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## Five Soldiers: One Dead...One in Hospital... One on Furlough...One in College ...One Working

The Short Stories of Five Southern California Nisei

**LOS ANGELES.** — Harry Tanouye is a civilian now—working for WRA district office in Santa Ana. Until recently it was S/Sgt. Tanouye's job to lead the 32nd Infantry (one of the 442d Regiment's 3 battalions). Harry has a Purple Heart—he was wounded in July 4, 1944; bronze star for outstanding bravery in action; pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon; Presidential Unit citation; ribbon; combat infantry badge, and others.

Pvt. George T. Sakato has just received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in combat. It was awarded him at Mitchell Convalescent (Army) Hospital, San Diego, by Col. Joseph E. Campbell.

This next-to-the-most-important military achievement, for example, was earned by Capt. D. A. Smith while still at the veterans hospital in West L. A. He was invited to join American Legion Post 322. He hesitated, but they insisted, so he's a regular Legionnaire. Harry is finishing a first tour at USC, and that's his last. He's been a counselor in one of camps at the YMCA summer camp near Lake Arrowhead. He was offered a job in Hollywood.

How about furlough, though? Pfc. Joe Okita, 21, had to be back in Brawley after 6½ months in a German prison camp. Joe has already put back 30 of the pounds he lost in Hitler's custody. Before he reports again for active Army duty Aug. 15, 43 is "going to bring him home to help the fight against Fascism (American style) on the home front. He visited his father, Etsuchi Okita, at Poston—a happy reunion. Joe entered the Ar-

my in March 1941, over 8 mos. before Pearl Harbor. He served overseas with the 442d Infantry for most of the time, and his decorations include the Purple Heart (he was wounded in July 4, 1944); bronze star for outstanding bravery in action; pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon; Presidential Unit citation; ribbon; combat infantry badge, and others.

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With his honorable discharge, Sakato now plans to study diesel engines under the GI Bill of Rights.

He was born at Colton, Calif. In addition to his service with the 442d Infantry Combat Team brought him the Purple Heart, ETO Ribbon with 3 Battle Stars and Distinguished Unit Citation.

Staff Sgt. Kazuo Masuda, of Santa Ana, has been awarded, posthumously, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action during the Italian campaign.

Several weeks after the action that earned him this Army distinction, that so seldom is awarded a soldier, he was killed while single-handedly protecting his mortar crew from German mortar fire. He fired his sub-machine gun until he was overcome by sheer force of numbers.

The DSC citation was for re-

peating repeated German coun-

## Naval Plane Serves As Mercy Ship To Save Life of Japanese Infant

**NEWELL, Calif.** — WRA and Naval authorities revealed last week that while the United States Army and Navy are raining death and destruction on the Japanese homeland, the Navy threw its resources into a dramatic race against time to save the life of a Japanese infant in the baby in the Tule Lake Relocation Center hospital here.

Ryoko Ogawa, 15-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hatsuji Ogawa, formerly Anaheim and Los Angeles, was near death from a rare malady diagnosed as meningitis caused by the virus of influenza. The disease has been 100 per cent fatal in cases in which a special and recently developed serum has been used.

Serum Was Located

Dr. Jack Sleath, Tule Lake medical officer, searched by telephone for a supply of the serum, and found one who sold some in the Children's Hospital in San Francisco which offered to divide its supply in a gamble for the baby's life. If the serum could be transported to Tule Lake in time.

Commander M. Payne, medical officer of Klamath Falls, Ore., Naval Air Station, stepped into the picture. He arranged an emergency flight by a navy plane to Alameda to pick up the serum.

Plane Makes Trip

Lieutenant D. M. Walsh of the Naval Air Station piloted the mercy plane to Alameda and back and delivered the serum to Dr. Sleath who was waiting at the field while Dr. D. W. Boardman, senior medical officer at Tule Lake Hospital, sat by the unconscious child. The serum ampules were the baby's only chance for life.

The first injection was made before 9 p.m. Tuesday and the baby lives today. The child has been moved outside the center hospital.

Her mother, 25 years old, is a native of San Jose and her mother is a native of Hawaii.

Word has just been received that 15-month-old Ryoko Ogawa passed away in spite of the mercy flight undertaken by the Navy Air Station to rush serum to spare her life.

### WANT ADS

WANTED — Help for general business. \$20 per week. Call EA 6225.

## ANNOUNCEMENT!

The Business Enterprises, operated and doing business at the War Relocation Centers, are going to be out of business and will be liquidated before January 1, 1946. Any patron or former customer who has a claim against these Enterprises, or any former Enterprise member whose address has been changed or has intention of changing, please contact your respective Enterprise at once!

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## Preacher Offers to Scrap for Nisei

**SAN JOSE.** — Two local Nisei boys, recently returned here with their Issei parents (names withheld) for reasons apparent later, have taken a job as waiters in a downtown restaurant for a late Saturday night snack before returning to their hotel.

Seated in a booth and minding their own business, they were rudely accosted by a belligerent sailor with "three sheets in the wind" and the other one flinging words which included not only a bit of braggadocio as he announced that he was a "Jap killer from way back" and intended to polish off the youngers.

Wishing to avoid a scene, the boys arose to leave. The sailor, however, refused to let them go, staying, assuming that he was as much right there as anywhere. She managed to get the drunken sailor out of the door.

He returned, renewing his offensive attack of words. But this time a burly minister of the Gospel, a Caucasian, entered and told the sailor off.

"It's a good thing you're a preacher," retorted the sailor, "or I'd take a punch at you." "If you feel that way about it," replied the minister in busineslike tones, "I can skin this coat and reverse this collar in big time!"

The fistfights did not materialize as a companion of the sailor dragged him outside, just a jump ahead of the arrival of the Sheriff's Patrol.

The Nisei boys want to come downtown and on Saturday night when the sailors are ashore, where their names are given. They are afraid their parents might object. And the courageous, but modest, "Fighting" Person has asked that he remain anonymous.

## VFW in Michigan Wants Nisei Vets

**NEW YORK.** — Three Michigan veterans' organizations have offered to help the two sons of Japanese descent who were denied membership in their home post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at Spokane, Wash.

Otto Beaudoin, commander of Otto Kern, Jr., Post 3735, VFW, Detroit, made up of World War II veterans, wired an invitation to the two Nisei and the United Nations Service Post of Muskegon, Mich., Post 3243, VFW, of Fenton, Mich., also said the two men would be welcome in their group.

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