

PACIFIC CITIZEN



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Disclose Japanese Americans in France

Report 41 Japanese American Soldiers Killed in Action in Mediterranean War Zone

WASHINGTON—Forty-one Americans of Japanese ancestry, killed in action on the Italian front, were identified this week by the War Department. The casualties among Japanese Americans were included in a list of 2818 United States soldiers killed in the European and Mediterranean areas.

The War Department also announced that nine other Japanese Americans were wounded in the Mediterranean area and one in the European zone. One American was listed as a prisoner of war in Germany.

Killed in Action

On Oct. 21 the War Department included the names of the following soldiers of Japanese ancestry among a list of 2818 United States soldiers killed in action on the European and Mediterranean areas. All of the Japanese American casualties were in the Mediterranean area, presumably in Italy:

MADOKORO, Pfc. Harry F.—Mrs. Natsu Madokoro, mother, WRA center, Poston, Ariz.
OTANI, Staff Sgt. Kazuo—Yoichi Otani, father, WRA center, Rivers, Ariz.
SAKAMOTO, Tech. Sgt. Atsushi—Mrs. Setsu Sakamoto, mother, WRA center, Poston, Ariz.
YAMAMOTO, Pfc. John T.—Kanzo Yamamoto, father, WRA center, Poston, Ariz.

MASUDA, Staff Sgt. Dick Z.—Miss Grace Y. Hagio, friend, WRA center, McGehee, Ark.
MASUDA, Staff Sgt. Kazuo—Mrs. Tamae Masuda, mother, (Last War Dept. address "Denson, Ark.")
SHIMATSU, Staff Sgt. Akira — Miss Fumiko Shimatsu, sister, (Last War Dept. address "Denson, Ark.")
OHKI, Pfc. Arnold—Mrs. Yaye Ohki, mother, WRA center, Amache, Colo.

OKAZAKI, Pvt. Isao — Matzujiro Okazaki, father, WRA center, Hunt, Idaho.
SATO, Pfc. Yukio—Mrs. Nami Sato, mother, WRA center, Hunt, Idaho.
TAKETA, Pvt. Jimmie Y.—Miss Keiko Taketa, sister, Twin Falls, Idaho.

SHIOMICHI, Pvt. Joe A.—Mrs. Miye Shiomichi, wife, 810 East Mason St., Apt. 408, Milwaukee, Wis.
TERRITORY OF HAWAII
CHINEN, Sgt. Jenhatsu—Saburo Chinen, father, Box 188, Ewa, Oahu.

DOI, Pfc. Haruo—Mrs. Hina Doi, mother, 616-C South Hotel St., Honolulu.
FUJII, Pfc. Masao—Mrs. Iyer Fujii, mother, 1829-D Liliha St., Honolulu.
FUJIKAWA, Pfc. Jitsuro—Mrs. Miyone Fujikawa, mother, 290 Haili St., Hilo, Hawaii.

HANAUMI, Staff Sgt. Richard S.—Mrs. Mildred K. Kaya, sister, 1248 Kinolee St., Hilo, Hawaii.
IIDA, Sgt. Martin M. — Mrs. Rin Iida, mother, Box 23, Kilauea, Kauai.
IRIGUCHI, Pfc. Tadayoshi—Mrs. Kikuno Iriguchi, mother, Wailuku, Maui.

JICHAKU, Pfc. Thomas M.—Mrs. Makato Jichaku, mother, 4429 Sierra St., Honolulu.
KAMEDA, Pfc. Fred Y.—Genzo Kameda, father, Box 538, Waiailua, Honolulu.
KARIMOTO, Staff Sgt. Haruo—Mrs. Tsugiko Karimoto, wife, 432, Paia, Maui.

KAWAKAMI, Pvt. Tetsuro—Yasuhiro Kawakami, brother, Wailuku, Maui.
KODA, Pfc. Kiichi—Mrs. Shizu Koda, mother, Box 310, Waiipahu, Honolulu.
MORIKAWA, Pvt. Haruto—Tokuwo Morikawa, brother, 36 Long St., Hilo, Hawaii.

