HONORFor: VOICE OVER RECORD WITH SEN. MATSUNAGA
(Narration regarding nisei role in the Pacific and intelligence contribution)

NARRATOR: The nisei Military Intelligence linguists were eventually to serve in every branch of the U.S. military, and to be attached to Allied forces -- British, Dutch, Chinese, Australian. They went with the troops to every major campaign of the Asia/Pacific theater.

NARRATOR: The nisei linguists handled many jobs in developing combat intelligence about the enemy. They translated millions of pages of documents, broke enemy codes and ciphers, helped to staff intelligence centers in Brisbane, Australia, New Delhi, Chungking, Manila, and Honolulu. And the goal? To find out the location of enemy units, ships, airfields and artillery, troop movements, supply lines, weapons and equipment. One particular document, captured from a Japanese admiral, called Operation Z, gave the full details for Japan's defense of the Marianas and the Philippines. Fished out of a wrecked plane by Filipino guerrillas, the document was rushed by submarine to ATIS in Brisbane, Australia, where a team of linguists worked feverishly to translate the Z Plan and send forth the vital information to the Navy and Army commands. Major U.S. successes at the Battle of the Philippine Sea and the Battle of Leyte Gulf benefited from this intelligence. The linguists also did propaganda to weaken the enemy's morale and will to fight and to encourage surrender.

It's been ^{written} ~~said~~ that General MacArthur in the Pacific War knew more in advance about the disposition of the enemy than any commander in military history. The record, however, is ^{conspicuously} ~~strikingly~~ silent

about the men who were critical to gathering the intelligence that saved thousands of lives and helped shorten the war.

Manny Goldberg, New York; Military Intelligence, Saipan, Iwo Jima.

GOLDBERG: I have letters wherein the names of the nisei boys have been cut out. I believe that the censors were instructed to do that. So that this was a policy of the U.S. Army, and so that for these last forty-odd years the publicity that the nisei should've been given for the work they did during the Pacific theater operation has never been publicized to any extent. It's missing in any of the histories, it's missing in any of the documentaries, it's missing in all of the historical records which the troops themselves wrote up. The Marines never mentioned the interpreters.

ON-CAMERA

MATSUNAGA: Well, that was an extra burden those who served in the Military Intelligence had to carry. That they could not publicly be recognized because they were on secret missions.

NEW INSERT

(:30 Additional Matsunaga voice-over about anonymous service)

Hoichi Kubo, San Jose, CA; 27th Division, Makin, Saipan, Okinawa.

KUBO: I wanted to know where the machine gun was, I didn't know how many they were, I never said that; I said, "Hey! You have seven machine guns in there," "No, no, there's only three of 'em..." "Only three? Well, let's go here---" So I drew, pulled out the map and said, "Where was it?" "One, two, three." So we let the communications people know, give 'em the coordinates, pretty soon we ... what they did was the rear artillery hit a whole volley of shells ..."

THE RECORDING SESSION will be arranged with your office thru my friend and colleague Victoria(Vicky) Keith, a long-time activist filmmaker & former station news camera woman there in Honolulu. She will call you and can also be reached at:
(H) [redacted] (O) [redacted]
(Hawaiian Electric)
She will need approx. 1 hr. with you and to Federal Express the tape to me by TUES, 8th (Election Day!)