

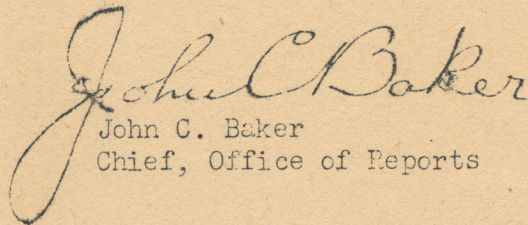
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

January 29, 1944

To: Project Directors, Attention: Reports Officers
Relocation Supervisors
Field Assistant Directors
Division Heads in Washington

Attached is a portion of the manuscript of the Army Hour broadcast on a nation-wide radio network Sunday, January 23, 1944, in which Yoshihide Kuwaye, member of the 100th Infantry Battalion, was interviewed. This is sent to you for such use as you care to make.

Sincerely yours,


John C. Baker
Chief, Office of Reports

Attachment

THE ARMY HOUR

Sunday, January 23, 1944

IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Announcer: Here in Kennedy General Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, is an infantryman different from most of the doughboys fighting their way across mountain peaks in Italy or jungles of the Pacific Islands. He is Japanese. His name, Yoshihide Kuwaye. His outfit, the famed 100th Battalion, made up of Japanese-Americans from Hawaii—who late in 1943 first came to grips with the Germans in the Italian campaign. What was it like, Yoshihide?

Kuwaye: It was like our training. We had been taught the things we should do in combat. We did them. Nobody thought very much about it, except that we were glad we had finally gotten into action.

Announcer: Were the Germans difficult?

Kuwaye: Yes, very. But at first, we were bothered more by the severe conditions than by the enemy. It was cold and wet. We could not keep warm or dry. The Germans did not give too much of a battle until they reached the winter line.

Then, they were able to fight from the positions they chose. The weather got worse, but the Germans were even more difficult. They fought without any thought of surrender.

Announcer: Did any of them surrender?

Kuwaye: Yes, we captured quite a few. These Germans realized their position was hopeless and surrendered. When we rushed them, they hollered "Kammerad" and threw their arms in the air.

Announcer: Then, what happened? Were they surprised to see you?

Kuwaye: Very much. They asked our platoon leader, who interrogated them, what was our nationality. He told them Japanese-American. They asked him how he spoke such good German. He told them he was a German-American, from Brooklyn. His name was Lt. Kurtschammel.

Announcer: What did the German prisoners have to say to that?

Kuwaye: They didn't say anything. They just looked from us to Lt. Kurtschammel and shook their heads. I'm sure Hitler had not told them about us.

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