NAKAZATO, Pfc. Saburo—Jira Nakazato, father, Box 23, Hakalau, Hawaii.
OBA, Sgt. Masayoshi—Mrs. Chieko Shishido, sister, Box 244 Lahaina, Maui.
OBA, Sgt. Sanichi G.—Joichi Oba, father, Lahaina, Maui.
OGAWA, Pfc. Sadao—Bando Ogawa, father, Eleele, Port Allen, Kauai.

SAHARA, Staff Sgt. Atsuo—Kanaye Sahara, brother, 819 Lakepane Ave, Honolulu.
SAITO, Pfc. Kinji—Kiyoshi Saito, brother, Box 482, Waiipahu, Honolulu.
SAKADO, Pfc. Masato—Kaoru Sakado, brother, Box 145, Kamuela, Hawaii.

SHIMIZU, Pfc. Gordon S.—Mrs. Vivian K. Shimizu, wife, Box 59, Aiea, Oahu.
TAKEMOTO, Pfc. Haruo—Hajime Takemoto, brother, House No. 50, Ewa, Oahu.
TAKENAKA, Pfc. Tooru—Miss Pauline Y. Takenaka, sister, Box 95, Hanalei, Kauai.

TAMASHIRO, Sgt. Thomas T. — William N. Tamashiro, brother, 948-A Winant St., Honolulu.
TOMITA, Pfc. Hiroichi—Mrs. Shizue Tomita, mother, Main St., Wailuku, Maui.
TOMITA, Pfc. Isamu—Tokuji Tomita, father, Box 563, Paia, Maui.

TOYAMA, Pfc. Shinsuke—Mrs. Kamado Nakata, sister, 2671 South King St., Honolulu.
WATANABE, Pvt. Kiyotoshi—Tsuneki Watanabe, father, 1128 Kamehameha St., Hilo, Hawaii.
YOSHIMURA, Pfc. Saburo—Bert Y. Yoshimura, brother, 508 Kiwila St., Honolulu.

Wounded in Action
On Oct. 15 the War Department announced that 3,577 United States soldiers had been wounded in action in the Asiatic, Central Pacific, European, Mediterranean and Southwest Pa-

Japanese American Commissioned as Major in Army

ST. PAUL, Minn. — John F. Aiso, 36, was commissioned a major at Fort Snelling on Oct. 18, becoming the highest ranking Nisei in the United States Army, it was announced by Col. Kai E. Rasmussen, his commanding officer.

(Two other Japanese Americans with a similar rank are Major Kahn Ueyeyama of San Francisco, stationed at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., and Major Robert Saibara of Texas, commander of a battalion at Camp Crowder, Mo.)

A native of Burbank, Calif., Major Aiso is a graduate of Brown University and Harvard Law School. He once practiced law in New York. His parents are natives of Japan.

Aiso enlisted in the Army three years ago. His first assignment was as a mechanic in a motor repair outfit. He is now attached to the language school at Fort Snelling.

Twelve Nisei Girls Return To West Coast

Eleven Wives of Men In Army Reported Back in San Diego

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Twelve American-born women of Japanese ancestry, all of them wives of United States servicemen, have been granted permits to return to the San Diego area from relocation centers, the Federal Bureau of Investigation reported on Oct. 16.

The permits were issued by the San Francisco office of the civil affairs division of the Western Defense Command, it was stated. Some of the permits stipulate that the bearer must be escorted by her husband who is on Army furlough or Navy leave.

All of the women but one have returned to San Diego, the other going to San Francisco.

FORT SNELLING MAY ACCEPT NISEI IN WACS, REPORT

TOPAZ, Utah—The Military Intelligence Language School at Fort Snelling, Minn., is now accepting applications from nisei women who are qualified to serve in the Women's Army Corps, according to the Omaha WRA News Bulletin.

—Story of the Week—

Hawaiian Nisei Catches Shark With His Bare Hands

WAHIAWA, Oahu—Accomplishing a Tarzan feat, Kenneth Komori, 23, of Wahiawa, caught a 65-pound five-foot man eating shark recently with his bare hands, reports the Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Komori was attempting to retrieve his lobster nets off Moku-keia beach about 100 yards offshore with two companions, Richard Noguchi, 26, and Herbert DuPont, 21. One of them spied the man-eater and yelled "shark!" Noguchi and DuPont raced for shore, leaving Komori, who was removing a fish caught in one of the nets.

Too late, Komori saw the shark, on the opposite side of

Combat Unit Now Fighting as Part of Gen. Patch's Seventh Army on South France Front

First Group of Nisei Previously Reported To Have Participated in Invasion of Southern France; Seventh Army Engages Enemy in Vosges Hills

In a dispatch datelined "With the Sixth Army Group in France," the Associated Press reported this week in a delayed Oct. 16 dispatch that "American troops of Japanese descent have made their appearance in southern France under the command of the U. S. Seventh Army."

"Presence of these forces was disclosed," the Associated Press reported, "as several Army units hacked out small gains in the Vosges foothills despite many enemy counter-attacks."

Heart Mountain Mother Has Six Sons in Army

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo.—Mrs. Hisako Tanouye of 23-10-E, Heart Mountain, has "six good reasons for continued faith and fortitude in America and a freer world," the Sentinel declared last week.

For Mrs. Tanouye is the mother of six sons in the armed forces, of whom two are overseas, and a seventh who is expecting his call to service.

Overseas are her sons Mark and Harry, both of whom are pre-Pearl Harbor servicemen.

Other sons in the army are Private Jim, stationed at Camp Blanding, Fla., and Privates George, Bill and Yas, all in the enlisted reserve corps.

(This Associated Press report is the first official announcement of the presence of a large unit of Japanese Americans in France. Previously published reports indicated that a small number of glider-borne Japanese Americans landed in southern France on invasion day in August and have been in action against the German enemy on the French front since that time.)

(A later news report received by a Salt Lake City newspaper on Oct. 18 disclosed that Cpl. Mike Masaoka, formerly of Salt Lake and executive secretary of the National JACL, was among the troops now fighting in southern France with Gen. Patch's Seventh Army.)

(Letters passed through Army censorship and received in the United States within the past two weeks disclose that the Japanese American combat unit, which has been in action on the western end of the Allied line in Italy, is now in southern France.)

110-Pound Private Carries Wounded Buddy to Safety

Santa Ana Nisei Crawls Under Fire To Rescue Friend

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY — Small, wiry, 110-pound Private Takaji J. Goto, ex-aviation mechanic of Santa Ana, California, rescued a 175-pound wounded comrade and carried him to safety under heavy enemy fire on the Fifth Army front in Italy recently.

The former Santa Ana Junior College student fights with the Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team, at the time attached to the 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division.

Their unit, a flank security detail, was attacked and driven back by a German rifle and machinegun company during the advance up

Hill 140 near Molino A Vento-abbato.

The unit withdrew 25 yards leaving one dead and one wounded. Goto voluntarily crawled back 75 yards to the wounded man in the face of machine pistol and rifle fire with scant concealment and no cover. Applying a tourniquet to the leg of his 175-pound comrade, and in the midst of small arms fire and hand grenades, he dragged the heavy man to safety.

Elements of Goto's company counterattacked a few hours later and secured the hill.

Before entering the army, Goto, with his mother, was evacuated to Manzanar Relocation Center, in California, from Santa Ana.

His mother, Mrs. Kotsuru Goto, still is at Manzanar.

Enlisted personnel of the 442nd is made up entirely of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Japanese Canadians Volunteer for General Service in Army

TORONTO, Ont.—A list of names of Japanese Canadians in Toronto who have completed forms recording their willingness to enlist for general service with the Canadian armed forces has been forwarded to Ottawa, the Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy announced.

The Japanese Canadians volunteering for service in the Canadian army expressed their belief "in the democratic principles for which this country is at war" and declared "that there should be no discriminatory treatment in the rights and responsibilities of all Canadian citizens."

The Japanese Canadians stressed their desire to serve "on the same basis as all other Canadians."

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

EDITORIALS:

Rights Regained

Americans of Japanese ancestry are slowly regaining the privileges and rights of citizenship which have been denied them since the beginning of the war. Although most of the limitations on citizenship were directly levied upon those Japanese Americans residing in the West Coast states, they affected as well those of Japanese ancestry who lived in mainland areas away from the West Coast and in the Territory of Hawaii. Selective service procedures were reopened for citizens of Japanese ancestry early this year, both on the mainland and in Hawaii. Restrictions against workers of Japanese ancestry in certain types of vital war work have been eased. Most of the regulations affecting Japanese Americans, however, were ordered and enforced in the eight states included in the Western Defense Command, and these regulations are still in force. They decree the exclusion of persons of Japanese Americans from the evacuated area, and forbid the possession of "contraband" which has been interpreted as cameras, short-wave radios, explosives and signalling devices. The rescinding of these military regulations will mark the final step in the return of Japanese Americans to normal conditions.

As Japanese Americans move toward the status which they enjoyed before the war, it is evident that the great majority have weathered the unprecedented experiences of evacuation and detention without any harm to their ability to resume their lives as free citizens. Many have already relocated successfully outside the relocation centers, while others are awaiting their opportunity to return to the homes from which they were evacuated. There are some, however, who will not be able to take their places beside other Americans when the final restrictions are lifted. These are the people who, in their bitterness and frustration, have forsaken hope in democracy and have chosen the barren security of internment in a segregation center. These are the few, the one hundred who been convicted for violation of the selective service act and must spend the months and years to come in prison. It is difficult to say at this time whether the blame for their disaffection must rest upon them as individuals for their lack of faith in the final justice of democracy, or whether democracy itself is at fault.

It should be noted, however, that all of those who refused induction into the Army were those who had undergone the evacuation experience and were still residing in relocation centers. There is no record of any Japanese American outside the relocation centers who has refused to report for induction, except two individuals who are conscientious objectors by reason of religious beliefs. And many of those in the camps who violated the draft law were misguided zealots who believed that in doing so they could protest the treatment which they had received. It is also interesting to note that since the reinstatement of selective service for Japanese Americans in Hawaii, there have been only two cases of violations, a figure which compares well with the record of any other group in the Territory.

Considering the tribulations which have been the lot of the Americans of Japanese ancestry, it is not surprising that some have become embittered by the sum of their experiences and have taken actions which, unfortunately, reflect upon the majority. Perhaps the best proof of the unbending loyalty of the Japanese American group is the fact

such instances of disaffection have been so few in number.

Japanese Americans will, in days to come, regain all of the rights which have been denied them since December, 1941. It should be a matter of pride that these rights have been regained in time of war through proof on foreign battlefields and in the production lines at home of the loyalty of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

The Nisei Soldier

The disclosure this week that a combat unit of Japanese Americans is participating in the Seventh Army's offensive against the German enemy in southern France is added testimony to the fact that American soldiers of Japanese ancestry are engaging the Axis enemies in every major theatre of war. Japanese Americans have written an enviable record of combat bravery in Italy. Their activities in Burma, the Southwest and South Pacific, the Central Pacific and in the Aleutians are now being told.

In view of the participation to date of Japanese Americans in every major action in the Pacific against the Japanese, it is probable that American soldiers of Japanese ancestry are taking part in the return of United States forces to the Philippines.

Wherever they have served in this global conflict, the American GIs of Japanese ancestry have left a record of courage and a burning devotion to the principles of democracy. "The average Nisei is a model soldier," writes Staff Sgt. Edgar Laytha in the China-Burma-India theatre's Army newspaper, *The Roundup*. "He is aware of the burden of an unpopular ancestry, yet he knows that he is a good American and wants to prove it." And as Allied arms hammer on the Nazi Westwall and GIs land somewhere in the Philippines, the Nisei soldier has proved his point—in Burma, Italy, New Guinea, Saipan and in France. They will go on to prove it again and again wherever the tides of war take them. The Japanese American farmers and fruit-stand clerks from the West Coast, the plantation boys from the Big Island and Maui, and the city workers of Honolulu have shown that they are "loyal and courageous soldiers, inferior to none," as the Milwaukee Journal declared last week. Theirs is the strength of men of purpose, and theirs is the will of free men.

Commander McCoy

Commander Melvin H. McCoy dishonors the uniform of the United States Navy when he uses that uniform for the purposes of race-baiting in the interests of the economic greed of a group of West Coast residents. Commander McCoy, who survived the "death march" on Bataan and escaped from a prison camp in the Philippines, has been lending his name, his rank and the prestige of the Navy itself to the dishonorable campaign of race hatred being waged by diehard white supremacists and would-be profiteers against the return of loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Commander McCoy has spoken on several occasions in advocacy of the racist treatment of Americans of Japanese ancestry. He has sneered at the magnificent record of Japanese Americans in Italy, intimating that the Nisei soldier fought so well against the Nazis because he was fighting "white men." He does not mention that a large number of Japanese Americans have fought the Japanese in the Pacific, that many of these soldiers have been commended and cited for their service. The spectacle of a Commander of the United States Navy fomenting race hatred against a group of fellow Americans from the platform of the Remember Pearl Harbor League of western Washington is a reflection upon the integrity of the Navy. However, when a protest was made on an earlier occasion regarding Commander McCoy's irresponsible remarks on Japanese Americans, the Navy Department's answer was that Commander McCoy spoke for himself, not for the Navy.

When a Navy officer engages in organized and premeditated race-baiting from a public platform, such action clearly becomes the business of the Navy. It is difficult to believe that Navy Secretary James Forrestal has already forgotten that when he visited the Fifth Army front in Italy recently, his "guard of honor" was composed of members of a Japanese American unit.

The situation calls for a clear and public repudiation of Commander McCoy's recent activities by the United States Navy.

Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

The Nature of the Opposition

As a few Japanese Americans return on individual military permits to the homes from which they were evacuated by military order more than two years ago it is interesting to consider the form and character of the opposition which has risen against the return of the evacuees. Some opposition was, of course, to be expected, in view of the vicious and shameful campaign which has been waged against the Japanese Americans during their absence from the Pacific coast.

What is most revealing is the fact that most of the opposition to the return of the evacuees is economic in nature, though racist terms are used in some cases to cloak competitive commercial motivations. The new Remember Pearl Harbor League of the White River and Puyallup valleys south of Seattle has been engaged in a virtual orgy of race-baiting, although it is difficult to assess the extent and importance of the movement. Its activities, however, have supplied the major items of local news for the past several weeks in the weekly newspapers of Auburn, Sumner, Kent, Puyallup and other farm communities. The arguments of the leaders of the Remember Pearl Harbor are nakedly economic, and stress the alleged effects of competition from the farmers of Japanese ancestry, although it was the Japanese farmer who played an important part in developing the production potential of these valleys through careful cultivation of land which was originally considered marginal in character.

The Remember Pearl Harbor League has announced its desire to align its efforts with similar groups along the Pacific coast, and is no doubt soliciting affiliation with organizations such as The Americans League of California, formed by produce and wholesale flower merchants in Los Angeles, as well as with such old-line white supremacist groups as the Native Sons of the Golden West who are opposed not alone to those of Japanese ancestry but to all of California's many non-Caucasian minorities. In addition, there is the revived Citizens Committee of Santa Barbara county whose members are reported to have pledged not to sell or lease land to returning Japanese Americans. It is also enlightening to note that the Santa Barbara county movement is centered in the Lompoc and Santa Maria valleys where farmers of Japanese ancestry operated successfully until evacuation.

There are already hints of vigilantism, the same sort of hints which were circulated after the evacuation of the western half of California and which certainly was a factor in the eventual decision of Lieut. Gen. DeWitt to evacuate Japanese Americans from every inch of California soil, though whatever military justification there may have been for the initial evacuation did not exist in the case of evacuation and exclusion from Zone Two in California. The politicians and the race-baiters who forecast trouble and violence if the evacuees are permitted to return are placing most of the onus on GI Joe, arguing that servicemen returning from the Pacific will take matters into their own hands if they discover persons of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast. Those who sponsor this argument forget that the servicemen in the Pacific know far better than any civilian the important and necessary contributions which American soldiers of Japanese ancestry are making in the war against Japan. In addition, much of the military and naval personnel in the Pacific have been stationed at one time or another in Hawaii where they have been in close proximity with some 167,000 persons of Japanese ancestry without any serious incidents of a racial nature. Politicians like Fred Houser and Gordon Garland who purport to speak for GI Joe in this regard are as representative of the American soldier as the politician who purported to speak for GI Jim—killed in action.

The present situation is not

without its positive aspects. It is indeed revealing that the organized opposition to the return of the evacuees is based so frankly on economic considerations. The nature of this opposition lends support to those who have held that the evacuation decision was influenced by pressure groups which used patriotism and the fact of war to achieve their sordid ambition to eliminate the Japanese American from the economic picture on the West Coast.

In addition, although there was little in the way of organized opposition to evacuation, there is today a segment of an informed Pacific coast public which has expressed its desire, largely through religious organizations, for the immediate elimination of race laws excluding the Japanese American from the evacuated area. In fact, the present contradiction of Japanese Americans who are considered eligible for vital work in the Army's ordnance depots but who are restricted from farming or doing ordinary business in the state of California is enough to stump anyone who would defend the present policy of exclusion.

The issue raised by the opposition to the return of the evacuees has had its effect in pointing up the inevitability of the return of the evacuated group, though it is quite unlikely that any number will return for a long time to come. The premature scare stories in the Hearst press regarding the return of the evacuees has had its salutary effect in preparing the public mind for the return of the evacuees. In fact, the recent announcement that only 800 evacuees had resettled in the evacuated area must have come as a surprise. More than two months ago the publisher of a large California newspaper declared in San Francisco that all the evacuees in his district had returned and had been reaccepted into their communities.

Speaking of the Hearst press, the opening shot of what well may be an editorial barrage against the return was fired in West Coast Hearst newspapers last week. The Hearst editorial trotted out the threadbare arguments of inassimilability and the possibility of violence, although it grudgingly admitted that some of the evacuees were loyal. Any organized opposition to the returning Japanese American would not be complete without the Hearst press whose attitude on the Nisei is comparable in its viciousness and in its disregard for facts to its attitude on both national and international issues.

Despite the efforts of certain political candidates to capitalize on the issue, there has not been at any time any reason to believe that the majority of the people of the Pacific coast was opposed to the enjoyment of constitutional privileges by a group of Americans simply because of the fact of ancestry. The failure of the Japanese Exclusion Association's effort to obtain 179,000 signatures to qualify a law aimed at aliens of Japanese ancestry is a case in point. It should not be forgotten that the May primary elections disclosed that many political candidates advocated the limitation of the rights of Japanese Americans. There is no single instance in which this issue can be credited with having been a positive factor toward the nomination of such candidates. In fact, several of those who were most vocal on Japanese Americans were defeated. There is no indication at this date the raising of similar issues will aid any candidate on November 7. The morning of November 8 will undoubtedly tell the story that the Yellow Peril is washed up as a political issue on the West Coast.

Little Kenny TWIN FALLS TIMES-NEWS

Apparently destined to become legend, the story of Little Kenny Yasui, the "Baby Sergeant York" who captured 16 Japanese prisoners on the Burma front, was reported in an editorial on Oct. 13 in the Twin Falls Times-News for the benefit of "those skeptics who question the sincerity of Japanese American soldiers."

